Stockton College and Stockton Aviation Research and Technology Park (ARTP) will help with the testing of drones under the federal government’s plan to commercialize unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) over the next several years. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) is one of six FAA-selected public entities that will develop UAS research and test sites across the country. Stockton College and Stockton ARTP are members of the Virginia Tech team known as the Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership (MAAP.)

The FAA also awarded test sites to the University of Alaska, the State of Nevada, New York’s Griffiss International Airport, the North Dakota Department of Commerce and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Each of the entities submitted proposals focused on different aspects of UAS testing. Virginia Tech plans to conduct UAS failure mode testing and identify and evaluate operational and technical risk areas, with test site ranges located both here and in Virginia.

"We have been working as a team member of the Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership these past several months in hopes that MAAP would become one of six public entities for UAS research and testing," said Dr. Russell Manson, professor of Computational Science. "We were delighted to find out that our team was one of the final six chosen."

The MAAP is a collaboration between stakeholders in Virginia and New Jersey to facilitate the risk-based approach to safe integration of drones into the National Air Space co-existing with commercial and general aviation and to be an economic engine for the UAS industry in the Mid-Atlantic region.

"The Stockton Aviation Research and Technology Park is a member of the Virginia and New Jersey team and expects to play an active role with research at the test site," said Ronald J. Esposito, executive director of the Stockton ARTP. "The park will provide a location in close proximity and with connectivity to the William J. Hughes Technical Center for industry, government and academic representatives.

"The Tech Center will be the lead facilitator of data collected from each of the six test sites. Stockton ARTP has formal agreements with the Tech Center and Atlantic City International Airport for joint research which should prove valuable to the test site," Esposito said.

The test sites will conduct critical research into the certification and operational
CWA Local 1031 Donations Aid Recovery After Typhoon Haiyan

One week after Typhoon Haiyan made landfall on the Philippine Islands, Diana Meischker, president, CWA 1031 Stockton Branch, asked Stockton union members for monetary donations to aid in recovery efforts.

The donations were sent to friends and family of Dahlia Spataro, principal clerk typist, Campus Police and Safety, and the residents of Madridejos, Cebu, Spataro’s hometown.

“We have always endeavored to reach out and help one another. Sadly, due to first-hand experiences with the derecho and Hurricane Sandy, we now know what a disaster really means—long time recovery and many obstacles to overcome,” Meischker said.

Meischker’s request resulted in a total of $780. “The Stockton community always comes together when there is a need,” Meischker said.

“With that money, combined with other donations from my friends and family we were able to help at least 40 households put a roof over their head, and food in their stomach,” Spataro said. “By helping them with their basic necessities we can alleviate their suffering a little. At least for a few days they don’t have to worry about their next meal.

“I want you to know how grateful I am that I wasn’t alone feeling the agony of my people. From Hurricane Sandy, to Typhoon Haiyan, thank you CWA Local 1031,” Spataro said.
Dr. Daniel Moscovici Helps to Give Ospreys New Nesting Site

Ospreys migrating north will have a new nesting site this spring thanks to a project that began in Dr. Daniel Moscovici’s Environmental Issues class last semester.

Following a lesson on natural habitat loss, Dr. Moscovici’s students researched the diet, habitat and distribution of local animal species.

“I asked the students to choose a local species, identify where on campus it would live and to build its habitat,” said Dr. Moscovici, assistant professor of Environmental Science and Geology.

Dr. Moscovici and his students converted an old wooden pallet into an osprey nesting platform. They then joined Ben Wurst, habitat program manager at the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, to install the platform off Ocean Avenue at Stockton Seaview Hotel.

In the Environmental Issues course, Dr. Moscovici teaches a different issue each week with topics ranging from deforestation and farming to waste management and conflicts. Lectures focus on issues in national and global contexts and are complemented with local, hands-on applications.

In addition to the osprey platform, other groups of students created bat houses, bluebird houses, wood duck boxes and owl boxes, which were installed throughout the Galloway campus.

“Stockton’s campus provides 2,000 acres for students to apply the material we learn in the classroom. I want my students to know about what’s going on right here,” said Dr. Moscovici.

Ospreys migrate north from South America in early spring to seek nesting sites. “It’s in a good location, so there’s a good chance we will see ospreys this spring,” Dr. Moscovici said.

