Stockton University

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, September 10, 2026

AGENDA

The meeting will open to the public virtually at 11:30 a.m. in the Michael Jacobson Board of Trustees Room, Galloway Campus. Immediately following action on the resolution to meet in closed session, members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting.

The Board will reconvene for the Open Public Meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Event Room on the Galloway Campus.

Notice of Public Meeting: As required by the Open Public Meetings Act, a notice of this Meeting and Public Hearing, the dates, times, and locations of Stockton University Board of Trustees Public Meetings were: (a) posted on the University's website, (b) sent to the Press of Atlantic City and the Daily Journal, and (c) filed with the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, Galloway Township Clerk's Office, and Atlantic County Clerk's Office.

1) **Call to Order and Roll Call**, Board Chair

2) **Action Item:** Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2026

3) **Action Item:** Election of Officers

4) **Action Item:** Resolution to Meet in Closed Session

The Board will approve a resolution to meet in closed session to review and discuss personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; public safety matters; and other items exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act.

5) **Call to Order and Roll Call to reconvene Open Public Meeting:** Board Chair

6) **Chair Report**

7) **Information Item:** Oath of Office, Mr. Dylan Demarest, Student Trustee Alternate: **Board Chair & President Bertolino**

8) **President's Report:** President Bertolino

9) **Committee Reports**

a. Academic Affairs and Planning Committee Report: **Trustee Gonsalves, Chair**

Action Item: Resolution

- Bachelor of Science in Marketing

b. Student Success Committee Report: **Trustee Roy, Chair**

c. Finance and Professional Services Committee Report: **Trustee Lowry, Chair**

Information Item:

- Bid Waiver Contract *(approved at Executive Committee Meeting 8/31/26)*

Action Item: Resolutions: Consent Agenda

- FY28 Capital Budget Submission
- Bid Waiver Contract
- Increase in Bid Waiver Contracts

d. Audit Committee Report: **Trustee Ciccone, Chair**

e. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report: **Trustee Ciccone**

f. Advancement Committee Report: **Trustee Days, Chair**

g. Investment Committee Report: **Trustee Keates, Chair**

9) **University Policy Review:** President Bertolino

Information Items: Review of Policies (First Reading)

- I-4 Mission Statement

- I-99 Effort Reporting and Certification for Grants, Contracts, and Other Sponsored Agreements
- II-80 Research Misconduct

Action Item: Resolution: Approval of Action for University Policies (Second Reading)

- I-67 Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodations
- II-31 Academic Competency Requirements

10) **Action Item: Resolution:** President Bertolino
    - Personnel Actions

11) **Mission Moment:** Library Learning Commons

12) **New Business**

13) **Comments from the Board of Trustees/Public**

Members of the public should limit their comments to three minutes and are not permitted to cede their time to another member of the public.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2026, in the Campus Center Event Room.

Adjournment

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Held remotely by electronic communication (Zoom webinar)

Present: Chair Jose Lozano, Trustee Lowry, Trustee Lutz, Trustee Ciccone, Trustee Days, Trustee Deininger, Trustee Gonsalves, Trustee Hanselmann, Trustee Kennedy, Trustee Valentin

Also Present: President Joe Bertolino. Trustee Tjoumakaris joined following the roll call and is recorded on the votes taken after their arrival.

Absent: Trustee Keates, Trustee Roy, Student Trustee Laing

Call to Order

Chair Jose Lozano called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The General Counsel, Ellen Bailey, called the roll. A quorum was present.

Approval of Open Public Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2026 & Open Public Special Meeting Minutes by Consent Agenda

Action: *On motion duly made by Trustee Days and seconded by Trustee Deininger, the board approved the minutes of the May 7th & June 24th Open Public Meetings. Trustee Gonsalves abstained from voting on the June 24th meeting minutes.*

Resolution to Meet in Closed Session

Action: On motion duly made by Trustee Lowry and seconded by Trustee Lutz, the board voted to meet in Closed Session at 9:33 a.m.

Reconvene the Open Public Meeting

Chair Lozano reconvened the Open Public Meeting at 1:05 p.m. The Board Liaison, Heather Watkins-Jones, called the roll. A quorum was present.

