

Humphreys College

Newsletter



DECEMBER 2009

FALL QUARTER

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OUR INTERVIEW

PROFESSOR CYNTHIA BECERRA ABOUT THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL AND ITS ROLE IN THE LIFE OF THE COLLEGE

A few weeks ago, Humphreys College's Associate Dean Cynthia Becerra completed her second term as the Chair of the Academic Council. It was an opportunity to ask her several questions about the purpose of the Council and its role in the life of the College.

Most students and some Humphreys administrators may not be acquainted with the Council's role...

The Bylaws of the Academic Council were updated in 2004; they essentially state that the Council is an advisory body providing a forum for shared governance at Humphreys College. It reports directly to the President of the College. The Council's members represent the academic leadership of the College and help to maintain the high quality of curricula and programs.

How does the Council influence the students' life?

The Council reviews, revises and recommends all new programs, so students who are now enrolled in Criminal Justice or the Master's Program in Education have directly benefited from this body's decisions. In addition, the Educational Effectiveness Workshops, which are sponsored by the Academic Council, are open to students, faculty, and staff. These presentations further link the College with the surrounding community.

How is the Council linked to the Office of the President, the Executive Committee, and to the other standing or ad hoc bodies of the College's management?

The Council reports directly to the President and also provides quarterly updates to the Board of Trustees. The Council includes many of the same members as the Executive Committee; however, that committee is led by the President of the College Dr. Robert G. Humphreys. The Council specifically addresses academic concerns, not necessarily administrative ones.

As far as other committees, the Council often forms ad hoc task forces to address specific issues, for example, reviewing course syllabi or assessing the effectiveness of the instructor evaluation questionnaire. These committees report back to the Council so that their reports inform our decisions and/or recommendations.

The Council is also responsible for a quarterly series of Educational Effectiveness Workshops...

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The purpose of the Educational Effectiveness Workshop is to focus on issues that are of interest to the faculty and staff and that provide us with an opportunity to learn more about our communities. This type of forum was Dr. Stanislav Perkner's idea. He began this worthwhile format five years ago when he was chair of the Academic Council.

What were the main achievements and challenges during your Council tenure?

Two important achievements during my tenure were the approval of our first master's degree, which is the Master of Arts in Education, and the Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. Both of those degrees required substantial review by the Council in their preparation and final submissions to our accrediting agency, WASC.

My first challenge was attempting to fill the shoes of my predecessor—Dr. Stanislav Perkner. And those are BIG shoes to fill, not only literally but figuratively. Moreover, he had done an excellent job in refining the role of the Council and in solidifying its place in College governance. I owe a great deal to him. Other challenges included keeping all members on task during meetings so that we could cover all of the items on our long agenda, ensuring that important academic reports, such as program reviews, self-studies, or policy changes were addressed, and providing a voice for all faculty in College governance. I found that "sweets" worked best in maintaining our council members' attention.

The newly elected officers of the Academic Council are Linda Rahmoller (the Chair) and Richard Chabot (the Secretary). Do you have any advice for them?

Having served as not only the chair but also the secretary a few years back, I must say that both positions are vital to the smooth running of the Council. But because I know both of these competent people very well, I am quite certain that they do not really need my advice. They represent the best of us! I just want to congratulate them on their election and their willingness to accept these important duties. Having been one of the first members of the Academic Council when it was first formed over twenty years ago, I have watched this committee evolve into a very effective advisory body that works diligently and effectively in improving and ensuring the quality of education offered at the College. Both of them also know that the other members of the Council are always ready to assist them during their tenure as Council officers. My only piece of advice is to bring a whole lot of cookies!

FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Chair

Contributing Writer: Rowena Walker

In October, the Art and Music Appreciation class visited the St. Basil's Greek Orthodox Church on March Lane in Stockton to view the impressive artwork that makes that church one of the most beautiful in the Valley—or even, perhaps, in the United States. Orthodox churches are noted for their colorful mosaics of Christ, Mary, the Apostles and other Christian figures, and this particular church has displays that just may be unmatched anywhere. The mosaics are designed and produced in Greece, and the ultimate hope of this particular church is to eventually have every inch covered with this spectacular artwork. They are well on the way now. Father Luke Palumbis, in delightful detail, told about the mosaics and their particular importance to his church.



The class also ventured to Sacramento in early November to visit the Crocker Art Museum, located a few blocks from the Capitol. By way of a guided tour, the class was given a fairly in-depth art lesson on the varieties of European art as well as remarkable, historical—and enormous—paintings depicting the California Gold Rush. The Crocker family, so important to California history, acquired hundreds of paintings on their trips to Europe and supplemented them with California art. The museum is

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remarkable for a city the size of Sacramento and is certainly worth a visit.

With the busy Fall quarter almost behind us, the faculty are gearing up for Winter 2010. In addition to the full schedule of face-to-face classes, we are teaching seven online courses. As many of you know, the online classes fill up quite fast, so if you are still interested in taking one, please see your advisor as soon as possible.

