

Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg Serves as Hughes Center's Legislator-in-Residence

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Galloway, N.J. - State Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg visited Stockton University on Oct. 18-19 as the university's legislator-in-

-continued from page 1-

She repeatedly urged students to vote and get involved in the political process. She noted that her legislative accomplishments – laws that banned smoking indoors, lowered the legal blood-alcohol level in New Jersey to 0.8, and forced insurance companies to cover hospital stays of up to 48 hours for new mothers – came about largely because of help received from activists and advocates.

“Being a politician shouldn’t be the goal,” Weinberg told members of Stockton’s Student Senate. “What you need to figure out is how to use politics to achieve your goals.”

Weinberg, an advocate of marriage equality, took part in Professor of Political Science Linda Wharton’s “Women and the Law” class; Assistant Professor of Political Science Jennifer Forestal’s “Intro to Politics” class; Professor of Economics Ellen Mutari’s “Economic Inequality” class; Adjunct Instructor and former Activist-in-Residence Rona Whitehead’s “Tools for Social Change” class; and Assistant Professor of Political Science Dan Mallinson’s “Public Administration” class.

In addition, Weinberg was briefed by Senior Fellow Darryl Greer of the Center for Higher Education Strategic Information and Governance (HESIG) about his research on higher education and visited the Stockton Polling Institute, meeting with John Froomjian, senior research associate at the Hughes Center, who organized the legislator-in-residence program, and student polling interviewers.

Past legislators-in-residence have included Senate President Steven Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and Senators Jim Whelan, Joseph Kyrillos and Chris Connors, a Stockton graduate.

About the Hughes Center

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy (www.stockton.edu/hughescenter) at Stockton University serves as a catalyst for research, analysis and innovative policy solutions on the economic, social and cultural issues facing New Jersey, and promotes the civic life of New Jersey through engagement, education and research. The center is named for William J. Hughes, whose distinguished career includes service in the U.S. House of Representatives, Ambassador to Panama and as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Stockton. The Hughes Center can be found at