

Humphreys College

Newsletter



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JUNE 2010

SPRING QUARTER

FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Associate Dean, Chair
Contributing Writers: Dr. Stanislav Perkner and Dr. Richard Chabot

The Liberal Arts Department has had a busy Spring Quarter. In fact, two new courses have been developed and approved by both the Department and the Academic Council. The first new course is GEO101 World Geography, created by Professor Rowena Walker. The second course, ENGL202 Critical Thinking and Writing, designed by myself in cooperation with the following faculty: Kerry Moquett, Jess Bonds, Stan Perkner, Rollin Coleman, and Richard Hunt. Both of these courses will be taught in the next academic year, 2010-2011.

In addition, Professor Randy Rahmoller's Art and Music Appreciation class has been busy. On Sunday, April 18, over twenty of his students, along with his wife, Professor Linda Rahmoller, my husband, Jess Becerra, and myself, visited two important California landmarks in Sacramento—the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and The Crocker Art Museum. Both of these remarkable places give meaning to the study of art. First, the Cathedral was restored in 2005; the tour that was provided for our class by a local docent included highlighting the transformation of the church from earthquake retrofitting to restoring the breathtaking stained glass. The next landmark, the Crocker Art Museum, which was established in 1885, offers a diverse collection of art. The museum itself is considered one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture in the U.S. Students, guests, and faculty were amazed at these remarkable landmarks.

Got Social Science Electives?

Looking for some upper-division social science electives this summer to fill out your transcript? The Community Studies Program has just what you need!

For those who prefer online learning, adjunct professor Patrice Olsen is offering up one of her specialties, *Gerontology*, the study of the elderly in society, the fastest growing population in the U.S., requiring more services, influencing more politicians, spending more money, and essentially driving every social institution well into the middle part of the century. If you are interested in law, health, business, or social services, you definitely want to have the low-down on all the blue-haired ladies and geriatric gents who will be determining factors in all those fields. Besides, like it or not, you're going to be old some day. . .

OK, you don't like online classes and have already taken *Gerontology*. No problem. On Wednesday evenings Prof. Richard Chabot will be teaching a course on *Social Stratification in America*. Not just about the poor and downtrodden of America, this course looks at how our society provides resources to different groups of people in different ways. Your place in society influences

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LIFE AFTER HUMPHREYS: SEVEN PANELISTS DISCUSSED THEIR CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

In May, the Liberal Arts Department invited all Humphreys students to an alumni panel discussion titled "Career and Educational Opportunities in the Fields of Liberal Studies and Community Studies."

The well-attended event was hosted by Prof. **Cynthia Becerra**, Chair of the Liberal Arts Department and the College's Associated Dean, along with Dr. **Richard Chabot**, Coordinator of the Community Studies Program. The invitation was accepted by seven panelists: **Raquel Deyto**, **Karen Jerwa**, **Sidra Johnson**, **Linda Phillips**, **Jamie Segura**, **Kathy Tracewell**, and **Anthony Silva**.



The panelists, Humphreys' alumni and two current graduate students, shared their educational and professional experiences. Each of them offered a unique story driven by a single goal: to build a meaningful and rewarding life on the grounds of a liberal-arts education.

The panelists, Humphreys' alumni and two current graduate students, shared their educational and professional experiences. Each of them offered a unique story driven by a single goal: to build a meaningful and rewarding life on the grounds of a liberal-arts education.

The discussion touched many issues; here are some highlights:

- Liberal arts courses offered by Humphreys College are an asset for those who pursue a graduate-level education. They "present choices" and shape one's worldview (Karen Jerwa). Many classes, especially history and literature, through their "broad exposure," help us to learn about ourselves, pushing us to grow, and to find our niche—both individually and professionally (Kathy Tracewell), helping to define ourselves while challenging us (Sidra Johnson and Jamie Segura).
- Today's economic recession may be challenging; however, it is time to pursue one's education - to be ready for better times. An increasing number of jobs that used to require just a high school diploma are disappearing; more frequently, an entry-level job qualification now is a bachelor degree (Sidra Johnson, Anthony Silva, Jamie Segura, and Raquel Deyto).
- A liberal arts education is invaluable for its cumulative value. It allows thinking in a multidisciplinary and multidimensional manner, connecting individual experiences with a broader historical context. It cultivates a habit of life-long learning (Linda Phillips, Kathy Tracewell, Raquel Deyto, and Anthony Silva). As stated by Karen Jerwa, the Liberal Studies program "offers and presents students choices."
- Most of the panelists put stress upon the practical value of the college-level communication skills, both written and oral, that they acquired at Humphreys (Sidra Johnson, Karen Jerwa, Raquelle Deyto).
- Another set of skills the panelists found helpful is social research as taught in Dr. Chabot's program. They found it helpful after leaving Humphreys, especially in graduate-level work (Raquelle Deyto). Some of them are ready to pursue Ph.D. or Ed.D. degrees.
- Some of the panelists shared their positive feelings about Humphreys' traditional open-door policy – easy access to instructors, personal attention to students' unique concerns, and the small-class environment (Raquelle Deyto, Karen Jerwa, and Anthony Silva).
- The panelists appreciated the role of college advisors, including primary counseling provided by the Admission Office led by **Santa Lopez-Minatre**. The student-centered, sensitive and experienced counselors are instrumental in helping students define their initial educational goals (Jamie Segura).

