The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

College Foundation Assets Reach Record $27.1 Million

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Total assets for the College Foundation reached $27.1 million as of Dec. 31, 2013, a new record, according to Dr. Philip T. Ellmore, chief development officer.

Dr. Ellmore credited leadership by President Herman Saatkamp and the efforts of the Foundation’s board members with helping the fund grow from less than $3 million in 2003.

“With an emphasis on endowment and providing funds both now and in perpetuity, the Foundation has grown considerably,” Dr. Ellmore said. “This growth has come from additional gifts as well as prudent investing.”

For FY 13, the Foundation distributed $1.1 million for scholarships, academic and facilities support, and other types of program support. More than $400,000 of this amount went to scholarships, Dr. Ellmore said. The Foundation has awarded just over $500,000 for scholarships for FY 14, he said.

Dr. Carol Rittner Speaks at United Nations

Dr. Carol Rittner, Distinguished Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, spoke twice at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City over the last three weeks.

Last week, Dr. Rittner gave a presentation on "Engaging Religions in the Prevention of Atrocity Crimes." In her presentation, Dr. Rittner discussed the Genocide in Rwanda and the question whether or not churches were complicit in the horrific and tragic events.

Dr. Rittner also spoke on Jan. 23 for the Holocaust Outreach Program's "The 70th Anniversary of the Deportation of the Hungarian Jews During the Holocaust." Dr. Rittner gave an invited presentation on “The Holocaust in Hungary.”

“It’s a great honor to speak at the United Nations, and an even greater honor to share the stage with people I often only read about in the paper,” said Dr. Rittner.
Dr. Figart and Farber Team Advisors in National Competition

Dr. Deborah Figart, professor of Education and Economics in the School of Education, and Len Farber, director of Student Development, are the team advisors for five students competing with teams from 24 other colleges and universities in the national "It's Up to Us" campaign.

The competition, sponsored by the Clinton Global Initiative and Net Impact, aims to give students the opportunity to build a campaign about the federal debt and the impact it will have on their lives and to spark action in their college and local community.

Each team received $2,000 in budget funds to run their campus campaign which spans four-six weeks.

The Stockton team is comprised of: Jessica Carey, team captain, Katerina Childs, vice captain, Mico Lucide, Ben Peoples and Tarek Gad. They will compete against teams from New York University, Tufts University, George Washington University, Duke University and 20 other schools.

The winning college team will receive $10,000 and be recognized by President Clinton at the 2014 Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) in March.

“I am so very impressed by the students on our Stockton team,” said Farber, the team’s manager. “They have created some wonderful programs and tools to help engage and instruct Stockton students on the U.S. debt.”

Last week, the team held a “Jeopardy: National Debt Edition,” which had approximately 25 participants.

In an effort to encourage civic engagement, the team drafted a politically neutral petition asking the New Jersey State Legislature to increase resources allocated to the civics programs in public schools as a way to educate and encourage students on the overall importance of involvement in governmental policy making.

As a requirement of the competition, the Stockton team created a YouTube video with informative facts about the national debt. If the video is first to reach 10,000 views, the team is guaranteed to win a secondary prize.

Another aspect of the competition is to have as many people as possible take a five-question quiz on the national debt. The quiz is available to Facebook members only.

The final big event will be “Dodge the Debt,” where students will attempt to “dodge” the U.S. debt by playing a fun, educational game of dodge ball, while learning facts about the debt between each round. The event will take place on Sunday, Feb. 16 at noon in I-Wing gym.

“What is wonderful about this process is that it is affording our student team the opportunity to learn through teaching others,” said Dr. Figart, the team’s content knowledge coach. “Teaching is an excellent way to learn. Our student team is also exposing a larger community to the difficulties in sorting out some pressing economic issues that affect our long-term well being.”

To sign the Stockton team’s petition, click here.
To view the Stockton team’s YouTube video, click here.
To take the Facebook quiz, click here.

Every signature, view and quiz brings Stockton one step closer to victory! To learn more about the “It’s Up To Us” campaign, click here.

Stockton Partners with AtlantiCare to Create New MBA Program

The School of Business and the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies have kicked off a new Master’s in Business Administration program aimed at AtlantiCare managers.

“AtlantiCare wanted a cohort based, on-site program targeted to their managers,” explained Dean Janet Wagner of the School of Business. She added that this is a first for a grad program.

The first group of 16 AtlantiCare managers is taking two MBA classes a semester for six semesters starting this spring and finishing in Fall 2015. Each class meets once a week at 6 p.m. in the Mainland AtlantiCare facility.

