

August 2004

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# SJCL Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter

Volume XV, Number 2

## Over 16,000 books donated to SJCL

*San Joaquin College of Law received a gift to the SJCL Law Library of nearly 16,500 volumes worth \$550,000.*

When San Joaquin College of Law Board Chair Doug Noll flew to Wichita, Kansas in April to deliver the first annual Garvey Lecture at Friends University, little did he know that he would return with a gift of nearly 16,500 volumes to the SJCL Law Library. The gift, worth an estimated \$550,000, came from Presidents College of Law which closed in 2001.

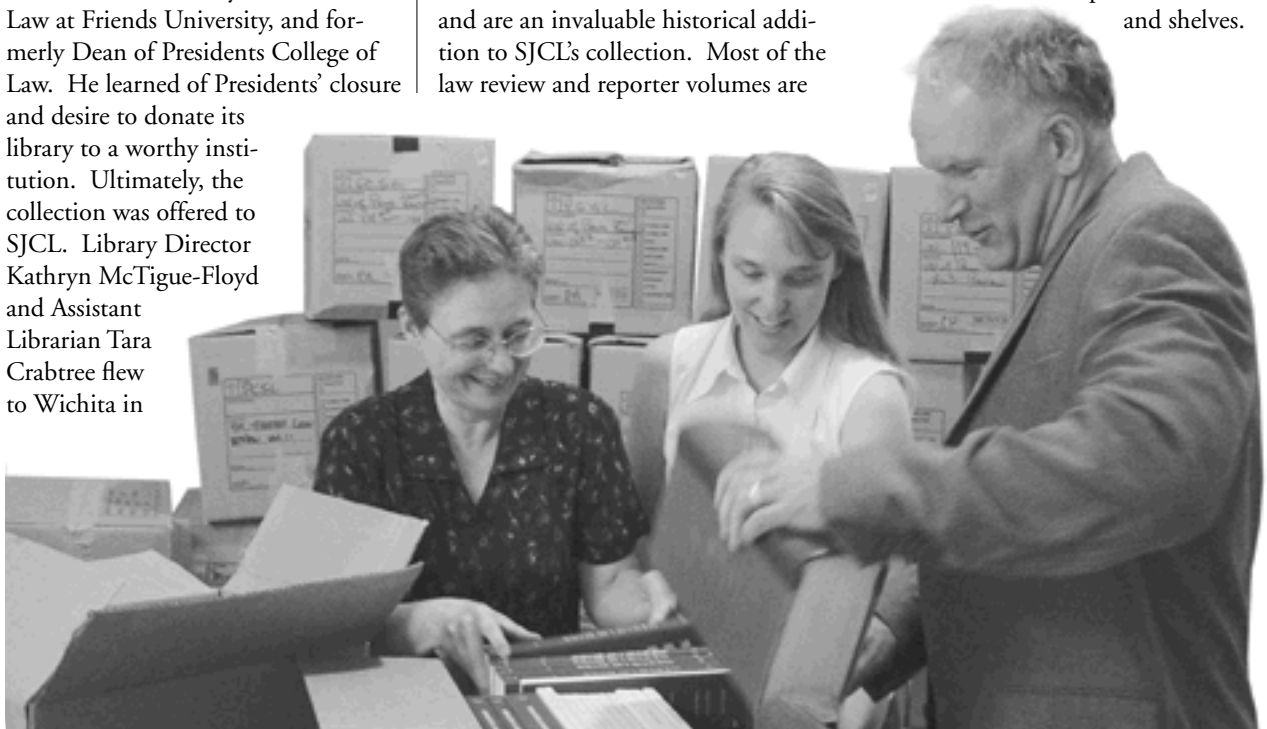
In the course of his visit to Friends, Noll met Dixie Madden, currently Director of the Garvey Institute of Law at Friends University, and formerly Dean of Presidents College of Law. He learned of Presidents' closure and desire to donate its library to a worthy institution. Ultimately, the collection was offered to SJCL. Library Director Kathryn McTigue-Floyd and Assistant Librarian Tara Crabtree flew to Wichita in

May to evaluate which volumes should be accepted for the SJCL collection.

The gift includes 200 different law review titles, most from the first volume of their publication, from law schools throughout the United States. A law review collection of this kind is mandated for ABA accreditation, as well as being an important resource for local scholars and practitioners. The collection also includes state reporters from years before the creation of the National Reporter System. Many of these volumes date from the 1800's and are an invaluable historical addition to SJCL's collection. Most of the law review and reporter volumes are

not accessible through any computer research system. The gift also included 224 library shelving units.

