

# Humphreys College

## Newsletter

JUNE 2015

SPRING QUARTER



### INSIDE

#### FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT—

- ▢ NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS 2
- ▢ COMMUNITY STUDIES NEWS 3

#### FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT—NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

4

#### FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT—DO YOU KNOW HOW TO ASK FOR A RAISE?

6

#### FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

7

#### FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT—

- ▢ GET READY, GET SET, GO CART 8
- ▢ LODI SENTINEL INTERVIEW WITH DINA MARCUS 9
- ▢ SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED 12
- ▢ DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES CSR CANDIDATES 12

#### FROM THE MODESTO CAMPUS—CARRIE CASTILLON INTERVIEW

13

#### FROM ABLE CHARTER—STUDENTS GET SCHOLARSHIPS

14

#### FROM THE LAW SCHOOL—NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

15

#### HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE SEMINARS—SPRING 2015

16

#### AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT—ANNA AKHMATOVA

17

#### POETRY CORNER

18

#### COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

20

## THE BEST OF THE BEST

The Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce at its annual Business Awards luncheon on June 4<sup>th</sup> has awarded Humphreys College the Community Benefit Award for 2015. Included among the best of the best businesses in San Joaquin County, the College was recognized for its assistance of students who were displaced by the abrupt closure of Heald College. President Robert G. Humphreys, Sr., accepted this prestigious award on behalf of the College and acknowledged Dean Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn for her support in the development of a special program to serve the new students. As stated by Dr. Humphreys, Sr., in *Portocall*, the Chamber's official publication, "We felt it was important to try to provide an opportunity for students to finish a program they had started."



## CLASS OF 2015



**GRADUATION REHEARSAL**  
Friday, June 19th  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

**GRADUATION CEREMONY**  
"CLASS OF 2015"



*If you have any questions regarding graduation, please contact the Dean of Administration at (209) 235-2906.*

## FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT ...

**NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Dean of Instruction, Chair

On Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> the Department hosted its annual Alumni Panel Presentation on Career and Educational Opportunities in the Fields of Liberal and Community Studies. Both Dr. Richard Chabot, coordinator of the community studies program, and I invited four speakers to share with students, faculty, and staff their experiences since earning their degrees:

- ❑ **Karen Turk-Gennoe**, a 2014 graduate in Liberal Studies, is now in our master's program on track to earn both her graduate degree and her preliminary Multiple Subject Credential;
- ❑ **Tanya Bennett**, a 2011 graduate in Liberal Studies, is now the Head of Children's Services for the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC), having earned her master's degree in ECE from Grand Canyon University in 2012;
- ❑ **Marnelyn Pablo**, a 2011 graduate in Community Studies, who recently formed her own nonprofit M & J Helping Hands Inc., is employed with a financial management agency as well as a devoted mother to her two sons, Joseph and TJ;
- ❑ **Ella Holman**, a Community Studies graduate from the class of 2011, was featured in the *San Joaquin Women's Magazine* as the Woman of the Year for her volunteering; currently a Housing Specialist for Aspiranet Foster Agency that provides transition for those who age out of the foster care system, she continues to work as a realtor.



With over twenty-five in attendance, the event brought together four dynamic women who had chosen diverse paths. In fact, during the question-answer forum, the speakers began to “network” with one another as they encouraged students to do the same. Ms. Turk-Gennoe, a Humphreys College tutor, emphasized the importance of listening to one of her friends who pressured her to apply to our college. Both now are Humphreys students. Ms. Holman magnified the significance of working in our community to form connections and for self-fulfillment. Ms. Pablo detailed how her choice was influenced by her son's disabilities and the need to secure services for him. Ms. Bennett noted that coming back to Stockton, after living in North Carolina, was important to her and her family. She imparted that working in this community in such a worthwhile organization as CAPC has encouraged her to move forward with her education and complete her doctorate.

Following the presentations, all in attendance sampled the pizza and cookies. Four raffle prizes of Starbucks gift cards were awarded.



The Community Studies Program Review has been completed. With Dr. Chabot's thorough self-study and a program review committee, headed by Dr. Beverly Clark and including faculty members Dr. Stanislav Perkner, Laura Poirier, and alumna Maria Janet Rodriguez, the results were positive and will assist the program in improving educational effectiveness. In addition, the external reviewer, Dr. Amy Liu, from CSU, Sacramento, acted as a consultant in the program review process.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

If you have not registered for Summer Quarter yet, plan to do so soon. The quarter starts July 6<sup>th</sup>, so see your academic advisor as soon as possible. For liberal arts majors, make an appointment with one of the following: Professor Leslie Walton, (209)235-2956; Professor Crystal Hootman, (209)235-2943; or Professor Cynthia Becerra, (209)235-2922. For community studies majors, call Dr. Richard Chabot at (209)235-2930.

## COMMUNITY STUDIES NEWS ...

### RURAL PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

CS296: An internet hybrid social science course for summer 2015\*

Field trips every other Saturday with online resources and discussion

Have you driven east on Hammer or March Lane recently? At the ends of these roads you will find cherry orchards, recently harvested with the fruit destined for Japan, San Francisco, and destruction. Keep driving into Calaveras County and note the large number of recently built but very well hidden subdivisions, small estates with huge houses, and the occasional meth lab. Go rural anywhere in the U.S. and you'll find yourself surrounded by commuting nightmares, Rancher wannabes, creeping suburbias gone bust, a lack of jobs, and locals who can't afford to live on the land they grew up in. This summer Humphreys College is offering a hybrid course on rural realities that relies on text, online resources, and short field trips to understand what makes up rural America and how our area is being affected by globalization, population growth, and urban sprawl. Contact Professor Chabot for more information.



