

# Humphreys College

## Newsletter

MARCH 2014

WINTER QUARTER



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### FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT ...

## CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Associate Dean, Chair

On February 27, approximately sixty students, staff and faculty members, President Robert G. Humphreys, Sr., local poet Jimi Choice, and Congressman McNerney's representative Zephaniah Smith participated in the Tenth Annual African-American Read-In. It was sponsored by the Liberal Arts Department and the Poetry Club and done in conjunction with the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English. Coordinated by Dr. Stanislav Perkner, Professor Leslie Walton, Cruzita Whiteley, Linda Verdun-Brown, and me, with assistance from students Thomas Wagner and Damany Brown, the event featured author and civil rights activist Geraldine Hollis, who was accompanied by her husband Jack.

Ms. Hollis, author of *Back to Mississippi* and *March Memories*, helped to ignite the Civil Rights

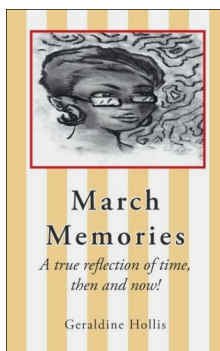
Movement in Mississippi. In 1961 she and eight other Tougaloo College students

staged a sit-in at the local public library. Walking into the segregated branch of the Jackson Municipal Public Library, they told the librarian that the section for "Blacks Only" did not include the books that they needed. Ms. Hollis described for us the planning that took place prior to the sit-in. She noted that the students—all members of the local NAACP Youth Council—were not chosen at random;

in fact, those students whose parents worked for the College or other local businesses were excluded from the group because they felt that their parents might lose their jobs. However, Ms. Hollis's father, who owned a dry goods store, was threatened by the Ku Klux Klan after the event.

Known as the "Tougaloo Nine," this brave group of students helped bring about changes in the South, as described by Ms. Hollis. Using civil disobedience as their method like Dr. Martin Luther King, they prepared to be arrested on that day on March 27, 1961. In contrast,

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today Jackson welcomes visitors to the Library where the students staged that historic sit-in and has celebrated the Tougaloo Nine during recent anniversaries.

During the question-answer period, one student asked Ms. Hollis if she was bitter about her experiences with such blatant racism and violence. Her reply was clear and resonated among the audience: "No, I'm not." She expressed how those experiences motivated her to push forward and embrace many other challenges including earning several degrees and writing two books. Another student asked if the other students of the "Nine" were also successful, and she acknowledged that with an emphatic affirmative.

Following Ms. Hollis's inspirational speech, students presented their literary selections to the audience choosing from a number of poets and writers, including

Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, Fredrick Douglass, Nelson Mandela, Barack Obama, and Jimi Choice. At the close of the evening, ten of the participants received gift cards, which were donated by the College faculty; two other presenters were awarded books donated by Roderick Serrano and poet Jimi Choice. All also enjoyed pizza and cookies as they listened to the excellent oral interpretations.



## FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT...

# HUMPHREYS COLLEGE HOSTED EVENTS TO RECOGNIZE NATIONAL COURT REPORTING AND CAPTIONING WEEK

By Kay Reindl, Chair



In February, court reporters, captioners, Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) providers, and court reporting schools around the country celebrated the 2014 National Court Reporting and Captioning Week. They hosted community events, media outreach programs, open houses, and high school presentations.

It should also be noted that *Forbes* magazine has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to grow more than five percent in the coming years.

### Nancy Varallo, NCRA President:

*"The week provides an opportunity for all people associated with these professions to spotlight for the public the importance of what court reporters and captioners do.... Court reporting, captioning, CART – these careers are part of the lifeblood of law and culture in our society. I encourage everyone in this profession to take this opportunity to celebrate this fulfilling career and to let their enthusiasm inspire a student to explore this profession."*

### Jim Cudahy, NCRA's Executive Director and CEO:

*"Court reporters work hard every day to help people access the U.S. legal system, while CART providers and captioners give access to conferences, calls, educational classes, and television broadcasts to people who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is in their honor that the National Court Reporters Association has declared a national week to champion their ongoing efforts."*

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN COURT REPORTING PROFESSION

Humphreys College Court Reporting Program participated by hosting two events on campus. The first was to provide a panel of HC alumni who are working reporters as a part of the How to Succeed in College workshops. With current student, Shivaneer Sujata, serving as the panel host, and Court Reporting Instructor Beth Douglas, serving as the realtime reporter, the following information was provided by Humphreys College alumni Desiree Winn, CSR, and Angela Sinclair, CSR, serving as the panelists (excerpts).



