Stockton Conducts Largest Spring Graduation

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Stockton held its largest Spring Commencement ceremonies last Friday and Sunday, as an estimated total of 1,314 undergraduate and advanced degrees were conferred.

For the first time ever, the College held a separate Doctoral and Master’s Degree Conferral on Friday afternoon. On Sunday there were two ceremonies for the baccalaureate degree conferrals.

In addition to the graduates, an estimated total of 13,000 visitors were on campus for the three events. All events took place at the Sports Center, with overflow attendance at Sunday’s afternoon ceremony taking place in the Campus Center Theatre.

Keynote speakers were Rochelle Hendricks, New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education, for the Doctoral and Master’s Conferrals, Kevin DeSanctis, Chairman and Chief Development Officer for Revel Entertainment Group in the morning and former New Jersey State Senator William Gormley speaking to the afternoon graduates.

One of the interesting features of the day was the fact that the morning valedictorian, Joseph Everett and the afternoon valedictorian Sandy Zaher are engaged to one another.

We wish all the graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors!
Faculty Members Honored by Students

Seven faculty members representing each of the Schools of the College were recognized recently at the annual Student Involvement Awards dinner and ceremony held in the Campus Center Events Room.

Len Farber, director of Student Development, said that Student Senators conduct a poll of the student body to recognize faculty for excellence in teaching, guidance and mentoring. The faculty members attended the dinner and were presented with plaques in recognition of their exemplary efforts.

Those honored included: Diane Holtzman, assistant professor of business studies, marketing, School of Business; Sonia Gonsalves, professor of psychology, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences; Neil Aaronson, assistant professor of physics, School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Pam Hendrick, professor of theatre, School of Arts and Humanities; Pam Cross, coordinator of Skills Center Writing Lab, School of General Studies; Amy Hadley, associate professor of speech pathology and audiology, School of Health Sciences; and Darrell Cleveland, assistant professor, School of Education.

“This is a great honor,” Diane Holtzman said. “It is especially gratifying to have been recognized by our students.”
Stockton Honors 178 Employees at Annual Breakfast

If it wasn’t the largest Employee Recognition Day celebration in the history of the College, it certainly came close.

The event, held recently in the Campus Center Events Room, honored 178 employees for years of dedicated service to Stockton.

Once again emceed by Director of Human Resources Natalie Havran, the room was packed with co-workers eager to cheer for their colleagues and enjoy a breakfast, provided by the President’s Office, with all the trimmings.

The event was coordinated by Donna Vizzzone and Dawn Channell of Human Resources, Julie Bowen’s Graphics Production Department provided the program and design work and Roberto Castillo of Computer Services directed many of the technical aspects, including display of personal and family photos of many of the honorees.

Please congratulate the Human Resources staff and those involved behind the scenes for another outstanding Employee Recognition Day event.
Professor Shah Partners with Abbott Laboratories

Abbott Laboratories, a global health care company with more than 120 years of experience, will use Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy Surya Shah’s Modified Barthel Index (MBI) for use in their brain injury research. The MBI is a scale used by health-care providers and caregivers to measure a patient’s ability to perform daily activities such as walking, dressing and bathing.

This news comes on the heels of the First Occupational Therapy Summit of Scientists held at Washington University on March 11-13 where Professor Shah was one of the 40 distinguished scholars invited to present research. Shah’s current work is titled, "SCIENCE IN THE COMMUNITY Shah, S. Tartaro, C., Morris, M., Chew, F., Wuzzardo, A., & Wood, C. (2012). Rehabilitation efficiency and effectiveness in minimizing dependency in persons with stroke: Analyses of 1894 admissions."

Professor Shah will grant a non-exclusive, worldwide and transferable right to use and reproduce the MBI in a number of languages including Arabic, French, Czech, Dutch and Korean. Abbott Laboratories will conduct a 21 nation multicenter trial using Shah’s MBI after the translations are completed by the MAPI Institute in France using his outcome measure. Professor Shah will be working through MAPI to help validate the questionnaire in various languages for this trial.

Send Us Your News!

We want to know about things going on in the Stockton community. If your fellow employees should hear about it, we want to know about it to help spread the word.

Do you have an unusual hobby? Did one of your coworkers 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 Editor Tim Kelly at 609-652-4950 or e-mail Stocktontimes@stockton.edu.

Construction Updates

Please be advised that the K-Wing circle will have limited accessibility due to renovations taking place this summer on J & H Wings.

The steps leading up to K & L Wing building will not be affected by the construction. However, there will be no wheelchair accessibility at this entrance point in the College. Detour signage will be posted soon.

Construction is expected to end around mid-August. Community members are asked to be cautious when walking in these areas throughout the duration of these projects.

From left, the Dean of the School of Health Sciences Professor of Public Health Brenda Stevenson-Marshall, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy Surya Shah and Diane Durham, Senior Director of Education and Staff Development at Genesis Rehabilitation Services. Genesis donated the Dell laptop for OT's research.