STOCKTON COLLEGE
THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Stockton, Greater Egg Regional District Forge Innovative Partnership to Offer College Courses at Absegami, Cedar Creek and Oakcrest

College Faculty to Train High School Teachers to Offer Pre-Calculus and Environmental Science Courses at Reduced Tuition Rates

For Immediate Release
Saturday, September 10, 2011

Contact: Tim Kelly
                Office of Public Relations
                011 Vera King Farris Drive
                Galloway Township, NJ 08205
                Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu
                (609) 652-4950

Galloway Township, NJ- Helping to provide a head start to college by offering Stockton courses to high school students at a reduced cost, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District have partnered on an innovative pilot program.

Stockton Provost and Executive Vice President Dr. Harvey Kesselman said the breakthrough plan benefits parents and students who wish to save time and money in attaining college degrees, while advancing Stockton's partnership with the community and the district's three high schools: Absegami, Cedar Creek and Oakcrest.

Dr. Dennis Weiss, Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics at Stockton, said district students will have the opportunity to take college-level pre-calculus courses at all three high schools and environmental science at Cedar Creek. District teachers participated in an intensive weeklong training program conducted by Stockton faculty at the College this past summer. Course content, textbooks and tests will be the same as they would be at the College, however, they will be taught by high school teachers and at a reduced cost from college tuition. The program will launch this marking period. The $400 cost represents a significant savings when compared with the regular rate of $1840 for a typical four-credit Stockton undergraduate course.

"This is one of the most innovative programs we have engaged in during our long and fruitful history of collaboration with the Greater Egg Harbor District," Kesselman stated. "Thanks to the extraordinary vision of Superintendent Dr. Steve Ciccariello and the hard work of Stockton,

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Absegami, Cedar Creek and Oakcrest faculty, students will have a chance for an early exposure to college coursework and parents will save on their higher education expenses."

"This exciting new program offers a tremendous opportunity for our students to "jump-start" their college careers while still attending high school," Greater Egg Harbor Regional Superintendent Steve Ciccariello said. "I would like to personally thank Dr. Kesselman, Dr. Weiss and the Stockton faculty for their commitment to enhancing academic outcomes for Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District students."

 In addition to training the teachers and helping to design the courses, Stockton faculty will provide mentoring to the district teachers and students, as well as guest lecturing in the classes, Weiss said.

Kesselman said the program was made possible by the support and cooperation of –among others-- Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr., Superintendent Ciccariello, Drean Weiss, Stockton's, several members of the Stockton faculty, and the participating teachers from Greater Egg Regional High School District.

Upon successful completion of the courses, students will receive four college credits which will be waived if they enroll at Stockton and the course is appropriate to their major. Students who eventually attend a different college or university may be eligible to transfer their credits. The courses will also count toward high school graduation.

"We expect this program to be embraced by everyone involved and for it to be expanded to include a wider range of course offerings," Kesselman said. "It could well serve as a statewide and national model for higher education. I can't think of a better example of sharing human and educational resources for the good of the community."

Parents are encouraged to contact the guidance departments of Absegamil, Oakcrest and Cedar Creek High Schools to obtain additional details about this program.

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