

Inter Alia

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The Newsletter of
San Joaquin
College of Law

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Class Of '90 Grads Combine For 88% Bar Pass Rate

Fourteen out of the sixteen SJCL graduates who took the California Bar exam last summer have passed on their first try. Congratulations!

Official notifications began arriving on November 23 to an anxious group of graduates and reactions ranged from surprise to tremendous relief.

"The thought of not having to go through the process of studying for the Bar exam again is almost a reward in itself," said Gregory Tanner, who works for the law firm of Stroup and DeGoede. "Most of us took two months off from work just to study for the exam, so we are glad our efforts paid off."

According to the Committee of Bar Examiners, the overall statewide average for the exam was a pass rate of 58.02%. At the time of publication, individual figures for other law schools were not yet available, though it is expected that SJCL has once again ranked near the top in first-time passing rates for California law schools.

The total first-time pass rate for ABA and

non-ABA approved law schools in California was 73.3%. The total first-time pass rate for ABA approved law schools was 78.64%, while the total first-time pass rate for non-ABA approved schools was 53.55%.

SJCL's cumulative passing rate over the school's 20-year history is 90%.

Here's an official list of SJCL's 1990 graduates who passed the California State Bar exam taken last July:

Barbara H. Allison
Nancy K. Aten
Todd B. Barsotti
Roberta Collins
Clinton A. Cummins
Thomas J. Georgouses
C.D. (Charla) Harbottle
Robert E. Hurlbett
Michael J. Jurkovich
Mary A. Peterson
Susan L. Simons
Gregory Tanner
Donna Tarter
Deloise Tritt

SJCL To Celebrate '20 Years Of Opportunity'

It is with great excitement that all of us associated with San Joaquin College of Law, both past and present, look forward to this Spring as we celebrate our 20 Year Anniversary.

We have indeed come a long way since that first proud graduating class of 15 students. And while the status and continued growth of SJCL have exceeded the expectations of our founders, the law school has continued to preserve its mission of providing a quality legal education for capable men and women here in our Central Valley.

A number of events have already been planned around our 20 Year Anniversary, all of which focus on the theme of: "20 Years of Opportunity." Through the guidance of our alumni organization, a series of reunions are slated to start in early Spring.

The purpose is to provide all alumni with a chance to visit old friends as well as see what changes have taken place at SJCL over the past two decades.

We are actively working on the publication of a 20 Year Anniversary retrospective brochure and an open house at the law school is being planned. Also, our Anniversary Dinner is scheduled to feature a world-class speaker.

Most of all, the activities surrounding our 20 Year Anniversary celebration are intended to involve our entire community. For it has always been SJCL's goal to provide the best possible legal education-combining theoretical knowledge with practical skills-for individuals in our own community. Members of the 20 Year Anniversary Committee are: the Hon. James Aaron
Please see Celebration on pg. 8



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

SJCL of Law is a small institution in a small metropolis. Accordingly, the accomplishments of each member of the school community benefit each other member. Alumni success encourages and opens doors for students who follow. Student success contributes to the prestige of every graduate. In a unique way, everyone has a stake in the future of the institution.

I am constantly reminded of SJCL's uniqueness. Several weeks ago I attended the ABA's national conference on part-time



legal education. This two-day seminar was attended by deans of institutions throughout the nation that have both full-time and part-time divisions. Approximately 40

ABA institutions were represented—and SJCL. Recurrent concerns were the competence of adjunct faculty, the inability of part-time students to participate in moot court and law review, and the constant struggle to keep part-time programs rigorous.

Silently, I smiled. Three successive years of first-time SJCL takers passing the California Bar Exam at rates of 90%, 95%, and most recently, 88% demonstrate the solidity of the program and the commitment of SJCL students. I would stand SJCL's faculty up against any school's, any time. Part-time students at SJCL are *creating* the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review. And somehow, SJCL students managed to win two major national moot court competitions last year.

Even after six years, how could one not be excited! I came to SJCL six years ago initially to assist in the application for candidacy for WASC accreditation and we are now four years into the six year candidacy period. There are tremendous challenges for the next two years, but on most fronts

SJCL has surpassed the objectives it set in that six year plan.