Chair Remarks

Before the formal agenda, Chair Lozano addressed recent concerns within the community on behalf of the Board. He stated that academic freedom remains central to Stockton's mission and that faculty remain free to teach, conduct and publish research, and engage in scholarly and public expression. He said recent changes to the University website concerned official institutional communications rather than academic scholarship, that a review of graduate program web pages had already been underway to improve consistency, and that the University does not take positions on geopolitical matters, including the conflict in the Middle East. On the subject of donors, he stated that donors have a right to an opinion but not to a say, and that oversight authority for the University rests solely with the Board of Trustees. He indicated the Board would welcome public comment later in the meeting.

President's Report

President Bertolino affirmed his commitment to academic freedom and shared governance. He acknowledged that the broader website work could have been communicated more clearly with the academic units involved, took responsibility for that, and committed to using it as an opportunity to learn and collaborate, including with the leadership of the Faculty Senate and the faculty union.

Turning to his report, the President highlighted an active summer: new-student orientation and the EOF program in Atlantic City; roughly 200 students gaining experience through the live-work-learn program with 12 regional employers; and outreach at Pleasantville High School that helped increase applications by 78% and deposits by 57%. He noted Stockton's fifth consecutive year on the Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Honor Roll, the South Jersey Higher Education Alliance (with Atlantic Cape, Brookdale, Camden County, and Ocean County Colleges), the Levine-Gormley STEM Scholars Pathway, and recent recognition by Money Magazine. He reported new academic leadership across schools, referenced moving the Strategic Plan into action, and cited philanthropic support from Johnson & Johnson, the Elizabeth O. Shear Foundation, and Autumn Lake Healthcare, as well as the Stockton AtlantiCare College of Community Health and a partnership with Cooper University Hospital Cape Regional. He noted the new Library and Learning Commons (with a September ribbon cutting), a recent meeting with Lieutenant Governor Dr. Dale Caldwell, and an October meeting planned with the acting Secretary of Higher Education, Margo Shaly.

Committee Reports and Action Items

Academic Affairs and Planning — Trustee Gonsalves

Reporting on the June 30, 2026, committee meeting, Trustee Gonsalves presented a resolution for new program options for the Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Arts in Biology — a pre-health professions concentration, a pre-physician assistant concentration, and a medical laboratory technology 3+1 dual degree. During the committee meeting, Provost Palladino reported on new academic leadership, including a new Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Design (thanking outgoing Director Dr. Kathy Klein), Dr. Shannon Clifford as Dean of the School of Health Sciences, and Dr. Dennis Yu as Dean of the School of Business (both effective July 13), with thanks to interim deans Bill Minnis and Ali Moradi. He also reported on the Stockton AtlantiCare College of Community Health and recent Fulbright recognition, and Dr. Naima Hall presented a Graduate Studies strategic plan (noting a 4% increase in graduate enrollment). Before the conclusion of the report, Provost Palladino recognized twelve faculty awarded Emeritus status, representing 303 combined years of service.

Action: *On motion duly made by Trustee Days, seconded by Trustee Hanselmann, the Board approved the Academic Affairs resolution (new Biology program options) by roll call vote. All members present voted in favor.*

Following the Finance report, Trustee Gonsalves offered a correction to her report, noting that Stockton has had more than one Fulbright recipient in prior years and apologizing for the omission.

Student Success Committee — Trustee Kennedy

Trustee Kennedy reported that the committee reviewed progress on a comprehensive Strategic Enrollment Management Plan and heard updates on new academic advising leadership, the Living and Learning Communities program, and a comprehensive analysis of stop-out students, including plans for a Student Success Steering Committee and targeted outreach. She also noted that Student interest remains strong, with admissions receiving more than 12,700 first-time undergraduate applications for Fall 2026 and steady interest in graduate programs.

Finance and Professional Services Committee — Trustee Lowry

Trustee Lowry thanked the budget team (Diane Garrison and Jennifer Potter) for their continued hard work and presented three resolutions. The proposed FY2027 operating and capital budget **(Resolution 26-29)** reflects revenue of $277,848,900 and expenses of $302,474,737, a deficit of just over $24 million to be reduced by cost-savings and revenue-generation measures implemented during the year and otherwise covered with available cash and investments. The budget includes capital funding requests of approximately $10.7 million (about $7.9 million for deferred maintenance and about $2.8 million for health, safety, ADA, and new projects). Facilities and Operations has committed to spending only $5 million during the year, though Board approval of the full amount is needed to begin planning and procurement. The committee also presented bid waiver contracts for Degy Booking International Inc. ($250,000, FY2027) and Technolutions Inc. ($275,000, FY2027–FY2029) **(Resolution 26-30)**, and an increase to a bid waiver contract for Envisions LLC (additional $113,995, FY2027-FY2029) **(Resolution 26-31)**.