This gift brings the SJCL collection to nearly 50,000 volumes. The SJCL Library has been physically reorganized to house these volumes and the anticipated growth of the law reviews. SJCL is extremely grateful to Presidents College for this wonderful addition to its library. The City of Clovis and the Clovis Memorial District have generously provided additional storage space for books and shelves.



Janice Pearson, Dean; Kathryn McTigue-Floyd, Library Director; and Doug Noll, Board Chair

# J.D. & Peacemaking co-operative degree

**S**JCL and Fresno Pacific University (FPU) have created their first cooperative degree program. The announcement of the program featured the signing of the cooperative agreement between the two institutions in a ceremony at FPU. Upon successful completion of the program, the graduate earns both a Juris Doctorate and a Master of Arts in Peacemaking and Conflict Studies.

This cooperative degree program is unique in the world. It seeks to add a new set of skills to the lawyer's toolbox for resolving conflict and thus expand the employment opportunities for lawyers. In the Juris Doctorate program students are trained to understand conflict in terms of rights, responsibilities, and remedies and manage them through the legal system. This approach works well for some conflict, but fails in others, often leaving all parties dissatisfied with the outcomes. It has also overburdened the court system. The Masters in Peacemaking



(L-R) Fresno Pacific University President D. Merrill Ewert, Board of Trustees Chair Douglas Noll, Dean Janice Pearson, FPU Provost Patricia Anderson, and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Sally Perring.

and Conflict Studies trains students to understand conflict from a multi-disciplinary perspective, drawing on conflict theory, social psychology, neurophysiology, religion, and sociology. It teaches collaborative processes to restore relationships, where possible, as well as resolve rights.

Earning both degrees separately from each institution would require a student to take 126 units, 86 at SJCL and 40 at FPU. Under the cooperative

program, the student takes 108 units, 80 at SJCL and 28 at FPU. Students simultaneously enrolled in both degree programs can complete both degrees in four years attending full-time and five years attending part-time because of the mutual recognition of elective units.

This cooperative degree program puts SJCL students on the cutting edge of training in dispute resolution and conflict management.

# Roger J. Traynor Moot Court Competition

**F**or the fourth year in a row San Joaquin College of Law students placed in the top three in the state wide Roger J. Traynor Moot Court Competition. This year's par-

ticipants Zepure Attashian, Mark Roy and Greg Miskulin, won third place in the Best Brief category. Mark Roy also received an award as Outstanding Oral Advocate.



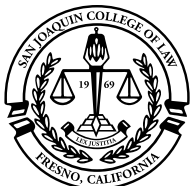
(L-R) Prof. Stan Boone, Greg Miskulin, Zepure Attashian, Mark Roy, and Prof. John Conklin.

The annual competition, sponsored by the Witkin Legal Institute, was developed by the California Young Lawyers Association to provide students with a contemporary legal exercise. It focuses on written

and oral arguments about a real case at the appellate court level. This year's showing by San Joaquin College of Law establishes, once again, that it continues to produce law students who excel in both the oral and written competitions.

The team competed against 17 schools including UC Davis, UC Hastings, Pepperdine, and UC Los Angeles.

The Moot Court competition was named after Roger J. Traynor, a well-known and respected California Supreme Court Justice, who served on the court from 1940-1970.



## Board of Trustees

Douglas Noll, J.D., *Chair*; Hon. James A. Ardaiz, *Vice-Chair*; John Loomis, J.D., *Treasurer*

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# 2004 Spring Banquet

Albert Ramirez Bail Bonds Scholarship  
**Shannon Pell**

Brown Scholarship for Women and Minorities  
**Griselda Torres**

The Business Journal Research & Writing Scholarship  
**Shannon Ransberger**

Judge Jane Cardoza Scholarship  
**Henry Tyra**

Delta Theta Phi Scholarship  
**Michelle Sassano, Angela Tapia, Rick Horowitz, Ron Nijmeddin, and Ed Johnson**

Family Law Scholarship  
**Shannon Ransberger**

The Founders' Scholarship  
**Gina Miller**

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**Ed Johnson**

LeRoy Long Memorial Scholarship  
**Lisa Ellis**

SJCL Alumni Association Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship  
**Sherrie Flynn**

Leon S. Peters Leadership Awards  
**Ana Maria Moore, Crissi Jelladian, Gabriel Brickey, Hallie Ambriz, Jimmy Rodriguez**

Pete P. Peters Leadership Awards  
**Cynthia Van Doren, Vanessa Serpa, Doug Comstock, Zepure Attashian, Eric Kapigian**

SJCL Alumni Association Spirit of SJCL  
**Brenda Linder**

SJCL Student Bar Association Law Scholarships  
**Mark King, Christine Nijjer, David Yengoyan**

