Nancy Taggart Davis Named New Trustee

Nancy Taggart Davis, the mayor of Beach Haven and a Professor Emerita of Pathology at Stockton, was sworn in as a member of the Board of Trustees on May 3.

Davis taught at Stockton from 1973-2015, and served from 1984-87 as dean of the Division of Professional Studies, which included business, computer and information science, health sciences and education. She has been mayor of the Long Beach Island community since 2015, where she had previously served as a councilwoman and as president of the Borough Council.

Davis holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Pathology from the University of Pennsylvania. She has a B.S. in Biology and Theatre Arts from Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla.

“I am deeply honored to have been appointed to Stockton University’s Board of Trustees,” Davis said. “Joining Stockton’s faculty in 1973 was one of the best decisions I ever made, and I am so pleased to be able to continue working on behalf of this great institution and its students, faculty and staff. Stockton has achieved so much in the past 45 years, but I honestly believe its best days lie ahead and I am incredibly excited to help guide its future growth.”

Kevin McHugh Named Executive Director of Athletics & Recreation

Kevin McHugh, a New Jersey native who comes to Stockton after a highly successful 10 years as director of Athletics at Bates College in Maine, was named to lead the Ospreys as executive director of Athletics & Recreation beginning July 1.

McHugh brings over three decades of athletic administrative experience, with earlier positions at Yale University, Bowling Green State University and The College of New Jersey.

McHugh graduated from Columbia University with a B.A. in Latin American studies in 1978. While there, he wrestled varsity all four years and twice was team captain, earning All-Ivy honors.

McHugh holds a M.S. in Sport Management from the University of Massachusetts, where he was an assistant wrestling coach and junior varsity football coach. He chaired the NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee, and the National Wrestling Coaches Association inducted him into the Division III Wrestling Hall of Fame for his contributions to the sport.

Read more about Kevin McHugh.
Kesselman to Receive Access, Equity & Diversity Award

Stockton President Harvey Kesselman will receive the Cesar Estrada Chavez Award from the American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity (AAAED) on Thursday, June 8 during the Association’s 43rd National Conference and Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ.

The Cesar Estrada Chavez Award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated leadership in support of workers’ rights and humanitarian issues.

“It is an incredible honor to be recognized with the Cesar Estrada Chavez Award by the American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity for my leadership,” Kesselman said. “Stockton is the true champion for its commitments to humanitarian issues and working to overcome economic inequality, with projects on the regional, national and international levels.”

Kesselman on Panel Crafting Statement on Shared Governance

Stockton President Harvey Kesselman is one of 13 experts chosen by the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) of Universities and Colleges to help shape a new national statement on shared governance, principles designed to promote collaborative and inclusive decision-making at institutions of higher education.

“The original national statement on shared governance was developed in 1966, and does not deal with the complexities of modern higher education,” Kesselman said. “It was developed before community colleges and some state universities, included Stockton, were even created - and a lot has changed.”

The need for a new statement has been “years in the making,” Kesselman said. It will build on a recent AGB report which provided 10 case studies including one at Stockton, and input from focus groups “conducted at the annual meetings of the Association of American Colleges and Universities (faculty), the American Council on Education (presidents), the American Association of University Professors (faculty), and AGB’s National Conference on Trusteeship (board members and presidents).”

The panel met April 24 in Washington, D.C. to provide advice and input on a prospective “AGB Statement on Shared Governance.” The group will continue to meet over the next year, with a target date for the new statement in January 2018.

Stockton Faculty Members Receive Tenure and/or Promotion

The following faculty members received promotion and/or tenure at the May 3 Board of Trustees meeting:

Amy L. Papalexandrou, associate professor of Art History; Jongbok Yi, associate professor of Asian Philosophy; Jean Abbott, associate professor of Business Studies, Accounting; Chenyan Xu, associate professor of Computer Science & Information Systems; Young Doo Cho (Peter), associate professor of Mathematics and First-Year Studies; Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, associate professor of Holocaust & Genocide Studies; John O’Hara, associate professor of Critical Thinking and First-Year Studies; Lauren M. Del Rossi, associate professor of Physical Therapy; Pamela G. Cohn, associate professor of Chemistry; Nathaniel W. Hartman, associate professor of Biology; Elizabeth A. Lacey, associate professor of Marine Science; Catherine A. Tredick, associate professor of Environmental Studies; Robin Hernandez-Mekonnen, associate professor of Social Work; Manish Madan, associate professor of Criminal Justice; and Justin Ostrofsky, associate professor of Psychology.

