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# HUMPHREYS COLLEGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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## *From the Academic and Career Counseling Center*

*Karen Garrett*

Welcome to Humphreys! As the Academic and Career Counselor and Job Placement Officer on the Stockton Campus, I'm here to assist you in achieving your educational goals. If you are a new student, I would like to meet with you during the next two weeks to develop a study plan in your particular field and to assist you in any concerns or questions you might have during your first quarter. Counseling is available by appointment or on a drop-in basis to both day and evening students. Appointments may be made by calling 478-0800 ext. 129 or by stopping by the counseling office.

### **HOURS**

**Monday – Thursday: 10 A.M. – 6 P.M.**

**Friday: 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.**

We are located on the West Campus in Room A-2.

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### **Court Reporting Department News**

*Bruce M. Bodine, Coordinator*

There are now 37 fewer licensed court reporters in California than eleven years ago, according to the California Court Reporters Association. Court reporters are in greater demand now than ever before, and that demand is going to increase.

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We at Humphreys College are welcoming our largest Theory class (beginning court reporting) in seven years. These new students are just beginning a training course that will lead them to becoming information specialists in the Information Age.

To help our new students reach their goal of becoming court reporters, we have just added another Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) to our staff. Veronica Mori has recently retired after 25 years of reporting, her final assignment being at the San Francisco County Superior Court. She has also been attending classes at Humphreys College and will continue to work towards her B.S. degree in realtime captioning and reporting.

Kay Reindl (CSR) and Brenda Nottoli (CSR) complete the teaching staff in the court reporting department. Ms. Reindl has been teaching at Humphreys College for approximately 12 years. Ms. Nottoli has been teaching at Humphreys College for approximately six years, originally at the Sacramento campus.

The Court Reporting Department at Humphreys College is unique among similar departments of colleges in California that teach court reporting because all of our classes are live dictation. Other colleges use taped class instruction with fewer contact hours by teachers. We also offer the B.S. degree in realtime captioning and reporting, the only college to do so in the western United States. Thanks to the Liberal Arts, Business Management,

Paralegal Studies, Administrative Management, and Accounting departments, we offer an excellent academic education to all students, fully accredited by WASC, unlike any other court reporting school in California.

I want to welcome our new students and new instructor to Humphreys College for the fall quarter of 2001. Through hard work, study, and determination, our students can prepare themselves for the CSR Examination and become certified shorthand reporters for the State of California.

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### **GUEST EDITORIAL**

*Very Good, Grasshopper*  
*Dr. Richard Chabot*

*Have you ever watched a Judo match? Or, more likely, seen a good, old-fashioned kung fu movie? You should have noticed a lot of shouting and physical action that would appear to be the opposite of your classroom experiences. Actually, I'd like my students to take on the mindset of being in a good kung fu movie, though without the physical violence.*

*Those shouts you hear as one actor tries to tear the heart out of another is known as "ki ai," or forced expelling of breath and being. This is essentially what teachers are doing when they lecture and what students should attempt to do as they learn more about the subject. The opposite of this is known as "ai ki," or joining together of the actors, be they in physical combat or verbal debate. This requires calm acceptance, an open mind, a complete understanding of what is coming at you (be it fist or a new chapter of information) so that you can then turn it in on itself (ki ai). A good kung fu movie will show this back and forth physical fighting, a display of both yang and yin, giving and taking, force and softness. This is what I want in the classroom, from me as instructor (your master or sensei) and from you as student.*

*There will be lots of stuff thrown at you, and as a student, I expect you to read and listen and take notes and envelop all. But not without question. As you learn and accept, so you should critically study, deconstruct, and come forward with your own views on a subject. Rote regurgitation has its place in the educational forum, but by itself is considered a numb, non-response that gets you a passing grade, a lack of respect, and never a promotion in the world of hard knocks, be it Wall Street or the judo dojo.*

*As a student, you should study and accept all that is offered by the instructor, only to use instantaneously this same information in a form that shows you are in control of the situation. This will take practice, and you will initially do more absorbing than critical thinking, but with conscious effort you too can become a black belt in the vital art of academics.*

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**Humphreys College Community Newsletter**  
**Humphreys College, Stockton, CA**

**Editor: Cynthia S. Becerra**  
[cbecerra@humphreys.edu](mailto:cbecerra@humphreys.edu)  
**Contributing Editor: Stanislav Perkner**

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***TO STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF***

***MAY THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR FOSTER  
LEARNING AND PROVIDE ENRICHING  
CHALLENGES IN THE COMING  
QUARTERS!!***

*From the Editors*

## *From the Striving Steno Students*

### **NCRA Convention Reflections**

#### **“New Choices, Real Answers”**

**August 2-5, 2001**

*Vivian Cotton*

We're back!! And we couldn't think of a better way to express our thanks, for your collective support in our fundraising efforts, than to give you a bird's-eye view of our “Nawlins” adventure. We arrived bright and early to depart from the bustling Oakland airport. After some “minor interruptions,” departure pictures were taken and we were winging our way across the airways—destination, New Orleans.

