Stockton to Convert Casino into Island Campus

Stockton announced on Dec. 12 that it has acquired Showboat Atlantic City and will transform the 1.73-million-square-foot site into an island campus designed to spur economic and community development and help prepare Atlantic City’s workforce for the jobs of the future.

Towers 2 and 3 at the Stockton-Island Campus will include student housing, dining, parking and recreational facilities. The property will likely continue to operate as a hotel, with 479 rooms in Tower 1 available for guests, along with retail and restaurant amenities.

Stockton intends to work with city, state, and county officials and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) to develop a University Park neighborhood around the campus that will encourage entrepreneurship and support businesses.

The college expects to have the hotel portion of the Island Campus operating by late spring 2015, with some summer session classes to follow. Full academic programs are expected to begin in fall 2015.

President Herman Saatkamp will be working with faculty and staff to decide on an implementation plan shortly.

For answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit Stockton-Island Campus FAQs.

For additional information, visit Stockton-Island Campus and University Park Showboat Higher Education Proposal.

William T. Daly Gives Commencement Address on Dec. 14

Graduates of Stockton have distinctive educational advantages that will help them “navigate successfully in this change-dominated era,” said William T. Daly, Distinguished Professor of Political Science, in his Dec. 14 Commencement address.

“Our Stockton education is, in fact, different and better and beautiful. And, as the educational offspring of that particular kind of education, so are you,” said Daly, a founding faculty member who will retire at the end of the academic year.

Stockton was planned and founded in the late 1960s and early 1970s, precisely when a wall of globally generated change appeared on the American horizon, Daly said. The college designed its academic structures to help students learn how to deal with such dramatic changes, he said.
William T. Daly Gives Commencement Address on Dec. 14

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“There are strong reasons to believe you will all depart this ceremony stronger in your capacity to actually pursue your imagined future in concrete terms because of the distinctive nature of a Stockton education,” Daly said.

Stockton has become well known for its top-tier academic rankings, he noted, and as the graduates go out into the workforce to compete, they should remember: “You too have attended an elite college. Just one that’s more up-to-date and a good deal less expensive” than “colleges founded in a previous historical era that are now stuck there.”

He talked about how the college has grown with new academic programs and facilities such as the Campus Center, the new Unified Science Center and its expansion on the way. And soon to come, he noted, “a brand new Atlantic City campus.”

“It is appropriate today to celebrate both your achievements and your prospects,” Daly told the graduates. “For today, you are young, with the capacity to imagine, and the time and training to pursue the future... Today you are here at the graduation gate. And on this special day all things are, for you, still possible.”

President Herman Saatkamp presided over the Commencement ceremony in the Sports Center. Some 720 baccalaureate degree candidates participated in the Dec. 14 ceremony.

Dr. Betsy McShea, associate professor of Developmental Mathematics, was the faculty grand marshal. Dr. Beverly Vaughn, professor of Music, played piano throughout the ceremony.

The graduates’ names were read by Dr. Peter Hagen, associate dean of General Studies and director of the Center for Academic Advising; Dr. Lois Spitzer, associate professor of Teacher Education; and Dr. Tara Luke, associate professor of Biology.

Dr. Rodger Jackson, professor of Philosophy and president of the Faculty Senate, told the graduates that truly experiencing learning is special and that through shared experiences, they had taught the faculty, in addition to the faculty teaching them.

A special moment in the ceremony came when Trustee Raymond Ciccone conferred upon Professor Daly the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. President Saatkamp and Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president, presented Dr. Daly with his hood, the special attire worn to confer graduate degrees.

To view more photos from commencement, click here.

Arleen Gonzalez Speaks at Hispanic Heritage Month Event

Arleen Gonzalez, associate professor of Criminal Justice, recently gave the keynote address for the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month at the Federal Correctional Institution in Fairton, N.J. Her topic was Latinos in Higher Education: A Historical Analysis of Supreme Court cases on affirmative action through Schuette.
Stockton DPT Program Receives Expansion Approval from CAPTE

Stockton’s Doctor of Physical Therapy Program recently received expansion approval and continued accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) beginning next year.

The expansion approves a permanent increase in class size to 34 students per year and will be implemented for the Fall 2015 cohort with the full capacity of total enrollment of 102 students to be achieved by the 2017-2018 academic year, explained Dr. Bess Kathrins, professor of Physical Therapy and director of the DPT Program.

“The demand for physical therapists is expected to grow more than 30 percent over the next 10 years,” said Dr. Theresa Bartolotta, dean of Health Sciences. “By expanding the number of qualified student applicants, the Doctor of Physical Therapy program will help meet this important health care need. Our graduates provide services to people across the lifespan. The growing number of seniors in this country have an ever-increasing need for physical therapists to help them maintain independence and improve quality of life.”

