

## Hughes Center Announces Advisory Board Leaders, Including New Chair

*For immediate release*

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**Galloway, N.J.** — New officers have taken leadership roles on the advisory board of the [William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy](#) at Stockton University.

New Jersey labor leader and consultant Richard Tolson, of Margate, was elected chair of the Hughes Center Steering Committee. Kim Schalek Downes, CEO and president of Salmon Ventures Limited, of Millville, was elected vice chair.

An original Steering Committee member, Tolson succeeds Dr. Edward Salmon as the longtime chair of the advisory board. Salmon, co-founder and chair of Salmon Ventures, was a state assemblyman and president of the N.J. Board of Public Utilities. He served as Steering Committee chair from the board's establishment in 2008 through 2022.

Salmon remains a member of the board and was elected "Emeritus Founding Chair."

Tolson served in leadership positions with the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers for 30 years beginning in 1990. He was vice president of the N.J. State Building Trades association and a member of the N.J. State AFL-CIO Executive Board, both from 2006 to 2020. Tolson also served on the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority.

Schalek Downes cofounded Salmon Ventures as its CEO in 2003 and has served as president since 2016.

Previously, she was vice president and executive coordinator of AUS Pathways from 1997 to 2003. AUS is a worldwide market research and consulting company with corporate headquarters in Moorestown.

**PHOTOS: Headshots of Richard Tolson, Kim Schalek Downes and Edward Salmon**

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**Stockton University**

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