

The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Stockton University Ranked Best for Veterans

Stockton University is ranked 16th in the nation in providing services to veterans according to the Military Times Best: Colleges 2018 ranking released Nov. 20.

Formerly known as Best for Vets: Colleges, this year's ranking includes 218 colleges and universities. In announcing the rankings, Military Times said they were more competitive than ever this year, with a record number of schools participating in the rigorous annual survey for consideration. Fewer than half made the cut. Stockton also ranked 16th in 2017.

President Harvey Kesselman said he is proud that Stockton continues to be one of the best colleges in the nation for veterans. "Stockton has been committed to serving veterans and active military since the college opened in 1971, when Vietnam-era veterans attended Stockton and helped develop our programs," Kesselman said. "We are honored to be recognized for serving those who have so honorably served our country."

Jason Babin, director of the Office of Military and Veterans Services, said the University's commitment to veterans continues to grow to meet student needs.

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Stockton Receives Grant from the TD Bank Charitable Foundation

The Stockton Center for Community Engagement (SCCE) received \$10,000.00 from the TD Bank Charitable Foundation to support the Homework Completion Program and its educational efforts on economic literacy.

The grant will provide two laptops for the homework program's Pleasantville location, two bilingual student fellows for the 2017 – 2018 school year, and refreshments for six economic literacy workshops.

This additional funding will help expand the Pleasantville homework program, which became the third location as of this semester. In collaboration with the Pleasantville Police Department, tutors and workshops are available at the Pleasantville Public Library.



Stockton student Jason Rehani tutors students as part of the Stockton Center for Community Engagement's homework completion program at Stanley Holmes Village.

"This collaboration with the TD Bank Foundation to offer educational programs on economic literacy speaks to our mission and strengthens our community collaborative efforts," said Merydawilda Colón, executive director of the SCCE. "We look forward to hosting these sessions at our homework programs in Atlantic City and Pleasantville. These educational sessions on economic literacy are important to expose children to economic concepts and how they can access bank services."

Student Scholarship Recipients Thank Donors at Annual Dinner



Kathleen Corbalis, left, and President William Cradle, right, of the Public Relations Council of Greater Atlantic City with scholarship recipient Cynthia Bartolone of Hammonton

Students shared the impact of their scholarships at the annual Scholarship Dinner on Nov. 13, honoring both the recipients and donors who make the awards possible.

Philip T. Ellmore, chief development officer and executive director of the Stockton Foundation, said this year they received 855 applications. More than \$700,000 has been awarded to almost 500 students so far.

“We hope you are reminded of why we do what we do,” Ellmore said to the 370 students and donors who attended the event in the Campus Center Event Room.

Seven students from different departments shared their stories with the audience. [Read](#) excerpts of what they said.

Stockton Exhibition Project Installs Panels; To Present AASCU Session

Panels of the new Stockton Exhibit were recently installed in the front lobby of the Richard E. Bjork Library.

The display is the result of ongoing research and discussions being conducted during the 2017-2018 academic year as part of the [Stockton Exhibition Project](#). The project explores the history of Stockton University, including how and why the institution was named for Richard Stockton, a New Jersey signer of the Declaration of Independence, who also enslaved people.

In February, Lori Vermeulen, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; Robert Gregg, dean of the School of General Studies and professor of History; Michelle Craig McDonald, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and associate professor of History, will present “What’s in a Name?: The Stockton Exhibition Project as a Teachable Moment” at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Academic Affairs Winter Meeting 2018 in San Antonio, Texas in February.

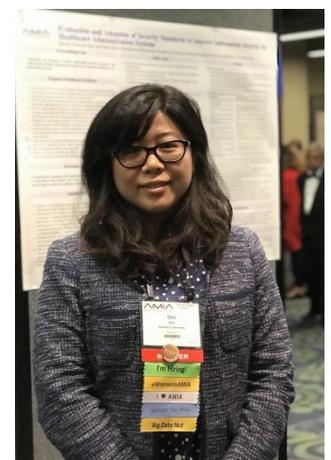


Wei Presents at American Medical Informatics Association Symposium

Duo (Helen) Wei, associate professor of Computer Science & Information Systems, recently presented at the American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium from Nov. 4-8 in Washington D.C. Her research, “Using Statistical Models to Predict Senior Patients’ Use of Smartphone Apps for Managing Parkinson’s Disease – A Preliminary Study from A Service Learning Project,” was presented as a poster.

Wei explained through her abstract, “The objective of this research is to predict patient’s preference/inclination to the use of the smartphone app to manage their Parkinson disease based on a survey. Regression models show that there is a statistically significant association between the inclination of usage and patient’s gender. That being said, male patients are more likely to choose to use the smartphone app than their female counterparts.”

This project is partially supported by both the Stockton Center for Successful Aging (SCOSA) grant and the School of Business midcareer research and development grant.



Duo (Helen) Wei

Alumnus Shares How He Became a Buddhist Monk at Mindfulness Event

During a mindfulness retreat at the Bhavanna Society in West Virginia, Nathan Morell, assistant director of Counseling Services, met a Buddhist monk, Bhante Jayasara. Conversation quickly revealed that Jayasara had graduated from Stockton. Jayasara, a 2001 alumnus, returned to campus to share his journey to monkhood during “A Taste of Mindfulness” on Nov. 14.