Overall, this year's panel discussion contributed to the College's effort to hear not only from its current students but also more frequently from its alumni. The feedback serves several purposes: to strengthen college-alumni relations, to augment career clarity for Liberal Studies and Community Studies majors, and to fine-tune existing programs.

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everything from the types of news you read to the kind of job you are expecting upon graduation. This class will be focused on you and your personal place in the American socioeconomic fabric, providing clues about what can be done to change the situation but also explaining why most of us are happy just being where we are. More about social awareness than social upheaval, you may wind up with more questions than answers upon graduation, but you are guaranteed to know what questions to ask.

For more information about either of these two upper-division social science electives, talk to your advisor or call Dr. Chabot at 478-0800.

FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Pam Wood, Chair

Contributing Writer: Beverly Clark



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR HELD IN HUMPHREYS' LIBRARY

In April, the Early Childhood Education Department held a nine-day *Scholastic Book Fair* in the Humphreys College Library and Learning Center. Nine students volunteered their time. The results were very impressive. The event that was opened to the public made \$1,466 dollars, which earned \$657.14 in Scholastic dollars to spend on 89 children's books. The department decided to donate them to the homeless children at the Haven of Peace Center.

FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Kay Reindl, Chair

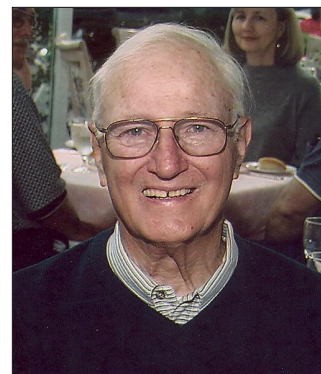
GEORGE FREMONT STAHL: IN MEMORIAM

George Fremont Stahl (born 1928) passed away April 3, 2010, in Roseville, California, at age 81. A graduate of University of San Francisco '51 and Golden Gate University '65, George spent his business career as a purchasing executive in San Francisco and Stockton areas. He has been remembered as a former adjunct instructor in the Business Department at Humphreys College. George was also passionate about coaching sports.

He was the husband of the former Court Reporting Department Chair, Maria Stahl. During the 57 years of their marriage, Maria and George raised four children and enjoyed their ten grandchildren. Both of them were very active members of the Humphreys community. Upon their retirement, they established *the George and Maria Stahl Scholarship* for aspiring court reporting students.

A memorial service was held on May 2 in San Francisco.

Donations may be made to *the Stahl Scholarship Fund* at Humphreys or to *Project Play Africa*, 1020 E. 20th St., Chico, CA 95927.



COURT REPORTERS BOARD OF CALIFORNIA PUBLISHES NEW OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT



Under the authority and direction of the Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES), the Court Reporters Board of California recently completed the process of researching and publishing a new Occupational Analysis Report. Research through surveys was conducted to identify critical job activities performed by Certified Shorthand Reporters (CSRs) in the State of California. The purpose of the survey conducted and the resulting report was to identify actual job tasks that entry-level licensees must be able to perform and the knowledge required to complete those tasks.

A three-part survey was sent to 1,992 CSR licensees within the state. The response was 558 questionnaires or 27%. Also represented in the responses were 47 of the 58 counties within the state. Through surveys, interviews, research, and two focus groups, the Board identified five content areas under which all test assessment will be developed at subsequent item writing workshops. Contained within the report are detailed job tasks and associated knowledge statements which serve as the foundation for the CSR exam.

OVERVIEW OF CONTENT AREAS

Content	Content Area Description
Reporting Proceedings	This area assesses the candidate's ability and knowledge to report proceedings verbatim at a prescribed speed.
Transcribing Proceedings	This area assesses the candidate's ability to produce a verbatim transcript from stenographic notes.
Research and Language	This area assesses the candidate's knowledge of English grammar, punctuation, specialized vocabularies, spelling, word usage, and the use of reference sources.
Transcript Management	This area assesses the candidate's ability to maintain and distribute products and services.
Ethics	This area assesses the candidate's knowledge of ethical standards of practice.

