

Vice President for Student Affairs



STOCKTON
UNIVERSITY

stockton.edu



Top 100 Public National Universities by US News & World Report | 2025

Stockton University, one of the nation's top public universities and recognized for its commitment to student-centered education, seeks a strategic, experienced and visionary leader to serve as Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA). Reporting to President Joe Bertolino and serving as a member of the Senior Leadership Team, the Vice President will lead a staff of 120 full-time employees and engage in strengthening a vibrant and future-oriented Student Affairs division.

The University

Stockton University is an ambitious public undergraduate and graduate comprehensive university with a strong dedication to student belonging and success. Stockton takes seriously its role as an Anchor Institution to strengthen the southern New Jersey region through education, advocacy and action.

Beginning in fall 2024, Stockton embarked on a new strategic planning process to help chart the course for the university's success in the coming years. The Strategic Planning Steering Committee and working groups of faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members are collaborating to identify key priorities and themes for the next strategic plan, blending in President Joe Bertolino's vision for Stockton.

More about Stockton University is available later in this document and at stockton.edu.



“Best Colleges” for the Northeast Region by Princeton Review | 2025

The Division

Stockton’s Division of Student Affairs partners with Academic Affairs and other divisions/offices to enhance and elevate the student experience and advance holistic well-being. Student Affairs is a core component of the University with a high level of complexity in scope, a broad range of internal, state and federal responsibilities, and expected exemplary fiscal management. The Division of Student Affairs is supported by 120 full-time and 250 part-time employees across 19 departments and includes a total budget of \$20 million. Student Affairs supports student success through athletics and recreation, student health and wellness, advocacy, belonging, and campus standards, student living and learning, student engagement and community development, and student transitions, access, and retention. The VPSA also acts as a strategic partner and coach to both non-union and union team members, fostering an environment that supports students academically, intellectually, personally, and emotionally.

The Leader

The successful Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) will be an established student-centric leader who is collaborative, innovative and action-oriented. The VPSA will bring a deep knowledge of best and promising practices for advancing student success and a commitment to fostering a sense of belonging.

The VPSA will be a strategic thinker using data to inform decisions. The VPSA will cultivate a healthy work environment and utilize an in-depth knowledge of the cycles and rhythms of university student life while working with a range of student populations (undergraduate, graduate, residential and commuting students, traditional-age students, and adult learners) with a wide array of academic and personal interests and ambitions.

As a part of the President’s Senior Leadership Team, Stockton’s next VPSA will advance innovation, build strategic programs, and promote inclusive success strategies among a diverse student body. In addition to their own development, the VPSA will actively support the professional growth and development of staff and will work well in an environment that values a high level of ethical behavior, professionalism, accountability, and collaboration. Throughout the institution, the VPSA will be a leader who promotes a healthy culture in alignment with the priorities of Stockton University.



8,631 undergraduate and graduate students | Fall 2024

The Position

Reporting directly to President Joe Bertolino, the VPSA is the University's senior Student Affairs officer and serves as a strategic partner with the president, provost, and the Senior Leadership Team. In this role, the VPSA provides direction and guidance to advance and support the University's priorities of increased retention and graduation rates and a strong sense of community for residential, non-residential and online students.

The VPSA works collaboratively with faculty to develop strong co-curricular programming and credentialing to create an intellectually rich student experience, enabling students to see connections between the classroom and the world beyond.

The VPSA represents and advocates for all students over multiple campuses and satellite locations, ensuring student programs and services are responsive to students' changing needs. The VPSA is responsible for developing, implementing, and enforcing policies and procedures that promote both fair treatment and responsible conduct by students. This leader maintains strong and effective relationships with a wide range of students, their families and supporters, administrators, staff, and faculty.



Responsibilities

Leadership and Strategy: Provide empowered and supportive leadership, strategy development and execution for the division comprised of the following strategic areas: Athletics and Campus Recreation; Student Advocacy, Belonging and Campus Standards; Student Health and Wellness; Student Living and Learning; and Student Transitions, Access and Retention. Work collaboratively to set the strategic direction, empower team members, and set a high level of expectation for engagement and accountability to enhance the student experience in alignment with the University's strategic priorities. Manage and actively seek grants that support student-experience goals. Cultivate relationships with community partners to enhance Stockton's visibility, support opportunities for student civic engagement and learning while creating positive regional impact.

