

# **William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy Honors Five Outstanding New Jerseyans**

Gov. Thomas Kean Accepts Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award

***For Immediate Release; with link to photos on [flickr](#)***

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**Contact: Maryjane Briant  
News and Media Relations Director  
Galloway Township, NJ 08205  
Maryjane.Briant@stockton.edu  
(609) 652-4593**

**Galloway, NJ** -The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy recognized five outstanding New Jerseyans at the 2015 Hughes Center Honors today at the Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club in Galloway, NJ.

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“We can still dream big dreams,” Gov. Kean said. “We’ve still got the best country and the best state in the world,”

Retired Associate Justice John E. Wallace Jr., of the New Jersey Supreme Court, received the Civility in Government and Politics Award. In presenting it, Ambassador Hughes cited Wallace’s “deep and abiding commitment to civility,” and “the extraordinary way he has conducted himself as a citizen, lawyer and judge.”

Justice Wallace is counsel to the firm of Brown and Connery and concentrates his practice in mediation, arbitration and complex litigation. Justice Wallace's career as a jurist spanned over 25 years, and he thanked Gov. Kean for first appointing him to the Superior Court bench in 1984. Wallace received his bachelor degree from the University of Delaware and his law degree from Harvard Law School.

State Sen. Chris Connors of the 9th District received the Distinctive Alumni Leadership Award. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Stockton, where he said, “My professional life was born. For me, a spark went off - to have a thirst for knowledge and to be a part of the community.”

“Stockton provided me with the tools - insight, compassion and confidence - to do what I do today,” Connors said.

He earned his M.P.A. from Rutgers University and his J.D. Rutgers School of Law-Camden. He currently practices law with Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky, Cherkos & Connors. Prior to his tenure in the State Senate, Connors also served in the General Assembly, on the Lacey Township Committee and as mayor of Lacey Township.

Edward J. Graham, chairman and CEO of South Jersey Industries, received the Excellence in Civic Engagement Award.

“Our employees are all very involved in giving of their time and money” in their communities, he said. “We’re all very pleased that you recognize our efforts.”

An alumnus of Rider University for his undergraduate degree, Graham holds a Master of Business Administration degree in finance and investment from Drexel University. He is a member of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and serves as a member of the Hughes Center for Public Policy.

Carl Archut Jr., president of the Stockton Student Senate, received the Distinctive Student Leadership Award - and Gov. Kean urged him to run for office someday.

Archut was selected as Student Senator of the Year in 2013-2014 for the Involvement Awards and currently helps ma.004 Tw 0.337 0 Tw-5.9(e(8(a)11[22.6(128.9unnsi(fa(145)10j6(-7.115)0(r2)2(e)i)2(8(21 i)

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He plans to pursue a Master's degree in higher education administration upon graduating in May 2016.

Emmanuel Anyanwu was awarded the Hughes Center for Public Policy Washington Internship Scholarship for the spring semester. His internship is with the National Veterans Legal Service in Washington, D.C., "a nonprofit organization changing the lives of American veterans facing legal issues," he said.

The internship program also includes an academic seminar on international development, which Anyanwu called "truly special." He said he hopes eventually to use what he is learning to develop projects in Nigeria, where he was born.

Anyanwu, a resident of Pennsauken in Camden County, NJ, is a Political Science major who will graduate this semester. He previously studied at the William Paterson University of NJ before transferring to Stockton. In fall 2012 he successfully completed a local internship with the Dept. of Labor in Philadelphia, PA.

Stockton's Washington, D.C. Internship program is an intensive para-professional and academic experience in which Stockton students live, work, and study in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region. Stockton is affiliated with the nation's largest internship organization, The Washington Center (TWC) for Internships and Academic Seminars.

Stockton has sent more students to the Washington Center historically than any other institution in the country.