

2005 WASC Annual Meeting Culture of Learning - Beyond Rhetoric

This year's WASC Annual Meeting took place last month in San Diego. Humphreys College was represented by Dean of Instruction Jess Bonds, Law School Dean Patrick Piggott, and Academic Council Chair Stanislav Perkner. The meeting was attended by more than 500 participants from over 120 colleges and universities.

The main theme was "Building Cultures of Learning: Beyond Rhetoric." Besides the regular workshops on WASC's accreditation process, preparatory and educational reviews, special visits, the general education assessment, as well as the chief academic officers' forum, the participants could choose from more than fifty specialized sessions and four major plenary presentations.

Humphreys' delegation focused on several workshops and specialized sessions, and on all plenary presentations – all of them relevant to the accreditation process of the college.

Particularly inspiring was a lecture on "Learning and Schooling in the Digital Age," given by John Seely Brown, Chief Scientist for the Xerox Corporation and a co-author of *The Social Life of Information*. Brown explored links between technological innovations and the nature of learning, knowledge, and communication – "not always in the interest of progress."

Gregory O'Brien, President of Argosy University, and Laura Palmer Noone, President of University of Phoenix, discussed "A Culture of Quality Within a Culture of Profit." Should the proprietary schools be ignored, embraced, feared, derided – or understood, by the traditionally not-for-profit academy? Both speakers, representing more than 300,000 students, argued that the cultures of educational quality and

corporate profit can blend.

The following plenary session, "Creating a Learning-Centered University," featured three panelists representing the top leadership of USC, CSU, and Fielding Graduate University; they were questioned by John Tagg, the author of *The Learning Paradigm College*, on many sensitive issues such as money, reward structures, faculty development, strategic planning, and accreditation process. To the Humphreys College participants, the discussion proved that, in principle, both large and small schools deal with similar challenges concerning educational effectiveness.

WASC's learning-centered effort, as reflected in academic planning and classroom delivery through a better understanding of the very nature of learning experiences, was the theme of the closing plenary session. Pat Wolfe, renowned author of *Brain Matters: Translating the Research to Classroom Practice*, talked about the architecture and processes of the brain – in light of the most recent research.

All three Humphreys participants at the conference had a chance to share their observations and remarks on April 18, during the latest session of the Academic Council. The annual meeting materials will be available online on WASC's website at www.wascweb.org.



From the Dean's Desk

Survey This!

Jess Bonds, Dean of Instruction

Last year, we conducted a couple of student surveys to get your input on some important issues. One survey asked your opinion about smoking on campus. The other focused on course scheduling. The results of both surveys influenced college decisions.

The smoking survey asked "Do you want Humphreys College to establish smoking areas so that smoking on campus occurs away from classroom/office doors and courtyards?" Eighty students from Thursday night and 2nd period classes responded. Forty-six answered "Yes." Ten answered "No." And 24 said they don't care either way. Clearly, you wanted some smoking restriction. Consequently, we decided to allow smoking to occur on the perimeter of the campus, outside the gated areas. Smokers continue to respect this decision.

Also last year, 182 students responded to a survey that asked them to rate their willingness to take classes at non-traditional times, for example, early morning, Friday night, Saturday morning and afternoon, late afternoon on weekdays, and online, among others. The results showed that you are willing to attend classes on Saturday morning, late weekday afternoon, and online. You expressed unwillingness to attend classes on Friday night and Saturday afternoon. As a result of your input, we have begun to offer more classes on weekday afternoons and on Saturday mornings. So far, these moves have been successful. Further, as a result of your input and other research, we changed the format of our day classes from meeting every day to meeting on Tuesday/Thursday and Monday/Wednesday/Friday. This change has been particularly well received.

The faculty continues to investigate and learn about

online teaching and learning. Some of our faculty members have recently taught or taken courses online at other colleges, and this summer an experienced online instructor from Delta College will speak to our faculty about the pros and cons of online instruction. As software costs related to online classes continue to come down and as we learn how online instruction may be appropriate at Humphreys, where we favor face-to-face student contact in relatively small classes, we move closer to the day when we will offer a limited number of online courses that will likely require some in-class time. This type of hybrid format may prove to be the best of both worlds, allowing face-to-face contact, quality control, flexibility, and enhancement of the educational process through technology.

We appreciate your survey input. In a future issue of this newsletter, I will write about other assessment activities, such as pre/post-test results, performance examinations, portfolio analysis, and the new student evaluation forms.

Jess Bonds has been employed by Humphreys College for 16 years. He has held the position of Dean of Instruction for four years. He resides in Valley Springs with his wife and two children.



Nathana Harris Humphreys

November 26, 1945 - April 4, 2005

Nathana Harris Humphreys, 59, born November 26, 1945, passed away on Monday, April 4, 2005, after a long battle with cancer.

Nathana was born in San Francisco and grew up in Pacific Grove where her father was minister of the Episcopal Church. After her father died, she, her mother and brother moved to Stockton, where she attended Stagg High School and was involved in the drama club, cheerleading and was the 1963 homecoming queen.