Evonne Kruger, associate professor of Business Studies, is teaching one of the first two classes (MGMT), and Dr. Gurprit

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Dr. Aaronson Leads Stockapella To Win Best Vocal Percussion

Stockton is now a name that people in the ever-growing a cappella community know and respect. At this year’s International Competition of Collegiate a Capella (ICCA) Mid-Atlantic Quarterfinals, held on Feb. 1 at Drexel University, Stockapella won the Best Vocal Percussion award for the second year in a row.

Led by Dr. Neil Aaronson, assistant professor of Physics, Stockapella began in 2007. Last year the group won Best Vocal Percussion as well as Best Choreography.

“One member of a competing group from the University of Pennsylvania told me that his ensemble was really worried about going up against Stockton in competition,” said Dr. Aaronson. “After our set, he said that they were right to be afraid, but at the same time, they loved watching us perform!”

Beverly Vaughn, professor of Music, Henry Vankuiken, professor of Dance, and Dr. Mark Mallett, associate professor of Theatre, helped critique Stockapella’s set in the week leading up to competition.

To watch the YouTube video of Stockapella's performance of The Cave by Mumford & Sons, click here.
To see the performance of Just Give Me a Reason/California King Bed compilation by P!nk and Rihanna, click here.
To see Stockapella's performance of Man in the Hall by State Radio, click here.

College Participates in AHA’s National Wear Red Day

Stockton participated in the American Heart Association’s National Wear Red Day on Friday, Feb. 7.

For more than 10 years, the American Heart Association has sponsored National Wear Red Day to raise awareness in the fight against heart disease in women.

Members of the Stockton community wore red and posed for this photo taken in the Campus Center.

That day, Stockton offered free fitness tests and blood pressure screenings, and surpassed its $300 campaign donation goal.

Other events for the “Go Red for Women” campaign have been planned throughout the month of February. To view the list of events, click here.

So far, the campaign has raised over $750 and donations are still being accepted through the end of the month.
College Celebrates Black History Month with Various Events

In the tradition of the Unified Black Student Society, Stockton kicked off its celebration of Black History Month with a flag-raising ceremony outside the Arts and Sciences building on Feb. 3.

Throughout the month of February, the lower wing Art Gallery will exhibit “Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans,” paintings by Kadir Nelson, award-winning illustrator and author.

The Noyes Arts Garage has on display “The Northside: The Way We Were from the 1930s to the 1960s,” an exhibit by Ralph Hunter, founder of the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey, which depicts the history of Atlantic City’s Northside neighborhood.

A panel discussion on “African Diaspora: A Global Perspective” will be held Feb. 20 in the Campus Center. Panelists will discuss perspectives on the complex nature of African diasporic identities in relation to Africa, United States, the Caribbean, and Europe.

New Meditation Room Offers Chance to Reflect and Relieve Stress

The former Osprey’s Nest, which served for decades as a late-night dining area in N-Wing, has become a “nest for the future in its new role as a meditation room,” said Dr. Pedro Santana, dean of students.

Students, faculty and staff gathered on Monday outside the new meditation room, located adjacent to the N-Wing Student Restaurant in room N-007, for a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The space offers a place where the Stockton community can go to “take time to reflect on what we value and learn,” said Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president.

The idea for a Meditation Room was initiated by students about a year and a half ago, but it took some time to find the right space on campus. The room is non-denominational and designed to celebrate and reflect the diversity of the Stockton community.

Student Development will administer the room, which came to fruition through the efforts of President Saatkamp and faculty and staff including Charles Ingram, vice president of Administration and Finance, College Counsel Melissa Hagar, Gail Rosenthal, director of the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center, Dr. Yitzhak Sharon, professor of Physics, Don Woolslayer, director of Plant Management and Housing Maintenance, Charles West, director of Facilities, Len Farber, director of Student Development, Dianne Stalling, assistant director of Student Development, Craig Stambaugh, associate dean of students, including the Campus Religious Council and Student Senate.

The Office of E-Learning Welcomes New Staff Member

Tucker Rowlinson joins the Office of E-Learning as an Instructional Design Assistant. Rowlinson has worked on the learning support team as a student employee since February 2011. He graduated from Stockton in December 2013 with a B.A. in Biology and a minor in Studio Arts. In his fulltime role, Rowlinson will support faculty in the use of web-based resources, e-learning technologies, and learning management system tools and features. He will also assist faculty in adapting content for alternate delivery methods.

Send Us Your News!

We want to know about things going on in the Stockton community. Do you have an unusual hobby? Did one of your co-workers win an award or perform outstanding public service? Births, weddings, graduations and the like are all good things to submit to the Stockton Times. Contact the editor at (609) 652-4593 or e-mail Stockton-Times@stockton.edu

News about distinguished students can now be found at Distinctive Stockton Students. To contribute a news item for the blog, please contact the editor at distinctive@stockton.edu