

Humphreys College

Newsletter



MARCH 2010

WINTER QUARTER

6th ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Associate Dean, Liberal Arts Chair

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We need language to tell us who we are, how we feel, what we're capable of – to explain the pains and glory of our existence.

~Maya Angelou



On February 25, 2010, we commemorated our 6th annual Black History Month Celebration with Literary Readings. Sponsored by the Liberal Arts Department in cooperation with the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and hosted by Cynthia Becerra, chair of the department,

this well-attended event showcased the talents of many students, faculty, and staff. In addition, Linda Verdun-Brown set up a display of African-American artifacts to complement the event.

With over 40 participants, the readers provided the audience with excellent selections from poets like Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, Tupac Shakur, Margaret Walker, and Nikki Giovanni. This year the presentation featured Eliza Deed and Janet Marx. Ms. Deed did an a capella of lyrics tracing the history of African-American music from the slave period to gospel to blues to Motown. Ms. Marx did a PowerPoint on the life of John Hope Franklin, a scholar and social activist, who pioneered African-American studies, authoring many books, including *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*, which is still in print today. Dr. Stanislav Perkner informed the audience about the recent Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction that was awarded to Douglas A. Blackmon for *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II*. Dr. Perkner described the book as a precise and eloquent work that examines “a deliberate system of racial suppression and that rescues a multitude of atrocities from virtual obscurity.”

Commencing the event was a PowerPoint presentation designed by Tanya Bennett featuring prominent African-American leaders like Dr. Carter Woodson, founder of the Black History celebration, and W. E. B. Du-Bois, co-founder of the NAACP, among others. The participants enjoyed pizza and beverages donated by the College.

FROM THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Cynthia S. Becerra, Chair

For Spring 2010 two popular courses will be offered online for the first time: LIT206 Masterpieces of British Literature and SOSC290 History of the 19th Century American West. Both are taught by seasoned adjunct instructors Kerry Moquett and Randy Rahmoller, respectively.

If you haven't done so already, plan to register with one of the liberal arts faculty advisors: Dr. Felix Cano or Prof. Cynthia S. Becerra. For Community Studies, see Dr. Richard Chabot.



FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT...

ECE DEPARTMENT TODAY AND TOMORROW

By Pam Wood, Chair

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

APRIL 11 - 17, 2010

The department will sponsor several activities and special events related to the Week of the Young Child (April 11-17). Our goal is to raise awareness about the field of Early Childhood Education and the importance of early literacy.

BOOK FAIR

- The department will host a Scholastic Book Fair which will run from April 6 to 13. The fair will be open to students, families, and faculty in the Humphreys College Library during our Spring Hot Dog Day. The book sale proceeds will be used to purchase children's books to donate to programs serving homeless children and their families in our community. Please support our effort to put books in the hands of children who might otherwise go without the tools they need to help develop their early literacy skills.

SPECIAL SPEAKER

- The children's librarian (Christine Lum) from the Stockton Public Library will provide a program on early literacy, available to all staff and students during the Week of the Young Child.

INFORMATION

- Information about the Week of the Young Child, the field of Early Childhood Education and the importance of early literacy will be available for students, families, and faculty.



For more information, watch for flyers. Please call Prof. Beverly Clark at 235-2938 or e-mail her at beverly.clark@humphreys.edu if you wish to volunteer.

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STUDENT VOICES—AN INTERVIEW WITH LISA COTTA, ECE MAJOR HUMPHREYS COLLEGE, MODESTO

Question: As adults become more confident and secure about their skills and abilities, they become positive models of healthy self-esteem for children. Are you confident and secure about your own skills and abilities as a professional educator?

“For the most part I would say that I am confident and secure. I am not perfect at my job, but I am willing to perfect it. Although I have always felt confident working in the ECE field, there is still so much to learn! Just when you get comfortable and finally get to really know and understand the profession, changes occur, causing you to step up to the plate and figure out how to master them all over again. It is for the best because in this profession we are providing a service that demands high expectations when caring for children. As for myself, returning to college after such a long period of time was very intimidating, but I now realize the importance of developing knowledge and improving my skills in order to be the best possible preschool teacher. I know in my heart that I have made the right decision, and being greeted by those loving and smiling little faces every morning only confirms it!”