In February we will be having the Literary Read-In to celebrate Black History Month, so if you are interested in helping to organize this annual event, please see Professor Becerra at the beginning of Winter quarter.

See you next year!

FROM THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL ...

WHEN OUR HELP IS NEEDED

By Linda Rahmoller, Academic Council Chair



Two years ago, the U.S. Census Bureau demonstrated that more than 14 percent of San Joaquin County residents were living in poverty. The Valley faces challenges on many fronts, including education, unemployment, and immigration issues.*

To address this issue that dramatically impacts our community, on November 18, the Academic Council as part of the quarterly Educational Effectiveness Workshops, sponsored a presentation by **Edward Figueroa, CEO of St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services**, which focused on *The Working Poor in San Joaquin County: Needs and Services Across Economies*. The speaker disputed commonly held myths that poverty and homelessness are based on chronic drug and alcohol addiction and reminded seminar participants that homelessness and poverty cross all racial, gender, and age lines—the face of poverty and homelessness are as close as the reflection in the mirror.

Edward Figueroa mentioned that one of the ongoing needs of his organization is socks. He referred to them as “White Gold.” Based on his comment, on behalf of the Academic Council, I invite you to participate in our “White Gold” Sock Drive. **Collection bins have been set up in the faculty and admission offices and donations will be accepted until Thursday, December 17.** As you prepare for finals, edit your research papers, and review your presentations, I request that you take a few moments out of your busy schedule to reflect upon the needs of our community during this holiday season and donate to this worthwhile cause.



* According to *The Record*, the percentage of poor people living here remains higher than state and national averages (see: http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080827/A_NEWS/808270325).

FUTURE CHANGES FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

By Stephen Choi, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator

The Criminal Justice Program at Humphreys College is starting very strong. Currently, we have 45 students. Since many of them would like to become *probation officers*, I have consulted the State of California's Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) Department. The College entered preliminary negotiations to become a STC provider for the Probation Office Core Academy. If the College is granted permission, we will be the first in the state to have a bachelor's program where a student would graduate with a degree and have completed the Probation Officer Core Academy.

I have spoken with two chief probation officers who agreed that a Humphreys graduate who has completed the Probation Office Core Academy before being hired would be a very marketable person. Currently, once hired, a

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new probation officer has to complete the Probation Academy within his/her first year of employment. Both chief probation officers stated their respective departments would save money, time, and resources if their new employees had already completed the Academy.

Of course, Humphreys graduates still must pass the written test, oral interview, background check, and medical and psychological tests for their respective probation departments, but having completed the Probation Academy would put them at the head of the list.

The College would implement the Probation Academy in the Corrections, Probation, and Parole Concentration. The Academy would consist of two courses spread through two quarters; it would replace two existing classes in the concentration. Probation officers from San Joaquin County and other departments would teach most of the classes. The Academy would include First Aid, Laws of Arrest, Ethics, Physical Fitness, Defensive Tactics, Criminal Procedure, and many other cutting-edge probation programs such as Evidence-led Probation Practices and Emotional Interviewing Techniques.

To assist students with the physical fitness and defensive tactics preparation, the College is starting a *Criminal Justice Club*. At the beginning, the Club will meet twice a month and will work on these two objectives. The use of firearms will eventually be included as soon as enough students have joined the Club and program. For further information about the Club or the Probation Academy, please contact Steve Choi, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator, at stephen.choi@humphreys.edu or call 235-2929.

FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Kay Reindl, Chair

Contributing Writer: Bruce Bodine

COURT REPORTERS BOARD OF CALIFORNIA CONDUCTED ON-SITE COMPLIANCE REVIEW AT HUMPHREYS



On October 28, the Court Reporters Board of California conducted an on-site review of Humphreys College's court reporting program. California Business & Professions Code provides for inspections of court reporting programs, "as necessary."

The current review process takes two phases. *Phase I* requires extensive evidence that the program fulfills all requirements set forth by the state of California. Humphreys' documentation report was approved by the CR Board in June 2007.

Phase II is the on-site review conducted to validate the evidence submitted in *Phase I*. Additionally, the Board visiting team reviews a random sampling of student and faculty files, tours the cam-

pus, including the library and learning center, and interviews student volunteers.

The October review team was comprised of Betty Sundberg, Ed.D., education consultant to the board, and its staff members Julia Miranda-Bursell, M.A., and William Schmidt. Yvonne Fenner, Board Executive Officer, was present for the morning orientation session with the students and the campus tour with Dr. Robert G. Humphreys.

The team found that Humphreys College "meets or exceeds" most basic requirements for *Phase II*; however, its members offered recommendations in two areas: consistent documentation of counseling within the program and modification of the method used to track apprenticeship hours. The Court Reporting Department is working on ways to change policies in order to meet the board's recommendations.