After a year at Delta College, she transferred to Whittier College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in social work. She then taught 1st grade for several years in Southern California, where she developed an interest in early childhood education that would follow her through the rest of her life.

She lived for more than 20 years in Minnesota, where she raised her family and continued her interest in children. She was instrumental in advocating training and education programs for children and their families so that they could be ready for and start school nourished, healthy and prepared to compete in the mainstream educational system. Much of her attention was directed toward minority and underprivileged children who might otherwise fall by the wayside. While in Minnesota, she was involved with the PAFCH program and was the founding executive director of the Southeast Family Room, a site of the Way-To-Grow program serving more than 200 poor children.

In 1995, she returned to Stockton and married Robert Humphreys, president of Humphreys College. While in Stockton, she worked for seven years as the Community Partnership Manager for the Head Start program. In this role, she was instrumental in bringing together all the various agencies and programs in the community to better serve the needs of young children and their families. She served in this role until 2003 when she suffered a recurrence of cancer. In the relatively short time she was here, Nathana became very involved in community activities, serving on the Local Childcare Planning Council, the United Way Board, Community Partnership for Families, Success by Six Advisory Board, and five years on the Stockton First Night Board, serving as its chair for two years. She was a participant in the Leadership Stockton Program in 1997.

In 2003, with the discovery of the cancer recurrence, Nathana bravely shared her experiences with others by writing an inspiring article entitled "Each Day is a Gift," which was published by both the Cancer Quarterly and the Humphreys College Newsletter. The essay imparted her prevailing philosophy: "Take time to experience moments of joy and thanksgiving every day."

Nathana is survived by her two sons, Derek and Daren Steneman, and two grandchildren, Kale Steneman, 3, and McKenna Steneman, 1. She also leaves behind two stepchildren, Bob Humphreys Jr. and Wendy Campigli, and their children, Bryan Patterson, 20, Heather Patterson, 16, Jessica Campigli, 8, Trey Humphreys, 2, and Taylor Humphreys, 1 month. Surviving siblings include Carolyn (Honey) Pete of Federal Way, Washington, Sharon Larkin of Pacific Grove, CA, Juanita McEwinger of Kibbland WA and Margaret Harris of Whidbey Island WA.

Department News

Administrative Management

From the Chair

Jim DeCosta

*It is our mission to help prepare
our community's leaders of
tomorrow.*



First, I would like to report that I am honored to have been selected the Administrative Management Department Chair at Humphreys College. It is here in this space that I will be faithfully reporting new and exciting things that are happening within our department as well as news that may impact all of Humphreys College. In this first letter to all of you, it is only fitting that I introduce myself, so please bear with me as I get this introductory piece out of the way.

Prior to coming to Humphreys College, I had spent some time serving my country in the U.S. Marine Corps, attending CSUH to obtain a B.A. in Psychology, and doing a year of graduate study at SJSU in the Industrial Psychology master's program. While attending CSUH, I was employed as a teamster loading and unloading trucks. For NASA I worked as a Program Engineer for the Applications Aircraft Support Program Office at Moffitt Field while attending SJSU. I wasn't nearly as happy with industrial psychology or working for the government as I had been while a teamster, so I went back to driving trucks for a living and married my present wife Deb, whom I had met at CSUH. Within two years, we were blessed with our daughter Keri, our first home in Hayward and a desire to move away from the Bay Area. I became an entrepreneur, opening my own business, expanding it and selling it after seven years. During that time we were blessed with our second child, Brian, and settled in Stockton. Over the next 15 years, I would find myself as a Sales Representative, Sales Manager, General Manager, General Manager/Controller and Vice

President of two manufacturing corporations. Our children had left the nest and I longed for a change. Humphreys College was the opportunity I was looking for and I was fortunate enough to be invited to share the educational experience with all of you.

Since joining the faculty here at Humphreys College, I have received an M.A. degree from the George Washington University in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Educational Technology, and I am presently half way through my Ph.D. studies in Educational Leadership with a concentration in E-Learning at Touro University International. Life brings new challenges, so we must continue learning in order to meet them. Not only do I believe in this – I try to live it and it also carries the second benefit of keeping me in touch with the struggles of being a student.

The keynote of our department's mission is to provide students with extensive computer, technical, and administrative skills coupled with effective communication, problem-solving, and decision-making abilities that will enable them to become successful in any business environment. Coming from the world of business, I recognize the importance of these skills in enabling one to achieve career and financial goals supporting our families and community. I believe in the necessity of maintaining close contact with business and government leaders so that we as educators and students can work together in order to transfer and assimilate those qualities that separate business workers from business leaders. It is our mission to help prepare our community's leaders of tomorrow.

Department News

Business

HOW ABOUT A CAREER IN ACCOUNTING? OR REAL ESTATE? OR BOTH?

Jason Wolins, Chair

Part I: Looking for a Career? How About Accounting?

On April 17, The Record published an article entitled "CPAs Gain Popularity" by Sharon Harvey Rosenberg, highlighting how accounting has become a "sexy, profitable occupation." This is the silver lining that arose out of the dark cloud of the Enron scandal. Here is what Rosenberg had to say:

After years of operating under the shadow of the legal and investment banking industries, the plain vanilla world of accounting suddenly has more sex appeal.

