Hughes Center Receives $10,000 from Verizon

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy has received a $10,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation to train social studies teachers to use web-based tools to increase the civic knowledge of students in grades K-12.

“Our Democracy works best when we have an interested, informed and responsive citizenry,” Ambassador William J. Hughes said. “Putting basic civics back into our classrooms and encouraging students to better understand and appreciate the Democratic process is a good start. I want to salute Verizon for its commitment to this worthy goal.”

The program is a partnership between the Hughes Center and Stockton’s Southern Regional Institute & Educational Technology Training Center (SRI&ETTC).

The goal of iCivics at Stockton is to provide social studies teachers with training to use the educational activities of iCivics.org in their classrooms. The SRI&ETTC will organize and conduct training sessions in a fully equipped facility with classrooms and computer labs.

iCivics.org, founded and led by retired U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, contains lessons and games that teach young people how government works and to encourage them to get involved in the public sector.

The Verizon Foundation grant will help pay for the costs of instruction as well as assessing the results. The training will be free of charge, to encourage wide participation. The Hughes Center and SRI&ETTC will contribute in-kind services to help the program succeed.

“We are grateful to our partners at the Hughes Center and for the generosity of the Verizon Foundation, who’ve helped us to make this opportunity available for teachers in southern New Jersey,” said Dr. Claudine Keenan, dean of the School of Education.

The SRI&ETTC expects to train 200 teachers during a total of six full-day workshops: two each for teachers from high schools, middle schools and elementary schools. “We plan to build a cadre of teachers that will be able to take the information back to their districts and lead efforts to integrate civics into the social studies curriculum,” said Patricia Weeks, director of the SRI&ETTC.
Dr. Jessica Fleck, Richard Trama Recognized at Annual Dinner

Dr. Jessica Fleck, associate professor of Psychology, and Richard Trama, assistant director, The Center for Academic Advising, were honored during the 30th Annual Student, Faculty & Staff Dinner on Nov. 20 where more than 350 members of the Stockton community gathered for a Thanksgiving meal.

Lauren Wilson, assistant director of Student Development, said organizers introduced the awards presentation as a new tradition in honor of the commemorative year. A committee of students from Student Senate and Campus Religious Council reviewed student nominations to determine the honorees.

“It is truly an honor to receive this award and to have been selected as the recipient by our students,” said Dr. Fleck, who received the Faculty of the Year award. “I am impressed by the work my students do in the classroom and in the lab each day. It is their enthusiasm that inspires me to do more.”

Trama said he was honored to receive the Staff of the Year award and expressed his “sincerest thanks to the Student Senate, Campus Religious Council, Hillel, and Student Development (Food Services staff) for a fine ceremony.”

This year’s event, led by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Yitzhak Sharon, professor of Physics and Weinstein Professor of Jewish Studies, also featured a musical selection by Vocal Jazz Ensemble representatives and Dr. Beverly Vaughn, professor of Music; remarks by Dr. Pedro Santana, dean of Students; and an invocation by Father James H. King, chaplain, Catholic Campus Ministry. Click here to view more photos from the event.
Dr. Janice Joseph Invited By UN to Participate in Expert Group

Dr. Janice Joseph, Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice, was invited by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to participate in a UN open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting on femicide, or gender-related killing of females. During the meeting, which was held from Nov. 11-13 in Bangkok, Thailand, the experts addressed issues mandated by the UN General Assembly Resolution 68/191 and developed a number of recommendations, which will be presented to the UN for approval at its UNODC Crime Commission meeting in Vienna in 2015.

Dr. Joseph has been involved in activities that resulted in the UN resolution. In 2012 and 2013, she gave a presentation about femicide at the UN Crime Commission meetings in Vienna and published a recent article on the topic. She also participated, with other representatives of NGOs, in the drafting of the initial statements on femicide at the UN meetings in Vienna.

“I was extremely honored to be invited as an expert by the UNODC to participate in this very important meeting. I am also grateful that I was given the opportunity to participate in UN activities that resulted in the successful passage of the UN Resolution 68/191,” Dr. Joseph said.