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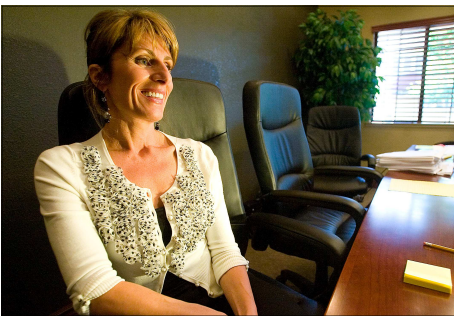
The team stated that among the highlights of its visit were the one-on-one student interviews. All 14 student volunteers, "without exception," were enthusiastic about their choice to attend Humphreys and pursue court reporting. "Many spoke of the assistance and personal attention they receive at the school and the strong support base in place with pro-

gram administrators, instructors, and fellow classmates."

The positive result of the board visitation means that the court reporting program maintains its "approved" status by the CRBC, along with NCRA recognition as a participating program, and full accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

DINA MARCUS NAMED LODI BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR

By Jordan Guinn, Lodi News-Sentinel Staff Writer



Dina Marcus was awarded Business Woman of the Year by the Lodi News-Sentinel. Marcus is a court reporter and runs Marcus Deposition Reporting in Lodi. (Brian Feulner)

There was a time in Dina Marcus' life when she barely spoke English and hated going to school. A native of the Azores, volcanic islands west of Portugal, she was teased mercilessly for her

She spent 15 years in Galt and graduated from Galt High School before moving to Lodi.

She attended Humphreys College in Stockton and obtained her license to be a court reporter there.

The daughter of a dairy farmer said she fell into court reporting by accident. When she enrolled in college she wanted to be a legal secretary, but a receptionist told her being a court reporter was better.

"She asked me, 'Why be a legal secretary when you can be a court reporter?'" she said.

What she loves about her job is the independence and the ability to meet a variety of different people.

"I'm always learning," she said.

She said her sister Madalena Moules, her husband Scott and Linda Lofthus, a judge in Stockton are her mentors. She said all of them are wise, have excellent common sense and are good people. Marcus said her sister is a wholesome, moral and genuine person and her husband is patient and compassionate. "Linda is an excellent teacher and very strong woman who taught me about business and how to communicate with people," she said.

Marcus said the business of court reporting is competitive by nature.

"It's expected that you will get run over," she said. "You have to have an edge, and the edge is technology."

MDR utilizes a videographer and records depositions for backup, but Marcus said a recorder cannot and will not ever replace a court reporter because it can't distinguish between voices and can't provide personal service.

poor grammar and didn't begin speaking English well until the fourth grade.

Now she owns Marcus Deposition Reporting, MDR, and can type nearly 300 words a minute. She has been in her office on 207 W. Oak Street since 2006 and has been a court reporter for nearly 20 years. She is the winner of the [Lodi News-Sentinel's](#) inaugural "Women In Business" award.

"It takes a long time and a lot of work," Marcus said of her job. "It's not easy money."

Her job is a barrage of information and data. MDR handles trials, depositions, arbitrations and hearings. The firm is capable of conducting business around the clock and across the country. They videotape depositions, manage transcripts and even store documents and exhibits for their clients.

"Everything is instantaneous," she said.

Marcus said the most common misconception about her job is people think anyone can do it.

"It takes a lot of education to be a court reporter," she said.

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Besides the cutting edge technology, Marcus said her job is made easier by the people she surrounds herself with. She said her assistant Cassidy Staggs is her right arm and is capable of handling a wide range of personalities.

Staggs returns the compliments.

"She is the busiest woman I have ever seen," Staggs said. "She's worked very hard for her success and she deserves it."

MDR's staff has more than 60 combined years of experience and is widely respected by the legal community.

Sandy Bunch, Nancy Wallace, Debra Thompson, Kelley Jordan and Leigh Ann Orozco are workers at MDR who Marcus heaps praise upon.

"I surround myself with good people," she said. "I don't have a revolving-door office."

The company is in good standing with the Certified Shorthand Reporters Board, the National Court Reporters Association and the California Court Reporters Association, as well as other groups.

Her business handles more than 30 clients and is working on one of the largest cases in the nation,



Abarca v. Merck Co. The case is about water contamination and Marcus said it is a huge responsibility for her company. Part of the job included doing four depositions a day for six months straight.

"The paperwork is astronomical," she said.

She said she hopes winning the award will help highlight her business team and give others the strength they need to pursue their passions.

She will arrive to her office with scones, bear-claws and apple turnovers from the Dancing Fox into the office for her workers and values the team aspect of the job.

"I learned to say 'we' instead of 'you,'" she said.

"It's a team effort all the time."

She doesn't have much in the way of free time, but she enjoys cooking and exercising as ways to unwind.

Marcus also cherishes the time she spends with her husband and her children, Madalen, 9, and Scotty, 7.