(left to right) Angela Sinclair,  
Instructor Beth Douglas, Desiree Winn,  
Shivaneer Sujata

Shivaneer Sujata: What was your main motivation in choosing the court reporting profession?

- ☛ Desiree Winn: I chose court reporting because I was very interested in pursuing a particular skill and something that I can constantly work at getting better at throughout the career itself.
- ☛ Angela Sinclair: Once, I was chosen to serve on a jury; it was my first exposure to a court reporter. That was so cool! I wished to do it. I researched the occupation and found I needed strong English and grammar skills. That's something I am good at.

Shivaneer Sujata: How long did it take you to finish school?

- ☛ Desiree Winn: It took me about five and a half years to complete the program. My family was very supportive. All I did was school work and I liked it.
- ☛ Angela Sinclair: I am the other end of the spectrum. It took me two years from start to finish. I know that Desiree has kids, unlike me; it makes a big difference. I attended school full-time with a part-time job on the side. It allowed me to finish quickly. I practiced a lot.

I always practiced on my machine at speeds exceeding my target speed.

Audience: What is a regular course of court reporting study at Humphreys College?

- ☛ Kay Reindl: We have teachers sitting with us in this room: Ms. Poirier is our theory teacher. Students are with her two quarters for two periods. From that point forward they are always taking at least eight units of court reporting classes. It requires several English courses, medical terminology, and human biology.

Shivaneer Sujata: What were your challenges?

- ☛ Angela Sinclair: For about a year, I struggled in 3-voice class with Ms. Douglas. It was helpful to add a lot of question and answer extensions to my writing.
- ☛ Kay Reindl: I always try to make sure my students are well aware of the job prospects. Sometimes, they have to field questions: "Why are you pursuing this career? Isn't a machine going to take over?" In reality, the personalized voice recognition is a long way from taking over the scope of what court reporters do. In the courtroom, people are speaking on top of each other. No technical device can stop recording and say "Excuse me. I cannot hear you. Can you repeat that?" That's why the human factor is so critical, because court reporters are able to do that. You can find case after case that has been thrown out of court and has to be retried because it had been electronically recorded. When a record is requested, there have been instances where the audio is blank. Somebody forgot to turn on the machine, or it's been damaged in some other way.

Shivaneer Sujata: Was school affordable for you?

- ☛ Desiree Winn: It was affordable, even at the length it took. Moreover, the profession does pay well. It was a great choice for me.
- ☛ Angela Sinclair: I haven't started to pay back my loans yet. I'm not sure how I would answer

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it at this point. It was definitely affordable while in school. I did have to pay out-of-pocket because I have a degree, but I was able to manage it. As Desiree said, the income prospects are bright.

Shivaneer Sujata: How long did it take to find a job after graduation?

- ☛ Angela: Well, for me it was right away. I took my test to become licensed and waited around six weeks for results. In the meantime, I was getting my resume ready, sitting in with firms and reporters – networking, attending workshops and conventions, and getting my equipment along with my home office ready. Once I received my test results, I got a job within days.

Shivaneer Sujata: Does Humphreys College provide any internship opportunities?

- ☛ Angela Sinclair: You have to do fifty hours of interning as a requirement of the Court Reporters Board of California (CRBC). We both worked for Aiken Welch in Oakland; additionally, I interned in a smaller firm in Lodi.
- ☛ Kay Reindl: As for the court reporting starting salary, the CRBC estimates that court reporters in the state earn from \$30,000 to \$100,000 per year. This includes both full-time and part-time workers. That's not bad for a profession that really doesn't require a bachelor's degree.

Shivaneer Sujata: At our school you could actually go to school to qualify to take the licensing exam and get your degree as well. That's what I am doing. I got out of high school and I came to Humphreys for my degree as well as program completion. That's why I chose Humphreys College – to have a backup with my degree.

Audience: What's the court reporting job outlook?

- ☛ Kay Reindl: If you are an official reporter, you are an employee of the county and you are going to work county hours, 8:00 to 5:00. You might be assigned to a judge—some reporters

are assigned to a judge, some of them float among the judges. Court reporters have to be unbiased. You might also be employed as an independent contractor, working for deposition firms and taking down examinations prior to trials (part of the “discovery” process).

