Dr. Deborah Figart, professor of Education and Economics, and Dr. Ellen Mutari, professor of Economics, attended *The White House Summit on Working Families* in Washington, DC on June 23. The White House Council on Women and Girls, the Department of Labor (DOL), and the Center for American Progress (CAP) hosted the invitation-only summit to focus on strengthening the nation’s workplaces to better support working families and boost businesses’ bottom lines.

Dr. Figart and Dr. Mutari joined other economists, businesses, labor leaders, policymakers, advocates, and ordinary citizens to discuss policy solutions to ensure America’s global economic competitiveness in the coming decades.

President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden spoke at the event, focusing their remarks on creating a 21st century workplace that works for all Americans.

Speakers and panelists included U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez, Mark Weinberger, global chairman and CEO of EY (formerly Ernst & Young), Ai-Jen Poo, director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, Debra Lee, CEO of Black Entertainment Television, Ellen Bravo, president and founder of Family Values @ Work, Maria Shriver, former First Lady of California, U.S. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), and activist Gloria Steinem, among others. As economists, a highlight for Dr. Figart and Dr. Mutari was hearing from Betsey Stevenson, a member of the Council of Economic Advisors.

Dr. Mutari noted one important theme of the conference was making the “business case” that family-friendly policies can improve the bottom line.

“The summit reaffirmed what I’m finding in my own research – that employees are more loyal to and productive for employers who provide high-quality jobs and treat them with dignity,” she explained. “There are good models out there and we need more businesses to learn from them.”

“The key public-policy measures called for by many of the speakers were raising the minimum wage, paid family leave, paid sick days, Paycheck Fairness Act (and salary transparency), flexible work arrangements, tele-commuting, and affordable child care,” Dr. Figart said.

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Dr. Figart and Dr. Mutari Attend White House Summit

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At the summit, President Obama told the group he would sign a presidential memorandum later that day to help families better balance work and spending time at home.

“With so much gridlock in Washington, DC, it seemed to me that President Obama was employing skills from his early career as a community organizer, acting as ‘organizer in chief’ and calling on the attendees to disseminate the call for better policies at the state and local level,” Dr. Figart said.

The president announced a package of both public and private sector efforts that will help protect pregnant working women, increase investments for research to understand the economic benefits of paid leave, expand apprenticeships for women, target resources to help more women enter higher-paying STEM and other fields, and make child care more affordable for working families.

“I was honored to be invited to attend and to hear from panelists from a wide variety of businesses (large and small) as well as leaders in the policy world about how we can help workers ‘bring their whole selves’ to work,” Dr. Figart said.

To read Dr. Figart’s blog on Policy Hues, [click here](#).

Stockton Hosts 3rd Annual Contemporary Orthopedic Conference

Stockton’s School of Graduate and Continuing Studies and the School of Health Sciences (SHS), in collaboration with Rothman Institute, AtlantiCare, and Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation, hosted Contemporary Orthopedic Care: The O.R. Through Rehabilitation at Stockton on June 19. More than 190 physicians, occupational and physical therapists, and nurses convened for the third annual conference focused on improving patient outcomes through interprofessional collaboration between doctors, nurses and therapists.

“This conference provides a unique and affordable opportunity for case-study based and interdisciplinary education. The unique format permits health professionals to consider orthopedic care from the OR to home,” explained Dr. Bess Kathrins, interim dean of the School of Health Sciences. “Furthermore, participants have the opportunity to examine care throughout the health care continuum.”

Dr. Robert Marsico, assistant professor of Physical Therapy, presented on “The Role of Rehabilitation in Maximizing Outcomes after Orthopedic Surgery.” In his presentation, Dr. Marsico discussed which patients are appropriate for fast track rehabilitation programs and reviewed exercise program progression from acute through outpatient and evidence-based outcome assessments.

Dr. Thomas P. Nolan Jr., associate professor of Physical Therapy, co-presented with Joyce Glick, vice president of Ambulatory Care at Bacharach, physical therapy care case studies on “Contemporary Care to Maximize Outcomes Following Orthopedic Surgery.” Dr. Nolan also moderated the panel discussion, “Surgery and Rehabilitation: Working Together for Optimal Outcomes.”

“It’s not possible to thank everyone, but from the School of Health Sciences, special thanks to Dr. Tom Nolan who tirelessly led the effort and Dr. Rob Marsico who assisted. Thank you to Ann Walker, assistant professor of Nursing. Many people went to extraordinary efforts to make sure we had robust enrollment including: Dr. Lee Ann Guenther, associate professor of Physical Therapy, Camille Sauerwald, academic fieldwork coordinator in the SHS, and Dr. Laurie Shanderson, assistant dean in the SHS. Thank you to the many others also assisted,” Interim Dean Kathrins said.

Dr. Lewis Leitner, dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies echoed Dr. Kathrins’ praise for the Continuing Studies staff.