Vote for Stockton Arts in the DJA People’s Choice Awards!

Stockton-based arts organizations are on the ballot for the Discover Jersey Arts’ Sixth Annual People’s Choice Awards.

The Stockton nominees are: Bay-Atlantic Symphony (Stockton Orchestra-in-Residence) for the Favorite Symphony/Orchestra category; Hammonton Arts District for Favorite Downtown Arts District; and The Noyes Museum of Art for Favorite Art Museum. Voters can also write in to cast a vote for the Stockton Performing Arts Center in the Favorite Performing Arts Center category.

“Here is a fun, easy, and free way to support the vibrant arts scene at Stockton throughout the state,” said Jed Gaylin, artist-in-residence and music director of the Bay Atlantic Symphony. “Three of our own are nominated on the ballot. That in and of itself is an honor.”

Discover Jersey Arts (DJA) is a co-sponsored project of the ArtPride New Jersey Foundation and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. Their mission is to increase the awareness of and participation in the arts in New Jersey.

Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. on Jan. 21. One vote may be cast per e-mail and IP address. To support Stockton arts, vote by clicking here!

Men’s Basketball Coach Gerry Matthews Featured Statewide

Head men’s basketball coach Gerry Matthews’ passion for basketball was recently featured in an article in the Star-Ledger series, “I Am New Jersey.” The article illustrates Matthews’ unwavering dedication to the Ospreys, which has led to a continuously successful men’s basketball program.

Coach Matthews is in his 28th year of his distinguished career, a tenure that has produced a 545-226 record. Matthews has become the winningest coach in New Jersey college basketball history, surpassing former Princeton coach Pete Carril’s total of 514 victories in November of 2012.

Matthews has won two New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) championships apiece in three different decades (1980’s, 1990’s, 2000’s) and his Stockton teams have never had a losing season.

continued
Men’s Basketball Coach Matthews Featured Statewide cont’d

He ranks among the top 20 active Division III coaches in winning percentage and victories. Matthews, dean of the NJAC, has led the Ospreys to 13 NCAA Tournament berths, two Final Four appearances and 15 20-win seasons, including the last two years.

Matthews coached Stockton to its best season ever in 2008-09 when the Ospreys returned to the Final Four for the first time since 1987 and advanced to the NCAA championship game. Stockton also won its sixth NJAC title and set a school record with 30 victories while Matthews earned NJAC Coach of the Year honors for the eighth time. In 2009-10, the Ospreys won their third straight trip to the NJAC championship game and third consecutive NCAA Tournament berth before finishing at 20-8.

Matthews began coaching at the college in 1985. Since then, he collected his 300th win at Stockton in 2001; his 400th win in 2007; and his 500th win in 2012.

To read the full article featuring Matthews, click here. To view the 2013-14 men’s basketball schedule, click here.

Lead Atlantic City Tomorrow Program Welcomes Class of 2014

The LEAD ACT will ring in the new year with 17 fellows selected to participate in its 2014 class. Alex Marino, Stockton’s assistant to the provost for Atlantic City, is leading the initiative on Stockton’s behalf.

“When recruiting and selecting these individuals we tend to look for people that will aid in the expansion and improvement of the city’s future leadership through civic engagement and empowerment,” Marino explained.

Marino helped to coordinate the LEAD ACT, a 10-month public policy leadership development program designed for experienced and emerging leaders committed to building a stronger community within Atlantic City. The program is executed through a partnership between the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) and Stockton College, which draws on Atlantic City’s diversity in selecting LEAD ACT Fellows.

“The first year was an enormous success, and we are excited about the second year beginning in January. We have a diverse group of individuals ready to embark on an intense, public policy leadership program that will focus on strengthening the Atlantic City community,” Marino said.

College Welcomes New Staff Member in Office of Development

Editor’s note: More than 50 new staff members have joined the Stockton community. We will feature these staff members in the Times as more information becomes available. Welcome!

Kelly Ann Brennan, a New Jersey native, joins the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs as the annual giving coordinator. Brennan graduated from The College of New Jersey, and completed her master’s program at Monmouth University this December with an M.A. in Public Policy. Prior to her appointment at Stockton, Brennan gained institutional advancement experience at Monmouth University. She enjoys traveling and has been to 41 of the 50 states in the U.S. She also enjoys outdoor activities, cycling, spending time with family and friends and country music.

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