We arrived in the sultry city at 9:30 p.m. Collecting our bags, we were spirited away to our temporary home, the Hilton Riverside. Our shuttle guide pointed out landmarks in route and gave us an abbreviated guide of what the city has to offer. Disembarking from our chariot, we headed to the reservation desk only to find that “Thomas” was a bit confused about our accommodations. Not to worry, four heads were better than one. So, after a short “interruption,” we were on our way to our adjoining rooms. It's 1:00 a.m. and we have yet to have dinner.

Thursday morning: We decided to sleep in. Awakened by the sounding horn of a passing barge on the Mississippi, we dress, sample the local cuisine, and head to the Exhibition Hall. Anything and everything that you can imagine related to court reporting—accessories to WordWave—was on exhibit. We made three separate trips to the exhibit hall. You could not grasp it all at one time. We made a sizable contribution. Haven't you noticed that we are traveling lighter these days?

At every turn, there was a court reporter. You might have thought you had entered court reporter heaven. Even before the “official” reception, veteran reporters spying our “student status” welcomed us, asked us about our progress, and encouraged us to “stay the course.” We've collected numerous cards and e-mail addresses with the addendum, “call me.” Our skills are in demand, now is the time to stay focused and hone

them. We are court reporters in training. Our mission is to run “smack dab” into our destiny. I digress.

Time was of the essence. We had to drop off our exhibit collection and registration cache and meet more of the court-reporting family. They were gathering at the kick-off reception. We hobnobbed with veteran reporters, met fellow students, finally clustering together (Mrs. Reindl, Marilynn, Kris, Julie, Donna, and me, Vivian) to take yet more pictures. We even have one with the resident crayfish. You would think we would be winding down, but n-o-o-o-o. We were off to Bourbon Street. We “dined” at the Cajun Café. Although we didn't have to sing for our supper, we played for it. Your eyes are not deceiving you. We captured it on film. We are playing the washboard at the Cajun Café. Imagine that. We ended this day reminiscing the day's events and anticipating Friday and Saturday's student seminars.

The convention's theme for this year, “New Choices, Real Answers” featured a roundtable discussion which was facilitated by a local news anchor. The panel's goal was to answer core questions about the future of court reporting. You know, the questions that we ask all the time: Will there be a place for me when I get out of school? (The operative word is “when,” not “if.”) Should I be concerned about the advent of “voice writing”? What are the career alternatives to becoming an official reporter or a freelancer? How will the profession meet the growing need for captioners and CART reporters? These and other questions were addressed, and addressed in more detail in the student seminars.

Let the games begin! Our seminar presenter for a session entitled “Your Best Foot Forward,” Judy Werlinger, could have been the keynote speaker for the convention kickoff. She has 31 years of reporter under her belt and is a living testament that despite challenges, you can become a court reporter. She armed us with a list of encouraging tips, chief among them “stay focused,” and sent us off with a secret weapon.

The Awards Luncheon was a special treat. It was

here that the cream of the court-reporting crop were recognized for their dazzling feats of speed. Imagine writing at speeds of 220, 240, 260, and 280. Now try to imagine having an overall score of over 98% with 7 errors! Unbelievable! Satiated with our noonday feast, and bolstered with the reality that there is, indeed, a “Superman,” we round off the day with seminars pointing out the pros and cons of freelance reporting versus the world of the official reporter, and the importance of ethics in the profession.

You would think that we would now sit back and relax. You know, discuss the fine points of these insightful seminars. Nope; we’ll do that when we retire for the evening. We have more of New Orleans to explore. We are on our way, along with other reporters and students, to the famed Café Du Monde, home of the much-rumored beignets. What are beignets? They are nothing less than powdery culinary delights. Nobody can eat just one. It’s 11:00 p.m. and we’re off to have two or three.