- ☛ Angela Sinclair: Additionally, some reporters serve as "Communication Access Realtime Translation" providers. CART reporters have to take down those words that you don't normally hear, especially in college classrooms. They help hard-of-hearing students by writing everything down, so those students have access to what is being said.

- ☛ Kay Reindl: These access services for the hearing impaired are most commonly provided in educational settings. It is a growing area of reporting. Reporters also webcast conventions or meetings; sometimes depositions are done via Skype. Reporters also generate closed captioning for television stations and networks. Captioning can also be done remotely, which is very high tech. On the Court Reporting

Department Facebook page you can see a video of a court reporter who is sitting at her home and captioning a surgery for a hard-of-hearing med student at UC



Davis. The doctors had microphones and their voices were streamed in realtime to the reporter at her home. Her translation was streaming on the student's iPad in the operating room. The court reporting profession has done a wonderful job of staying on top of the cutting edge of technology.

*Learn more about the profession @ [careersincourtreporting.com](http://careersincourtreporting.com) or contact Kay Reindl, Department Chair @ [kreindl@humphreys.edu](mailto:kreindl@humphreys.edu), 209-235-2931*

## RHETT SIMMONS AT HUMPHREYS COLLEGE

Another event hosted by the Court Reporting Department was a guest speaker presentation by Rhett Simmons, Humphreys alumna. She is the owner of West Coast Captioners. In 1989, Rhett Simmons, in conjunction with the then Department Chair Maria Stahl, and with the financial backing of President Humphreys, became one of the first captioners in the state of California. In order to provide exposure for the emerging technology, Maria Stahl and Rhett Simmons demonstrated the technology throughout the state at public events.



*Rhett Simmons, owner of  
West Coast Captioners*

Rhett shared with the students that “25 years later, she is grateful for the profession she has enjoyed all these years and for the opportunity that Humphreys provided.” She has captioned in just about all areas, including remote live broadcast captioning and CART. She has captioned for several U.S. Presidents, California governors, first ladies (most recently Michelle Obama), and many entertainers, including the Rolling Stones and Bon Jovi. She will be captioning the 2014 Democratic Party Convention in Los Angeles. She is now able to focus on her passion – governmental captioning; she hires other captioners to cover various reporting jobs that she contracts.

Rhett’s passion for her profession was palpable; students gained motivation and inspiration from her.

Interested in learning more about court reporting and related careers? Contact Kay Reindl, Department Chair, 209-235-2931, [kreindl@humphreys.edu](mailto:kreindl@humphreys.edu), or visit and “like” us on our Facebook page (Humphreys College Court Reporting Program).

## FROM THE LEGAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT (FORMERLY PARALEGAL STUDIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS) ... **NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

By Stephen P. Choi, Chair

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Humphreys College Criminal Justice Club will hold a firearms safety class on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.; the location will be announced. This free class covers the following: nomenclature, safe handling, disassembly, cleaning, and storing. After a student successfully completes the class, he or she is allowed to target shoot with a Humphreys College firearms instructor. The Club will also discuss participating in the Regional Criminal Justice competition; it will be held in either Hawaii or San Diego in October 2014. Fundraising will be needed and student selection guidelines will be discussed.

### LEGAL STUDIES

The Legal Studies program is looking for students who would like to be placed in internships in the Stockton and Modesto areas. The requirements include good academic standing. The internship will take ten hours a week upon approval of the Department Chair of Legal Studies. If you are interested, please see Mr. Stephen Choi.

Representing our department, I attended the American Association of Paralegal Educators National Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Approximately a hundred college and universities with legal studies programs were represented. I spoke with my counterparts and I believe that Humphreys College is offering a solid well-rounded program; it gives our students the skills to succeed in a law office.



## FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT...

**ARE FIRST IMPRESSIONS IMPORTANT?**

By Jason K. Wolins, Chair

Let's revisit that old *Head & Shoulders* shampoo commercial: "You never get a second chance to make a first impression."

Well, are first impressions that important? Let's answer that with a big **Yes!**

Sharon Naylor of Creators.com wrote an article, "First Impressions: Surprising things that can turn off interviewers," in *The Sacramento Bee*, January 19, 2014, p. G6.