Action: *On motion by Trustee Deininger, seconded by Trustee Days, the Board approved the Finance consent agenda — the FY2027 operating and capital budget adoption (Res. 26-29), bid waiver contracts (Res. 26-30), and increase in bid waiver contract (Res. 26-31).*

Audit Committee — Trustee Ciccone

Reporting on the committee's meeting the prior day, Trustee Ciccone stated that the external auditors, Grant Thornton, are underway on the audit of the June 30, 2026 financial statements and will meet with the committee again in November, with no issues anticipated. The internal auditors, Baker Tilly, are preparing for two new audits — a Residence Life audit (moved to November) and a Protection of Minors audit (expected to begin in January 2027). The committee also received an Enterprise Risk Management update from Regina Rosenello, reviewing the next set of identified risks: recruitment and retention of faculty and staff, academic programs, facilities, and campus identity.

Buildings and Grounds Committee — Trustee Hanselmann

Reporting on the July 7, 2026 meeting, Trustee Hanselmann updated the Board on the Library Learning Commons (final temporary certificate of occupancy expected at month's end; ribbon cutting scheduled for September 10) and planned Sports Center exterior renovations, along with space-management and deferred-maintenance planning. She noted that the FY2027 internal capital budget request of $10,732,500 was subject to Board approval, with an annual cash allowance not to exceed $5 million this year, and that the FY2028 submission to the New Jersey

Commission on Capital Planning and Budgeting will be presented at the September 2026 Board meeting.

Advancement Committee — Trustee Days

Trustee Days reported a strong FY2026 fundraising year, with more than $6.1 million in new gift commitments — an 18% increase over FY2025 — and increases in total donors and leadership donors. He noted continued alignment with the Strategic Plan across development and alumni relations, government relations, and university relations and marketing.

Investment Committee — Trustee Deininger (for Chair Keates)

Reporting in place of Committee Chair Keates, Trustee Deininger noted the committee has not met since May 7, 2026 and will meet with the advisors on August 18, 2026 to review performance through June 30, 2026. Preliminary fiscal year returns were 11.2% for Wells Fargo and 11.4% for Windmark. A $2.95 million withdrawal was made from the Windmark portfolio in June 2026 to cover Board-approved Library Learning Commons alternate expenses incurred during FY2026. The total portfolio balance was $140,952,623 as of July 31, 2026, with a one-month investment loss of $1,027,718 for the period ending July 31.

University Policies

President Bertolino presented two policies as information items requiring no action: Policy I-67, Disability Accessibility and Reasonable Accommodations, and Policy II-31, Academic Competency Requirements. He presented Policy II-17, Sufficient Academic Progress, for second reading and approval.

Action: *On motion duly made by Trustee Gonsalves, seconded by Trustee Days, the Board approved Policy II-17 on second reading by roll call vote. All members present voted in favor.*

Personnel Actions

President Bertolino presented the resolution for personnel actions, which had been reviewed by the Board and presented to the public as an information item.

Action: *On motion duly made by Trustee Gonsalves, seconded by Trustee Valentin, the Board approved the personnel actions resolution by roll call vote. All members present voted in favor.*

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

The Chair opened the public comment period, with speakers limited to three minutes each and the IT team (Scott Huston) facilitating the Zoom “raise hand” feature. The speakers below addressed the Board. Almost all spoke to the recent removal of the Director's message from the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies (MAHG) program web page and related graduate program pages, and to concerns about donor influence on academic content and academic freedom. Speakers generally asked the Board to restore the removed content, to affirm and protect academic freedom and shared governance, and to reject external influence over academic materials. The statements summarized below are attributed to the speakers and do not represent findings or positions of the Board.