Student Engagement and Success: Promote a positive student sense of belonging by maintaining open, accessible, effective, and frequent communication with both student leaders and students at large, serving as their advocate for the co-curricular needs of both on-campus

and online students. Advance inclusive student success by implementing strategies that reduce equity gaps among historically marginalized student populations. Advocate for continuous improvement in student support, services and campus infrastructure to enhance student learning, experiences, satisfaction, and retention; develop and implement policies that promote student well-being, engagement, and success. Take ownership of co-curricular planning, utilization of technology (EAB a.k.a. Osprey's Navigate), and other related projects as a result of the strategic planning process. Align programs, services, and student employment with research-centered learning outcomes and/or evidence-based practices that enhance academic and post-graduation success.

Cross-functional Collaboration and Communication: Collaborate broadly with the Provost, academic departments, faculty, Enrollment Management, Facilities and other University leaders to create integrated learning experiences outside the classroom. Represent Stockton on all matters of student life, serving as a liaison for students, the administration, and external stakeholders on the national, state and regional levels.



160+
areas
of study



“Higher Education Excellence in Diversity” by Insight into Diversity | 2016-2018, 2021

Leadership: Demonstrate excellent leadership skills, placing a high premium on building trust and transparency, promoting team morale, and furthering an innovative and inclusive environment that attracts and retains high-quality professionals. Support, coach and ensure that the Student Affairs division staff understand how their work contributes to the broader vision, mission, goals and values of the University. Bolster internal communications and delegate effectively to ensure maximum efficiency across the division.

In alignment with other members of the Senior Leadership Team, actively plan, model, and promote a healthy divisional and campus culture. Support the development of a positive campus climate and maintain a community grounded in the Ethic of Care (Dignity, Respect, Kindness, Compassion and Civility). Serve as a champion of inclusivity and belonging across all aspects of campus life and encourage intellectual inquiry and development.

Strategic Alignment and Efficiency: Lead the division in a fiscally responsible and data-informed manner and ensure the division’s finances and operations are aligned with Stockton’s strategic direction. Contribute to the

development and implementation of financial practices that utilize sound assessment and monitoring practices. Implement best practices to assess student success outcomes.

Compliance: Share a commitment to providing thought leadership and oversight in abiding by federal, state and institutional laws, policies and procedures. In collaboration with the appropriate campus office, address any form of discrimination and harassment. Understand, communicate, revise and implement fair and appropriate application of university policies. Ensure compliance with Middle States requirements and other accreditors, as well as other guidelines within scope.

Core Competencies, Qualifications and Characteristics (Knowledge, Skills and Abilities)

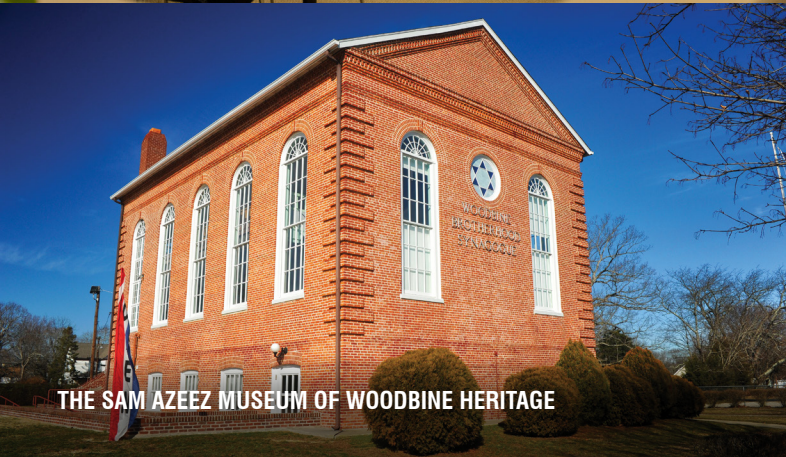
A highly visible, results-oriented, and student-focused leader, the successful candidate will have a demonstrated higher education career characterized by building upon successful student engagement and approaching challenges with a nimble, innovative mindset, and work with the team to develop an optimistic, can-do spirit.



“Best for Vets” by
Military Times | 2024

The next VPSA will bring a history of substantial and progressively responsible leadership and supervisory experience with knowledge of university processes. They will demonstrate competency and experience working in a diverse academic environment, inclusive of students, faculty, and staff of varying social, economic, cultural, ideological, gender and racial/ethnic backgrounds, and those with physical, emotional and/or learning disabilities. The VPSA will display excellent communication skills and will understand best practices to provide general and specialized student support with professional courtesy, empathy, and a genuine interest in positive problem solving. They respond appropriately to others during difficult situations, can respond well under pressure, and embrace an Ethic of Care (Dignity, Respect, Kindness, Compassion and Civility), which are among the cornerstones of enhancing the Stockton experience.





As a strategic thinker and proactive leader, the successful candidate will assess situations and move beyond the immediate issue to anticipate and fulfill future needs before they become complications.

