
**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL REPORT FOR
2020 INITIATIVES PROJECT**

PROJECT LEADER(S):	Professor Tom Papademetriou, HIST Director, Dean C. and Zoe S. Pappas Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies
PROJECT TITLE:	Hosting the Modern Greek Studies Association 25 th Biennial Conference, an international academic meeting
DATE:	January 7, 2019
CC:	

- *The boxes below expand as needed to accommodate your notes. You may also include/submit appendices or attachments, if needed.*
- *Email a copy of this completed form to Jessica Kay, Planning Analyst at: 2020@stockton.edu or Jessica.Kay@stockton.edu.*

Please provide a summary of the project and your experience.

Pappas Center for Hellenic Studies hosts successful Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium

On Nov. 2-5, 2017, the Dean C. and Zoë S. Pappas Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies hosted the MGSA's 25th Biennial Symposium. The program opened with celebration and awarding of the MGSA's academic prizes followed by a reception, and a moving musical performance by Nicolotta Demetriou, a visiting Fulbright scholar from Cyprus. The opening events set a beautiful tone for what was an interesting, enlightening and well-paced conference which resulted in stellar reviews. Heading up the local arrangements committee were Professors Papademetriou and Roessel, with Professor Roessel also serving on the Program Committee. Student Assistant Megan Coates with numerous other Hellenic studies students were present to assist and participate throughout the three days.

Over 150 scholars and community participants attended over 30 panel presentations that ranged from history, literature, drama, and political science. The keynote address, entitled "Globalization and the return to the national: Perspectives on Greece's ongoing crisis," was delivered by Anna Triandafyllidou.

Enhancing the MGSA program was the George Kordis: Greek Revolution of 1821 exhibit in the Noyes Gallery in the Seaview Hotel specifically exhibited for the conference. In addition, art work by student artist Megan Coates, a Stockton student who had traveled in Greece, was

exhibited as well.

The play *Stones from God* also was presented by the students of the Theater Studies Program in conjunction with the MGSA Symposium, and played to captivated audiences from the Stockton and local communities as well as to MGSA attendees on Saturday night. The performance was followed by a lively Question & Answer session with the authors, actors, and director, Martha Frintzila.

Special thanks are due to local sponsors: Stockton Global Perspectives 2020 Initiatives Funding, President Harvey Kesselman and the Office of the President, Provost Lori Vermeulen and the Office of the Provost, Dean Lisa Honaker and the School of Arts and Humanities, and The Friends of Hellenic Studies of Stockton University, and to the Local Arrangements Committee: Tula Christopoulos, Megan Coates, Professor Mark Mallett, Professor Katherine Panagakos, Professor Amy Papalexandrou, and Madeline Perez.

For a Press Coverage:

Cosmos Philly Video Coverage: <https://cosmosphilly.com/folk-songs-cyprus-highlight-25th-mgsa-symposium-opening/>

National Herald Story: <https://www.thenationalherald.com/181548/modern-greek-studies-association-symposium-stockton-university/>

Stockton Faculty and Students Participate in MGSA Symposium Program

Stockton faculty and students were well represented in the MGSA Symposium program. Professors David Roessel was a respondent in the session, "Nano's Valaoritis, the Dramatist: A Staged Reading and Critical Response to 'Nightfall Hotel': A Surrealist Romeo and Juliet." In this session, Professor Mark Mallett (Theater) and two Stockton students, Alexandra Dobbin, and Klaudia Patryn, performed a dramatic reading of excerpts of "Nightfall Hotel."

Professor Papademetriou organized a panel, Imperial and Ecclesiastical Encounters: The Greek Orthodox Church vis-à-vis the Ottoman Porte in late Ottoman Anatolia, with colleagues Dr. Dimitris Kamouzis, and Mr. Menios Papadimitriou, who had participated in the Asia Minor Seminar Dr. Papademetriou led in Athens. Papademetriou presented the paper, "Community Efforts to (Re-)Build or Repair Greek Orthodox Churches in Late Ottoman Cappadocia."

In addition, the Pappas Center for Hellenic Studies faculty was well represented in the rest of the program with Professors Katherine Panagakos, Amy Papalexandrou, Ed Siecienski, David Roessel, Tom Papademetriou, and visiting Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Nicoletta Demetriou chairing several interesting panels throughout the two days.