- **Robin Hernandez Mekonnen** — Professor of Social Work and MSW Program Chair: read from a July 9th email she said indicated the graduate-page updates were tied to a marketing campaign and that program chairs should have been informed in advance, noted her program's anti-racism statement had been removed, and asked the Board to reject the donor's asserted influence.
- **Joe Cirio** — Associate Professor of First-Year Studies and Writing: posed logistical questions about the website review — its scope, who is involved, whether faculty are included, whether a governing policy exists, whether it has concluded, and whether removed statements could be reinstated.
- **Ramya Vijaya** — Professor of Economics: stated the "consistency" rationale was unpersuasive, urged the Board to affirm that academic program descriptions are developed through faculty governance and protected from external influence, and asked that the web materials be restored.
- **Raz Segal** — Director of the MAHG program and Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies: said the removal of his Director's message resulted from donor interference, characterized it as a violation of shared governance and academic freedom, and asked that the program website be restored to its pre-August 2nd state with any changes discussed with him as chair.
- **Emily Van Duyne** — Professor (Writing and First-Year Studies): expressed disappointment at the removal of Dr. Segal's message and other directors' messages, questioned how leadership would restore trust, and asked the Board to defend scholarly consensus and academic freedom.
- **Emily Kramer** — Alumna (Class of 2023): read the donor's characterization of the disputed language, stated the donor's view did not reflect the field, and urged the Board to restore the language to the program page.
- **Rachel Rhodes** — Current Stockton student: described how a dual-credit genocide-studies course drew her to Stockton and expressed concern and confusion at the removal of the language.
- **Emari DiGiorgio** — President, Council of New Jersey State College Locals: said she would not enumerate contractual issues but asked the Board to consider whether the manner in which the website authority was exercised reflected the institution's values, and to reaffirm its commitment to academic freedom.
- **Heather McGovern** — Faculty member: said the timing and lack of collaboration "look bad," raised concerns about communication and shared governance, and asked that Dr. Segal's and other directors' statements be restored while a shared-governance process is conducted.
- **Tara Luke** — President, Stockton Federation of Teachers, and Professor of Biology: focused on how the situation appears to observers, said the timing implies external

donor influence over how Stockton presents itself, and urged the Board to listen to members' concerns.

- **Amber Notaro** — Alumna (Class of 2014): expressed concern about the removal of Dr. Segal's statement, said choosing financial interest over academic freedom would harm the University, and asked that the statement be restored.
- **Susan Bell** — Senior Social Work student: argued the removed content could readily be restored, praised the value of diverse faculty perspectives, and expressed concern about suppressing those voices.
- **Adam Miyashiro** — Faculty member: reiterated concerns about donor interference and about internal characterization of the director's statement as a personal opinion, and urged restoration of the statements and a statement affirming shared governance.
- **Ren Bell** — Recent MAHG graduate (May 2026): said the program's website drew them to Stockton, characterized the removal as an attack on academic freedom, and supported restoring the language and leaving program descriptions to directors.
- **Samantha Cooney** — Current student: described a perceived decline in open classroom discussion of politics and expressed concern that the removal reflects a broader problem.
- **Laura Zucconi** — Professor of History: asked the Board a single question: whether donors would provide enough funding to offset students avoiding Stockton if the University is seen to have compromised its values.
- **Ashley Gison** — Current MAHG student and alumna: said removing content from the program page reads as a political stance that will deter prospective students and urged the Board to heed student voices.
- **Mike Law** — Associate Professor of Biology and Faculty Senate President: spoke to the importance of academic freedom across disciplines, asked what the cost is of accepting donations from those who do not support the University's mission, and asked the Board to be clear in its support for academic freedom.

During the period, Chair Lozano stated that the University would respond formally to the questions raised by Professor Cirio. At the close, the Chair invited anyone who had not been able to speak to submit comments by email to him or to the Office of the President to be included in the public record, stated that the Board would continue its conversations with the administration, and indicated that an additional statement would be issued on behalf of the Board and administration.

Additional Public Comment via Email

- **Bill Quain** – Professor of Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management: When President Joe held the Town Hall, he said the budget deficit would be $42 million, but that we might have a one-time-opportunity to write down $20 million for FY 26-27. Is that what reduced the deficit to $24 million? If so, how much of that reduction will show up next year (and future years) as structural debt/deficit? Recently, the President and Provost initiated several key committees, with instructions to come up with suggestions to reduce expenses. But has the BOT defined "target numbers" based on prediction models for future years? In other words, has anyone "run the numbers," to determine exactly what our financial outcomes will be at various levels of revenue, including predicted enrollment numbers/net tuition per student?

