

Office of Public Relations
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New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson Featured at Stockton College Hughes Center Dedication

Governor Corzine, Members of New Jersey Congressional and Legislative Delegations Slated to Attend Dedication Naming Center in Honor of Longtime Congressman, Former Ambassador to Panama

For Immediate Release

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Atlantic City, NJ – The newly established William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy is gearing up for a May 19th event that not only will dedicate this new research and public engagement center at Stockton, but also raise funds to endow its activities for the future.

“The Hughes Center will serve as a focal point for research on public policy and economic issues facing southern New Jersey, said Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. “The Center has created a forum for public discussion of policy issues by such policymakers as engaged citizens, lawmakers and other stakeholders so as to address the policy issues that affect our area. This high profile event will allow us to raise \$1 million to endow and dedicate the Center.”

The endowment, including a \$500,000 single-donor gift and matching gifts from various partners, is the first \$1 million endowment in Stockton College history.

The Dedication will take place in the F-Wing Atrium of the Galloway Township campus on Monday, May 19, 2008 beginning at 6:30 P.M.

Featured guest at the event is New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson. Gov. Richardson, who was one of this year’s Primary candidates for President, has held several high level offices during his career in public service. Richardson has been a Congressman, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, and the United States Ambassador to the United Nations. His relationship with the Center’s namesake, Ambassador William J. Hughes, has existed throughout much of their careers and he was pleased to help to launch this public policy center.

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Ambassador Hughes' service as Congressman of NJ's 2nd Congressional District spanned two decades and an auspicious career as the U.S. Ambassador to Panama. He also taught at the College as a Distinguished Visiting Professor, has been a Commencement speaker and holds a Stockton Honorary Doctor of Letters degree. His commitment to the advancement of the College and Southern New Jersey remains strong and active.

The evening reception and dedication will include many other state and federal elected officials, including NJ Gov. Jon Corzine and Ambassador Hughes and his family. Stockton College leadership will join in as the ribbon is cut.

The Center has already received numerous pledges and commitments ranging from \$1,000 to \$500,000. To contribute and participate in the May 19th event, please see the Center's Web site for information, www.stockton.edu/hughescenter or call the Center at (609) 626-3542.

The Hughes Center for Public Policy, founded by Ambassador Hughes in 2006, is a catalyst for research, analysis and the generation of innovative policy solutions to the social, economic and cultural issues facing Southern New Jersey. The Center will serve as a forum for discussion on policy issues designed to engage citizens and policy makers in strengthening the voice of Southern New Jersey in public policy discussions.

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