SJCL Student Bar Association Paralegal Scholarship  
**Denise Chaffee**

Student of the Year  
**1<sup>st</sup> Jim Miller**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Greg Fox**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sherrie Flynn & Chris Wallace**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Brenda Linder**

Teacher of the Year  
**Full-Time - Jeff Purvis**  
**Adjunct - Michael Mallory**

Valedictorian  
**Ed Johnson**

Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship  
**Christine Carvalho**

Woman Lawyer Scholarship  
**Brenda Hook**

Eckhart Thompson Memorial Scholarship  
**Henry Tyra**



## Full-Time Faculty

Lawrence M. Artenian, Richard M. Cartier, Denise M. Kerner, Kathryn McTigue-Floyd, Janice L. Pearson, Sally A. Perring, Jeffrey G. Purvis

## Adjunct Faculty

Jesse J. Avila, Art Baggett, Barry J. Bennett, Jeff Bird, Hal Bolen, Stanley A. Boone, David M. Camenson, Lloyd G. Carter, Hon. Hilary Chittick, Jonathan B. Conklin, Tara Crabtree, Phil Cronin, Mark Cullers, Andrea DeShayes, John P. Eleazarian, Matthew Farmer, Tom Georgouses, Christine Goodrich, Gary Green, Rhonda Gregory, Jeff Hammerschmidt, Sara Hedgpeth-Harris, David Jenkins, Allan E. Junker, Hon. David Kalemkarian, Kathi K. Kesselman, Michael P. Mallery, Jeff Manning-Cartwright, Deanna Martinez, William T. McLaughlin II, Mark D. Miller, Douglas E. Noll, Kimberly Nystrom-Geist, Hon. Lawrence J. O'Neill, Harry Pascuzzi, Hon. Rosendo Pena, Jr., Curtis Rindlisbacher, Rose Safarian, Deborah Sandoval, Linda Sciaqua, Sarah A. Schmidt, Michael Sheltzer, Michael Smith, Hon. Mark Snauffer, Adam Stirrup, David J. Weiland, Hon. Denise L. Whitehead, Bob Whitlock, Lynda Williams, E. Robert Wright, Jacquelyn Yates.

*San Joaquin College of Law thanks the following individuals and organizations for their gifts. Their generosity helps SJCL deliver an outstanding academic program to students.*

**August 1, 2003 through  
May 31, 2004**

**Gifts of \$5,000 or more**

Albert Ramirez Bail Bonds  
The Bertha and John Garabedian  
Charitable Foundation  
The Leon S. Peters Foundation  
The Pete P. Peters Foundation

**Gifts of \$1,000 to 2,499**

Baker, Manock & Jensen  
Ross Borba, Jr.  
Brown & Peel  
James K. and Carol Sellers Herbert  
Hon. Richard (^85) and Kim Lee  
Douglas E. Noll  
Kimberly Sweidy (^85) and Raymond  
Stata

**Gifts of \$500 to 999**

Baker, Peterson & Franklin, CPA, LLP  
and Dennis Veeh  
Hal H. Bolen, II  
Michel J. Bryant  
Cole, Fisher, Bosquez-Flores, Cole &  
O'Keefe  
HRH of Northern California  
The Fresno Business Journal  
Michael Geis  
Allison Gong (^96)  
Katherine Hart (^77)  
Patricia Mattson-Markell (^85)  
Sally Ann Perring  
Jean Evans Thompson

**Gifts of \$250 to 499**

Randy Ataide (^86)  
Mark Blum (^92)  
Hon. Jane Cardoza  
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Traci Fritzier (^97)  
Joan Lassley  
John Loomis  
Jennifer Morrison (^99)  
Ron Nissila (^96)  
Michelle Oleksa (^99)  
Hon. Robert Oliver  
Janice Pearson  
Dr. Vivian Vidoli  
Hon. Charles Wieland (^83)  
Jim Witherow (^87)

**Gifts of \$100 to 249**

Anonymous  
Carolyn Baca (^84)  
Richard M. Caglia, II (^99)  
Denise Cahill  
Richard Cartier  
Fran Christiansen (^79)  
Peter Cowper (^88)  
Entertainment Publications  
Donn Furman (^93)  
Donald Germino  
F. John Gist (^92)  
Marina Gonzales (^93)  
Tom Hicks (^92)  
Francine Kanne (^88)  
Mark King  
Mary Lane (^88)  
Bruce Leichty  
Jeff Levinson (^91)  
Susie and Fred Osterberg  
Sally and Marty Pupka  
W. Scott Quinlan (^81)  
Frank Samples  
Joanne Sanoian (^82)  
C.J. Secula (^02)  
Stephen Sefton (^78)  
Earl Smittcamp  
John Suhr (^78)