*\*This is an internet hybrid course that meets only every other Saturday morning for field trips to local points of interest in our study of rural life and economy in San Joaquin County.*

### MODERN EAST ASIA AND ITS HISTORY



Do you know why. . . the Chinese were the first nationality to be barred from immigrating to the U.S.. . . Filipinos speak such good English. . . the Japanese economy rebounded so quickly after World War II. . . the U.S. has so many troops in South Korea. . . Vietnam turned Communist. . . the President of Taiwan (ROC) can't even visit the United States. . . ? If these topics hold any interest for you, or if you simply want to know more about that region of the world that is about to

blow by the American economy so fast we'll be breathing their exhaust fumes for the next century, take the Modern Asian History course (HIST120) being offered online by Dr. Chabot this summer quarter. For more information, check the summer course schedule and contact your favorite academic advisor.





FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ...

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Shana Brucia, Chair

### Criminal Justice Program



The Criminal Justice Program offers an Associate in Art and a Bachelor of Science Degree with several concentrations. The two most popular concentrations are Law Enforcement and Corrections / Probation / Parole. The College hired two new adjunct instructors: Lt. Shad Canestrino, Lieutenant for Lodi Police Department, who will be teaching Crim 131 - Gangs and Drugs, and Eric Gora, Sergeant for Pleasanton Police Department, who will be teaching Crim 230 - Sexual Offense and Offenders, in summer 2015.

### Probation Officer Core Course (Probation Academy)

The Probation Academy class 2015 will be graduating on June 26. The graduates will have completed an intensive 212-hour course designed on the STC model. The cadets were tested on various topics both in practical and written form. They participated in hands-on training for report writing and oral interview skills, as well as juvenile and adult justice systems processes, legal foundations for probation and terminology, restitution, fines, and other payment, case information and management as well as record keeping, court reports and presentations, codes, statutes and case law, indicators of psychological problems, gang affiliation indicators, interviewing and counseling. This course is designed to provide practical training in police tactics and weapon usage. It included demanding classroom training exercises and a rigorous physical weaponless defense training.

### CONGRATULATIONS STC CADET GRADUATES!



Criminal Justice Club

### Criminal Justice Club – Beta Alpha Sigma

On March 31, Beta Alpha Sigma Club held a Criminal Justice Workshop on Drugs Abuse. It was hosted by Lt. Sierra Brucia from Lodi Police Department (Instructor at Humphreys College in the Criminal Justice Department). The students learned about a variety of different drugs, including their manufacturing, transportation, sales, and the effects on the body. Students also learned about new upcoming drugs and trends; they saw various types of drugs during a “show and tell” workshop.

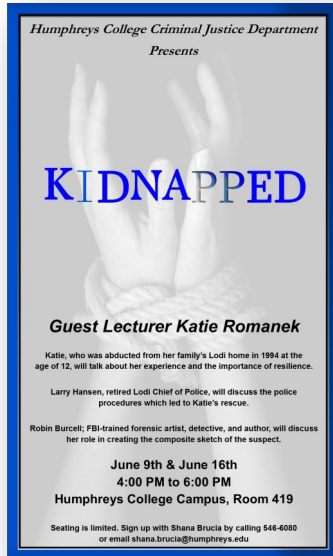
Beta Alpha Sigma is a club designed to

1. “Improve criminal justice through educational activities,
2. Foster professionalism in law enforcement personnel and agencies,
3. Promote professional, academic, and public awareness of criminal justice issues,
4. Encourage the establishment and expansion of higher education and professional training in criminal justice,
5. Provide a unified voice for professionals in, and students of criminal justice, and
6. Promote high standards of ethical conduct, professional training, and higher education within the criminal justice field.”



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)



### Beta Alpha Sigma's Next Workshop

On June 9th and June 16<sup>th</sup>, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Room 419 at Humphreys College, the club will be hosting a KIDNAPPED symposium, featuring kidnapped victim Katie Romanek, Retired Chief of Lodi Police Larry Hansen, and Retired Police Officer / Sketch Artist Robin Burcell.

For the first time since her 1994 abduction from the Lodi family residence, Katie will be talking about her experiences and the importance of resilience. Chief Hansen will be discussing the police procedure that led to Katie's rescue, and Officer Burcell will discuss her FBI-trained forensic artistry and her role in creating the composite sketch of the suspect.

This symposium is open to all students; however, seating is limited, so please sign up with Shana Brucia by calling 546-6080 or email at [shana.brucia@humphreys.edu](mailto:shana.brucia@humphreys.edu).

### Criminal Justice Department Chair News

I am currently the Vice-President of the Lodi Crime Stoppers Board and the Lodi Police Foundation Board. I have been a member of these two organizations for two years. On March 26, The Lodi Police Foundation Board received the 2014 Chief's Award from Lodi Police Department Chief of Police Mark Helms. Chief Helms presented this award to the foundation for our commitment to the community through our ambitious fund raising in excess of \$200,000, to purchase and provide an armored rescue vehicle for the Lodi Police Department. This vehicle will help ensure the Lodi community is safe and public safety guardians are prepared when tragedy strikes. I am honored to be a part of this group of people who show such a high degree of professionalism and integrity within the community.



On May 11, I was recruited as a volunteer by Lt. Shad Canestrino from the Lodi Police Department, who was the Incident Commander for the Stage 2 (LODI) - 2015 Amgen Tour of California. The Amgen Tour is a cyclist race which is eight days long. Cyclists bike from Sacramento to Nevada City, Nevada City to Lodi, Lodi to San Jose, San Jose to Pismo Beach, Pismo Beach to Avila Beach, Avila Beach to Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara to Santa Clarita, Santa Clarita to Ontario, Ontario to Mt. Baldy, and Mount Baldy to Pasadena. Needless to say, I was thrilled to be a part of this monumental day in Lodi's history. It was a tremendous event for the city, bringing thousands of people to Hutchins Street Square to cheer on the 144 cyclists crossing the finish line. This event put Lodi on the map as it was broadcast around the world. Congratulations on a successful event, Lt. Canestrino (Instructor at Humphreys College in the Criminal Justice Department)!

FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT...

## DO YOU KNOW HOW TO ASK FOR A RAISE?

By Jason K. Wolins, Chair

Quick show of hands: How many of you think you are being paid more than you're worth?

How many have employers who just walk up to employees each year and offer pay raises?



