



Institutional Research Newsletter

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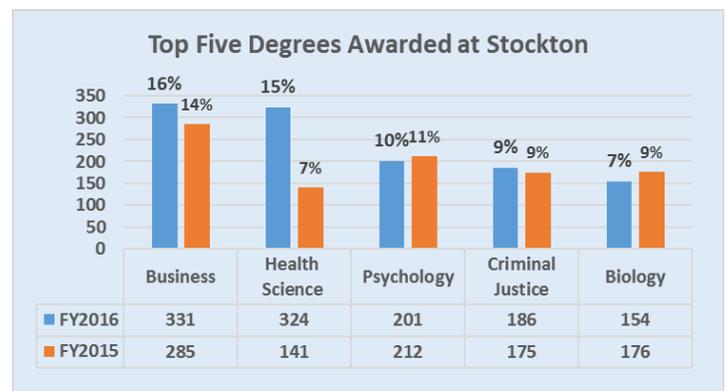
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Most Popular Majors at Stockton FY2016

Business, Health Science, Psychology, Criminal Justice, and Biology remain the top five degrees awarded at Stockton in fiscal year 2016. The chart on the right indicates these five programs as a percentage of total degrees. The Health Science degree has experienced significant growth, moving from the fifth most-popular program last year to second this year. Two primary reasons for this dramatic change include the elimination of SPAD program four years ago (and at the same time the introduction of the new Health Science program), and increasing demand for health profession related programs in recent years. In total, Stockton's top five programs represent 57% of the total bachelor degrees awarded. Overall, the number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded during fiscal

year 2016 increased by 7% over the previous year, from 2,238 to 2,393.



2016 Alumni Survey Results by Selected Programs



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More than 2,000 Stockton alumni participated in a June 2016 graduate satisfaction survey conducted by the Provost's and Institutional Research Offices. The survey, which helped Stockton gain insight into students' overall satisfaction with their academic programs as well as learning outcomes, targeted those undergraduate students who graduated in the years 2007 – 2012 from the programs of Chemistry, Criminal Justice, History, Language/Culture, Marine Science, and Psychology. The survey results will be used to support Stockton's academic program review process.

The following are highlights of how respondents felt about their experiences in program curriculum, general studies (Q1, Q2, W1, W2, etc.), interaction with faculty, and campus climate.

- **75%** of respondents agreed that they had positive campus life experiences.
- **72%** of respondents agreed that Stockton provided learning skills from comprehension and analysis to the ability of connecting ideas & experiences and transferring that learning to new situations.
- **71%** of respondents were satisfied with faculty on a variety of topics, from student faculty interaction to preparation for classes, career opportunities, etc.
- **56%** of respondents were satisfied with their preceptors on topics ranging from Knowledge of major requirements to taking an interest in 'me as a person'.
- **56%** of respondents agreed that they had positive relationships with their peers.

For more information, contact Carra Hood at carra.hood@stockton.edu in the Provost's Office.

A More Diverse Student Population

Over the past five years, Stockton's student body has become more racially and ethnically diverse. The following statistics illustrate changes in the University's overall minority population:

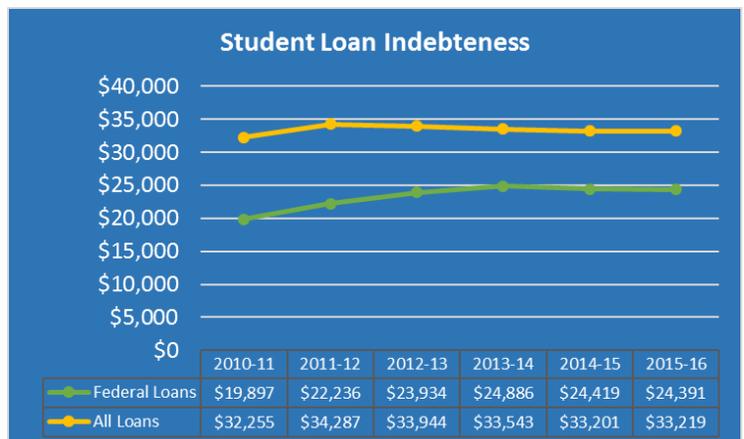
- In Fall 2016, Stockton enrolled more minority students than five years ago—from 22% to 28% for undergraduate students, and from 17% to 20% for graduate students
- The percentage of African-American students increased from 6.6% to 7.6%
- The percentage of Hispanic students increased from 7.7% to 12.3%
- The percentage of Asian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students increased slightly from 5.2% to 5.6%

Student Indebtedness Levels Stabilize

The overall level of undergraduate student loan indebtedness at Stockton has stabilized in the past six years, according to an annual report from the University's Financial Aid Office. Trend data below represents average loan amounts for students who entered as freshmen and graduated in each of the six years. The table indicates that the total amount of all loans has remained fairly consistent since 2011-12, indicating that students have not borrowed more to accommodate increases in educational costs. The substantial increase in federal loan amounts from 2010-11 to 2013-14 was due to a federal regulation change that allowed for an increase in Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan borrowing limits. In effect, all students were awarded the Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan, which essentially increased students' borrowing limit \$2,000 or more a year for unsubsidized loans. This additional borrowing capacity raised students' loan debt.

Since then, the increased pace in both categories of debt has slowed down, and the average amount from all loans has decreased from 2012-13 through 2015-16. The Financial Aid Office analyzed the following likely reasons that indebtedness levels have been stabilizing:

- ◆ Stockton's change of tuition and fee structure to a flat rate which has been in effect since 2009-10.
- ◆ A significant increase in freshman cohort graduation rates over the past three years, which reflects less time to degree completion and thus less debt accrual.
- ◆ Substantial increases in institutional scholarship, grants and foundation awards which have helped alleviate students' financial burden.



Classroom Utilization Fall 2016

On Stockton's main campus, there are 63 classrooms for general use with a seating capacity between 18 and 250. Usage of these classrooms during the regularly scheduled class modules has remained consistently high over the past 5 years.

Utilization varies depending on different meeting days and daily time modules. Based on an annual IR report, essential information on how classrooms are generally utilized in Fall 2016 include:

- ❖ Tuesday and Thursday class modules maintain an average 97% classroom utilization rate, with most classrooms maintaining a 100% rate.
- ❖ Monday and Wednesday afternoon modules (3:35 pm and 6:00 pm) also maintain a 97% classroom utilization rate.
- ❖ For the five MWF modules (between 8:30am and 2:10pm), classroom utilization varies from 79% to 95%, with an overall utilization rate of 88%.

In summary, the data indicates overall classroom space is appropriately utilized, with most modules maintaining a 95% utilization rate. But additional classes could be scheduled on MWF meeting days within the 8:30AM and 2:10 time modules with relatively lower usage rates of 81% and 79%. Please contact Institutional Research Office for more information.