

The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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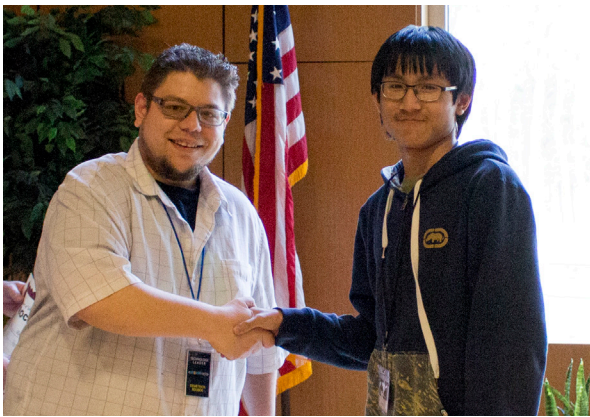
University Hosts First-Ever StockHack with Assistance from More Than 30 Employees

More than 50 high school and college students from the regional community competed in StockHack, Stockton University's first 24-hour hackathon, held on campus Feb. 18-19. Winners of the competition included students from Stockton University, Drexel University and Egg Harbor Township High School. The event was supported by more than 30 members of Stockton faculty and staff, with additional support from the local and extended Stockton community.

StockHack offered students challenges within three categories: innovation, design and software, allowing participants to apply their computer science skills by experimenting with interface design and software engineering.

"The university is proud of the success of our first ever StockHack event, which offered local students the opportunity to integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) into one original project," said Lynne Kesselman, Stockton's first lady and a former computer technology teacher at Egg Harbor Township High School. "Interdisciplinary studies, creativity and collaboration are the future of computer technology education. StockHack incorporated these themes and provided a unique experience for students to carry throughout their future academic careers."

First Lady Kesselman founded and serves as president of the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Southern New Jersey chapter, which co-sponsored StockHack, along with the Stockton Computer Society and Information Technology Services (ITS).



Demetrios Roubos congratulates Eddie Tran, a student at Egg Harbor Township High School, who won the software challenge at the University's first StockHack.

"We were all so impressed with the students' projects," said Demetrios Roubos, Stockton's assistant director of Information & Security, Computer Science Information Systems (CSIS) adjunct faculty, and one of the organizers.

"There are careers in technology within every field," Roubos added. "We wanted to encourage students to explore the intersection of art and science, and the competitors ran with their own, original ideas. We at StockHack are incredibly pleased and proud to be able to provide the next generation with this hands-on experience."

The event began Saturday afternoon with guest speakers, a scavenger hunt and significant time for collaborative and creative work. The competition ended at noon Sunday, following the presentation of team projects and awarding of prizes.

On the national level, hackathons have proliferated in the past 10 years, and some have become a vehicle for companies and financiers to rapidly develop new software, and find new talent.

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University Hosts First-Ever StockHack Event

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“StockHack had 52 competing students, with 12 teams working on original projects for the innovation challenge,” said Robert Heinrich, Chief Information Officer and Information Systems adjunct faculty. “Judges were comprised of high school teachers, Stockton faculty, staff and students, and other community members. Everyone seemed to be excited during those 24 hours.”

Along with Heinrich and Roubos, the StockHack experience was made possible by the following Stocktonians: Susan Allen of University Relations & Marketing (URM); Joseph Argueta, complex director/Housing; Clifton Baldwin, adjunct instructor; Ben Brotsker, of ITS; Shawn Busch, of Housing; Robert Chitren, director of Environmental Health & Safety & Risk Management; Kevin Coopersmith, of URM; Hengyi Chu, instructor of CSIS; Joseph D’Agostino, associate director of Web Communications; Daniel Douglas, director of Strategic Communications; Helen Duo Wei, associate professor of CSIS; Laurie Griscom, director of Events Services & Campus Center Operations; Dan Hickson, of ITS; Scott Huston, director of ITS; Matthew Kappe, of ITS; Patricia Kelly, associate director of Residence Education; First Lady Lynne Kesselman; JoAnn Kocher, of ITS; Jessica Kowal, executive director of Development & Alumni Affairs; Melissa Krupp, adjunct faculty; Jung Lee, professor of Instructional Technology; Theresa Marinelli, of the President’s Office; Amanda Martinez, of Production Services; Karen Plantarich, of ITS; Gary Schenck, of Graphics; Adam Swift, adjunct instructor; Dawn Watkins, of the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences; Michelle Wendt, technology integration specialist; Chenyan Xu, assistant professor of CSIS; and the Residential Life team.



