

Inter Alia

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The Newsletter of
San Joaquin
College of Law

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Graduation Ceremonies Highlight Academic Excellence In Class Of '91

Commencement ceremonies for the San Joaquin College of Law Class of '91 marked the 20-Year Anniversary of the Law School as 22 graduates received their Juris Doctor degrees and two graduates were awarded the Masters in Taxation.

This year's graduates produced an exceptional number of academic honorees, including four graduating with Distinction, one graduating with Honors and one graduate achieving High Honors.

The CSUF Satellite Student Union once again served as the site of this year's ceremonies, held on Friday, May 31. Justice Nickolas J. Dibiaso delivered the commencement address to a gathering of nearly 500 family, friends, staff and faculty. The invocation and benediction were offered by SJCL Board of Trustees member Dr. Arthur J. Wiebe.

Presentation of the J.D. Class was given by the Hon. Lawrence J. O'Neill and presentation of the Masters in Taxation Class was made by James Shepard. With the graduation of this year's class, SJCL alumni now number 376.

Graduates who received the degree of Juris Doctor are as follows: Kenneth Bryan Brock; Michel James Bryant, (*With Distinction*); Rayma Church; Deborah

Ann Coe, (*Valedictorian and With High Honors*); Neil Lloyd Enmark; Sheri Marie Fisher; William Erman Gunn, (*With Distinction*); Martha Gustafson; Judith F. Hall; Terry C. Hillblom; Michael Robert Keitz; Jeffrey Laurence Levinson; Sharon L. Madsen; Steven Edward Meyer; Sheri Ann Rich Mount; Kevin O'Casey; I. Jean Pinkerton, (*With Distinction*); Loretta M. Ramos; Mary Katherine Rau, (*With Distinction*); Robert C. Schmalte; Glen



SJCL's class of '91 listens to this year's commencement address, delivered by Justice Nickolas J. Dibiaso.

Everett Williford; Maureen C. Wolf. Graduates who received the Masters in Taxation are David W. Bennett and Georgia M. Hyndman, (*With Honors*).

Congratulations to all of our 1991 graduates! ■

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

San Joaquin College of Law is more than a collection of classrooms where a handful of students agonize over learning the law. It is rapidly becoming a regional resource contributing to the richness of one of the fastest growing areas in California.

On June 14, 1991, the first issue of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review returned completed from the publishers. With articles ranging from the GATT talks to migrant farmworker problems, it is timely, scholarly and well-written. Since no other journal focuses on the legal problems



of agriculture, it fills a national need.

The students and faculty who *created* – and I emphasize the word – the law review deserve congratulations beyond my ability to express. They critically reviewed and edited every word, checked every authority cited for accuracy and designed the format. Moreover, they formulated the entire organizational structure of the law review team - no small task - considering they had no real model from which to learn.

No law school of our size that we could discover, especially one with all evening students, had ever attempted such an ambitious project. I hope you will take advantage of any opportunity to read the Review and to subscribe. We anticipate the Review will be published annually for a couple of years while we finish setting the framework, and then transition to a biannual publication.

To further focus attention on agricultural issues, SJCL will hold the first Agricultural Advocacy Competitions in February of 1992. Teams from principally ABA-accredited law schools from throughout the nation will come to Fresno to participate in four days of moot court, closing argument and persuasive speaking competitions. The very dedicated triumvirate of SJCL Moot Court Director Sarah Schmidt, C.D. Harbottle and Robert Hurlbett have made this first for SJCL (and the nation) a reality.

During 1990-91, SJCL has a grant from the U. S. Department of Education, SJCL's first such grant, to produce four video tapes for use in English As a Second Language classes for Hmong immigrants. These tapes focus on everyday legal issues faced by individuals new to American systems, laws and cultures. The videos use action scenarios to illustrate predicaments involving burglary of one's home, landlord-tenant law, supervision of juveniles, and the legal system itself. Aside from the stellar performances of the non-professional actors (including school staff, 4th year students and members of several local Hmong families), the effectiveness of the videos comes from the foundational materials—discussion topics comparing cultures, word searches and games. Student director Karen McCarter also deserves credit for her inventiveness in coordinating the project. Out-of-state inquiries have already been received for copies of these videos by groups who had merely heard of the quality of the videos by word of mouth.