She noted several things that leave lasting *bad* first impressions:

- **Inappropriate touching.** No hugging the interviewer. And don't even touch the interviewer's arm or hand to make your point.
- **Wet or damp hair.** Interviewers may think that you do not have good time management skills or might show up that way to an important client meeting.
- **Strong smells: Perfume or cologne; cigarettes or cigars.** Can anyone say *allergies*? But wait—what if you don't smoke but you have to walk by smokers standing outside the building? Just try to run a wide route around that defense.
- **Some other miscellaneous no-no's (Part 1).** I'm just going to make a list here; they speak for themselves:
  - ◆ Entering the office with your to-go coffee. Even worse, saying something like, "I can't function without at least four cups a day!"
  - ◆ Nervously munching from the candy dish, donut plate, or whatever else is in the waiting area.
  - ◆ Trying too hard to be "funny." Don't talk about that television show you liked the night before.
- **Some other miscellaneous no-no's (Part 2)—with statistics.** CareerBuilder.com recently surveyed hiring managers and here are their responses, with the percentage who noted the specific items were turnoffs:
  - ◆ Not making eye contact (62%)
  - ◆ Texting or taking cell phone calls (60%)
  - ◆ Dressing inappropriately—such as too casually for the office style (60%)
  - ◆ Trash-talking about a current or past employer or manager (58%)
  - ◆ Not smiling (42%)
  - ◆ Answering questions by being vague, without giving examples, etc. (34%)
  - ◆ Weak handshake (28%)

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➤ **Some common-sense turnoffs noted by hiring managers.** No need to elaborate here:

- ◆ Mispronouncing the interviewer's name
- ◆ Not knowing what the firm does or makes
- ◆ Being too interested in perks
- ◆ Using social media lingo (don't say LOL, OMG, etc.)
- ◆ Addressing or making eye contact with only one of several interviewers
- ◆ Not asking the interviewer any questions
- ◆ Not treating an initial phone interview with its proper respect (don't watch television, eat, take other calls, etc.)



The bottom line: Don't give the firm a reason to reject you.

FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT...

## PANEL DISCUSSION ON EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

By Pam Wood, Chair

In conjunction with our ECE 270 Professionalism class, the Department offered a panel discussion hosted by the 2013-14 ECE Advisory Team. The workshop was held on Saturday, January 25. It was attended by thirty Early Childhood Education majors. Students were informed about professional opportunities that await them in the field of Early Childhood Education. Members of the team shared how earning their degree from Humphreys College has helped them to advance in their professional careers.

Eunice Mendoza owns and operates *Kids Community Campus* in Turlock. She shared with students how to start their own childcare business. Eunice is currently working toward completing her multiple subject credential at Humphreys College. Her educational goals include finishing a doctorate degree in Educational Administration.

Lenise Haney has worked in the field of Early Childhood Education for many years and is currently employed with Lodi Unified School District. She enlightened students about the many opportunities available for teachers and directors in both public and private sectors. Lenise plans to complete her MA in Education/Teaching Credential at Humphreys and to become a college/adult educator in the future.

Cynthia Thurman is employed at Stockton Unified School District in the First 5 Program. She shared her experiences working for the district and how her BA from Humphreys prepared her to advance in her career. Cynthia will soon complete her student teaching, pass the CSET, and receive her teaching credential from Humphreys. Her professional goals include teaching kindergarten and possibly becoming an assistant principal.



Rachel Zapien is currently enrolled in the MA program at Humphreys College and is employed as an Early Interventionist for United Cerebral Palsy. Her presentation inspired students to make a difference in the lives of children with special needs. Rachel emphasized that the monetary rewards are limited; however, there is no greater reward than helping children reach goals and accomplish skills that seemed beyond their abilities.

Louis Marquez stated that Humphreys College prepared him well for his career as an instructor for the Department of Corrections. He is currently enrolled in our MA of Education program. Louis is passionate about working with incarcerated men and helping them to re-enter their communities with the skills they need to become productive.

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Maria Do served as a military liaison and currently works for Head Start. She is enrolled in the Humphreys College MA/Credential program and her professional goals include elementary school teaching. Maria shared that her classes at Humphreys College gave her a solid foundation in Early Childhood Education.

The *Employment Opportunities in ECE* workshop was a huge success. Students were enlightened about various career opportunities and walked away from the panel discussion with a renewed focus and determination to make a difference in the lives of children and families in their communities.

## IN MEMORIAM THE HONORABLE NELS B. FRANSEN (1926-2014)

Nels Fransen was a local boy, a graduate of Stockton schools. At the age of 17, in 1944, he volunteered for the Army. He reported to Camp Beale in Sacramento and later to Camp Polk, Louisiana, and then to Fort Mammoth, New Jersey, in the Signal Corp Unit. He served in the Philippines with the 6165<sup>th</sup> Signal Corp attached to MacArthur's headquarters.