A March 29, 2015, article in *The Sacramento Bee*, p. D9, entitled “How to ask for a raise” asserts that it is the responsibility of employees to approach their superiors about pay increases. Here are some things it presented.

Asking for a raise is stressful and raises some other questions:

1. How should you best handle the topic?
2. What should you do if your supervisor says, no?
3. What is a reasonable salary or wage?

So, how should you prepare for a meeting to ask for a raise? Here are some suggestions:

- **Do your research.** Research what others in similar positions are being paid. Try typing “salary calculator” or something similar in your search box and see what comes up.

For example, one resource that came up when I tried it was <http://salary.careerbuilder.com/>.

- **Calculate how long you have worked at your firm.** If you have worked at an organization a long time, that may be in your favor. And, don't forget to say how much you enjoy working there and what a good job you have been doing.

Remember, it may cost more money to replace you than if your employer just gives you a raise.

- **Look at your company's financial condition.** Just the goings on around the office may be tip offs. Some examples: Your employer has eliminated jobs, taken away incentives, stopped those office parties, etc.

Use some common sense—if you see these red flags, it may be a good idea to wait until things improve to ask for a raise.

- **Practice your sales pitch.** Go over the reasons you feel you deserve a raise. Assemble your proof. For example, in a sales-based job, prepare a spreadsheet of your sales; present any customer testimonials you have.
- **What would you do if your request for a raise is denied?** One possibility: Look for another job. But what if it's just a bad time to ask for a raise? Maybe ask your supervisor when it may be the right time to ask again.

One other possibility: Try negotiating for some other benefits, like maybe a gym membership or child-care expenses.

- **Choose a good time for an appointment with your supervisor.** Wait until deadlines are over or your supervisor has returned from a vacation. You want your boss relaxed and in a good mood!

So, if you feel you are going above and beyond the call of duty at work, present your case for a raise. And, good luck, of course.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

### ***Business Department Community Activities Update***

This is the time of year where there are 1) two accounting/finance student night banquets, 2) an on-campus scholarship award ceremony and career night, and 3) a Chamber of Commerce award luncheon. Here are some recent Business Department community activities in these areas:



- ◆ On March 19, the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) chapter in Modesto held its annual student night banquet for Accounting and Finance students. Ten Humphreys students attended.
- ◆ On April 22, the Stockton IMA chapter held a similar banquet. Nine Humphreys students attended.
- ◆ On June 1, two local Risk Management Association (RMA) chapter representatives and an accountant who is a member came to the Humphreys campus to award an annual RMA scholarship and give a presentation about the RMA and careers with organizations that deal in risk management (such as banks, and accounting firms).
- ◆ On June 4, department chair Jason Wolins attended the annual Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards Luncheon as part of the Humphreys College contingent. Humphreys College received the Community Benefit Award for its outreach to former Heald College students.

### **FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT...**

## **NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

By Pam Wood, Chair



Our Early Childhood Education Department enjoyed another annual WEEK of the YOUNG CHILD celebration. The focus of this year's event was based on our ECE Program Review, which recommended that we pair up with a

community organization. Our recent visit to Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) resulted in forming a partnership with the agency. Many of our Humphreys College ECE students and alumni are employed at Child Abuse Prevention Council which makes our partnership even more meaningful.



During this year's celebration, our students were involved in the Pinwheels for Prevention program and collected funds to be donated to the Child Abuse Prevention Council. Thank you to our Modesto campus staff and students who also took part in this program!



Shauna Bazuniz-Jacob, in charge of Development/Community Outreach, attended our

ECE 101, Child Development class, adding to their study of community resources in our area. Shauna Bazuniz-Jacob was also the guest speaker along with Humphreys alumna Tanya Bennett, who is the Director of Children's Services at CAPC, for the spring quarter Academic Council sponsored workshop that was held on Thursday, April 16. Staff and students enjoyed this event and were made aware of the numerous programs sponsored by our local Child Abuse Prevention Council.



Shauna Bazuniz-Jacob



Tanya Bennett

Thank you to all who donated to this year's Pinwheels for Prevention!



*FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT...*

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Kay Reindl, Chair

## GET READY, GET SET ... GO CART!

*Recently, the Court Reporting Department at Humphreys College partnered with Rhett Simmons, owner of West Coast Captioning, to present a three-part series of Saturday workshops focusing on CART reporting.*



Attendees were half students and half working CSRs. Attendance exceeded expectations with most participants from local areas, while some traveled from the Bay Area, Napa, and Madera. Several Humphreys' alumnae, both recent and past, were in attendance.

The focus was to inform and educate people on the growing career of Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) captioning. This was accomplished through several delivery methods, including lecture and hands-on training. A panel of hard-of-hearing CART consumers spoke of their appreciation of the services. They also offered tips on how their needs are best met. The panel of providers discussed the rewards and benefits of pursuing this career path. Hearing from both the

consumers and the providers was very informative and impressive to most participants. Comments included: “There is so little information out there to break into this field, so learning from those who have been working in the field is so valuable!” “Super informative! Loved being able to hear firsthand from the consumer panel. Very touching.”

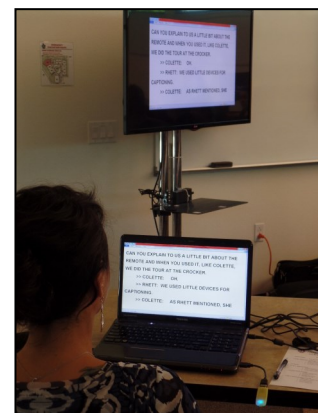
Rhett Simmons is a Humphreys' alumna who began her career offering CART in 1992 while attending Humphreys College. For the past 22 years she has been providing CART services for governmental, public, and nonprofit agencies as well as CART consumers in many venues, in addition to remote captioning.



The informational session included topics such as the differences between CART provision and court reporting, the skills required to be a successful CART provider; relevant federal legislation; and societal settings where CART services are needed. Other seminar topics covered instruction and practice with basic American Sign Language, ethics related to deaf and/or hard-of-hearing consumers of CART services, cultural issues, role play of ethical situations; workstation setup, and nuances of reporting as a CART provider versus as a court reporter. West Coast Captioning staff members were present at each session to address questions and provide additional expertise along with captioning.