Finally, SJCL has plunged full force into providing programs to satisfy Minimum Continuing Legal Education requirements. Working with the Fresno County Bar Association and other local bar groups, SJCL will attempt to insure ample opportunities for continuing legal education at affordable prices in the Fresno area. Using a combination of Rutter tapes and original programs, SJCL will offer two programs a month beginning in September of this year. While the bulk of the program fees will be used to defray presentation costs, some will be used to support other law school programs. Thus, the benefits are pumped back into the community, rather than paid to an out-of-town commercial entity with no commitment to the San Joaquin Valley community.

In conjunction with MCLE, SJCL has recently completed the design of a computer program created to compile program registration and attendance. The program gives us the ability to track an individual attorney's compliance with the MCLE requirements over time, if he or she desires. SJCL will make this service available at a modest fee to any interested attorney. Through the service, a subscriber could determine at any time his or her progress in completing MCLE requirements. Warning notices in advance of compliance period expirations are provided.

All of these activities are a reflection of an institution that is a valuable regional resource. SJCL has come a very long way since 1969.

Janice L. Pearson
Dean

FACULTY 1990-91

L A W

Marc C. Ament
Hon. James A. Ardaiz
Lawrence M. Artenian
Barry J. Bennett
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
Hon. Vincent J. McGraw
Patience Milrod
Douglas E. Noll
Hon. Lawrence J. O'Neill
Edwin A. Oeser
Janice L. Pearson
James H. Peloian
Sally A. Perring
Sarah A. Schmidt
Jack Tipton
Riley Walter
Hon. Oliver W. Wanger
Robert Wright

P A R A L E G A L

Lawrence M. Artenian
Frank Butler
Gwen Carrigan
Michael Carrigan
Richard Cartier
Peter Cummings
Kent Hamlin
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 Peloian
James Shepard
Robert S. Swanton
Curtis Wong

New SJCL Staffer To Coordinate CLE Seminars

Recognizing the need for a full-time individual to plan for the many requirements that CLE sets forth, SJCL hired Michele Creighton last April as the Law School's Coordinator of Continuing Legal Education. Michele has wasted little time in designing a comprehensive CLE program for Valley attorneys. She is quickly becoming the local expert on CLE rules and related issues. In the following article, Michele discusses some of the more common concerns facing local attorneys and potential providers.

With the start of the Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) compliance period rapidly approaching, SJCL, many local law firms and local attorneys are gearing up for action. To give you a clearer picture of MCLE rules and regulations, and the role SJCL will play in MCLE, I would like to share with you some of the common questions I am being asked:

When does MCLE begin and how many hours must I complete?

MCLE begins for all active members of the State Bar (with some exceptions) on February 1, 1992. The State Bar has divided the membership into three compliance groups based on the first letter of the attorney's last name:

- GROUP 1: A – G
- GROUP 2: H – M
- GROUP 3: N – Z

In order to stagger the compliance date for the three groups, the length of the first cycle varies for each group. Initial compliance periods and hours required are listed below:

- GROUP 1:
February 1, 1992 – January 31, 1995
36 Months; 36 Required Hours
- GROUP 2:
February 1, 1992 – January 31, 1994
24 Months; 24 Required Hours
- GROUP 3:
February 1, 1992 – January 31, 1993
12 Months; 12 Required Hours

After completion of the initial compliance period, each group begins a new 36-month cycle with 36 required hours—and reports in every 3 years thereafter.

Are there restrictions on the 36 required hours?

During the initial compliance period, the following hours and areas of study are mandatory:

GROUP 1 – Of the 36 required hours:
At least 8 hours must be in the areas of legal ethics and/or law practice management,

with at least 4 of the 8 hours in legal ethics.

At least 1 hour must be in the area of prevention, detection, and treatment of substance abuse and emotional distress.

At least 1 hour must be in the area of elimination of bias in the legal profession.

GROUP 2 – Of the 24 required hours:

At least 5 hours must be in the areas of legal ethics and/or law practice management, with at least 3 of the 5 hours in legal ethics.

