

Atlantic County candidates to debate Thursday in 2nd District debate in Atlantic City

The point of the debate is “to give the public a chance to hear the candidates first hand in a neutral environment,” said Daniel J. Douglas, director of the Hughes Center.

The debate is the first of at least two local legislative debates. Howard Bacharach, executive

Posted: Saturday, September 10, 2011 6:13 pm |
Updated: 6:18 pm, Sat Sep 10, 2011.

By DEREK HARPER Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — State legislative races to represent debate of the year

Democratic state Sen. Jim Whelan and his Republican

challenger, Assemblyman Vince Polistina, are

scheduled for an hourlong debate starting at 6 p.m.

Republican Assemblyman John Amodio and candidate Chris Brown will then debate their Democratic opponents, Alisa Cooper and Damon Tyner, for another hour.

The 2nd District candidates will be allowed a 2-minute opening statement and one-minute closing statement and will answer seven to 10 questions.

The debate is being cosponsored by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and The Press of Atlantic City.

Michael Rodriguez, an associate political science professor at Stockton as well as the director of research and analysis at the Hughes Center will moderate. Questions will be asked by Sharon Schulman, special assistant to the Stockton president, and Press Statehouse Bureau Chief John Froomjian.

Doors to Dante Hall, 10 N. Mississippi Ave., open at 5:30 p.m. with admission free and open to the public. Parking may be available on the street, with additional parking in a nearby lot owned by the South Jersey Transportation Authority.

The Press also plans to webcast the debate.

Shortly after he filed to run, he said he would consult with an exploratory committee and make a decision on his candidacy by the end of summer. While Polistina's