The Stockton and local community came together to bring the first-ever StockHack even to campus on Feb. 18-19. Pictured from left to right are: Maripat Perone, of the CSTA; Michelle Wendt, of the SRI&ETTC; JoAnn Kocher, of ITS; Demetrios Roubos of ITS; and Karen Plantarich, of ITS. See more photos by searching #StockHack on social media platforms.



Faculty Receive Funding for Research and Academic Projects

The following projects were approved for funding by the Stockton University Board of Trustees on Feb. 22:

Neil Aaronson, associate professor of Physics, received \$1,648 for the NAMS Intonation Discrimination as a Function of Musical Experience initiative. The funding will support travel to the Acoustical Society of America conference in Boston, Mass. to present the results of an experiment which measures the sensitivity of listeners to musical intonation when presented in a musical context.

Claire Abernathy, assistant professor of Political Science/American Politics, received \$1,200 for the Congressional Learning from Correspondence in U.S. Senate Offices initiative. The project will gather data on the treatment of constituent opinion in U.S. Senate offices, as part of research that explores how members of Congress develop their understanding of the districts that they serve.

Mark Adelung, visiting assistant professor of Nursing, received \$668 for the Medical Mission to Haiti: Providing Health Care to an Underserved Community initiative. The funding will support traveling to Haiti to be part of a medical mission team to provide care to the people of Haiti who have been displaced from their homes since the earthquake that devastated the nation in 2010.

Norma Boakes, associate professor of Education, received \$922.30 for the Art of Re-engagement Lessons in Math Instruction for Preservice Teachers & Beyond Support initiative. The project will disseminate initial research done in the area of math instruction related to “re-engagement” lessons. This structure will improve learner achievement by using data-based decisions to inform instruction within the math classroom.

Lisa Cox, professor of Social Work, received \$2,000 for the Workshop Session: Advocating for Veterans and Military Families Requesting support for travel to the Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors conference to present an advocacy track workshop session on veterans and their families.

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Faculty Receive Funding for Research and Academic Projects

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Sitki Gulden, assistant professor of Business Studies, Management, received \$1,200 for the High-Frequency Trading in Risk-Averse Portfolio Optimization with Higher-Order Risk Measures Support project. The funding supports travel to Canada to present the findings from the project which aimed to find an optimal portfolio for investors with different risk-aversion levels using high-frequency trading and coherent risk functions.

Elizabeth Lacey, assistant professor of Marine Science, received \$2,000 for the Gandiol Eco Center in Senegal, Africa for Field Course Development Support to complete a site visit to continue the development of a field course experience for Stockton University students. The Gandiol Eco Center is a unique field facility with collaborative partners from the Langue de Barbarie National Park and the Saint-Louis Universite Gaston Berger (UGB) in Gandiol, Senegal. The project supports the following programs in the School of Natural Sciences & Mathematics: Marine Science, Environmental Studies and Sustainability.

Michael Lague, associate professor of Biology, received \$1,262.56 to present research at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. The funding will support travel to the AAPA meeting to present the results on the fossil human humerus from the site of Drimolen that is dated to between 1.5 and 2.0 million years old; and to engage with other paleoanthropologists from around the world.

Nathan Long, associate professor of Creative Writing, received \$1,003.86 to support travel for the Faculty Research Network seminar in Athens, Greece. The funding will support international travel for faculty to attend the seminar, "Uprooted and Displaced: Refugees, (Im)Migrants, and Exiles in World Literature," to promote global awareness and collaboration by increasing knowledge of the global immigrant situation.

Naz Onel, assistant professor of Business Studies, Marketing, received \$855 for the project Greening the Consumption Process through Values, Beliefs, and Norms: A Moral Focus Perspective. The study examines the value-based predicting factors of pro-environmental behaviors of individuals by examining three stages of consumer behavior based on the consumer decision-making process.