During the initial compliance period only, Group 2 is not required to complete the mandatory hours in the areas of substance abuse/emotional distress and elimination of bias.

GROUP 3 – Of the 12 required hours:

At least 3 hours must be in the areas of legal ethics and/or law practice management, with at least 1.5 of the 3 hours in legal ethics.

During the initial compliance period only, Group 3 is not required to complete the mandatory hours in the areas of substance abuse/emotional distress and elimination of bias.

After completion of the initial compliance period, and commencement of a new 36-month cycle, all groups must complete the 10 mandatory hours as outlined above for Group 1.

What about participatory credit vs. self-study credit?

Participatory credit may include any of the following:

- A. Attending approved educational activities, such as lectures or panel discussions.
- B. Viewing approved videotapes or listening to approved audio tapes in an interactive setting.
- C. Speaking in approved educational activities, including preparatory time.

D. Attending and satisfactorily completing a law school class.

E. Teaching a class at a law school.

Self-study may include any of the following:

A. Viewing approved videotapes or listening to approved audio tapes.

B. Preparing written materials for publication in an approved journal.

C. Participating in self-assessment testing.

During the initial compliance period, the following number of participatory and self-study hours are allowed:

GROUP	Minimum Participatory	Maximum Self-Study	Total Hours
GROUP 1	18	18	36
GROUP 2	12	12	24
GROUP 3	6	6	12

After completion of the initial compliance period and commencement of a new 36-month cycle, all groups are restricted to a maximum of 18 hours of self-study as outlined above for Group 1.

How can I be sure an educational activity is "approved"?

Providers of MCLE educational activities must state in promotional materials whether a seminar or videotape or journal meets the standards of the State Bar for MCLE. Providers are also required to state the number of credit hours per activity, and whether the activity meets any of requirements for mandatory areas of study.

It is the responsibility of each individual attorney to be sure he or she is participating in an educational activity that has either been approved by the State Bar or sponsored by an approved provider. Individual attorneys may also seek credit for attending an educational activity that meets the MCLE requirements but has not been previously approved.

Can I get retroactive credit?

Retroactive credit is available for approved educational activities on or after September 1, 1991. Only participatory credit can be applied to the retroactive period.

What happens if I don't comply with the MCLE requirements?

The State Bar will require each attorney to verify the completion of his or her MCLE requirements at the end of each compliance period. The State Bar will also perform random audits (just like the I.R.S.) to verify completion of approved educational activities. Non-compliant attorneys will be given 60 days to complete

Please see CLE Seminars on page 6



*MCLE Coordinator
Michele Creighton*



FACULTY NOTES

John Evans, Ph.D., J.D., took over the Business Organization class for the late Jack Tipton. He also met with and added two people to the National Editorial Board of the Law Review. Professor Evans attended an ABA conference/seminar in San Francisco on Agricultural Finance, held two workshops for public school teachers in Monterey County and acted as judge in two commercial arbitrations in San Francisco.

He also held three special workshops for students: Negotiable Instruments, Professional Responsibility and Contract Remedies. Professor Evans was recently recommended for consideration by Chief Justice Malcolm M. Lucas as a member of the Judicial Council Advisory Committee on the Future of the Courts. This summer, Professor Evans is teaching Administrative Law as well as directing six student research papers, three of which are for Law Review.

Paul Herbert, J.D., published an article on police interrogations in the March issue of the ABA's Preview of United States Supreme Court Cases. The same month, his guest column on the First Amendment and the Gulf War appeared in the *Fresno Bee*. During the past several months, Professor Herbert has served as a consultant to the *Fresno Bee* on a series of articles commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights.

He has appeared a number of times on television and radio, including a one-hour interview on a Bay Area radio station, commenting on various legal issues. This Summer, Professor Herbert taught an elective course on the jury, which covered the history of the jury from ancient times to the present and included an examination of some of the principal tactical and ethical aspects of jury practice. ■

An Open Letter To The SJCL Student Body

**FROM: PATTI WILLIAMS,
Student Bar Association President**

Attending law school is probably one of the most severe challenges any of us will ever encounter. That is true with any law school, but San Joaquin is unique. Because night classes are offered, students have the opportunity to maintain career positions in order to earn a living while working toward a law degree. That opportunity is critical to many SJCL students, but it also makes the challenge even greater and, when added to family commitments, leaves little time to pursue extracurricular activities.