**Other**

Mary Ann Bluhm (^78)  
Cartridge Recycling Center  
Club Habanos  
Club Rio  
Kevin Cook (^99)  
Katherine Coolidge (^79)  
Stefanie Krause-Cota (^00)  
Rita Davenport  
Fresno-Clovis Driving School  
Craig Fry (^00)  
Laser Recycling  
Linda Geis  
David Hollingsworth (^99)  
Linda Kelly (^86)  
Leslie Moore (^96)  
Myers & Mayfield  
Motschieder, Michaelides & Wishon  
Elizabeth O'Neill  
Alice Pettit  
Picadilly Inn Hotels  
Mio Quatraro (^74)  
Kathryn Vierra  
Laura Kyle Walls (^02)  
Tamara Pulos Smith (^02) and Wey-  
mouth Pest Control

**Donations of Books to the Library**

Katherine Donovan  
Donald Franson  
James K. & Carol Sellers Herbert  
Faith Potter  
Matthew Rines  
Stammer, McKnight, Barnum &  
Bailey  
Philip Tavlian

# Alumni Profiles

*The year 2004 is the Tenth Anniversary of the graduation of the Class of 1994.*

## 1994

### David R. Alderson

David was an attorney with Hargrove and Costanzo in Fresno doing municipal law and tax-exempt bond, through 1998. He then achieved a life-long dream to leave California (law license notwithstanding) and ended up in the Nashville, Tennessee area. It took awhile, but he finally found his niche working for an employee benefits consulting and actuarial firm. They provide consulting, administrative and record keeping services with regards to employer retirement programs and health and welfare plans. He provides technical services (documents, notices, research, government filings) relating to ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code, COBRA, the DOL and the like, as well as advising clients on how to establish and maintain benefit programs.

He has been engaged for almost a year to a wonderful woman, Micail Samiere. They have been dating for three. She is an Accountant and COO of a large medical practice in Nashville. One of these days, he'll take a minute to run down to the justice of the peace. She's from Los Angeles originally, and since David also hails from Southern California, it's ironic that they would travel 2000 miles to find each other.

In his very little spare time he enjoys playing tennis.

His greatest memories of SJCL are his wonderful study partners, Lori Mayfield, Eileen Fystrom and Randy Risner.

### Joseph Todd Armas

After graduating from SJCL, Todd worked with Sal Blanco's firm through mid – 1998. In January of 1999 Todd opened his own firm with his long time friend, Marcus Torigian. His cases include personal injury, litigation, and estate planning matters. Todd is also an adjunct faculty member at Fresno Community College and University of Phoenix.

Todd was married in 2002 to Janene, a nurse with Fresno Unified School District. They have two dogs, Amanda, a German Shepard mix, and Bear, a Border Collie. Todd recently moved onto land near Sky Park.

Todd is a sports enthusiast. He has season tickets to football and basketball games at California State University, Fresno, attends Raider football games, and plays tennis competitively. He is a member of the St. Agnes Men's Club.

For Todd, law school was not easy, but he has no regrets. The strain of all the reading involved in his law school education finally forced him to get glasses. Todd remembers that Rich Cartier, his Community Property Professor, was also his fourth grade teacher.

### Steven Douglas Avery

After graduation from law school, Steve clerked for Mick Marderosian's firm, Marderosian, Runyon, Cercone & Lehman. After receiving his bar results he became an associate of the firm in November 1994. He primarily handled insurance defense cases. In February of 1999, Steve joined the Fresno County Counsel. He handles eminent domain cases involving road projects, some land use planning, water law litigation, and some cases

for the risk management department. He also defends the Fresno County Sheriff's Office in cases claiming violations of civil rights.

Steve is married to Audrey. They have two children, Lauren, born in October 1995, and Cole, born in August 1997.

In his off time, Steve enjoys running. He is also very active with his children, including taking them to swim meets. He believes that it is important to build a solid relationship with children when they are young. For several years Steve was a member of the Deacon Board of the First Baptist Church in Kingsburg where he also served as Chairman of the Board.

His memories of SJCL include the patience of the instructors. He remembers some students asking very odd questions in class while the instructors attempted to guide the students along the path, until finally the light went on. While at SJCL, he built strong relationships with his fellow classmates. By going through the process together, a network for survival was created among the students, rather than an environment of competition. That network has continued on in the legal community as they practice law, helping each other whenever needed.

### Allen Bennett

In Allen's last year of law school, he clerked at McCormick Barstow Shepard Wayte & Carruth LLP. Upon passing the bar, he stayed on as an associate for one year. He worked for Central Green Company/Land West as in-house counsel for three years. For the past 5 years he has worked at Sagaser, Franson & Jones. Allen recently accepted a position with Centex

# Graduation

On May 29, 2004 San Joaquin College of Law celebrated its Thirtieth Graduation at the William Saroyan Theater in Fresno. SJCL was honored to have California Supreme Court Associate Justice Joyce L. Kennard, as commencement speaker. Edward J. Johnson delivered the Valedictorian address.

