STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

The Stockton Times

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Stockton University Foundation Giving Increases 180% in First Half of FY17

Total gifts received by the Stockton University Foundation between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2016 reached $3,539,573 according to Philip T. Ellmore, chief development officer.

The total is a 180 percent increase over the same period last fiscal year and an 11 percent increase over the 12-month total for all of FY16, which totaled $3,191,945.

"Factoring out the Noyes Museum gifts provides a more accurate year-to-year comparison and shows that we are running 32 percent ahead of FY16 through the same period and 73 percent ahead of FY15," explained Ellmore.

"We continue to be grateful to our donors whose giving demonstrates trust and excitement with Stockton," he continued. "My thanks to the donors for their support, to the Foundation Board, my staff and the campus community for all you do to champion the University each and every day."

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Hughes Center Research Finds N.J. Tax Breaks Totaling $23.5 Billion

David Carr

Daniel Mallinson

A partial estimate of the cost of New Jersey's many tax breaks totals at least $23.5 billion for fiscal year 2017, a figure that equals roughly two-thirds of the state's annual budget of $34.8 billion, according to a policy brief published this week by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

"The purpose of this policy brief is to assist decision makers and the citizens of New Jersey in reflecting upon the role and significance of tax expenditures in the overall fiscal climate of the state," said authors Daniel Mallinson and David Carr, both professors in Stockton University's Political Science program. Carr also serves as director of Research & Policy Analysis at the Hughes Center.

The 2016 Tax Expenditure Report identifies 263 "tax breaks." The N. J. Department of the Treasury projects such expenditures will equal $23.5 billion. This figure only includes estimates for 51 percent of the authorized tax expenditures - estimates for the other 49 percent are unavailable in the 2016 report.

Sales and use tax provisions account for the largest tax expenditure category at over $9 billion, a figure that is likely much larger, since the most recent report includes estimates for only 27 percent of the items in this category. In addition, the total dollar value of tax expenditures has been increasing since FY 2011. If projections for FY2017 are included, the increase is 3.8 percent, or $2.1 billion.

"Most governments have provisions in their tax codes to provide preferential treatment to reward those individuals, activities, or organizations that it believes deserve special treatment or, more broadly, as an indirect way of achieving public purposes," the study notes. Read more.

Kesselmans, 50 Faculty and Staff Alumni Sign Alumni Wall of Fame

Alumni who work at the University this week signed Stockton's new Alumni Wall of Fame in the Office of Development & Alumni Affairs.

The wall had been painted white for years, explained Danielle Channell, of Alumni Affairs, whose desk faces the wall.

Channell, an alumna of the Class of 2010, decided it needed a makeover, and so the wall was adorned with the Stockton University "S" logo. From there came the idea to create a welcoming place for alumni to leave their mark.

Faculty and staff alumni, along with President and First Lady Kesselman, signed Stockton's new Alumni Wall of Fame on Jan. 9.

"This will be a place for all alumni to visit when they return to campus, and they can add their name and class year to the Alumni Wall of Fame," said Sara Faurot Crowley, director of Alumni Affairs. "We are incredibly grateful so many alumni who are faculty and staff joined us to help launch what will become a soaring tradition for alumni pride at Stockton University."

President Harvey Kesselman, an alumnus of the Class of 1979, and First Lady Lynne Kesselman, of the Class of 1982 and who received a Master of Arts in Instructional Technology in 2005, were the first to sign.

Following the Kesselmans, nearly 50 faculty and staff alumni left their "Richard Stockton" (John Hancock) on the wall. (View photos.) All alumni are encouraged to visit K-Wing to sign the Alumni Wall of Fame.

Stockton Intramurals Wins State, Regional Co-Ed Flag Football Titles

Jim Gwathney (front center) with the 2016 New Jersey and Regional Co-ed Flag Football Championship Team.

Stockton Intramurals recently competed in the National Flag Football Tournament, held Jan. 5-8 in Pensacola, Fla. The team qualified for nationals this fall after winning the New Jersey Co-ed Flag Football Tournament, held at Rutgers University, and the Regional Co-ed Flag Football Tournament, held at the University of Maryland.