Saturday morning marks the beginning of the second day of student seminars. Edward Varallo facilitated our first session entitled “Speedbuilding.” You know, Ed. He’s one of the celebrities on our speed-building tapes—Ed Varallo, Jim Boulay—yeah, that Ed. Well, he gave helpful hints on how to practice effectively and gain speed. And who doesn’t want to become an expert proofreader? Improving these skills was the topic of the 11:00 a.m. seminar. Following lunch, a seminar entitled “CART and Captioning—For Your Career Consideration” was explored. CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) focuses on providing services for the deaf community. The world of captioning will continue to expand due to legislative mandates that will require closed captioning of all major broadcasts by 2006. There is a dire need for competent, qualified writers to meet the need. PRACTICE—PRACTICE—PRACTICE.

What did we learn? What do we now know that will push us to conquer the mountains of tape work, rip-and-read material, requirements, and qualifiers that seem to loom large before us? We know that we are being cheered on by a group of reporters who want us to join the ranks. We all know from experience that it’s going to take dedication and focus. We are convinced that attitude is everything. We are persuaded that software is our friend, and we need to master it and not let it master us. Staying the course will afford us choices from a plethora of reporting opportunities.

Thank you again for helping us reach our goal of attending this year’s convention.

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## **Student Council Election Information**

The Humphreys College Student Council traditionally holds elections in early fall. However, the past few years have shown very low student turnout or even interest and once elected, the Student Council has failed to retain its initial energy or sense of purpose. For these reasons, the administration has decided to postpone Student Council elections.

In their place, we hope to hold student body meetings to discuss important and long ignored issues so important to representation of the student body by the Student Council: by-laws; make up of the elected body; areas of student concern; and any other issues students would like to bring up. We encourage discussion of how student concerns can best be represented at Humphreys College and hope to see large numbers of students show up to discuss these issues as meetings are held.

If you have any immediate concerns that you would like to talk over, please feel free to call Professor Richard Chabot, faculty advisor, at 478-0800.

MEET SANTA LOPEZ  
**Santa Lopez: *I hate rejections!***

*Stanislav Perkner*

She radiates energy every time I see her. Humphreys College is lucky to have such a person in the admissions department. Santa Lopez graduated from the University of San Francisco with a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Behavior.

*Before I joined Humphreys College, I was a Director of Admissions at Heald College in Stockton for nine years. Four years ago, there was a position available at Humphreys in the admissions department. . . I applied, I was hired, and the rest is history.*

In addition to her job in admissions, Santa Lopez is responsible for implementing the advertising related to the college.

*Basically, my primary responsibility is to enroll students into the various educational programs. First and foremost, I must present Humphreys College to prospective students who have expressed an interest in the undergraduate program and/or the law school. I also make presentations at high schools, education and career fairs, and to community groups about the rewards of earning a college degree—preferably from Humphreys. In addition to making presentations, I am responsible for the press, radio, and television advertising of the college.*

What are the most exciting features of your job?

*I especially get the most satisfaction from enrolling each student I interview. Creating the ads, radio spots, and television commercials is also very exciting. If I didn't love my work as an admission counselor so much, I would probably be an advertising executive.*

And the least thrilling aspects of your job?

*I hate rejections! Losing a student to another college for whatever reason is the toughest part of my profession. For example, when a student has paid an application fee and has registered, but then he or she decides to go to University of the Pacific or Stanislaus State or some other college, I take it very personally.*

What does make Humphreys College special?

*It is really someplace special! What other college offers short-term certificates, associate and bachelor degrees, and a juris doctorate program—all in one location? We have the best of both worlds. . . junior and senior level college degrees, plus graduate school. Very reasonably priced tuition costs, with full financial aid, and job placement for life. Teachers who really care and recognize you by name, who are willing to take the time to work with you on an individual basis if you need it. Every department in the college is ready to go an extra mile for the student.*

You work hard. What do you do for fun?

*I love to golf! I can hold my ground in racquetball to any man—or woman. I've been playing on and off for twenty years. Photography is a passion for me. I've been capturing special moments on film for a few years now.*

What is your favorite movie?

*I really don't have just one favorite. If a movie is well directed and acted, with a strong message in the plot, I can usually be entertained. I'm quite the avid movie watcher. The last movie I enjoyed? "Tortilla Soup." My favorite television shows are "Law & Order" and "Ally McBeal."*

Your life credo?

*Be the best at everything you do. Work hard. Love God and yourself—and be happy.*

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