- A minimum of seven years of progressive higher education leadership in Student Affairs, including supervisory experience is required. Three years' experience in a senior leadership role preferred.
- A master's degree in Student Affairs, Education, Higher Education Administration, Counseling, or related field from an accredited institution is required. A doctorate degree in Student Affairs, Education, Higher Education Administration, Counseling, or a related field is preferred.
- Active participation in Student Affairs related national organizations, and post-graduate training and/or professional development is required.
- Experience with unionized labor relations is preferred.
- A proven track record of leading and developing a large, multifaceted team responsible for a broad and complex set of functional areas; ability to foster collaboration across the Student Affairs division in service of strategic objectives utilizing strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Experience in managing the staff evaluation process, including a working knowledge of roles and responsibilities, providing guidance for concerns, and ensuring team members are effectively supervised, developed, and evaluated.
- Demonstrated experience in strategic planning and policy development.
- Experience developing, implementing, and assessing programs that address the current and future needs of students from diverse socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds.
- Broad expertise with current best practices in campus life, residential life, student engagement, and an awareness of emerging issues in student affairs and higher education.

- A proven track record of developing, implementing and assessing student support programs that enhance academic experience.
- Demonstrable strong written and oral communication skills.
- The willingness and commitment to collaborate with senior leaders and colleagues across the University to ensure that Student Affairs operates in alignment with overall priorities for the student experience and outcomes.
- Experience overseeing a complex budget and the ability to utilize financial data to inform decision-making. Ability to make difficult and strategic budget decisions.
- A history of demonstrating reliable judgment, sound discretion, and excellent interpersonal communication skills with a demonstrated ability to work collegially with a wide and diverse constituency. The ideal candidate will have a nuanced understanding of the ever-changing issues that impact campus culture and the ability to hold competing and conflicting priorities simultaneously.
- A creative, strategic thinker with integrity and a passion for leadership in the field of Student Affairs.
- Proficiency in leveraging technology and data analytics to improve student services and outcomes.
- Extensive and demonstrable leadership experience in crisis management. Provide leadership and support during crises and emergencies, including coordinating response efforts and promoting student well-being. The VPSA maintains close connections with Campus Police actively participating in training, drills and scenario planning.
- A strong understanding of legal and compliance issues in higher education related to student life. Experience with and understanding of policies and procedures overseen by the Office of Equal Opportunity & Institutional Compliance, Office of Diversity & Inclusion, and Office of Human Resources ensuring compliance with federal laws such as ADA, Title VI and Title IX.



17:1 student
faculty ratio



Stockton is a **Division III member** of the **National Collegiate Athletic Association** and competes in the **New Jersey Athletic Conference**

About Stockton

Founded in 1969, Stockton University is ranked among the top public universities in the U.S. with more than 160 undergraduate and graduate areas of study, as well as continuing education opportunities. Stockton is committed to the positive development of southern New Jersey through scholarship and creative activity, civic engagement, and active stewardship.

Stockton combines the academic, technological, and cultural advantages of a large institution with the community spirit of a small liberal arts college. As a public university, Stockton provides an environment for excellence to a diverse student body through an interdisciplinary approach to liberal arts, the sciences, and professional education. Stockton's approach to learning provides students with a diverse, high-quality education and empowers them for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives while contributing to the social and economic vitality of the region. Stockton prides itself on its commitment to student learning, innovative programs, technology-enhanced academics and active co-curricular, high impact practices, including student research, education abroad, internships and service-learning.

The University, one hour from Philadelphia and two hours from New York City, offers unique living and learning environments throughout southern New Jersey, including the 1,600-acre Galloway campus in the Pinelands National Reserve and Stockton University Atlantic City, located on the Boardwalk, just steps from the beach. Additional locations include Hammonton, Manahawkin and Woodbine.

at a glance

- 1969** – Founded
- 1970** – Ground Broken at Galloway campus
- 1973** – First graduating class
- 1975** – Accredited by Middle States
- 1976** – Performing Arts Center opened
- 1990** – Holocaust Resource Center opened
- 1993** – Name changed to “The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey”
- 1995** – Dedication of the expanded and renovated library
- 1996** – Opening of Arts & Sciences building
- 1997** – New Jersey State Commission on Higher Education authorized additional graduate programs on an incremental basis
- 1997** – Formation of Education Technology Training Center
- 1997** – Awarded first graduate degree in physical therapy
- 1999** – Offered the nation's first master's degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- 2000** – Opening of Sports Center
- 2007** – School of Education and School of Business created
- 2007** – William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy established
- 2008** – School of Health Sciences organized
- 2008** – Awarded first doctoral degree in Physical Therapy (DPT)