Nels returned home in 1946 and worked in a grocery store. He got married in 1947 and studied at UC Berkeley for two years before being accepted at UC Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco. While he was in law school, the family had two children.

He graduated in 1952, returned to Stockton, and got a job at the law firm of Miller, Kroloff, and Brown. Later he formed his own firm with Pete Simonelli.

In 1953, Joe Diehl asked Nels to take over his Trusts class. Nels Fransen had become a part of Humphreys College. Over time, he taught several other classes, most notably, Evidence. In 1979 he was appointed the Dean of the Law School and taught through 2005.

He was appointed to Stockton Municipal Court in August 1974 by Gov. Ronald Reagan and to the Superior Court in February 1985 by Gov. George Deukmejian. He retired as a Judge in 2000, continuing as a visiting Judge until 2009.

For many years, Nels was very active in his community – as Charter President of the Sertoma Club of Stockton, President of the San Joaquin County Bar Association, and President of the San Joaquin County Legal Aid Association. He loved to pilot his own air plane.

Upon his retirement, Judge Fransen was named Dean Emeritus of the Law School. Without his fifty years of involvement and dedication, Humphreys College Laurence Drivon School of Law would not be what it is today.



Dean L. Patrick Piggott



FROM THE LAURENCE DRIVON LAW SCHOOL ...

ELEVEN YEARS AGO ...

## TWELVE QUESTIONS FOR DEAN NELS B. FRANSEN, ATTORNEY, JUDGE, EDUCATOR



PERKNER: What motivated you to become a lawyer?

lawyer. My father took me to watch a murder jury trial. I was about ten years old and this started me on the road to law.

PERKNER: When and under which circumstances did you start teaching law? Did you feel comfortable, as a fresh graduate of Hastings College of Law, to stand before law students?

FRANSEN: One day, 50 years ago, I received a call from Joe Diehl, who had been my father's attorney, asking me to take over his trust class. His work at Neumiller & Beardslee and Sheppard had increased to the extent he did not have time to devote to teaching. For me as an attorney it was no problem to stand in front of a class and teach.

PERKNER: How do you remember Humphreys Law School's founding dean, Richard W. Dickenson?

FRANSEN: Dean Richard Dickenson and John R. Humphreys worked hard to make sure that the Law School would be recognized in the legal community. They drew upon many members of the San Joaquin Bar to teach at the law school.

PERKNER: In 1975, after 28 years of his deanship, Richard W. Dickenson retired. Under which circumstances did you assume the position?

FRANSEN: In 1974, I became the Assistant Dean. Four years later, I became the Dean, after Richard W. Dickenson retired.

PERKNER: During the years when you worked as an attorney and as a judge, how did you handle teaching and the deanship?

FRANSEN: Long hours.

PERKNER: As a dean, you have known many colleagues. What makes a successful law professor and scholar?

FRANSEN: Love of law! Willingness to spend time on preparation for class and counseling the students.

PERKNER: How many students graduated under your deanship? Do you hold special memories of any of them?

FRANSEN: Over 500, I still see many of my students when sitting as a judge. I have been proud of their success as attorneys and always look forward to seeing them in the courtroom and at their offices.

PERKNER: What makes a successful law student?

FRANSEN: Finding the necessary time to prepare for the classes. The desire to learn the law. Interaction with fellow students. Knowing that effort brings results!

PERKNER: What you do not enjoy about the deanship?

FRANSEN: Failing students.

PERKNER: For years, you have been cultivating contacts between the Law School and its alumni. What do the alumni mean for the school?

FRANSEN: The alumni are the backbone of any law school, the outreach into the community. They aid students in scholarships and jobs.

PERKNER: For ten years now, Humphreys College Law Library has been named after you. As far as I know, you used to work as a librarian yourself...What do you think about law library services in the era of the Internet?

FRANSEN: There will always be a place in the legal system for a good library. It is a place for students and lawyers to come to study the law. Here they will find the statutes and cases that make up the law.

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PERKNER: Upon retirement, you agreed to keep teaching your Evidence class at Humphreys. Besides that, will you pursue any special projects? Suddenly, you will have more time for your family and hobbies. What do you plan?

FRANSEN: I hope to have the time to aid in the advancement of the Law School, to help the faculty, to reach out to the alumni and again teach students how to be good attorneys. Maybe even try to do more flying and some traveling.

