



WILLIAM J. HUGHES CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



JANUARY 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Happy New Year! The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy has concluded another successful and productive year. The Hughes Center was in the middle of the action of some key legislative races through its polling in four state legislative districts and its co-sponsorship of legislative debates in two districts with *The Press of Atlantic City*.

The Hughes Center now includes the successful Washington Internship Program, in which Stockton students are interns in the Congress, federal agencies and other organizations in the Washington area. Stockton is one of the top colleges in the country in terms of the number of students participating in the program.

Looking forward, the Hughes Center will be sponsoring the Energy Symposium, *Energy 40/40: Looking Back 40 Years and Looking Forward 40 Years*. The symposium on Feb. 22, 2012 will include U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. Energy experts from the public and private sectors will be participating.

We anticipate another great year and appreciate your support and interest.

Daniel J. Douglas, Director

MAJOR ENDOWMENTS

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Chazen Mr. & Mrs. William J. Hughes and Family

- South Jersey Industries
- New Jersey American Water Company
- Atlantic City Electric Company
- Mr. & Mrs. Steve Batzer
- Exelon Corp.
- Public Service Enterprise Group
- Salmon Ventures Limited
- Thomas H. Heist Family
- Tribhuvan & Nandita Singh
- Verizon

IN THIS ISSUE

- ★ LD Campaign Debates.....p.2
- ★ Fall Polling Program.....p.2
- ★ Washington Internship Program.....p.3
- ★ Steering Committee Spotlight on Yvonne Bonitto-Doggett..p.3
- ★ Changes at the Hughes Center.....p.4
- ★ Legislator-in-Residence.....p.4
- ★ Recent Columns.....p.5

2012 ENERGY SYMPOSIUM



U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson will be the keynote speaker when hundreds of energy industry leaders meet on February 22nd at Stockton College for the second Energy Symposium to be sponsored by the Hughes Center.

The symposium's theme, tied to Stockton's 40th anniversary, will be *Energy 40/40: Looking Back 40 Years and Looking Forward 40 Years*.

Jackson, a native of New Orleans, joined the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection in 2002 and headed the agency beginning in 2006. President Obama appointed her to his Cabinet after the 2008 election. Jackson had previously worked as a scientist in the EPA Region 2 New York office.

She was named one of *Newsweek's* "Most Important People in 2010," and was included in *Time Magazine's* 2010 and 2011 lists of the "100 Most Influential People in the World." A summa cum laude graduate of Tulane University, Jackson earned a master's degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University.

Panels at the symposium, scheduled from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Campus Center, will cover topics ranging from the future of nuclear power to green energy to workforce development. Tickets are \$40. Call 609.626.3542 for information. For registration, visit www.stockton.edu/hughescenter.

HUGHES CENTER HOLDS LEGISLATIVE DEBATES

The Hughes Center pursued its mission of civic and political engagement this fall by cosponsoring debates in the NJ legislative elections.

A pair of Legislative District 2 debates on Sept. 14 attracted 150 people to Stockton College's historic Dante Hall in Atlantic City. There, candidates in the state's most closely watched Senate race – Sen. Jim Whelan, D-Atlantic, and Assemblyman Vince Polistina, R-Atlantic – debated the issues.

That spirited back-and-forth was followed immediately by a debate among four LD 2 Assembly candidates, Democrats Alisa Cooper and Damon Tyner against Republicans Chris Brown and Assemblyman John Amodeo.

The Press of Atlantic City cosponsored the debates and offered a live and archived video of the forums on its website, www.PressofAtlanticCity.com, as well as providing print coverage.

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, director of research and policy analysis at the Hughes Center and a Stockton political science professor, moderated



the debate. Questioning the candidates were Sharon Schulman, special assistant to the President for External Affairs, and former Press Statehouse bureau chief John Froomjian, now a Hughes Center research associate.

"Debates are a basic building block of democracy," said Hughes Center Director Daniel J. Douglas. "By questioning the candidates about their positions, we help voters make informed decisions in the election."