"Four Stockton students were named to the All-Tournament Team at the Regionals Tournament in Maryland, which was a great achievement," said Jim Gwathney, coordinator for Intramurals & Recreation.

"The Intramurals program provides students with physical activity, athletic competition and camaraderie," he continued. "We are proud to represent Stockton while competing against other colleges and universities at the state, regional and national levels."

Limited Grass Mowing Benefits Biodiversity on Campus

In an effort to protect monarch butterflies and numerous other species on campus, the Biodiversity Committee, consisting of faculty, staff and administrators, has designated 35 acres of sensitive habitat on campus to be mowed only once per year in December. Allowing native vegetation to grow freely provides sheltered habitat for breeding and camouflage against predators as well as a source of food for pollinators and other wildlife.

The low-mow initiative eliminates the emission of 21,960 pounds of carbon per growing season by reducing the amount of gas used by landscape machinery. Rare and threatened plant species are also protected by limited mowing, allowing the plants to go to seed before they are cut, enabling a future generation. Students will be joining the initiative by mapping the low-mow zones with global positioning system (GPS) technology.

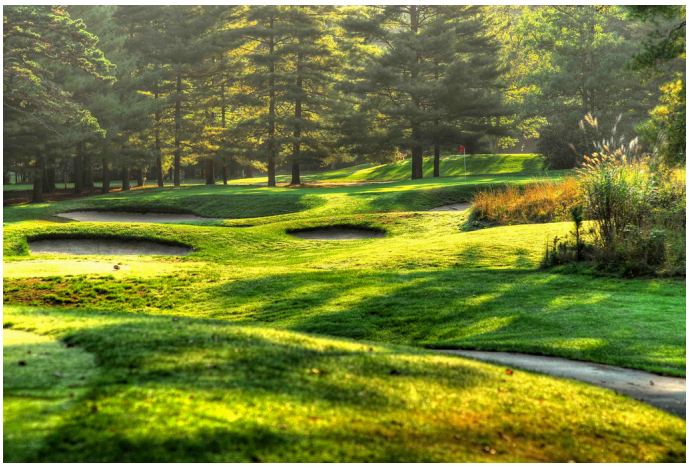
Continued on next page

Limited Grass Mowing Benefits Biodiversity on Campus *Continued*

The Biodiversity Committee is currently reviewing the Academic Quad landscaping plan to add native species and considering ways to eradicate invasive species on campus, such as phragmites (a wetland reed).

The committee was established last year based on the recommendation of Tait Chirenje, associate professor of Environmental Studies, and Janet Wagner, dean of the School of Business, who are co-chairs of the 2020 Sustainability Committee.

Stockton Seaview Receives Two Premier Golf Industry Awards



Stockton Seaview Hotel & Golf Club recently received two elite awards in the golf industry: the 2017 AGM Platinum Award for "Premier Golf Shop" from the Association of Golf Merchandisers (AGM) and the 2016 Gold Key Award for "Best On Site Support Staff" from Meetings & Conventions.

The AGM Platinum Awards recognize the top 100 golf shops in America. In its assessment, the organization considers financial performance, sales trends and customer service scores.

"This is the highest honor one can achieve for retail. The [Association of Golf Merchanders] is an outstanding association and covers all properties including public, private, resort and off-course golf specialty stores," explained Brian Rashley, director of Golf at Stockton Seaview. "We have received this honor four times in the last five years, and it is a credit to the [Seaview] team for their outstanding job performance."

"Giant kudos to the properties honored with a Platinum Award this year from the AGM," said Kristen Goulet, director of Retail Operarations at Troon, the largest third party manager of golf and club operations in the world, including operations for Stockton Seaview.

"This is the pinnacle of retail awards in our industry, and it speaks volumes about the teams we have in place on site and regionally. They work tirelessly day in and day out to drive retail revenues and to create an exceptional customer experience," Goulet continued.

The remarks made by Rashley and Goulet about the team are echoed by Seaview's selection for "Best On Site Support Staff" in Meetings & Conventions' 2016 Gold Key Awards. The awards celebrate hospitality excellence by identifying the hotels, resorts, convention and visitors bureaus (CVBs), destination marketing organizations (DMOs), and food and beverage departments that set industry standards.