Theater Studies Program presents *Stones from God*

Story and Video Courtesy of Cosmos Philly : <https://cosmosphilly.com/stones-god-ottoman->

[greek-life-performed-stockton-university/](#)

Oral histories of life in Asia Minor set to a performance titled, “Stones from God”, was performed throughout the weekend at Stockton University. Pamela Hendrick and Tom Papademetriou from the Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies crafted recorded oral accounts of life in the Ottoman Empire. This special performance was part of the weekend-long Modern Greek Studies Symposium.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Ottoman Christian Greek communities were uprooted from various places around the empire and settled in Greece. Their oral histories of life under the Ottoman Empire were recorded in Greece in historical records. Papademetriou, who is the Constantine and Georgian Georgiou Endowed Professor of Greek History, and Director of the Dean C. and Zoë S. Pappas Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies at Stockton has spent years researching and putting all these stories together.

Now, for the first time, his first endeavor has been put together as a playwright titled, Stones from God. ***“We have twelve student actors that have learned Greek songs, who are speaking actual Greek words from refugees from Asia Minor,” says Papademetriou. “If you ask them, their lives have been changed by that,”*** he added.

The performance was directed by Martha Frintzila who is from Greece. Martha is a theatre director, actress, and singer from Athens. She previously directed “Courtyard of the Miracles” at Stockton University. She is the director of “Dromos me Dentra” theatre group and the founder of Baumstrasse Studio in Athens. Following a two year correspondence, Frintzila came to Stockton to work with Stockton Students and direct Stones from God.

Guest Lecture by Dr. Dimitris Kamouzis: "Capturing the Catastrophe: Photography and the Greek Refugee Crisis of 1922"

Dr. Dimitris Kamouzis, Researcher from the Centre for Asia Minor Studies in Athens, Greece, visited Stockton University as part of the Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium. Staying on until Monday, November 7, he spoke to Dr. Tom Papademetriou's class, Advanced Seminar in History, the theme of which is Philanthropy. Dr. Kamouzis spoke about the photographic sources on the 1922 Refugee Crisis and the impact they had in generating support for the Near East Relief programs and the Red Cross. Many of the photos he presented were from unpublished collections, and the extensive discussion with the students covered many aspects of the refugee experience both in the 1920's, as well as now with the current refugee crisis centered, again, in Greece.

Stockton Student exhibits paintings of Greece at MGSA Symposium Megan Coates: A Burden Lifted

Stockton student Megan Coates exhibited her paintings inspired by her visit to Greece during the MGSA Symposium at the Noyes Seaview Gallery. Ms. Coates was born and raised in Atlantic City, NJ. As a child, she was always interested in people and their history. As a sophomore studying archaeology and Ancient Greek, she recently had the opportunity to travel to Greece, where she fell in love with the preservation and incorporation of ancient architecture. She hopes one day to give the same travel opportunities to other minority students. She believes this will help the African American community in many ways. Reflecting on her experience, she said, "By traveling outside our country we leave behind all the ideas, attitudes and behaviors that we find constraining to the progression of our people." Ms. Coates' paintings have since traveled to

Greece to be exhibited as part of a conference in Thessaloniki, Greece.

George Kordis: The Heroes of 1821

***Location: Noyes Gallery at Seaview Hotel
(ground floor)***

The Heroes of 1821 is the work of international artist and iconographer George Kordis of Athens, Greece. The heroes of the Greek war of independence, originally produced in 2010 as a series in charcoal, egg tempera, pastel and acrylics, and presented as giclée, are a wistful look backward. The paintings are understood according to prototypes formulated long ago. More on the work of George Kordis to come.

Letter from the President of MGSA, Dr. Neovi Karakatsanis

Dear Dean Honaker,

I write as the former President of the Modern Greek Studies Association to thank you for your support of the 2017 Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium last weekend at Stockton, and to let you know just how impressed my colleagues and I were with the commitment, energy and professionalism of Professors David Roessel, Tom Papademetriou and their student assistants. The Symposium was beautifully organized. From the opening reception on Thursday evening, to the keynote address on Friday, to the student performance of Stones from God, everything exceeded our expectations. The excellent programming we experienced would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Tom, David, and their talented students.

Most importantly, I wanted to share with you a common refrain I heard from colleagues throughout the weekend: Everyone was impressed by the high-quality academic and co-curricular programming of the Hellenic Center. We were especially captivated by the extent to which students of Modern Greek at Stockton are provided with opportunities to travel to Greece and Cyprus. Several of the students with whom we spoke commented on the transformative nature of their study abroad experiences and how those experiences have profoundly affected them by opening up opportunities previously unimagined. Many of my colleagues commented that these are exactly the kind of educational experiences many of our Hellenic Studies Programs across the US attempt to provide students; however, few do so as effectively as the Pappas Hellenic Center. Given the relatively small size of the University and its Hellenic Studies Center, we all agreed that the Pappas Center for Hellenic Studies is a program to be emulated across the United States and Canada. In short, the excellent education you provide to students of Modern Greek did not go unnoticed by those in attendance.