91% of Stockton professors hold the highest degree in their field

- 2010 – Established relationship with Noyes Museum
- 2011 – Campus Center opened
- 2011 – Celebrated 40 years of teaching and scholarship
- 2013 – Dedicated \$39.5 million Unified Science Center
- 2013 – Satellite campus in Hammonton opened
- 2015 Official designation and name changed to Stockton University
- 2015 – Academic Quad expansion begins
- 2016 – School of Business received AACSB Accreditation
- 2017 – Ground broken for Stockton University Atlantic City
- 2017 – Ground broken for first building of Stockton Aviation Research & Technology Park
- 2018 – Stockton expands Manahawkin location
- 2018 Ribbon-Cutting for Two New Science Buildings in Galloway Academic Quad
- 2018 Atlantic City Creates University District Around Stockton University Atlantic City and ribbon-cutting ceremony is held for the new residential campus on the Boardwalk
- 2019 The University strengthens its partnerships with community colleges across the state through the new transfer pathways program, which provides students with alternate routes to earning a Stockton degree
- 2020 Ground broken for Stockton University Atlantic City Phase II
- 2021 Stockton celebrates its 50th anniversary of teaching
- 2022 Accreditation reaffirmed by Middle States
- 2023 Multicultural Center opens
- 2023 Ribbon-cutting ceremony for Parkview Hall, the second residence hall in Atlantic City
- 2024 – The Inauguration of President Joe Bertolino

The University is organized into the following schools:

- School of Arts & Humanities
- School of Business
- School of Education

- The William T. Daly School of General Studies
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Natural Sciences & Mathematics
- School of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Academic Degrees offered: B.A., B.F.A. (Bachelor of Fine Arts), B.S.N. (Bachelor of Science in Nursing), B.S., M.A., MBA, M.S., M.S.W. (Master of Science in Social Work), P.S.M. (Professional Science Master's in Environmental Science) D.P.T. (Doctor of Physical Therapy) and LEAD (Doctor of Education Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership)

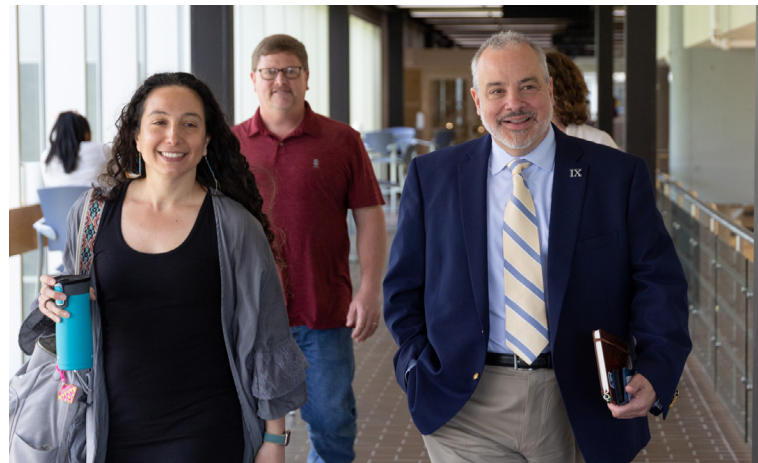
Learn more about Stockton's history.



University President

Dr. Joe Bertolino serves as Stockton's sixth president, beginning his tenure in July 2023. President Joe, as he is affectionately known, has been a social justice educator for more than 30 years and is passionate about student success and access to higher education. Educated as a social worker, President Joe leads with an Ethic of Care, treating all community members with dignity, respect, kindness, compassion and civility.

President Joe's priorities since joining Stockton include developing the university's next Strategic Plan, securing and elevating academic leadership, and determining the next steps for Stockton University Atlantic City.



Leading an Anchor Institution in southern New Jersey, President Joe is committed to being in and of the community. He leads collaborations with partners in the community to make a positive impact on the region. President Joe champions the Stockton approach to higher education, which includes a focus on civic engagement, developing students to be leaders in their community through service-learning, social justice and other experiential learning opportunities.

[Learn more about Stockton University's Leadership.](#)



Procedure for Candidacy

Review of applications will begin in February and will continue until the position is filled. For fullest consideration, applicant materials should be received by March 21, 2025. Candidates should provide a résumé, a cover letter that addresses the responsibilities described in the Leadership Statement, and contact information of five references. References will not be contacted without prior knowledge and approval of candidates. Please visit <https://employment.stockton.edu/jobs/search> to begin the application process.

Stockton University values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity for all persons regardless of age, color, disability, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other status protected by law.