Question: What stage of development are you currently at in your career?

“I definitely categorize myself under stage IV development, because I consider myself a ‘seasoned’ teacher! I have noticed over the past few years that I would like ‘more’ out of being a preschool teacher... more answers to my questions, more growth and learning opportunities, more ideas on how to improve my skills... more, more, more! I still look forward to training sessions and seminars because they provide me with the opportunity to gather and share ideas and personal work experiences with others who have the same interest and goals in this particular profession.”

Question: Which developmental “hurdles” have you already passed?

“Stress and perfection is something I no longer let control me or control the way I teach. I feel comfortable in my skin as a preschool teacher. I finally found a preschool home who accepts me for my individuality; I never have to prove myself, or feel as though I am being summed up and picked apart all the time. It is a great feeling to be able to get up every morning and look forward to working in a stress-free environment with peers who appreciate and support me... I love my job!”

Question: What are the main challenges that now lie ahead for you?

“Probably the biggest challenge for me (and possibly others in this profession) is getting people to take preschool educators seriously. It is frustrating trying to make people understand that I chose this profession because of my love for it. We all know that it is not for the money! Either way, I should not have to justify it, but I will say that I intend to keep on facing this challenge with a positive attitude. In the end, I can look in the mirror and feel great about myself, knowing that I am paving the path for my little ones.”

Editorial Note: The interview with Lisa Cotta was a part of her assignment in Pamela Wood’s Adult Supervision online course.

FROM THE COURT REPORTING DEPARTMENT...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Kay Reindl, Chair

HUMPHREYS ALUMNI VISITED COURT REPORTING CLASS



Michelle Huntley

Ms. Reindl’s Professional Practice and Ethics class was host to two Humphreys College court reporting alumni this quarter.

- *Michelle Huntley* became a CSR in 1995 and has worked at the San Joaquin County Courthouse as an official reporter since then. She shared with the students why she has enjoyed working in the courtroom setting. Michelle emphasized how much she likes to work with students during their internship and invited them to contact her to arrange to sit in any time. She also

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welcomes students who need to fulfill observation hours. She offered many insights and tips about her job. Ms. Reindl has contact information for Michelle if you would like to arrange a visit to her courtroom or intern with Michelle.

- *Tara Lohman* earned her B.S. in court reporting at Humphreys prior to passing the February 2009 CSR exam. She has been working as a freelance reporter since then. She was recently hired by a large Bay Area court reporting firm and is now “living her dream job.” The firm keeps her very busy. Tara talked about how she maintains organization and keeps up with her transcription requests. She shared many tips on how to transition from student to reporter and offered words of encouragement and motivation for pushing through the final stages of school preparation.



Tara Lohman

THE NATIONAL COURT REPORTERS ASSOCIATION ADDS TESTING DAY TO ITS SCHEDULE



The National Court Reporters Association has added an additional testing day to its annual schedule. Humphreys College serves as a testing site for the NCRA skills portion of the NCRA tests. The written portions of the exams are offered through a computerized testing center. The following are the registration and examination dates for the dictation tests that will be offered at Humphreys College:

SKILLS TEST - Examination Dates	Registration Dates
May 1, 2010	March 1-31, 2010
August 14, 2010	June 14-July 14, 2010
November 6, 2010	September 6-October 6, 2010

For more information, visit www.ncraonline.org/certification/testing.

Students must be members of NCRA in good standing in order to submit an application for testing. No other qualifications are required. Separate registration for each portion of the exam is required. The following are the registration and examination dates for the written portion of the exam.

WRITTEN TEST – Examination Dates	Registration Dates
April 5-17, 2010	March 1-31, 2010
July 5-17, 2010	June 1-28, 2010
October 4-16, 2010	August 30-September 29, 2010

For more information, visit www.pearsonvue.com/ncra.

Candidates who successfully pass any portion of these exams are not required to retest that portion as long as NCRA membership is maintained.

