

Events

The Center coordinates and participates in activities, workshops, conferences, and professional development opportunities that promote economic and financial literacy and capabilities. We provide examples of our activities to give you a sense of what we do. Let us know how we can serve you.

The Stock Market Game™ Awards

June 5, 2013

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ



SCEFL was honored to once again host the Awards Ceremony and luncheon celebration for the southern New Jersey winners of the [Stock Market Game™](#) and InvestWrite essay competition. The SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education Stock Market Game™ introduces Grades 4 – 12 students to financial markets. Some of the schools represented by 2012-2013 awardees included Brigantine Elementary School, Forked River Elementary School, Red Bank Middle School, Holy Spirit High School, and Haddon Heights Jr. Sr. High School. In addition, a team from High Technology High School in Lincroft, NJ, advised by Mr. Raymond Eng, won first place in the U.S. in the year-long high school division. Congratulations to these students (Arun Kalyanaraman, Matthew Koutsoutis, and Timothy Lou) who won a trip to Washington, DC, to meet with members of Congress. Pictures from this event are found at http://www.flickr.com/photos/stockton_edu/sets/72157633951554775/.

Teachers Training Teachers, NJCFE T3 Conference

April 11, 2013

Marlton, NJ



New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education Vice-Chair, SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart, organized the spring NJCFE conference around the theme of “Financial Literacy Assessment.” Participants learned about formative and summative assessment in financial education, e.g. national tests/certifications and behavioral surveys. Since a planned lunchtime keynote speaker cancelled, Dr. Figart addressed the group on the topic of the FDIC’s latest survey on financial exclusion in the U.S.

Informed Investing

March 29, 2013

Galloway, NJ

Stockton faculty, staff, and members of the general public were invited to a seminar on informed investing by the FINRA-funded [Investor Advocacy Project](#) of the Seton Hall University School of Law. Cosponsors were SCEFL, the Stockton Center for Community Engagement, the School of Business, the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA), and the Accounting and Finance Society student organization. Numerous tips were offered to prepare to invest by accessing free research on brokers and looking for so-called “red flags” among firms and professionals in the industry.

America Saves/New Jersey Saves 2013

February 25 – March 2, 2013



Stockton participated in the annual and state-wide America Saves and New Jersey Saves activities. SCEFL ran lunchtime sessions all week for faculty and staff, cosponsored with the Office of Human Resources. Sessions rotated between “Short-Term Saving Strategies” and “Long-Term Saving & Investing.” In addition to developing and facilitating the sessions, SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart held an open “Q & A” session at the end of the week.

Community Service: VITA Tax Preparation

February and March 2013

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a free tax preparation service provided by IRS-certified volunteers, available to those with lower household incomes. For the second year in a row, SCEFL worked with the [United Way of Atlantic County](#) to cosponsor sessions on the Stockton campus so that students and community members could benefit from this service. Volunteers prepared 58 tax returns and Stockton student peer financial educators were on hand to provide financial education information and materials.

Financial Fitness Reality Fair

December 10, 2012

SCEFL hosted the New Jersey Division of Children and Families team for an all-day hands-on financial fitness reality fair. High school students came in shifts by bus to visit booths and tables. The purpose was to simulate purchasing wants and needs (food, rent, insurance, transportation, pet care, etc.) while living on a budget associated with annual average income for certain occupations.

Career Panel: Careers in the Financial Industry

October 23, 2012

Stockton's Office of Career Services and SCEFL co-organized a career panel for Stockton students. There are more possible careers in the financial industry than the ones you might think of immediately, like the Wall Street traders and analysts. Invite speakers relayed information about financial careers in the profit, non-profit, and government sectors—and there are careers for a variety of liberal arts and science majors, not just business students.

Credit Cards, Credit Scores, and Paydown Strategies

October 15, 2012

Egg Harbor Township, NJ



**United Way
of Atlantic County**

SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart responded to a request from the United Way of Atlantic County for a relevant evening workshop on a financial literacy topic for community members. Participants came away with new knowledge and skills related to credit and debt.