It is appropriate that 1990-91 is a critical year for WASC accreditation—1990-91 is SJCL's Twentieth Anniversary Year. We nostalgically call the first era "Twenty Years of Opportunity." So many graduates have pursued their dreams, their personal growth, because of the existence of the law school.

WASC tests our determination to keep the opportunities open. WASC accreditation establishes SJCL as a serious educational institution. It assures continued financial aid for SJCL students. Without financial aid, SJCL can not truly serve the community because a significant proportion of Valley residents would be economically foreclosed from law school. The reality is that a community's future is largely determined by those trained in law. If legal education is not an option for some residents, they have little stake in that future.

The Community has a major stake in SJCL. Twenty percent of attorneys currently practicing in Fresno County are SJCL graduates—and that percentage is growing. SJCL graduates will play a major role in the development of the San Joaquin Valley into the next century. They will be in every imaginable policy-making position. This is a matter of great pride for SJCL, but also one of great responsibility. So many people have had a hand in SJCL's success. With their continued help, we can discharge this responsibility creditably.

It is a delight to be able to share all of my excitement and pride in these events through the Newsletter we are initiating today. Enjoy it! And on behalf of the staff and faculty of SJCL, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and good wishes for 1991.

JANICE L. PEARSON
Dean

FACULTY 1990-91

L A W

Marc C. Ament
Hon. James Ardaiz
Lawrence M. Artenian
Barry J. Bennet
Meggin Boranian
Richard M. Cartier
Hon. A. Dennis Caeton
D. Greg Durbin
John P. Eleazarian
John. M. Evans
Christine Goodrich
Paul Herbert
Clint H. Horwitz
James M. Hurley
Ellen Jahn
Denise Kerner
Vincent J. McGraw
Douglas E. Noll
Lawrence J. O'Neill
Edwin A. Oeser
Janice L. Pearson
James H. Pelioian
Sally A. Perring
Sarah A. Schmidt
Jack Tipton
Riley Walter
Oliver W. Wanger

P A R A L E G A L

Lawrence M. Artenian
Frank Butler
Gwen Carrigan
Michael Carrigan
Richard Cartier
Peter Cummings
Bob Hurlbett
Don Fischbach
Karen Kern
Denise Kerner
Doug Noll
Patty Noyes
Harry Pascuzzi
Jeff Simonian
Kevin Swanson
Luke Temple
Riley Walter

T A X

Darlene Azevedo
Dennis Bean
Carl Campbell
Ronald Henderson
James Ledbetter
James Pelioian
James Shepard
Robert S. Swanton
Curtis Wong

SJCL To Launch Agricultural Law Review In '91

By Rose Mohan

Students slipping down the dark alleyway between the SJCL buildings; groans coming from the old Foreclosure office. What is going on?

The Law Review Editorial Board and the "candidates" are in the process of giving birth to a new SJCL publication, the *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review*, and hopefully to a tradition. The first issue of the *Law Review* will be published in early June, 1991.

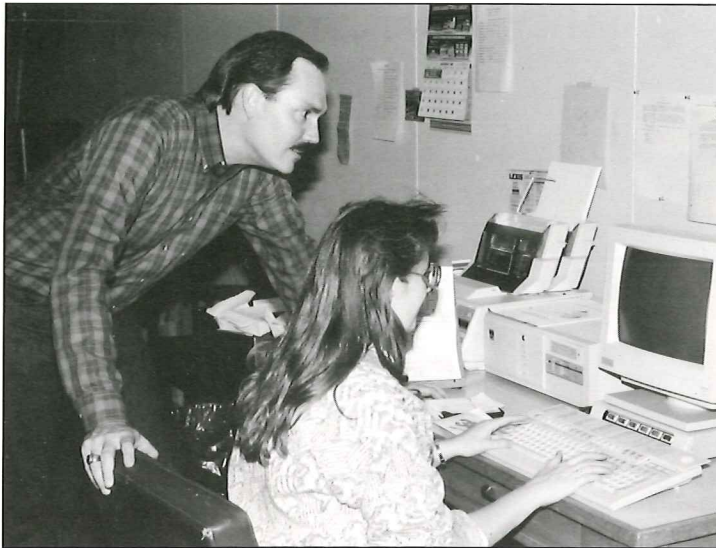
Some people may wonder why SJCL should undertake such an ambitious project when the college is already deeply involved in other important goals—a new building, accreditation. One

might wonder whether publishing a Law Review will make any difference. It will.

