

# HUMPHREYS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

June 16, 2003

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## DEPARTMENT NEWS

*From the Library and Learning Center*  
*Stanislav Perkner*

### New Books in the Library

In April and March, the Library acquired several interesting books on the English language. The most important is the latest edition of *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. The book is designed for high school and undergraduate students as a "comprehensive picture of how research papers are created." Now a standard for students throughout the U.S., the original style sheet was published in 1951, and the first edition in book form appeared 25 years ago. The newest edition has been expanded to cover electronic searching methods, using computers to write research papers, and citing electronic publications.

Humphreys Library also offers another basic handbook published by the Modern Language Association: *The MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.; it is focused on the needs of graduate students, scholars, and professional writers.

These volumes provide the most accurate and complete instruction on the MLA style. Updates of both manuals can be found at the MLA's World Wide Web site (<http://www.mla.org/>).



## *How to Succeed in College?*

### College Skills Seminars Offered for Summer Quarter



A regular series of free seminars for Humphreys students assisting them in improvements of their college skills will continue during Summer Quarter. Select one or more topics and mark your calendar! Ask your instructors for **extra credit!**

All sessions will take place **in the Library** between **2:00 and 3:00 p.m.** on the following **Tuesdays:**

HOW TO TAKE CLASSROOM AND  
TEXTBOOK NOTES EFFECTIVELY  
**JULY 22**

TEST ANXIETY: WHAT IS IT AND HOW TO OVERCOME IT?  
**JULY 29**

HOW TO WRITE A PERFECT RESEARCH PAPER (I):  
KNOW YOUR INTERNET AND LIBRARY RESOURCES  
**AUGUST 5**

HOW TO WRITE A PERFECT RESEARCH PAPER (II):  
HOW TO USE THE *MLA STYLE*  
**AUGUST 12**

A FEAR OF PUBLIC SPEAKING:  
CLASSROOM PRESENTATION STRATEGIES  
**AUGUST 26**

The seminars are highly recommended for our **new** students and anybody who feels his or her study skills need an update. No appointment necessary! For more information about the seminars, individual consultations, and tutorial services, contact Dr. Perkner in the Library or your academic counselor.

From the Community Affairs Department

## Travel and Research Notes from Professor Chabot



*Dr. Richard Chabot*

Just over a year ago I was given the fortunate task of doing some research on capital acquisition practices of small- micro-businesses in the Philippines. That is, how on earth do some of the poorest people on earth scrape up enough money to start a business, feed their families, and even send their children on to college? Most of us in the United States would turn to a bank for a loan and cringe at the mountain of paperwork required for even the smallest of businesses. In the developing world, like the Philippines, I found that a lack of bureaucracy was one key to easy business start up. The other reason is the easy and informal flow of money. Banks are always considered the last place to go for a loan. Faster and cheaper ways to get money include not only family and friends, but a wide variety of street side lenders (loan sharks, but without the fear factor), credit unions, and rotating credit associations. Immigrant and refugee communities in the United States use the same business strategies to survive if not thrive: stay small, do what you know, and develop a variety of ways to keep money flowing (and never go to a bank).

Most people in the U.S. have little interest in this kind of information, but there is a growing number of us who believe that small, lightly regulated, and decentralized business practices are the best way for the poor of the world to support themselves. I presented my research on business and money acquisition practices in the Philippines to a Group of other researchers at a recent Pacific Sociological Association meeting in Pasadena. It was wonderful to walk around in a building full of fellow academics speaking in arcane gibberish that only others like us could understand. Now, it's back to the real world, but that includes plans for further research on the business practices of the immigrant Filipino community in Northern California. I'll let you know what I come up with in a couple of years.