~Stanislav Perkner

*Dictum – HC School of Law Alumni Newsletter,*  
December 2003

## CALIFORNIA NARRATIVES: EXCERPTS

### FROM PROFESSOR LESLIE WALTON'S STUDENTS IN CALIFORNIA LITERATURE

If California were to separate from the United States, it would rank eighth in power among worldwide countries (*EconNews*). – **Damany Brown**

California has so much to offer; you just have to make time to do it all. – **Emily Montgomery**

Horseback riding on the beaches of Monterey is such a beautiful experience that I can't wait to do it again on my next birthday. – **Thalia Guerrero**

Once Sam, a good friend from Michigan, landed in Sacramento, we drove an hour south to my home in Stockton. The next day I showed him what Stockton had to offer such as the waterfront/port, the agriculture that surrounds the city, and also some of the nice restaurants the city has to offer. The following day, I introduced Sam to some of my close friends that I have met throughout the years. That night we attended a farmers' market in Lodi, where local farmers bring their fresh produce to market for people to purchase. It was great to experience the small-town atmosphere of Lodi, especially during the Farmers' Market, which is held every Thursday evening during the summer. Farmers' markets are common throughout central California because of the fertile farmland.

I was able to show Sam a good majority of the vast farmland in California on our drive south to San Luis Obispo. I chose to take Interstate 5 to show Sam this side of California because of how important farming is in California. On the way to San Luis Obispo, we observed many different types of agriculture such as oranges, cherries, walnuts, grapes, cabbage, peppers, and many more. Once we arrived in San Luis Obispo, we could smell the salt in the air as we were only a few miles from the Pacific Ocean. When we arrived, it was near dinner time, and I wanted Sam to experience some great fresh seafood, so my friend Alex and I took him to a seafood restaurant on the wharf in Pismo Beach. Sam said that he had never experienced such fresh seafood before and that made me realize that California uses every resource it has such as the farmland and the Pacific Ocean. While in San Luis Obispo, Alex and I took Sam hiking up Bishop Peak and, once we reached the top, we had great views of the landscape. We could see the Pacific Ocean to the West, and the vineyards and farmland to the east. We wrapped up our trip in San Luis Obispo by going to Avila Beach in Pismo Beach. Sam had never been in the Pacific Ocean, so this was a very special time for Sam and his trip to California. – **Hunter Stone**

San Francisco is another beautiful coastal area with nice surfing areas, beaches with huge, craggy rocks and lovely sunsets. The cultural gifts of San Francisco are well known around the world and include art, theater, music, dance, the best sea food restaurants, the Cable Car ride, Pier 39 (and some others), Ghirardelli Square, where the famous chocolate is made while you watch, the Monkey Puzzle trees in the park near Ghirardelli Square, Union Square, and so much more. Drive the California section of the Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 1) from South to North (or vice-versa), stopping in the interesting towns of Malibu, Santa Barbara, San Simeon, Monterey, Santa Cruz, Bodega Bay, and Mendocino. This is undoubtedly one of North America's great driving routes. – **Destiny L. Hodges**

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As I look back reflectively, there isn't one memory that takes precedence over another. I absolutely love this state and each experience is individual and unique. It is and always will be my home. We have the best mixture of everything. We are a culturally diverse people, hands-down have the best food, and we grow and provide much of the nation's fruit and vegetables, for crying out loud. We have mountains, hills, forests, groves, vineyards, the ocean, and so much more. There is always so much to do and see here in California. Even if you've visited a place before, surely there's something you may have overlooked and missed. I still would love to visit Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park near Crescent City (and pretend I'm an ewok from Star Wars) or hang out in Yosemite...possibly climb up Mount Diablo if I'm feeling adventurous or even take a trip up to Twin Peaks in the evening and overlook the City. I would like to participate in the San Jose Bike Party and ride through the South Bay with 2,000 other cyclists, visit Pismo Beach one more time or explore our state's many missions. Call me biased, but I simply couldn't imagine living or wanting to be anywhere else. – **Angela Tabagcura**

Arriving into Lake Tahoe, I started to notice all the different people coming here for one thing, to enjoy this wondrous place. Snowboarders and skiers lined the snow lifts with boards and puffy jackets looking like marshmallows; environmentalists road biked and carried their hemp bags to the stores; tourists had cameras glued to their hands pointed at every mountain; and girls walked to the casinos stumbling about in shoes that I could tell caused them pain.

