

# **Stockton President Harvey Kesselman Outlines Expansion Plans at N.J. Alliance for Action Event**

***For Immediate Release; with Kesselman photo***

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Atlantic County Improvement Authority from proceeds of almost \$70 million in tax credits issued by the N.J. Economic Development Authority; \$17 million from the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA); state bond funds for higher education construction; and \$18 million from Stockton's sale of the Showboat.

A parking garage will be topped by new offices for South Jersey Gas, with 879 parking spaces for use by the university, South Jersey Gas and the public. An academic building will accommodate up to 1,800 students.

The university plans to open the Atlantic City campus in 2018 with about 1,000 students, with room for future growth, Kesselman said.

On Stockton's main Galloway campus, an expansion called the Unified Science Center 2 will provide an additional 56,700 square feet in a three-story structure, with science labs, classrooms, a greenhouse, a vivarium, a gross anatomy lab and faculty offices, Kesselman said. The \$28.6 million expansion of Stockton's current Unified Science Center will be supported by \$21.465 million in funding from the Building Our Future Bond Act approved by voters in 2012.

The second academic facility – a 36,000-square-foot classroom building – will house a sustainability lab, health science simulation space, exercise science space and offices, he noted. The \$18 million facility will receive \$13.5 million in funding from the bond issue.

The first classes in both facilities are expected to be held in spring 2018.

Along with Stockton's existing Campus Center and Unified Science Center, the new buildings will form an Academic Quadrangle facing Vera King Farris Drive, Kesselman explained. The Quad will provide a central location for students to study and meet between classes, as well as space for the university community to gather for campus events.

Kesselman also talked about Stockton's geographic expansion in other areas, with instructional sites in Manahawkin in Ocean County, Woodbine in Cape May County and Hammonton in western Atlantic County.

He outlined Stockton's extraordinary growth since the first classes in 1971, with a record enrollment last fall of 8,674 undergraduate and graduate students, 94 percent of whom attend full-time. He noted that the institution, which became a university in 2015, employs 320 full-time faculty, with