Teacher Professional Development

October 15, 2012

Bridgeton High School

Bridgeton, NJ

Bridgeton High School business teachers spent part of their fall in-service in a workshop led by SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart. The topic was financial literacy assessment and new, free teaching resources. Teachers received tips, suggestions for activities to try in the classroom, and learned about the list of free [Financial Literacy Programs and Lessons](#), updated regularly on the SCEFL website.

Stockton Financial Literacy Workshops & Class Visits

2012 – 2013

SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart conducted numerous workshops and seminars on campus for undergraduate and graduate student organizations and classes. Topics were customized for the specific requesting group or faculty/staff member. In 2012 – 2013, popular topics included student loan debt, financial aid, student budgeting, and understanding consumer debt.

The Stock Market Game™ Awards

June 6, 2012

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ



SCEFL hosted the Awards Ceremony and luncheon for the southern New Jersey winners of the [Stock Market Game™](#) and InvestWrite essay competition. SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart gave the keynote address titled “The Stock Market Game™ and Liberal Arts and Science Skills.” The SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education Stock Market Game™ (SMG) introduces students to financial markets. The game, designed by teachers, has served millions of students in Grades 4 through 12. Student teams receive a virtual \$100,000 to invest. Students, parents, and teachers attended to celebrate the awardees. Some of the schools represented by awardees included: Lanoka Harbor Elementary School, Davis Elementary School (Camden), Park Avenue Elementary School (Freehold), The Collier School, West Deptford Middle School, Ocean City High School, and Jackson Memorial High School.

Teachers Training Teachers, a T3 Conference

April 2, 2012

Brookdale Community College
Lincroft, NJ

New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education Vice-Chair, SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart, organized the spring NJCFE conference. T3 was primarily devoted to break-out sessions where K – 12 teachers and adult trainers had the opportunity to learn about and explore lessons and exercises from financial education programs and games from others who have used them successfully. Some programs and games covered included: Money Stars; Financial Football and Financial Soccer; Financial Fitness for Life; Cards, Cars, and Currency; High School Financial Planning Program, and the Bean Game. The lunchtime keynote speaker was Dr. Robert H. Scott III, Associate Professor of Economics and Finance, from Monmouth University. Dr. Scott spoke about “Credit Card Ownership among High School Seniors.”

Community Service: VITA Tax Preparation



February 16, 2012 and March 24, 2012
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a tax free preparation service provided by IRS-certified volunteers, available to those with an annual household income of less than \$49,000. SCEFL worked with the [United Way of Atlantic County](#) to cosponsor two sessions on the Stockton campus so that students and community members could benefit from this service. Both the Thursday (February 16) and Saturday (March 24) sessions had a steady flow of users, mostly students. SCEFL and the United Way of Atlantic County look forward to continuing this collaboration to bring this tax free service to campus.

Investment Seminar

March 2, 2012
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ

With the School of Business and the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA), SCEFL cosponsored a presentation on investment fraud and other legal protections for investors. This was open to the Stockton and local communities. Speakers were from the [Investor Advocacy Project](#) of the Seton Hall University School of Law.

Student Development

February 25, 2012
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ



Stockton College's Division of Student Affairs held a Day of Student Leadership on campus, Saturday, February 25, 2012, with the theme: "Building Connections for a Successful Tomorrow." Student leaders from all walks of campus life attended; many were Resident Advisors (RA) from the college dorms and student housing. SCEFL Director Professor Deborah M. Figart offered a workshop on college student debt called "ABC: All 'Bout Credit." Among the topics covered were student loans, credit cards, and credit scores.

New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education (NJCFE) Financial Literacy Summit

December 7, 2011
Mercerville, NJ

SCEFL helped to organize NJCFE's major fall conference. In addition to serving the state's teachers, the theme, "Community Financial Survival Kit" aimed to reach out to financial literacy advocates in local communities and faith-based organizations. The keynote address was delivered by NJCFE's 2011 Muriel Siebert Lifetime Award recipient, [Reverend Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.](#) Dr. Soaries is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, NJ. and is nationally known for his work to reduce debt in the African American community through his "dfree" (debt-free) program.