The *Law Review* will put SJCL on par with what other law schools offer their students in legal education opportunities. Like the SJCL Moot Court program, that has now expanded to give SJCL students a chance to participate in national competitions, the *Law Review* will give SJCL students an opportunity to participate in a time-honored tradition of a legal education. Furthermore, the Law Review will enhance the school's reputation locally and nationally, which in turn makes all SJCL students more marketable. Even alumni benefit from the school's increasing prestige.

What is a Law Review? A tradition, a recognition of a student's scholastic ability and an opportunity for fellowship and scholarship. A tradition takes time to make, but in laying the foundation for the publication, the Editorial Board has considered how the *Law Review* will operate in years to come. This is codified in the Law Review Operations Manual. It has also set a high standard of excellence for selecting articles, notes and comments for publication.

The Law Review office provides a place for students in different class years to interact and benefit from each other's experience. Working together to achieve a common goal strengthens the camaraderie of the students. New friends and new opportunities result. In the past, SJCL's



San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review Managing Editor Dave Weiland and Production Editor Marlene Hubbell examine an article for the inaugural issue of the *Law Review*, scheduled to be published in the Spring of 1991.

small size was conducive to fellowship. As class size grows, other activities such as Law Review will ensure that the fellowship earlier classes valued so highly is not lost.

The Law Review allows students to hone their analytical and writing abilities and provides opportunities to research topic areas not covered in required classes. The focus of the publication is law as it affects agriculture. Papers under consideration for the first issue include model water conservation laws, farm labor issues, tax, financing and debt restructuring issues, and agricultural waste, to name a few.

Being accepted as a candidate for Law Review recognizes a student's scholastic ability. Invitations were extended to the top 20% of last years second and third year classes, and to the top 15% of the 1990-91 second year class. A blind writing competition this fall enabled all second, third and fourth year students to compete for candidacy. Three students were selected from this competition. Currently, the Law Review is comprised of six members of the Editorial Board and 16 candidates. A candidate is elevated to staff member status

after the completion of one publishable Comment or two publishable Case Notes.

Participation in Law Review also tests a student's commitment to the law, endurance, patience, self-motivation and an ability to work long and hard hours. Participation requires a firm belief that an idea, and for some a dream, will become a reality. Participation also allows SJCL students to give something back to their school and to their community. The end result will not only benefit the students. The community will benefit by having more attorneys educated in an area of law that is of great importance to the Central Valley. The college will benefit by proving its quality to those disbelievers.

For the next two months, the Law Review will be reviewing and revising articles solicited nationwide; the candidates will be assisting, as well as writing their own works. In January, we move into more production oriented tasks, as we prepare the manuscript for publication. By mid-May, we hope, in publication parlance, to "put it to bed;" the Law Review staff will then try to catch up on sleep.

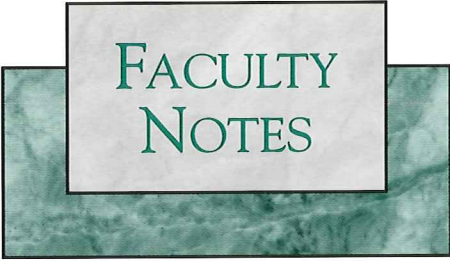
Rose Mohan is a third-year law student and editor-in-chief of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review. Other members of the editorial staff are: Jim Dubbles, executive and research editor; Dave Weiland, managing editor; Mark Blum, articles editor; Marlene Hubbell, production editor; and Mary Rogers, notes and comments editor. ■

Faculty, Alums, Grab Tennis Honors

Racquet-wielding attorneys from around the County converged on Roeding Park on September 29th to participate in the 16th Annual Fresno County Young Lawyers Tennis Tournament.

Congratulations go out to the doubles team of SJCL Professor Paul Herbert and SJCL alumnus Steve Paganetti ('78), who won the Open Division.

