

# STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



## **Stockton Physical Therapy Program Head Dr. Bess Kathrins Honored for Leadership**

Director Launched College's First Master's and Doctoral Degree Programs

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway Township, NJ-** The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey presented its inaugural School of Health Sciences Leadership Award to Dr. Bess Kathrins, professor of physical therapy who directs the physical therapy programs at Stockton and who established them. A resident of Toms River and a Stockton faculty member since 1984, Kathrins was the unanimous choice of Health Sciences faculty for the award to be given annually in recognition of superior leadership qualities. The presentation took place on April 8.

Kathrins established the bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs in physical therapy at Stockton. Established in 1994, the master's was the first graduate degree program in Stockton's history. In April 2006, the Doctor of Physical Therapy program was established, becoming the first doctoral program offered at Stockton College.

"Bess Kathrins' vision, dedication and commitment to excellence made her a perfect inaugural recipient of this award," Stockton President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. said. "In selecting Dr. Kathrins, the Health Sciences faculty has set a very high standard for this recognition."

Kathrins earned her B.S. and M.S. degrees at Boston University and her Ph.D. at Touro University International. "I am honored to be the recipient of this prestigious award," she said. "Faculty, administration, clinicians, staff, students and alumni were part of the effort to bring physical therapy education to our region and they continue to contribute by providing contemporary healthcare services to our citizens."

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