The Student Bar Association was formed to facilitate, for busy students with little spare time, communications that are essential for an informed educational experience. All students are members of the Association, and the purpose of this open letter is to provide information about your representative organization and how it may serve you.

As the student population of SJCL grows, the challenge to provide needed services to keep channels of communication open also increases.

In an effort to provide and maintain communications among students, faculty and staff, several events are planned and carried out each year by the Student Bar Association. Annual activities such as Orientation, the First-Year Welcoming Party, and the Spring Awards Banquet are planned, organized and funded by the Association.

Fees paid by students at fall registration provide funds necessary to develop a budget each year. In addition to the activities already mentioned, money is also contributed to the Moot Court Class and its annual George A. Hopper Competition, graduation events for the Fourth-Year class, and allocated to the Outstanding Student Awards, given each year at the Spring Banquet. The Student Bar is also responsible for compiling, printing and distributing the Student Directory.

SJCL students are represented on the Board of Trustees by the Student Bar President, who is a voting member of the Board. This representation serves as a direct link between the decision-making body of SJCL and its students.

As the student population of SJCL grows, the challenge to provide needed services to keep channels of communication open also increases. One of the goals of the 1991-92 Student Bar is to make available more information on a regular basis and to ensure that all students have ready access to their representatives in order to communicate their needs and concerns. One method of communication will be the posting, on the student bulletin board in the main hallway, of the minutes of the monthly Student Bar meetings of the officers.

This year, students will also be given the opportunity to serve on various committees that will work directly with faculty and the Board of Trustees in furthering important needs of the student population.

Other avenues of communication are being considered. One possibility would be to hold open forums throughout the year at which students would have the opportunity to address the entire board of officers and other students in attendance. The dates for these forums would be announced well in advance of the meeting date, so that students could plan to attend and have their topics of concern added to the agenda.

It is important to remember that one need not be an officer to participate! We welcome all students to assist us in the planning, organizing and promoting of the upcoming activities and events. Please contact any of your representatives if you have a concern you need to voice, an idea you want to share, or if you want to help plan an event. Your officers are committed to helping you have a great year. They are:


President	Patti Williams
Vice President	Trudi Manfredi
Treasurer	Stan Teixeira
Secretary	Wanda Willis
2nd Year Reps	Brian Austin Pat Pinto
3rd Year Reps	Kathy Marousek Jane Woodcock
4th Year Reps	Hal Farley Carol Moses
Paralegal Rep	Greg Whitlow

On behalf of all students I would also like to take this opportunity to thank last year's outgoing officers for a terrific 1990-91 at SJCL. And a personal note of thanks to Leah Cole, Carol Moses, Rosie Ruska and Loretta Ramos for taking time to share their experiences and help make my road a little smoother! ■

And On To The Final Year At SJCL...

We asked three of our law students how they felt about entering their final year at SJCL. Here's what they had to say about year four and about their past three years at the Law School...

Hanging our robes, we reflect on the day's events—preliminary chatter and debates among ourselves, the opening procession, presentations by achieved attorneys, recession and sighs of contentment as we depart. There will be days in our future which will bring greater or lesser challenges, but if the past is a measuring stick, success is assured.

I turn to Sandy and remark how this day has reminded me of my early law school years at SJCL. Never before had I struggled to be analytical all my waking hours for that many consecutive years. Once I learned the secret to verbosity, case law was never the same. I even mastered the skill of obscurity to apply to other areas of my life; it was most helpful with unin-

 vited relatives.

Dave, being new to our group, asks how the football team's record has fared the last few years. (I've never seen his blood race so much as when he watches college football). I respond that we were undefeated. At SJCL we were taught it's not always necessary to keep things in perspective. The Dean demonstrated the importance of this as she led her class in a sing-a-long Torts rendition of the High Plains Drifter theme. How she was able to hit some of those notes was the best kept secret.