Adjournment

Having concluded the agenda and public comment, Chair Lozano thanked the public and his fellow Trustees and closed the meeting, noting that the Board would meet again on Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 3:30 PM on the Galloway campus.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

MEET IN CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 1975, Ch. 231) permits public bodies to exclude the public from discussion of any matter as described in subsection 7(b) of the Act, provided that the public body adopts a resolution at a public meeting indicating its intent to hold a closed session; and

WHEREAS, subsection 7(b) of the Act permits a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses, among other things, personnel matters; terms and conditions of collective bargaining agreements; pending or anticipated litigation; matters involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real estate property; and public safety matters, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees shall meet in closed session to discuss personnel matters, terms and conditions of collective bargaining, real estate matters, pending or anticipated litigation, public safety matters, including recommendations of the President contained in the Personnel Resolution, and other matters permitted under subsection 7(b) of the Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the discussion of matters discussed in closed session may, or may not, be disclosed to the public during that portion of the meeting which convenes at 3:30 p.m.

September 10, 2026

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARKETING DEGREE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Stockton University mission statement affirms a goal to “help our students develop the capacity for continuous learning and the ability to adapt to changing circumstances in a multicultural and interdependent world;”

WHEREAS, the proposed Bachelor of Science in Marketing degree program builds directly from Stockton University’s existing AACSB-accredited School of Business Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, where the Marketing Concentration has demonstrated strong student demand and successful career placement outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the program will prepare students to explain and apply core marketing concepts; design and evaluate integrated marketing; apply digital marketing and analytics tools; communicate marketing insights and recommendations; demonstrate ethical, inclusive, and socially responsible marketing decision-making; and explain how marketing interfaces with other aspects of business; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program aligns with Stockton University’s mission and strategic priorities by strengthening student success, future preparedness, career readiness, ethical and inclusive leadership, interdisciplinary learning, and responsiveness to regional workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, labor market projections and indicators in New Jersey and nationally demonstrate sustained demand for marketing-related occupations, including marketing managers, market research analysts and marketing specialists, advertising and promotions managers, advertising sales agents, and sales representatives, while internal student survey data show strong interest in a stand-alone Marketing major; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Bachelor of Science in Marketing degree program (CIP 52.1401) is differentiated by Stockton’s interdisciplinary General Studies foundation, early integration of business analytics and technology, specialized marketing electives, experiential learning opportunities, and regional employer connections, and can be delivered using existing faculty, facilities, technology, advising, library resources, and student-support services without requiring additional State resources; and

WHEREAS, the shared governance bodies of the University recommend the proposed Bachelor of Science in Marketing degree program to the Board of Trustees for its endorsement; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves and authorizes the Stockton University administration to notify the New Jersey higher education community of Stockton's intent to offer the Bachelor of Science in Marketing through the Academic Issues Committee and the New Jersey Presidents' Council.

September 10, 2026

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

BID WAIVER CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Stockton University finds the following purchase, contract and agreement has met the criteria for award without public bid under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into a contract with the vendor indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendor & Category **FY and Amount**

Personnel Recruitment and Advertising

ZRG Partners Holdings Corporation
dba ZRG Partners LLC dba The Registry (527018) **FY27: $233,760**

This bid waiver will provide the Office of the Provost with specialized personnel recruitment services from The Registry to secure an Interim Registrar for the 2026-2027 academic year. This critical leadership role requires specialized expertise to provide oversight and institutional continuity for the Registrar's Office, including registration, academic records, degree completion, academic scheduling, regulatory compliance, student information systems, and required institutional reporting. The Registry will carefully screen, and present qualified candidates tailored specifically for the University's operational needs. To facilitate this transitional placement, the University will provide on-campus housing, and the total procurement will cover limited, pre-approved candidate travel expenses. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[20]).

