
**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL REPORT FOR
2020 INITIATIVES PROJECT**

PROJECT LEADER(S):	Christine Ferri, PhD
PROJECT TITLE:	Pick 6: Engaging New Students
DATE:	6/15/2019
CC:	

- *The boxes below expand as needed to accommodate your notes. You may also include/submit appendices or attachments, if needed.*
- *Email a copy of this completed form to Jessica Kay, Planning Analyst at: 2020@stockton.edu or Jessica.Kay@stockton.edu.*

Please provide a summary of the project and your experience.

The Pick Six Challenge was challenge to all freshmen to attend at least 6 identified campus and service events in their freshman year. The list of events for 2018-2019 included Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Center for Community Engagement Service Projects, Make a Difference Day, Constitution Day, Fannie Lou Hamer Human & Civil Rights Symposium, Freshman Convocation, the Myths and Legends of Stockton lecture, the Town Hall, and the Day of Leadership. Students who attended at least 2 events in the fall semester were invited to attend a reflection breakfast in December to talk about their experiences with one another and their professors. For this breakfast, 58 students were invited and 35 attended. By Spring semester, student participation had dwindled. For the April Reflection session, all 112 students who attended at least 1 event were invited, but fewer than 20 attended. Only 6 students attended at least 6 of the identified events to complete the Pick 6 Challenge.

We are grateful that we were awarded a 2-year pilot program, for we will make several changes for 2019-2020 to increase student participation. The most significant change will be to advertise the Pick 6 Challenge through the new Peer Mentors program, rather than via emails from pick6challenge@stockton.edu. Peer mentors will use email along with other means of communication (GroupMe, remind) with a group of 25-50 freshmen. We are hopeful that peer encouragement to attend events will prompt student participation. We also printed bookmarks to distribute in the Common reading that describes the challenge and list events, and pens that encourage students to check the website for information on dates/time of events. At Welcome Week, students will again be introduced to the Pick 6 Challenge. Finally, all freshmen will be automatically enrolled into the Osprey Advantage Path for the Pick 6 Challenge, so as soon as new students log into and look at their Osprey transcript, they will have an official account of their participation. We are hopeful that all of these changes will result in increased participation in the 2019-2020 year.

Please attach a copy of your original proposal or list your stated objectives and expected outcomes.

Please see attached proposal. In short, the Pick 6 Challenge is a call to new students to attend at least 6 of the annual events that make Stockton a special place (see list of events at <https://stockton.edu/student-development/pick-6-challenge.html>). Our goal was to have freshmen attend these events to experience the academic and community service opportunities of a college campus, and enhance their feelings of connection and intellectual stimulation.

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.

We did not have explicit expectations stated in terms of number of students participating, but we certainly did think that more students would participate in the challenge than actually did. First, only 6 students attended at least 6 of the events on the list. Just 112 students enrolled in the Pick 6 Challenge on Osprey Hub and attended at least 1 event.

For the end of semester study breaks, the students enrolled in the Challenge were invited to brunch with the Freshman Seminar faculty to reflect on their experiences at the events. More than 60% of the students invited to the December study break attended. However, just under 20% of the students invited to the Spring event attended. The December event was held a full week before finals, and the April event was just a few days before finals. Day of week, timing and location all may have played a role in the differences in participation. For December 2019 and April 2020, we will be sure to schedule the event before and we will also invite the Peer Mentors and advertise this as a way to spend time with their mentor.

The primary obstacle in achieving our desired outcomes was ineffective marketing of the program to Freshman Seminar Faculty and to new students. Emails from pick6challenge@stockton.edu to their Stockton email address simply was not the most effective way to inform students about upcoming events. Our adjustments are described above, and I am hopeful they will result in increased participation in 2=the 19-20 school year.

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

We plan to submit a presentation at the Annual Conference of the First-year Experience describing the Pick 6 Challenge and Peer Mentor program partnership, and our hypothesis that incorporating peer support will increase participation.

Are you recommending the continuation of this project? If so:

- **What are the next action steps you foresee or recommend?**
- **What are the expected budget requirements going forward?**
- **Please identify the program, department, or division to which the continuation proposal should be forwarded.**

[Note: continuation proposals must be approved and incorporated into the appropriate budget process.]

We will wait until the end of the 2 year pilot before we make a recommendation about continuation.

FINANCES: Based on your proposal, please outline below how the award has been spent.

	Amount	Notes/Comments
Beginning Budget Balance as of:	\$ 2992	
Salary Expenditures		
• Stipends	\$ 0	
• Full-time staff salaries	\$ 0	
• Full-time faculty salaries	\$ 0	
• TES salaries	\$ 0	
• Fringe Benefits	\$ 0	
Total Salary and Fringe Expenditures	\$ 0	
Non-Salary Expenditures (<i>supplies, travel, etc.</i>)		
• December Study Break	\$ 923.57	
• April Study Break	\$ 913.53	
• Bookmarks to insert into Common Reading	\$ 400	
• Pens to distribute at Orientation	\$ 652.55	
•	\$	
•	\$	
Total Non-Salary Expenditures	\$ 2889.65	
Total Salary + Non-Salary Expenditures	\$ 2889.65	
Ending Budget Balance as of:	\$ 102.35	Returned to 2020 fund

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 approved and encumbered for project costs.*

Item	Expected Amount	Expected Timing for Payment
n/a		
Total		