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Presidential Vision Tour, Jessica Kowal of Development Receive CASE District II Awards

Stockton's Presidential Vision Tour: A Distinctive Vision: Embracing Stockton's Future, and Jessica Kowal, executive director of Development & Alumni Affairs, will be recognized with 2017 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District II awards.

The Vision Tour was selected to receive a Silver Award in Best Practices in Alumni Relations and a Bronze Award in the Special Events category.

Kowal was named the CASE District II Professional of the Year.

CASE is the professional association serving educational institutions and the advancement professionals who work on their behalf in alumni relations, communications, development, marketing and allied areas.

Stockton is a member institution of CASE District II, the largest of the eight CASE districts, spanning from Canada to West Virginia. In 2016, it received more than 3,350 entries for consideration in nearly 100 categories by more than 713 member higher education institutions, independent schools and nonprofits.

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President Harvey Kesselman and First Lady Lynne Kesselman pictured with Stockton alumni who attended the last stop of the inaugural Vision Tour, held on July 27, 2016 in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Best Practices award recognizes exemplary programs, projects and initiatives in alumni relations that serve as models for other institutions that provide a successful solution to overcoming challenges, reflect strategic use of resources, achieve significant results and/or utilize innovative practices.

The Professional of the Year Award is given annually to one professional and recognizes an advancement professional who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the development of an institutional advancement program or innovative execution of programs within an area of advancement; contributed to the profession through work with CASE; and volunteered in service to the community or charitable organizations.

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Vision Tour, Kowal Receive CASE District II Awards

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“I am very proud of Jess and not surprised by her selection,” said Philip Ellmore, chief development officer and executive director of the University Foundation. “Jess’ work is more than deserving, and she is a true representative of the work we strive to achieve in the advancement of Stockton’s mission.”

President Harvey Kesselman launched the University’s first Vision Tour in January 2016, making 10 tour stops in six states and connecting with hundreds of alumni and friends over the next six months.

“The Presidential Vision Tour was a campus collaborative effort,” said Susan Davenport, executive vice president and chief of staff. “More than 50 individuals and nine departments worked on the initiative. We are thrilled to have the hard work and talent of our teams recognized by our peer institutions.”



Jessica Kowal

The awards will be presented during the CASE District II annual conference in Baltimore, Feb. 26-28, 2017.

University Updates Lactation Rooms to Support Nursing Mothers



The Lactation Room Advisory Committee recently met to offer recommendations and review progress and plans to support nursing mothers at Stockton, which led to renovations and updates to the University’s two lactation rooms.

“The Facilities & Plant Operations staff consulted with the Lactation Advisory Board to coordinate efforts for the renovation of our two existing lactation rooms located on the 100 and 200 levels in F/E-Wing,” said Don Hudson, associate vice president for Facilities & Construction.

“The renovations included new finishes, furniture, lighting, as well as locating electrical outlets in areas appropriate for use,” he said. “These two rooms mark the beginning of a planned strategy to add to or enhance the lactation facilities at the University. Our footprint will grow when new spaces [become available] in our ongoing construction projects.”

The renovations include environmental improvements, refrigeration and key card access to ensure privacy for users. Card access to the rooms will be available upon request. For access, employees and visitors may contact [Human Resources](#), and students may contact the [Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Center](#) (WGSC).

The members of the Lactation Room Advisory Committee are: **Dawn Channell** of Human Resources; **Tom Chester**, director of Human Resources; **Susan Davenport**, executive vice president and chief of staff; **Laurie Dutton**, director of the WGSC; **Valerie Hayes**, chief officer for Institutional Diversity & Equity; **Don Hudson**; **Joyce Kesel** of Human Resources; **Rhianon Lepree**, manager of real estate development and property management; **Lolita Treadwell**, deputy chief of staff; **Emily Van Duyn**, assistant professor of Writing & First Year Studies program; **Skip West**, director of Facilities & Construction; **Linda Wharton**, professor of Political Science; and **Tina Zappile**, assistant professor of Political Science.

Visit the [Lactation Information and Resources](#) page to learn more.

Athletics Launches New Design for StocktonAthletics.com

Stockton Athletics launched a [redesigned website](#) on Jan. 5 in an effort to modernize the Athletic Department’s footprint on the web and appeal to Stockton fans as they support the Ospreys. The changes to StocktonAthletics.com are the first of any kind since the adaptation of a new logo in 2013, and is the first major overhaul since the department contracted with Sidarm Sports in 2012. The site has a much brighter look and more closely complements the design of Stockton.edu.