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CSR TESTING SCHEDULE

The Certified Shorthand Reporters Board of California has announced that its next test will be held on Friday, June 25, 2010, in Los Angeles. A completed application to take the exam must be postmarked 30 days prior to the exam (May 26, 2010). Candidates must submit proof of completion of an approved school program along with their application.

The fall exam is tentatively scheduled for October 15, 2010, with application postmark deadline of September 15.

Please visit www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov for more information about the CRBC, the testing requirements, and application process.

FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Stephen Choi, Criminal Justice Program Coordinator

The Criminal Justice Program is rapidly growing. Currently there are 70 plus students between the Modesto and Stockton campuses. The College is hiring new Criminal Justice faculty to teach the new courses, including *Gangs and Drug Abuse*, *Correctional Law*, and *Introduction to Corrections Probation and Parole*. Below is a list of new Criminal Justice faculty members:

Jamie Clayton Lieutenant, San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department 20+ Years in Law Enforcement	Jolene Gonzales Lieutenant, Modesto Police Department 25+ Years in Law Enforcement
Ron Reid Lieutenant, Turlock Police Department 25 + Years in Law Enforcement	Pete Winston Sergeant (retired), Stockton Police Department 30+ Years in Law Enforcement
Kenn Chiong Probation Officer III, San Joaquin County Probation Department 10 Years in Law Enforcement	David Wellenbrock Assistant District Attorney (retired), San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office 30+ Years in Law Enforcement

Internships

The summer is fast approaching and a great way to become noticed by a future employer is to complete an internship. The requirements to intern are as follows: the Criminal Justice student must have completed *CRIM 101— Introduction to the Criminal Justice*, *CRIM 102— Criminal Procedures*, *CRIM 103— Ethics in the Criminal Justice System*, *CRIM 104— Report Preparation* and *LEGA 101— Introduction to the Legal System* along with obtaining the approval of the Criminal Justice Program Coordinator. Since each intern must pass a background check before interning, I will need several months of advanced notice to begin the internship process. The student will pick which agency he/she would like to conduct his/her internship.

Criminal Justice Club

The Criminal Justice Club is approximately one month away from its first meeting. Any student wishing to become a member of the club should contact Mr. Choi in Room 252. The Criminal Justice Club's activities will include defensive tactics training, impact weapons training, and firearms training. You must be a Criminal Justice student to participate in the Club.

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Probation Officer Core Academy

Humphreys College will have a meeting with the State of California, Standards and Training for Corrections (STC) on March 17th. The goal is for the College to become a STC certified trainer and the College to partner with San Joaquin County Probation Department. The College would implement the Probation Officer Core Academy into the Bachelor of Science, Probation, Parole and Correction's concentration.

There are many new and exiting additions to the Criminal Justice Program at Humphreys College. If you have any questions, please e-mail stephen.choi@humphreys.edu or come by my office. – Mr. Choi

FROM THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT...
IF IT'S TAX DAY, THIS MUST BE BELGIUM. OR SWEDEN. OR DENMARK
 By Jason Wolins, Chair

It's that time of year again. Quick now. Raise your hands. How many of you feel over-taxed?



TODAY · WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2009 · 3B

Americans' taxes are relatively cheap

U.S. burden is lightest of all developed nations

By David J. Lynch
USA TODAY

You'd never know it from all the cable news chatter, but Americans bear the lightest tax burden in the developed world.
Total U.S. tax revenues in 2008 equaled 26.9% of gross domestic product, according to provisional

Well, maybe some hands should go down. In contrast to other industrialized nations, the United States is at the light end of the tax burden scale. That's right. The light end. The low end. The cheap end. Relatively speaking.

On November 25, 2009, David J. Lynch wrote an article in the USA TODAY, "Americans' taxes are relatively cheap." He noted that according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), United States local, state, and federal taxes, including social security, were a lower percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2008 than they were in 1990, and way below European country levels.

According to 2008 provisional data, United States taxes were 26.9% of GDP. That also was lower than at least 10 other OECD countries.

The high end? Denmark (48.3% of GDP), closely followed by Sweden (47.1%) and Belgium (44.3%).

The low end? Turkey (23.5%) and South Korea (26.6%).

So, how do people interpret this? Now for the spin.