Overall, the following evaluation comments were reflective of a successful endeavor:

- “This was so informative! I came in with a CSR mindset and left wanting to switch to a captioner/CART provider.”
- “Incredibly informative, interesting, and inspiring.”
- “CART is more than just taking down steno. I used to think of CART as a plan B. After this course, I feel like CART could be a plan A after I get certified.”
- “I just want to reiterate I have dragged myself out of my busy world of court reporting school, two part-time jobs, single motherhood, and a long drive to three days of very informative, important, and motivational experience.”





LODI NEWS-SENTINEL, MAY 21, 2015 ...

## **SO YOU WANT TO BE A COURT REPORTER: COURT REPORTING REQUIRES SPEED, ACCURACY, KNOWLEDGE**

By Kyla Cathey, News – Sentinel staff writer (Lodi)



Dina Marcus didn't plan to become a court reporter.

"I didn't even know what it was," she said.

The Galt High School graduate's family came to the Lodi area from the Azores, far off the coast of Portugal, when Marcus was 2 years old. They entered the dairy business, but Marcus didn't see a future for herself in that industry.

She visited Humphreys College to find out about becoming a legal secretary when the receptionist asked whether Marcus had considered court reporting. The receptionist, who was studying to become a court reporter herself, said it paid better, and she could always fall back on being a legal secretary if it didn't work out, Marcus said.

The two jobs ended up having very little in common aside from being in the legal field, Marcus found out.

Court reporters use a machine called a stenographer to exactly transcribe depositions, court sessions, and other events where accuracy is vital. Legal secretaries do typical secretarial work as well as helping lawyers research and file court documents.

The stenographer looks a little like a typewriter, but that's as far as the similarities go.

"It's like playing the piano, many fingers go down at one time," Marcus said.

Marcus learned well.

Now she owns Marcus Deposition Reporting, where she works with eight independent contractors who work on civil cases — everything from medical malpractice to environmental lawsuits.

Marcus recently spoke with the News-Sentinel about the ins and outs of court reporting in this edited interview.

**Q: What sort of education and skills do you need to be a court reporter?**

**A:** I started the program (at Humphreys College). You learn the theory, you learn how to use the machine, and then you build up your speed. The whole thing is about speed-building, and you have to pass many tests throughout your education at each speed. They're in 10-word increments, so you start out at 60 words a minute, 70 words a minute, 80, 90, and you have to pass three tests at each (speed) at 98.5 (percent accuracy).

In order to be certified, you have to pass a test given by the state and it's two days long. That is courtroom testimony at 200 words a minute, and you also have to take the written test, where you're tested on medical terminology, legal procedure and English.

While you're in school learning to build up your speed, you also have to take other classes to get your Associate of Science degree. (We study a lot of English grammar) because when we're writing what people are saying, they don't speak with periods and commas. We have to understand where to insert those to make the testimony read smoothly. People don't speak smoothly.

*(Continued on page 10)*

*(Continued from page 9)*

**Q: What kind of court reporting do you do? Mainly depositions?**

**A:** We do depositions — civil, so it would be non-criminal cases. The court reporters who are employed by the court, they do the criminal. But we go to court to take trials all the time, but it's civil, not criminal. ... Malpractice, not a lot of divorce. We see mostly wrongful termination, environmental cases. ...

But when I was a new reporter working for other firms, I would fill in at the courts and do criminal if needed. It's very depressing, it's very disturbing for me. It just takes a special kind of person to do that kind of work and I was not cut out to do criminal (cases). ... The inmates are right next to you, and it's weird. ...

**Q: Have you ever had moments when it's really hard to keep your composure?**

**A:** Oh yes. There was one case I took in Lake Tahoe and it was a lady who had a very severe accident, and she became mentally impaired. She had a daughter who was also mentally impaired, and so she couldn't take care of her daughter. So she was mentally impaired, but she knew what was going on enough to know she was (disabled) for the rest of her life and she couldn't take care of her daughter.

That was hard. I've had many cases like that. ... There was another case, same thing, a paraplegic who had lost his ability to walk. It was a really bad accident. We do a lot of cases like that.

**Q: What is it like to not be able to share your opinion on the cases you cover?**

**A:** It's hard sometimes. The attorneys ask all the time. All the time.

Usually at depositions during a break or afterwards ... they ask, because we have a very close relationship with them and they trust us. We are all officers of the court. But as a court reporter, we shouldn't provide any opinion, ever. Absolutely not. They can tell right away that they're asking the wrong person for an opinion.

But they know that we get to hear so many different sides of the testimony so they want our opinions, or our support. But we're not supposed to give our opinions, definitely not. We're supposed to be completely unbiased.

**Q: What's the biggest misconception about your job?**

**A:** That we're typists. We are not typists. ... The process that we take in writing has nothing to do with typing at all. We're writing up to 340 words a minute. ... All your fingers are going down at one time and you're squishing phrases together, creating a brief form so that you can write what people are saying as fast as they are talking. Many times you're going faster than them; you want to be going faster than them.

**Q: How has new technology changed the job?**

**A:** We have court reporting software that translates our notes into English. It's excellent.

Technology is what keeps us so viable and relevant. People ask me all the time, "Why don't you just use tape recorders?" You can't use tape recorders, because you don't know who's speaking. You hand over the tapes to a typist, and the typist doesn't know who's speaking. (If they don't understand the testimony), they'll leave the transcript with blank parts that say, "Unintelligible."

(Court reporters are) able to see who's speaking, stop them, question them, and get that testimony. And we're skilled in that regard, to understand many people talking at the same time. We see them and can distinguish who's speaking, and identify them on our machines. And it's simultaneously being transferred into English. You can't get any faster than that.

*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

**Q: What's the hardest thing to master?**

**A:** The speed and the terminology. ... You have to have a very good grasp of the English language.

**Q: Is it hard to go back and forth between the stenographer and your home computer?**

**A:** No. They're so different, it's not hard at all.

**Q: What's your favorite thing about the job?**

**A:** The people. It's something new every day. And I love the ability to make my own money. It's a great profession, and it's well paid, but it's not easy. It's challenging and rewarding at the same time.