"My family is my favorite thing," she said.

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COURT REPORTING STUDENT IS RECIPIENT OF CALIFORNIA COURT REPORTER ASSOCIATION 2009 SCHOLARSHIP

Desiree Britt was named as one of the two CCRA 2009 Scholarship recipients.

CCRA was able to award two \$500 scholarships; one for the 160-180 speed level and one for the 180-200 speed level which Desiree won. Applicants were required to write a one-page essay which answered this question.

What Qualities are Important to Be a Successful Reporter?

By Desiree Britt, Court Reporting Student

Court reporting has been through quite an evolution over the past couple of decades. In the Information Age, new and developing technology has enhanced the court reporter's capabilities, as opposed to being a viable replacement. In order to be successful in this ever-revolving field, the court reporter of today must be organized, punctual, professional, and much more.

In my opinion, one essential quality to being a successful court reporter in the year 2009 and beyond is the ability to evolve with the profession. This requires a willingness to learn and embrace new programs, steno writers, and computer components that might seem to change the face of the profession, but would only augment our ability to be guardians of the record. While we're always keeping an open mind to new and better technology, I think it's also vitally important to our success as court reporters to remem-



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ber to keep the record the priority. If we truly appreciate the value of that record, its purpose, and our roles as its guardians, we will be able to recognize quickly and embrace eagerly the tools that will make us better at that job. At the same time, we will also be able to recognize and reject anything that might compromise its integrity.

Finally, the quality that is crucial to our success as court reporters, as well as to the vitality of our profession, is a true appreciation of what we as individuals bring to each job assignment. When we have confidence in our ability and what our role as guardians is, we won't need to be fearful for our job security, because we will come to each job knowing that we are fully equipped to be the best.

Congratulations, Desiree! Soon you will be able to contribute the qualities you possess to the court reporting profession.

DAN FELDHAUS VISITED HUMPHREYS COLLEGE: LIFE DEVOTED TO COURT REPORTING

By Bruce M. Bodine, CRI, Instructor

The Court Reporting Department hosted a special visit by Dan Feldhaus, CSR, on Friday, November 6. Students and faculty had the opportunity to hear about his professional development, beginning with his learning of machine shorthand to his participation in state and national speed contests.

Kay Reindl, chair of the Court Reporting Department, introduced the guest to our students, faculty, and staff. Dan was born and raised in South Dakota. He studied reporting at the Stenotype Institute. He has been a certified shorthand reporter for almost 30 years. He is licensed in California and Nevada. He currently holds professional certifications through the National Court Reporters Association as a Certified Realtime Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter (the highest certification offered by the National Court Reporters Association), Registered Merit Reporter, and Registered Professional Reporter. All of these certifications require extra study and speed ability over and above the minimum qualifications for a licensed court reporter.



Kay Reindl and Dan Feldhaus

In past years, Dan was a finalist in the national speed contest and the realtime contest. He won the California speed contest and was a finalist in the California realtime contest. He is a past president and past treasurer of the Northern California Court Reporters Association. Dan and his wife live in Sacramento and own a deposition firm.

In activities other than court reporting, Dan has enjoyed running, having recently completed his first half-marathon. He attributes his learning how to focus on his past motorcycle racing experience.

Dan shared his wealth of court reporting experience with our students and answered many questions. His presentation was even humorous at times (example: his briefcase was a case covered in men's white-tightie briefs); however, he admitted that he is more accustomed to listening instead of speaking.

After Dan's presentation, a raffle was held for the students. Many gifts were handed out to those who held the lucky tickets. The raffle was followed by a pot-luck luncheon. Dan's devotion to his reporting career was very evident. He remained after the luncheon and continued answering questions.

We thank Dan Feldhaus for his time and willingness to share his experiences with our students. He knows how rewarding a court reporting career is and the work it takes our students to achieve their goal of becoming certified shorthand reporters.

FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT...

THE STOLEN IDENTITY SCAM: HEY WAIT! THEY STOLE IT FROM MY RÉSUMÉ!

By Jason Wolins, Chair

Scene 1: You are looking for a job. What luck! You find one that looks fantastic. However, this is what unfolds:

- You talk to the potential employer only over the phone and post your résumé online.
- The company’s address is only a post office box.
- The job pays well and, even better, you get to work from home.
- The company says it needs your bank account number for its internal records.



Scene 2: Uh oh! Quadruple red flag time! On August 31, Darrell Smith wrote an article in *The Sacramento Bee*, “ID thieves can prey on a résumé,” outlining how “fraudsters” are taking advantage of people desperate to find work. He noted how the California Society of Certified Public Accountants recently launched a campaign to inform job hunters about how to protect themselves.

