

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

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William T. Daly Gives Commencement Address on Dec. 14

“There are strong reasons to believe you will all depart this ceremony stronger in your capacity to actually pursue your imagined future in concrete terms because of the distinctive nature of a Stockton education,” Daly said.

Stockton has become well known for its top-tier academic rankings, he noted, and as the graduates go out into the workforce to compete, they should remember: “You too have attended an elite college. Just one that’s more up-to-date and a good deal less expensive” than “colleges founded in a previous historical era that are now stuck there.”

He talked about how the college has grown with new academic programs and facilities such as the Campus Center, the new Unified Science Center and its expansion on the way. And soon to come, he noted, “a brand new Atlantic City campus.”

“It is appropriate today to celebrate both your achievements and your prospects,” Daly told the graduates. “For today, you are young, with the capacity to imagine, and the time and training to pursue the future... Today you are here at the graduation gate. And on this special day all things are, for you, still possible.”

President Herman Saatkamp presided over the Commencement ceremony in the Sports Center. Some 720 baccalaureate degree candidates participated in the Dec. 14 ceremony.



Dr. Betsy McShea, associate professor of Developmental Mathematics, was the faculty grand marshal. Dr. Beverly Vaughn, professor of Music, played piano throughout the ceremony.

The graduates’ names were read by Dr. Peter Hagen, associate dean of General Studies and director of the Center for Academic Advising; Dr. Lois Spitzer, associate professor of Teacher Education; and Dr. Tara Luke, associate professor of Biology.

Dr. Rodger Jackson, professor of Philosophy and president of the Faculty Senate, told the graduates that truly experiencing learning is special and that through shared experiences, they had taught the faculty, in addition to the faculty teaching them.

A special moment in the ceremony came when Trustee Raymond Ciccone conferred upon Professor Daly the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. President Saatkamp and Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president, presented Dr. Daly with his hood, the special attire worn to confer graduate degrees.

To view more photos from commencement, [click here](#).

Arleen Gonzalez Speaks at Hispanic Heritage Month Event

Arleen Gonzalez, associate professor of Criminal Justice, recently gave the keynote address for the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month at the Federal Correctional Institution in Fairton, N.J. Her topic was Latinos in Higher Education: A

Stockton DPT Program Receives Expansion Approval from CAPTE

Stockton's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program recently received expansion approval and continued accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) beginning next year.

The expansion approves a permanent increase in class size to 34 students per year and will be implemented for the Fall 2015 cohort with the full capacity of total enrollment of 102 students to be achieved by the 2017-2018 academic year, explained Dr. Bess Kathrins, professor of Physical Therapy and director of the DPT Program.

"The demand for physical therapists is expected to grow more than 30 percent over the next 10 years," said Dr. Theresa Bartolotta, dean of Health Sciences. "By expanding the number of qualified student applicants, the Doctor of Physical Therapy program will help meet this important health care need. Our graduates provide services to people across the lifespan. The growing number of seniors in this country have an ever-increasing need for physical therapists to help them maintain independence and improve quality of life."

Stockton Police, Kappa Sigma, Circle K Donate Over 250 Toys

The Stockton Police Department joined with the college's Kappa Sigma Fraternity and Circle K to collect more than 250 toys for the Toys for Tots Foundation from Nov. 18-Dec. 11. Collection bins were placed at various locations throughout the Campus Center, the spine of the campus, the police station, Lakeside Lodge, the Housing Residential Life Office and the TRLC.

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