Please see Tennis on pg. 8



FACULTY NOTES

New Laws, New Challenges For Small Claims Advisors

By Denise Kerner

Denise Kerner has worked full-time for SJCL since March as Director of Legal Analysis/Research & Writing and is a member of the faculty. She graduated from the law school in 1983 and worked for two years at the 5th District Court of Appeal for Justice Franson. She also served as a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Fresno for four years. Denise is a member of the Legal Writing Institute and attended the Institute's conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan last July. She is also a member of the California Small Claims Court Advisor Association and attended their November meeting, which is the subject of her article.

Since 1985, San Joaquin College of Law has provided a unique service to Central Valley residents in need of guidance on how to proceed in small claims court. Pursuant to a contract with the County of Fresno, the law school has staffed the County's Small Claims Advisors Office with law students trained to answer questions on matters that typically fall within the small claims court's jurisdiction: landlord-tenant disputes, problems with service contractors, bad check writing, etc.

At present, the maximum dollar amount recoverable in a small claims action is \$2,000; however, as a result of the passage of the Small Claims Act by the California Legislature earlier this year, this maximum dollar amount will jump to \$5,000 on January 1, 1991. This and other changes in the laws affecting small claims courts will present new challenges and require an extra measure of diligence by those of us at the law school involved in this project.

At the annual conference of the California Small Claims Court Advisor Association held this past November, the Key features of the new legislation and their impact on local small claims advising offices were discussed. While the new \$5,000 monetary limit accomplishes a desired goal of opening the courthouse doors to a greater number of persons, concern was expressed at the conference over an expected increase in demand for advisors' services and an increased complexity of legal problems presented. This expected increase in complexity poses particular problems for counties whose small claims advisors are citizen volunteers as opposed to law students such as San Joaquin provides. Nevertheless, greater care in rendering advice on complex matters will be required by all.

Another significant change in the laws affecting small claims actions permits the insurance company of a losing defendant to appeal the adverse judgement under certain circumstances. Prior to this change, only defendants themselves could appeal. While this change allows insurance companies to decrease their exposure to plaintiffs' demands for compensation, it also increases the likelihood that more insurers will avail themselves of the no-cost small claims advisory service rather than submit their legal questions to higher priced corporate counsel. Small claims advisors need to be prepared for this additional group of clients seeking advice as well as the possibility that some will be "shopping for a second opinion" after having already submitted the matter to their corporate attorney. (Surprisingly, this happens quite often with corporate clients seeking small claims advice.) Ethically, the small claims advisor must guard against interfering with an existing attorney-client relationship.

A final change in existing small claims law may actually lessen a small amount of the small claims advisor's workload. By increasing the amount of attorney's fees available to the plaintiff from \$250 to \$1,000 when a defendant files a frivolous appeal, it is likely that fewer appeals with questionable merit will be filed, thereby eliminating inquiries from clients on how to defend themselves in the appellate court. Also, when frivolous appeals are filed, plaintiffs will have a greater incentive to hire attorneys to help them through the appellate process, again relieving the small claims advisor of this task.

San Joaquin College of Law currently has twelve students acting as small claims advisors, earning credits and a modest paycheck while acquiring invaluable lawyering skills in client interviewing, research and basic case preparation. While not required to do so, it is not uncommon to see them in the law library researching a question that arose during their shift at the advisor's office. It is this level of dedication and competence of San Joaquin students that makes Fresno County's Small Claims Advisors Office possibly one of the most successful in the state and one well prepared to handle the changes in the law in the coming years. ■

John Evans, Ph.D., J.D., joined SJCL as a full-time faculty member in January, 1990. John teaches Contract, Commercial and Administrative Law and is advisor to the newly-formed San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review. He recently attended the American Agricultural Law Association Conference in Minneapolis and the ALI-ABA Conference on the Emerging New Uniform Commercial Code, held at the Stanford University Law School. John published an article in the Fall, 1990 issue of the *Minnesota and Colorado Bar Association Newsletters* entitled, "The Farm Bill and Dairy Subsidies: The California Position." He recently completed an article, "Secured Transactions: A Study Outline," for *Sum and Substance*, The Barrister Project, Santa Monica California, 1990. ■

Paul Herbert, J.D., joined the Law School faculty in May, 1990 after a one-year visiting appointment at the University of Baltimore Law School. Paul recently conducted a summer session course that examined the role of the Supreme Court and the nature of constitutional doctrine in the context of the modern American polity. He currently teaches Constitutional Law and Criminal Law and Procedure. Paul is also working on several articles in the constitutional law field; one is committed for publication in an upcoming issue of the ABA's *Preview of the United States Supreme Court Cases*, for which he will serve as a contributing editor in the Spring of 1991. ■

Confessions Of A First-Year Law Student...