While high-profile corporate fraud cases such as the too-cozy relationship between Enron and Arthur Anderson, the accounting firm hired to review Enron's books, at first gave the accounting industry a black eye, they also sparked new regulations that have increased demand for auditing services.

"The plain vanilla world of accounting suddenly has more sex appeal."

That, in turn, has led to higher fees and more corporate clout for accountants and auditors.

As the industry basks in its newfound glory, auditors, accountants, and certified public accountants nationwide are in short supply. It takes longer to find and hire them, and salaries in a number of specialties have moved up briskly.

Part II: Looking for a Career? How About Real Estate?

During the Summer 2005 Quarter, the Business Department is offering a MGT 298 (Special Topics): Real Estate Principles course. San Joaquin County is in the middle of a high population growth area. This was documented by Karl Gelles in USA Today (April 15) by a map showing the population change from 2000 to 2004 by county in the United States. While the whole country's population grew 4.3% from 2000 to 2004, the counties in the Stockton - Sacramento - Modesto metropolitan areas grew by more than 10% — over twice the national average. With growth comes increased demand for real estate. With increased demand for

real estate comes increased opportunity for careers in real estate. Indeed, the Stockton area is home to some large real estate development companies.

Therefore, think about taking the Real Estate Principles course this summer. If enough students sign up for it, we can try to add more real estate courses in the future. (Even if you do not want a career in real estate, you can learn things that will help you when you own a home.)

Part III: Looking for a Career? How About Combining Accounting and Real Estate?

If you are trying to find a career niche, how about combining accounting and real estate? Do you think you would be valuable and in demand if you were an accountant who focused on real estate in a high-growth area with several large real estate develop



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Administrative Management

Department Tidbits

The Administrative Management

Department will be offering a Microsoft Office Applications Skills Assessment around the ninth or tenth week of this quarter. Be sure to watch for flyers advertising the time! Come and test your Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and/or PowerPoint skills. Those who pass will receive a Humphreys College Certificate of Competence at the User or Expert levels.

The Achievement Certificate is something that you can put on your resume and will help to verify your competence to prospective employers. The test is designed to assess the same skill sets as the Microsoft Office Professional User Specialist and Expert series; however, it is the Humphreys College version and Humphreys College is not guaranteeing that success with our version is indicative of success with the Microsoft versions, but we are confident in believing that a large percentage of successful students could pass the Microsoft version if they took the test. Our version comes with an added benefit: it is free for all of our students who have a SAM 2003 assessment seat license.

The department has required seat licenses for ADM 120, ADM 130, ADM 140, and ADM 134 since last Fall Quarter, so if you have taken any of the aforementioned courses this year, you probably already have the seat license. For those students who do not have the license

and wish to take part in the examination, be sure to sign up for the test and purchase your seat from the bookstore prior to the test date.

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Jim DeCosta gave a presentation on Internet Research Skills on Tuesday, May 22. He was the guest speaker in a Learning Center Series, How To Succeed in College.

Court Reporting

Leticia Soriano Successful in Los Angeles

The March 12, 2005, Certified Shorthand Reporters examination held in Los Angeles proved to be a successful experience for Humphreys College student Leticia Soriano. She passed the dictation portion of the examination on the first attempt. It was the first time that the Court Reporter's Board of California (CRBC) administered only the dictation portion. Because of "computer problems," the board was unable to administer the written portions of the examination - English and Professional Practice and Ethics; they were offered at several locations throughout the state in May. Leticia Soriano and Ruby Sanchez (who needs to pass only the English portion) took the written part on May 17 in Sacramento.

Keep studying ladies, you're about to launch into an exciting new career!

NCRA Examinations at Humphreys

Humphreys College was one of many sites across the United States that hosted the National Court Reporters Association Certification (NCRA) testing on Saturday, May 7. Kay Reindl served as the coordinator at Humphreys. The test is offered biannually - in May and November. The following certifications are available through NCRA:

RPR-Registered Professional Reporter
RMR-Registered Merit Reporter
RDR-Registered Diplomate Reporter
CRR-Certified Realtime Reporter
CBC-Certified Broadcast Captioner
CCP-Certified CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) Provider
CLVS-Certified Legal Video Specialist

Although none of the above certifications is required to report in California, the association does encourage reporters to strive for excellence in their chosen profession. In many jurisdictions, the Certified Realtime Reporter is the only recognized certificate of realtime skills and it entitles reporters to a pay differential of 4-8%. This trend will likely continue as the requests for realtime services increase.

The Registered Professional Reporter is of the entry-level exam. The only eligibility requirement to apply for the exam is membership with NCRA in good standing for approximately four months prior to the scheduled test. See Kay Reindl if you are

Department News

180-200 level are best qualified to pass.

If you have any other questions about NCRA, ask Kay Reindl or click onto the NCRA website at:

www.verbatimreporters.com/

You will find a plethora of relevant and interesting information for both students and reporters.

