

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



The Newsletter of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies

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From The Director's Chair

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Left to Right: Michael Scales, Donna Albano, Brian Tyrrell, Michele Grottola, Cliff Whithem

Hello everyone! Many changes again this semester as our HTMS program continues to grow and prosper. Thirty four HTMS Graduates at commencement this semester! Our student enrollments climb once again and we have had to use more adjunct faculty to compensate. We have been blessed. You will be happy to learn that for the first time two of the new adjunct faculty teaching for us were once our own undergraduate students who have since gone on to receive Masters

Degrees and are working for the hospitality industry in the Southern New Jersey region. Both very active Alumni members, Shawn Zakar (05) and Tara Marsh (03), each taught a course this spring semester and received resounding evaluations of their teaching from our students and full time faculty. We are so proud of both Shawn and Tara and their continued commitment to our College, our school, and our HTMS program, that it seemed natural to invite them to teach. We are currently in the final stages of the interview process in an attempt to fill a full time faculty position for the fall of 2010. Our present faculty have been stretched very thin as we continue to develop greater curricular aspects and produce the program of our dreams. To that end, I will be stepping down as Director of HTMS after this summer in order to teach full time again and to better devote myself to producing some quality hospitality and tourism research. Some of you remember the old days when as the only faculty member, I taught every

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hospitality course in the curriculum. Students used to say they majored in Whithem. Thankfully after 10 years, those days are behind us forever. Our HTMS faculty will increase to 6 full time, with 7 adjuncts this year and a myriad of new elective offerings and expanded curriculum areas (such as Co-Op) that we always felt was essential to an excellent program, but just couldn't cover with the existing faculty. More information on our current faculty search to follow in next semester's edition of *The Ledger*. Speaking of faculty, be sure and catch the "spotlight" in this edition with Jeff George, another excellent adjunct faculty member who has been teaching for us for several semesters now and we (as well as our students), greatly appreciate his expertise and talents.

Our HTMS program delivered what turned out to be a major presentation for the 2010 New Jersey Governor's Conference on Tourism at the Trump Marina in April. Due to so many requests from attendees, what started out initially as a small session scheduled for the last morning of the conference ended up being a full attendee Opening session during a breakfast in the middle of the conference. Business Dean Jenny Wagner, Jason Rivera

Research Analyst for the Stockton Hughes Center on Public Policy, and myself as Director of the HTMS program; presented the results of the Stockton 4th annual NJ Tourism Survey.

In March, our largest Eta Sigma Delta (International HTMS Honor Society) induction took place. Always a small percentage of the class and therefore a small number, we had 34 inductees this year; once again, a far cry from our initial ESD induction of just 3 students in 2004. Current ESD Faculty Advisor Donna Albano introduced Keynote Speaker, Mr. Mark Gianantonio, CEO of Tropicana Resort in Atlantic City and a former graduate of Stockton in Economics. Mark's talk was inspiring and energizing to us all. A beautiful ceremony in the Lakeside Center, was extremely well attended by students, parents and friends, all HTMS faculty, and our own Academic Vice President and Provost, David Carr.

Finally, Stockton President Herman J Saatkamp and Dean of Business Jenny Wagner, have secured a million dollar endowment for *The Lloyd D. Levenson Institute of Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism*. The endowment is the first of its kind here at Stockton and was donated

through the benevolence and generosity of Lloyd Levenson, Esquire, who represents the primary law firm to the casino industry of Atlantic City.

Also, we want to remind you that you need to get back to campus soon so you can see the progress on the building of the new Stockton Student Center-it is huge! At the very least check it out on our homepage www.stockton.edu, you won't recognize the place.

So, now that I have told you nearly everything, let me sign off by saying take good care of yourselves and have a wonderful summer 2010 from your entire faculty here at Stockton; Michael Scales, Donna Albano, Brian Tyrrell and Michele Grottola. Look for our new HTMS *Coordinator's Corner* in *The Ledger* for next semester.