“Special thanks to Ariane Newman, assistant director, who served as Conference Coordinator and who performed ‘above and Continued on next page
Sgt. Tracy Stuart Receives VFW Officer of the Year Award

Sgt. Tracy Stuart of the Stockton Police Department received the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New Jersey Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award on June 19 at the VFW’s 85th annual convention held in Wildwood.

Sgt. Stuart said her father, who was a veteran, would have gleamed with pride that day. Stockton’s K-9 officer said the award is a tribute to her parents. They taught Sgt. Stuart to “work hard, have respect for self and the utmost respect for others and you will be rewarded.”

The Veterans of Foreign Wars presents one award for Police Officer of The Year at its annual convention, explained retired Stafford Township Chief of Police Thomas Conroy. “To be nominated for such an award by a local chapter is truly an honor, but to be selected as the American Legion Police Officer of The Year is possibly the highlight of any officer’s career.”

“No matter how poorly you may feel or how high the obstacles you may be faced with, it is a tremendous moment in one's life when you come to realize that your dedication and commitment to duty and service means so much to others,” said Sgt. Stuart. “I am extremely grateful for that and happy to share the moment with the veterans, my family, friends, fellow officers and Chief Greg Coffin.”

Sgt. Stuart also received the VFW National Law Enforcement Award in "recognition and sincere appreciation of her dedication and selfless service” to Stockton.

Dr. Judith Vogel Appointed to Faculty IDEA Liaison Position

Dr. Judith Vogel, associate professor of Mathematics and associated faculty member in the Holocaust and Genocide Studies program, has been appointed Faculty IDEA Liaison effective Sept. 1.

In her role as Faculty IDEA Liaison, Dr. Vogel will work with Dr. William Reynolds, associate professor of Social Work and director of the Institute for Faculty Development, and Dennis Fotia, assistant director of E-Learning and administrative liaison to IDEA, in advising faculty regarding Small Class and IDEA instrument procedures and deadlines.

During the two-year appointment, Dr. Vogel will provide faculty development workshops and materials for the effective use of both survey instruments as well as group summary reports and aggregate data sets.

Dr. Vogel replaces Dr. Russell Manson, professor of Computational Science, who served ably in the Faculty IDEA Liaison position since its inception two years ago.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity,” Dr. Vogel said. “I strongly believe in the value of student evaluations, and I have a sincere interest in being a part of this important process.”
Dr. Koh’s THATCamp Draws Nationwide Interest to Carnegie Event

Stockton hosted The Humanities and Technology Camp (THATCamp), a two-day national “unconference” at the Carnegie Center in Atlantic City last week. THATcamp is an open, inexpensive meeting where humanists and technologists of all skill levels learn and build together in sessions proposed on the spot. “An unconference is to a conference what a seminar is to a lecture… it is more informal and more participatory,” stated the organization’s website.

Dr. Adeline Koh, director of the Center for the Digital Humanities and assistant professor of Literature, coordinated the event. Dr. Koh, who often uses the digital humanities in her classroom, brought people from all over the country to Atlantic City for the grass-roots, participant-driven conference on the role of digital humanities.

She presented “Using Wikipedia for Research Assignments,” which discussed diversity concerns that the contents of Wikipedia are written predominantly by white men, leaving other populations underrepresented in its content. The workshop also guided participants through editing the site and shared best practices to integrate Wikipedia into the classroom.

Dr. Linda Feeney, director of E-Learning, presented “ePortfolio Assembly and Assessment,” which discussed the use of electronic portfolios by individuals, groups and organizations to represent academic, professional and organizational achievement. Dr. Feeney shared ways to purposefully assemble and evaluate ePortfolios in a non-technical presentation.

Daniel Gambert, instructional designer in the Office of E-Learning, presented a workshop on “Enhancing the LMS Student Experience with Multimedia Production,” which emphasized the importance of the quality and interactivity of Learning Management Systems (LMS). His hands-on session explored the Camtasia Studio software tool to demonstrate how to facilitate the student learning experience.

“It’s crucial that students have the technological skills to compete in the marketplace and that classrooms adapt to this ongoing trend,” said Dean Lisa Honaker of the School of Arts and Humanities. “Harnessing digital technology can have a positive effect in the classroom.”

Office of International Services Now Office of Global Engagement

The Office of International Services will now be known as the Office of Global Engagement. The name change was unanimously recommended by the Advisory Committee of the Office of International Services.

“We desired a name that was broader and captured a better scope of the regular operations of the office. The title ‘international services’ is limiting and sounds just that, ‘service oriented,’ when in reality we are very proactive in seeking opportunities to advance the college’s agenda to internationalize,” said India Karavackas, director of the Office of Global Engagement.

Stockton’s office does more in addition to handling service issues such as visa status and daily life issues for international students. It also offers study abroad, develops programs with international students and scholars, participates in prestigious international programs, and creates partnerships with other institutions and larger initiatives, such as bringing the Intensive English program operated by ELS Educational Services to campus.

“We are also seeking ways to involve the community in international education. The term ‘global engagement’ is a better description of what we do and is aligned with the 2020 Strategic Plan and the Essential Learning Outcomes initiative,” Karavackas said.

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