The conservative side sees low taxes as a key to economic growth.

Others think there may be room to raise taxes to pay for recession fighting government borrowing; make up for lower tax revenues from income and property/stock sales because of the recession; and cover rising entitlement costs, like Social Security and Medicare, especially as Baby Boomers retire.

Indeed, many analysts think our tax burden will rise to fight the trillion-dollar budget deficits that are forecast for the next several years.

The last word goes to Andrew Reschovsky, professor of applied economics at the University of Wisconsin: "It's going to be politically painful. . . . But our competitors are, for the most part, taxing themselves at higher rates."

Stay tuned.

	2007	2008 ¹
Denmark	48.7%	48.3%
Sweden	48.3%	47.1%
Belgium	43.9%	44.3%
France	43.5%	43.1%
Italy	43.5%	43.2%
Finland	43.0%	42.8%
Austria	42.3%	42.9%
Germany	36.2%	36.4%
United Kingdom	36.1%	35.7%
Canada	33.3%	32.2%
United States	28.3%	26.9%

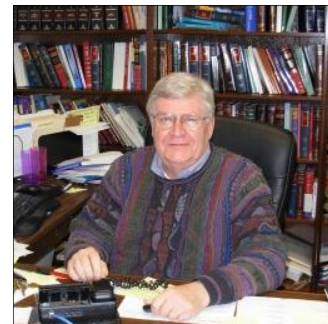
¹ - provisional Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

FROM THE LAW SCHOOL...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By L. Patrick Piggott, Dean

- The Law School started its **spring quarter** on February 1 and, again, with new first-year students. Our third start has 24 new registrants. Their average age is 33, the oldest being 48 and the youngest, 21. There are eight men and 16 women. The new enrollment brought the Law School numbers to 186; the entire College enrollment surpassed one thousand students.
- **Scott Drexel**, Professor of Professional Responsibility, has moved on to Washington, D.C., where he has been named the Head of the Office of Professional Responsibility for the U.S. Department of Justice. We send our congratulations to Scott.
- In the spring quarter, the Law School is offering two courses on the Modesto campus. Evidence is being taught by Judge **Hurl Johnson**, who, years ago, taught in the paralegal program. Property 3 (Land Use) is being taught by the Stanislaus County Counsel, **John Doering**.
- Because of Court budgeting, the Court closed down all its clinics. The Law School now offers two clinics, **Small Claims and Family Law**, becoming the only provider in town. It means the numbers attending these clinics are increasing. Small Claims Clinic is open the first Thursday of the month, and Family Law Clinic is offered every third Thursday.
- Each county in California must have a family law facilitator, an attorney who assists the public and the courts in easing the family law process. Our Family Law Facilitator is **Sheila Bhalin**, a graduate of Humphreys' Law School and the person in charge of the Family Law Clinic. Beginning this quarter, she is also teaching Family Law.
- **The Student Bar Association** remains as active as last year. Once again, it sponsored a fund raiser at the Stockton Country Club, on March 11. Called the "Legal Outlook: A Judicial Perspective," the program featured three judges, each of them coming from a different court level: the Honorable **Coral Corrigan** of the state Supreme Court, the Honorable **Morrison England** of the U.S. District Court, and the Honorable **Linda Loftus** of the San Joaquin County bench. The father of Judge Loftus is a long-time member of the Board of Trustees (see our interview with Trustee Ort Lofthus in the Newsletter Supplement).



FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER...

HOW TO SUCCEED IN COLLEGE SERIES: WINTER 2010

- During the winter quarter, the Learning Center offered twenty open sessions. The first two of them—addressing newly enrolled students—were hosted by **Santa Lopez-Minatre**, **Chiyo Miyai**, and **Stanislav Perkner**.
- In the following three weekly workshops, the director of the Learning Center introduced the participants to the various elements of college-level research: How to find a topic, articulate an argument or thesis, evaluate academically valid resources, compose, edit, and



document the draft. With skillful advice about computer formatting of student papers came **Linda Rahmoller**.