All the best,

Cliff Whithem, HTMS Director



Careme's Dine-Around Atlantic Cape Community College

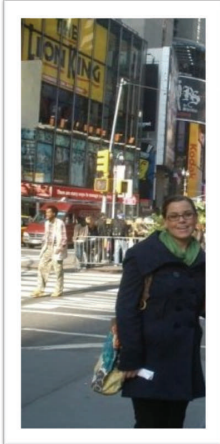


By: Regann Bilecky

In November the Hospitality Society went on a dine-around to ACCC's student restaurant, Careme's. Careme's Restaurant is located on the Atlantic Cape Community College campus. It is run by the students of the Academy of Culinary Arts. The Stockton students that attended the dine-around enjoyed a unique, gourmet experience. The dinner consisted of four courses including Caesar salad, French onion soup, chocolate lava cake, and a choice of entrees from steak Diane, vegetable risotto, or chicken in an ancho-chile sauce. Bread and a bruschetta appetizer were also served. The students of the academy cook all food on the premises and are the servers as well. This restaurant is open to the public for lunch and dinner, but seating is only available with a reservation. The society was happy to support fellow hospitality students while enjoying a delicious meal.

The Experience is Worth the Price

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"I am so lucky to have to opportunity to study abroad the summer of 2010. I will be going to Florence, Italy, but I will not be stopping there. I will take this opportunity to see as much as I can. This program allows me to live in Florence for two months of the summer, and I am taking an extra ten days to see Greece. During my time I will be taking one course for three weeks, and then will have a one week break. During this break, I plan on going to Amsterdam, Paris, and possibly London. Once I get back from the break, I will be

taking another three week course. Between the three week courses I will be taking excursions with the group. Some of the excursions include Rome, Siena, San Gimignano, Verona, and Lake Garda."

"The courses that I am taking in Florence will be a great experience. I will be taking Food and Beverage Management, and Italian Culture through Festivals and Feasting. I am really looking

forward to them both, but especially Italian Culture through Festivals and Feasting, it will give me a great idea of what the culture is really like. I had the opportunity to visit Italy with my family a few times before, but never got the opportunity to stay myself. I think one of the things I am most excited for is walking around the markets and bringing home fresh vegetables and meats and cooking a nice meal. This will be an amazing experience and I can't wait to be in Florence going through museums, walking through the streets of Florence to get to class, and don't forget about the amazing food! There is one thing for sure, this experience will be one I will remember for ever."

By: Julia Damiani

Eta Sigma Delta 2010 Induction Ceremony



On Sunday, March 7, 2010, 34 exceptional Hospitality & Tourism Management Studies students were inducted into Eta Sigma Delta. This year's induction ceremony featured Mark Giannantonio, President and C.O.O. of the Tropicana Casino and Resort as keynote speaker and honorary inductee. This year was particularly poignant because this year's ESD Fundraiser and community services event revolved around raising scholarship money toward the Steve Whiteside Scholarship. Steve Whiteside was the Vice President of Hotel Operations at the Tropicana and was an active

member of Stockton's Hospitality & Tourism Management Advisory Board until his passing in November, 2009. Steve created the Internship program at the Tropicana for Stockton students. Prior to his employment at the Tropicana, Steve had a lengthy career in Atlantic City and always supported hospitality educational endeavors.

Our local Hotel and Lodging Association named a scholarship after him and our students agreed to fundraise during the course of the semester to support that scholarship. HTMS students

solicited industry and their own employers to create "giveaway" baskets for a drawing for those who supported the scholarship. At the time of this writing, the fundraising is still going on and the drawing is slated for April 26th. We hope to raise \$1000 to contribute at the May scholarship luncheon to the Atlantic City Hotel and Lodging Association in Steve's name.

Student's Volunteer at Grand Opening in AC

The Grand Opening for One Atlantic was one of the most spectacular events I have been to since I have started to go to Stockton College. I had volunteered for class and was not prepared for all the experience I would gain from just volunteering for the night. For most of the guest it was the first time they had seen the new facility and I knew once I got there that most people would be blown away. Each guest was given a stone for the entrance and I thought that was very clever idea for the entrance into the event. The registration list was pages and pages of important people invited to see this newly done facility and the place was filled once everyone arrived.

One Atlantic is the top floor of The Pier in Atlantic City and has one of the most amazing views of the ocean. The escalator comes up right next to the windows looking out on to the water which just gives you a preview of how much better the place is going to get once you enter the room. It would be the perfect place for a wedding or

any big party with the view of the water and the beautiful room to have your event in.

