

# The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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## University Receives Second HEED Award

Stockton University has received a 2017 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

This is the second year in a row the University has received the award. The annual HEED Award is a national honor recognizing U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.

“Stockton is extremely honored to receive this award again as a testament to our ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion,” said President Harvey Kesselman. “Stockton is committed to our mission of developing engaged and effective citizens with a commitment to life-long learning and the capacity to adapt to change in a multi-cultural, interdependent world. The University has always valued differences and promoted mutual respect, fairness, community outreach and the open exchange of ideas.”

A Committee on Campus Diversity and Inclusive Excellence, composed of faculty, staff and students, developed a campus climate survey that was distributed to employees this past academic year. One of its working subcommittees is in the process of analyzing the survey data. The Committee also plans to develop a similar campus climate survey for students.

Provost Lori Vermeulen also established Stockton University Grants in Support of Strengthening Diversity. Seven grants have been awarded this year. [Read more.](#)

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## Stockton Welcomes New and Returning Students, Faculty and Staff



Faculty gathered to kickoff the semester, hearing from the board chair, president, provost, faculty senate president, Stockton Federation of Teachers president and deans during Fall Faculty Conference on Sept. 1.



Stockton welcomed the largest freshman class in University history, with enrollment reaching over 1,500 freshmen, 900 of whom moved into residential housing on Sept. 1.

## Service-Learning Welcomes Travis Love as Activist-in-Resident



Travis Love

Travis Love, an activist and performing artist from Atlantic City, N.J., will serve as Stockton's Activist-in-Resident in the Office of Service-Learning for the 2017-2018 academic year.

"I am excited to share my experience working with poets, performing artists and visual artists to energize and inspire the community of Stockton's campus," Love said. "Many of the projects that I either produced or directed involve themes on identity and empowerment."

After graduating from Montclair State University with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts, Love appeared on the off-off Broadway production of "7 Degrees of Separation," toured regionally with the George Street Playhouse and nationally with Educational Tours, Inc.

Recent credits include artistic director and choreographer of "Nina In Motion," a dance and theatrical piece celebrating the life and legacy of Nina Simone, director of "Before It Hits Home" in honor of World AIDS Day, and co-producer of "Our Side" documentary based on the memoir "Growing Up In the Other Atlantic City" by Turiya S. Abdur-raheem.

Currently, Love is a community engagement specialist with Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Clinical Research Center in Newark, N.J. Last year, he was awarded for his work in the community by Princess, Inc. after being acknowledged by the Martin Luther King Community Commission.

Love said he is passionate about social justice and inspired by stories of everyday people. "One of the more popular events that I help organize is the Story Slam series at The Noyes Arts Garage. It has brought the community together, young and old alike, to tell their stories and in turn, receive inexpensive, but meaningful awards for categories, such as, the Made Us Blush Award and the Viewer's Choice Award," he said. "My body of work is a testament to the creatives who came before me whose legacies continue to enhance the creative spirit of Atlantic City."

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## Stockton University Launches New Degree Audit System

Stockton launched "Degree Works," a new degree audit system, which is available for faculty and students to use. The system can be accessed from the [go.stockton.edu](http://go.stockton.edu) portal under Faculty Advising Tools.

Degree Works offers current students the opportunity to propose a future course to see how it might satisfy degree requirements, to make a four-year graduation plan, to calculate their grade-point average, and to see a graphical representation of degree progress.



It offers prospective transfer students the opportunity to enter their transfer courses and get a full degree evaluation (unlike NJ Transfer, which only provides a partial degree evaluation). Degree Works offers preceptors the opportunity to access their entire caseload of preceptees at once, and to record advising notes that follow the student even if they change majors.

Students whose matriculation term is prior to Fall 2016 should continue to use CAPP; students whose matriculation term is Fall 2016 or after should use Degree Works. CAPP will be phased out over the next few years.

Questions about Degree Works can be emailed to [degreeworkshelp@stockton.edu](mailto:degreeworkshelp@stockton.edu). Training videos and help sessions will be available in September.

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## Notice: Possible Deployment of Students for Hurricane Harvey Aid

The Office of Military & Veteran Services reminds the University community that many of New Jersey's reservist and National Guard Units are being activated due to the devastation of Hurricane Harvey.

Deployed students will remain registered in classes through Sept. 30, 2017 in the event that deployment ends early. If deployments continue after Sept. 30, the Office of Student Records will remove deployed students from courses. If a student has shared that they will be deployed for military service, please notify the Office of Military & Veteran Services at ext. 4315.

## Joseph Appointed Distinguished Visiting Professor at Ariel University

Janice Joseph, Distinguished Professor in Criminal Justice, has been appointed Distinguished Visiting Professor of Criminology in the Department of Criminology at Ariel University in Israel during the 2017 academic year. This is the first international visiting appointment in Criminology at Ariel University.