In September 2014, Dr. Joseph was appointed to a three-year term as a staff member of the National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) in Chicago. In the new role, she will be involved in organizing the annual international gang crime conference and serve as a liaison between the NGCRC and the international community.

Board of Trustees Website Redesigned, Board Books Now Online

The Office of the President announced a redesigned website for the Board of Trustees, which includes information more readily accessible to the college community and the public. New features include descriptions of the role of the Board of Trustees and student trustee; a list of former trustees and student trustees; and links to college policies and procedures. There will be a limited number of board books printed and distributed. Materials will be available on the new website the Monday prior to each board meeting. Check out the new website.

2020 Initiatives: International Writer-in-Residence

Editor’s Note: Stockton’s 2020 Initiatives, led by faculty members from various disciplines, featured events and programming this fall, which had a college-wide impact. We will feature these ongoing initiatives periodically.

Lithuania’s Laurynas Katkus, poet, fiction writer, translator and essayist, recently completed a three-week residency as Stockton’s second International Writer-in-Residence. The program is supported by a three-year grant awarded to Judy Copeland, associate professor of Writing, as part of the 2020 initiatives.

As part of his residency, Katkus gave a reading in the School of Arts and Humanities Visiting Writers Series on Nov. 17 on campus, as well as a reading and talk on Lithuanian literature on Nov. 18 at Dante Hall in Atlantic City.

“About 60 people came to the on-campus event, an unusually strong turnout for literary events at Stockton, while the Atlantic City event drew a smaller, but equally enthusiastic audience of writers from Philadelphia and South Jersey,” explained Copeland. “Katkus also brought an international perspective to our creative writing classrooms by participating in a fiction workshop with Nathan Long’s Craft and Theory students and a literary translation workshop with Cindy King’s Advanced Poetry students.”

Exterior Stair Renovation Construction to Begin Monday, Dec. 15

Facilities Planning and Construction will begin renovating exterior stairs on the Galloway campus this month.

As part of the first phase of the project, the exterior stairs in B, C/D and F wings (marked in orange on the map to the right) will be offline for two months beginning Monday, Dec. 15. Temporary stairs will be put in place in each wing to provide access to floors during construction.

The second phase of the project is anticipated to begin in late February and the exterior stairs in D/E, H and K wings (marked in green on the map) will be closed for construction. The last phase of the project is anticipated to begin in May and the exterior stairs in J, J/K and M wings (marked in blue on the map) will be closed for construction. During renovations, temporary stairs will be set up.

In January, construction will begin to renovate the elevators on campus. More details will be announced in the new year.

Each week, The Stockton Times will give a reminder about the upcoming construction. Any questions can be directed to Glenn Brown, associate director, Facilities Planning and Construction, at Glenn.Brown@stockton.edu or ext. 4888.

Various Departments Participate in SCCE Fall Food Drive

The Stockton Center for Community Engagement Campus Kitchen Food Drive collected a total of 849 food items, totaling 815 pounds of food over the course of two months.

The drive collected 268 pieces of food in October and 581 items in November. The donations will allow Stockton’s Campus Kitchen to provide meals for families in Atlantic City and Pleasantville.

Various departments contributed to the food drive, including Administration and Finance; the Office of the President; Academic Affairs and the Office of the Provost; External Affairs; the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs; Student Affairs; Carnegie Center; and the Hamonton, Manahawkin and Woodbine instructional sites. Donations from the Manahawkin Instructional Site were distributed to the King of Kings pantry in Ocean County.

Richard Mulvihill of Criminal Justice Welcomes First Grandchild

Richard Mulvihill, instructor of Criminal Justice, welcomed his first grandchild on Nov. 8. Natalie Lynn Richardson was born at 12:29 a.m. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches long. Congratulations to all!

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. Also, tell us what you think of the new design! Contact the editor at 609-626-5521 or StocktonTimes@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