

# The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

JULY 13, 2017 VOLUME 6 ISSUE NO. 36

## Former VPOTUS Joe Biden to Keynote 2017 Hughes Center Honors Recognizing NJ Leaders

Former Vice President of the United States Joe Biden will be the keynote speaker when Ambassador William J. Hughes receives the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award at the Hughes Center Honors on Nov. 9, 2017.

The Hughes Center Honors are awarded for professional excellence and a commitment to public service, civility and bipartisanship which reflect the life and career of Ambassador Hughes, who served as U.S. ambassador to Panama and as a U.S. congressman for 20 years.

The event, which is open to the public, will start at 5:30 p.m. at the Stockton Seaview Hotel & Golf Club.

Other honorees include U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, D-12th, and state Senators Jim Whelan, D-Atlantic, and Diane Allen, R-Burlington.

The Hughes Center will also recognize Montclair State University Professor of Political Science and Law Brigid Callahan Harrison, a Stockton alumnus, and recent Stockton graduate Maryam Sarhan.

[Read more.](#)

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## Stockton Launches 'Catch the Wave' Campaign for AC Initiatives



Community members, including Diane Epps, retired manager of the Office of Institutional Diversity & Equity (left) joined Shelly Meyers, associate professor of Education (right) at the July 8 reception.

Nearly 120 friends of Atlantic City joined members of the Stockton community on July 8 at the Stockton Seaview Hotel & Golf Club for an intimate reception to discuss how Stockton's new campus will contribute to the resurgence of the city. Those in attendance, including dignitaries such as Sen. Jim Whelan, listened to a presentation by President Harvey Kesselman on the Atlantic City Gateway project. [View photos](#) from the event.

The event was made possible in large part by Shelly Meyers, associate professor of Education. Meyers and her family have connected with many proud and caring community members who are interested in supporting the University's efforts. Her personal outreach and enthusiasm for Stockton resulted in an engaged and energetic crowd.

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## Stockton Launches ‘Catch the Wave’ Campaign

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Kesselman asked the audience to, “Imagine the positive impact of nearly 2,000 students, faculty and staff living and learning in the heart of Atlantic City.” The event also launched the “Catch the Wave” campaign. With a \$2 million goal, the campaign is focused on raising scholarship support for Stockton students who graduated from Atlantic City High School and for the Atlantic City Opportunity Fund, an endowed fund to provide resources designated to expand Stockton students’ engagement with and in Atlantic City. To learn more or to support the campaign, click “Catch the Wave” on [stockton.edu/acgateway](http://stockton.edu/acgateway).

“The turnout is a great indication of the energy and enthusiasm people are having with AC Gateway Project. That excitement was on full display; evident in the spontaneous applause throughout the president’s presentation, as well as the great conversations we all had with those who attended,” said Philip T. Ellmore, chief development officer and executive director of the University Foundation. “Stockton made a lot of new friends at the event and strengthened relationships with those already on board.”

Production Services recorded Atlantic City testimonials from attendees, including their excitement for Stockton’s A.C. plans.

## Stockton Staff, Families Benefit from AFS-USA Exchange Program



Robert Heinrich and his family hosted exchange student Shania Scharf from Germany this past year. Heinrich and Scharf participated in the MLK Day of Service.

Karin Kallert, professional services specialist, and Robert Heinrich, chief information officer, and their families have had the opportunity of a lifetime hosting international high school students through the AFS-USA exchange program.

Kallert and her husband, Tom Fischer, became involved with AFS when one of their daughters lived as an exchange student in Germany when she was a junior in high school. The couple decided to “pay it forward by hosting” a student through AFS-USA program. Sara Svavarsdottir from Iceland lived with their family for 10 months and attended Absegami High School during her stay.

“[We learned] interesting facts about the country. For example, contrary to our belief that Icelandic people are used to cold, Sara explained that it is very warm in the houses because they are heated from natural hot springs,” Kallert said. “Our eyes were opened to a country we didn’t know anything about. We plan on visiting.”