Ultimately, by adopting the CSR examination outline published in the report, the Board effectively ensures that its examination program reflects current practice. The full report is available at

http://www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov/formspubs/occupational_2010.pdf

FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Stephen P. Choi, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator

The program offers an *Associate in Art* and a *Bachelor of Science* degree. The two most popular program concentrations are the *law enforcement* and *corrections/probation/parole*. The program continues to hire new faculty members to teach *Criminal Procedure II*, *Evidence*, and other new courses. The newest among them is **Kimberly Gonzales**, Stanislaus County Deputy Public Defender - Juvenile Division.



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Probation Officer Core Course (Probation Academy)

Humphreys College is readying itself to offer the Probation Academy to students in the winter quarter of 2011. The Probation Academy is roughly 200 hours in length. It will cover *laws of arrest, first aid, defensive tactics, cognitive behavioral therapy, and evidence-based probation practices*. Completion of the Probation Academy and a bachelor degree will make Humphreys College students eligible to become probation officers. Students must still pass a background, psychological, and medical check by the respective hiring agencies.

In April 2010, the State of California, Standards and Training for Corrections (STC), completed a site visit of Humphreys College and have tentatively approved Humphreys College as a Probation Academy provider. Additionally, I met with Chief Probation Officer **Patty Mazelli**. It was decided that Humphreys College will wait for the Probation Officer Core Course to be re-written before proceeding forward. The Core Course will be re-written by July 2010. The College is eager to work with San Joaquin County Probation Department and will convene a meeting of probation supervisors in July 2010 to discuss teaching assignments.

Online Criminal Justice Degree Program for Working Professionals

Humphreys College is exploring the possibility of offering a completely online *Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Studies*. The target audience would be the men and women currently working in law enforcement. A tentative meeting date of June 25th is set to bring together local chiefs of police, captains, lieutenants, sergeants, and other law enforcement personnel to conduct a needs assessment survey and to plan for such a degree.

Master Instructor Certification Course (MICC)

I am currently enrolled in a California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) MICC training program. I am building a course, to be administered state-wide to all law enforcement agencies, on *Use of Force Report Writing*, which will incorporate the entire latest adult learning techniques and theories. Furthermore, the course will use a force options simulator to bring to life deadly force encounters. In the process of building this course, I have interviewed roughly twenty national *Use of Force* experts. Even though I have been in law enforcement, either teaching or doing it, since 1994, I gained a new understanding of deadly force encounters. Once this course is built, I will be one of 200 Master POST instructors out of roughly 80,000 peace officers in the State of California.

If you have any questions about many new and exiting additions to the Criminal Justice Program at Humphreys College, please email stephen.choi@humphreys.edu or come by my office.

FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT..

YOU KNOW YOU DON'T WANT THAT JOB IF...

By Jason Wolins, Chair

It is graduation time and many of your thoughts may be about getting a new job. So, let's go negative. That's right, negative! What not to do on a job interview.

The *USA TODAY* published results of two surveys of human resources representatives and interviewers under the following titles: (1) "How to blow your interview," March 10, 2009, and (2) "Biggest grooming red flags for job interviews," December 30, 2009.

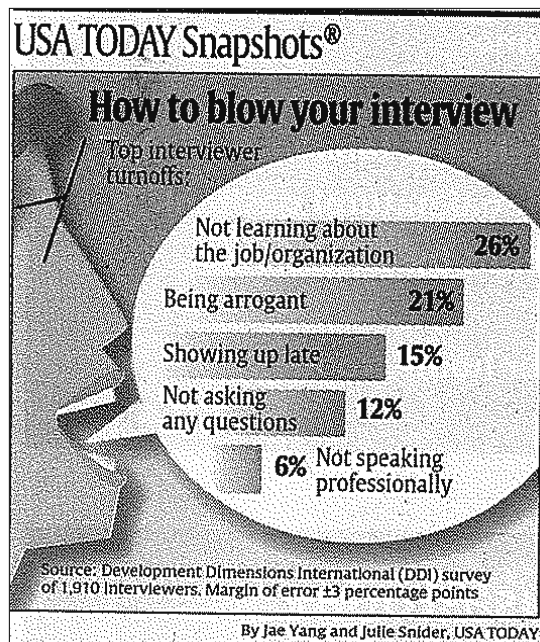


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So, everyone, you know you don't want that job if . . .