Faculty

Faculty In-Service Day

Shortly before the beginning of the Spring Quarter, Humphreys College faculty met to discuss two issues of long-term importance during the regular In-Service Day. Dean of Instruction Jess Bonds led the morning session which focused on advising techniques. The afternoon program offered an in-depth look into the Winter Quarter syllabi set. Professors Cynthia Becerra and Stanislav Perkner presented the results of their analysis of syllabi and proposed several structural changes to the general syllabus outline. Their draft will be further reviewed by the Academic Council. At the end of the In-Service Day, Dean Bonds informed the faculty about the program assessment and strategic planning progress.

Information Services

Stockton Campus: New Gateway Server

At the end of April, Humphreys College

replaced its primary Internet gateway server with a much more robust unit.

Access to websites (other than the college's own) was unavailable for a brief period during this enhancement project.

The new unit is capable of transmitting data to internal clients ten times faster than the old one. The unit will accumulate (anonymous) statistics on the most popular websites/webpages visited. The server will use this information to increase the speed of access to these popular websites. While external speed remains the same, we have measured a decrease in external latency from the raw processing speed of the new unit alone.

This enhancement paves the way for the same upgrade at the Modesto campus, which will eventually match the improvements made in Stockton.

Library & Learning Center

Library Student Assistants Involved in Research

Recently, Humphreys Library student aides completed four comprehensive resource guides. Ashlini Narayan compiled a list of current printed resources on Accounting. The data on the latest editions of Law Hornbooks were collected by Pei Gausi. Eric Sandoval's guide covers contemporary books on Immigration. Jesus Becerra is the author

of an annotated Shakespearean film and video resource guide.

The previous research-related assignments of the Library student assistants included Douglas R. Howard's American Institutions, Legal Writing and Drafting, and Modern World Issues bibliographies. Ashlini Narayan helped with Reading Lists of the World and California Authors and Laura M. Nelson compiled an extensive resource guide on Mass Media Online editions, including those periodicals available to the Humphreys Library patrons.

Most of these resources are available to Humphreys faculty and students, as well as to the broader community, on the Library and Learning web page: www.humphreys.edu/library or at the circulation desk.

The systematic engagement of Humphreys Library aides, including the Federal Work-Study Program participants, in research has been a part of the long-term effort to employ them not only as technical and administrative clerks. As future professionals, they benefit from creative tasks, including the cultivation of their research skills.

Library assistants Ashlini Narayan (left), Jesus Becerra (center), and former assistant Malini Kumar (right).



From the Law School

Modesto: Law Day on the Lawn Humphreys College Represented by Santa Lopez-Minatre and Dean Patrick Piggott

On Wednesday, May 4, Humphreys College participated in the Stanislaus County First Public Forum to honor Law Day. The public was welcomed at the lawn of the Court House in Modesto. In addition to stage presentations, the general public was invited to ask legal questions at the tables arranged in accordance with various legal fields. Anyone could inquire about family law, adoption, probate and many other legal problems. They were answered by volunteer attorneys.

Several offices and organizations set their talbes to provide education, including the Probation Department and the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA). Humphreys College, as the only institution of higher learning at the event, was represented by Santa Lopez-Minatre, Director of Admissions, who provided detailed information about the college and its Court Reporting and Paralegal Programs, as well as about the Laurence Drivon School of Law. She was joined by the Dean of Law School Patrick Piggott who enjoyed an opportunity to greet numerous alumni, including Barbara Farr, the daughter of Mr. Farr, a graduate from the 1960s. The dean also met a local attorney who expressed his satisfaction with a Humphreys-trained paralegal who is employed in his office.

P.S.: We are happy to report that the President of the Stanislaus County Bar Association, and a prime mover of the Law Day, is an alumna of

*Humphreys
College. Leslie*

Santa Lopez-Minatre
Director of Admissions
Humphreys College



Job Well Done Law School Graduation Ceremony 2005

On May 14, Humphreys College Laurence Drivon School of Law completed its fifty-eighth year of law classes with the commencement ceremony granting the Juris Doctorate degree to eleven extraordinary candidates. They have completed over 1,200 hours of study over four years. With this degree they will have the opportunity to take the California State Bar Examination, unless they decide to utilize their legal education in other professional ways.

The degrees were conferred by Dr. Robert G. Humphreys, Humphreys College President. The valedictorian was Raina Rochert, followed by the commencement address delivered by Dr. Wallace Caldwell, selected by the graduating class as an extraordinary and exceptional professor of Constitutional Law. Dr. Caldwell has over thirty years of teaching and research experience at Kansas State University, Humphreys College, and the University of the Pacific.

For the first time, the ceremonies were held in the courtyard of the new Humphreys College Stockton campus.



Top: Dr. Humphreys presents Kelly Amato with her colors. Top right: Dean Piggott presents Tai Bogan with his Juris Doctorate degree. Right: Raina Rochert delivers the valedictorian address.

In the Spotlight

Jason K. Wolins, Chair of the Business Department

Interviewed by Stanislav Perker



Next year, Professor Jason Wolins will celebrate the tenth anniversary of his association with Humphreys College.

I started at Humphreys as a paralegal instructor at the Sacramento campus. Soon, I was invited to teach some classes in Stockton. When the Sacramento campus closed in 2001, I was one of the few holdovers who transferred to Stockton.