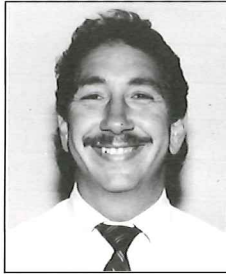
Between full-time jobs, marriages, babies, moot court competitions and the Law Review, Tony observes, the only thing that could ever throw off a San Joaquin graduate is the ordeal of locating that perfect LEXIS search phrase that will unlock the world of cases with which to crush one's opponent. Then again, so could the Rule of Perpetuities. Throughout law school, the sense of diligence and self-discipline brought with you to Orientation becomes refined even more. By the final year, brilliant analysis flows forth in a three word sentence not unlike the writing assignments expected in Remedies class.

Please see Marlene on page 6

I am now a fourth year law student. Can you believe it? I once thought that the words "ABANDON ALL HOPE YE WHO ENTER HERE" should be etched above the entrance to the law school. I was wrong. There is hope.

Law school has been a frightful experience. I have spent much of the past three years hiding in the back of the class, afraid of being asked to brief a case that I had not read. Moot Court was fun. Standing in front of three judges with my legs stricken with some sort of palsy. Yeah, that was fun. And, I cannot remember an exam that I wasn't afraid of failing. Now there is a new fear taking shape: the fear of being the only one in my class that fails the bar exam. That one student who keeps the school from a 100% pass rate.

I think I have a fear of failing the bar exam because I'm not sure how much I remember of the law I have read over past three years. But I do remember other things. I remember the night one of my classmates walked into the Torts final, read the exam and then walked out, lit a cigarette and laid flat on his back in the parking lot, hoping that he would be run over by a car.



Ric Squaglia

And I remember those nights, concentrating very hard trying to learn some difficult legal concept, like future interests, when that little man in the back of my head would appear, wave his arms, and say, "Oh, no, no, no. This whole wing is closed down. This wing has been closed since the Pink Floyd concert."

And I have not forgotten those nights in the parking lot after a final, talking over the exam with my classmates. Is that an act of self-flagellation, or what?

"Did you get the battery issue?"

"Oh, no. What battery issue? Wasn't this the Con Law exam?"

"How many blue books did you write?"

"Books?"

It could have been easier. After all, law


Please see Ric on page 6

We have entered the fourth and last year (hopefully) of law school and now we pause to look at what was and what will be.

When I sat down to write on my personal experiences in law school, I did not realize how difficult it would be writing in the first person. That may seem rather strange to some, but for the last 12 years or so I have written exclusively in the third person and primarily material that is technical in nature. This brings me to my first point: the professions as a whole, have been depersonalized.

During the first year of law school, there seemed to be little personal interaction between students. It may have been because everyone, or almost everyone, was concerned about continuing in the program. Into the second year, I noticed an increased level of competition, especially when preparing for moot court. It was almost funny to see some students hiding their cases from others. I did see the other side, however, such as a group of students huddling together to really discuss the issues. It seemed that the learning process was actually taking place. In my view, this is what school should be all about. I came out with a lesson that I believe will serve me well:

1. A group of individuals can work well if they set their egos and attitudes aside and allow the learning process to take over.



Ruben Moreno

2. Knowing your subject well and being prepared will take you a long way.

I have recently been involved on an environmental project (work related) where a team of technical and legal professionals were brought together. The experience has been and continues to be very rewarding.

Considering this, I would propose that every incoming first-year student resolve to make friends with at least ten other students in their class. Every year thereafter, they should make a point of talking with those students they were not able to corner during the previous year. Imagine what a better education that would be if we could say that in addition to getting a good legal

Please see Ruben on page 6

Marlene

Continued from page 5

Willie professes how indispensable competition is in law school, and insists that a good attorney is a lonely, overworked attorney. I demur him. The competition at SJCL is within myself—to demand from the experience all that it offers, including forming bonds with other students and professionals. Who else would laugh at feeble legal puns? Who else would be so kind as to point out that the grey hair wasn't there during the first year?

A rustling of papers startles me and I turn my head to see a room full of students, faces straining, writing furiously as they dissect a fact-intensive final examination. Summer session marks the start of my fourth and final year at SJCL. Three down, less than one to go, after which a crash memory course prepares me to meet my destiny, or density as it may be, given the pass rate of the bar exam. There is something about the bar exam that brings a flash of hesitation, only to be suppressed by a sense of security gained from chanting the annual pass rates of our scholastic predecessors. Besides, doesn't attending SJCL virtually guarantee a position on the Supreme Court?