- You don't take the interview seriously. Look at the survey results below of the top five interview turnoffs. How can we interpret these responses?



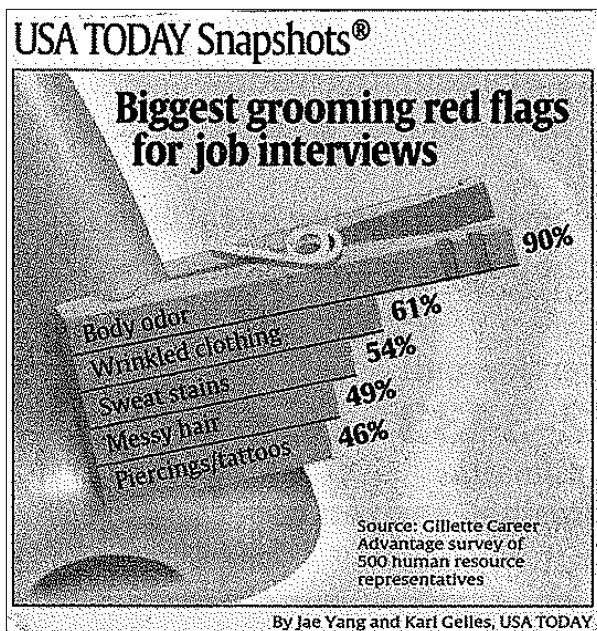
The worst thing is failing to do your research of the organization and job. Over one fourth of the respondents felt that way.

Close behind at 21%—being arrogant. People tend to want to “strut their stuff,” but interviewers don't want that.

Personal editorial time: From my experience, the greater applicants say they are, the less great they actually are. In my book, humble wins!

How about the last category, “Not speaking professionally” (6%). That gets back to the old adage about the importance of communication (both written and oral).

- You show up for the interview with grooming “issues.” Again, let's look at the results of this second survey.



This is no joke. Five-hundred human resources representatives noted these things. Look at those percentages.

Body odor! Body odor? We need not say anything more!

Wrinkled clothing? Sweat stains? Messy hair? Okay, it is common sense time.

Look at the last one. You know you aren't going to get that job if you like your tats more than the interviewer likes your tats.

In economic terms, if the supply of one's tattoos exceeds the demand for those tattoos, Houston, we've got a problem. Same for piercings.

This is not a personal editorial. It comes up a lot. Remember, this survey is what potential employers are saying. Almost one half say it could be a “hiring breaker.” So, math wizards, that means that one's job prospects are cut in half.

Good luck with your job search!

FROM THE LAW SCHOOL...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By L. Patrick Piggott, Dean

The Law School Graduation Ceremony

The 2010 Law School graduation took place on May 22. The school graduated 27 students. This year's Valedictorians were the siblings April Meyer and Brandon Meyer, of Modesto.

The graduation speaker was the Honorable Susan Siefkin, Superior Court Judge, Stanislaus County. Judge Siefkin was Valedictorian of our Law School - class of 1983.

The President of the Law School Student Body Moses Zapien presented the class gift—white boards for the breakout rooms in the Law Library—and the Professor Appreciation Award.

This year the graduating class decided to give two awards. The Professor of the Year became Brian Caldwell, first-year Torts instructor. A Special Lifetime Award was presented to Brian's father. Dr. Wallace Caldwell earned his J.D. from Humphreys in 1975. For many years, he was the head of the Political Science Department at UOP; after retirement, he continued to teach at Humphreys. He is retiring from Humphreys this year.

Third-year law students acted as ushers and hosts at the reception following the graduation.

Humphreys Law School Graduate Leads the Civil Service Commission

In April, **Moses Zapien**, a 2010 Humphreys Law School Graduate, was elected to serve as Chairperson of the City of Stockton Civil Service Commission. He was originally appointed by the Stockton City Council in 2009 as a Commissioner to serve a three-year term. The Commission functions to ensure the city follows civil service rules in regards to its employment actions, to hear appeals from city employees regarding certain employment actions, and to adopt, amend or repeal rules for the administration of the civil service system. Moses Zapien is the youngest member of the Commission and the youngest to serve as its chairperson.



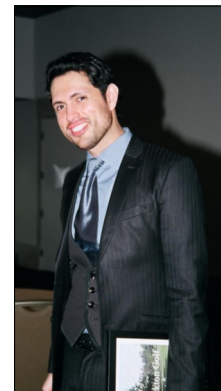
OUR INTERVIEW MOSES ZAPIEN ABOUT THE LAW SCHOOL STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

Over the 2009-2010 academic year, the Student Bar Association (SBA) embarked on an ambitious plan to expand the activities and services it provides to the law student body. Its latest president, Moses Zapien, whose term ended with his recent graduation, told us: "The activities the Board of Governors planned included the first-ever student versus faculty and alumni softball game, a canned-food drive, a tutoring program, and our largest regular event, the Annual Student Bar Gala."