Monday, August 31, 2009 | The Sacramento Bee | B5

BUSINESS

A HIRING SCAM COULD ALSO TRY TO GAIN ACCESS TO PERSONAL DETAILS

By DARRELL SMITH
dsmith@sacbee.com

The job looks great, but you’ve talked with the employer only over the telephone, and the company’s address is a

post office box. The scams are numerous, CalCPA says, but common sense and vigilance can beat back the con men

and their finances during their search for work.

state’s office (www.sos.ca.gov) and the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org).

“There are really simple kinds of things. You can find out a lot about a company,” he said.

Still other scam artists mine online résumés for valuable information, which is a problem

“Don’t put any information that can be tied too readily to you,” Burke said. “Fraud artists are a step ahead of us. Don’t let your need for a job get in the way of common sense.”

For more information, visit www.calcpa.org.

He indicated that the common frauds involve identity theft where “fraudulent” potential employers attempt to obtain your personal information. Here are some examples of predicaments and potential responses cited by Sacramento CPA Greg Burke in the article:

Predicament # 1: The “fraudster” potential employer says, Give us your bank account and social security numbers, so we can directly deposit your pay into your bank account!

- **Solution:** Do not give out those numbers. If the potential employer is legitimate, it will pay by check. (Note: After you are hired by a legitimate employer, you may need to give out these numbers and may be able to set up a direct deposit of your paycheck.)

Predicament # 2: The potential employer has no actual address.

- **Solution:** Make sure there is an actual business location, so you can meet with someone in person and make sure the business is legitimate.

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Predicament # 3: You post your résumé online and it contains a lot of personal information a “fraudster” can use to steal your identity.

- **Solution:** First, just what kind of personal information is in that résumé you posted? Does it contain your home telephone number? E-mail address? Birth date? Home address? If so, here are some things you can consider doing, instead:
 - * Convert your résumé to a functional format which shows work experience without giving a lot of personal information.
 - * Provide a cell phone number instead of your home phone.
 - * Create an e-mail address which does not include your name.
 - * Give a post office box for your mailing address instead of your home address.

Epilogue: CPA Burke suggested not putting any information in your résumé that can be easily tied to you. He said, “Fraud artists are a step ahead of us. Don’t let your need for a job get in the way of common sense.”

- Here are some websites cited in the article to get more information:

Type of Information	Organization : Website
Information about protecting yourself	California Society of CPAs: www.calcpa.org
A business’ track record	California Secretary of State: www.sos.ca.gov Better Business Bureau: www.bbb.org

FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT...

ECE DEPARTMENT TODAY AND TOMORROW

By Pam Wood, Chair

This past year, 2009, has been one of continued growth, both in the department and in the lives of our students. Many have welcomed special additions to their families during this year. Our current enrollment is nearing 170 and the number of alumni have surpassed 130. The new MA Program in Education now has 44 students enrolled, with an emphasis in either Early Childhood Education or Educational Administration.

Beverly Clark and Barbara Coulibaly have been great additions to our Humphreys staff. They are helping to extend our outreach into the community by attending county-sponsored meetings and events. Students are reaping the benefits of their knowledge and experience. Phyllis Miranda continues to engage our students in her hands-on approach to curriculum. Sheila Rogers and I enjoy “seeing” students each quarter in our “ECE Online” courses. The varied course offerings (Saturday, late afternoon, evening, and online classes) enable our ECE majors to complete their degree in a way that best suits their individual needs.

We look forward to 2010 with great anticipation for continued growth and development.



A POSTCARD FROM CHINA

By Pam Wood, Chair, ECE Department

I recently had the privilege of visiting my daughter, Shawna, in Beijing, China, where she serves as a principal of the International Academy of Beijing (IAB). The two-campus school has K-12th grade students; Shawna is the principal of K-5th grade, where students are instructed in both English and Chinese. The student body is made up of 45% American/Canadian and 55% Korean children; Chinese children are not permitted to attend.

During my visit, the H1N1 flu has caused wide-spread concern in China. All staff, students, and visitors to campuses were required to have their temperature taken twice daily. Even a slight elevation in temperature warrants immediate, in-home quarantine for seven days. If anyone in a particular classroom was diagnosed with H1N1, the entire class was dismissed for a week. On my arrival to China, I was sent to the quarantine center to complete paperwork and have my temperature checked. Anyone entering the country with flu symptoms was immediately taken to a local hotel that has been designated as the “Quarantine Hospital,” where guards were stationed 24-hours a day.



Above: IAB (L), The Great Wall (R), Below: Jinseng Park and a few of the 40 million potted plants.



Pam with daughter Shawna at Tiananmen Square.

Below: Temple of Heaven



I was privileged to visit the country during its celebration of the “60th Anniversary of the Republic of China.” The Chinese leaders know how to celebrate! They had 40 million potted plants brought in and strategically placed throughout the city of Beijing. The attention to detail was amazing! Program practices had gone on for a year in preparation for the anniversary festivities. The guest list for the huge parade only included 200 people; citizens were asked to stay home and watch the parade on television. The precision and attention to detail was unlike anything I had ever experienced.