I put on my jockey cap and open my bluebook. ■

Ric

Continued from page 5

school is nothing more than prioritization. For example, going to class is more important than Monday Night Football, and studying for finals is more important than personal hygiene. It sounds simple. Yet every year I find myself scrambling as finals approach. And every year I walk out of finals and say, "Next year will be different. Next year I am really going to stick to it." My notes for September are always impeccable. Things happen. But I'm still here, and I'm making it. It seems as though I have found a system. There's hope. ■

Ruben

Continued from page 5

education we were also experienced in dealing with others. SJCL, with its diversity of students, provides such an opportunity. I would also propose that sessions, similar to those held for first-year students (orientation), also be held for all upper level students. I speak of these ideas because of the several students that have enriched my education.

I would start by naming them off, but I am afraid I would invariably leave someone out.

In closing, and on a more lighter note, I would also propose the following:

1. Mr. Oeser include the Grateful Dead, Mongo Jerry, Santana or any other 60's band in one of his exam's fact pattern.
2. Alfred Gallegos grow a beard, shave his hair, develop an attitude or anything else that will distinguish us, at least by name.
3. The library update the California Code of Regulations.
4. Judge O'Neill teach more classes at SJCL.
5. Professor Herbert's constitutional discussions on protected speech include Cheech and Chong's early work.
6. Students not be scorned if they brief cases using legalines.
7. More students pursue the environmental field so that we will keep each other employed.

I have discussed these observations in retrospect. Looking into the future, I asked my five-year-old son Russel what he thought I would do after finishing law school. He thought about it and said, "Play with us Papa, play with us every day."

There you have it, my future is planned. ■

CLE Seminars

Continued from page 3

the required number of credit hours to meet compliance. Non-compliant attorneys may be fined. *Failure to comply after the 60-day period will result in inactive status of State Bar membership and loss of privileges to practice law until proof of compliance is received by the State Bar.*

What is SJCL doing to assist attorneys with MCLE?

Several things. To begin, SJCL, along with the Fresno County Bar Association, sent out a survey in March to local attorneys to assess the needs and preferences in seminar topic areas, dates, times and locations. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive. More than 400 surveys were returned. Most all attorneys expressed an appreciation in the commitment to offer quality educational programs locally.

Of the topic areas listed, preference was given to the areas of legal ethics, procedure and practice skills and law practice

management. Preference was also given to holding the seminars at the law school or a hotel conference room in Fresno or Visalia (sorry, Hawaii only received 2 votes!). Saturday courses of 3-6 hours and weekday evening courses of 3 hours were preferred. In addition, more than 100 attorneys expressed an interest in speaking at the seminars. We were quite pleased with the response to the survey and thank those who participated.

Based on the survey results and guidance we receive from our newly-formed MCLE Advisory Committee, we will plan a quarterly calendar of MCLE courses to be published in *Inter Alia*. The Advisory Committee is comprised of local attorneys and judges specializing in various areas of law.

SJCL will be working cooperatively with organizations such as the Fresno County Bar Association and Central California Bankruptcy Association to provide a diversity of quality educational programs on a regular basis. I am also pleased to report that the Law School has applied for and received official provider status.

How else can SJCL help me to meet my MCLE requirements?

Beginning in September, SJCL will be offering a service to individual attorneys to track and maintain their MCLE credit hours and records. The tracking will be done by computer with notices to be sent to participating attorneys at least two months prior to their compliance date indicating the current status of their MCLE credit hours. We also plan to have a modem hook-up allowing participating attorneys to access their individual records by computer.

Finally, I welcome any questions related to MCLE rules and regulations and local events. I am constant in contact with the State Bar to clarify issues and stay abreast of any changes related to MCLE. I will be providing regular updates in the SJCL newsletter and am happy to answer specific questions over the phone. I can be reached at the law school at (209) 225-4953.