Christy Goodnight and Eric Jeitner each received tenure as a librarian II/assistant professor in the Richard E. Bjork Library.

Congratulations to all!
Board of Trustees Hears from Faculty Union on State Contract Issues

On May 3, Stockton’s Board of Trustees heard from about 200 members and supporters of Stockton’s American Federation of Teachers, who demanded that the board and Kesselman use their influence to help resolve contract negotiations at the state level. Statewide, the higher education faculty union has been without a contract or any raises since 2015.

Anne Pomeroy, president of the Stockton local and a professor of Philosophy, recently sent an open letter to Kesselman and the Stockton community with a resolution asking that he and the presidents of nine other state colleges and universities go on record about their positions on four items. Kesselman had issued a response to Pomeroy’s open letter earlier this week.

“We believe that the University and its trustees have not only a right but a duty to weigh in on these matters,” Pomeroy reiterated, at the board meeting on May 3.

Pomeroy read a series of anonymous testimonials from faculty members saying how their lives and careers have been seriously impacted by the lack of contracts and raises. Individual faculty members also shared their concerns.

“I do feel the pain you’re articulating,” said Kesselman in response, adding that he agreed that some sticking points on the state negotiating table “don’t make sense for this institution and I have articulated that.” He said he would not stop until there’s a resolution, “but I have to play by these rules.”

“I implore all of you to be a united front” with other college unions throughout the state, he said. Read more.

Zappile Leads Stockton Model UN to National Conference in NYC

Tina Zappile, assistant professor of Political Science, and Stockton’s Spring 2017 Model UN team competed at the National Model United Nations conference, held April 9-13 in New York City, with over 5,000 college students from around the world.

The students won three awards which are reserved for the top 10 percent of attending schools: Distinguished Delegation for the Philippines, which included the entire group of 22 Stockton students; Outstanding Position Paper for Security Council-United Kingdom, composed of students Dom Tierno and Billy Watt; and GA2-Philippines, composed of students Olivia Norton and Rich Nuccio.

“We had three briefings where everyone attended one of the following meetings: UN-Women; UN Board of Auditors; and India’s Permanent Mission to the UN, where we met India’s top ambassador to the UN,” Zappile said. “It was somewhat lucky that all three of these offices responded to my briefing requests for our students and were able to arrange briefings within our conference schedule.”

View more photos on the Stockton Model UN Facebook page.
Stockton University Launches New Policy & Procedures Website

The University recently updated the Policy and Procedures website.

The site is now searchable by keyword and outlines the processes required to create and revise policies and procedures. The website is a work in progress, and faculty and staff are encouraged to provide feedback by using the feedback form.

“There are many people who worked hard to create a user-friendly, accurate, and comprehensive site including Lolita Treadwell [of the President’s Office], Nancy Capella [of the President’s Office]; Walead Abdrabouh [of Information Systems & Technology], Joe D’Agostino [of University Relations & Marketing], Dan Gambert [of University Relations & Marketing], Paul Taman [interim internal auditor], and Kevin Broecker [of the President’s Office],” said Susan Davenport, executive vice president and chief of staff.

Office of Human Resources Hosts Bring Your Child to Work Day

Nearly 150 children took part in Stockton University’s Second Annual Bring Your Child to Work Day on April 27.

Twenty-seven Stockton faculty, staff, students and retirees volunteered to guide the children, ages 6 to 14, through a series of events throughout the day, with more than 40 additional Stocktonians leading and assisting with programming.

Activities included decorating cupcakes; tie dyeing shirts; making homemade ice cream using liquid nitrogen; and visiting the animal lab.

The children also competed in various sports with Stockton coaches and student-athletes.

View more photos here.

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 609-626-5521 or email 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.