College Signs Pact With A.C. Historical Waterfront Foundation

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The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

College Signs Pact With A.C. Historical Waterfront Foundation

Stockton College and the Atlantic City Historical Waterfront Foundation joined forces on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 to expand educational programs for the public, increase internships and teacher training, and promote awareness of the coastal environment and eco-tourism.

President Herman Saatkamp and Jack Keith, executive director of the ACHWF, signed an agreement at the Atlantic City Aquarium in the Historic Gardner's Basin Waterfront Park, Atlantic City.

"Stockton welcomes the opportunity to expand its educational programs in Atlantic City and to support the Atlantic City Historic Waterfront Foundation," said President Saatkamp. "The college and the foundation are both vitally concerned with preparing our nation's young people to compete in the global fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM.) We also share the goal of protecting and preserving our marine environment."

The foundation, established in 1976, operates the aquarium at 800 N. New Hampshire Avenue in cooperation with the City of Atlantic City.

Under the agreement, the college will hold classes and programs at the aquarium and the foundation will be able to conduct programs at Stockton's facilities throughout the region.

The agreement lays the groundwork for Stockton and the foundation to work together to meet regional, state and national needs in STEM, with an eye toward global competitiveness. One aim is to attract more young people to science fields and to Stockton's School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NAMS.)

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College Welcomes New Staff Members in Various Departments

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!

Kim Williams joins Stockton as the new head coach for Women’s Lacrosse. Williams graduated from Long Island University, C.W. Post (now referred to as LIU Post) in 2010 with a degree in Childhood Education. She went on to coach at Colby College in Waterville, ME from 2011-2013. Williams’ hobbies include fitness and she recently completed the Ocean City Half Marathon.

Christine Klenk joins the Athletic staff full time after working part time as an Athletic Trainer at Stockton for 10 years. She brings with her experience working in various settings including the high school, clinical, and semi-professional levels. She received both her BS and MEd from Temple University in Philadelphia, where she is from originally.

Eleonora Carr joins Stockton as assistant controller in Fiscal Affairs. Carr is a CPA with an MBA who comes to the college after working in the Finance department at Georgian Court University for about 12 years. She has about 30 years’ experience in various industries from a small mom & pop place to a tax manager at Citibank. Carr was a Texas state auditor upon graduation from Rutgers College in Economics with an Accounting concentration. She is currently an adjunct for both Georgian Court and Ocean County College, teaching various accounting courses at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Morgan Cullers is a clerk typist in Accounts Payable, where she worked as a student worker for two years. She is currently a senior at Stockton, where she majors in Business Marketing. Cullers is graduating in December with a B.S., and plans to pursue an MBA in the spring. She lives in Ventnor, NJ, where some of her favorite hobbies include yoga and visiting the local sushi restaurants.

William Mauroff joins Plant Management as a groundsworker. Mauroff worked for Marriott Vacations Worldwide as a supervisor in operations and grounds before coming to Stockton. He graduated from Gettysburg College with a BA in Economics.

Jessica Henning is the newest assistant director in the Admissions Office. Henning received her B.A. in Communication Studies from Stockton College in December 2011. She is currently co-advising the Admissions Ambassadors program, which she also participated in as a student. Henning participated in SOAR this year as a volunteer.
Dr. Xiangping Kong Presents at Dalian University in China

Dr. Xiangping Kong, director of Institutional Research at Stockton, presented to faculty and students at Dalian University during his recent vacation visit to Dalian, China. His presentation was titled, “Issues, challenges and opportunities at U.S. colleges and universities.”

He discussed the current issues and challenges related to rising costs, student loan debt and the job market for college graduates. Students and faculty at Dalian University were particularly interested in his topic on the public perception of college graduates in terms of academic preparation for a professional career. Dr. Kong also spoke about the opportunities for college-bound students—despite the rising costs and debt loads, a college degree remains the nation's cultural and economic credential, and a college education still pays.

The one topic that interested the students most were the opportunities and challenges for Chinese students to study in the U.S. The number of Chinese students at U.S. colleges has tripled in the last five years. Although many of them are able to pay full college costs, they are not able to speak English well enough to attend classes and to be involved in campus activities.

Dr. Kong pointed out that interested students have many choices when applying to their dream campus, but those “big name” institutions may not be the one of everybody’s choice, depending on the individual interest in a program, and access and cost. He also talked about why and how Stockton may be the college of their choice.

Dalian University is a comprehensive, four-year institution with a graduate and undergraduate enrollment of about 15,000. It offers various academic programs in arts and sciences, education, business, law, medicine, public health, management and engineering.

