



STOCKTON

# **Richard Stockton College to Dedicate Library in Honor of its First President, Dr. Richard Bjork on April 11**

Special Event to Include Program on Dr. Bjork's Contributions and Legacy

## ***For Immediate Release***

Friday, April 06, 2012

**Contact:     Tim Kelly  
                  Office of Public Relations  
                  Galloway Township, NJ 08240  
                  Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu  
                  (609) 652-4950**

## **Stockton to Honor First President Richard E. Bjork / page 2**

University, a master's in political science at Vanderbilt University, and -- after serving in the United States Coast Guard -- his Ph.D. in international relations from Michigan State University, where he became an assistant professor.

Dr. Bjork held the position of Vice Chancellor of New Jersey's Department of Higher Education and Acting President of Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) prior to his appointment as Stockton's first president.

In his higher education career, Dr. Bjork also held positions as Dean of Students at Austin College in Sherman, Texas; Dean of Liberal Arts at New York State University at Plattsburgh, and Assistant to the President at Rochester Institute of Technology.

After Stockton, Dr. Bjork served as Chancellor of the Vermont State College system.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Dr. Kenneth Tompkins, Professor Emeritus of Literature who was a colleague of Dr. Bjork. Panelists will be Ms Carol Brown (Stockton class of 1979) who was Dr. Bjork's secretary, Dr. Richard Chait, his former executive assistant; Distinguished Professor of Political Science Bill Daly, and former Vice President for Administration and Finance Richard Gajewski.

"Every day of our lives (at Stockton) are influenced positively by the decisions Dick Bjork made 40 years ago," Tompkins said.

Dr. Bjork was just 53 when he passed away in 1984, survived by his wife Joan and two daughters. Mrs Bjork will be in attendance for the events of April 11,

Both the dedication ceremony and panel discussion program are free and open to the public.

# # #