



Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Commencement Adds Ceremony for Doctoral and Master's Degree Conferrals

Rochelle Hendricks to Speak at Advanced Degree Ceremony; Kevin DeSanctis, William Gormley to Give Keynote Speeches to Undergrads

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ – The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will conduct the annual Spring Commencement ceremonies this afternoon and Sunday.

For the first time in its history, the College will have a separate Doctoral and Master's Degree Conferral ceremony, to take place 4 p.m., Friday, May 4, at the Sports Center. Two Baccalaureate Degree Conferral ceremonies are scheduled for Sunday, May 6, also at the Sports Center. Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp will preside over the three events and present diplomas to an estimated total of 1,314 graduates.

The Baccalaureate Degree Conferral Ceremonies include a morning ceremony at 10 a.m. for degree candidates in the Schools of Arts and Humanities, Education, Business and General Studies; and an afternoon event at 2 p.m. for the Schools of Health Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Rochelle Hendricks, Secretary of Higher Education, State of New Jersey, will deliver the

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keynote speech for this afternoon's Doctoral and Master's Degree Conferral event. Hooding and recognition will take place for Master's and Doctoral Degree Graduates in the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies. Remarks will be offered by Dr. Saatkamp and Provost and Executive Vice President Harvey Kesselman. Stanley Ellis, Chair of Stockton's Board of Trustees, will present an honorary Doctorate to Secretary Hendricks, and a student address will be given by Rita Marie King of the Master of Social Work program.

As of Friday morning 120 advanced degrees were scheduled to be awarded: Doctor of Physical Therapy, 26; Master of Arts in Criminal Justice, 6; Master of Arts in Education, 29; Master of Arts in Educational Leadership, 4; Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, 2; Master of Arts in Instructional Technology, 7; Master of Business Administration, 4; Master of Science in Nursing, 11; Master of Social Work, 28; Professional Science Master's in Environmental Science, 3.

For the Baccalaureate Degree Conferral events, Kevin DeSanctis, Chairman and Chief Operating Officer for Revel Entertainment Group, will deliver the keynote speech in the morning, and former New Jersey State Senator William Gormley will give the afternoon ceremonies' keynote address. DeSanctis and Gormley will be conferred with Distinguished Service Awards during their respective ceremonies.

As of Friday afternoon, the Registrar's office estimated 1,194 undergraduates had qualified for baccalaureate degrees from the academic Schools.

In the morning event, Valedictorian Joseph Everett will speak. Afternoon Valedictorian is Sandy Zaher. Salutatorians are Tania Pomales for the morning event and Christopher Layton for the afternoon.

President Saatkamp, Provost Kesselman and President of the Faculty Senate Michael Frank will offer remarks at both ceremonies. Faculty Grand Marshal for both ceremonies is Professor of Education Joseph Marchetti. Faculty honorees are Professors Emeritus Stewart Farrell, Marine Science; Raymond Mueller, Environmental Studies; and Roger Wood, Biology.

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