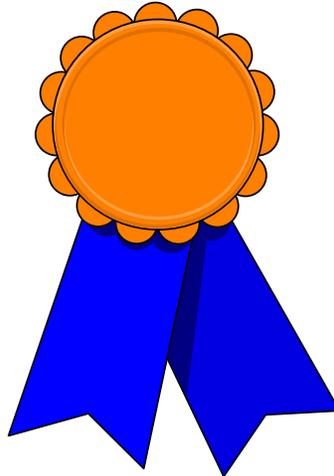
**Humphreys College Newsletter**  
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**EDITOR: Cynthia S. Becerra** [cbecerra@humphreys.edu](mailto:cbecerra@humphreys.edu)

**CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: Stanislav Perkner** [sperkner@humphreys.edu](mailto:sperkner@humphreys.edu)

**From the Office Administration Department**

**Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn:  
"Working Together Can Make a Difference"**



Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn, Dean of Administration for Humphreys College, became one of seven new Edison High School graduates inducted into the school's Hall of Fame. The April ceremony took place at University of the Pacific.

"I feel that working at Humphreys College for the past 23 years has been a dream come true. It is remarkable to see students gain confidence and self-esteem," said Dean Okamoto-Vaughn. In the course of her professional involvement with Humphreys, the Dean has helped many high school students to make the difficult transition to college by working with the San Joaquin County Partnership for Tomorrow. She believes "it is vital to give back to the community. "Being a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Leadership Committee of the Central Valley Asian-American Chamber of Commerce gives her the opportunity to help a diverse population.

The induction to the Hall of Fame is also an appreciation of Okamoto-Vaughn's activities in the United Cambodian Advisory Council Library and Literacy Foundation of San Joaquin County, Biz Tech Regional Occupational Centers/Programs, Charterhouse Board of Directors, California Business Education Association, and Humphreys College Board of Trustees.

"I'm extremely fortunate to have attended Edison High School. It gave me a solid foundation to prepare for the future. The wonderful experiences, friendships, and supportive teachers set the stage for my vision to help others."



## Editor's Page

*Cynthia S. Becerra*

Having been a professor at Humphreys College for 21 years, I must admit that I like graduation. I must--I've missed only two, once for my son's high school graduation and another for a family vacation. Although you might think that I would be somewhat jaded by now, knowing what music will be played (Pomp and Circumstance), who will be there, and, in general, what most of the speakers will say. For example, I know Jess Bonds, our academic dean, will praise the graduates and the faculty who helped make them "so smart," and then Dr. Humphreys will somehow get in the history of the college (something about covered wagons), and Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn, our administrative dean, will describe how wonderful and hard-working our graduates are. Of course, sometimes there are surprises: once the wind blew so strongly, that it knocked down all of the flower pots, another time there were so many family and friends in attendance, that they rushed the stage before the final procession. Another time our graduation was on the same night that O. J. Simpson was chased down the L.A. freeway--that made some of our lawyers late to take pictures. Perhaps, they thought he was a potential client.

However, I find myself yearning most to hear what the student speakers will say. Often they name special professors who have inspired them, challenged them, made them work "darn" hard, or even made them laugh out loud. They give the graduation a special touch by naming their family and friends who have helped them complete this important journey. Most of the time, their words, sincere and weighted with emotion, capture the sentiment of this significant rite of passage--but not always its full meaning. It really isn't that I'm waiting to see if they say anything about me or my colleagues; it's just that I want to hear them admit--without grumbling--how important their learning has become to them. I want to hear them say something like I can't believe that this is more important than I ever thought it would be, that it is a big deal, that I am of an elite group, that it can make a difference in my life--as well as other snatches of great maxims I'm longing to hear spoken from their lips, not mine or any other teacher's at the college, without pressure to impress the professor for a better grade. One graduation, several years ago, a graduate whom I thought took his intelligence and his abilities for granted surprised me by being so overcome with emotion about his college experience that he was barely able to get out a thank you to his family, friends, and faculty. His speech, although very short, reminded me that students do not--even though as faculty we may think that they do most of the time--take their education for granted but may not come to that realization until the

end. Moreover, the educational process, although a difficult one, affects a person; it may make one think differently, not only about his/her chosen profession or even about the world, in general, but about oneself, about one's place in the universe. A person--all that he or she is or may become-- therefore, is forever changed.