The list of classes you have taught at Humphreys is unusually broad. Hundreds of students took your Legal Research, Legal Drafting, Contracts, Civil Litigation, Professional Responsibility, Torts, Law Office Management, Business Law, Current Concepts and Ethics, Supervisory Management, Organizational Behavior, Salesmanship, and Small Business Management. Obviously, this scope reflects your unique educational background. As far as I know, you earned several college degrees.

Yes, I have four of them: In 1972, I received a bachelor's degree in geography from George Peabody College for Teachers (which is now called Peabody College of Vanderbilt University), followed, a year later, by a master's degree in geography from Indiana State University. In 1979, I became a Juris Doctor after my graduation from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Ten years ago, I earned a master's degree in business administration from DePaul University, Kellstadt Graduate School of Business. In addition, for high school, I went to a naval prep school in New Jersey, Admiral Farragut Academy. I graduated in 1968. Unlike other high schools, I had to pass numerous naval proficiency tests to graduate, including sailing, Morse code, and riflery (I had to become a marksman!).

So far, you have not mentioned your international experiences.

As a law student, I spent two summers in Europe. In 1977, I studied international law at Salzburg University in Austria. A year later, I worked as an intern/clerk in Paris for a French law firm.

That leads me to a question about your non-academic professional career.

Other than being a professional student, I have done a variety of things professionally, including actively practicing law and overseeing real estate assets. I am admitted to practice law in California (since 1979) and Illinois (since 1980), and have a California real estate broker's license (since 1987). I also worked for a business consulting firm that had a contract to assist with the 1997 closure of the Alameda Naval Air Station. I was a consultant who wrote business plans for prospective businesses potentially to locate at the base after it closed.

I assume that you have always been interested in teaching. When did you stand before a class for the first time?

The very first class I taught was as a graduate assistant at Indiana State University -- 32 years ago; it was a geography laboratory course. In modern times, however, I have taught numerous paralegal and business classes. For five years, from 1986 to 1991, I taught Civil Litigation and Business Law in the paralegal program at Barclay College, a business college that was located in Sacramento, in addition to some real estate courses. During the first seven years with Humphreys College (1996 - 2003), I worked on a part-time basis for both the paralegal and business departments. I have been a full-time professor since 2003 and chair of the Business Department since January 2004.

After a daily commute between Stockton and Sacramento, do you have any time for leisurely activities?

I like to exercise.

Previously, I ran a lot, but now I do things that are lower impact, like riding a bicycle and playing tennis. My daughter, Regina, who attends California State University, Sacramento, is my tennis partner (when her busy schedule permits it!). I also like to keep well-informed of things going on in the outside world, so I read at least one newspaper, USA Today, each day (and sometimes more) and several professional journals.

What is your favorite piece of wisdom?

For my graduate assistantship during the last semester at Indiana State University, I was assigned to work for Dr. Barton, the director of the center for urban-regional studies. He was doing a study on how the local government and community organizations were meeting the needs of senior citizens. I was the one who interacted with the community. I went out into the community and interviewed representatives from about twenty-eight agencies that dealt with senior citizens. When I completed my report, Dr. Barton arranged for me to do a paid internship at a county planning commission in Indiana after graduation. I was so grateful, I told him I wished there were some way I could thank him. His response: Do not thank him; instead, I should just help people if I am ever in a similar position to do so. That is about the best piece of wisdom I have received and what I strive to do.



In the Community

Stockton Celebrates Earth Day

The annual Earth Day Festival was presented this year by the City of Stockton, in partnership with the Peace and Justice Network and San Joaquin County Public Works, on Sunday, April 17th, in Victory Park, a warm and sunny day dedicated to the celebration and preservation of the earth and its resources. The theme for the day was "Powered by Body and Sol." The gathering included informational booths for Stockton's Municipal Utilities Department, the Department of Transportation on alternative fuel options, tasty vegetarian food, and earth-friendly crafts for kids, among others. The festival kicked off with a family bike ride from Louis Park to Victory Park to promote non-motorized methods of transportation.

The entire event was powered by solar panels arranged conspicuously to demonstrate the benefits of alternative forms of energy. Many different groups performed for the festival, but as the day wore on, the park was filled with the soothing reggae beat of environmental activist band *Clan Dyken*. The band's performance traditionally marks the close of the festival, which lasted from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

With more than 70 vendors to peruse, music to groove to, and plenty of fun activities, Stockton's Earth Day 2005 Festival was a great way to pay tribute to Mother Earth and all that she provides for us. Earth Day has drawn crowds in the thousands in Stockton for over 17 years now, so check it out next year if you can. Admission is free for everybody.

Amy Hepperle



The day concluded with the sweet sounds of *Clan Dyken*, with lead singer Summer Moon (center).

Another Year...How Resolute Have You Been?

It seems as though the year 2005 has begun with a bang for all Americans. Since the beginning of January, it is almost as though our world changes daily. We've all considered our resolutions, and some of us have been more successful than others in keeping resolute. Here at Humphreys College, we have taken the final steps in re-opening the original campus and proudly broken ground on our new courthouse building.