Joseph's professional responsibilities include guest lectures, research collaboration, mentorship to students and service. She is presently co-supervising two post-doctoral students in criminology at Ariel University.

Joseph said the international visiting professorship will allow her the opportunity to immerse herself professionally in a new environment. "It is an honor to be granted an international visiting professorship and I will use the experiences to enhance the academic environment at Stockton University," she said.

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## Geremew Presents at US Air Force Research Laboratories Seminar

Wondi Geremew, assistant professor of Mathematics and First Year Studies, conducted research at the University of Florida Research and Engineering Education Facility (UF-REEF) from May 8-July 4.

His research was sponsored by Eduardo Pasiliao from the US Air Force Research Laboratories (AFRL). Geremew presented, "Difference of Convex Programming Approach for Solving Bilevel Hierarchical Clustering Problems via Nesterov's Smoothing Technique" at the AFRL Summer Seminar Series on June 29.

"It was one of the most important presentations of my academic career and I introduced Stockton University to the Air Force Research community and to summer visitors at the UF-REEF," Geremew said.

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## Assistant Supervisor Jeanne Jackson in Payroll Retires

Jeanne Jackson recently retired as assistant supervisor in Payroll after 33 years of dedicated service to Stockton University.

Jackson started working at Stockton in February 1984, filling in temporarily in the Cashier's Office during a staff member's maternity leave. Later, Jackson was offered a permanent full time job.

"It has been very rewarding helping employees over the years. I have made many long-time friends and will dearly miss seeing and talking with them five days a week," she said. "I will really miss the people—especially the HRIS Banner Conversion Team—the friends that we spend more time with than our own loved ones."

Jackson has great memories during her time at Stockton, including handing out paychecks on the Thursday afternoon before payday. "The department contact persons would line up outside the Dutch door and wait sometime 15 minutes just to chat with other staff waiting in line. Some weeks it got rowdy, and when the CWS students would line up, a few times it would be like a party in the hallway," she remembers. "Everyone was waiting for their paycheck!!!"

In retirement, Jackson looks forward to spending time with her family and friends, going back to piano lessons, volunteering with CASA, and maybe training for the Seeing Eye Dog program.

"I look forward to loving up on my grandchildren as I believe that this saying was how it was when I was young and growing up," said Jackson, quoting Anthony D Williams in *Inside the Divine Pattern*, "Spending time with children is more important than spending money on children."



Colleagues celebrated Jeanne Jackson's retirement on Aug. 16. L-R: Elaine Will, Agnes Merritt, Sandi Cannan, Anita Gras, Liz Doran, Vanetta Turner, Dawn Garth, Jeanne Jackson and Linda McNeil.

## Construction Corner: Campus Walkway, Parking Lot 6 Open



The newly renovated Campus Walkway, between the K-Wing Circle and N-Wing, reopened this week following summer construction.

Parking Lot 6 also opened with limited parking, due to the installation of parking blocks at the spaces along the perimeter. All spaces are expected to be available Sept. 1.

The Arts and Sciences Building bathrooms on both the first and second levels will be closed until Monday, Sept. 4 due to construction. The closest available public restrooms are located at EE and F Wings on both the 00 and 100 levels. Please use caution in the area and stay clear of the construction and equipment.

Facilities Management & Plant Operations asks that the University community be patient while construction improvements continue over the next few weeks. [View](#) project alerts and updates.

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## South Jersey Culture & History Center Shares Annual Report

The South Jersey Culture & History Center recently announced successful annual reporting for FY 2016-17, including the publication of materials in journal, book and pamphlet form that further deepen our understanding of the diverse and rich culture of southern New Jersey. Read the annual report [here](#).

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## Parking Notice and Tips for First Week of Fall Semester



The first week of classes will have more people on Stockton's main campus in Galloway than is usual throughout the semester. Please allow ample time to find a parking space.

Before 8:30 a.m., parking is likely available in Lots 0-6. Before 9:45 a.m., parking is likely available in Lot 7.

If arriving after 9:45 a.m., please drive directly to the North Lot or Lot 9 (the Intramural Field parking lot) to catch the shuttle bus. From the North Lot, the shuttle bus stops at the Campus Center. From Lot 9, the shuttle bus stops at N-Wing.

Parking ambassadors will be available in each lot to tell drivers of available spaces. Should Lot 9 and the North Lot fill, the ambassadors will direct drivers to Lot 10, a temporary overflow lot at the Observatory Road. The shuttle bus will stop at N-Wing from there. This lot will be open from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. if necessary.

Download the Ride Systems app to your mobile device for real time shuttle location and arrivals.

### SAVE THE DATES

- Sept. 1-4: [Welcome Week](#)
- Sept. 9: [Day of Service](#)
- Sept. 26: [Stockton Golf Classic](#)
- Oct. 5-8: [University Weekend](#)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:distinctive@stockton.edu)