The Hughes Center and *The Press* held a second night of debates among Legislative District 9 candidates in Stockton's new Campus Center on Oct. 19. Under the state's new legislative district map, Galloway Township and Stockton College are now located in the 9th District covering much of Ocean County.

Democratic Senate candidate Dorothy Ryan debated Republican Sen. Chris Connors, followed by a debate between GOP Assemblywoman DiAnne Gove and Democratic challengers Bradley Billhimer and Carla Kearney. Republican Assemblyman Brian Rumpf was hospitalized after a fall from the roof of his house and was unable to attend the debate.

Press News Director Peter Brophy moderated the debate. Schulman and Daniel Good, a *Press* local news editor, questioned the candidates.

Click here to see legislative debate video:

<http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=135&pageID=18>

STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. Edward H. Salmon, *Chairman*

Ambassador William J. Hughes

David Baker

Steve Batzer

Yvonne Bonitto-Doggett

Noah Bronkesh, Esq.

Hon. Fred Butler

Keith Dawn

Edward Graham

Dr. Anne Harlan

George Lynn

Vincent Maione

Richard Mroz, Esq.

Hon. Steven P. Perskie

Charles Pessagno

Trib Singh

Richard Tolson

Michael Tuosto

Dr. Brian Tyrrell

Helen Walsh

Jennifer Young

Dr. Herman J. Saatkamp, *President, Ex Officio*

Dr. Harvey Kesselman, *Provost &*

Executive Vice President

Dr. David L. Carr, *Ex Officio*

Ben Peoples, *Student Representative*

Sharon Schulman

Founding Executive Director

FALL POLLING PROGRAM

Continuing what has become a regular feature of southern New Jersey election campaigns, the Hughes Center once again conducted public opinion polling in four state legislative district races in the fall.

Polls were conducted in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 9th Districts. The 2nd District Senate race between Democrat Jim Whelan and Republican Vince Polistina was among the most competitive and closely watched in the state. The Hughes Center polled in the 9th District for the first time after Galloway Township was moved into the 9th District under the new legislative redistricting map.

Hughes Center Director Daniel J. Douglas said the polls accurately reflected voter movement over time. Actual election results were within the margin of error of final poll results in each of the districts.

The Hughes Center plans to conduct polling in the 2012 elections for Congress and U.S. Senate in New Jersey. U.S. Reps. Frank LoBiondo, R-2nd, and Jon Runyan, R-3rd, and Sen. Robert Menendez, D-NJ, are up for election.

Click here to see legislative polling results:

<http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=135&pageID=29>

WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The Washington Internship Program is one of the most successful internship programs in the country. Students are placed in positions in the nation's capital for a semester. Stockton College's participation in the program is overseen by Dr. Michael Rodriguez, director of research and policy analysis at the Hughes Center and an associate professor of political science.

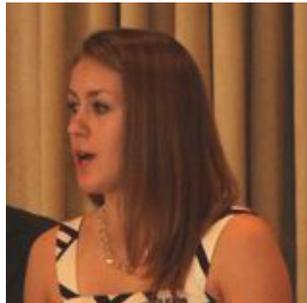
One graduate, John Genovese of Middletown, N.J., interned in the U.S.

Treasury Department in 2007. His paid internship put him on the team formulating the 2009 federal budget. John, now 26, attended Senate hearings and functions on Capitol Hill and met government luminaries such as former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Today, he works in management consulting for CAPCO in Manhattan, specializing in financial services. He recently developed a global sales training program for the company. John said his internship taught him skills that have helped him in the business world.

"It was a growing experience, being out on your own. It introduced you to the working world. ... We were managing vendors and other interns at the Treasury. You deal with vendors in a real job, so that empowers you to be a better manager. You learn what elements you need to get a job done. Those skills definitely help you. I use that every day now."

"It was the best internship. I would do it all over again in an instant."