Before we entered the chaos of the strip, we decided to make our way to the beach. Exiting our car, near the beach, there were piles of snow on the ground that we decided to have a little snowball fight with. We finally walked down to the water and the sun gave me a warm hug. Layers of clothes had to be peeled off, shoes taken off, and jeans rolled up. I walked to the edge of the water and let my feet sink in the sand while the ice blue water splashed upon my ankles. Kevin and I stood there just staring out at the snowy mountains ahead of us while the sun warmed our backs. I could stay here forever, right in that moment. The only sound is the water splashing about. The air is fresh and cool; my lungs are expanding trying to inhale as much as I can. With every incoming of the ice water my feet are sinking deeper and deeper into the sand – but this sand is incredible, it is still tiny rocks waiting to be eroded into dust.

At night I joined the girls in painful shoes as we entered the casinos. We left behind the fresh crisp air and entered a cloud of smoke. A band was playing, waitresses walked about in dresses two sizes too small, older folks were stuck on penny slots, and younger people were stumbling about with drinks in hand. All ages and all races and all walks of life were here just to have a good time and that's all that mattered. – **Katie Withers**

My favored novels always involve a murder mystery. I like *The Maltese Falcon* because of the diverse characters, who are so well developed that I feel as if I know them personally. Hammett's main hero is the private detective Sam Spade. The author displays a special bond of loyalty between Spade and his secretary Effie Perine. After Spade asks Effie to guard a dead body for him in the office, he compliments her tenacity by saying, "You're a damned good man, sister." My favorite character is Brigid O'Shaughnessy, also known as Miss Wonderly. Brigid is the beautiful femme fatale of the novel. She is manipulative and dangerous. A compulsive liar, who uses her charms on Spade's partner Miles Archer, and then on Spade, believing she can get what she wants. She is evil, yet I am awed by her ability to lie so easily and convincingly (Hammett).

The real charm of *The Maltese Falcon* is the setting – San Francisco. Hammett lived at 891 Post Street #401, while writing *The Maltese Falcon*. This apartment is the basis for Sam Spade's apartment in the novel (Coggins). In 1977, Don Herron began conducting The Dashiell Hammett Tour, now the longest-running literary tour in the nation (Herron). Hammett did his drinking at the speakeasy "Frank's Place" near Half Moon Bay. It is now the Moss Beach Distillery ("Half Moon Bay Dining"). – **Julia Hayhurst**

California accepts differences; it is hard for us to believe that others in the United States do not accept different races and are not willing to accept people for who they are. I believe people migrate to California because of its land and people. The attractiveness of California is that people can be free to be who they want to be. – **Jasmin Espinoza**

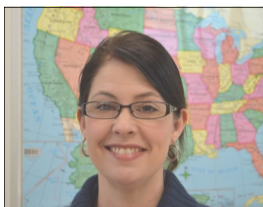


## FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER ...

**HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE SERIES: WINTER 2014**

- ❑ Both New Student Orientation sessions were hosted by ***Santa Lopez-Minatre and Julie Walker***.

- ❑ ***Carly Moreno*** outlined the main differences between high school and college-level learning expectations.



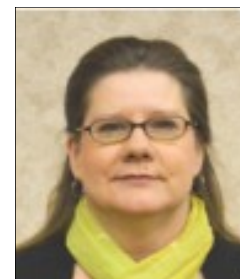
- ❑ ***Linda Rahmoller, Richard Hunt, and Stanislav Perkner*** led eight sessions of the regular Writing Clinic. They covered database search techniques, MLA-style formatting and documentation, and the writing and formatting of college-level papers.

- ❑ ***Jim DeCosta*** invited students to his virtual *Cyber-Café* and introduced them to the elements of a typical online course.



- ❑ “Exploring the Frontier of Knowledge: Language Acquisition” was the topic presented by ***Beverly Clark***.

- ❑ ***Julie Walker*** encouraged students to think about the role of spirituality in modern life. A week later, she spoke about the local job market trends.



- ❑ The final session of the quarter was a Conversation with the Chair of the Court Reporting Department ***Kay Reindl*** and her guests – program’s alumnae ***Angela Sinclair*** and ***Desiree Winn***. The conversation about the latest trends in court reporting was hosted by ***Shivanee Sujata***, court reporting student. (Note: the event is covered in the article on page 3).

## FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER ...

**NEW ONLINE SERVICES  
FOR HUMPHREYS COLLEGE STUDENTS AND FACULTY****EBSCO eBook Academic Collection (126,000 titles)**

This growing subscription package is now available to all Humphreys students and faculty members. The Academic Collection contains almost 130,000 multidisciplinary eBook titles representing a broad range of academic subject matter. It is a strong complement for the printed book academic collection. The breadth of information available through this package ensures that users will have access to information relevant to their research needs.

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### **EBSCO eBook History Collection (10,800 titles)**

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Notable publishers include Brill Academic Press, Oxford University Press, McGill-Queen's University Press, Ashgate Publishing Ltd., University of California Press, and State University of New York Press.

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The publishers include Oxford University Press, University of Chicago Press, Entrepreneur Press, and the American Management Association.

New titles are added to the e-Book packages each month.



## MEET YOUR TEACHER ...

**CRYSTAL HOOTMAN: I REALIZED I WAS DESTINED TO BE A TEACHER****She started her education at Modesto Junior College...**

"I was just taking general education classes trying to figure out what I wanted to do in life, until I took an Earth Science class. I felt it was the easiest course I had ever taken! Then I took a bunch of geology courses and field trips: I became a Geology major. As a junior at Sacramento State, I continued on that path. Upon return to Modesto, I would help in the Geology Lab as a teaching assistant. Soon, I realized I was destined to be a teacher."

**Tell us more about your graduate studies and research.**

"I enrolled back into Sacramento State as a Geology graduate student. For my thesis, I spent three summers working at Lassen Volcanic National Park to study six volcanic domes called Chaos Crags. I created a model of the magma chamber beneath the volcanoes."

**As far as I know, you started your teaching career soon after the graduation.**

"I taught as an adjunct instructor for a year, and then I became a full-time instructor at Heald College, teaching Environmental Science, Math, and Physics. Additionally, I was elected the President for the National Association of Geosciences Teachers. It is fun to be part of the organization; I have the opportunity to attend regular geology conferences in California and Nevada."

**What makes a good student in your field of instruction?**

"The student needs an open mind, be willing to try new things, and get over the fear of science. Science is about observing everything around us. I believe if we take a moment to slow down, we will find amazing things, such as a poppy flower growing among the trash alongside of the road."

**What makes a good professor in your field of instruction?**

"Energy and passion! I feel I live and breathe for science. I have always been an outdoor-type person, and I feel pretty lucky that I have visited many places in the Western United States. I can relate what is currently changing in science to my textbooks. To make science as fun as possible, I create my own PowerPoint presentations with many examples. I also love to take students on field trips to the unique state and national parks in California."

**What do you do for fun?**

"I am a road cyclist—one of those crazy people you see pedaling up a steep hill in spandex for fun. It is very relaxing. I also love to take my son to parks and museums."

**What do you read – besides professional literature? Do you have any favorite television show?**

"My favorite shows are *The Big Bang Theory* and *Psych*. I love Edward Abbey's books about places such as Canyonlands and Arches National Park."

**Your favorite quote?**

"You need to find happiness within yourself first."



## COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- 📌 **CBEST & CSET: Math Refresher.** Rescheduled to **Saturday, April 5** (formerly planned for March 22), this Workshop (9:00 AM-2:30 PM) prepares participants for both teacher exams in math. Whether you are planning to become a teacher and would like the career experience or you want to substitute teach to earn extra money, fill out the registration form, available from Coordinator Donna Roberts, and submit your \$25.00 payment to the Fiscal Office. By passing the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) and earning a bachelor's degree, you are on your way to becoming a credentialed teacher. Led by Professor Edna Chicas and held at our Stockton campus, this is a great opportunity to brush up on your math skills to pass the math portions of both tests. Contact **Donna Roberts** at (209) 235-2934 if you have questions or email her at [donna.roberts@humphreys.edu](mailto:donna.roberts@humphreys.edu).



- 📌 **Laurence Drivon School of Law Informational Meeting.** If you are interested in becoming a lawyer, save the following date: **Tuesday, March 11**, at 7:00 PM. Held in the Courtroom at our Stockton campus, the meeting will cover the following topics: admission, educational requirements, tuition, financial aid, curricula, accreditations, LSAT requirements, and how to become an attorney. Please call **Santa E. Lopez-Minatre**, Director of Admissions, at (209) 478-0800 for additional information.



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### Humphreys College Newsletter, March 2014

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