- **Beverly Clark** advised the participants about "textbook thinking," or "how to read to learn." A week later, her two lectures were supplemented by **S. Perkner's** rules of a successful oral presentation.
- Those who decided to attend a workshop conducted by **Chiyo Miyai**, the returning Admission Office

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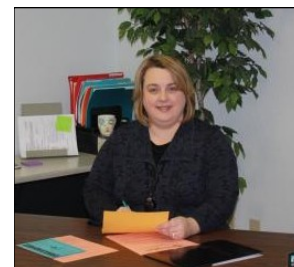
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counselor and college's job placement adviser, learned about Humphreys College's new academic programs in Education and Criminal Justice. The following week's program offered two topical themes: Modesto's **Linda Mottison** invited her listeners to think about the latest trends in ecologically sound lifestyle and **S. Perkner**, a former journalist, returned with his favorite topic, "Beyond the News"; this time, he offered several insights into "the language of politics."

- One of the March sessions addressed the growing population of high-school students attending Humphreys' college-level courses. **Kerry Moquett** and **Barbara Coulibaly** were the panelists who talked about the transition from high school to college. The final workshop of the winter series was both relaxing and inspiring: Professor **Rowena Walker** engaged a group of students and her colleagues in a conversation about her foreign travels, especially in Europe, where she and her family lived for several years. The Conversation with Prof. Walker was hosted by the Library Student Assistant **Janet Marx**.

In Modesto...

- The Modesto campus offered monthly workshops for all students. The first, hosted by **Carrie Castillon** and **Lisa Kooren**, welcomed new students to the campus and provided attendees with an overview of Humphreys College history, and how to use support services such as tutoring and online databases.
- February's workshop informed students on how to "Get Free Money for School." **Liz Garibay**, Modesto's financial aid officer, helped students apply for the Cal Grant and helped clear up questions about student aid.
- Modesto was pleased to welcome **Rowena Walker**, Chair of the Legal Studies Department, for the final workshop of the quarter. Mrs. Walker shared the findings from her visits to local law offices and discussed job opportunities in the legal field, including legal office administrator and paralegal.



ACADEMIC COUNCIL EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS WORKSHOP HOSTED PROFESSOR GEORGE P. BLUM

By Richard Chabot, Academic Council Secretary



Professors Stanislaw Perkner and George Blum

In February, our College was fortunate to host UOP Prof. Emeritus George P. Blum as he narrated both his early life under Nazi Germany and WWII and his experiences as a college student and Professor of History in the United States. Proving that history can be interesting, Prof. Blum recounted his memory of seeing Soviet troops march past his parents' house in Lithuania as Stalin tried to improve his defenses in the region. Being German nationals, Prof. Blum's family was eventually forced to return to Germany under war-time conditions, living in temporary housing as internal refugees. As war raged around them and Hitler attempted the historically improbable feat of conquering Russia, the Blums were returned to Lithuania and then back to

Poland, only to wind up under Soviet rule as the war ended. Their personal struggles and the whims of fate gave the family a chance to escape to war-ravaged Berlin--fortunately, that portion of Berlin was under American control--and then to live with relatives in U.S. occupied Bavaria. Though resettled in a part of Germany that was safe from Soviet control, the family tried vainly for years to immigrate to the United States. Finally, Prof. Blum's aunt in Minnesota was able to sponsor them in 1952.

With each move over these years, powerless as refugees and threatened by a war that raged about them on all sides, Prof. Blum was able to provide both personal depth and academic insight into the plight of German civilians caught up in the center of one of the world's most devastating wars. We are fortunate that his family made it to Minnesota, and it was there that Prof. Blum was able to use his excellent educational background to enter into the University of Minnesota, obtaining his Ph.D. in History and then accepting a job as a Professor of History at the University of the Pacific.

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Even though his recounting of World War II and his family's long journey to the United States was breathtaking, no less interesting was Prof. Blum's discussion of UOP's newly developed Cluster Colleges in the early 1960s. Started as an experimental form of learning by President Robert E. Burns, whose motto was "Pioneer or Perish," these pioneer colleges did not use textbooks and focused on open learning systems that relied upon the drive of the student and the imagination of the professor. Prof. Blum was one of the first to be brought in, and he flourished within this system—as a Raymond College and Raymond-Callison College professor—until it was ended in 1980. Becoming a part of UOP's Department of History, and ultimately its chair (1989-1999), Prof. Blum proudly stated that he tried to continue his earlier practice of making his students think critically and analytically, never once giving a multiple-choice exam.