Lillian Hussong, 21, a Stockton College history major entering her final semester, went into the international affairs internship program hoping to learn about a new city and ended up discovering things about herself. Lillian interned last summer at the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington, an organization of churches, synagogues, and mosques founded in 1978 to advance interfaith dialogue. She visited embassies and worked on a book series, "Teaching about Religion." She came to realize that she wanted to teach religion, and hopes to pursue graduate studies at Stockton in the fall.



She credits the supportive people and environment at the conference and in the internship program with allowing her to develop her interests.

"Everything about working there was appealing. There are so many opportunities around Washington.... You learn who you are as a worker and learn who you are as a person. That road to self-discovery is wonderful."

"Seeing how people from all over the country live and interact with one another, living in a new city together, it was a really interesting and worthwhile experience."

STEERING COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Yvonne Bonitto-Doggett

YBD Consulting



Yvonne Bonitto-Doggett, head of YBD Consulting, has long been involved in southern New Jersey economic development.

A former New York corporate officer, Bonitto-Doggett signed on with Bally's Park Place Casino Hotel in 1978, working in human resources and operations.

The Hughes Center Steering Committee member moved to the public sector as economic development director for Atlantic County in 1984. There, she oversaw the county's role in major projects, including: the Atlantic City rail line, industrial park development, expansions at the Atlantic City International Airport and FAA Technical Center, and the Atlantic City Convention Center and rail terminal.

In 1986, Bonitto-Doggett became the N.J. Development Authority for Small Businesses, Minorities' and Women's Enterprises' first chair and developed its Entrepreneurial Training Institute. She was named to the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority in 1991, and became its deputy director in 1992. She chaired the Atlantic City Planning Board for 16 of 19 years as a board member.

Among her numerous public positions, she has served on the Rowan University Board of Trustees, the United Way of Atlantic County, the Atlantic City Regional Chamber, and the Miss America Organization. Awards won by Bonitto-Doggett – too numerous to name here – include the 2003 National Conference of Community and Justice Humanitarian Award and the first James L. Usry Leadership Award given by the NAACP, Atlantic City branch.

She spearheaded development of the Civil Rights Garden at the Carnegie Library in Atlantic City.

Bonitto-Doggett holds a Master's Degree in Human Services from Lincoln University and is an avid golfer. Married to Dr. Frank B. Doggett for 48 years, she considers her daughter, "Missy" of New York, to be her "greatest accomplishment."

CHANGES AT THE HUGHES CENTER

On December 9, 2011 the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy moved into a bright new home as part of the completion of new construction in Stockton College's L wing.

The second-floor space houses work areas for the Hughes Center and Office of External Affairs, as well as the HERO campaign for designated drivers. The new Hughes Center headquarters is part of a major renovation project that included L-wing construction of Affirmative Action and Institutional Research offices, classrooms, faculty offices, and a two-story art gallery and a new entrance and box office for the nearby Performing Arts Center.

Hughes Center Director Daniel J. Douglas said the new offices mark a significant milestone for the public policy center.

Since the Hughes Center was founded in 2007, it had operated out of offices in various college departments. Now, the center has a physical location all its own, which was a goal of its namesake and benefactor, former Congressman and Ambassador William Hughes.

College President Herman J. Saatkamp and the College Board of Trustees cut the ribbon for the new facilities in a dedication ceremony on Dec. 15.

"Today's dedication marks the completion of the latest phase of our facilities master plan and is a key component of our 2020 Strategic Plan," Dr. Saatkamp said. "Coming after the opening of the new 154,000 square foot Campus Center last spring, students and visitors to Stockton are seeing a campus that is largely transformed."

Hughes Center Steering Committee members toured the new offices following their morning meeting on the same day as the move.

John Froomjian, former N.J. Statehouse bureau chief for *The Press of Atlantic City*, has joined the Hughes Center as a research associate. He succeeds Jason Rivera in the position after Rivera left to pursue his doctorate.



Froomjian specialized in covering government and elections at every level during 32 years at the newspaper, including two stints in the Statehouse. He also managed news reporting staff as an editor.