Tell us more about the 2010 Gala and its theme.

"Already in its second year, the Student Bar Gala brings together law students, alumni, lawyers, and judges for an elegant evening of dinner and discussion. This year's theme was *Legal Outlook: A Judicial Perspective*. The discussion focused on the topic of the practice of law in California in the next five years from the perspective of judges. The guest speaker panel was composed of three distinguished jurists: the Hon. *Carol Corrigan*, Associate Justice of the California Supreme Court; the Hon. *Morrison England*, U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District; and the Hon. *Linda Lofthus*, Superior Court Judge for San Joaquin County. Introduc-

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ing the speakers was Kristine Eagle, President of the San Joaquin County Bar Association, and the discussion moderator was John Harris, President of the Callahan Inns of Court.”

I noticed that all your guest speakers are connected to Stockton.

“Yes, Judge Corrigan is a Stockton native and attended high school here. Judge England is a University of the Pacific alumnus. Judge Lofthus’ father also served as Superior Court Judge in San Joaquin County.”

How would you characterize this year’s panel discussion?

“A variety of questions on the evening’s topic was submitted by law students and lawyers, and posed to the guest judges for their responses. One of the first questions addressed the current economic situation and how it is affecting the cases that come before judges. Judge Lofthus stated how she is noticing an increase in unlawful detainers actions as a result of the housing mortgage crisis. She noticed that the state budget cuts have severely hamstrung the court’s ability to provide full-time services to the public. On the same topic, Judge England responded by stating how his calendar is booked three years into the future. Other questions were light-hearted. When asked if it were possible for Judge England to practice law in any other panel member’s courtroom, he responded by saying that if he had to, he would quit. As he quickly clarified, Judge England was a transactional lawyer who made it a point to keep his clients out of court trials. When Judge Corrigan was asked to give advice to students about the kind of law one should practice, she stated that a law student should practice the type of law he or she loves. By doing so, she added, a lawyer will likely end up practicing before major tribunals and finding success in the profession. To the same question, Judge Lofthus advised that in order to build his or her reputation, a young lawyer should get involved in the legal community and with outside organizations.”

Overall, the evening’s event was a resounding success. It demonstrated to the outside legal community that the Student Bar Association at Humphreys is committed to improving the quality of legal education, to enhancing the school experience for law students, and is willing to host first-class events such as this one.

~ Stanislav Perkner

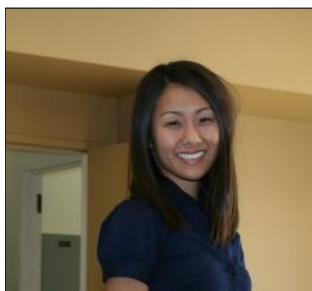


*Hon. Linda Lofthus, Hon. Morrison England,
and Hon. Carol Corrigan*

FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER...

HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE SERIES: SPRING 2010

- This time, the Library and Learning Center offered 19 sessions covering various aspects of successful academic progress. A *Stockton* campus series of open-enrollment workshops was launched by **Santa Lopez-Minatre** and **Chiyo Miyai** to welcome Humphreys' new students.
- The following six sessions were devoted to the elements of college-level research and term-paper writing process—from the articulation of the problem and finding academically valid resources through the documentation in both the MLA or APA styles. Those workshops were conducted by **Stanislav Perkner**. His Learning Center colleague



Richard Hunt contributed two presentations: how to prevent "unintended plagiarism" and how to utilize the best reading techniques in the online-learning environment. The latter topic was supplemented by Perkner's workshops on the basic writing formats in online instruction (weekly forums, short essays, and term papers), and by his remarks on classroom etiquette. The last of the writing-oriented sessions was conducted by **Chiyo Miyai**, Humphreys' job placement counselor; it dealt with the composing of effective resumes and cover letters.