You learn about so many different lifestyles and people. You're educated by experts in different fields. You learn about everything. It's like reading the paper on steroids every day.

**Q: What advice do you have for anyone who wants to go into this field?**

**A:** Don't expect it to be easy. Do not expect it to be quick. You have to be patient and work hard. And you really need to make sure that you have the personality to be a court reporter.

Contact reporter Kyla Cathey at [kylac@lodinews.com](mailto:kylac@lodinews.com).

### Court Reporting at a Glance

- ▢ Average salary nationwide: \$55,000 per year
- ▢ Average salary in California: \$84,430 per year
- ▢ Education: Many community colleges and technical institutes offer postsecondary certificate or associate degree programs for court reporters, though a bachelor's degree is recommended. Many states require court reporters who work in legal settings to be licensed or certified by a professional association.

— Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

---

## LETTER: THANK YOU FOR STORY ABOUT DINA MARCUS

POSTED: Wednesday, May 27, 2015, Lodi News Sentinel



Thank you for publishing the recent interview with Dina Marcus, court reporter and Lodi business owner. Dina Marcus is the epitome of a professional court reporter. Her success exemplifies the rewards of this challenging profession. Technology is not poised to replace humans with the ability to “take down” multiple speakers at varying speeds in often busy and noisy environments.

Rather, technology has enabled court reporters to deliver real-time translation of the spoken word in court proceedings, depositions, live broadcast captioning, and when providing communication access for individuals who are deaf and hard-of-hearing, both in person and remotely.

Humphreys College, Stockton, is proud to claim Ms. Marcus as one of our alumni. We have been educating court reporters for over 50 years. Our graduates benefit from our solid reputation in the profession and are gainfully

(Continued on page 12)



*(Continued from page 11)*

employed in their chosen field. According to an independent study in 2014 by Ducker Worldwide, demand for court reporters will exceed supply within five years, yielding a nationwide shortage.

By 2018, there will be 5,500 new court reporter jobs available in the U.S., with demand in California identified as one of the highest in the nation. Currently, there are approximately 32,000 working court reporters in the U.S., with 70 percent over 46 years of age. As these reporters retire, there will be an increased demand for qualified reporters.

Thank you for highlighting this growing career option.

*Kay Reindl*

*CSR, CRI Department Chair, Court Reporting  
Humphreys College, Stockton*

---

## COURT REPORTING STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS



*Monica Villalobos*

Two court reporting students were recently honored at a dinner meeting of the San Joaquin Legal Professionals Association. The Maude Hamilton Scholarship was awarded to both Whitney Adair and Monica Villalobos. They each applied in two different categories and each won the local scholarship in their respective categories. Both applications and essays were sent forward to the state level. Whitney won first place in her category at the state level and will receive an additional scholarship. Monica came in third in her category and will be recognized with a ribbon and certificate. Congratulations, ladies, for earning such high distinctions!



*Whitney Adair*

---

## COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES CSR CANDIDATES

The Court Reporting Department has a long-standing tradition of recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of students who have qualified to sit for the Certified Shorthand Reporters Examination. Recently, Samantha Nutt and Carrie Kahn were the honorees at a CSR Reception. Samantha and Carrie will be taking the CSR Dictation Exam in Los Angeles on July 3, 2015.

The guest speaker was Brooke Ryan, CSR. Brooke graduated from Humphreys and earned her license in 1996. Since then, she has carved out an impressive career as a court reporter, working for many years as an official in the Sacramento Superior Court. She has served on the Board of CCRA since 2009. At CCRA's fall convention, she will be sworn in as president of that association. For the past 5 ½ years, she has volunteered as the Vice Chair within her bargaining unit for United Public Employees Union. She shared words of encouragement for the future of the court reporting profession and the current demand for qualified reporters. She assured all that the future of court reporting is bright.



*Guest Speaker, Brooke Ryan;  
CSR Candidates, Samantha Nutt and  
Carrie Kahn*

**FROM THE MODESTO CAMPUS ...****CARRIE CASTILLON, DIRECTOR OF THE MODESTO CAMPUS**  
**“THE TYPICAL MODESTO STUDENT IS NOT TYPICAL ...”**

*She has worked at Humphreys College in Modesto since 2000 as the admissions counselor, job placement coordinator, administrative supervisor, and building manager. In April, she was appointed the Director of the Modesto Campus. As Carrie Castillon told us, she feels fortunate to work with her “small but mighty team.”*

**Tell us first about your childhood and education.**

“I grew up on a huge crops and cattle farm in south Georgia. I enjoyed a summer in Venezuela when I was 16. I also lived in Texas and graduated from Texas A&M University in College Station. I have a B.A. in English and a minor in Psychology.”

**How would you characterize your professional background?**

“I have had the opportunity to live and work in several unique places. I worked in publishing for ten years—scientific journals in Texas and business textbooks in San Francisco. As an academic advisor for Early Childhood Education majors at the University of Maryland, College Park, I worked with numerous transfer students from various community colleges from the surrounding Washington, D.C. area.”

**As far as I know, your son just graduated from high school...**

“Yes, I have one son who just graduated and will be attending University of Oregon in the fall. My husband is the Director of Research at a large wholesale nursery. I organize a Living Gift Market each year for Heifer Project International, a nonprofit organization that I fully support.”

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

“I love to make candy and collect vintage cookbooks. I also enjoy shopping for antiques, collectibles, and upcycled furniture. My favorite night out is an independent film at our local State Theatre or a music show at the Gallo Center. I love mystery movies and listening to NPR. Do not phone me on Sunday night because I am watching “Call the Midwife” on PBS. No drive is too far for some delicious beef barbecue!”

**What is an interesting book you have read recently?**

“I am part of a women’s book group who reads books that promote community nurturing and social action. I recently read *Year of Plenty* by Craig Goodwin. It has inspired me to focus more on buying local products in my own community and supporting local businesses in my daily life; also, ‘less is more’ is the better attitude.”

