THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
ANNUAL REPORT FOR
2020 INITIATIVES PROJECT

PROJECT LEADER(S):	Lisa Rosner, Director, Honors Program and Beth Olsen, Director, Grants Office
PROJECT TITLE:	Honors Research Initiatives
DATE:	May 22, 2014
CC:	

Email a copy of this completed form to Peter Baratta in the Office of the Provost at: peter.baratta@stockton.edu

<table>
<tr><td>The boxes below expand as needed to accommodate your summary notes.
You may also submit appendices or attachments, if needed.</td></tr>
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Please provide a summary of the project and your experience.
In 2011-2, 2012-3, and 2013-4, Beth Olsen and I were awarded a total of $16,000 to fund a set of three mutually-reinforcing projects to develop and enhance Stockton's existing culture of undergraduate research. The first initiative created a rigorous, yet accessible, application process for novice students to present their research at the annual regional Honors conference (NRHC conference, http://nrhchonors.org/?page_id=1002). The second created an undergraduate research e-zine, open to students college-wide: *Stockton Innovations: A Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creativity* (http://www.stockton.edu/innovations) . The intent of the third was to create highly competitive Presidential Fellowships to support Honors students working on capstone research projects.   The results of the first two initiatives were highly satisfactory, and in our view, should be funded at the same level and through the same budget orgs. The third initiative, however, has never been successful in attracting student applicants, even though we expanded our recruitment to the entire Stockton student body. For that reason, we recommend that the Presidential Fellowship program be discontinued. We will discuss this in more detail below.

Please attach a copy of your original proposal or list your stated objectives and expected outcomes.
Expected outcomes for NRHC conference presentations: 1. motivate students to look for research opportunities early in their academic career,   2. provide an incentive for students to follow a rigorous application and review process in submitting their research proposals, and   3. provide valuable experience in presenting work in a professional setting   Expected outcomes for *Stockton Innovations*:

1. Create a research e-zine that would showcase the best of Stockton's undergraduate research and provide an incentive for students to carry out research
2. Provide Honors students, and potentially other students as well, with enhanced understanding of research stemming from acquiring and editing a range of research articles in diverse disciplines.
3. Provide experience with both interpersonal and computer skills necessary to complete an intensive, highly-visible, and satisfying collaborative project.

Expected outcomes for Presidential Fellowships:
1. Encourage Stockton students to begin their capstone research projects before their senior year, so that they could produce a more intensive, scholarly research project.
2. Provide funding for equipment and supplies for student research, not otherwise funded through School or Program budgets.

Please describe the results of your project and compare them to your original expectations. Elaborate on how well your objectives were met and how they might have changed. Note any particular obstacles that may have prevented your achieving full satisfaction on desired outcomes.

Results, NRHC Conference presentations:
All our expectations were met.
1. This year, seven students attended the conference, held in Niagara Falls, NY. This was the first year we have used air transportation to a conference, and we were apprehensive that students might pull out after we had purchased their plane tickets. In fact, all seven students were extremely responsible and attended all the preliminary meetings as well as the conference itself. They were appreciative of Stockton's support, not only for the funding for airfare, hotel, and conference registration, but also for the time and effort staff and faculty put into making it possible for them to attend the conference.
2. One student was a sophomore who had attended an Introduction to Research course as a freshman; another was a junior transfer who had carried out her research during her first semester at Stockton. The rest were seniors, three of whom had begun their research early in their Stockton careers. All had heard about the conference from previous participants, and had been looking forward to applying for the opportunity to attend. Thus the initiative appears to be achieving its goal of providing incentives for early career research.
3. All students presented at the Day of Scholarship as well as the NRHC. Images are available at http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=210&pageID=10.
4. Students filled out the required assessment instrument and expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for the experience. They feel that the rigorous application process will help them apply for other conferences and funding opportunities in the future.