Again, thank you for your support of the Symposium and of Hellenic Studies in general. We hope you will continue to support the Center, as it so richly deserves.

Most sincerely,

Neovi Karakatsanis

President, MGSA 2014-2017

Professor of Political Science

Indiana University South Bend

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

As Per original Proposal:

Activities:

The MGSA 25th biennial conference will take place on Nov. 3-6 with the majority of the program taking place at the Stockton Seaview Hotel, with one day on the campus itself, and the Executive Board meeting on the final day. Stockton is responsible for expenses related to some meals, the keynote program, receptions. Hosting the event at Seaview Hotel poses the immediate challenge of feeding the participants, as they have very few options off site to purchase meals. Therefore, our hosting depends on this added expense not usually covered by general registration which is \$130 per person.

Additionally, we have sought to enrich the overall impact on Stockton's campus by introducing activities not normally included in the MGSA program, such as the theatrical production, a concert by a internationally acclaimed Cypriot singer, and inviting additional distinguished foreign scholars presenting at the MGSA to come to Stockton before or after the conference to present in our classes.

Conference Program: Panels will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday (November 3-5). Stockton faculty will present papers, as well as moderate panels. The Pappas Center will likely be sponsoring three panels. 1) Internationalizing the Curriculum through Study Abroad with a presentation on "The Troy to Ithaca" pilot program for student veterans, including assessment findings and 2) a follow up panel on the 2020 funded project, "Lines Between: Culture and Empire in the Eastern Mediterranean," that was co-sponsored in 2015 by Stockton University-European University Cyprus, and 3) either an arts panel dealing with migrations and dislocations related to the work of Mariana Smith from Visual Arts, or a historical panel on Greek-America focusing on migration and assimilation to the USA.

Official topics that were announced for the conference are as follows:

- the Greek crisis: economic, social, cultural, political, and artistic responses;
- refugees and nationhood: "refugee crises" and the changing politics of humanitarianism
- Greece and the EU, the Mediterranean, the Balkans, and the Global South: new economies of labor, both local and global
- migrations, minorities, identities and communities: religious and ethnic minorities: shifting understandings of identity and alterity, historical and contemporary
- immigrant communities and citizenship: inside and outside Greece
- the poetics and politics of "nature": human interactions with the environment, change, and sustainability
- Gender relations and the politics of sexuality, historical and contemporary
- the dynamics of language in contemporary Greece: social and historical approaches
- Greek and Cypriot literature, arts and media
- Greek literature and arts in national and post-national contexts
- Greece and Greeks, Cyprus and Cypriots in the arts or media today: intersections between the arts and scholarship.

In addition to the panels, the Pappas Center is responsible for the Keynote address, where we hope, keynote speaker, Dr. Rita Severis, of Center of Visual Arts and Research in Nicosia, Cyprus, will be presenting about inter-communal activism between the Greek and Turkish community. This would further enhance our relations with activities in Cyprus, as well as making Stockton the lynch-pin between Cyprus and the MGSA.

Student Engagement: We will be integrating students into the administration of the conference to allow them as much contact as possible with the visiting scholars. Members of the various clubs and organizations such as History Club, Hellenic Society, the Text Center, Theater Club, American Studies society as well as others will be invited to participate. Stockton students will be attending the conference for free.

We will be working with Jiangyuan (JY) Zhou on ways in which to internationalize the curriculum on campus using the framework of this conference. Two courses, Greece in the 20th Century (Roessel), and Nation-building: Case study of Modern Greece (Papademetriou) will be taught directly in conjunction with the conference that will require student participation and associated assignments. With the assistance of JY Zhou, we will encourage colleagues from various departments including Economics, Political Science, History, Literature, and Visual Arts to participate, as well as create associated assignments.

Theatrical Program: Director from Athens in Residence: Stockton Theater Arts program plans to engage the MGSA scholars in a restaging of *Stones from God*, a play with a script written by Tom Papademetriou and Pam Hendrick based on original research of oral histories of Greek refugees from Cappadocia. The play will be directed by Martha Frintzila, the noted Greek director and singer, and will include music by the acclaimed Greek musician Panagiotis Sevas who have agreed to be in residence from September 27-November 5, 2017. No other university has such a record in the dramatic arts, of taking plays abroad to Greece and Turkey, and the MGSA has never staged play as a conference event, and in choosing Stockton, the MGSA board was clearly hoping that we would break new ground again. Additionally, this production is on the calendar for the Performing Arts Center's 2017 Calendar that is sent out before every new school year and advertised on campus throughout the semester.