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Nancy Reddy, assistant professor of Writing & First Year Studies Program, received \$2,000 for participation in the Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute. The institute offers seminars and workshops, held by the Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Summer Institute at the University of Indiana, which are led by senior scholars in the field of rhetoric.

Jianrong Wang, assistant director/professor in the Richard E. Bjork Library, received \$1,085 for the Introducing Linked Data project. The project supports the presentation of a Linked Open Data Model that identifies, describes, links and relates structured data elements on the Internet at the Association of College and Research Libraries 2017 Conference.

Chia-Lin Wu, professor of Mathematics, received \$1,700 to support the Stockton Pre-service Mathematics Teachers Project-Global Awareness project. The funding supports the development of a joint project with National ChiaYi University and National Chung Cheng University, both in Taiwan, to improve pre-service mathematics teachers' performance through collaboration between faculty at Stockton and the two universities.

Latourette Presents on Title IX Office of Civil Rights Mandates

Audrey Wolfson Latourette, Distinguished Professor of Business Law, presented at La Verne School of Law on Feb. 15 in Ontario, Calif. on the topic of Title IX Office of Civil Rights (OCR) directives via its "Dear Colleague" letter of 2011 and their impact on institutions of higher education.

She addressed law students, faculty and administrators regarding research from her recent article titled, "Title IX Office of Civil Rights Directives: An Assault Against Due Process and First Amendment Rights," which was selected for publication as the lead work in the Winter 2017 edition of the Journal of Law, Business & Ethics.

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Latourette Presents on Title IX Office of Civil Rights Mandates

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“The essence of the article is that Title IX’s historic purpose, affording women freedom from gender discrimination and sexual harassment in colleges and universities, in the context of athletics, leadership positions and academic endeavors, are long lauded goals,” said Latourette. “In mandating that institutions of higher education handle sexual assault cases, under the threat of withdrawal of federal funding, however, the OCR curtailed a number of fundamental due process protections for the accused, including eliminating the right to cross examination and mandating a lower standard of proof be utilized in such hearings.”

Initially, courts granted universities’ motions to dismiss lawsuits brought by the accused upon failure of the accused to demonstrate gender discrimination under Title IX. However, recent court decisions exhibit increasing judicial scrutiny of university procedures adopted to comport with OCR mandates, with courts refusing to dismiss cases due to a “perceived failure” of the universities to afford fairness and due process to the accused. “Such decisions pose a cautionary message to universities which fail to provide protections to the accused,” Latourette said.

The article presents the argument that advocates of women’s rights “all desire equality of treatment and opportunity in the higher education setting and freedom from sexual abuse,” she explained. “Those noble goals, however, cannot be attained via a system of justice that does not afford protection to both the accuser and the accused.”



Audrey
Wolfson Latourette

After speaking at La Verne School of Law, Latourette then presented on the same topic at the annual conference of the Pacific South West Academy of Legal Studies in Business, held in Palm Springs, Calif. Feb. 16-18. Her presentation led to profuse academic discussion as institutions across the country face questions arising from the Office of Civil Rights mandates, such as: whether the accused must be removed from certain classes and from housing prior to a university decision; whether the vote of the hearing panel should be unanimous given the lower standard of proof demanded by the OCR; and whether the accuser should be deemed a “victim” prior to a hearing determination.

“Several court cases in the past year have been highly critical of the procedures employed by colleges and universities in endeavoring to satisfy Office of Civil Rights mandates in addressing sexual harassment and sexual assault on campus,” she said. “Indeed, it is a very relevant and timely topic.”

SAVE THE DATES

- March 2-3: [Matthew Sandusky Speaks](#)
- March 25: [African-American History & Genealogy Symposium](#)
- April 4: [Kesha and the Creepies Perform at #WoodStocktonVII](#)
- April 6: [Anna Deavere Smith](#)
- April 22: [Stockton University Scholarship Benefit Gala](#)

University Relations & Marketing Request: Submit Your Themed Programming Events

The Office of University Relations & Marketing requests submissions for events organized around monthly and/or themed awareness initiatives.

Submit any themed events, and events celebrating Women’s History Month in March, to StocktonTimes@stockton.edu.

Please include the time, date and location for each event, as well as any relevant websites associated with the program.

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