**Who is a typical Modesto student?**

“The typical Modesto student is not typical. We have a variety of ages including recent high school graduates, moms headed back to school, and working people advancing their education or looking for a career change. We are fortunate to have several veterans on our campus.”

**Tell us about the Modesto area as a home of your students.**

“Modesto enjoys a melting pot of individuals including vibrant Mexican, Assyrian, and Asian populations. The current population of Modesto is almost 205 thousand. Students drive from as far as Los Banos, Hilmar, Merced,

*(Continued on page 14)*



(Continued from page 13)

Tracy, Manteca, Sonora, Turlock, Waterford, Oakdale, Ceres, and Patterson to attend classes at the Modesto Campus. I have recently been asked to serve on the committee for the Modesto Chamber of Commerce State of Business and Education Annual Event. The purpose is to build relations between businesses and education resulting in a better educated work force for our immediate community. I am proud to say that Humphreys College has been supporting the community of the greater Central Valley for well over a hundred years by providing quality education with a flexible schedule."

### **How has the Modesto Campus changed over the 15 years that you have worked for the College?**

"For years, students could only complete an associate degree at the Modesto Campus. They could start a bachelor's degree, but they would have to finish it in Stockton. Students may now complete an entire bachelor's degree at the Modesto Campus. Due to enrollment growth, the campus facilities expanded in 2007 with new administrative and faculty offices and more classrooms. We have hosted several events, for example, coffee hours with the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as well as guest speaker presentations from various community organizations such as Without Permission, Center for Human Services, and League of Women Voters. Last year, we hosted the second annual Art-a-Palooza with numerous photographs, paintings, and sculptures on display from our students, staff, and faculty. We offer a quarterly seminar series for our students as well as student appreciation days."

### **What do you see in the future for the Modesto Campus?**

"We currently offer day classes only on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I hope to see day classes on Mondays and Wednesdays in the future as the student population grows. I want more opportunities to invite the community to our campus, so they can see just how wonderful it is to be a student at Humphreys College."

### **What is your life credo?**

"I agree with Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.*"

### **Any advice to students?**

"My advice to students is to not just do the minimum work necessary to get by, but instead put their best foot forward every day."



## **FROM THE ABLE CHARTER SCHOOL ...**

## **HUMPHREYS ABLE STUDENTS GET SCHOLARSHIPS**



In May, Humphreys College hosted the tenth annual Gregory Victor Vaughn Scholarship Dinner at the Stockton Golf and Country Club. More than two hundred fifty guests attended the event which has raised and awarded more than \$100,000 for scholarships over the past ten years. Each of the fourteen recipients received a \$1,000 scholarship to help with tuition, books, and other expenses as they continue from ABLE to Humphreys College.

(Continued on page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

Students at ABLE have the opportunity to take college classes concurrently with their high school classes, which count toward their associate and bachelor degrees at Humphreys. Many of these students will already have some college credits when they begin at Humphreys this summer or fall. Two students this year, Sokunthy Chea and Mahogany Binder, began taking classes during their junior year at ABLE and will receive their high school diploma and associate degree at the same time. Classes taken at Humphreys by ABLE students are at no cost to the students, thus giving them an opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree in half the time, and at half the cost.

This year's event was attended by Mayor Anthony Silva as well as representatives of Congressman Jerry McNerney, D-Stockton, State Senator Cathleen Galgiani, D-Stockton, Assembly member Susan Talamontes-Eggman, D-Stockton, along with College President Dr. Robert Humphreys Sr., College Provost and Academic Vice President Dr. Robert Humphreys Jr., Dean of Administration and ABLE board chair Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn, Dean of Instruction Cynthia Becerra, and Associate Dean Dr. Lisa Kooren. Also attending were the members of the board, administration, and staff of both ABLE and Humphreys College.

FROM THE LAURENCE DRIVON LAW SCHOOL ...

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By L. Patrick Piggott, Dean



Commencement Exercises for the graduating class of 2015 for Humphreys College Laurence Drivon School of Law was held on Saturday,

May 23, at the Jerry Medina Courtyard at Humphreys College in Stockton. The Law School, established in 1951, offers a professional program of education leading to the Juris Doctor Degree. Dr. Robert Humphreys, Sr., President of the College, and Patrick Piggott, Dean of the Law School, presented the degrees to 34 high-achieving Juris Doctorate candidates. Valedictorian was Ashley Dowd, and Salutatorian was Joshua Clayton.



We are pleased to announce that the following Drivon School of Law graduates passed the February 2015 bar examination: Trina Cervantes, Joshua Clayton, Melissa Dougherty, Maegan Fulenchek, Toni Hoang, Anish Singh, Grace Smith, Robert Hickey, Anthony Hill, Mathew Massod, Matthew Ornelas, Tahnjah Poe, Shannon Ripple, Andrea Sanchez, and Eddie Torres.



We had 15 graduates pass the bar in February. Six of them attended the swearing in ceremony. Left to right are Anthony Hill, Grace Smith, Trina Cervantes, Melissa Dougherty, Tahnjah Poe, and Toni Hoang.

## FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER ...

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE: SEVENTEEN WORKSHOPS OFFERED IN THE SPRING QUARTER

- ❑ During the first week of the quarter, both New Student Orientation sessions were hosted by *Santa Lopez-Minatre* and *Julie Walker*. Additionally, *Santa Lopez-Minatre* offered two workshops titled “Your College Experience as a Challenge and an Opportunity.”
- ❑ *Richard Hunt* led four sessions about the online database searches of periodicals and books.