Kallert said Svavarsdottir was able to experience life at an American high school including sports and prom. “She was also able to play Lacrosse, a sport not usually played in Iceland,” Kallert said. “She was also able to see the major cities of the area like New York, Philadelphia and Washington and take a trip to California.”

Heinrich learned about the AFS program through a solicitation email that Kallert shared with the University community last year. “My wife Tammy and I always wanted to host an exchange student so this was the perfect opportunity working through the AFS organization,” he explained. The couple has five children, Jack, 18, Emily, 15, Alex, 13, Madison, 9, and Kyra, 2.

The Heinrichs hosted Shania Scharf from Hamburg, Germany this past school year. Scharf attended 11th grade at Southern Regional High School where she participated in the school chorus and other activities throughout the year. Scharf also participated in several Stockton events, including the MLK Day of Service.

“Our family was introduced to a totally different culture and language. We learned so much from Shania and really enjoyed being able to teach her about the United States and our own culture,” Heinrich said. “We were very fortunate to be able to bring her to places throughout the country over the time she was here so she could experience so much about America.”

Heinrich said the family hopes to visit Scharf in Germany and Scharf has expressed interest in coming back to the United States to study at Stockton when she completes high school. “We never realized how hard it was going to be to say goodbye,” he said. “She very much became one of our children and will forever hold a special place in our hearts.”

To learn how you can host an exchange student or become a volunteer for AFS, visit the [New Jersey Area Team website](#), or email [Martha Friend](#) or [Alison Colaluca](#) of AFS New Jersey.

## Provost Announces Several Structural Changes in Academic Affairs

Earlier this week, Lori Vermeulen, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, announced the following structural changes in Academic Affairs:

**Carra Hood** will serve as associate provost for Strategic Planning, Academic Programming, and Assessment. Hood will oversee academic planning and assessment for the office, providing support to the development of new and existing academic programs from start to finish. In addition, she will provide oversight of the following Stockton entities, supervise the directors and support their efforts to provide vision and leadership in executing their missions, and serve as liaison between these units and the Office of the Provost: Library; Office of eLearning; Director of Academic Assessment/Academic Assessment Committee; and Liaison for Globalizing the Curriculum.

**Michelle McDonald** will serve as associate vice-president for Academic Affairs. McDonald will coordinate the work of Stockton's instructional sites and additional locations (including Hammonton, Manahawkin, Woodbine and Atlantic City) to ensure their smooth operation and integration with the main campus. In addition, she will coordinate and monitor Academic Affairs policy initiatives, analyses and changes in conjunction with the Faculty Senate. She will provide oversight of the following Stockton entities, supervise the directors and support their efforts to provide vision and leadership in executing their missions, and serve as liaison between these units and the Office of the Provost: Office of Continuing Studies; Office of Research & Sponsored Programs; Levenson Institute for Gaming, Hospitality & Tourism; Stockton Center for Community Engagement; and Administrative Office for Global Engagement.

**John Smith** will serve as executive assistant to the Provost. In this role, he will optimize the effectiveness of the Provost's Office through design, operation, oversight and timely completion of critical initiatives and projects. Smith will continue to advise the Provost on the resolution of student issues and appeals and will provide leadership in Academic Affairs on matters related to Commencement and other primary projects and events. He will support the development, review and revision of academic policy and procedures.

The Office of the Provost also welcomed two new members to the team on July 10.

**Joe Sramaty** will serve as administrative assistant to the Provost. Sramaty has obtained administrative experience at Stockton in the Office of Student Affairs and the School of Arts & Humanities. Sramaty will be handling the Provost's calendar and correspondence and will play a key role in ensuring the smooth running of the Provost's office. Sramaty earned a B.A. in Studies in the Arts: Vocal Music Concentration, and an Historical Studies minor from Stockton. He also anticipates completing a M.A. in Organizational Leadership in May 2018.