Humphreys students have gone through their own changes, as well. Such personal change is often magnified by shifting social conditions. A few of our students expressed great motivation when it came to their futures and the efforts that they would have to make in order to achieve the results they want.

Some students agreed that health would be the frontrunner for their resolutions this year. Others felt that finishing their degrees and certificates would be their most important goal (we are happy to help). Another popular resolution was gaining financial stability. These are three resolutions which require a great deal of discipline and perseverance. Students appear to be mostly on target with their resolutions, and after four months they are still enthusiastic about their goals.

One student, Ahmad Majid, had a very unique outlook on the whole subject of resolutions this year. His point of view was very practical: "My New Year's resolution was to do away with resolutions altogether -- 'Enough of all that!' I said." What was his solution? "I chose, instead, to ask myself some questions...What tangible or measurable goals do I want to achieve this year?...How can I manage the dynamics of my life so that I am best able to complete my dreams?" His decision was stunningly simple and effective. "It was these questions which brought me to the CONCLUSION...that I have a lot of work to do."

No matter what your choice or level of resolution was this year, we salute you for taking a personal interest in your present and future well being. It is exactly this kind of reflection that makes the Humphreys student body such a strong community.

Amy Hepperle



Giant solar panels powering the event reminded everyone of the efficiency of solar energy.



Many of you have heard me state that court reporting students need to know English grammar as well as, if not better than, English majors and the reason is that (notice we never say “because” after “reason”) court reporters have a duty to record exactly what is said in court. If a defendant says, “I ain’t got no money” meaning

that he or she is broke and does not have **any** money, the court reporter’s duty is to record the ungrammatical expression. If the judge then chooses (as is unlikely!) to interpret this faulty double negative in its logically positive meaning and fine the defendant plus costs, that is up to him. The judge must get no prompting from the court reporter’s fastidious correction of faulty grammar. So, a court reporter, in order to report absolutely accurately that which is absolutely wrong, must know

Language Languishes



By Dr. Michael Duffett

with certainty what is absolutely right. And that may be tough. One of the things I am asked repeatedly to explain is the difference between “lay” and “lie.” So here goes. “To lay” is a transitive verb; that is, it takes an object as in “I lay tile in the kitchen.” In that sentence the object is “tile” (“kitchen” is the object of the preposition “in”), so we need the transitive verb. Now, what did I do yesterday? I laid tile in the kitchen (past tense). What have I done for three days? I have laid tile in the kitchen (present perfect tense with the past participle “laid”).

Now let us think about “to lie,” a completely different verb. Consider the sentence: “In the summer I lie in the sun every day.” (Notice that we need two words at the end of the sentence – the single word “everyday” is an adjective coming before a noun.) Now, what did I do yesterday? (Here comes the problem!) “Yesterday I lay in the sun.” So the past

tense of the intransitive verb “to lie” is the same as the present tense of the transitive verb “to lay.” What have I done for three summers? “I have lain in the sun.” So here it is: lay, laid, laid is how we conjugate the transitive verb and lie, lay, lain is how we conjugate the intransitive verb.

Got it? Or, I suppose I should say, since I am living in America and not the place of my birth: Have you gotten it? (Both are acceptable!)

College News

Teachers Evaluated Winter Quarter Results

In April, Humphreys faculty members received their newly designed student evaluation reports. The new features of the evaluation form include a combination of positively and negatively phrased questions. This technique makes evaluations more objective. Additionally, the new questionnaire encourages students to assess not only the standard qualities of the course (e.g., its organization, attendance, textbook, and grading system) but also the broader, cumulative learning and critical thinking goals (was the student challenged intellectually, stimulated to discuss related topics outside the class, and to apply principles to other situations?).

Each response to 26 newly worded questions was assigned a number value and graded on a scale: *Strongly Agree* = 4 points, *Agree* = 3, *Disagree* = 2, and *Strongly Disagree* = 1.

According to Jess Bonds, Dean of Instruction, who reviewed all student responses from Winter 2005, "It appears that the very best evaluations had no scores in the 2.00 - 2.99 range on either positively or negatively worded questions."

Dean Bonds sees the winter results as a first step toward a permanent evaluation form. He is open to comments or suggestions from both full time and adjunct faculty (jbonds@humphreys.edu).

The new faculty evaluation form is a commendable example of creative cooperation between the college leadership and the Academic Council's committee headed by Professor Rowena Walker.



College-Level English Learners: Challenges and Opportunities

On May 4, the Academic Council welcomed Florence Fernandez, Program Manager of Migrant Education for San Joaquin County Office of Education, as a guest speaker. Discussing the challenges and opportunities facing college-level English learners, Ms. Fernandez addressed the concerns of many educators in evaluating and supporting the academic advancement of learners who are not fluent in English.

The fourth Educational Effectiveness Workshop, sponsored by the Academic Council, was attended by 19 faculty from both the Stockton and Modesto campuses. Amy Hepperle and Cynthia Becerra provided refreshments.