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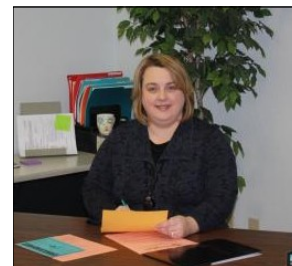
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- Dean **Jess Bonds** talked about the strategic planning of Humphreys College; he engaged the participants in a productive dialogue about their expectations concerning the future developments of their college. A broader view of the issues of education was offered by Stanislav Perkner in a following presentation about the purpose of higher education in the context of globalization: Should education be treated as "private gain" or "public good"?
- Two sessions offered academically oriented insights into the ongoing national debates. Humphreys' Law School Professor **John Schick** invited the participants to the "frontier zone" of today's constitutional studies. S. Perkner ventured "beyond the news" in his workshop about the so-called culture wars in today's America.
- Two of the spring quarter sessions satisfied the increasing interest of some Humphreys' students in legal and educational studies (the Law School J.D. Program, Criminal Justice, Paralegal Studies, and Master's Program in Education): Professor Schick's



lecture on constitutional issues and a conversation with two Humphreys' alumnae, the attorney **Janette L. Rossell** and **Raquelle Deyto**, a recent UOP's School of Education graduate.

- The *Modesto* campus was pleased to offer well-attended seminars on Thursday afternoons throughout the quarter. **Carrie Castillon** opened them with a welcome session for all new students, covering the services offered at Humphreys College. For the following three weeks, the campus invited **Stanislav Perkner**, who gave an in-depth series on the research and writing process. In celebration of Earth Day, **Linda Mottison** shared "Home Sweet Home," a session on environmental toxins and information on living "earth-friendly." Two closing programs were highlighted as the Law School Dean **Patrick Piggott** talked about the legal profession and the study of law, and the Criminal Justice Program Coordinator **Steve Choi** gave the "real deal" on criminal justice.



ACADEMIC COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS WORKSHOP ONE VIEW OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY

By Richard Chabot, Academic Council Secretary

The economic outlook for California, and in particular San Joaquin County, is bright, though that is primarily because we are all stuck in the bottom of a deep pit and have no place to look but up. Information and economic forecasts to support this assessment were presented at a recent workshop held at Humphreys College by Dr. Jeffrey Michael, Director of the UOP Business Forecasting Center.

Dr. Michael reviewed economic data from the past few decades, noting that while consumption (spending more than we make) and residential investment fueled our most recent leap in economic growth, our plunge into the recession we are now trying to climb out of will require more than just government rebates and positive consumer confidence. The bottom line for Dr. Michael is a need for a structural shift of our national, state, and local economies to non-residential investment and development of a long-term plan to increase and maintain net exports of goods. True, the economy is presently starting to look good, incumbent politicians pointing to increased jobs and spending as proof that the recession is over. However, the spending by consumers is temporary with nothing to support long-term consumption habits while increasing the nation's trade deficit.

In addition, Dr. Michael pointed out that improved employment numbers are equally temporary based on seasonal and one-time employment opportunities (such as



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the census). To make things worse, long-term (26 weeks) unemployment is growing and California continues to lag behind the rest of the nation in both job creation and economic outlook.

So what's the good news that will get us out of this mess? Given such negative data, Dr. Michael was actually optimistic about the future of Stockton and San Joaquin County. Seeing our present situation as dire but temporary, his (nonpartisan) forecast sees housing starts increasing in San Joaquin County in the short term, data showing that we actually have too few single-family houses for our present population. In addition, he points out that much of the distress felt in Stockton is due to indirect pressures from even harder-hit economies apart from our immediate locale, particularly in East Bay and Sacramento.

With a relatively young population, our biggest problem is a drain of our best and brightest to other cities. Given increased government investment in areas such as educational facilities and a corrections hospital, as well as a focus by local officials on quality of life issues, Dr. Michael sees a slow but sustainable rise in the local economy well into the next decade.

FROM THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL ...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Linda Rahmoller, President



The Academic Council's Educational Effectiveness Workshop series was pleased to host Dr. Jeffrey Michael, Director of the Business Forecasting Center at the University of the Pacific. His presentation was entitled: "Economic Outlook for California and San Joaquin County: Trends and Opportunities"; he examined the current economic climate and the associated challenges presented at the city, county, state, and national levels.

A special topics course will be offered for the summer 2010 quarter in the Legal Studies Department. The course—Legal Office Procedures II—is designed to give students the all-important, skills-based background necessary to work in a legal office. Legal Office Procedures II will be offered on Thursday evenings.

The Council has created an *ad hoc* committee to examine the College's policy on work experience credit. Currently the number of units awarded correlates with the value of the Carnegie unit and work requirements. Work experience units are given as CR (credit) and does not factor into grade-point average computations.

Finally, look for changes in course outlines in the upcoming quarter. The Council approved a new set of criteria for course outlines that include not only the course learning outcomes but how these outcomes align with the outcomes established at the department level and the institution as a whole.

FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER ...