Approved at the Executive Committee Meeting on August 31, 2026

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

FY28 CAPITAL BUDGET SUBMISSION

WHEREAS, Stockton University is consistently recognized among the nation's leading public universities and offers more than 160 undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as continuing education opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the University provides unique living and learning environments throughout southern New Jersey, including the 1,600-acre Galloway campus in the Pinelands National Reserve and the Atlantic City campus located on the Boardwalk; and

WHEREAS, a substantial increase in capital funding will be necessary to maintain existing campus facilities, construct new facilities to meet enrollment needs, update technology infrastructure, and renovate existing facilities so that the learning environment and related infrastructure can continue to support the educational mission of the University; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees approves the University's FY28 Capital Budget submission in the amount of $235,758,357, consistent with the institution's Facilities Master Plan, and authorizes submission to the New Jersey Commission on Capital Budgeting and Planning; therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees recommends approval of public funding for Stockton University's FY28 Capital Budget submission in the amount of $176,818,767.

September 10, 2026

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

BID WAIVER CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Stockton University finds the following purchase, contract and agreement has met the criteria for award without public bid under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into a contract with the vendor indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendor & Category — **FY and Amount**

Entertainment

Phenios Creighton Koellhoffer Media (PCK Media) (527017) — **FY27: $300,000**

This bid waiver request from the School of Arts and Humanities is for services provided by PCK Media to produce the State of the Arts television program. State of the Arts is a co-production of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and Stockton University in cooperation with PCK Media. The production airs weekly on NJ PBS, WNET, ALL ARTS, and streams on PBS.org. The objective of this program is to strengthen and enrich the arts, while promoting and raising visibility of artists in New Jersey. PCK Media produces the segments, interviews artists, writes and edits content, and secures broadcast agreements. The University's contract with PCK Media is fully supported by a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[16]).

September 10, 2026

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

INCREASE IN BID WAIVER CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the State College Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:64-52 et seq., authorizes college and university Boards of Trustees to approve waivers of the public bid process for procurement of specified goods and services in furtherance of the missions of the state colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Stockton University has previously approved a waiver of public bidding for the below named vendors; and

WHEREAS, the contracts with the below named vendors must be increased to accomplish the purposes of the bid waiver as specified below; and

WHEREAS, the increase in the contracts with the below named vendors requires the approval of the Board of Trustees; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Stockton University Board of Trustees authorizes the President or the President's designee to enter into contracts with the vendors indicated below, under the bid waiver provisions of the State College Contracts Law.

Vendors & Categories

Information Technology

Technolutions Inc. (527015)

Additional Amount Requested FY27-FY29: $90,000
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY27-FY29: $295,000
New Recommended Contract Total FY27-FY29: $385,000

This bid waiver increase covers a three-year subscription to Slate, a cloud-based SaaS Student Success platform, for the Office of Graduate and Continuing Studies. The all-inclusive enterprise license eliminates per-user fees and covers all software licensing, hosting, maintenance, automatic upgrades, and technical support. Slate serves as a critical institutional system that centralizes data and automates workflows across recruitment, admissions, application processing, and enrollment. By streamlining these cross-functional operations, the platform directly supports the institution's goals for strategic graduate enrollment growth, enhanced student engagement, and long-term retention. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[19]).

Personnel Recruitment and Advertising

Suasion Communications Group LLC (526011)

Additional Amount Requested FY27-FY28: $350,000
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY26-FY28: $460,000
New Recommended Contract Total FY26-FY28: $810,000

This bid waiver increase expands the scope of the existing bid waiver to include additional digital and broadcast advertising campaigns managed by Suasion Communications Group under the guidance of the Office of University Relations and Marketing (URM). Suasion will oversee strategic portions of Stockton's Google AdWords, Facebook, and Instagram advertising, while also coordinating broadcast schedules with local TV networks. Their responsibilities include developing keyword and messaging strategies, monitoring daily results using tracking cookies, optimizing campaigns for peak performance, and delivering comprehensive monthly reports on expenditures and outcomes. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[20]).

Media News Group Inc. dba AdTaxi (526014)

Additional Amount Requested FY27-FY28: $210,000
Previously Approved Contract Amount FY26-FY28: $395,000
New Recommended Contract Total FY26-FY28: $605,000

This bid waiver increase allows AdTaxi, under the guidance of the Office of University Relations and Marketing, to provide expanded support for recruitment campaigns by managing additional targeted advertising across programmatic display, social media, programmatic radio streaming services, and TikTok. (Reference: N.J.S.A. 18A:64-56(a)[20]).