Invited by Dr. Stanislav Perkner, Chair of the Council, Ms. Fernandez highlighted pedagogical research on learning language and acquiring English proficiency. In addition, she identified several instructional strategies that augment learning in content as well as enrich language fluency. As program manager for the county's Office of Education in the areas of assessment and evaluation, Ms. Fernandez enhanced our understanding of reading instruction for English language learners and language acquisition and fluency in relationship to college performance.

New Student Orientation

Humphreys College Learning Center, in cooperation with the Admissions Office, will host a *New Student Orientation Meeting* on Tuesday, July 12, between 4 and 6 p.m. in the forum. Dr. Robert G. Humphreys, both deans, academic department chairs, and administration will be there to greet newcomers to the Humphreys community. If you are a new student or a part-time student who needs more information and wants to meet the college leadership, or have a friend who is interested in the college, you are encouraged to attend.

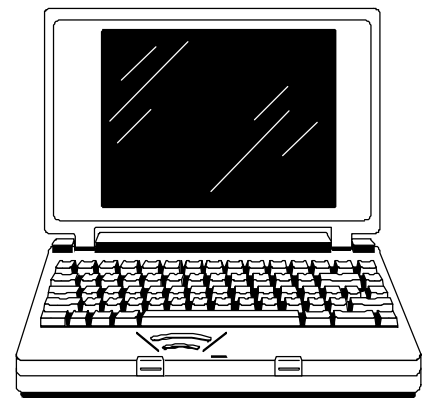
College News

College Community Highlights

- ♦ After three years of working for Humphreys College on a part-time basis, **Julie Cavero** was promoted to a full-time position as Administrative Assistant in charge of the Humphreys College Front Desk.
- ♦ In April, **Randy Rahmoller**, Stockton and Modesto adjunct instructor, was a guest speaker in the series *How to Succeed in College*. His topic: *College Years as a Unique Opportunity for your Personal Growth*.
- ♦ **Yvonne Ochoa**, Modesto Campus student, won the local Legal Secretaries Association scholarship award. Her name was sent on to the national scholarship awards. Yvonne is a dual major in Legal Administrative Management (AA) and Accounting (AA). She is also Teacher's Aide to Mrs. Reiman.
- ♦ Between Winter and Spring Quarters, **Pei Gausi**, Humphreys College paralegal student and former Library Aide, made a trip to Accra, Ghana, where he visited his family and friends.
- ♦ **Pam Wood**, Chair of the Department of Early Childhood Education, became a grandmother. Her grandson, **David**, was born December 18 to her daughter and son-in-law, **Krystal and Jesse Eason**.
- ♦ **Audrey Heather** is the name given to the first baby born to Modesto's Admissions Counselor **Summer Hash** and her husband, **Joshua**. Audrey was born April 7.
- ♦ **Vickey Sprague**, Modesto Campus Administrative Assistant, is the proud grandmother of **Gabriel Elias**, who was born April 20 to her daughter **Tiffany** and son-in-law **Hector Pena**.
- ♦ **Kenneth Alexander Hedberg** was born in December to **Barbara and Kenneth Hedberg**. The father, Kenneth, is the son of **Jan Smith**, Accounts Receivable Clerk in Modesto.
- ♦ Last month at Barnes & Noble, Humphreys English professor **Dr. Michael Duffett** acted as judge of the Poetry Contest for the City of Stockton. Dr. Duffett returned to Barnes & Noble on May 20 to present a Literary Evening in which he sang, along with reading and recitation in seven different languages.
- ♦ In two sessions, **Linda Rahmoller** and **Amy Hepperle** instructed members of the Liberal Arts Department on how to improve their PowerPoint presentations.
- ♦ **Kevin Van Dewark** will join the Business Department as its new full-time faculty member. He has taught at Humphreys for several quarters as an adjunct.
- ♦ **Kendra Vaughn**, the daughter of Humphreys College adjunct instructor **Merilyn Vaughn** and her husband, **John**, is one of the All County Student Pinnacle Awards recipients. With a GPA of 4.08, Kendra belongs to the top one percent of this year's high school graduates. She intends to attend Calvin College and major in Music Education.
- ♦ The 2005 edition of the prestigious Marquis encyclopedia [Who's Who in the World](#) features Humphreys librarian and professor **Stanislav Perkner**. The article includes information on his family, academic background in Czechoslovakia, teaching experiences in Europe and Asia, and major publications since his emigration to the U.S. in 1992. The article also refers to Perkner's current assignments

Internet Access in Stockton Classrooms

Internet access was installed in all classrooms for instructional purposes. Please note that the ports located below the black/white boards are the ports that are activated; other ports in the classrooms are not live yet. Instructors can connect to the Internet with any network enabled computer, which is set to detect network settings automatically. The college laptops are already configured to connect to the Internet.



College News

Lotus Celebration

☆ *Cultural Awareness Day* ☆

*Presented by the
Central Valley Asian-American
Chamber of Commerce*

Save The Date

Saturday, June 11, 2005

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Humphreys College Courtyard
6650 Inglewood Avenue, Stockton

Tickets: \$5.00 each

Asian food and desserts, live
entertainment by community
performers, community service
organizations, arts & crafts, and
raffle prizes

Tickets can be purchased in the
Admissions, Administration, and
Faculty offices

REGISTRATION

is now open for the
Summer 2005
Quarter.