Three of our first-year law students took a recent respite from their preparations for Mid-Term exams to offer some reflections on life as a first-year law student at SJCL. Here's what they had to say...

Being the well-organized person that I am, I thought I'd done everything possible to prepare myself for the trials of first-year law school. I attended the student orientation seminar, I interviewed present and former law students and I sought the advice and support of my family.

I have gone through different phases since that first night of class. I was euphoric in August. In September I was panicked, and in October I was cautiously optimistic.

In August I felt a sense of inspiration as I listened to everyone introduce themselves and talk about their backgrounds. I felt excited that I would be spending my next four years undertaking such a thrilling challenge. Since we had only one week of school in August, you can see that this particular phase did not last very long.

In September I panicked. I seriously asked myself why I had ever decided to do this. If I dropped out now, I thought to myself, I could save myself some time and money. One day at work while I was in a numb, insensible state, a colleague who had attended law school years ago started asking me questions. "Well, how's it going? Are you drinking more coffee that you used to? Are you having a hard time staying awake during the day and then can't get to sleep at night? Are you eating like s---?" (Actually, I was forgetting to eat). "Do your neck, arm and fingers hurt? Do you feel like you can never get everything done between work, home and studies?" Yes!! How he knew! It was then that I learned I was not experiencing anything abnormal.

In October, I began settling in a little. The arteries to my brain are now starting to open up again. I am getting into a routine and making some new friends. I try to balance my life to include exercise and at least one good meal a day. My evening beverage of wine has been replaced with coffee. And I am actually starting to enjoy myself and have hopes that I might make it successfully through this first year. Law school has been all that I expected—and more. If only I can pass Civil Pro.



Priscilla Wright

There are so many questions and expectations that fill your head as you confront law school. Do I really have to study 'round the clock? Do the professors really ride the students into tears when they are called upon to speak in class?

I am happy to say that I have been a student at SJCL for four months now, and the answers to these intimidating questions is "No." Yes, you do have to work hard, and yes, you must be prepared for class discussion, but fortunately for all of us students, it is not unbearable - though it seems so at first.

"Do the professors really ride the students into tears when they are called upon to speak in class?"

I can remember taking my first practice exam, and feeling the time pressure element. I came out of the classroom, however, feeling quite good about it. I felt I knew the law and had spotted the issues. I had analyzed and argued both sides of the problems presented (in a lawyerlike analysis), and yet when I received my exam back, it was only a "C". This test result showed me just how mediocre I was. It seemed as though nothing had properly prepared me to handle this exam experience - except the experience itself.



Todd Armas

Some advice I was given for survival: don't have unrealistic expectations of yourself, focus on short-term goals and don't let the pressure get the best of you. You are not alone.

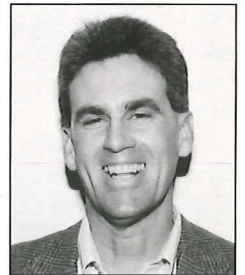
And so the nightmare begins for students as they anticipate finals. Midterms are usually an indication of what your final will be like. But the fact is that your final grade will be based on a three or four hour exam.

So it's come to this: frantically tossing our best towels on the floor to sop up water from an overflowing toilet.

Nicholas, my usually angelic three-year-old, decided to avenge himself on dear old Dad by attempting to flush half a box of Kleenex. My crime? Choosing a much-needed afternoon nap, accompanied by a ten-pound casebook to use as a comforter, over playing trains with my son. Fortunately, I was awakened by dead silence—the kind only young children can make.