Teacher Professional Development

October 17, 2011
Bridgeton High School
Bridgeton, NJ

Bridgeton High School business teachers spent their fall in-service day receiving 6 professional development credits in a workshop led by SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart. The full-day workshop afforded time to go into depth exploring personal finance content for high school students, including: money management, credit scores and debt management, student loans, identity theft and phishing scams, banks and credit unions, basic insurance (e.g. renters, homeowners, car), and investing (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). The workshop concluded with a discussion of personal finance assessment and the Financial Literacy Certification Test offered by WISE.

The Stock Market Game™ Awards

June 8, 2011
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Galloway, NJ



The NJCFE southern regional office hosted the Awards Ceremony and luncheon for the New Jersey winners of the [Stock Market Game™](#). SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart gave the keynote address titled "**The Stock Market Game™ and the Goals of Liberal Education.**" The SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education Stock Market Game™ (SMG) introduces students to financial markets. The game, designed by teachers, has served millions of students in Grades 4 through 12. Student teams receive a virtual \$100,000 to invest. Students, parents, and teachers attended to celebrate the awardees; some of the schools represented by awardees included: Red Bank Middle School, Ocean County Vocational Technical School, Marlton Elementary School, Ocean City High School, and Ocean Township High School.

Teachers Training Teachers, a T3 Conference

May 5, 2011

New Jersey Hospital Association

Princeton, NJ

New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education Vice-Chair, SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart, organized the spring NJCFE conference. T3 was a “Working Conference,” devoted to break-out sessions of working groups, facilitated by expert teachers and trainers. The Working Groups, divided by grade level and population taught (Youth & Grades P/K – 5; Teens & Grades 6 – 8; Young Adults & Grades 9 – 12; Adults) shared examples of successful project-based lessons, games, simulations, and financial literacy assessments. The lunchtime keynote speaker was Mr. Todd Zartman from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

Paying for College Seminar

April 7, 2011

All Wars Memorial Building

Atlantic City, NJ

SCEFL cosponsored a College Seminar for Atlantic City Students and Parents in Atlantic City, NJ. The sponsors along with SCEFL included Wells Fargo Bank, the Atlantic City Mayor’s office and City Council, and Connecting the Dots. Topics included: How to financially prepare for college; how to pay for college; completing the FAFSA form; and writing a winning scholarship essay. SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart provided information about student loans and managing student loan debt.

Teacher Professional Development

January 26, 2011

Atlantic City High School

Atlantic City, NJ

Topics such as Spending Smart, Education and Earnings, Savings and Investments, and Credit were discussed in a professional development workshop for High School teachers, led by SCEFL Director Dr. Deborah M. Figart. The workshop blended these core content topics in financial literacy with applications from the lessons for Young Adults in the Hands on Banking™ online program. Teachers also received tips about numerous free [Financial Literacy Programs and Lessons](#), with specific links available from the SCEFL website.

Teacher Professional Development

December 13, 2010

Stockton SRI & ETTC

Mays Landing, NJ

On December 13, 2010, the main training classroom of Stockton’s SRI & ETTC was filled to capacity with 48 teachers of High School students and adults. All were in attendance for a professional development workshop organized by the Stockton Center for Economic & Financial Literacy: Teaching Personal Finance (Standard 9.2).

Teachers received a presentation about essential content in the 7 specific strands of personal financial literacy: A. Income and Careers; B. Money Management; C. Credit and Debt Management; D. Planning, Saving, and Investing; E. Becoming a Critical Consumer; F. Civic Financial Responsibility; and G. Risk Management and Insurance. Facilitators/trainers Deborah M. Figart and Carole Glade then had teachers try out specific lessons on these topics and they walked away with many, many lesson plans to use and adapt in the classroom. This workshop was *free* for teachers, made possible by generous funding from TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank. Participants thought this workshop was a great success.



