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Stockton President, Board of Trustees to Engage in Performance Review Process

Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. and College's Governing Body Embark on Self-Study with Assn. of Governing Boards

For Immediate Release

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GALLOWAY TWP., N.J. – Richard Stockton College President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. and the College Board of Trustees will engage in a comprehensive performance review process to be conducted under the auspices of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

The process is to begin in June as Dr. Saatkamp enters his fifth year as President of the four-year, public liberal arts college. It will include a series of personal and confidential interviews with internal and external constituencies, and a two-day workshop in August. Standing policy of Stockton's Board calls for annual reviews of the President's performance based on mutually agreed goals, and this more extensive review process, which will focus on the Board's performance as well as Dr. Saatkamp's performance, especially their joint and distinctive responsibilities in advancing the College mission.

The consultant, Dr. Richard (Tom) Ingram, AGB President Emeritus, will conduct the process culminating in a written report with recommendations for the Board of Trustees and the President for discussion at the Board's December 2007 meeting. A report of the highlights of his findings and conclusions will be released to the College community immediately thereafter.

"This process is a 'Best Practice' in college and university governance and one of the College's policies," Dr. Saatkamp said. "We value the informed views of members of the College community and its many publics and expect to learn from them. It is a tribute to the members of the Board of Trustees that they see the value of this process as part of its accountability to those who care deeply about the forward progress of Richard Stockton College of New Jersey."

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President Saatkamp said that an Ad Hoc Committee chaired by Board Chairman Dr. Clarence C. Hoover will oversee the process, which calls for campus and telephone extensive interviews to be conducted by Dr. Ingram in June, and in September when the academic session resumes. Interviews will include local and state civic and elected officials, community members, students, faculty and union leaders among other groups and individuals.

"Stockton's engagement in this endeavor illustrates the kind of leadership that is exemplary among leading colleges and universities where the opinions of others within and outside the institution count," Dr. Ingram said. "The College has a Board of Trustees and a President who have a clear sense of their responsibilities to the people who are served by the College," he went on to say.

About the Consultant: Dr. Richard (Tom) Ingram served as President of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges from 1992 through 2005, having previously served in other capacities there for 35 years. He is currently serving as a consultant with public and private colleges and universities and other nonprofit organizations on governance and presidential leadership matters. He is on the Board of Directors of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Higher Education (CASE) based in Washington, D.C. and London, and is a Trustee-elect of Allegheny College in Meadville, PA.

In addition to his extensive experience facilitating governing board self-studies he has written extensively on collegiate trusteeship and governance, including *Presidential and Board Assessment in Higher Education: Purposes, Policies, and Practices* (with William Weary, AGB, 2000). His *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards* has sold more than one million copies.

Dr. Ingram has held various posts at the University of Maryland, is a former public school teacher and an instructor at the University of Virginia, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Southern California.

A native of Western Pennsylvania, Dr. Ingram earned his bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a master's from the University of Pittsburgh and his doctorate in higher education from the University of Maryland. He resides in Potomac, MD.

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