

## 'Salute to Stockton' Summer Speaker Series to Explore Medical Immortality July 24

Public Invited to Presentations at Congregation Beth Judah in Ventnor, NJ

### ***For Immediate Release; with photo***

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**Galloway, NJ** - Temple Emeth Shalom's 18th Annual "Salute to Stockton" lecture series, this year co-sponsored with Congregation Beth Judah, continues **Friday, July 24**, in Ventnor, NJ with a lecture on medical immortality.

Dr. Nathaniel Hartman, assistant professor of Biology, will speak on: "Medical Immortality: Who Wants to Live Forever?"

Advancements in medical technology have made it possible for humans to overcome disease, repair broken organs and tissues and extend lifespan, Hartman notes. Public health initiatives have dramatically decreased infant mortality rate and modern agriculture has given us an abundance of food to stave off malnutrition. As the pace of biomedical research quickens, humans may come face to face with a new option - to never die.

In this lecture, Hartman will discuss the major advancements in the fields of regenerative medicine and brain-computer interface as ways to achieve medical immortality. He will explore the possibility of using medical advances in stem cell biology and bioengineering to avoid death. He will discuss some of the moral and ethical dilemmas that we will face as a society if technology allows us to overcome death.

Hartman joined the Biology Program at Stockton University in 2013. His courses have explored the nature of stem cells and the impacts of medical technology on society. Hartman's interest in regenerative medicine and stem cells began over a decade ago as a graduate student at Wesleyan University. He continued his study of neural stem cells and developmental disorders as a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University School of Medicine. At Stockton, Hartman is researching the mechanisms that control neural stem cell behavior and how cellular pathways can contribute to the development of neurological disorders.

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The public is invited to this free series of events, sponsored by Temple Emeth Shalom in Margate and being held this year at Congregation Beth Judah, 700 N Swarthmore Ave, Ventnor, NJ. The programs will begin at 7:30 p.m. during Friday evening Sabbath services in July and early August, and feature a question-and-answer session following the presentations.

Rabbi Gordon Geller of Temple Emeth Shalom in Margate, and a longtime Stockton faculty member in the School of General Studies, said, “The talks are always one of the community's cultural highlights. This summer the series will be held at Congregation Beth Judah to accommodate a larger audience.” The two temples are holding a number of joint services this summer, including the “Salute to Stockton” series.

Rabbi Jonathan Kremer of Congregation Beth Judah said, “We are delighted to be partnering with Emeth Shalom in hosting these thought-provoking talks by respected local faculty.”

Upcoming lectures also include:

**Friday, July 31:** Dr. Eileen Conran-Folks, director of Stockton’s Hammonton & Manahawkin Instructional Sites, will speak on: “Meeting Students Where They Live and Making New Community Partners Along the Way.” This presentation will outline the positive outcomes Stockton University has realized through its expansion and development of instructional sites in Hammonton and Manahawkin.

**Friday, Aug. 7:** Dr. Beverly Vaughn, professor of Music, will host a program built around songs about freedom from slavery, including a sing-along with audience members and guest performers.

Dr. Vaughn, a mezzo-soprano known for her velvety tone and vibrant personality, is director of Choral Activities at Stockton. She has won numerous awards and citations for her teaching and has also received several awards from the regional organizations for outstanding community outreach and service.

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