So sometimes at graduation in the twilight of the evening, in the warm glow of faculty, family and friends, I hear an almost guttural, visceral "Eureka" from the student speaker and then I know what Robert Frost meant by that final line from his poem "The Road Not Taken":

"And that has made all the difference."

### *Poet's Corner*

#### ENCOUNTER

*Michael Duffett*

In the citrus grove beside the river  
 He came to me through the door that is  
 No door, a flimsy skeleton dividing  
 Oranges and lemons and put up by me  
 A dozen years ago when I, entering  
 What I then thought to separate the sweet  
 From sour. This young man was twenty-seven  
 And when he told me that, framed in the doorway,  
 My mind went back to that year of my own.  
 It may have been a few years short of Dante's  
 Midway but I was lost and unraveled.  
 He was similarly so. I poured him tea.  
 He sat. The effort to unbend his limbs  
 From the upright, tensed and vertical  
 Was palpable agony. My own limbs,  
 Arthritic but relaxed, ached in sympathy.  
 His story was so different from others  
 At that poised and perilous stage of the journey.  
 I pointed to the oranges, added lemon  
 To his tea and mentioned that the river  
 Always settled down once winds had calmed.  
 He thanked me, drank his tea and left,  
 A little less bewildered than before.

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## **SUSD CHARTER SCHOOL & HUMPHREYS COLLEGE TOGETHER AT LAST**

Stockton Unified and Humphreys College have reached an agreement to have a charter high school on the college campus in Stockton. Focusing on business and law, the charter high school will provide training for students in professional fields. Helping to design the school, Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn, dean of administration, sees the charter school as a way for high school students "to move up."

The College plans to hold an informational meeting for students, faculty and staff in the near future.

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### **MESSAGES FROM THE FACULTY TO OUR GRADUATES, THE CLASS OF 2003**

Hello Graduates,

How wonderful you must be feeling right now! I hope that feeling will last a long time for you because you do deserve it. And remember, you are now part of that happy group of people who understand the joys of a life enriched by learning. There's nothing like it!

Very best wishes to you,  
Rowena Walker

Graduates,

A new path is awaiting you. Seize it!!  
Congratulations,  
Kay Reindl

To the Class of 2003,

You have finally arrived. Just open the door; the world is waiting for you!

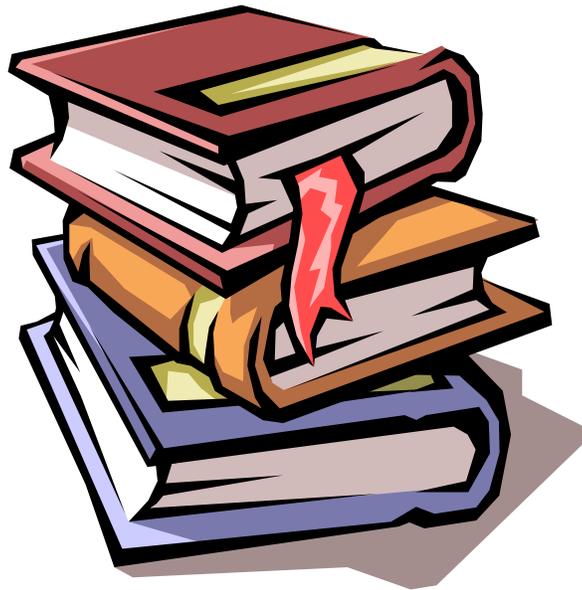
Great job,  
Cynthia Becerra

Graduates,

Your work has ended! Now, let's relax and play golf, or let's go fishing.

Best wishes,  
Jess Bonds

***REGISTRATION***  
***IS***  
***NOW OPEN FOR***  
***SUMMER QUARTER!!***



***SEE YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR***  
***AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!***