Prof. Blum's memoir is available in a recently released book and should make fascinating reading for historian and Stocktonian alike.

Note: Prof. Blum's memoir, *Coming of Age in War-Torn Lithuania and Germany* (2008) and one of his previous books titled *The Rise of Fascism in Europe* (1998) are available at the Humphreys College Library.

FROM THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL ...

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Linda Rahmoller, President



- On behalf of the Academic Council I would like to thank everyone who took the time out of his or her busy end-of-the-quarter schedule to generously donate to our "White Socks" drive for St. Mary's Interfaith Community Services. The College collected 652 pairs of socks that were graciously received by St. Mary's CEO, Edward Figueroa.
- The Council is in the process of approving two new courses for the Liberal Arts Department: *World Geography* and *Critical Thinking and Writing*. World Geography is designed to enhance awareness of the importance of interrelationships of human beings in the global community through an awareness of their physical circumstances, a necessity in our global world. Critical Thinking and Writing will provide students with the skills to state and support with evidence well-reasoned positions, through concise and proper use of the English language. Look for these classes to be offered in the next academic year.

FROM THE LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER ...

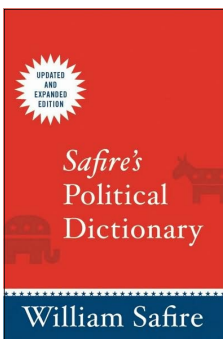
LANGUAGE OF POLITICS

**William Safire. "Safire's Political Dictionary."
Oxford University Press, Revised Edition 2008**

Humphreys' students of American Institutions, Modern World Issues, History of the United States, and similar courses are frequently exposed—and sometimes challenged—by the so-called political slang. The best source to understand it in a broader context is "Safire's Political Dictionary," a major work of U.S. political terminology.

William Safire (1929-2009) was a speechwriter for President Richard M. Nixon and a Pulitzer Prize-winning political columnist for *The New York Times*. Safire wrote many of Nixon's speeches on the economy and Vietnam. He published more than 25 books, including novels, volumes on politics, and hundreds of articles on language. He began writing his conservative-leaning "Essay" for the Op-Ed Page of *The New York Times* in 1973. His last Op-Ed

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column, "Never Retire," appeared in 2005. In 2006, Safire received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush.

From 1979 until his death, he wrote "On Language," a New York Times Magazine column that explored written and oral trends, plumbed the origins and meanings of words and phrases. The columns, many collected in books, made him an unofficial arbiter of usage, and one of the most widely read writers on language.

Safire paid special attention to the political jargon cast out by politicians and the media. "Safire's Political Dictionary" is a reference volume, an essential and highly entertaining reading for anyone interested in American political culture. It includes many new popular phrases and jargon from the Reagan (Teflon-coated President, Star Wars), Bush (Velco Presidency, new world order, thousand points of light, family values), and even the Clinton (weasel words) administrations. Many older terms have been revised and updated (e.g., peace with honor, striped-pants diplomacy, lame duck, salami tactics, stalking horse, bedsheet ballot, and hail of dead cats) or even added (junta). Safire informs us in his own style about the unique terminology that has sprung up in America's specific political climate.

According to Safire, "American English delights in the transfer of sports terms to politics: that stalking horse is brother to the party wheelhorse as pols engage in horse-trading—but that dark horse can bolt and the front-runner may not be a shoo-in. (I learned that last word from a racetrack cop: when a group of corrupt jockeys form a pool to wager on a long shot, they hold back their mounts and 'shoo in' the nag they bet on, which is why the term in politics means 'sure winner'.) I was for three decades a lonely writer on the right on the op-ed page of the *New York Times*, and in this dictionary, whenever modesty afflicts me, I cite as a source 'a vituperative right-wing scandalmonger'.... However, in this ... dictionary, for every bleeding heart, knee-jerk, double-domed liberal, there is a mossback, troglodyte, hidebound conservative, as well as a contingent of me-too, mainstream, opportunist centrists."

