

HU Highlights

STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

MOMENTS FROM COMMENCEMENT 2025



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!

Students Take Top Honors

Cynthia Becerra, Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Humphreys University's Award Ceremony for 2025 was held on Thursday, June 12, on Zoom from 5:00–6:00 p.m. Hosted by Dean of Undergraduate Studies Cynthia S. Becerra, the event's focus was to celebrate the academic achievements of the Class of 2025 and to recognize the scholarly aptitude of both current and graduating students.

Presenters included Dean Lisa Kooren, Associate Dean and Chair of Early Childhood Education Donna Roberts, and academic chairs Jason Wolins, Business Department; Pam Closs, Court Reporting; and Chuck McLaughlin, Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Department. In addition, Provost Matthew Reynolds was in attendance to congratulate our scholars.

The presenters were joined by faculty, staff, family and friends for the event. Awards included outstanding department awards and scholar awards.

2025 AWARDS



CLASS OF 2025 VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN

Drivon School of Law Valedictorian	Emily Mae Allan
Humphreys University Valedictorian	Patrick Tschabold
Drivon School of Law Salutatorian	Karan Saini
Humphreys University Salutatorian	Wadiya Gaines

OUTSTANDING DEPARTMENT AWARDS 2025

Accounting	Patrick Tschabold
Business Administration	Tristan Vang
Court Reporting	Veronica Flores
Early Childhood Education	Ronald Burks
Legal Studies	Marlene Hernandez
Liberal Arts	Jacqueline Bautista Hernandez

SCHOLAR AWARDS 2025

Nelli Arabyan	Staci Davis
Patrick Tschabold	Jessica Eldred
Angelica Cuadros	Yasmin Cachu
Bailey Salvesson	Megan Timm
Sadie Williams	Kaytlen Galaviz
Jasmine Elder	Marlene Hernandez
Ronald Burks	Wadiya Gaines

Press Release: Professor Adam Ramirez

Law school graduate and current adjunct law professor Adam Ramirez has been appointed by Governor Newsom to the San Joaquin County bench. This is a true feather in the cap for the law school. Adam is not the first Humphreys graduate to become a judge, of course, but he may be the first graduate to become a judge while actively teaching at our law school.



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 23, 2025
Contact: Erica Ochoa, (209)-992-5221

GOVERNOR APPOINTS ADAM RAMIREZ TO THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT BENCH



STOCKTON— On Wednesday, June 18, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Adam Ramirez to serve as judge on the San Joaquin County Superior Court bench. Judge Ramirez fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Jose L. Alva in September 2023.

Judge Ramirez brings nearly two decades of legal experience to his new role. He has served as a Shareholder at Hakeem, Ellis, Marengo & Ramirez since 2023, following a 14-year tenure as an Associate. Judge Ramirez has been an Adjunct Professor at Humphreys University Drivon School of Law, since 2019. Earlier in his career, he served as an Attorney at the Family Law Service Center and the Law Office of Christopher K. Eley.

Judge Ramirez earned his Juris Doctor degree from the Humphreys University Drivon School of Law.

“We are extremely excited about the appointment of Adam Ramirez to the San Joaquin County Superior Court. Adam brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the areas of family and civil law that will be a great benefit to the litigants who appear before him. We are grateful for this appointment as we have a number of upcoming retirements. Thank you to Governor Newsom and Judicial Appointment Secretary Cespedes for addressing San Joaquin County judicial needs,” said Presiding Judge Gus C. Barrera.

In response to his appointment, Judge Ramirez stated, “It is an honor to be selected by Governor Newsom to serve the people of San Joaquin County as a judge. I look forward to working with the San Joaquin Bench: our county has some of the best judicial officers in the state, and I am deeply humbled to stand among them.”

The Court welcomes Judge Ramirez and looks forward to the experience, dedication, and leadership he brings to the people of San Joaquin County. A formal swearing-in ceremony has yet to be scheduled.

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PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH

Jason Wolins, Department Chair Business and Accounting



San Joaquin Society for Human Resource Management

May 8, 2025: (SJSHRM), 2025 Human Resources Leadership Conference, Manteca, CA.

Humphreys University sponsor table.



Facilities Expo

March 19, 2025: Facilities Expo, Modesto, CA .

“Conflict Management in the Workplace” presentation by (left to right) Adjunct Instructors James Menard & Raymond Call, Jason Wolins, Business Department Chair.

CHECK THIS OUT!

Jerome Clay: REACHING HIGHER

Jermone Clay is a law school graduate and currently serves on our HU Board of Trustees. He was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States at a swearing-in ceremony on June 5, 2025, in Washington, D.C.

ADJUNCT FACULTY INTERVIEW: JIM MAZZA



How long have you been at Humphreys University?

I have been teaching for 32 years, 13 of which have been teaching at Humphreys University

What is your favorite class to teach and why?

I enjoy teaching courses such as accounting, finance, and economics, but my favorite is macroeconomics. It covers all my areas of expertise and lets students discuss real-world economic issues and resource allocation.

What skills do students need to stand out in the job market?

Students must grasp their discipline's concepts, applications, and potential technological changes. In today's environment, they also need to communicate their knowledge effectively and collaborate in teams to solve problems.

What books do you recommend that students should read to prepare for the real world?

There are many books recommended for business students to read. I recommend 5 that helped me for one reason or another. The obvious ones include *How to Win Friends and Influence People* (Carnegie, Dale), *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* (Covey, Stephen), *A Passion for Excellence* (Peters, Tom), and *Zero to One* (Thiel, Peter). I recommend offering some counter perspectives and include, *The Prince* (Machiavelli, Niccolo), *The Truth About Money* (Edelman, Ric), and *Well-Designed Life* (Bobinet, Kyra). Students should read W. Edward Deming's book *Out of the Crisis*.

If you could start another business today, what would it be?

Prior to attending college, I owned and ran a contracting and design business, offering design services as well as commercial and retail sales across three locations along the Northern California coast. While I am not currently interested in pursuing future entrepreneurial ventures, I encourage students considering business ownership to explore opportunities in the electric vehicle charging sector. Such an enterprise could specialize in the sale, installation, and maintenance of charging units, in addition to providing education and planning services for property owners interested in implementing this technology.



Humphreys University
EST. 1896

OUR MISSION

To prepare students for meaningful careers and professions through an accessible, guided, supportive, and high-quality educational experience and directed to the specific and changing needs of students from diverse ethnic, cultural, economic, and educational backgrounds.

OUR VISION

To be the community-recognized institution of choice, known for providing quality, student-focused, career-oriented, and affordable higher education that improves the lives of students and develops informed citizens.

OUR CORE VALUES

- We are an opportunity school that accepts, teaches, and elevates anyone with a desire and motivation to learn and improve.
- We excel at delivering a personalized, affordable, and accessible educational experience.
- We provide career-oriented education, aligned with career and skill demands, integrated into the professional community, and delivered by dedicated practitioner-educators.
- We exhibit a culture of adaptability and innovation to meet the demands of the future in the service of our students.