Bhante Jayasara

People and cultures have always interested Jayasara, who was raised Catholic. At age 16, he realized that Catholicism was not for him. “I always learned about different religions. I went to synagogues, temples and mosques and even had a few friends who were wiccans. The depth and breadth of human spirituality is fascinating to me. Between the ages of 16 and 29, I would joke that I’m a student of all religions and a practitioner of none,” he explained.



Nathan Morell, assistant director of Counseling Services, leads a session during “A Taste of Mindfulness.”

Jayasara transferred to Stockton from community college and enjoyed his time living on campus and studying anthropology. After graduating, he worked for eight years in child protective services for the Division of Youth and Family Services, now DCPNP, doing investigations, managing cases and recruiting foster families. Eventually, Jayasara decided to commit to one spiritual path. Buddhism best fit his worldview. After 10 years practicing meditation and a four-year transition to monkhood, Jayasara now lives at the Bhavana monastery in West Virginia.

After his lecture, Jayasara joined the Stockton community for mindful yoga, meditation, eating, breath and walking activities. Luanne Anton, health educator, Kimberly Raring, nutritionist, and Nathan Morell joined Jayasara in leading the activities. Jongbok Yi, assistant professor of Asian Philosophy, attended the events with students in his “Buddhism” and “History of Tea” classes, and Patricia Donahue, assistant director in the Career Center, brought her meditation students. Children at Free To Be had the opportunity to meet and interview Jayasara.

Provost, Dean Keenan Celebrate Atlantic County AAUW Centennial

Lori Vermeulen, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and Claudine Keenan, dean of the School of Education, attended the centennial celebration of the [Atlantic County branch](#) of the [American Association of University Women](#) (AAUW) on Nov. 4 at the Linwood Country Club. This fundraiser luncheon is held annually to support the scholarship fund and other educational programs. This year’s program, “Deeds Not Words,” was sponsored by the AAUW Atlantic County Charitable Corporation.

The Atlantic County branch has donated yearly scholarships to scores of women, many of whom currently attend or have graduated from Stockton. They have also been a Stockton Foundation Scholarship supporter since 1956. The branch is among a select few nationwide to host an annual STEM Tech Trek camp for middle school girls who reside at Stockton each July.



Top row, center: AAUW Tech Trek Student Selection Director Gail Davis, AAUW Atlantic County branch President Linda Harmon, Dean of Education Claudine Keenan (bottom row, center), Assistant Dean of Education John Gray with students at Stockton’s Scholarship Dinner.

Keenan has been a member of the Atlantic County branch since May 2014 and encourages others to join. “AAUW has been advancing equity for women and girls since 1881, a time when many women weren’t even admitted to colleges. Now that U.S. women outnumber men in college enrollments, the AAUW mission has focused on rebalancing inequities among the major fields that women pursue, and they offer university-level programs like Start \$mart to teach salary negotiation skills that also help advance gender pay equity,” she explained.

HR, Dissen Share Helpful Tips in Weekly Healthy Holidays Series

Editor's Note: The Office of Human Resources in partnership with Anthony Dissen, registered dietician and instructor of Health Science, have put together a six-week series focused on tips and resources on how to stay healthy during the upcoming holiday season. Below is the latest edition. View past issues on the [Healthy Holidays page](#).

Welcome to the third edition of the 2017 Healthy Holidays email series.

Theme for the Week: Keep Your Body Moving

The holidays can be a hectic, busy time and regular exercise may get too easily bumped out of the schedule. Consider incorporating small periods of exercise and movement to your day. Here are some tips and resources for getting started:

TIPS:

- **Make a date to walk!** Taking periodic walks can relieve stress, improve mood and focus, and lead to improved fitness levels. We have a beautiful campus – consider carving out some of your lunch hour to go for a walk.
- **Yoga & Stretching** - Sometimes we don't think of stretching as a form of exercise, but it is! Simple stretches or desk yoga can help alleviate pain in the feet, shoulders, and back that can be especially bad during the holidays.
- **Stand More** - Stand at your desk when you can! Prolonged periods of sitting can be bad for the heart, and put pressure on the lower back. Standing for at least 1-2 minutes every hour can be a great help to take stress off the heart and back.
- **Deliver it in Person** - Those steps add up! Every opportunity to move, even if it's only a few minutes at a time. At the end of the day that can add 20 minutes or more of activity!



RESOURCES:

- [Stockton's indoor and outdoor walking maps](#)

APP SUGGESTIONS:

- MyFitnessPal
- Strava
- C25k

Need to Update Your Photo for University's Intranet Directory?

Effective Dec. 11, 2017, the University's Intranet (goStockton portal) will be updated to include a directory identifying every employee of the University, including the function, picture and title of that individual. The Intranet directory will contain the profile photographs currently included on every Stockton employee's photo identification badge.

If you would like to update your photograph for the Intranet directory, photography sessions will take place in Room F-122 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 5; and Wednesday, Dec. 6. RSVP to HR@stockton.edu and a member of Human Resources will contact you to schedule your photography appointment.

SAVE THE DATES

- Wednesday, Dec. 6 - Stockton Board of Trustees Meeting
- Friday, Dec. 15 - Stockton's Annual Holiday Party
- Monday, Dec. 25-Monday, Jan. 1 - Holiday Break

View all events on [Campus Calendar](#)

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