Office of the President
609.652.4521 | Fax: 609.652.4945

TO: Joe Bertolino, President

FROM: Terricita Sass, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff

DATE: September 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Revise/Delete/Add University Policy

I am requesting a revision/review of the following policies as recommended by policy administrators:

- **I-4 Mission Statement**
- **I-99 Effort Reporting and Certification for Grants, Contracts and Other Sponsored Agreements**
- **II-80 Research Misconduct**

I recommend that the Board of Trustees conduct a First Reading of the policy at the September 10, 2026, meeting, followed by approval of the recommendation for a Second Reading and a vote on the policies at the December 3, 2026, meeting of the Board.

Policy I-4: Mission Statement
Summary of Key Changes

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- The Mission Statement was updated as part of the strategic planning process, with the corresponding University policy now being finalized to reflect the approved language. Dr. Mike Law and Tara Williams, Co-Chairs of the Mission, Vision, Values Team, led the research and campus engagement that informed the proposed updates, including surveys, open forums, and feedback sessions with the campus community. Using the findings and feedback from that work, the Strategic Plan Writing Team, led by Emari DiGiorgio and Heather McGovern, developed the final Mission, Vision, and Values language included in the strategic plan. The Senior Leadership Team and subsequently the Board of Trustees approved the revisions on September 10, 2025. This approval is to formally codify the revised language.

Policy I-4 Mission Statement as approved on May 5, 2021:

Stockton University's mission is to develop engaged and effective citizens with a commitment to life-long learning and the capacity to adapt to change in a multi-cultural, interdependent world. As a public university, Stockton provides an environment for excellence to a diverse student body, including those from underrepresented populations, through an interdisciplinary approach to liberal arts, sciences and professional education.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

POLICY

Mission Statement
Policy Administrator: Office of the President Authority: N.J.S.A. 18A: 64-6 and 64-8; N.J.A.C. 9A:1-1.6 Effective Date: January 29, 1975; February 16, 2011; July 5, 2017; May 5, 2021; TBD Index Cross-References: Policy File Number: I-4 Approved By: Board of Trustees

Stockton University Mission:

Our mission is to empower individuals to become thoughtful and engaged leaders who thrive in a rapidly evolving world. As a public university, Stockton creates an environment for academic excellence through inclusive, interdisciplinary, and hands-on educational experiences.

Review History:

	Date
Campus Community*	08/26/2025
Senior Leadership*	08/26/2025
Staff Senate*	09/02/2025
Faculty Senate*	09/04/2025
Board of Trustees*	09/10/2025
Board of Trustees	

**Indicates endorsement of the final draft of the institutional strategic plan which includes a refreshed version of the Mission Statement.*

Policy I-99: Effort Reporting and Certification for Grants, Contracts and other Sponsored Agreements
Summary of Key Changes

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- Updated the owner of the policy to the Executive Director of Research and Sponsored Programs and the external authority to C.F.R. § 200.430.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

POLICY

Effort Reporting and Certification for Grants, Contracts and other Sponsored Agreements
Policy Administrator: Executive Director of Research and Sponsored Programs Authority: 2 C.F.R. § 200.430 Effective Date: February 19, 2014; TBD Index Cross-References: Procedure 1099 – Effort Reporting and Certification for Grants, Contracts and other Sponsored Agreements Policy File Number: I-99 Approved By: Board of Trustees

Policy Statement

Stockton University will establish and maintain a personnel activity reporting system to determine whether a cost can be charged to a sponsored grant, contract, or other agreement with the Federal Government in accordance with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. § 200.430. These effort reports will verify personnel costs charged to a sponsored project or provided as committed cost sharing for a sponsored project are reasonable, allocable, consistently treated, and allowable under the specific sponsored agreement.

Review History:

	Date
Procedure Administrator	12/01/2025
Faculty Senate	02/20/2026
AA Council	03/12/2026
AA Leadership	04/20/2026
Divisional Executive	05/28/2026
General Counsel	07/20/2026
Senior Leadership	08/06/2026
President	08/06/2026
Board of Trustees	

Policy II-80: Research Misconduct
Summary of Key Changes

This is a new Policy developed to fill a gap in the University's policies/procedures.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

POLICY

Research Misconduct
Policy Administrator: Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Authority: 42 CFR Part 93, 45 CFR Part 689, 31 U.S. Code § 3729-3733 Effective Date: TBD Index Cross-References: Procedure 2080: Research Misconduct Policy File Number: II-80 Approved By: Board of Trustees

POLICY:

Stockton University upholds the highest standards of research integrity and complies with federal regulations governing research misconduct, including fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism (42 CFR Part 93 and 45 CFR Part 689). Allegations will be investigated per Procedure 2080, ensuring due process for respondents, protection for complainants, and reporting to federal sponsors as required. Sanctions for misconduct align with University Procedure 6140 and state law (N.J.S.A. 18A:64-6 and 64-8).