**The students graduating at the top of their class were:** Edward Jeppe Johnson, *High Honors*; Michelle Earline Sassano, *High Honors*; Lewis Albert Martinez, *Honors*; Thomas William Casa, *Distinction*; Cynthia Marie Van Doren, *Distinction*. **Congratulations also to:** Deborah Ann Blevins, Gabriel Leonard Brickey, Denise Cahill, Sofian Solomon Dawood, Suzanne E. Dimino, Mark David Edwards, Mario Espinoza, Ella Marie R. Floresca, Debbie Hansen, Susan Ann Hemb, Maribel Hernandez, Cristina Michelle Jelladian, Brenda Ann Linder, Alex Ryen Merriam, Gina Teresa Miller, Christine Lee Nijjer, Raed Joudeh Nijmeddin, Kathleen Coleen Page, Antonio Rodriguez, Jr., Gladys Ortiz Rodriguez, Jimmy Joe Rodriguez, Judy M. Rogers, Ron Statler, Jason Duane Taylor, Humberto Reynoso Valero, Jr., Darren E. Van Doren, Jennifer Lassley Walters, and Brent Charles Woodward.



Commencement speaker Associate Justice Joyce L. Kennard



Gladys Rodriguez and family



Farewell remarks by Professors Jon Conklin and Stanley Boone



Denise Cahill, Tom Casa, Sofian Dawood, and Mark Edwards



Crissi Jelladian and family



Valedictorian  
Edward Johnson



Maribel Hernandez



Antonio Rodriguez



Brent Woodward and family



Ron Nijmeddin and guests



They all cheered!



Gabriel Brickey



Deborah Blevins

## Congratulations

FEBRUARY 2004

### BAR PASSERS

Craig Collins  
Devon Darrow  
Diana Gibson  
Hugo Gomez-Vidal  
Paul Lancaster  
Jonette Machado  
Sean McLeod  
Edgar Page  
Jun Payoyo

as their Director of Land Acquisition for Central California.

Allen has been married for eighteen years to Stephanie. They have three sons, Jordan (16), Zachary (14), Jacob (6) and an adopted daughter from South Korea, Lily (3).

One of Allen's first cases ended up at the United States Supreme Court. The case was *Central Green Co. v. U.S.* Although he did not get to do the oral argument, he was at the counsel table during the argument. Central Green Co. won a unanimous decision.

Allen stays active coaching football, baseball, and soccer, water skiing, boating, cooking, and spending time with his family. He also volunteers his skills as a grill master for many fund raisers.

Allen's favorite memories of SJCL are of studying for the bar with Mark Pasculli and Robert Romanacce.

Everyday they would study at the old school on Shields. After several hours of studying they would go stir crazy and play practical jokes on each other. Colin Kooyumjian, another study buddy, would often study without shoes. One day while Colin was in the bathroom, Allen, Mark, and Robert, put maple syrup on the floor outside of the restroom, vaseline on the door handles, and feathers just outside the syrup. When Colin walked out from the bathroom he was surprised with feet covered in maple syrup and feathers. Allen says "It was hilarious watching him running after Robert wearing what looked like feather slippers."

### Cheryl Browns

After graduation from law school Cheryl started her own law practice. She handles primarily Family law, Civil Litigation, and Business law.

Cheryl's daughter Monique recently graduated from medical school and her son, Michael, graduated from California State University, Fresno with a degree in Finance. He is currently seeking employment other than with his parents.

In her free time, Cheryl docents at Ano Nuevo State Reserve, where she gives "sex and violence" tours of the Northern Elephant Seal Colony. She is also an avid scuba diver, having been on scuba diving trips around the world.

Cheryl served on the Board of Directors for the Fresno County Bar Association from 2000-2002. She does fee arbitrations for the Fresno Bar Association and serves as Judge Pro Tem for small claims. She is avoiding doing family law Pro Tem even though she has the training.

### Paul G. Carpio

While in law school, Paul was employed with the law offices of Craig A. Davis. He continued to work there for a year and a half after passing the bar doing plaintiff personal injury work. Paul then joined Juan M. Falcon and Associates doing criminal defense, personal injury, and sexual harassment cases. This last year he opened his own practice doing criminal defense, personal injury, and sexual harassment cases.

Paul is single. He enjoys spending time with his four nephews and niece. When away from the office, Paul takes short trips to Las Vegas and San Diego as often as possible.

