

Th Stockton

Total gifts received by the Stockton University Foundation during fiscal year 2016 (between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016) totaled \$3,191,945, according to Philip T. Ellmore, chief development officer & executive director of the Stockton University Foundation.

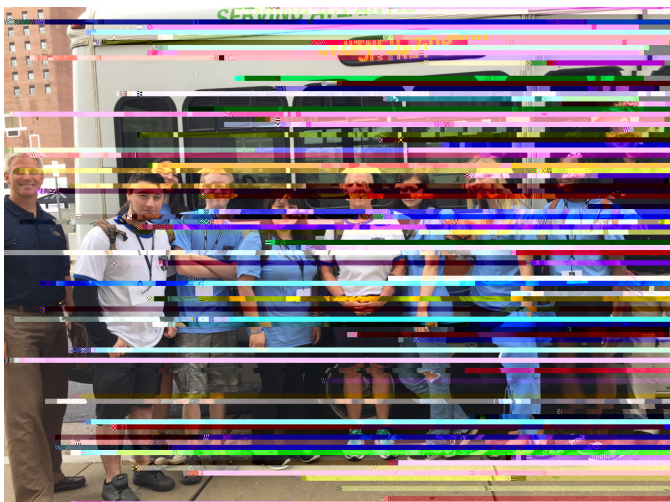
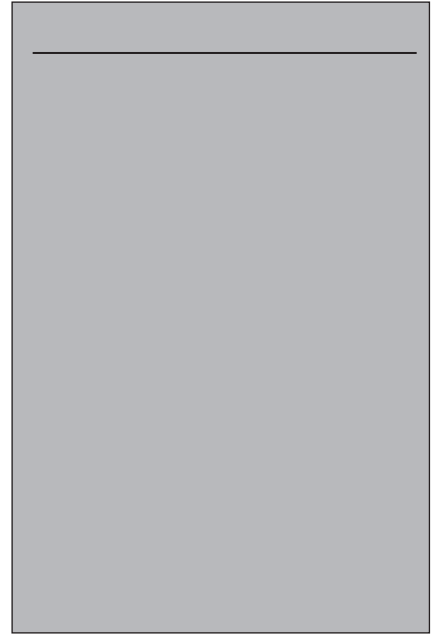
The total is a 36.6 percent increase over FY15 and a 78.6 percent increase over FY14.

“Many thanks to our donors and also to the

their wonderful work throughout the year contributed significantly to these results.”

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Stockton University hosted its inaugural [Urban Teacher Academy \(UTA\)](#) for high school students June 27 - July 8. The two-week summer program exposed the aspiring teachers to the teaching profession while discussing issues pertinent to urban education, including poverty; the role of schools in urban environments; teacher retention; and high shortage subject areas.

Meg White, assistant professor of Education and director of the program, designed the UTA to focus on daily themes explored in roundtable and panel discussion formats.

“One of the goals of the academy was for the kids to have a better understanding of what an urban environment really is,” explained White, who recently co-authored a book defining urban environments and urban education.

The first day, the academy discussed poverty while focusing on what it means to be a teacher, and later explored what it means to be an “effective” teacher. Throughout the program, the group explored the similarities and differences in middle to upper class high schools and “behemoth” high schools in inner cities, as well as portrayals of urban environments in the media, White explained.

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The group traveled twice to Carnegie Center in Atlantic City, where they attended a lecture on the history of the city with Assistant to the Provost for Atlantic City Alex Marino.

The students also toured Atlantic City via Jitney, and met Mayor Don Guardian at City Hall; Interim Superintendent Paul Spaventa of the Atlantic City School District; Chief Henry White of the Atlantic City Police Department; and visited local schools in the city.

Director of Graduate Enrollment and Interim Director of Continuing Studies AmyBeth Glass, whose daughter, Elizabeth, participated in the UTA, raved about the program's impact and opportunities.

"Elizabeth was afforded an unbelievable opportunity by being accepted into the Urban Teacher Academy," Glass said. "Under the outstanding leadership of Dr. White, the students were challenged to explore their assumptions and create new perceptions. Elizabeth was challenged to reflect on her personal experiences and challenge her thoughts on privilege. This program should be a requirement for all high school students looking to pursue a degree in education."

In addition to preparing students for roles in urban education, the academy also serves as a long-term recruitment strategy to increase the pool of candidates interested in becoming teachers. UTA participants met with faculty and staff, Stockton students and alumni to hear about experiences available both in and outside the classroom at the University.

Claudine Keenan, dean of Education, discussed the students' interests in teaching and the current evolution of the evaluations process. **Dedre Williams**, adjunct instructor at Stockton and educator at Atlantic City High School (ACHS), discussed demographics, graduation statistics and diverse environments at ACHS. **Heather Medina**, assistant director of Admissions, spoke about Stockton's admissions process, and offered a campus tour to families. **Lonnie Folks**, director of Athletics, talked about Stockton's athletics, club sports and intramural programs. **Pamela Vaughan**, assistant dean of the School of Education, discussed teaching in urban, rural and suburban environments.

"The UTA is so reflective of what we are doing in Stockton's Teacher Education program; we wanted to expose the students to that as well as campus life," White said. "I was really a facilitator of this program; I was leading and directing but I also brought in as many people as I could to give the students as much information about teaching in urban environments as well as what Stockton has to offer."

In an effort to ensure that all minors who visit and participate in programs at Stockton receive an enriching, educational and safe experience, the University has implemented a policy and procedures for the protection of minors.

The Committee for the Protection of Minors (POM), established by President Harvey Kesselman, conducted research on Stockton's current practices and developed a formal University policy and procedures to protect minors who are participating in University-sponsored programs, or in programs operated by outside entities that are held in University facilities, by providing guidelines for protections and supervision.

“Stockton serves more than 6,000 minors annually. ÂM t t ista M ÂM