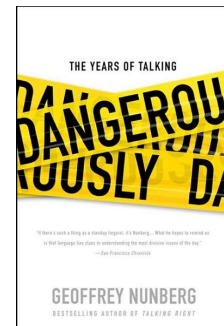
Geoffrey Nunberg. "The Years of Talking Dangerously." PublicAffairs, 2009

Geoffrey Nunberg is a professor of UC Berkeley's School of Information. His linguistics research includes work in text classification and written-language structure; he also write about the social and cultural implications of new technologies. He is a frequent guest on the NPR show "Fresh Air." His commentaries on language are published in the Sunday New York Times Week in Review. He is the emeritus chair of the usage panel of the American Heritage Dictionary.

"There has never been," Nunberg writes in this new collection of essays and commentaries, "an age as wary as ours of the tricks words can play, obscuring distinctions and smoothing over the corrugations of the actual world.... Yet as advertisers and marketers know, our mistrust of words doesn't inoculate us against them." Nunberg's new book is about the use of language in recent days, both in the political sphere and in everyday life. "The Years of Talking Dangerously" is a compilation of recent essays, op-ed columns, and commentary from appearances on NPR's "Fresh Air"; Nunberg calls them "snapshots of language during the final years of the Bush era."

In referring to libraries, Nunberg points out: "Most scholars will tell you that a lot of the most interesting books they've read are ones they happened on when they were looking for something else." His work, with its refreshingly short chapters, might become one of them.

In an interview for the HuffPost, Nunberg was asked about the influence of blogs and bloggers upon the English language and about the Twitter phenomenon, where all communication is reduced to a 140-character limit. In his opinion, "People are always pointing out that beauty of the Internet is that anyone can set down his or her thoughts... It shouldn't be surprising that a great number of the participants in the new electronic discourse are people whose grasp of English orthography and grammar was always a little shaky. Take a word that's tough to spell, like accommodate. In the press, it's misspelled a bit more than one percent of the time; in the Google newsgroups it's misspelled over 60 percent of the time. But that error rate on accommodate has probably always been about right for the mass of people who write without benefit of a copy editor—the only difference is that before now, their spelling errors were visible only on the notes they left on their refrigerator doors."



HUMPHREYS COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Humphreys College is pleased to announce its partnership with Lodi Unified School District to offer college courses on Lodi high school campuses. Two Humphreys courses will be offered at Bear Creek High School and at McNair High School; students from the other Lodi comprehensive high schools will be eligible to enroll in the courses as well. The partnership provides an opportunity for students in the Lodi Unified School District to take college-level classes that can be applied to a Humphreys College degree.

Courses to be offered will include those from the Business, Law, and Early Childhood Education programs. Additionally, General Mills has agreed to sponsor the courses, providing resources to pay for books and instructor salaries. To be eligible for the courses, students must qualify as being from low-income families under state guidelines and carry at least a 2.2 grade-point average. The stringent guidelines are in line with financial aid requirements for students who are eligible for the Cal Grant B.

Humphreys College looks forward to this exciting partnership with Lodi Unified School District and the opportunity to develop pathways for students to achieve a college education. For more information, please contact Dean Wilma Okamoto-Vaughn at (209) 235-2906.

DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that HC students have learned more than other college students about subjects that have changed the way they think about issues and concepts?

Did you know that HC students use computers more often to do their school work than do students at other colleges?

And did you know that HC students rated the college much higher at providing a supportive campus environment than other college students did for their own college?

How do we know these and other interesting facts? Because last year our freshmen and seniors participated in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). It's a survey conducted every year by a national organization and involves over 350,000 college students nationwide.

Humphreys uses the results of the survey to improve programs and services so that students are able to focus on their studies and learn more.

This year, Humphreys is participating in the NSSE survey again. Every freshman and senior at the College will receive e-mails asking them to take the online survey. And those who do take the survey will be eligible to win CASH! Two \$100 cash prizes will be given away after the survey is over this spring.

The survey is easy to take – you just point and click. To take the survey and be eligible for the CASH, you need to monitor your HUMPHREYS E-MAIL account in March.