Stockton Police, Kappa Sigma, Circle K Donate Over 250 Toys

The Stockton Police Department joined with the college’s Kappa Sigma Fraternity and Circle K to collect more than 250 toys for the Toys for Tots Foundation from Nov. 18-Dec. 11. Collection bins were placed at various locations throughout the Campus Center, the spine of the campus, the police station, Lakeside Lodge, the Housing Residential Life Office and the TRLC.

Brian Pluchino of the Office of Residential Life and Circle K staff advisor, and Lt. Colleen Britton and Sgt. Linda Kenny of Campus Police organized the 6th annual toy drive.

“Community service and community partnerships are at the forefront of the Stockton Police Department’s mission statement. Especially during the holiday season, our goal is to contribute our services as much as possible to those in need,” said Lt. Britton. “Along with Toys for Tots, we also had officers participate in the 2014 Shop with a Cop event hosted by the Egg Harbor Township Police Athletic League which provides to children in need. Our officers enjoy the opportunity to ‘give back’ not only to the community we serve but to the community statewide.”

GENS Welcomes Amanda Murphy as Director of Murphy Writing

Stockton will offer new programs in the United States and abroad to help writers develop their craft through a new entity, Murphy Writing of Stockton College. Amanda Murphy was named director of Murphy Writing of Stockton at a Dec. 3 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Murphy Writing, founded by Stockton adjunct instructor and alumnus Peter Murphy in 1994, has partnered with Stockton on more than 10 programs since 2012, and now will be housed under the School of General Studies. Amanda Murphy is Peter Murphy’s daughter.

The program offers international writing retreats in Scotland and in Wales, and Shore Thing Writing Getaways in Atlantic City for individuals to develop their writing. The Winter Poetry & Prose Getaway, held at Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club every January, attracts more than 200 poets and writers from across the country each year.

Most recently, Amanda Murphy ran Murphy Writing Seminars, LLC, the organization that’s been absorbed into the college. Prior to that, she was Deputy Director of Delaware Financial Literacy Institute. She holds a M.A. in Economics and Entrepreneurship for Educators, and a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Delaware.
Stockton Represented at NJEDge Conference; Feeney Awarded

A number of Stockton faculty and staff presented at the NJEDge Annual Conference in November in Plainsboro, N.J., and Linda Feeney, director of E-Learning, continued Stockton’s winning-streak of poster sessions at NJEDge conferences.

This year, Feeney won best poster presentation for her session titled “No More Skeletons: Fighting for Privacy in a Connected World.” At the conference, Feeney participated during an “Ignite” session, where she had five minutes to speak about her topic, which was accompanied by 20 slides. During her presentation, Feeney talked about privacy policies of apps and online accounts.

“It’s practically impossible to be private in the world these days, but you don’t have to give everything away,” she said.

Other Stockton presenters included Dr. Lauren Del Rossi, assistant professor of Physical Therapy; Dan Gambert, lead instructional designer; Dr. Mary Lou Galantino, professor of Physical Therapy; Dr. Joan Perks, associate professor of Nursing; Tucker Rowlinson, instructional design assistant; Dr. Amy Situ-Liu, associate professor of Criminal Justice; and Marilyn Vito, associate professor of Business Studies, Accounting. Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and executive vice president, also participated in the panel discussion, “The View from the Top: The Value of Libraries and Information Resources for Higher Education.”

NJEDge is a consortium of academic and research institutions in New Jersey that introduces emerging technologies and networking for collaboration, scholarship and research. To learn more, click here.

College Welcomes New Staff Members in Various Departments

Donna Hauer joins Stockton as an assessment and accreditation specialist in the School of Business. She earned a master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration from Rutgers University, specializing in Government, Education and Healthcare Administration. Hauer has a variety of experience in higher education, most recently serving as an academic program review coordinator with a focus in the areas of assessment, accreditation, and workforce development. In addition, she has held positions as a director in federally funded educational programs, as well as in corporate business management.

Mitchell Cassetta continues at Stockon as a professional services specialist in Computer & Telecommunications Services. He graduated from Stockton with a bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Information Systems, with program distinction, in May 2013. Cassetta most recently worked as a TES in the President’s Office where he was responsible for digitizing paper documents and optimizing the use of search engine technology within the Xtender application.

Tiffany Rice joins Stockton as the complex director of Housing IV and V. She received a M.S. in Higher Education Administration with a concentration in Student Affairs from Drexel University, and a B.A. in Sociology and Africana World Studies from William Paterson University. Prior to Stockton, Rice served as an office manager and customer service representative at William Paterson University.

The Stockton Times will take a hiatus over the winter break. We will return on Friday, Jan. 2, 2015.

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