Results, *Stockton Innovations*:
All our expectations were met.
1. This year, four students served as editors. This was acceptable, but we hope to return to five editors in future years.
2. We received 15 submissions, from students in Arts and Humanities, Business Studies, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Natural and Mathematical Sciences. This number is up from last year, as is the quality.
3. We have made the application process more rigorous, requiring a draft submission, and strict attention to a style sheet. This can be attributed to a more rigorous editorial process, in which

students were required to submit a draft that conforms to a specific style. Information on the submission process can be accessed here: http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=210&pageID=16

4. We adhered to our conclusion from last year, that face-to-face meetings were essential, and this year's editorial board made attending meetings a priority.
5. We developed a Manual for editors, as well as Google docs with standard operating procedures and guidelines
6. A highly successful innovation was working with Michael McGarvey and his graphic design students to design the magazine itself. This worked beautifully (pun intended) and *Stockton Innovations* now has a much more professional look and feel. We will continue to work with graphic design students for future editions. We may wish to investigate providing funding for student designers as well as for the editors.
7. Please note that we anticipated having the finished version (print and digital) of *Stockton Innovations* by March 2014. This was delayed, because of the problems of transferring the version created by the design students on the Macs in the Arts and Sciences Building design lab, running Adobe Creative Suite 6, to the version used by the editorial board on the PCs running Adobe CS5.5 in the Honors computer lab, and then transferring the files yet again to our printer, Apple Printing in Hammonton.

Results, Presidential Fellowships:
The results of this initiative were disappointing. Last year, we had tried sending out contacting students directly who might be eligible for the Fellowships, but were unsuccessful. We also tried contacting faculty who have an excellent track record of working with research students, but again, with no success.

We have considered the reasons for this lack of interest, and have concluded that high-achieving students, and the faculty who work with them, already have a number of opportunities in place for fostering student research. Although the original proposal for Presidential Fellowships came from students who expressed interest in carrying out advanced research during the summers and from faculty who expressed concern for lack of funding (particularly for lab supplies for students research), both students and faculty generally found access to funding when they wanted it. The other two initiatives have given us substantial access to students who carry out research at Stockton, and there seems to be no shortage of existing opportunities for them. We therefore see no reason to continue to seek funding for the Presidential Fellowships.

Please list any follow-up actions (publications, presentation venues, etc.)

Please see explanation above

Are you recommending the continuation of this project? If so, please answer the following:
- **What are the next action steps you foresee or recommend?**

- What are the anticipated budget requirements going forward?
- Please identify the program, department, or division to which the continuation proposal should be forwarded.
  [Note: any continuation proposal will need to be reviewed, approved and incorporated into the appropriate budget process.]

We recommend that funding be continued for the NRHC conference and *Stockton Innovations*:
We recommend that
1. $6000 be allocated for the NRHC conference, to be held in Gettysburg, PA in April 2015, and
2. $6000 for *Stockton Innovations*, to fund printing and digital upload costs for the 2014 edition and editorial costs for the 2015 edition.

FINANCES: Based on your proposal, please outline below how the award has been spent.		
	Amount	**Notes/Comments**
Beginning Budget Balance as of:	$ 16,000	
Salary Expenditures		
• Stipends	$	
• Full-time staff salaries	$	
• Full-time faculty salaries	$	
• TES salaries	$	
• Fringe Benefits	$	
Total Salary and Fringe Expenditures	$ 3,600	Student editors, *Stockton Innovations*. Note that we only had four editors this year. This is really too few, and we will make every effort to recruit five next year
Non-Salary Expenditures *(supplies, travel, etc.)*		
• Travel, NRHC (7 students, 1 faculty member)	$ 5963.11	
• Miscellaneous supplies	$ 400	
• Apple printing, digital uploads, *Stockton Innovations*	$ 1174.25	
• MacBook, Honors computer lab	$ 1861	*Stockton Innovations* 2013 was delayed because it took a lot of time to convert the files from the Mac running Adobe CS6, created by the design students, to the PCs running Adobe CS5.5, used by the editorial students. We anticipate purchasing the current version of Adobe CS in FY2015 (estimated cost $300), to match the upgrades in the

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		design labs. Computer Services' transition to Adobe Cloud should also facilitate this process.
• Miscellaneous	$	
•	$	
Total Non-Salary Expenditures	$ 9398.36	
Please note: $3000 was returned to the 2020 Committee as of April 7, 2014		
Total Salary + Non-Salary Expenditures	**$ 12,998.36**	
Ending Budget Balance as of:	**$ 12,998.36**	

If there are remaining expenditures required to complete the project, please itemize them with expected amounts and timing for payment.

IMPORTANT: *Unused funds will revert to the general 2020 Initiative Fund at the end of the fiscal year if not encumbered for project costs.*

Item	Expected Amount	Expected Timing for Payment
Total		