The ten days I spent in China were filled with amazing adventures including visits to the Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Jinseng Park, Summer Palace, and Weird Food Street, where scorpions on-a-stick were one of the favorites! (I preferred the pineapple dipped in syrup!) You may be wondering if Chinese food in China is comparable to what we have here in the United States. It’s even better! I ate in four different Chinese restaurants, and each was uniquely different; however, all served dumplings, a mainstay in Beijing. Yes, I did learn to use chopsticks quite well, only dropping a few peanuts and struggling slightly with the dumplings. Fortune cookies were not on the menu, but sweet potatoes dipped in hot syrup that crystallized when dipped in cold water were amazing!

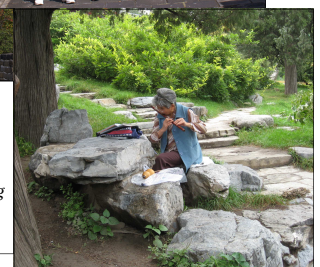
Standing on the Great Wall of China and observing the incredible size and detailed structure was breathtaking! The detailed architecture and colorful design of the Temple of Heaven and Forbidden City were beyond my imagination. The contentment I observed in the faces of the senior citizens as they played their instruments or danced with one another in Jinseng Park portrayed the heart of the Chinese people.

In conclusion, visiting China has helped me to appreciate the daily struggles and overwhelming challenges that students of all ages face as they enter our classrooms and strive to succeed while facing insurmountable obstacles. Our goal should be to create a balance in our classroom environment that will support each person’s unique identity while appreciating the differences, building on similarities, and celebrating the riches of diversity.



Above: The Great Wall up close.

Right: Peaceful solitude in Jinseng Park



FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER...

HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE

- The first of the eleven fall-quarter sessions was reserved for the new students of Humphreys College. **Santa Lopez-Minatre**, **Lisa Kooren**, and **Cynthia Becerra** conducted their orientation.
- In the following workshops, **Stanislav Perkner** introduced the participants of those regular open-enrollment sessions to the elements of research for both traditional and online courses, composing and editing, reading-for-learning techniques, and MLA and APA-style documentation. **Richard Hunt** led students through the techniques of the EBSCO, Wilson Web, and Pro-Quest database searches. **Jess Bonds**, Dean of Institutional Research, invited the participants to think about the national trends in higher education. To explore “the frontier of knowledge,” **Felix Cano** talked about the latest achievements in Biomedical Engineering. **Lisa Kooren** and **Leslie Walton** shared their views about the efficient study of mathematics; followed by Lisa’s regular presentation about the local job market trends.



- The closing session of the quarter was devoted to a rather informal conversation among Law School Dean **L. Patrick Piggott**, one of this law program graduates **Stephen Choi**, Coordinator of the new Criminal Justice Program, and a group of undergraduate students considering law studies in the future.

Modesto Workshops

- In Modesto, Humphreys students enjoyed three well-attended workshops. **Shauna Van Dewark’s** topic was “Math – a not so scary subject”; she addressed the issues of math anxiety. **Pam Wood** informed about the Early Childhood Education program of Humphreys College that is designed for students who wish to pursue teaching or administrative opportunities; she also introduced the new Master’s in Education Program. “It’s not easy being green: How can you turn green and start from the insides of your homes using simple steps” was a topic presented by **Linda Mottison**.

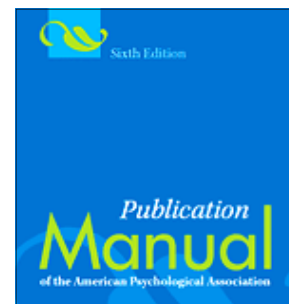


APA STANDARDS UPDATED

WHAT IS NEW IN THE 2010 EDITION OF THE PUBLICATION MANUAL OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION?

Humphreys College students and instructors are using *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* in two programs: Master’s in Education and Criminal Justice. *The Manual* explains how to identify a topic and develop it through research, how to work with sources in your writing, gives advice on the mechanics of academic prose, and authoritatively presents APA documentation style. In fall 2009, the APA released the sixth edition of *The Manual*, with the publication date of 2010.

The Manual is the style guide of choice for writers, editors, students, and educators in *the social and behavioral sciences*. It provides invaluable guidance on all aspects of the writing process, from the ethics of authorship to the word choice that best reduces bias in language. Well-known for its time-honored reference and citation system, *The Manual* also offers guidance on choosing the headings, tables, figures, and tone that will result in strong, simple, and elegant scientific communication.