Ah...the pursuit of truth (if that is synonymous with the pursuit of a law degree). Eternal verities discovered during this first year of law school include:

1. The law is complex; law students, on the other hand, are simple. Or maybe it's the other way around.
2. Stare digestion is as important as stare decisis.
3. If you liked *Finnegans Wake*, you'll love *Pennoyer v. Neff*.
4. First-year law student corollary to the Peter Principle: You quickly rise to your highest level of incomprehension.
5. Murphy's First-year Law School Corollary #1: Your instructor will ask you to explain the case you least understood, upon which you will forget everything you thought you knew about it.
6. Murphy's Corollary #2: The amount of time necessary to adequately prepare is twice that which is available.
7. Sure, it's possible to have a sex life during the first year of law school, but not without pondering offer, acceptance and consideration during the act. Some will be forced to consider revocation and rejection. The truly perverse will dwell on questions of jurisdiction.
8. "Now, here, you see, it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!"
9. Play trains with your son whenever he wants. ■



Donn Furman

Moot Court Teams Continue Bid For Top Awards

The Fifth District Court of Appeal served as the site for the finals of this year's George A. Hopper Moot Court Competition, an annual event hosted by SJCL that featured 51 students (25 teams) from the Law School.

Justices James Ardaiz, Hollis Best and Nickolas Dibiaso of the 5th DCA served as judges for the final round of competition held on November 17.

This year, the Overall First Place award was won by the team of Peter Cummings and Juliana Gmur. Only 1/100 of a point separated the Second Place team of Patty Williams and Trudi Manfredo.

Top honors for the Best Oralists award went to Patty Williams. The Second Place award for Best Oralists was won by Bob Casio and the Third Place award went to Glenn Wilson.

In the Best Brief category, the team of Dorothy Corless and Kimberly Geist won First Place. The Second Place award went to the team of

Catherine Sharbaugh and Barbara Greaver, while the team of Victor Salazar and Marina Sorlee placed third.

The Spring of 1991 will present two more opportunities for SJCL's Moot Court teams to compete for national honors.

According to Moot Court Director Sarah Schmidt, SJCL is sending the third-year team of Rose Mohan, Mark Blum and James Dubbels to Minneapolis in March to compete in the National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition. It's the first time that the Law School is sending a team to this particular competition, which attracts law school moot court teams from all over the country.

In March, SJCL will be represented in the National Constitutional Law Moot

Court Competition by third-year student Jackie Schaad-Sangari along with two second-year students. The competition will be held at the University of North Carolina.

SJCL is also making a bid to host a unique national tournament in the Spring of 1992: the National Agricultural Advocacy Competitions. The event involves three separate categories of competition: moot court, closing arguments and persuasive speaking.

In a related development, Hal Farley, a third-year student involved in fundraising



Peter Cummings addresses the Bench during his opening argument in the finals of this year's George A. Hopper Moot Court competition.

for the Moot Court Program, reports that more than \$1,000 has been raised so far in support of our activities. The money is primarily used to defray the travel expenses of SJCL's Moot Court teams. ■

New Faces At SJCL

We have a number of new faces who have recently joined the staff at SJCL. Their arrival comes at a time of continued growth and exciting developments at our institution. Please join us in welcoming our new staff members and make sure to note their titles and job responsibilities:

Allison Areias, Law Program Coordinator/Admissions Officer: Allison, who joined the SJCL staff in July, is responsible for maintaining admission files, counseling applicants and making admission decisions and recommendations. In this newly-created position, she also functions as Registrar and provides administrative support to the Law and Tax Programs.

Karen Besecker, Administrative Assistant: Karen worked at SJCL as a temporary employee for four months until she was hired in September as a full-time assistant to the Institutional Advancement unit.

Sara B. Cobb, Dean of Institutional Advancement: Sara's responsibilities include development and implementation of fundraising plans for SJCL. She also coordinates alumni involvement, proposal preparation and implementation, marketing and continuing legal education. Sara assumed her duties in August, replacing Annette Leifer, Dean of Administration.

Bill Erysian, Director of Institutional Relations: Bill is responsible for coordinating all publicity for SJCL and for developing all law school publications. Bill also produces our quarterly newsletter, *Inter Alia*, and provides supports for the various activities and goals of our Institutional Advancement unit. He began his duties in October, replacing Lisa Bihn.