Two New Shuttle Stops, Gazebos Placed Along Louisville Avenue

Additional improvements were made to Parking Lot 7 during the University's winter break.

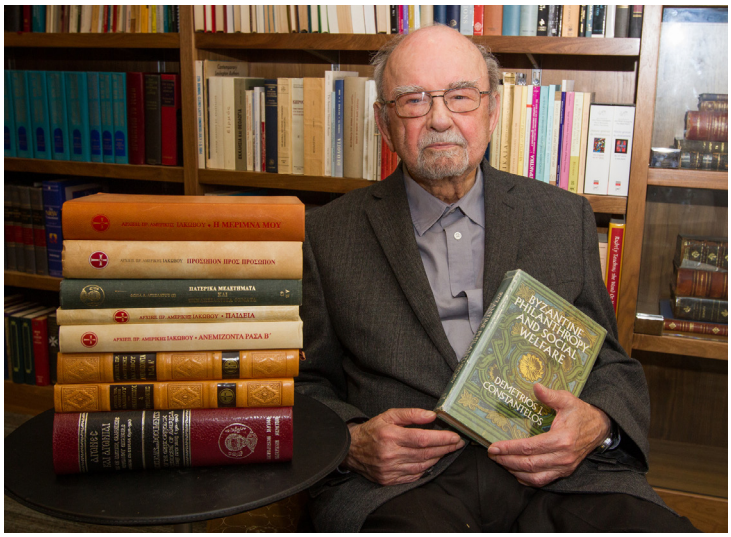
Two new shuttle stops were placed along the entrance drive on Louisville Avenue, which are marked with non-smoking gazebos and benches.

One gazebo is located between the K and L freshman dormitories (pictured) and the other is near N-Wing.

The two new gazebos are available for use by faculty, staff and students who utilize Lots 8 & 9 - the lots located at the Intramural Athletic Fields.

Stockton Community Remembers Demetrios J. Constantelos

The Stockton community is saddened by the passing of Demetrios J. Constantelos, Stockton's Charles Cooper Townsend Sr. Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History & Religious Studies and Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence.



Demetrios J. Constantelos

"Dr. Constantelos was a Mayflower faculty member and among our most renowned scholars, an individual with a sterling international academic reputation. He will be missed by generations of Stockton students, faculty and staff," said President Harvey Kesselman. "Our thoughts, condolences and prayers go to Demetrios' family, friends and community."

"Professor Constantelos was an extraordinary and special person, a man of deep faith, conviction and hope, who tirelessly worked to enlighten the world around him. He loved Stockton with all his heart and helped make it the special place it is. He was the founder and foundation of our Stockton Hellenic Studies program of which he was so proud. We will continue to honor his mission and memory for as long as Stockton exists," said Tom Papademetriou, professor of Historical Studies.

Constantelos was a retired priest of the Greek Orthodox Church. He served several Greek Orthodox communities as either a regular or visiting pastor, and was the founding priest of three new churches in New Jersey. Constantelos authored 15 books and numerous papers. He was the editor of several volumes of religious, theological and historical texts, encyclopedias, dictionaries and collective volumes. He also served as associate editor of the Journal of Ecumenical Studies and as a member of the New Revised Standard Version Bible Committee of the National Council of Churches.

A viewing will be held on Sunday, Jan. 15 from 3 - 8 p.m. at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Funeral mass will be held on Monday, Jan. 16 at Holy Trinity Church, with matins at 8:30 a.m. and the Divine Liturgy held at 9:30 a.m.

Following mass, funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., also at Holy Trinity. The burial will be held at Laurel Memorial Park. All are invited to attend a memorial luncheon at the Holy Trinity Community Center following the burial.

Save the Dates: Upcoming Stockton University Events

Monday, Jan. 16: Stockton University's 13th Annual MLK Day of Service

Saturday, Jan. 21: Gerry Matthews Retirement Celebration to be held during halftime of the 1 p.m. basketball game in the Sports Center.

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Stockton University Board of Trustees Meeting

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*. Also, tell us what you think of the new design! 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

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