Review History:

	Date
Policy Administrator	05/09/2025
Faculty Senate	01/16/2026
Academic Affairs Council	03/12/2026
Academic Affairs Leadership	04/20/2026
Divisional Executive	05/28/2026
General Counsel	07/20/2026
Senior Leadership	08/06/2026
President	08/06/2026
Board of Trustees	

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STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF ACTION FOR UNIVERSITY POLICIES

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the policies of Stockton University; and

WHEREAS, the policies of the University continue to be reviewed by appropriate offices and individuals, with updates and revisions proposed as needed; and

WHEREAS, the proposed development of policies of the University have been further reviewed utilizing input from interested parties; and

WHEREAS, the review of policies resulted in a recommendation to adopt the following updated policies on Second Reading:

I-67 Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodations
II-31 Academic Competency Requirements

The Board of Trustees previously completed a First Reading of these policies; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the adoption of these policies as recommended on Second Reading.

September 10, 2026

Policy I-67: Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodations
Summary of Key Changes

The Policy has been updated as follows:

- Suggested change of Policy Administrator to Office of the President for consistency with Digital Accessibility & Communication Procedure
- Adding digital accessibility language
- Changed report of complaints of discrimination to OHR

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

POLICY

Disability, Accessibility, and Reasonable Accommodations
Policy Administrator: Office of the President Authority: The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213; The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 701 et seq. Effective Date: May 3, 2017; December 9, 2020; TBD Index Cross-References: Policy File Number: I-67 Approved By: Board of Trustees

Stockton University values diversity and seeks to promote access to employment and educational opportunities. As such, it is committed to full compliance with Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973,* 29 U.S.C. § 701 et seq. ("Section 504") and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1201-12213 as amended ("ADA"), and provides reasonable accommodations to qualified employees and students with disabilities to allow for full participation in the University's employment and educational programs and activities.

Stockton University is also committed to ensuring digital accessibility and the usability of electronic and information technology, including websites, online services, digital documents, instructional materials, and software applications.

Employees seeking accommodations must contact the Office of Human Resources. Students seeking accommodations must contact the Learning Access Program.

The University's Disability, Accessibility and Accommodation webpage provides information concerning campus resources.

Complaints of disability discrimination, or failure to provide reasonable employment or academic accommodations, should be reported to the University's Director of Title VI, Title VII and Title IX Coordinator. Reports should be submitted using the Incident Report Form (preferred), available on the University's website, by calling 609.652.4733, or by sending an email to Joshua.Hayes@stockton.edu.

Review History:

	Date
Procedure Administrator	03/25/2026
Divisional Executive	03/31/2026
General Counsel	04/01/2026
Senior Leadership	05/21/2026
President	06/11/2026
Board of Trustees	

Policy II-31: Academic Competency Requirements
Summary of Key Changes

This is a new Policy outlining undergraduate competency requirements to ensure students are prepared for college-level coursework and long-term academic success.

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

POLICY

Academic Competency Requirements
Procedure Administrator: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Authority: Effective Date: TBD Index Cross-References: Procedure 2019: Student Status; Procedure 2031: Skills Competency Requirement Policy File Number: II-31 Approved By: Dr. Joe Bertolino, President

POLICY:

All undergraduate students are required to demonstrate competency in mathematics, writing, and critical thinking/reading to ensure readiness for college-level coursework and long-term academic success. Refer to the University Bulletin for detailed standards and approved methods of demonstrating competency. The Bulletin is updated annually.

Review History:

	Date
Procedure Administrator	09/25/2025
Faculty Senate	11/21/2025
AA Council	12/15/2025
AA Leadership	01/23/2026
Divisional Executive	02/24/2026
General Counsel	06/24/2026
Senior Leadership	07/09/2026
President	07/09/2026
Board of Trustees	

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees

September 10, 2026

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts and approves the following recommendations concerning personnel actions, subject to and contingent on the appropriation of funds by the State of New Jersey and receipt by the University