New Jersey Financial Literacy Summit

October 13, 2010

Rutgers University

Piscataway, NJ

The first annual state-wide Financial Literacy Summit was co-sponsored by the NJ Department of Education and The New Jersey Coalition for Financial Education (NJCFE). **Summit Summary. Financial Literacy Summit Flier.** For videos from and other information about the Summit, visit the Summit Virtual Experience website at <http://summit.njcf.org>

Credit, Loans and Careers: Teacher Professional Development

August 5, 2010

Center for Economic Education

New York, NY

A full-subscribed workshop of 20 high school teachers attended Center Director Deborah M. Figart's workshop on Credit, Loans and Careers at the HSBC National Center for Economic and Financial Education. The workshop explored: How much of a loan can families afford? How do they avoid becoming over-extended with debt? The workshop provided teachers with a background to understanding access to credit (loans) that could fund major expenses such as a college/university education, a graduate degree, an apprenticeship program, or home renovations, with an emphasis on student loans as the illustration. Teachers evaluated how to repay this type of credit by analyzing personal income and consumer budgets using online resources such as O*NET. We also discussed what affects wages and salaries, earnings by college major, and occupations that are in-demand for the next 10 years.

The Stock Market Game™ Awards

June 3, 2010

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Galloway, NJ

The NJCFE southern regional office hosted the Awards Ceremony and luncheon for the New Jersey winners of the Stock Market Game™. The SIFMA Foundation for Investor Education Stock Market Game™ (SMG) introduces students to financial markets. The game, designed by teachers, has served millions of students in Grades 4 through 12. Student teams receive a virtual \$100,000 to invest. About 125 students, parents, and teachers attended to celebrate the awardees.

Teacher Professional Development

June 1, 2010

Atlantic City School District

Atlantic City, NJ

Over 50 middle school teachers received training in personal finance topics. Teachers learned how to navigate an online financial education program called Hands On Banking™ (available at www.handsonbanking.org), specifically the product for “Teens.” Selected lessons in budgeting, credit, and money management, were supplemented with a list of resources, mostly free and available from the internet, for use in the Grades 6 – 8 classroom. Exercises were provided that were targeted to introducing financial topics in middle school mathematics classes.

What Explains How Much People Earn?

April 20, 2010

Albany, NY



Center Director Deborah M. Figart, Ph.D. was invited to speak with legislators and staff from the New York State Senate and Assembly about what compensable factors salaries determine wages and The events were on Equal Pay Day 2010, a date every year in April when the average working woman needs to work in the current calendar year (3+ extra months) in addition to the previous calendar year to earn what the average working man earned in the previous year. Dr. Figart also explained the findings of her series of co-authored research studies that estimated the impact on poverty and earnings inequality if the United States were to pass extensions of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to include equal pay for work of equal value.

Teacher Professional Development

March 30, 2010

Atlantic City School District

Atlantic City, NJ

Over 50 teachers of Grades 4 and 5 in the Atlantic City School District received training in personal finance in a professional development workshop that we organized. Teachers were provided an overview of the NJ standards and the benefits of introducing financial literacy to young children even before they open up their first checking account. Topics covered included money, budgeting, savings and checking accounts, and credit. Teachers spent time with an online program: Hands On Banking™ (available at www.handsonbanking.org), the version for “Kids.” Selected lessons were supplemented with a list of resources, mostly free and available from the internet, for use in the K – 5 classroom. To also aid in lesson planning, special attention was paid to suggesting ways to integrate personal finance into a Language Arts curriculum.

Showcase of Economic and Financial Literacy

March 24, 2010

Stockton SRI & ETTC

Mays Landing, NJ

The NJCFE offers occasional Showcases throughout the State of New Jersey to expose teachers, supervisors, and superintendents to possible curricular materials in economic and financial literacy. Attendees sampled free and fee-based pamphlets, games and simulations, online courses, and textbooks. Representatives from various education and finance companies were on hand to offer demonstrations and respond to questions.