Additional visitors to campus in conjunction with the conference will be a Masters in American Studies exchange student from the Aristotle University of Thessalonike, as well as Professor Nicoletta Demetriou of Oxford University who is planning to attend Stockton as a Fulbright scholar where she will be in residence for the semester teaching, and will perform a concert during the conference. Professor Demetriou also plans to debut an exhibition along with Stockton students who have worked on projects from Athens and England to be displayed.

Additional invitations will be made for visitors to come earlier than the conference or to stay later to add additional value to our campus by presenting to our community. Among these are Dr. Tzimboglou, Director of the National Library in Athens, and Dr. Kamouzes of the Center for Asia Minor Studies.

A Globalized conference: Using social media and live fee broadcasting, we are planning to make the conference available immediately globally—the first time it will be done for this specific conference. Stockton will become well known internationally because of this.

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 your achieving full satisfaction on desired outcomes.

Hosting the MGSA's 25th Biennial Symposium met and even exceeded our expectations.

One of our main goals was to Globalize Stockton, with interaction from students, faculty, and community members. We successfully accomplished this through careful organization and planning. In each case, the interaction was transformative.

From the perspective of students, students were involved in the multiple aspects of the program, from being assistants in the planning, being present during registration, and assisting the conference members as they arrived and throughout the symposium, having meaningful conversations and discussions with faculty from around the world, exhibiting art work and receiving feedback and critique, to presenting/performing and attending sessions during the symposium, to having international scholars come into the classroom, and finally, to work six intense weeks with a director from Athens to stage a play. Needless to say, these experiences offered incredible Global exposure to our students.

The faculty of the Pappas Center as well as other faculty, also had the opportunity to showcase our work, and to participate as presenters, and chair people of panels, but more importantly, in curating and designing a rich and lovely Modern Greek Studies Symposium experience. We truly were able to present our work to our peers in the field.

The community also was able to enjoy the offerings, with many individuals coming in to hear talks and come to the public portions of the symposium. We received wonderful press coverage from Philadelphia and New York press outlets, with wonderful video coverage as well.

As for the actual activities and programs in comparison to the proposal, we achieved all of them. We hit all our goals, from hosting the overall program, presenting panels, producing a play, and having associated performances, hosting Fulbright scholars, artistic presentations, and additional lectures.

One of the comments that we were told during the wrap up meeting of the MGSA Board which we attended on the final day of the Symposium, "This was the best MGSA Symposium ever." This is the ultimate compliment from such a group!

Please list any follow-up actions (publications, presentation venues, etc.)

This was a one time event with no follow-up actions planned.

Are you recommending the continuation of this project? If so:

- **What are the next action steps you foresee or recommend?**
- **What are the expected budget requirements going forward?**
- **Please identify the program, department, or division you should be working with to secure continuation of funding for your project.**

[Note: continuation proposals must be approved and incorporated into the appropriate budget process.]

This was a one time event with no follow-up actions planned.

FINANCES: Based on your proposal, please outline below how the award has been spent.

	Amount	Notes/Comments
Beginning Budget Balance as of:	\$	
Salary Expenditures		
• Stipends	\$	
• Full-time staff salaries	\$	
• Full-time faculty salaries	\$	
• TES salaries	\$	
• Fringe Benefits	\$	
Total Salary and Fringe Expenditures	\$	
Non-Salary Expenditures (<i>supplies, travel, etc.</i>)		
• Speaker/Artist Expenses	\$ 4977.06	Anna Triantafyllidou/Martha Frintzilla
• Seaview	\$ 2556.38	Meeting room & tech services expenses
• Print Shop	\$ 574.20	Program book
• Gift bags	\$ 449.98	
• Supplies	\$ 55.09	Stationary supplies
• Staples	\$ 161.33	Tech supplies
• Bus	2340	Phil Airport RT
• SASI	275	Seaview Main Campus RT
Total Non-Salary Expenditures	\$ 11389	
Total Salary + Non-Salary Expenditures	\$	
Ending Budget Balance as of:	\$ 11389	

If there are remaining expenditures required to complete the project, please itemize them with expected amounts and timing for payment.

IMPORTANT: *Unused funds will revert to the general 2020 Initiative Fund at the end of the fiscal year if not approved and encumbered for project costs.*

Item	Expected Amount	Expected Timing for Payment
Total		