

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Stockton College Announces Innovative Local Venture to Deter ‘Drinking and Driving’

For Immediate Release

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GALLOWAY TWP. - The Office of Alcohol and Drug Prevention of the Wellness Center at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey announced innovative drunk-driving-prevention programs for college students at a luncheon hosted at the college on Tuesday, February 6, 2007. The new prevention programs include intensive three-hour training sessions leading to certification from Stockton College and regular communication with local restaurants, taverns and bars to offer confidential counseling programs for problem-drinking students. The programs were developed through the college's Stay Safe & Graduate Program.

Funded through a grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway and Traffic Safety and the Atlantic County Department of Public Safety, the Stay Safe & Graduate Program is coordinated by Patrick Shields, M.A., L.C.A.D.C., of the Office of Alcohol and Drug Prevention within the Wellness Center at Stockton College. Frances Bottone is the director of the Wellness Program under the auspices of Dr. Thomasa Gonzalez, Dean of Students, and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Personnel from local restaurants, bar, and taverns, and local law-enforcement officers will be invited to participate in the training sessions. Local alcohol establishments will be allowed to provide safe rides from taxis and shuttles to help keep intoxicated drivers off the road. It is expected that shuttle drivers will also go through the three-hour training, and the shuttles will run with close oversight from the Stockton College Campus Police Department.

The luncheon was attended by owners, managers and staff from 10 West Lounge, McGettigan's 19th Hole, Back Bay Ale House, JD's Pub & Grille, and Red Lobster. Stockton students and members of the Stockton College Campus Police Department also attended.

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