**Elizabeth Masterson** will serve as professional services specialist for event and project planning. Masterson received a B.A. in Communications with a minor in Visual Arts from Stockton. She has most recently served as regional marketing manager for Compass Group and in this role she worked very closely with Stockton facilitating many campus events.

In addition, the Dual Credit High School Program will be overseen by Dean of General Studies Rob Gregg, who will provide academic leadership for this integral program.

The work of the liaison for Globalizing the Curriculum will be separated from the administrative work of the Office of Global Engagement. The liaison (JY Zhou) will report to the associate provost and will continue to work closely with the Institute for faculty development. The administrative aspects of Global Engagement will remain under the direction of India Karavackas, who will report to the associate vice president.

**AmyBeth Glass**, director of Graduate Studies, will assume a broader role in developing Stockton's graduate programming. As she will work more closely with me and the deans as we make plans to realize our institutional goal of achieving an enrollment of 10,000 students by 2021.



Laurie Dutton, director of the Women's Gender and Sexuality Center; Ginna Petrillo, of Kramer Hall; Matthew J. Severs, assistant professor of Geology; and Amy Ackerman, assistant professor of Instructional Technology, were among the participants at the Academic Affairs Retreat held in the Campus Center on July 12. Lori Vermeulen, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, led this year's retreat, which featured a 60's theme and breakout discussions. [View more photos.](#)

## Kowalski Named Interim General Counsel, Bailey Named Interim Deputy



Ellen Bailey

[Brian Kowalski](#) has been named interim general counsel, following the reassignment of Michael Angulo, who now oversees the Division of Administration & Finance as the interim vice president.

After consultation with the Stockton University Board of Trustees, and her resignation from the board, Ellen Bailey has been named deputy general counsel. Bailey fills the role left vacant upon Kowalski's reassignment as interim general counsel.

Bailey worked in the Office of the President for seven years before she enrolled in law school. During her time at Stockton, she worked closely with the members of the University cabinet. She was later appointed to the

Stockton University Foundation Board and the Stockton University Board Of Trustees.



Brian Kowalski

Bailey's extensive and successful experience as a litigator handling a broad spectrum of business and civil matters will provide valuable support to Stockton's Office of the General Counsel. She will begin her new role on July 31.

## Diane D'Amico Named Director of News & Media Relations

Diane D'Amico, longtime education reporter for The Press of Atlantic City and one of the most well-respected higher education journalists in New Jersey, joined Stockton as director of News & Media Relations on July 10.

D'Amico worked at The Press of Atlantic City for more than 40 years, serving in a number of positions including senior writer, bureau chief, Special Projects editor, Lifestyle editor and Lifestyle reporter. She covered Stockton University for the last 20 years as a reporter. She holds a B.S. in Spanish and Linguistics from Georgetown University and has completed several courses in the Master of Liberal Studies program with a focus on writing, media and education issues at the University of Pennsylvania.

## Name Change for the Office of Military & Veteran Services

The Office of Veterans Affairs has changed its office name to the Office of Military & Veteran Services.

### Reminder: Register for Parking



Parking permit registration is now available online at [Stockton.edu/parking](http://Stockton.edu/parking). New permits will be required for everyone for the 2017-18 academic year. For more information, contact Michael Sullivan, manager of Parking and Transportation Services, at ext. 5534 or [Michael.Sullivan@stockton.edu](mailto:Michael.Sullivan@stockton.edu).

### Forbes Social Media Contest

Stockton is competing in the Forbes #MyTopCollege [contest](#), which encourages college and university communities to share their memorable experiences and to show their school spirit.

To enter the contest, your tweet or Instagram post must include the #MyTopCollege hashtag and Stockton must be tagged ([@Stockton\\_edu](#) on Twitter and [@Stockton-University](#) on Instagram). The contest runs through Friday, July 21, and winners will be announced July 26.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:distinctive@stockton.edu)