On the tables in the lobby were plenty of appetizers ranging from cheeses to fresh strawberries. The bar was located



in this room also and there we as a musician making music with water glasses, which was amazing. Also in this room was a photo booth for people to get their picture to remember the event and at the bottom it said One Atlantic Grand Opening. People really seemed to enjoy this extra bonus that they offered for all the guests, especially since the pictures were free of charge. There was a special drink made just for the event and you saw all the

guests carrying this drink around. Inside where the event was mainly held there was a huge buffet with delicious foods of all sorts. It was very impressive with all the ranges of food that was offered for the event from the appetizers to the main course and then the desserts.

Overall the event was very successful and was a great way for the team of One Atlantic to get their name out in the community. Even though I was not partaking in the event I really enjoyed myself and could tell that the guest really enjoyed the event. It was a great way for One Atlantic to get their name out there and I can imagine they will get a lot of business after that event. Communication is key for events like these and it was great to see how successful an event can run if everyone works together for the event.

By Katie Strickland

Faculty Profile

Jeff George

By: Alice Servellon

Born and raised in Media, PA, Jeff George spent his childhood summers in Sea Isle City, NJ where his father founded his tourism boating business in 1969. He worked on the boat since he was "old enough to walk" and was "raised on the water...always been drawn to it." It seems almost natural then that he bought his father's business in 1997 and has been operating Atlantic City Cruises out of Gardener's Basin ever since. In doing so, he left behind a seven year career as an elementary school teacher and found he missed sharing his knowledge with kids. That's partly the reason why he came back to teaching. He says, "This opportunity at Richard Stockton College is an extension of a lifetime of learning and sharing knowledge."

In the fall of 2009, Professor George continued sharing his knowledge by teaching Contemporary International Tourism. That was my first class of my second year at Stockton College. I found Professor George to be passionate about the subject he taught and always making sure he made connections between life and the syllabus. His real world experience made him a valuable tool in the class room.

"I love my job... If I had to select one favorite [aspect of teaching], it would be the opportunity "to be me" and share my real life, business experience in tourism and hospitality." That he did. Professor George currently teaches Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism Management and feels that he could adapt any related



course. It seems that if anything, he can adapt. In addition to teaching, and running his boat, Professor George is also an Ordained Non-Denominational Minister who has performed over 200 weddings in the past seven years.

Jeff George currently resides in Egg Harbor Township with his family and can be found this summer operating the Crusin1 in Atlantic City.



Above: Caitlyn (left) and Alicia attend the Bridal Show in Atlantic City

Alumni Profile

Caitlyn Bradley

By: Alicia Szalc

As the semester comes to a close and my four year journey through the Hospitality and Tourism Management program comes to an end, I have had endless opportunities to network and meet industry professionals in the business. This semester, I had the privilege of fulfilling my internship requirements at the Ram's Head Inn under Director of Private Dining, Caitlyn Bradley. Caitlyn is a 2008 alumni of the program; she has many different experiences that have molded her into the successful professional she is today. Caitlyn began her experience in the hospitality industry through working in an Italian Restaurant for about five years and also has experience with off-site catering. As it came time for Caitlyn to fulfill her own internship requirements, she found employment at the Ram's Head Inn in 2006. She learned how the different

operations in the different departments worked, and climbed through the ranks to become the Director of Private Dining. She also worked in West Orange, the location of the other Knowles Properties. There she was involved with customer relations, marketing, website design and development, and other public relations type concentrations.

Working with Caitlyn has truly been an inspiration. Not only is she an integral part of the Ram's Head Inn team, but she is also involved in the community and small hospitality world around us. In 2009 and 2010 Caitlyn sat on the Stockton Scholarship Committee; in 2009 she sat on the Stockton Golf Classic Committee. She is also a member of both the Atlantic City Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Big Brother Big Sister program. Her most recent addition to her already successful

young career includes becoming an adjunct at Atlantic Cape Community College. For the second consecutive semester Caitlyn has taught her own Restaurant Operations class. It is a mystery where she finds the time to devote to each different aspect of her career, yet she maintains a healthy balance.

