

Dear friends,

Stockton University, located near Atlantic City in Galloway, New Jersey, will be hosting the 25th biennial MGSA Symposium from November 2-5, 2017. David Roessel, Professor of Greek, and Tom Papademetriou, Professor of History and Director of the Pappas Center for Hellenic Studies at Stockton University, will host the event and co-chair the Local Arrangements Committee.

Where?

The 2017 Symposium venue will be the historic Stockton Seaview Hotel, a luxury resort owned by Stockton University, where the Local Arrangements Committee has held rooms at the very affordable rate of \$109 per night (excluding tax; single and double occupancy at the same rate; free wifi and free parking; morning coffee provided; small fridge in every guest room): <https://www.stocktonseaview.com/>.

This room rate is only guaranteed through August 17, 2017.

The Seaview Hotel, located at 401 South New York Road, Galloway, NJ 08205, is situated within walking distance from the NJ shore line, a pristine state park, and a golf course with walking trails. It offers two restaurants, a swimming pool and a gym, and a host of other amenities. The hotel is further removed, however, from off-site restaurants, shops, and other hotel options. Because of the venue's relative remote location, we strongly recommend that you book accommodations at the symposium hotel in order to take advantage of the very reasonable MGSA rate and be part of all aspects of the program.

How Do I Get There?

There are several options for getting to Galloway, NJ if you will not be driving. We strongly recommend that you take advantage of option (A), which guarantees speed, affordability, and good company:

Option A

- 1) Book your plane ticket into Philadelphia airport (PHL) for a midday to early afternoon arrival on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, with a return trip on Sunday, Nov. 5, for a midday departure from the same airport.
- 2) The Local Arrangements Committee will arrange for private shuttle bus transportation to take symposium attendees from the Philadelphia airport directly to the Stockton Seaview Hotel on Thursday afternoon, with a return on Sunday. This bus ride takes about one hour, depending on traffic. The LAC may have to charge a small, nominal fee for this service, in the range of \$5-\$10.

The LAC will schedule two shuttle bus departures from the Philadelphia airport (Terminal C baggage claim), on Thursday, Nov. 2: a first one at 2:00pm and a second one at 6:00 or 6:15 pm (the academic program is likely to commence at 7:00pm). Note: if you fear missing the last departure, contact mgsa.org@gmail.com in advance, or use the contact info below on the day of travel. We will make a list of the very last scheduled arrivals on Th., to make sure that we have everyone (within reasonable time limits) before the last shuttle bus leaves Philadelphia airport for the Seaview Hotel.

On Sunday, Nov. 5, two shuttle bus departures from the Stockton Seaview Hotel can take you back to the Philadelphia airport and can drop you off at the terminal of your choice: a first one at 8:15am and a second one at 1:30pm. Again, the bus ride takes about an hour, and you need to allow extra time at the airport prior to your flight departure.

Note: The Philadelphia airport terminals offer many restaurant options, but you find them only in the terminals upon arrival. Once you reach the baggage claim area of terminal C, your options are limited to a hotdog stand,

and you are not allowed to go back into the arrival terminals. Please plan accordingly if you need to find lunch before meeting the shuttle bus.

Alternative Options:

The alternative options take more time and are also more expensive:

- B) You can rent a car and drive from either the Philadelphia or Newark, NJ International Airport. The Stockton Seaview Hotel offers free parking to its guests.
- C) You can try to fly into Atlantic City (ACY) and take a taxi from there (approx. \$30-50 dollars, depending on day/night rates). However, very few airlines fly into Atlantic City (Sprint and Air Canada do).
- D) You can make your way from Philadelphia airport to the Stockton Seaview Hotel by train. Here are some guidelines, but please allow for an estimated total travel time of about 3.5-4 hours: from the Philadelphia airport, take the airport train to Philadelphia 30th St Station (the main one). Once there, buy a new ticket and head for the NJ Transit train to Atlantic City (approx. \$11). Taxis meet the trains arriving in Atlantic City (\$30-50 dollars to the Stockton Seaview Hotel, depending on day/night rates). If you arrive at the Atlantic City train station shortly before 6pm on Thursday, you can join a shuttle bus returning from the scheduled Atlantic City excursion. To tell the shuttle bus group that you are waiting to be picked up at the AC train station, contact **Megan Coates as soon as you learn of your estimated arrival time at the station, so she can coordinate with the bus driver. See the contact info below.**

Alternatively, you could get off the train at the second last stop, named **Absecon**, which is actually closer to the Stockton Seaview Hotel (only about 2.8 miles), but from there you may need to call someone, because there may or may not be taxis waiting at the station. If you need to call a taxi, consider: Absecon Taxi Service, 332 S. Xanthus Ave, Galloway, NJ 08205
Tel. (609) 652-7146 (quoted \$25-\$30 for a ride from Absecon station to the Seaview Hotel and Stockton University)

- E) You can fly into any of the New York City airports (JFK, La Guardia, or the Newark, NJ airport) and then head over to the Port Authority Bus Terminal. From there, the #319 NJ Transit bus takes you to Atlantic City (directly over the Garden State Parkway; direction Cape May). Please check the 319 bus schedule via the link below: <http://www.njtransit.com/pdf/bus/T0319.pdf> . Allow at least 2 hours for this bus ride alone.
The same goes for the Greyhound bus from New York City directly to Atlantic City. For more information, you may consult and book the non-stop option at www.greyhound.com .
From Atlantic City, you can take a taxi to the Stockton Seaview Hotel (\$30-50 dollars depending on day/night rates).

Key contact numbers:

For transportation logistics on the day of travel and any delays + for registration logistics: contact Megan Coates: coatesm3@go.stockton.edu and cell 609 246 6445.

For Local Arrangements matters, contact David Roessel (office: 609 652-4474), or Tom Papademetriou (cell 609 665-8082), or Madeline Perez (office 609 652 4505), or Tula Christopoulos (609-226-5827). Also: David.Roessel@stockton.edu and apapadem@stockton.edu and Madeline.perez@stockton.edu and christopoulos@stockton.edu .

For Seaview Hotel reservation changes or cancellations, contact the hotel directly at 855-894-8698.

For academic program changes or cancellations, contact Frank Hess, Yiorgos Anagnostou, Gonda Van steen:
copy all three: fhess@indiana.edu; anagnostou.1@osu.edu; gonda@ufl.edu. PLEASE CONTACT US ASAP.