



“The most important part of this for me is to work with and to inspire Stockton students,” Mendez said. “I want them to see how legal issues affect so many areas of the lives and careers of people, and not just lawyers.”

The former judge will lead discussions with groups of students of all majors about issues they care about, and he will mentor pre-law students interested in a legal career.

Mendez will produce written analyses and columns examining aspects of important issues of the day as a senior contributing analyst for the Hughes Center.

His first piece will be on the conservative tilt of the U.S. Supreme Court. It is scheduled to be published later this month.

“This collaboration will provide academic opportunities for students to learn from an expert who served at high levels in the state judiciary,” said Marissa Levy, dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, in which the Hughes Center operates.

Mendez will also participate in public programs and panel discussions aimed at educating students, faculty and South Jersey residents about trends and issues affecting government, the law and society.

“In a time of social change and volatility as we’re in today, we are pleased to have an experienced leader like Judge Mendez at Stockton to offer ethical and insightful guidance to our community,” Stockton President Harvey Kesselman said.

Mendez is one of three groundbreaking judges honored with courtrooms named for them in the new Central Municipal Court of Atlantic County. He was the state’s first Hispanic assignment judge and helped facilitate the new county court.

Working with the retired judge honors the center’s namesake, the late Congressman and Ambassador William J. Hughes, who was a lawyer and prosecutor, Director John Froomjian

said.

The collaboration can raise the Hughes Center'