

## Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Ranked Highly in U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Colleges" Edition

College 11th in "Top Public Colleges" in North Region

## For Immediate Release

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Contact: Tim Kelly Office of Public Relations Galloway Township, NJ 08240 <u>Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu</u> (609) 652-4950

**Galloway Township, NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, New Jersey's Distinctive Public College, has earned very high marks in U.S. News and World Report's annual "America's Best College's" edition.

In the listing released by U.S. News and World Report, considered one of the top independent college and university rankings in the nation, Stockton College is placed in the top tier of Best Regional Universities in the North. Stockton's placement in the top tier is for the fifth consecutive year. The College was named among the Top 50 in this category, placing 47th, a jump of 10 places. Stockton also moved up on the list of Top 15 Public Colleges and Universities and is 11th. Stockton is ranked with universities offering both undergraduate and master's programs in the northern region of the U.S.

"We are pleased to be highly ranked again this year by U.S. News and World Report's 'America's Best Colleges' edition," Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp said. "We have consistently progressed into the rankings, making the Top Tier in 2007 and improving within that tier to our highest rankings ever. We have made this improvement while being compared to truly exceptional peer institutions." The U.S. News rankings come on the heels of Stockton's recent notification its reaccreditation had been fully reaffirmed with two commendations by the Middles States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) an unusually exceptional finding.

"The strong reaffirmation of our accreditation – along with our high rankings by such independent evaluators as U.S. News and World Report serve as confirmation the College is headed in a very positive direction," Dr. Saatkamp said.

Stockton's liberal arts focus, combined with its strength in the sciences and a growing array of professional studies programs, makes Stockton an attractive choice for students," he noted. According to Dr. Saatkamp, Stockton has a tradition of offering unique opportunities for students to connect with highly credentialed faculty in research, community service and civic engagement, while achieving graduation and retention rates among the highest in New Jersey. He said Stockton has delivered this quality educational experience while maintaining accessibility and value.

"Our ranking is significant, especially considering we were listed in the fourth tier in 2003 and the third tier in 2005," Dr. Saatkamp stated. "We bypassed the second tier altogether and have consistently moved up within the top tier. It is fitting that Stockton, a public institution offering academic excellence, diversity, and affordability, is mentioned in the company of such fine colleges and universities nationwide."

###