

## Stockton College Names Dr. Susan Davenport as College's Vice Provost for E-Learning

## For Immediate Release with photo attached

Thursday, July 11, 2013

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**Galloway, NJ** – Dr. Susan Davenport, former associate provost of Graduate Programs and dean of the Heavin School of Arts and Sciences at Thomas Edison State College, has joined The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey as vice provost for E-Learning.

Stockton's first vice provost's responsibilities include working with the faculty and deans to develop and support online offerings and integrate technology into teaching and learning.

"The vice provost for E-Learning's primary responsibility is to provide vision and support for developing alternative pedagogical styles at the college," said Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president of the college.

"We needed someone experienced in these arenas to jump-start the process – she's been a leader in this in New Jersey," Dr. Kesselman added.

Vice Provost Davenport will also have responsibilities for curriculum redesign and assessment, duties she performed as dean at Thomas Edison State College's 9000-student Heavin School of Arts and Sciences. At Thomas Edison, she oversaw the first completely online Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree program to be accredited by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC.)

She also co-chaired the Middle States Self-Study Steering Committee and served on

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## -continued from Page 1-

the Academic Council Executive Committee, among other institutional committee assignments at Thomas Edison.

"I am very excited to join with the Stockton community to grow E-Learning as a complement to existing high quality degree-earning and non-credit options," Dr. Davenport said. "By increasing online and hybrid courses and programs as well as other alternate delivery methods that are designed to engage students and faculty and further build community, we can provide access to educational opportunities for students not served by existing options."

Dr. Davenport noted that she has begun to meet and work with the deans of the Schools to further identify graduate programs for the adult population that would benefit from online learning, expanding the college's current online offerings in Physical Therapy and Nursing to include Education, Business and more.

Her expertise will help the college eliminate barriers to timely graduation, by identifying certain "gateway" courses that many kinds of majors need, but which could be offered to more students online. Dr. Davenport may also develop more online offerings for teachers as well as more online non-credit workshops and seminars.

"What she brings to the table is a commitment to high quality online offerings and a deep commitment to liberal arts, having gone to Drew University and the University of Pennsylvania as well as getting a Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska," Dr. Kesselman said.

Dr. Davenport holds a doctorate in Educational Studies with an emphasis in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from the University of Nebraska. She holds a Master's of Science in Education from the University of Pennsylvania, and a B.A. in Psychobiology with an Anthropology minor from Drew University. Dr. Davenport is also a graduate of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' Becoming a Provost Academy.

Her experience could allow Stockton to partner with other colleges and universities via E-Learning to offer courses such as language courses that the college could not provide by itself.

Such possibilities would be "cost-effective and provide more flexibility to students – but not at the expense of what we do on the main campus," Dr. Kesselman said.