Paul remembers heading to Red Robin after class with classmates Juan Falcon, Todd Armas, and Jim Garcia to watch Monday night football. Occasionally, they would sneak out early if it was a good game night.

### Irma Carerra

Irma did not take the California bar exam for two years after graduation from SJCL because her husband's employment caused him to be transferred to Texas. When she returned to California and finally took the Three Day Quiz, she passed on the first attempt and immediately went to work for the Los Angeles County Counsel's office. She represented the County Social Services Department in dependency cases. After working for the County for 1½ years, Irma opened her own practice representing parents in dependency cases. She then went to work for the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles representing children in dependency cases. She loved all these positions and obtained a tremendous amount of trial experience.

### Staff

**Janice L. Pearson**, Dean; **Sally A. Perring**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; **Sheryl Castro**, Director of Paralegal Program and Director of Placement Services; **Ken Coyle**, M.I.S. Director; **Tara Crabtree**, Assistant Librarian; **Mark Enns**, Director of Marketing & Public Relations; **Maureen Hayes**, Assistant to Chief Financial Officer; **Lonzetta Hightower**, Student Services Assistant; **Joan Lassley**, Alumni Liaison / Facilities Administrator; **Jeannie Lewis**, Director of Financial Aid; **Katherine Maxwell**, Academic Services Specialist; **Kathryn McTigue-Floyd**, Library Director; **Joyce Morodomi**, Director of Student Services; **Jorene Phillips**, Receptionist; **Rick Rodriguez**, Maintenance Supervisor; **Patricia Smith**, Financial Services Specialist; **Jill Waller-Randles**, Chief Financial Officer; **Gwen Watt**, Regulatory Compliance Officer; **Kasi Welte**, Administrative Assistant to the Deans



Irma's husband, Mario, has worked for many years in television broadcasting. In September of 2003 he was transferred to Colorado. Irma and their two sons, Diego and Andrew, are now Coloradans. Irma is gearing up to take the Colorado bar in a year or so. The Carrera four love to travel having recently journeyed to Alaska, Cancun, Washington D.C., Miami, and Boston.

Irma said at the time she decided to go to law school, SJCL was her only option. In retrospect, she is so glad that she did go to SJCL. She feels she got more individual attention with small classes and a dedicated faculty and staff. When she interviewed for the LA County Counsel position, she had to participate in a mock trial. She believes the education she obtained at SJCL enabled her to do well in that simulation.

### Lloyd Carter

Lloyd's employment since law school has been at the California Attorney General's Office as a Deputy Attorney General in the Criminal Division. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member at SJCL teaching Water Law. He continues to write occasional Op-Ed pieces for the *Fresno Bee*. Among Lloyd's accomplishments are arguing two cases before the California Supreme Court.

Lloyd is married to Becky who is a Deputy District Attorney for Fresno County. He has two sons, Chad, who lives in Fresno, and Adam, who lives in Los Angeles. He is very proud to announce their first grandchild, Chase Matthew Carter, who was born to Chad and his wife, Susan, on December 5, 2003.

Lloyd plays in a two-man band, named the "Almost Bros." with his brother, Mark. They have recorded a "CD" of cover songs and originals. He also enjoys traveling, including trips to

## A better place to relax

SJCL thanks the graduating class of 2004 and the Student Bar Association for a much needed refurbishing of SJCL's student lounge. Two new overstuffed couches with matching carpet, paint, and window treatments makes it a better place to relax.



Italy and Alaska, and staying at their mountain cabin near Bass Lake. Lloyd has been very active in the community as President of California Save Our Streams Council, chair of the Underground Gardens Conservancy and chair of the CERIAL Foundation, which provides summer recreation programs in Fresno for underprivileged children. He is a mentor in the Volunteers in Parole (VIP) program, which matches local attorneys with recent parolees to help them re-adjust into society. Lloyd hosts a monthly radio show about environmental issues on KFCF, 88.1 FM.

Lloyd's special SJCL memories include making many friends—students, instructors and staff—whom he will always cherish. He remembers cracking jokes in class and making even the professors laugh. He was a starving student, driving a beat up old car without air conditioning, and suffering through the inadequate heating and cooling system in the old campus on Shields Avenue. Winning the Moot Court competition with teammate, Mary Jarvis, was a high point along with correcting Professor Purvis on a point of Constitutional law. He remembers gathering in the hallway with other students to watch TV on the night the Gulf War started. He was the caretaker of the lawyer jokes

bulletin board in the main hallway. He maintains that lawyer jokes are good for all of us.

### Kathy Chandler

After graduating from law school, Kathy first worked for the Law Offices of Harry Pascuzzi and then for Myers & Overstreet. Five years ago she became the Research Attorney for the Tulare County Superior Court in Visalia – the only research attorney for twenty judges. Her work is endlessly varied so she is never bored.

