Welcome Merydawilda Colón

As we begin the new school year and fall semester, we would like to welcome the Center’s new Interim Executive Director, Awilda Colón! Awilda has hit the ground running and embraced the position, which seems to be made for her talents and passion for community outreach.

Already in the short time that Awilda has been the Director, innovative programs and initiatives have begun and shown success throughout the summer. Please join us in welcoming her to the SCCE as she takes the Center to the next step in Community Engagement!

SCCE Faculty Fellows

Welcome back Dr. Jennifer Barr, Professor of Business Studies, and Dr. Joseph Rubenstein, Professor of Anthropology, as our Faculty Fellows for AY2014-2015.

Dr. Barr and Dr. Rubenstein will be continuing their work with Dr. Colón to build bridges with external community partners and the Stockton community in an effort to facilitate workshops and help faculty in their quest to integrate experiential learning methods into their teaching.

Computer Access

In an effort to aid the community and those affected by the recent and impending closures of area casinos, the Stockton Center for Community Engagement organized computer availability to those affected. Recently laid-off workers and others concerned about their future employment were offered the availability of campus computers for writing resumes and completing job applications. The Stockton main campus, Manahawkin site, Kramer Hall in Hammonton, and Carnegie were all made available to assist a broad range of communities in need. The program began on July 28 and ended on August 28, 2014.

After-School Program

A new initiative of the Center is the Homework Completion Program at Stanley Holmes Village in Atlantic City. Richard Stockton College students and volunteers from the Atlantic City Police Department will monitor homework time and assist children with any questions they have. The program is a joint effort of the police, Stockton, and the Atlantic City Housing Authority. The Municipal Planning Board of Atlantic City and Pleasantville and United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey have also collaborated.
The Stockton Center for Community Engagement has developed the “Adopt-a-Town” two-year pilot program, which is designed to team Stockton faculty and students with towns recovering from disasters that are in need of aid, resources, and support. The Richard Stockton College of NJ has adopted the towns of Tuckerton and Little Egg Harbor as their current focus. Faculty and students coordinate a community outreach to businesses and individuals within these communities and work together toward restoring, revitalizing and recovering.

FEMA representative Mark Strohoefer has called the program an innovative approach to natural disaster response and deemed it “a best practice model” for colleges and universities.

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**Share Your Engagement**

The Center would like to highlight and share our faculty and staff’s community engagement scholarly and outreach activities on our website.

Please contact the SCCE at SCCE@stockton.edu to submit links to articles, citations and/or items you think may be of interest to our Stockton community!

We look forward to another successful year!

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**Diversity Workshops**

The Center will be collaborating with the Municipal Planning Board of Atlantic City and Pleasantville to provide a series of workshops on Diversity Sensitivity and Professionalism to 200 employees of the Atlantic County Department of Family and Community Development.