As part of his duties, Froomjian researched and wrote long-term investigative and analytical pieces, developing skills in spreadsheet and database analysis, GIS mapping, and Census data. In recent years, he represented *The Press* in collaborating with the Hughes Center on political polling and candidate debates. He has guest-lectured in many Stockton classes.

A 1979 graduate of Glassboro State College (now Rowan University), Froomjian is enrolled in the Masters of Public Administration program at Rutgers University-Camden.

LEGISLATOR-IN-RESIDENCE



The Hughes Center inaugurated its Legislator-in-Residence program in the fall with visits to Stockton College by Assemblyman Louis D. Greenwald, a Camden County Democrat.

The program is designed to bring NJ lawmakers to the college to politically engage students and faculty and to share their legislative experiences.

During his time on campus, Assemblyman Greenwald spoke in Dr. Michael Rodriguez's Political Science Senior Seminar and in Professor Lucinda Jassel's Civics: Citizen Education class, met with faculty and staff to review state issues, and held an open discussion for students and faculty in the Campus Center. His participation coincided with news that Greenwald, the Assembly Budget Committee chairman, would assume the post of Assembly Majority Leader in January. College President Herman J. Saatkamp met with Assemblyman Greenwald and presented him with a plaque in recognition of his public service as Legislator-in-Residence.



Senator Chris Connors, an Ocean County Republican, will be the Legislator-in-Residence this spring. Senator Connors represents the 9th District, which now includes Galloway Township. The senator is a graduate of Stockton College.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER



David Baker, president of New Jersey American Water (which serves approximately 2.5 million people), is the newest member of the Hughes Center

Steering Committee. He replaces former committee member and water company President John R. Bigelow, who was promoted to another position.

In his role at New Jersey's largest investor-owned water utility, David is responsible for customer, regulatory and local government relationships, operational and financial results, and is the principal external contact for American Water in New Jersey.

David also serves as Senior Vice President of the Northeast Division of American Water, in which he oversees the leadership and operations of Long Island American Water Company.

Golden, Carl. "**Senatorial Courtesy Illegitimate.**" *APP.com*. December 30.

Douglas, Daniel. "**Low Voter Turnout in N.J. Elections was Alarming -- but not Surprising.**" *The Press of Atlantic City*. December 26.

Unpublished. "**Additional Hughes Center Material on Legislative Election Turnout.**" Hughes Center. December 26.

Golden, Carl. "**Ideas Propel Gingrich's Rise.**" *Philly.com*. December 16.

Golden, Carl. "**Education Reform: Stakes are High.**" *APP.com*. December 2.

Golden, Carl. "**Opinion: Will this Dream Come True?**" *NorthJersey.com*. December 2.

Golden, Carl. "**Welcome to the Arctic Circle.**" *NJ.com*. November 4.

Golden, Carl. "**Herman Cain will fall to Mitt Romney for Republican Presidential Nomination.**" *NewJerseyNewsRoom.com*. October 20.

Golden, Carl. "**GOLDEN: For GOP, Romney is Inevitable.**" *APP.com*. October 18.

Golden, Carl. "**Opinion: No. Period. For real. The Christie saga.**" *NorthJersey.com*. October 7.

Golden, Carl. "**Christie's patient calculations.**" *Philly.com*. October 6.

Golden, Carl. "**Christie run would end zone of privacy.**" *APP.com*. October 4.

Golden, Carl. "**Opinion: N.J. midterm legislative elections are the calm before the storm.**" *NJ.com*. October 2.

Golden, Carl. "**Opinion: He said, she said – Christie-Oliver.**" *NorthJersey.com*. September 18.

Golden, Carl. "**Barack Obama needs to 'throw deep' on jobs creation plan.**" *NJ.com*. September 4.



101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205-9441
609.626.3542

<http://www.stockton.edu/hughescenter>



<http://www.facebook.com/hughes.center.stockton.college>



<http://www.twitter.com/hughescenter>