Human Resources Announces Use of New Talent Management System

The Office of Human Resources recently announced its use of a new talent management system, [Hiretouch](#), which will improve the recruitment process for both University staff and applicants. ([Administrator portal available here.](#))

The transition from the former program, iCIMS, will occur in three phases, and improved features include: sign-on through Stockton user name and password; the use of electronic references; an unlimited number of memberships and searches for search committees; a more intuitive system more closely aligned with the higher education recruitment process; and Banner integration.

The effort was a collaboration between Human Resources, Information Technology Services and the Office of Institutional Diversity & Equity.

Stockton Donates Used Computers, Equipment to Islamic Academy

Stockton has donated used computers, printers and other equipment to the Islamic Academy of South Jersey, the first school of its kind in the area.

The Academy was co-founded by Stockton alumnus and Islamic Academy board member Muhammad Ayub, who received Stockton's Distinguished Service Award in 2015 and who has served as a member of the University's 2020 Strategic Planning Global Perspectives Committee.

The school follows a schedule similar to that of the Egg Harbor Township School District and adheres to all state guidelines and standards. The curriculum is similar to that found in parochial schools, however all students are taught Islamic studies and study the Qur'an. Students from all faiths and backgrounds are invited to enroll in the pre-K to 5th grade school, where 50 are currently enrolled. Future plans include enrollment expansion and construction of a high school.



Left to right: Muhammad Ayub, Brian Jackson, Robert Heinrich, Peter Straub and Magdy Mohamed at the Islamic Academy of South Jersey.

Muhammad approached Brian Jackson, chief operating officer of the Atlantic City campus, in Fall 2015 about the possibility of partnering with Stockton. The Academy did not have computers for its students, and classrooms were lacking projectors and screens.

With the assistance of Robert Heinrich, chief information officer, Stockton prepared an Information Technology Assessment and presented findings and recommendations to Ayub. The assessment included a review of the school's current technology and infrastructure needs as well as development of a plan and timeline to implement recommendations.

Stockton's recommendations included adding electronic presentation capabilities to the classrooms with projection screens and ceiling-mounted projectors.

Using equipment that had been replaced with new equipment on the main campus at the end of the academic year, Stockton was able to provide the school with 20 operable workstations and 10 projectors. Although this equipment may be obsolete for the purposes of the University, the equipment could still meet some of the school's needs.

In Fall 2016, Jackson and Heinrich invited Dean Peter Straub of the School of Natural Sciences & Mathematics (NAMS) to tour the school. This meeting resulted in NAMS donating some unused science equipment to help support science classes at the academy.

Future opportunities may involve providing instruction to faculty on methods for making effective use of computing equipment in their courses.

Stocktonians Named '17 to Watch in 2017' by Press of Atlantic City

The Press of Atlantic City named three members of the Stockton community as '[17 to watch in 2017](#)' in its New Year's Day edition of the newspaper.

Christina Jackson, assistant professor of Sociology, was named for being a "positive change agent for her students and the community." Jackson teaches the power of the arts to create social change, build community and tell stories. She has participated in the Black Lives Matter chapter in Atlantic City and addressed issues including domestic violence and housing.

Dave Sholler, an alumnus from the Class of 2006, was named to the list for his success in public relations in the professional sports industry. Sholler recently returned to the region to serve as vice president of communications for the Philadelphia 76ers after working as vice president of public relations, athletic marketing and development for the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in Las Vegas.

Meg Sippey was named to the list for being selected to serve as executive director of Bay Atlantic Symphony, Stockton's orchestra-in-residence, after a national search. She previously worked with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in various roles. Sippey, of Brigantine, is a lifelong musician who hopes to strengthen the symphony's relationship with schools.

Kristy Costa Named to Sports Hall of Fame at College Alma Mater



Kristy Costa

Kristy Costa, facility coordinator of Campus Center programs, was named to McDaniel College's Green Terror Sports Hall of Fame for 2016. An Exercise Science and Physical Education major, she was a record-setting member of the women's basketball and women's outdoor track and field teams.

As a member of the women's basketball team, Costa played on two Centennial Conference Championship teams in 2004 and 2005. She was team captain on the 2006 team which finished second in the Centennial Conference.

She remains 2nd in career free throws (318), 2nd in career free throws attempted (451), 2nd in games played (115), 3rd in field goal percentage (.494), 7th in offensive rebounds (238), 9th in field goals (475), 10th for scoring (1268 points), and 10th with games started (85).

In women's outdoor track and field, Costa was an individual champion in 2004 and 2005 in both the discus and heptathlon and was named Most Outstanding Performer both years. She still holds the program record for discus (40.48 meters), javelin (39.47 meters) and heptathlon (4,263 points). Costa's heptathlon score earned her an NCAA Provisional qualifying mark and established a Centennial Conference record at the time. She also still ranks 3rd all-time in the long jump (5.30 meters), 7th in shot put (10.59 meters), 8th in 4x400 relay and 9th in high jump (1.45 meters).

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