As for her future goals, Caitlyn has many different interests in the industry and the drive and determination to capture whichever dream she decides she will chase next. While she is unsure what exactly her next move is professionally, she aspires to earn her MBA in Business Administration. It was my honor and pleasure to have worked with such an accomplished individual such as Caitlyn, and I would never trade the experience that I had this semester for anything.



Spring 2010 Commencement Pictures

Congratulations!





Alumni Corner



Brianne Holmes '02-Chuck E. Cheese
 Aline Silva '02-Summerfield Suites
 Anthony Giannantonio '02-Hilton, NYC
 Jean Petridis-Borgata Casino Hotel, AC
 Allison Weiss '02- Mercer County NJ
 *Lisa Vile '03
 Pam Stewart '03-Florida
 Jamie Winkler '03-Borgata Hotel
 *Tara Marsh '03-Atlantic City Sheraton
 Rene Matos '03-Marriott Marquis, NYC
 Kelly Ofeldt '03-Mystic Island Casino
 Adrienne Yansick Hunt '03-Pine Hill, NJ
 Charles Bernier '03-Bally's Atlantic City
 Dina Golas '03-Self Employed, Atlantic City
 Justin Lucas '04
 Robert Leece '04-Mt. Laurel, NJ
 Glenn Weinstein' 04- Harrahs Hotel and Casino AC
 Anthony Marino '04
 Emily Berzen '04-Enterprise Car Rentals
 Julianna Bulina '04-Enterprise Car Rentals
 Brooke Conaway '04-Summerfield Suites by Wyndham,
 Mount Laurel
 Anthony Framo '04-Philadelphia, PA
 Holly Galindo '04-Tuscany House Hotel
 Greg Wilson '04-Red Square
 Angela Sabino '04- Providence Biltmore Hotel, R.I.
 Kim Thieme '04-Sheraton Atlantic City
 Kerri Lynch '04-Sumond NJ School District
 Michael Muscillo '04-Holiday Inn Express
 Carlos Pacheco '04-Bally's Casino
 Robert Gainen '05-Wyndham Resorts, Orlando, FL
 Amanda Connelly '05- Secaucus Marriott
 David Rahn '05-Steve and Cookies Restaurant
 Steven Lawrence '05
 Ali Casciano '05-Chili's Restaurant, May landing, NJ
 Patti Carlin '05-Rams Head Inn, Galloway
 *Drew Flatley '05
 Jennifer Singer '05-PETSMART PetHotel
 Dan Samulis '05
 Meghan Nolan '05-Bonnet Island, LBI
 Scott Fanslau '05-Port-O-Call Hotel, Ocean City, NJ
 Melissa Felsenfeld '05-Showboat Casino, AC
 *Shawn Zakar '05-Marriott Fairway Villas
 Katie Fatzinger '05-Marriott Resorts, Hilton Head, SC
 Gennady Revich '05-Comfort Inn
 Jen Andersen '05- Embassy Suites Hotel, Parsippany
 AnnMarie McNally '06- Howard Johnsons, Tom's River
 Patrick Sheik '06-Sodexo
 Monica Coralluzzo '06- Global Planners
 Amanda Cardana '06
 Angel (Moran) Karrer '06-Atlantic City Hilton
 Kari Hibbert '06-Trump Marina
 Steve Cassidy '06-Marriott Marquis, NYC
 Brian Venezio '06
 Chris Tahaney '06
 Josh Vreeland '06-Bally's Hotel/ Casino
 Joyce Sealtiel '06-Caesars Casino Hotel AC
 Andrew Caroluzzi '06-East Bay Crab & Grill
 Amy Csaky '06-Applebees
 Cynthia Davison '06-Borgata Casino
 Debra DePinto '06-Borgata Hotel & Casino, AC
 Richard DiGiovanna '06- Linda's Italian Restaurant,
 Forked River
 George Drakopoulos '06-South Africa
 Brian Taylor '06-Harrah's Casino Hotel
 *Christina (Strydio) DiGiovanna '07-Resorts Hotel, AC
 Kevin Ruck '07-Westin Times Square, NYC
 Amanda Graham '07-Borgata