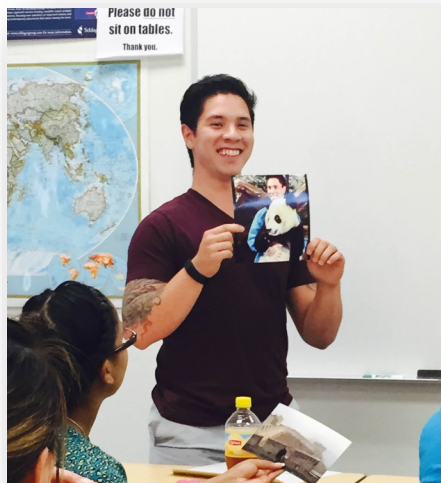


- ❑ *Linda Rahmoller* invited students to the Writing Lab to share her experiences with the formatting and documentation of college papers in the APA style.
- ❑ *Stanislav Perkner* offered two workshops of the regular “Writing Clinic.” He covered the writing and documentation of research-based papers.
- ❑ *Jason Wolins* focused on the role of the mass media as learning tools in academia. His presentation was accompanied by a display of various periodical publications.

- ❑ *Cynthia Becerra*, along with student Thomas Wagner, addressed the question “How to Succeed in Your Online Course.”
- ❑ “Unintended Plagiarism and How to Prevent It” was a topic presented by *Stanislav Perkner*.



- ❑ The final session offered an opportunity to meet two current students of Humphreys College: Samuel R. Long talked about his childhood spent in Thailand and Scott Campbell about his extended martial arts training in China. The conversation with the two world travelers was moderated by *Julia Hayhurst*.



## AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

### ANNA AKHMATOVA: AN EPIC HERO



“I somehow sense the groaning and the sorrows  
Of unrecognized, imprisoned voices.”—Anna Akhmatova (1889-1966)

It was in 1980, in a graduate class at California State University, Sacramento, when I first became aware of her poetry. I was pregnant with my first child. Like her, I was to have a son. Unlike the poet—Anna Akhmatova—my son would never be held in a Russian prison intermittently for over seven years because of things that I said or wrote. But Akhmatova’s son Lev Nikolayevich was victimized by the Soviet police along with millions of other people for minor political infractions during the Stalin regime. In her award-winning poetry collection *Requiem*, she embraces her voice as a national poet capable of expressing the horrors imposed on the Russian people during Stalin’s terrors, as evidenced in the following:

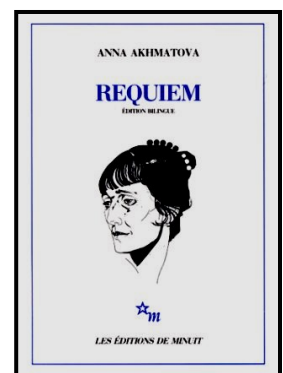
I remember them always and everywhere,  
And if they shut my tormented mouth,

Through which a hundred million of my people cry,  
Let them remember me also. . . .

Born in 1889 in the then Russian Empire in the city of Bol’shoy Fontan, Akhmatova was the third child of Andrey and Inna Erazovna. Her childhood was fraught with family illness, including the death of her younger sister from tuberculosis and her own near-death experience from smallpox. Both would affect her dramatically; in fact, after her recovery, she began writing poetry. Her work led her to her first husband, Nikolay Gumilyov, her first collection of poetry *Evening* (1912) and the birth of her only son. Labeled initially as a “love” poet, she became enormously popular; in fact, I have watched a video of her at a poetry reading, performing to a crowd of young people that looked like one of our rock concerts today.

As her popularity increased, she was faced with political unrest: the Russian Revolution broke out in 1917 closely followed by the Bolsheviks’ seizing power. Divorcing her first husband, she remarried a historian named Vladimir Shileiko. At that time, the climate for writers, poets, and scholars was difficult as the Communists rose to power. In 1921 Akhmatova’s first husband, also a poet, was executed for conspiracy against the new regime, placing her life in jeopardy because of their obvious connection. Although she had published several more collections during this time, she was publicly denounced by poets politically aligned with the Soviet regime and was advised to leave the Soviet Union by her friends and supporters.

When I read this for my class back in 1980, my first thought was why didn’t she leave with her son? As a result of her numerous publications, she would have been well received by other poets and writers throughout Europe. But I soon discovered through her works that she loved her country and her people so much that she was willing to sacrifice herself and even the safety of her son to stay and become the poet of the people.



For this choice she was ousted from the Soviet Writers’ Union and not allowed to publish for decades. Forced to live with friends, she agonized over her son’s frequent arrests during the Stalin purges from 1935 to 1938. Referenced in her poems as the Black Marias, the secret police would come into communities and arrest people in the middle of the night—many never to be seen again. Her health also suffered: first she contracted typhus while giving poetry readings in hospitals; then she suffered a heart attack in 1940. During this time, her poetry was rarely published and if a brave magazine did so, it was

(Continued on page 18)



(Continued from page 17)

closed. According to the Soviet decree banning her work along with another poet Mikhail Zoshchenko, the poets were responsible for “poisoning the minds of Soviet youth.”

At times in hopes of helping her son, she relented and published propagandist poems in support of the regime; however, Lev was not released until the death of Stalin six years later. During Nikita Krushchev’s leadership, Akhmatova’s works were published but severely censored. During the years of censorship and silence, she managed to still have her works transmitted to others, including those beyond the Russian border. In fact, according to published reports, she would write the poems on cigarette wrapping paper and transmit them to others utilizing the oral tradition. Once read, the slips of paper would be burned. As a result, Europe knew of her and she was awarded an Italian literary award and an honorary degree at Oxford University in 1965 for which she traveled to England to accept. Twice nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature, she became known as the chronicler of the Terror. For her collection *Requiem*, noted earlier, she wrote in secret; it was first published in Munich, Germany, in 1963. It was not released in the Soviet Union until 1987—over twenty years after her death in 1966.



As a result of her son’s imprisonment and her decisions, their relationship remained strained as he believed that she had not done enough to liberate him. However, I contend that his perception is faulty. To have said or published anything—as noted with the cycle of propagandist poems that she did in 1950—would have done very little and, in fact, may have led to a more negative result (close to a half a million were executed during this time). In her defense, she did what she knew that she could do for all of the sons of the Soviet Union who had become victims: she wrote about it so that all the world would know what had occurred during the Stalin era.