Dr. Hood Named New Director of Essential Learning Outcomes

Dr. Carra Leah Hood, associate professor of Writing in the School of General Studies, has recently been named the director of Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO) for a one-year appointment, according to Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president. Her term begins on Jan. 1, 2014.

“As many of you know, Dr. Hood has been involved in the ELO initiative since the beginning, starting with the Academic Affairs Retreat in 2010, and serving as facilitator for the team crafting the Critical Thinking ELO learning map,” Dr. Kesselman said in an e-mail to faculty and staff. “Her work in these endeavors has been praised by all.”

Dr. Hood has served as chair of the General Studies Committee for the past four years, the GEN Convener for seven years, and the Writing Minor/W1 coordinator for the past six years. She has also participated in and contributed to the design of the recent General Studies assessment. This year, she has introduced ELOs into both the General Studies new course and five-year review processes, Dr. Kesselman said.

“I am thrilled that Provost Kesselman has offered me the opportunity to work on Stockton's Essential Learning Outcomes initiative,” said Dr. Hood. “ELOs have been a community effort since 2010, when Provost Kesselman initiated the campus-wide discussion at the Academic Affairs Retreat until the present moment.”

“In my role as ELO director, I will rely on the spirit of shared commitment to ELOs growing ever since 2010,” she continued. “ELOs offer all of us who work, teach, and study at Stockton the opportunity to ‘close the loop,’ to connect course and program goals to institutional ones, and to map out alignments between courses in different programs, courses/programs and co-curricular activities, and experiences at Stockton and those engaged elsewhere. It's an exciting moment.”

Essential Learning Outcomes include 10 outcomes students should achieve during their experience at the college. These ELOs are adapting to change, communication skills, creativity & innovation, critical thinking, ethical reasoning, global awareness, information literacy & research skills, program competence, quantitative reasoning, and teamwork & collaboration.
Interprofessional Case Study Presentation a Huge Success

Dr. Tom Nolan, director of the Physical Therapy program, planned and organized the Interprofessional Case Study Presentation, held on Thursday, Nov. 7 in the Campus Center Theater.

Bess Kathrins, interim dean of the School of Health Sciences, gave the opening remarks and Dr. Nolan served as moderator, introducing each speaker and facilitating the question-and-answer sessions. Speakers included a physical therapist, speech/language therapist, nurse, and occupational therapist from Bacharach Institute of Rehabilitation, Dr. Nolan said.

“The nurse presented the medical history of a patient at Bacharach who had a neurologic system problem, followed by each presenter describing the type of care provided to this patient based on their profession,” Dr. Nolan said.

All program directors from the School of Health Sciences contributed funds from their program budgets to support this event, which packed the theater with a standing-room only audience that included Stockton graduate and undergraduate students, Stockton faculty, and health care providers from Bacharach, Dr. Nolan said.

Stockton Named ‘Best for Vets’ in ranking by Military Times

Stockton has been named to the Best for Vets: Colleges 2014 listing by Military Times, an organization comprised of the Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times and Marine Corps Times. Stockton is ranked #15 on the list of four-year schools. Military Times also rated two-year and non-traditional/online schools, for a total of 120 schools ranked out of the 600 competing for consideration.

Best for Vets: Colleges 2014 utilizes a 150-question analysis of a school’s complete offerings for veterans. Military Times said a school’s academic rigor was highly valued this year in scoring its fourth annual survey. Academic rigor involves a school’s culture of high expectations and support for students to achieve at high levels. For more information, read the full press release here.

Stockton also honored fallen heroes and all who served their country in a series of Veterans Day events on Nov. 11.

Stockton employee Jose “Nick” Santana, a veteran who was killed when his motorcycle was run off the road in August, was honored with the laying of a wreath and the unveiling of a memorial to him which will be displayed on campus. Santana’s wife, Linda, and family were present for the ceremony, along with the Somers Point Post 352 Legion Riders motorcycle group, with whom Santana rode.

Lt. Col. Randall Smith, Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Pentagon and deputy director of the Warrior and Family Support program, was the keynote speaker at the ceremonies, which also included a performance by the U.S. Army Band.

Stockton’s Veteran Affairs program, founded in 2008, now serves 400 veterans and service members. Thomas O’Donnell, assistant dean of Students/Veteran Affairs, was recognized by President Herman Saatkamp for his work with the program, although he could not attend due to the death of his father, a decorated veteran who was to be buried with military honors in Florida. Dean of Students Pedro Santana stepped in to officiate at the services.

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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

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