

Chinese American Adults Welcomed to Stockton College for a Campus Tour

Event Set for March 24

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey embraces academic and cultural diversity. On Wednesday, March 24, 2010 the College will host a special campus tour and a daylong agenda of activities for Chinese American adults ages 65 and older. The Stockton Center on Successful Aging is sponsoring the event.

Mei Kit Tang, a professor of social work at Stockton, came up with the idea for a campus tour designed exclusively for Chinese American adults. Over the past few months, Professor Tang and students from her Social Work Theory and Methods II class have been organizing the logistics and planning the day's activities. Professor Tang said, "I hope that the campus tour and corresponding activities will create a setting for Stockton students and Chinese American adults to interact and learn from each other."

Professor Tang split up her class into groups with one student leader for each group. Groups were assigned specific tasks such as registration, decoration, photography, and scheduling. The project has been a classroom team effort, but the students are also reaching out to involve other student organizations and College departments.

Professor Tang explained, "A language barrier often blocks communication between Chinese American adults over the age of 65 with their grandchildren. Sadly, grandparents easily become disconnected. The campus tour was designed to provide a window into the lives of college-age grandchildren."

Bilingual Chinese American volunteers from the community will pick up the older Chinese American adults from their individual residences and bring them to Stockton. The event will kick-off at 11:00 a.m. in A-Wing. The activities planned will give the Chinese American adults the opportunity to participate in everyday college activities alongside college students. Professor Tang said, "It's not very often that students, bilingual volunteers, and Chinese American older adults are able to gather to share their ideas. This will be a truly unique experience for all participants."

March 24th Campus Tour Tentative Agenda:

Welcome: 11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Tour: 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Lunch: 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.
Walk to G-Wing Lounge: 1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Welcome by Dr. David Burdick: 1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Game: 1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Exercise: 2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Art of Origami by Mrs. Lillian Koo: 2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Singing by Chinese Alliance Church and Carissa Yu: 2:30 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Interview with an older Chinese American Adult: 2:50 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Good Bye: 3:15 p.m.

The Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA) at Stockton College promotes education, research, and services to respond to local, regional, and statewide needs related to population aging. The Center's core mission is to encourage older residents to age successfully through vital involvements and engagement in their community. For more information on SCOSA and other upcoming events, please visit their website <u>www.stockton.edu/scosa</u>.

For further details on the campus tour, please contact Professor Tang at 609-626-6883.

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