Accessing your HC e-mail account is easy. Go to www.humphreys.edu, click on College Mail, enter your student ID number as your username (on a report card, or get it from the Registrar), and enter your birth date as your password in this format: MMDDYYYY (unless you've changed it already).



POETRY CORNER

In response to an extra credit project in Professor Becerra's online LIT203 California Literature class, two of her students did an extraordinary job in writing original poems that paid homage to poets whom they are studying. The first one gives credit to the poet Joyce Carol Thomas and the other to poet Gary Soto for being their inspirations.

CARMEL'S CRASHING WAVES

*When the clock strikes two, the Crazy 8's
Reluctantly end our visit, pack our belongings,
Leaving behind our precious sand and sea.*

*Our men had each found an errant golf ball
From Pebble Beach up above,
Hooting and howling with each new find,
Gotta love 'em, they're the best of their kind.
While we four girlfriends walked the sand and talked, admiring God's handiwork,
We were cleverly inspired to name ourselves "The Stalwart Women,"
A tribute to poet Joyce Carol Thomas,
A strong and resilient woman we hope we portray.*

*From our perch on the sandy hill
Up above the magnificent blue,
One last glance at our beautiful aqua friend,
Her waves crest and nobly fall,
Like God's caressing hands waving farewell.*

~ Anonymous

PROGRESS

*Armed with an iPod on my hip
Lots of moisture on my lips
Mind tuned out and ears tuned in
Can't stop thinking of sleeker days
As I walk, walk, walk*

*Sunshine on my face
There's no disgrace
As I walk, walk, walk*

*Rushing through the corridor
Lights shining evermore
People never stopping anymore
As I walk, walk, walk*

*Just one more mile
As my lips part to smile
Just one more mile
As I jog, jog, jog*

~ Zoie Williams

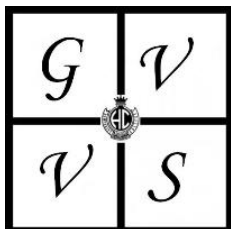
COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 2, 2010, **Candace Blue**, the College's director of public relations, announced her retirement. After working for 47 years here and elsewhere, she felt that it was time to start a "new phase" of her life. Good luck to you, Candace.
- This quarter **Lisa Kooren**, the former Stockton campus Admission Counselor and Job Placement Coordinator, was promoted to Director of Academic Administration at our Modesto Campus. Way to go, Lisa! She has been at the College since 2003. Replacing Ms. Kooren is a familiar face—**Chiyo Miyai**, who held the admission position until 2007, when she left to pursue her master's in counseling from San Francisco State University, which she completed in 2009. Welcome back, Chiyo!
- On Saturday, March 6, Admission Counselors **Santa Lopez-Minatre** and **Chiyo Miyai** participated in Stockton's annual Chinese New Year Parade. The parade, which took place in downtown Stockton, was in celebration of the year 4708 – the "Year of the Tiger."



Announcement

The Gregory Victor Vaughn Memorial Scholarship supplies textbooks to high school students who wish to begin earning credit towards their Humphreys College degree. Several of these scholarly students come from very modest backgrounds; in many cases they represent the first of their family to pursue any education beyond high school. Your support by attending and/or contributing to this scholarship fundraiser gala will be a positive signal to these students that Greg's life, legacy, and memory will continue with your generous support.



You are cordially invited to attend

*The 5th Annual
Gregory Victor Vaughn
Memorial Scholarship Dinner*

*Saturday, May 1, 2010
At 6:00 P.M.*

*Hilton Hotel
2323 Grand Canal Blvd.
Stockton, CA 95207*

\$50.00 per person; \$90.00 per couple; \$350 per table of 8

*R.S.V.P. by April 15th to
April Huerta at (209) 235-2906*





*Graduating soon? If so, you need to petition
for graduation through
the Registrar's Office, Room 10,
as soon as possible.*

Graduation Date/Time:

SATURDAY

June 19, 2010, at 9:00 AM

Location: Humphreys College

The Jerry Medina Courtyard



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Humphreys College Newsletter, March 2010

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