Myra Marthens, Bookstore Manager/Financial Assistant: Myra began working for SJCL on a part-time basis in October. Her current duties include managing the operation of the Bookstore and assisting the Chief Financial Officer with accounts payable/receivable, payroll and financial reports.

Linda Raiche, Director of Operations: Linda joined our staff in February. Her duties include managing the day-to-day operation of the Law School, overseeing the daily operation of the Law Library and Bookstore, supervising secretarial support as well as managing the financial records of SJCL.

Lonzetta Williams, Receptionist: Apart from being the first voice you hear when calling SJCL, Lonzetta also provides a variety of typing and support functions to the entire staff. She assumed her duties in September. ■

SJCL Developing Unique Video Education Program For Hmong

In a challenging and unique opportunity, SJCL was recently awarded a Law-Related Education Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to create a specialized video teaching program targeted for the growing Hmong community in the Central Valley.

SJCL students Karen McCarter and Loretta Ramos are coordinating the entire project. They will spend the next nine months creating the video program, which is designed for use in the English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom. According to Karen, the challenge is to design a series of video presentations that mix familiar Hmong customs and lifestyles with what undoubtedly seem to the Hmong like a strange set of laws here in the United States.

Preliminary interviews that have been conducted with ESL teachers and Hmong leaders. An assortment of essays and surveys

"Parallels between our two cultures are virtually non-existent."

of Hmong students disclosed several areas of immediate need: an overview of our legal system, landlord/tenant law, juvenile law, consumer law and protection of real and personal property.

Actually, any topic would be appropriate; parallels between our two cultures are virtually non-existent.

To understand their bewilderment, as Karen explains, "step back six centuries into their mountain villages. The family unit represented the high court while the practice of ostracism was used as the main deterrent." The Hmong are also considered to be a pre-literate culture; most Hmong are actually illiterate in Hmong, since their written language was only established in the 1950s. They were farmers who transformed into fierce fighters for CIA operations during the Vietnam War. Now, as invited refugees, they strive for economic independence within a maze of an unknown language, unusual customs and an obscure system of laws.

"The real challenge will be to create an effective teaching program to a group of people who often distrust our 'institutional' intervention and who possess language skills equivalent to a fourth grade education," Karen said. It's really uncharted territory since no such program exists in the

Adult Education System.

Our video tapes will be used in conjunction with facilitator's guides and will be designed as real-life vignettes. Problem-solving exercises and group discussions will also accompany the visual drama.

It is easy to sympathize with the misunderstandings faced by the Hmong. The challenge that remains is to create within their minds a simplistic legal foundation to aid their adjustment process.

In the case of most immigrant groups arriving in this country, an abundance of stereotypes about America and American laws accompany them. The following excerpts, purposely printed in their original form and style, were taken from recent surveys

within the Hmong community. They reveal a touching insight about Hmong impressions of their new land and the laws

which govern their lives:

"...In the U.S. they have their own Law to run the country. Some law were very good. Some are not very good. I don't understand the law gave people right to do something bad. Like when someone broke your car or stole some thing from you, when the police caught he or she. They always turn he or she lose."

"...The country of the United States is beautiful and enomous country. The law in the United States is a quite different one from any other countries. The law of the U.S. is a serious and very tuff one. Many laws controled many different kinds of things. These laws was formed by the United States Government many years ago."

"...As my experience and understanding the American law is the law that confuses people especially to me. I don't even understand and I believe I will never understand. The one which I don't understand and I don't really like is when you have a problem you supposed to go to the court only one time and your problem be solved. But it is not even if your problem is not a serious or big problem you have to go to the court many many time or as long as two or three years then, you were finished your case." ■

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

The votes have been cast and the results are in! As the newly-elected President of the SJCL Alumni Association, I would first like to thank all the outgoing officers for their participation and support this past year. I would especially like to thank Judith Ward, whose presence and guidance will be sorely missed.

The new officers for this term are:

Renee Dawson Logoluso	President
Jim Petrucelli	Vice President
Houry Der Simonian	Secretary
Russell Reynolds	Treasurer

Currently serving as members of the Alumni Board are Mike Goldring, Doug Haas, Steven Hrdlicka, Diane Lushbough and Holly Perez.

