

## "Poverty and Homelessness in the Context of Urban Revitalization" Panel Discussion at Stockton

**Event is Set for Thursday, November 1** 

## For Immediate Release

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**Galloway Twp.**, **NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will host an informative and thought-provoking panel discussion on the issue of homelessness on Thursday, November 1, at 4:30 p.m. in the Alton Auditorium (A-Wing) here.

"Cities all over the country are trying to revitalize downtown areas to attract visitors and residents back to their downtowns. However, cities also attract the poor and homeless because historically, urban centers have provided services for the most disadvantaged." noted the event's moderator, Dr. Joseph Rubenstein, Stockton Professor of Anthropology.

Rubenstein said the panel will examine how proponents of redevelopment work with or oppose providers of services to the poor and homeless, among many other aspects of this complex issue. The event is free and open to the community. "It is Stockton's goal to be the 'honest broker' by bringing together the stakeholders in this social issue so that this might be the first step in partnership and problem solving," Dr. Rubenstein said.

The panel discussion is a joint effort among the Noyes Museum of Stockton College, and the recently newly formed Stockton Center for Community Engagement., with funding provided by the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey.

The program includes opening remarks by Stockton Provost Dr. Harvey Kesselman, and a keynote speech by Dr. Ira Harkavy, the Associate Vice President and Director, Netter Center for Community Partnerships of the University of Pennsylvania.

A panel discussion will take place featuring Dr. Reva Curry, Executive Director, Stockton Center for Community Engagement; Bill Southrey, formerly chief executive officer at the Atlantic City Rescue Mission who worked there for more than 30 years; Lorenzo Langford, Atlantic City Mayor; John Emge, Executive Director, United Way of Atlantic County; and Howard Kyle, Chief of Staff for Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Executive.

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