



Stockton's Hughes Center for Public Policy Launches Online Forum, 'Policy Hues'

For Immediate Release; with photo of Figart

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Galloway, NJ – Concerned citizens have another forum in which to engage on today's public policy issues with the start of "Policy Hues," a new blog (<http://blogs.stockton.edu/policyhues>) hosted by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Policy Hues will feature blog posts from Dr. Deborah M. Figart, professor of Education and Economics in the School of Education and a Contributing Policy Analyst for the Hughes Center. Figart is also director of the Stockton Center for Economic & Financial Literacy, which serves as the southern regional office of the New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education (www.njcfe.org).

Dr. Figart received a Ph.D. in Economics from The American University in 1986 and a B.A. in Economics, *summa cum laude*, from Wheaton College (Mass.) in 1981.

Dr. Figart is an internationally known scholar in the field of labor and employment issues. She has written on the subjects of equal pay, working time, emotional labor at work, minimum and living wages, job evaluation and career ladders.

With her academic background rooted in her knowledge of economics, Dr. Figart will provide commentary on other public policy issues including those affecting the workforce, financial literacy and economic development.

She is the author or editor of 18 books or monographs, including: *Women and the Economy: A Reader* (M.E. Sharpe, 2003); *Living Standards and Social Well-Being* (Routledge, 2011); and *Handbook of Research on Gender and Economic Life* (Elgar, 2013). Some of her current research is on financial exclusion in the U.S. and the student loan debt crisis.

Dr. Figart currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Novadebt, a non-profit credit counseling corporation. She recently completed terms as a member of Atlantic County Advisory

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Commission for women and coeditor of the *Review of Social Economy*, a peer-reviewed journal in economics.

“We are pleased to have the distinctive voice of Dr. Figart in providing commentary on contemporary policy issues,” said Daniel J. Douglas, director of the Hughes Center.

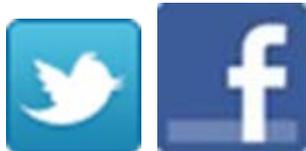
“We encourage members of the public to read and comment on the blog posts,” said Douglas.

In addition to Dr. Figart’s blog posts, Policy Hues will also include columns from Carl Golden, press secretary for former New Jersey Governors Tom Kean and Christie Whitman. Golden is a senior contributing analyst with the Hughes Center.

The new blog expands the Hughes Center’s web and social media presence that includes a website (www.stockton.edu/hughescenter), Twitter handle ([@hughescenter](https://twitter.com/hughescenter) or www.twitter.com/hughescenter), and Facebook (www.facebook.com/Hughes.Center.Stockton.College).

About the Hughes Center

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy (www.stockton.edu/hughescenter) at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey serves as a catalyst for research, analysis and innovative policy solutions on the economic, social and cultural issues facing New Jersey, and is also the home of the Stockton Polling Institute. The Center is named for William J. Hughes, whose distinguished career includes service in the U.S. House of Representatives, Ambassador to Panama and as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Stockton College. The Hughes Center can be followed on Twitter [@hughescenter](https://twitter.com/hughescenter) and found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Hughes.Center.Stockton.College>.



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