Stop by the
Faculty Office Suite
to sign up for
classes ASAP!

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HUMPHREYS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER *SUPPLEMENT*

Stockton, California

May 2005

Critical Thinkers Make Good Professionals

By Linda Rahmoller

Not so long ago, Humphreys College instructors met in Modesto to enjoy a lively session with Dr. Carla Piper from Chapman University thinking (and talking) about -- critical thinking. Clearly, the unprecedented information noise in the media-saturated society raises the interest in critical thinking in both American academia and the publishing industry. Many Humphreys courses pay attention to it. The cultivation of students' intellectual skills has also been one of the objectives of the Humphreys College Learning Center. Its latest presentation on the issue, derived from her rich teaching experience, was offered in February by Linda Rahmoller from the Department of Administrative Management. The following is the core of Linda Rahmoller's workshop presentation.

Stanislav Perkner

CRITICAL THINKING: WHY THINK ABOUT IT?

Critical thinking can be defined as thinking about your thinking, the formation of logical inferences, the ability to decide rationally what to or what not to believe without finding fault, and the ability to think for one's self and reliably and responsibly make those decisions that affect one's life.

As life-long learners know, critical thinking involves the process of evaluating ideas. They test the accuracy of statements and the soundness of reasoning. This process allows us to interpret complex ideas and appraise evidence; it enables us to distinguish between what is reasonable and what is not.

A GREAT MYSTERY OF HUMAN EXISTENCE

For most of us, thinking can cover the realm of daydreaming to intense inner personal reflection and analysis. Roget's *Thesaurus* lists the following verbs for the word "think":

*appreciate, believe, cerebrare, conceive,
consider, consult, contemplate, deliberate,
digest, discuss, dream, fancy, imagine,
meditate, muse, ponder, realize, reason, reflect,*

speculate, suppose and weigh.

In his book, Beyond Feelings: a Guide to Critical Thinking, Vincent Ryan Ruggiero states that these verbs for the word "think" are just the names thinking goes under. They really do not explain the process. In fact, after thousands of years of humans experiencing thought and talking, and writing about thinking, it remains one of the great mysteries of human existence.

"THE UNEXAMINED LIFE IS NOT WORTH LIVING"

To begin our critical thinking journey, we start with the sage advice offered by Socrates: Know yourself; knowing oneself is the key to wisdom. Self-knowledge involves knowing what has shaped our thinking process. In our early years, we are influenced dominantly by family and educators. As we enter the formative years, we are more exposed to mass culture, whether it is broadcast and print media, popular music, or the Internet. The media messages are designed to appeal to our emotions and to create a need to buy particular products or services. Often, these appeals rely on our emotions and gullible nature.

Knowing this, how do we avoid these emotional pitfalls, how do we test the accuracy of statements and the soundness of our conclusions? How do we know

relevant questions; it might lead to new insights about an issue.

ARE YOU A CRITICAL THINKER?

Ruggiero highlights the following characteristics distinguishing between critical and uncritical thinkers:

Critical thinkers are honest with themselves, acknowledging what they do not know.

They

regard problems and controversial issues as exciting challenges and strive for understanding, while remaining patient with complexity and being ready to invest time to overcome confusion. They are able to base judgments on evidence rather than personal preferences.

Uncritical thinkers, on the other hand, pretend to know more than they do, ignore their limitations, and assume their views are error-free. They tend to regard problems and controversial issues as nuisances. They are impatient with complexity and base judgments on first impressions and gut reactions. They are often preoccupied with themselves and their own opinions, unwilling to pay attention to others' views.

REASON VERSUS EMOTION

How do critical thinkers, then, form opinions based on the evidence rather than feelings? One starts by reexamining old opinions in light of new knowledge and understands that familiarity is not synonymous with soundness. New knowledge should be examined carefully when forming opinions, taking into account the materials analyzed. Consider the writer's or speaker's qualifications:

Is the source accurate and reliable? Is the information presented up-to-date? Do you detect any hidden bias? Watch for emotional arguments that do not enhance the information presented.

Are the positions and/or conclusions reached formed on observations rather than

personal preferences?

Judgments are conclusions that are arrived at after a process of thorough examination of evidence and careful reasoning. Strive for a balanced view, one that will reflect all the subtlety and complexity of issues, especially when they are controversial and/or emotional. Critical thinking is more deliberate, more impartial. It is focused and systematic. Remember that the state of human knowledge is imperfect; not every question is answerable when it is asked.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME A CRITICAL THINKER?

Critical thinking is a skill -- and yes, it can be learned. Critical thinking should always be your focus in any educational or work-related pursuit. It is a skill that will help you succeed in the world by enabling you to uncover bias and prejudice as well as deceptions. Your professors and employers will expect you to make competent decisions based on a methodical and careful examination of all relevant information. You will need to ask relevant questions, listen actively, assess complex information, and evaluate multifaceted data to make decisions, anticipate the outcome of those decisions, and reflect upon

Linda Rahmoller



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