Kathy has two children. Her daughter, Katrina, is a TV reporter in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her son, Robbie, works for Terry Tull Construction in Fresno and serves as a youth pastor. Robbie has two sons, Kathy's much-loved grandsons. Kathy loves tennis and golf and still dabbles in real estate.

Kathy's best memory of law school is the friends she made. She is still in touch with many of them. She says the SJCL faculty were very influential in her life and that law school totally turned her life around.

Continued Page 10

## Jim Cipolla

Since his graduation from SJCL Jim has worked in private practice with the firms of Baker, Manock & Jensen and Fishman, Larsen & Goldring. He currently is General Counsel and Secretary for Gottschalks Inc.

In June Jim celebrated his 29th anniversary with his wonderful and supportive wife, Fran. Fran and Jim have two children, Michael (19) and Andrew (17).

When asked about hobbies or interests Jim responded “work, travel, work, golf, work, reading and work.” Outside of his work at Gottschalks, Jim is a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Valley Business Incubator.

Jim fondly remembers his Torts instructor, Jan Pearson. Not only did she teach Torts, but also and more importantly, she tried to teach his first year class how to “think like lawyers”, a daunting task. Jim highly recommends that a class taught by Jan, whatever subject, be a requirement for first year students. He appreciated that most of the professors had practical legal knowledge because the majority of them were practicing lawyers. Jim also remembers the friendships he formed, and camaraderie between students he experienced while at SJCL.

## William Ernst Davis

Bill worked for Elder, Anderson, & Weakley as corporate counsel for 3 and a-half years after graduation from SJCL. From 1997-2003, he worked for A & L Products. He currently works for Mullen & Fillipi doing Workman’s Compensation defense. He loves his job.

Bill is very happily married to his soul mate whom he met while a student at SJCL. She took his student ID photo and it was love at first sight. Michelle was the MCLE coordinator at the time. She is now a Public Health nurse in Santa Rosa.

Bill and Michelle enjoy traveling to the coast whenever they can muster up some free time. Bill also belongs to the North Bay Workman’s Compensation Association.

Meeting Michelle was one of the highlights of Bill’s time at SJCL. His favorite class while in law school was Constitutional Law with Jeff Purvis. He has fond memories of trips to the Donut Shop for an apple fritter that was always there and waiting for him. Bill became close friends with Carl Henderson and Carl’s wife, Mary. They remain close friends today and visit whenever possible.

## Lucille Goins Dimmick

Luci has worked for Coleman & Horowitz since graduation from law school. She specializes in business litigation, representation of community associations, commercial collections and construction-related matters.

Luci is married to Bob. They have two children, Heather, 31, living in Florida, and David, 21, attending Fresno City College. Luci’s son-in-law, Danny, is stationed at Tyndell Air Force Base and is soon to be deployed to Iraq.

When she has the opportunity, Luci travels to Florida to visit with her daughter and two grandchildren. She enjoys historical fiction. She is on the Board of Infant of Prague, a local adoption agency, which recently celebrated its 50th year in providing adoption services to the Valley. She is also a member of California Real

Estate Women (CREW) and Community Association Institute (CAI).

As to law school, Luci recalls studying hard for exams and sitting on the wall at the Shields building during breaks since that was the only student lounge.

## Robin Flowers

While in law school Robin worked in the Clerk’s Office and the Library at the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Upon graduation, Robin became a Research Attorney, a position she loved and remained in until her retirement in 2002. Robin has a great interest in old books and conducts a small business selling vintage books on the Internet.

## Albert Garcia

After graduation Albert spent 5 years working at the Tulare County District Attorney’s Office. He then opened the Law Offices of Albert Garcia in Visalia. He handles juvenile dependency and criminal cases. He is continuing the mortgage business he owned during law school.

Albert is married to Linda, and has three children, 14, 10, and 6. A cat named Cleo completes the family. To escape the heat of the Central Valley, Albert enjoys visiting the coast, especially Pismo. He frequently visits Las Vegas and loves short cruises 3-4 nights long. He is looking forward to taking an extended cruise someday. He is on the Board of the Tulare County Bar and plays on the Public Defender’s softball team.

When asked about his SJCL memories, Albert responded, “I’m speechless. When you asked me that question, Jan, the four years flashed before my eyes.”

## Lori Mayfield

Lori clerked for Smurr, Henry & Gelegan through law school and afterwards until the firm dissolved. She went to work for Myers & Overstreet shortly after the bar exam. In 2000, it became Myers, Overstreet & Mayfield and then in 2002 it became Myers & Mayfield. She works in civil litigation doing mostly business and construction related work.