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The sixth edition contains new and expanded instruction on publication ethics, statistics, journal article reporting standards, electronic reference formats, and the construction of tables and figures. The new edition has been revised and updated to include:

- new ethics guidance on such topics as determining authorship and terms of collaboration, duplicate publication;
- plagiarism and self-plagiarism;
- validity of instrumentation, and making data available to others for verification;
- new journal article reporting standards to help readers report empirical research with clarity and precision;
- simplified APA heading style to make it more conducive to electronic publication;
- updated guidelines for reducing bias in language to reflect current practices and preferences, including a new section on presenting historical language that is inappropriate by present standards;
- new guidelines for reporting inferential statistics and a significantly revised table of statistical abbreviations; and,
- new instruction on using supplemental files containing lengthy data sets and other media.

The 2010 edition includes significantly expanded content on the electronic presentation of data to help readers understand the purpose of each kind of display and choose the best match for communicating the results of the investigation, with new examples for a variety of data displays, including electro-physiological and biological data. It offers consolidated information on all aspects of reference citations, with an expanded discussion of electronic sources emphasizing the role of the digital object identifier (DOI) as a reliable way to locate information. It features expanded discussion of the publication process, including the function and process of peer review.

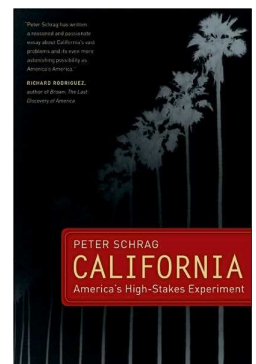
Last but not least, the new edition contains a discussion of ethical, legal, and policy requirements in publication; and guidelines on working with the publisher while the article is in press. Key to this edition of *The Manual* is an updated and expanded Web presence: additional supplemental material keyed to the printed book, including a free tutorial on style basics; a free tutorial reviewing key revisions; an on-line course on APA Style; and the APA Style blog.

FROM THE NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY...

ON CALIFORNIA'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Peter Schrag. *California: America's High-Stakes Experiment*. University of California Press, 2008

Peter Schrag is a contributing editor and columnist at the *Sacramento Bee*. He is the author of several books, including *Paradise Lost: California's Experience, America's Future and Final Test: The Battle for Adequacy in America's Schools*. In his latest book, he provides a fascinating guide through the labyrinth of California state politics. He takes on the big issues—immigration, globalization, and the impact of California's politics on its quality of life—in this dynamic account of the Golden State's struggle to recapture the American Dream. In the past half-century, California has been both model and anti-model for the nation and often the world, first for its high level of government and public services—schools, universities, highways—and latterly for its dysfunctional government, deteriorating services, and sometimes regressive public policies. Schrag explains how many current "solutions" exacerbate the very problems they are supposed to solve and analyzes a variety of possible state and federal policy alternatives to restore government accountability and a vital democracy to the nation's most populous state and the world's fifth-largest economy. The issues that Schrag tackles include the impact of Latino and Asian immigration and the emergence of California as the first large majority minority state; the globalization of



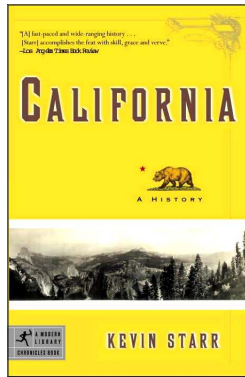
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California's economy and culture; the growing reliance of voters on the initiative, referendum, and recall processes; the increasing instability of elected government; and California as cultural avant-garde.

Kevin Starr. *California: A History*. Random House, 2007

California historian Kevin Starr is Professor at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He served as the State Librarian of California for the decade spanning 1994 to 2004. He refers to his state as "this nation state, this world commonwealth." This book is a distillation of Starr's previously published seven-volume series, *California and the American Dream*, in the single volume. The straight, chronological history opens with a fascinating survey of the geology, climate, flora, and fauna of the region.



Then the author provides interesting insights into the achievements and failings of Spanish and Mexican governance, while he pays particular attention to the tragic fate of California's indigenous peoples. Most of the book, however, covers the period of American supremacy, and Starr's treatment of topics such as the gold rush, the growth of high-tech industries, and the emergence of California as the center of the motion-picture industry is handled with great aplomb. In 13 succinct chapters, he explores both California's history and the mythologies that have surrounded it for centuries, from the paradise envisioned by 16th-century Spaniards to the belief in California as the apotheosis of the American Dream. The author explains the origins of an American state, the building of a megastate, reliance on the defense industry, and suburbanization. Also considered are utopian endeavors (and concerns about dystopia) involving science and technology, the state's current polyglot nature, and the ongoing political struggle for preeminence.

POETRY CORNER

LYRICS OF ME

*In my youth
It was perceived by all
That I was the perfect embodiment
Of a certain quality of life.
I stayed out late.
Coffee-house hopping
Live-music listening
Available as a shoulder to cry on.
Very content with not
Achieving more than a "C."
As a young adult
Marriage and children found me.
Late night taps on the shoulder
Home runs
Pee-on-the-seat
Dinner for five always.
In my thirties
The smell of coffee fills my home
Educational accomplishments become a requirement
Intimacy grows stronger
Sexuality is more refined
Independence is gained
Chapters of
Completeness
Excellence
Obsessive accuracy
Await me.
Only my mental grasp of it all will matter.*

~ Sybl Moore



POETRY CORNER

GREEN-EYED MONSTER

Bright-eyed bushy tailed;
Where learning will prevail.
Open mind; joyful, kind.
Mommy, Mommy, I want to learn.
Thank you, Mommy, for teaching me.