Thanks to the support of our Alumni as well as the entire community, 1990 has been a prosperous year. We were happy to be able to present not just one, but two scholarships this year to San Joaquin Law School students. Last year's recipients, Sharon Madsen and Kevin O'Casey, both had impressive track records and we were glad to be able to assist them.

Another notable highlight of 1990 was the Alumni Association's success in substantially increasing Alumni membership. We are also presently working on a revised edition of the Alumni Directory.

The results of this year's "Raffle" are worth noting too. Thanks to the generosity of Erna's Elderberry House and artist Sylvia Makasian, the Alumni Association received \$855.00 in proceeds for our scholarship fund.

In the past, alumni have expressed an interest in areas such as continuing education, a Biennial reunion and additional Alumni functions. As we begin planning for next year, we are all excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to your increased support and participation. I would very much like to hear any comments or suggestions that you may have.

Here's to an even better 1991!

—Renee Dawson Logoluso ■

News Briefs

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Enrollment has continued to rise at SJCL with a record number of first-year students (105) preparing to take their first Midterm exams this December. Total enrollment for the entering class in the Fall of 1990 was 110. SJCL's second-year class has 60 students; the third-year class has 33 students and the fourth-year class has 22 students. We received a record number of 195 applications to the law school this year.

The profile of our first-year class has changed slightly. The average age of the entering law student is still 33, along with an average undergraduate GPA of 3.02. The average LSAT score, however, has improved from 28.9 last year to 29.3 this year. Our first year class consists of 45 women and 61 men, the majority of whom are from the Central Valley. SJCL also received applicants from New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio and Oklahoma.

MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (MCLE)

The California State Bar Association recently adopted the requirement that all attorneys admitted to the practice of law in California shall be required to complete at least 36 hours of approved continuing legal education activities every 36 months. Following several drafts by the Education Committee of the State Bar, a final draft of the MCLE Rules and Regulations was sent this December to the Board of Governors at the State Bar Headquarters in San Francisco for adoption.

In the meantime, SJCL has continued to actively seek qualification as a principle "provider" of continuing legal education activities here in the Central Valley. We are excited about the opportunity to work with all of those organizations involved, particularly the Fresno County Bar Association. We will keep you posted.

KEEP US POSTED

If you have relocated, please let us know so we can keep our mailing list current. Remember, we can't contact you if you don't contact us. We also want to hear

about any other news you would like included in *Inter Alia*. And we encourage you to submit any articles or ideas that you think might be appropriate for our readers. Remember to send all correspondence to the attention of Bill Eryisian, Director of Institutional Relations.

JUST THE FAX

The staff and faculty of SJCL would like to extend a special thank-you to the Central California Bankruptcy Association for their donation of a state-of-the-art facsimile machine for our use. According to the CCBA, the gift was in appreciation of the help and cooperation SJCL provided on the many different functions the CCBA has held at the law school recently. We can guarantee our new addition will get plenty of use.

JOB ALERTS

Does your firm need associates, clerks or paralegals? SJCL will gladly post your job announcement and help you find the right person! ■

Tennis (continued from pg 3)

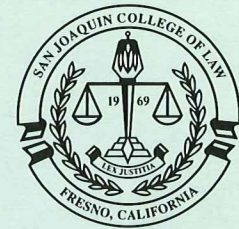
There are those who have questioned Herbert's contribution to the victory, since Paganetti has won the event on ten previous occasions with four different partners. Nevertheless, Herbert managed to overcome the pressure of possibly becoming the first partner to lose with Paganetti.

Earlier in the day, the B Division trophy was won by the stylish team of SLCL Trustee and Professor Oliver Wanger and Dan Russell, a local attorney. According to Ollie, "I had been at this for 15 years and this was the first time I won!"

Could it have had anything to do with his status as a federal bench nominee? ■

Celebration (continued from pg 1)

('74), Janet Maus ('89), Deloise Tritt ('90), Julia Brungess ('82), Francine Kanne ('88) and Bethany Baker ('88). If you have any ideas or would like to participate in the planning of any of our activities, please contact one of the committee members or Sara Cobb, Dean of Institutional Advancement. ■



San Joaquin College of Law

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