In *Requiem* she becomes the epic poet who narrates one of the most terrifying times in human history—as estimates of the deaths during Stalin’s regime range from 3 million to 60 million (compare to the more well-known Holocaust of World War II with 11 million victims). And notably, she wishes, as stated in the final lines of her poem, to have a bronze statue of her placed in front of the Leningrad prisons, not in beautiful resort city or the capital, but where she waited with millions of mothers like her for the release of their sons: “We rose as if for an early service, /trudged through the savaged capital/And met there, more lifeless than the dead.”

Anna Akhmatova reminds us that the accuracy of the annals of human history—especially the unbelievably cruel and astonishing moments—depends on those who are willing to sacrifice their own lives to record what is true to become a part of a “secret chorus” when the epic is read aloud. Sometimes this chorus is composed of women—primarily mothers—who just hope for something better, not for themselves or even for their sons but for the future: “hope keeps singing from afar.”

~ Cynthia S. Becerra

## Poetry Corner

### *Eve Told Adam*

By Dr. Kerry Moquett

(a poem inspired by John Milton’s *Paradise Lost*)

*Eve told Adam it would be better for us to work apart.  
We’d get more garden tended from each morning start.  
Adam asked Eve why such a thought  
When you know well the lessons Gabriel to us taught.  
We must stay together for risks he said were great;  
Lucifer the fallen has plans to destroy our perfect state.*

(Continued on page 19)

*(Continued from page 18)*

*Eve told Adam I am well aware surely of the plot.  
I beg you to trust me for I will be deceived not.  
Adam told Eve you need to stay with me and obey God's voice.  
But Eve replied it makes no sense when we have freedom of choice.  
Adam told Eve go if you must and work alone  
But heed Gabriel's warning or all our bliss will be gone.*

*Eve left Adam and wandered far out of sight.  
Come back he called to Eve before the fall of night.  
Eve walked on, stunned at the beauty of the vines, the flowers and trees.  
But a sight ahead caused her gait to instantly freeze.  
She spied a serpent before she had not seen.  
It did not crawl but walked on legs and shown brilliant green.*

*The serpent told Eve I see you and Adam work apart.  
Eve asked the serpent how in speech it can practice such an art.  
The serpent told Even I am here to make you wise.  
The serpent saw it had intrigued by the gleam in Eve's eyes.  
Eve asked the serpent just what do I need to do.  
The serpent told Eve just eat the fruit from a tree and all will be revealed to you.*

*Eve asked the serpent which tree should I go find.  
The serpent told Eve it is tree possessing the fruit with deep crimson rind.  
Eve told the serpent that it is a tree of which I cannot eat.  
God has forbidden Adam and me from this one garden treat.  
The serpent asked Eve so why has God made this so.  
Could it be that he truly is afraid for you to know?*

*Eve asked the serpent what would I come to know?  
The serpent told Eve she would be equal to God, not just to follow.  
Go see for yourself and find this forbidden tree.  
Eve asked the serpent then God's knowledge will be with Adam and me?  
The serpent told Eve to eat the fruit to have knowledge of all  
And be equal to God and his angels and never fear a fall.  
So onward went Eve to find the tree, as the serpent crept away.  
She searched and found the forbidden tree before the end of day.  
With fear dismissed, she picked the fruit and took a bite.  
But no new knowledge came to her and thus returned to fright.  
As the day was ending and night approached, back to Adam she flew.  
The words she feared from Adam she know  
She showed him the fruit and the bite she had taken.  
He spoke in soft but his soul was shaken.*

*Adam asked Eve why did you leave and make us be apart?  
You disobeyed the command of God and broken in two my heart.  
I cannot live without you, Eve; you are my mate and wife.  
I join you now and taste the fruit and lose our perfect life.  
Adam told Eve I blame myself for your sinful choice.  
If I only I had made you stay with me and listen to my voice.*

*And so the heavens rumbled and angels cried in sorrow.  
For Adam and Eve paradise would be no tomorrow.  
Michael appeared, descending to Eden in a ring of brilliant light.  
The Angel told Adam you have dishonored God's will; you will now face your plight.  
Eden is lost and you both shall know the pains of life in all.  
You have free will as God had bestowed, with freedom to rise or fall.*

*Adam told Eve despite your choice outside of Eden we will make a stand.  
Escorted by Michael they walked from Eden, heads bowed, but hand in hand.*

## COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ **President Robert G. Humphreys, Sr.**, was recognized by the Central Valley Asian American Chamber of Commerce (CVACC) for his exemplary leadership, dedication, community support, and service to the Central Valley educational community at the annual CVACC dinner on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ **Alumna Elisa David**, a 2015 master's graduate, has been hired as a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Aspire Apex Academy in Stockton. Way to go, Elisa.
- ❑ **ECE Alumna Khadijah Sykes Warren**, a preschool teacher at Taylor Head Start, was honored by San Joaquin A+ as an outstanding teacher in San Joaquin County. She was one of twelve recipients for this annual honor.
- ❑ In April, **EBSCO** made significant updates to the College's Academic Collection eBook subscription. The collection now has 142,820 titles, with 3,060 titles added to the collection. Titles were added from leading publishers, including University of Toronto Press, ABC-CLIO, MIT Press, and Princeton University Press.
- ❑ The College wishes to acknowledge the passing of **D. David Smith**, who was our public relations director. A consummate leader, he was selected as "Mr. Stockton" and "Stocktonian of the Year" because of his outstanding community service. He will be greatly missed.



*Humphreys*  
COLLEGE

[www.humphreys.edu](http://www.humphreys.edu)

*Main Campus*

6650 Inglewood Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95207  
209.478.0800  
Fax 209.478.8721

*Branch Campus*

3600 Sisk Road, Suite 3-A  
Modesto, CA 95356  
209.543.9411  
Fax 209.543.9413

### Humphreys College Newsletter, June 2015

Cynthia S. Becerra, Editor, [cbecerra@humphreys.edu](mailto:cbecerra@humphreys.edu)

Stanislav Perkner, Co-Editor, [sperkner@humphreys.edu](mailto:sperkner@humphreys.edu)

Leslie D. Walton, Executive Editor, [lwalton@humphreys.edu](mailto:lwalton@humphreys.edu)