I've earned my kindergarten diploma.
You see! I'm ready to fly! Look, Mommy!
How high can you see? Amidst eager
Learning with hope and reams,
The Green-Eyed Monster is looking at me.

I raise my hand and study hard, taking
Unstoppable notes, passing in my homework
With high hopes.
Why am I not encouraged.
Learning is fun. You ignore me. Pass me by.

Heck! I can't even get a hi!
I raise my hand and study hard.
But why am I not encouraged?
I earned my kindergarten diploma-- many years go by
And I still don't have my high school diploma.

Ms. Math and Mr. Science open to EVERYONE???
I'mmm not smart enough?
You wait and see.
God told me that
Momentum=Mass x Velocity

I am Grand
I am Unstoppable
My history, my legacy, and my Mommy told me.
I am Math! I am Science
College I am

Hmmm. . . I raise my hand and study hard. . .
I'm in college succeeding indeed.
Brothers and Sisters come along with me!
U.C., C.S.U., and private alike.
Another statistic NO indeed!

Thank you, Mommy, for believing in me!
You see! You see!
I have my high school diploma and college degree!
The Green-Eyed Monster didn't destroy me!
Wouldn't you agree!

Mommy, Mommy, look at me!
I'm FLYING HIGH!
HOW HIGH CAN YOU SEE?
I'm FLYING HIGH!
NOW CAN YOU SEE?

~ Evalette Tucker

DIE

The night was warm and tensions high,
And I really didn't understand
The winds were low and she did die
And all I did was cry, cry, cry
'Til the Undertaker took my hand;
No one ever told me the pain I'd feel,
They insinuated it was an easy ride
But I can say that was not the deal
The pain I felt was real, so real
It stripped me of all my hope and pride;
So, now I must pick up the pieces,
And how do I not know
The pain of Death somehow never ceases
Especially, without mother, father, or nieces
But I grasp onto a new existence and hope to grow, grow, grow;
A new day has arrived,
And I must choose this day
The night was warm and tensions high, and I—
Like a bird am trying to fly,
And, unfortunately, no time for Play.

~ Charlene White

JERRY MEDINA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

The **First Annual Jerry Medina Memorial Scholarship Dinner** took place on Saturday, October 3, at *Vito's Ristorante* in Modesto. The event was organized by the Dean of Administration Office and by the Modesto Campus staff.



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- Δ On December 4, 2009, **Stephen Choi**, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator, was named Dos Palos Police Department Officer of the Year for 2009. He was presented with this prestigious award by Chief Barry Mann during the City Awards dinner.
- Δ In mid-October, their Library & Learning Center colleagues were very happy to hear that within one week two library assistants—Tanya Bennett and Andrea Mason—became mothers of two adorable babies. First born was **Mateo Benjamin Lewis** (8lbs 4oz), on Saturday, October 10. Five days later, Mateo was followed by **Natalia Linda Shari Bennett** (8lbs 7oz). Congratulations!



Happy Holidays

To Our Students, Alumni and Friends of the College:

Season's Greetings! Once again it is Christmas time—a wonderful moment for us to pause for a second to celebrate with our friends. It is an opportunity to express our gratitude for your warm and continuing friendship.

Our Traditional Christmas Reunion Buffet Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 17th at 12 noon on the Stockton campus. You are invited to bring your spouse and, certainly, your children are welcome. This is a special opportunity to visit with your friends, former classmates and teachers. If you know of alumni or friends of the College who did not receive this invitation, please invite them on our behalf.

Best Wishes for a Wonderful

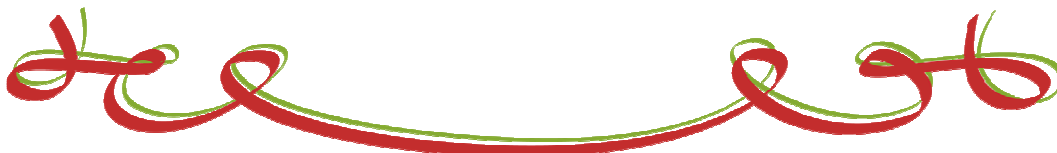
Holiday Season,

*Humphreys College Trustees,
Faculty and Staff*

**Remember to come early to shop for yourself and friends.*

You'll enjoy our beautiful annual Holiday Baskets!

(Raffle tickets will be sold)



*Happy holidays
from your
newsletter team...
Cindy, Stan & Leslie*



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Humphreys College Newsletter, December 2009

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