Lori borrows other people's children, but lives with an adorable golden retriever named Madison and two cats, Murphy and Corky. She is a graduate of Leadership Fresno, Class XV.

Lori likes to travel as well as watch baseball in her very little spare time.

Since law school, Lori has been very busy. She was on the board of the Fresno County Young Lawyers until they put her out to pasture. She served on the All America City committee that brought that honor home to Fresno in 2000. Currently she is an officer of Fresno Business & Professional Women, the past-president and board member of the Volunteer Center of Fresno County, member of Leadership Fresno Alumni Association, an advisory member of the San Joaquin Chapter of the Professional Association of Specialty Contractors, chair of the Clovis Babe Ruth Facilities Group and a volunteer for Buchanan Babe Ruth and the San Joaquin River Parkway.

While at SJCL she recalls cocktails at the Silver Dollar after most exams in the first and second years. She remembers studying and arguing with her study group of Eileen Fystrom, Randy Risner and David Alderson and her alternate group of Carl Henderson and Bill Davis. She especially liked using the Law In A Flash cards. They had great fact patterns; she always wanted to have a few beers and write a few problems for them when she grew up.

Another memorable event happened at the end of her first year. She was working as a producer at Channel 47 and had had a particularly bad day the day of her civil procedure final. She sat for the exam and left there certain she had flunked it. A few weeks later, while she was at the television station, she received a page that she had a telephone call. It was Oliver Wanger. Her first thought was that he was calling her to ask what happened to her on that exam. Actually, he was just calling to give her some information about speakers at his swearing in ceremony to the federal judgeship so that she could pass it on to the news crew covering the story. By the way, she passed the exam with flying colors.

## Randy Risner

Shortly after graduation from SJCL, Randy started a law practice with Randy Moreno as an associate. The firm focused on the representation of cities and public utilities. Concurrently, Randy was the City Attorney for Mendota and Farmersville and general counsel for the Earlimart School District. In 1998, Randy joined the law offices of Hargrove and Costanzo. In June of this year his new firm became Bush, Ackley, Milich, Hallinan and Risner. Randy currently is the City Attorney for the City of Guadalupe and general counsel for Biola Community Services District. Randy has become proficient in the area of public finance. He recently finished a bond project for the City of Parlier and is currently working on a bond project for Kingsburg.

Randy is single with three boys ages 10, 5, and 3. He is kept very busy with his children's activities including sporting activities and social schedules. Randy recently started dating Dr. Judi Krogstad, a local pediatrician.

Randy has received several awards for his work as a JAG officer in the California State Military Reserve, including the Army Achievement Medal in 2004.

After 9/11/01, Randy joined the California State Military Reserve as a JAG Captain. He works as general counsel for his unit, advising the commander and staff concerning a variety of military and legal issues. He has also developed an interest in religious studies.

Randy's fondest memories of SJCL are the close relationships he formed. His study group consisted of David Alderson, Lori Mayfield, and Eileen Fystrom. He remembers arguing with Lori over various legal issues while David and Eileen watched and hoped they would shut up. As a study group they all bonded and became close friends. Randy says "We're still friends today."

## Robert L. Romanacce

Robert currently works as a Fresno County Deputy District Attorney. He is single and enjoys classic auto restoration and European travel. His community involvement is trying to keep criminals off the streets.

In remembering his time at SJCL Robert responded "My best memories are of the 1994 summer when a group of us were studying for the bar. I recall harassing all the SJCL staff mercilessly. Also, I have fond memories of Alan Bennett experiencing an emotional outburst regarding the seriousness of bar exam studies after I made a joke in bar review class. Bennett's reaction was funnier than the original joke. I also recall Judge Ardaiz losing sleep over the fact that someone was constantly defacing the student class sign-in sheet with personal notations next to students' names. (Naturally, the culprit was never identified beyond a reasonable doubt.) I could go on forever with law school anecdotes . . . since that is what helped me survive the ordeal."

Principal Authors:

**Kasi Welte and Janice Pearson**

## We want updates

We want to know what you are doing. Include your current address, family information, recent accomplishments, and any other information or photos you would like to provide. Then send us the information by:

Fax: (559) 323-5566, Email: [menns@sjcl.edu](mailto:menns@sjcl.edu), or Mail: SJCL, Attn: Mark Enns, 901 5th Street, Clovis, CA 93612.

## Bookstore

The Bookstore has a complete listing of the books it carries at [www.sjcl.edu/bookstore.asp](http://www.sjcl.edu/bookstore.asp)



We invite all alumni, faculty and board members to join us for a reunion to celebrate 30 Years of Graduates on:  
**September 10th, 2004, 6 - 9 PM, SJCL's parking lot**  
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