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STOCKTON UNIVERSITY  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR  
2020 INITIATIVES PROJECT

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PROJECT LEADER:	Claire Abernathy
PROJECT TITLE:	Experiencing the Presidential Inauguration (Engagement)
DATE:	6/22/2017
CC:	John Smith, Merydawilda Colon, Cheryl Kaus

- x The boxes below expand as needed to accommodate notes. You may also include/submit appendices or attachments, if needed.
  
- x Email a copy of this completed form to Jessica Kay, Data Analyst & Assistant to the Chief Planning Officer at [jessica.kay@stockton.edu](mailto:jessica.kay@stockton.edu)

Please provide a summary of the project and your experience.

Every four years, the Washington Center hosts a two-week seminar in Washington D.C. around the presidential inauguration. The funds from this 2020 Initiative grant helped cover the registration costs of eight Stockton students to attend this intensive and informative seminar. (In previous years, other students participated without support from these funds.) During the two-week seminar, students attended panels and presentations with political practitioners, media personalities, and political scientists, all of whom helped students develop a sense of the broader context of the 2017 election, the inauguration, and what to expect from the upcoming administration (see "Inauguration\_2017\_Schedule.pdf" attached for full schedule.) Students also had the opportunity to meet in small groups with several interest groups active in political advocacy; in these sessions, students were able to gain in-depth knowledge of immigration policy, budget policy, environmental policy, and policies related to religious liberty. Taken together, the seminar provided students with an opportunity to develop a thorough understanding of American politics during a time of political transition and to gain a perspective on what to expect from the newly elected Trump administration.

On returning to campus in January, students participated in a panel discussion about their experiences at the presidential inauguration seminar, and at the inauguration ceremony itself; this campus event was attended by more

attended by more than 50 students (see "Inauguration Students Campus Events.docx" attached for promotional materials and photos from this presentation).

For this report, I also wanted to include the media coverage surrounding the Stockton students' time in D.C. during the seminar in January. Please find attached Stockton press releases related to students' attendance at the Washington Center Academic Seminar ("DC Students Press Release\_11217.doc" and "DC Students Press Release\_13117.doc") as well as a story in the Stockton Now-Enine ("Stockton Now\_DC Students Article.png"). Students were also interviewed by an NBC reporter in D.C. for the inauguration ([http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/WelcomingRallyThursdayAheadof-Inauguration\\_Philadelphia\\_11155325.htm](http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/WelcomingRallyThursdayAheadof-Inauguration_Philadelphia_11155325.htm)) and one student, Lexi Franklin, was interviewed by her local newspaper in New Jersey (<http://www.courierpostonline.com/story/news/2017/01/19/southern-jersey-residents-excited-attend-inauguration/96778738/>). Photos from the two week seminar can be found on Stockton's Flickr ([https://www.flickr.com/photos/stockton\\_edu/albums/72157677111104732](https://www.flickr.com/photos/stockton_edu/albums/72157677111104732)) as well as the Political Science Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/stocktonpol/>).

Please attach a copy of your original proposal list your stated objectives and expected outcomes.

Original proposal attached.

Strategic objectives identified in original proposal:

- Primary objective: prepare students for active citizenship role
- Secondary objectives: deliver high blue-added learning experiences and promote scholarly activity; create mutually reinforcing intellectual and-curricular experiences

Through their work closely studying a new administration in the transition into office, students are expected to develop the skills that will prepare them to participate as active citizens in the years to come. Working to monitor the actions of the new administration will help students practice the research that they will need to do on their own in the future to follow, understand, and work to shape public policy debates. Students were also expected to develop presentations about their experiences at the inauguration seminar and about their research into the first 100 days, and produce a thorough research paper that documents the administration's policy actions during the first 100 days, translating their knowledge into scholarship that the rest of the campus community can gain from.

Please describe the results of your project and compare them to your original expectations. Elaborate on how well your objectives were met and how they might have changed. Note any particular obstacles that may have prevented you achieving full satisfaction on desired outcomes.

Each of the ten Stockton student participants in the Inauguration Seminar enrolled in the First 100 Independent Study with Professor Abernathy during the spring semester. As part of that course, students coordinated two presentations (Talking Presidential Inauguration 2017, 2/2/17, attended by more than 60 students; Trump's First 100 Days, 4/18/17, attended by more than 50 students). At these presentations, students shared their experiences at the inauguration seminar and their research into the Trump administration's policy actions at the start of his presidency. Throughout the semester, students worked in small groups to track policy progress in specific policy areas (economic, healthcare, immigration, foreign policy, and government reform). At the end of the semester, they produced research papers that catalogued the campaign promises that candidate Trump had made in their policy area and the policy actions that President Trump had advanced during the 100 days in their policy area; this research also was the basis of their presentation in April on Trump's First 100 Days of



FINANCES: Based on your proposal, please outline below how the award has been spent.		
	Amount	Notes/Comments
Beginning Budget Balance as of:	\$	
Salary Expenditures		
x Stipends	\$	
x Fulltime staff salaries	\$	
x Fulltime faculty salaries	\$	
x TES salaries	\$	
x Fringe Benefits	\$	
Total Salary and Fringe Expenditures	\$	