

The Stockton

OUR Tim

OCTOBER 13, 2016 VOLUME 5 ISSUE NO. 51

Thousands Attend University Weekend 2016

Thousands of faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members attended Stockton's 2nd Annual University Weekend, held Oct. 6 - 9, which featured a variety of events including Stockton Myths & Legends, S.E.T.'s Comedy Show, Parade, Parent & Family Association Breakfast, AlumNight to Remember, Osprey Ball and FredFest.

Despite the rain, more than 1,500 people attended the weekend's first Street Fair, a "new, signature event designed to showcase all the wonderful things Stockton has to offer," explained Assistant Director of Student Development Lauren Wilson.

Food trucks and tables lined College Walk from K-Wing Circle to the Arts & Sciences building; vendors sold merchandise and campus organizations offered games for both children and adults.

"Everyone enjoyed the day with umbrellas in tow, and participants loved the new format," said Wilson, committee chair. "Alumni and family members commented on how nice it was to host the event in the heart of our beautiful campus."

Stockton Athletics offered alumni games for former Stockton student-athletes, and held its annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony. One of the inductees to the 2016 Hall of Fame class was Jayson Resch '99, who currently works as coordinator and head coach of Cross Country and Track & Field at Stockton. As a student, Resch earned All-American status in the 400m in 1999, and his 1998 time of 1:54.43 in the 800m still stands as the Stockton record for the event.

Madeleine Deininger '80, chair of the Stockton University Board of Trustees;
Marilyn Vito '80, associate professor

IN THIS ISSUE

- Thousands Attend University Weekend 2016
- Stockton Hosts 13th Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Symposium
- Haley Baum, Brian Pluchino Named to Relay for Life Hall of Fame
- The School of Health Sciences Welcomes New Faculty Members
- Susan Fahey and Husband Randy Welcome Baby Boy
- Thomas Grites Receives Service to NACADA Award
- Spotlight on NJECC Raffle Winner: Dee McNeely-Greene

Stockton Hosts 13th Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Symposium



Donna Murch of Rutgers University gave the keynote address at the Oct. 11 Fannie Lou Hamer Human and Civil Rights Symposium.

“America has become a prison nation” as civil rights rebellions in the 1960s led to “the elevation of punishment as the solution to all social problems,” said Donna Murch, an author and associate professor of History at Rutgers University, in her keynote speech at Stockton University’s 13th Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Human and Civil Rights Symposium, held on Oct. 11.

“Mass incarceration is the new Jim Crow,” Murch told the audience. She said the challenges for today’s generation include downward mobility, state violence, mass incarceration, climate change and a sense of scarcity.

But there are also exciting possibilities ahead, she said, including young people’s openness to gender, sexuality and different roles; political activism, the Occupy and Black Lives Matter movements, non-acceptance of state-sanctioned violence; and a pushback against austerity and neoliberalism.

Donnetrice Allison, associate professor of Communication Studies and coordinator of Africana Studies, organized this year’s program. She noted that Stockton is “the only institution of higher education” to consistently honor Hamer, who fought for the right to vote.

“We must exercise our right to vote this November,” Allison said. She thanked Patricia Reid-Merritt, Distinguished Professor of Social Work & Africana Studies, for instituting the symposium.

Christina Jackson, assistant professor of Sociology, moderated a discussion on civil rights with panelists Murch and **Adam Miyashiro**, associate professor of Literature; **John O’Hara**, associate professor of Critical Thinking and First Year Studies; and Pastor William Williams of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Atlantic City. [Read more here.](#)

Haley Baum, Brian Pluchino Named to Relay for Life Hall of Fame

Haley Baum, assistant director of Student Development, and Brian Pluchino, professional services specialist, were selected for the American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life Hall of Fame. As advisers of Stockton’s Relay For Life, Baum and Pluchino work tirelessly each year to raise money for cancer research alongside student leaders and the Stockton community.

Baum, who is in charge of planning and organization for the event under student development, has been involved with Relay for Life since it came to Stockton five years ago. Pluchino, a co-chair for the staff, has been committed to Stockton’s relay for the last four years, and with the organization for the past 12 years.

“It is such an honor to have been chosen for Relay for Life Hall of Fame! Relay

Baum, Pluchino Named to Relay for Life Hall of Fame Continued

Baum and Pluchino credit their student leaders for playing a major role in their success, both for being selected to the hall of fame and for the impact the organization has made.

“Honestly, for me it means validation,” said Pluchino about the Hall of Fame recognition. “It is a validation for not me, but our student committee. Our students work endlessly, with full effort, to ensure that every year, we provide not just a wonderful time, a fundraising effort that has seen us raise over \$120,000 in four years, but a safe place for everyone to come together and feel like a family; a place for students to know they can remember, cry, be uplifted. And that whole thing is thanks to our student committee.”

The two leaders of Stockton’s Relay for Life community have both been affected personally by cancer, but how they have seen the disease affect others rather than themselves is what keeps them motivated. It is hard to ask anyone if they have been

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