

Dance Company Coming to

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## 2020 Initiatives Continued

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The company's artistic director would also hold auditions for Stockton Dance students and then create a new work for them to perform at the Spring Dance Center in 2014.

"There is a rich opportunity to engage further with the community, as well as to provide high value learning experiences for Stockton students, through both the dance program and the performances in the PAC," Ross said in her proposal. She said people who come to the PAC for one thing often return for other performances once they experience what's here.

She said she is looking forward to working with Dance Professor Henry Vankuiken and Suze DiPietro, marketing director of the PAC, to fulfill the opportunities the dance residency will bring.

Ross has a B.A. with a dual concentration in Dance and English from Mount Holyoke and a Master of Fine Arts in Dance with an emphasis on Choreography from the University of Iowa. She has taught at Oakland University, the University of Iowa and Mount Holyoke. As artistic director of her own company, Rain Ross Dance, she has presented works at the Philadelphia International Festival for the Arts, DUMBO Dance in New York and at other venues.

Dr. Saatkamp initiated the 2020 Initiatives program with a steering committee in fall 2008, and the innovative grass-roots program grew after college-wide discussions.

Proposals are reviewed by initiative teams dedicated to the college's four strategic themes: Learning, Engagement, Global Perspectives, and Sustainability. The teams forward their recommendations to the 2020 Steering Committee which reviews and submits proposals to the president for approval.

"President Saatkamp continues to express his support and enthusiasm for projects that come through the 2020 Initiatives process," said Dr. Harvey Kesselman, provost and chair of the steering committee. "The number of faculty and staff who have been part of this process, either by proposing a project or serving on one of the initiative teams, is truly extraordinary."

2020 Initiatives can be for a singular activity or for an ongoing program, such as Ross envisions, with potential for annual dance company residencies enriching the college arts program and providing significant community outreach.

The initiatives are part of the college's Strategic Plan for the future, informed by the vision of Stockton as "an environmentally responsible learning community of engaged citizens embracing a global perspective."

## Triple-Stockton Grad Speaks at DPT 'White Coat' Ceremony

Dr. Marissa Furka, a triple Stockton grad with a B.S. in Biology, an MPT and a DPT, was the keynote speaker as 22 students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program received their "white coats" on April 3, 2013.

The "White Coat" ceremony marks the end of the students' second year of graduate studies and the beginning of their first clinical education internships.

Dr. Furka practices as a physical therapist at Ocean Club Physical Therapy Center in Stafford Township, Ocean County, part of the Meridian Health network. She is also clinical coordinator of Clinical Education at Southern Ocean Medical Center.

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Family and friends look on as the DPT Class of 2014 receive their white

Dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies Dr. Lewis Leitner coats on April 3.

and DPT Program Director Dr. Thomas Nolan also spoke at the event, more formally named the Commitment to the Profession ceremony. Dr. Bess Kathrins, interim dean of Health Sciences, called each student's name as he or she came up to receive a white coat, a symbol of healthcare professionalism. Also attending were Beth Hoffman, PT, and Carol Ann McCulley, PT, representatives of the Bacharach Institute of Rehabilitation and Brian Mason, PT, president of the American Physical Therapy Association of NJ.

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## Faculty, Staff Aid Synchronized Quail Hatching Experiment

Dr. Guy Barbato, a visiting associate professor of biology at Stockton, is working with John Rokita, principal lab technician at the co



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