YOUR BEST STUDY RESOURCES: ON LANGUAGE

On Language is a collection of weekend columns published in *The New York Times*.

The first of them was issued on February 18, 1979; the column has become a regular feature of the weekend magazine. The late columnist and journalist William Safire wrote the inaugural *On Language* column; it started with the greeting: "How do you do. This is a new column about language." It promised to explore "new words, vogue phrases and the intriguing roots of everyday discourse—with occasionally crotchety observations on everything from proper usage to propaganda." During three decades, Safire contributed about 1,300 installments to the column. (See the review of the latest Safire's book in the winter issue of this Newsletter.)

The magazine's new columnist is Ben Zimmer. He studied linguistics at Yale and then linguistic anthropology at the University of Chicago. Zimmer has been a contributor to *Slate*, the online magazine. He is a member of

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the American Dialect Society and the Dictionary Society of North America. He is currently a consultant for the Oxford English Dictionary and the executive producer of *VisualThesaurus.com* and *Vocabulary.com*, websites for language enthusiasts. *Visual Thesaurus* is an interactive dictionary and thesaurus that displays the connections between vocabulary words in a visually captivating display.

To learn more about Zimmer's linguistic work, go to his website at <http://benzimmer.com/>; to enter the archive of his *New York Times* columns *On Language*, visit http://topics.nytimes.com/topics/features/magazine/columns/on_language/index.html

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT MAXINE HONG KINGSTON By Cynthia Becerra



At a recent American Literature Association Conference in San Francisco, I was able, once again, to listen to a presentation by **Maxine Hong Kingston**, a world-renown author. A skilled artist in memoir, she described many of her past works, such as *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts* (1976) and *China Men* (1980), but focused on what she called another book of peace—*Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace* (2006), an anthology that she edited.

A petite, less-than-five-foot Chinese-American woman, the author stood poised before the panel and announced that she needed to stand so that everyone in the audience could see and hear her. Although her physical stature is small, her place in the literary canon is enormous. With the publication of *The Woman Warrior*, she earned several major literary awards, including The National Book Critics Circle in 1976; then her subsequent work, *China Men*, was recognized by the American Library Association and won the National Endowment for the Arts Writers Award. In 1997 President Bill Clinton gave her the distinguished National Humanities Medal.



With numerous awards and publications, it is difficult to believe that she grew up in Stockton, California, graduating from Edison High School, while working in her parents' downtown laundry. Born in 1940, she began writing at the age of nine—"all of a sudden this poem started coming out of me"—winning her first writing award at 16 from the University of California at Berkeley.

Back at the conference, I was amazed at her connection with the audience; in fact, this was, as I observed, the most well-attended session. Academics, scholars, and students were focused on her every word. As she discussed her work *Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace*, I was struck by her compassion for these Vietnam veterans who found solace and some peace through this process of, as she states in the introduction, "Tell the Truth, and So Make Peace." Many years ago, I attended another Kingston presentation at the University of the Pacific, during which she described losing the veterans' letters in the Oakland-Berkeley hills fire in 1991. At this university event she seemed, as one fellow friend and attendee said, unfocused and still in shock from the dual tragedies of losing her home to the fire and the recent death of her father. Thankfully, Ms. Kingston appeared to have found peace with these life-learning events and used those lessons to help these lost veterans find a voice in this important anthology, which is the result of a writers' workshop conducted by the author for over twelve years with over five-hundred soldiers.



After leaving the American Literature Association Conference, I was reminded at how one person could make the difference in the lives of so many not only through her superb fiction and nonfiction but also through her commitment to completing a healing project. Not even death or fire could stop her from fulfilling her commitment to this community of writers who had become veterans of peace, "a harvest of conversations."

POETRY CORNER

DUSK

*Hawk's wing's shadow moves across the foliage
 Against a backdrop of imperceptibly shifting
 Cumulus-nimbus clouds, indicating, but at a rate
 Our minds cannot perceive except by thought
 The rotation of the globe. Blue jays clamber
 On an overhanging branch and the upper leaves
 Of an adjoining apricot tree rustle in the wind.
 A half moon peeps through the summer blue
 And as the clouds settle on the horizon
 The wind picks up, freshens, blows a hint of cold
 To be felt only at midnight black.
 The petals of the tiger-striped daisies
 Begin to close, to fold up and huddle
 Against the inevitable encroaching of the night.*