Kevin Ballo '07
Kristie Gallo '07-Aramark, Philadelphia
Joe McGovern '07-Carrabas, EHT
Joy Isabelle '07-Starbucks
Eric Lore '07-Target
Krystyna Bowen '07-Salem Office of Tourism
Matt Garber '07-Courtyard by Marriott, Hanover Whippany
Jason Braitsch '07-Red Robin, Clifton NJ
Jessica Decker '07-Sand Piper Inn-Cape May
Holly Schultheis '07
John Randello '07-Clarion Hotel, EHT
Jaqueline Guischart '07 Applebees/ MBA student
Christy Gallagher '07-Lakewood Blueclaws
Melissa Santoro '07 Holiday Inn, Tom's River
Megan Barilla '07
Michele Wharton '07-Harrah's, AC
Roman Mann '07
Alaina McCormick '07 Trump Marina, AC
Amanda Sabello '07-Smithville Bakery
August Siciliano '07-Holiday Inn, Tom's River
Brian Guthmann '07
Laura Kate Schumacher '07-
Svilen Filipov '07-The Inlet, Somers Point, NJ
Jill Fox '08-Hotel in Philly
Ben Tarr '08
John Walsh '08
Caitlyn Bradley '08-Ram's Head Inn/Manor Rest.
Stephen Gelson '08-Libretto's Italian Kitchen, Ballantyne, NC
Tracy Hammill '08
Drew Higgins '08-Borgata
Chris Jones '08-Hilton Casino Hotel
Paul Scibetta '08-Saw Mill Café
Irene Loutas '08
Kristy Smatlak '08
Sherry Yeon '08
Robert Boggi '08-Saw Mill Café
Andrew Della Vecchia '08-Kraft Food
Rebecca Etzel '08-Moshu Restaurant, Phila
Robert Helminski '08
Adam Higinbotham '08-Red Lobster
Justine Kurdis '08-Ecolab
Patrick Lill '08
Jonathan Mangogna '08
Amber McHugh '08-Congress Hall
Bridget Mynes '08
Giacomo Palladino '08-A Touch of Italy, EHT
Bobbie Pippin '08-Marriott, Mount Laurel
Jilian Whitman '08
Amy Smith '08
Greg Kelly '09
Alex Estrada '09
Geoff Lang '09
Rikta Luna '09
Jen Mahon '09
Alexa Plushanki '09
Rebecca Stopenski '09
Kim Torbick '09
Carlo Ballatori '09
Ashley Carr '09
Kara Coulter '09
Eli Gbayee '09
Corey Glenn '09
Isabella Herold '09
Emil Hibian '09
Jen London '09
Kristin Matthews '09
Tammy Meginniss '09
Elizabeth Patrick '09
Dave Rada '09
Blake Reedy '09
Allison Skodi '09
Lauren Skodi '09
Alicia Baumhor '09
Lis Collado '09
Margarita Cozzi '09

Kerry O'Brien '09
David Chianese '09
Kassandra Edmonds '09
Steve Tupe '09
Brittany Hurley '09
Robert Doyle '09
David Erdman '09
John Hooper '09
Vincent Adinolfi '10
Samantha Caruso '10
John Hooper '10
Alex Konrady '10
Alexa Pavlovski '10
Megan Antonelli '10
Samantha Balzano '10
Regann Bilecky '10
Leonard Carl '10
Jesse Coffey '10
Jamieson Cook '10
Erica Davis '10
Melody Georgiou '10
Daniel Gigante '10
Gregory Gillespie '10
Matthew Hart '10
Michele Hazlett '10
Heather Jaendl '10
Amanda Johns '10
Jaclyn Laurencelle '10
Gina LoPresti '10
Mark Mantlick '10
Candice McCloud '10

Emily McDonough '10
Kaitlin Parisi '10
Katie Rosario '10
Brian Sena '10
Denise Sessa '10
Nicole Skala '10
Edward Soehngen
Pamela Staszczak '10
Alicia Szalc '10

*have also completed their MBA at Stockton

Please contact us to update your information or let us know about other alumni at scalesm@stockton.edu.

Don't forget to include your address, phone number, e-mail address, place of business, work title and any other personal information you would like to share with alumni.

Special thanks to the Ledger Staff

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