~ Michael Duffett

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

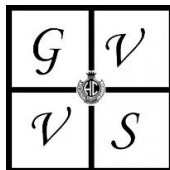
- The new president of the Law School Student Bar Association is **Stephanie Feilzer**, an incoming 4th-year student. Her fellow officers are **Zachary Drivon** (Vice President), **Justin Carter** (Secretary), and **Monique Rajaram** (Treasurer).
- To apply for Humphreys College scholarships, go to the College's website ("Announcements & Associations" page). Please download and complete the Scholarship Application Form. Students are encouraged to apply for all scholarships for which they are eligible. Requirements for each scholarship are described on the application form. Please return completed applications to Chiyo Miyai on the Stockton Campus or Lisa Kooren on the Modesto Campus. *The deadline for applications and essays is July 1, 2010.*

FIFTH ANNUAL GREGORY VAUGHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

On May 1, 2010, Humphreys College held its *Fifth Annual Gregory Vaughn Memorial Scholarship Dinner* at the beautifully renovated Stockton Hilton Hotel. The event was attended by 170 guests, including Humphreys College faculty, staff, family, and friends, along with elected officials and representatives from Stockton and Lodi Unified School Districts. The gathering generated an ambiance of generosity and support for the potential leaders of the community.

The Scholarship is dedicated to Humphreys College partnerships. Currently, it does so in two important ways. It provides several book-and-supply scholarships (each of a thousand-dollar value) awarded to recent graduates entering into Humphreys College. Also, the Scholarship provides textbooks to high school students who wish to earn college credits towards a Humphreys College degree. Many of these students come from very modest backgrounds; in many cases they are the first of their families to pursue any education beyond high school.

For more information, please contact the Dean of Administration's Office at (209) 235-2906.



The Gregory Vaughn Memorial Scholarship Committee thanks the Humphreys College faculty and staff members for their tremendous support!



IBML 2010 GRADUATION

Humphreys College hosted The Institute of Business Management and Law's (IBML) fifth graduation commencement ceremony in the Jerry Medina Courtyard on May 28, 2010. Forty-five high school seniors graduated that evening with the city of Stockton Mayor, Ann Johnston, as the key-note speaker. Humphreys College presented a scholarship award, the Gregory Vaughn Memorial Scholarship, to three deserving students who plan to attend the College in the fields that they studied during their junior and senior years. The scholarship was established in memory of Greg Vaughn, a well-loved member of the College staff who was instrumental in the formation of IBML.



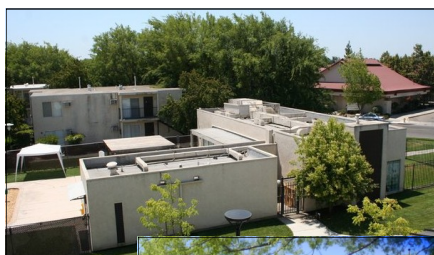
Students attending IBML have the opportunity, during their junior and senior years, to take courses at the College in designated career pathways allowing them to earn up to one year's credit towards their bachelor's degree. While attending the college courses during high school, tuition, books, and fees are waived by the College. This excellent opportunity allows students to further their education and gain specific skills in their fields of interest. IBML is open to students from all regional high schools; currently, there is enrollment from Lodi, Manteca, and Tracy school districts. For more information, please contact the Dean of Administration's Office at (209) 235-2906.



The Institute of Business Management and Law is a public charter high school that was created through a unique partnership between Humphreys College and Stockton Unified School District. Stu-

FROM THE DEAN OF INSTRUCTION... **NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** By Dr. Robert Humphreys, Jr.

HUMPHREYS COLLEGE EXPANSION PROJECT



As you may have noticed, the College has recently torn down the apartment complexes on the south corner of the campus. The dorms, constructed in 1974, have been home to many students over the years and have served the College and its constituents well. However, as enrollments increase and the College implements its 2009-2014 strategic planning objectives, including the master's degree, the forthcoming teaching credential programs, and burgeoning Law School activities, the need for additional instructional facilities is culminating with the construction of two new buildings comprising 10 new classrooms. The expansion will add approximately 15,000 square feet of classroom and common space, including a tiered classroom, a large lecture hall, and, yes, additional parking. Construction is anticipated to be completed in time for the winter 2011 quarter, and the College is excited about the new campus additions. In the meantime, let me apologize in advance for the noise, parking problems, and other discomforts associated with the construction project.



COMMENCEMENT 2010

The undergraduate and master's programs will recognize associate, bachelor's, and master's degree graduates on June 19, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Jerry Medina Courtyard.

We are expecting approximately 150 graduates this year – a record for Humphreys College. Based on prior commencements, we anticipate a large crowd supporting and sharing the success of this year's graduates. In order to ensure a comfortable program, we request your assistance in limiting your guests to 10 per student.

Thank you, and congratulations to the class of 2010!



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