— Michele Creighton

(NOTE: For a complete listing of the rules, please refer to the *MCLE Rules and Regulations adopted December 8, 1990 by the California State Bar, Board of Governors.*) ■

International Student Awarded Alumni Scholarship

Although he is a long way from his native country, SJCL Fourth-Year student Karen Ketendjian says he has found a new home here in Fresno.

Karen was born and raised in Yerevan, Armenia and immigrated to the United States with his parents and brother in September, 1987. No stranger to the rigors of academia—he holds a B.A. in Russian Literature and English as a Foreign Language from the Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages in the USSR—Karen admits he had not considered studying law in this country.

When a family friend suggested he consider enrolling in law school as a means to enter a more stable career, Karen gave the idea some serious thought. He subsequently enrolled at SJCL in the fall of 1988 and quickly learned that it was more than just a new experience.

“When I enrolled at SJCL, I was really coming into it blindly and had no special expectations,” he explains. “I knew if I worked hard enough I could become a lawyer, but I wasn’t completely sure because of all the foreign circumstances around me—not to mention the language barrier.”

Karen seems to have overcome more than just the language. This year he was the recipient of the Alumni Association Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship, which he said he immediately put to use for tuition and books.

“I want to personally thank the Alumni Association for their generous scholarship. It has helped to ease some of the financial pressure on me.”

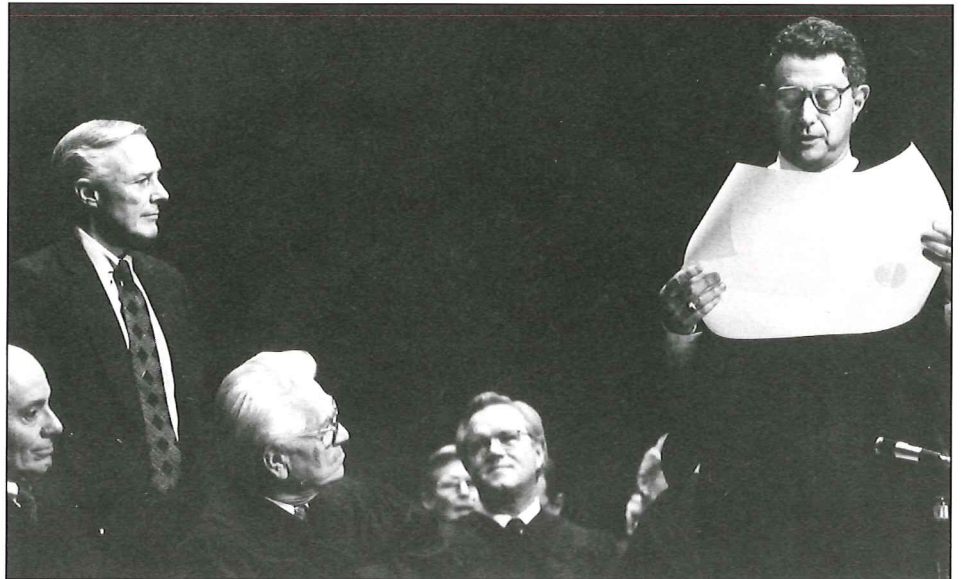
He credits his study partners Hal Farley and Ric Squaglia for helping him through the rough times, especially that “difficult first year.”

Karen is also currently enrolled in a Masters program at California State University, Fresno, where he is focusing on linguistics. He felt it would complement his legal training.

While he calls Fresno his second home, Karen has not ruled out the possibility of returning to Armenia, at least on a temporary basis. It may, according to Karen, be in more of a legal capacity.

“If it would be at all possible some day, I would like to be in a position to serve as a legal consultant to Armenia, should the country ever become recognized as independent.” ■

Wanger Sworn In To Federal Bench



Chief Judge Robert E. Coyle of the U.S. District Court, right, reads the appointment of Oliver W. Wanger during the May 30th investiture.

Photo Copyright : The Fresno Bee

SJCL co-founder and Board of Trustees Chairperson Oliver W. Wanger was sworn in at a formal ceremony May 30 as a United States District Judge serving the Eastern District of California.

Family, friends and colleagues packed the Fresno Memorial Auditorium as several speakers praised Wanger’s strengths as a lawyer and his 20 year commitment to San Joaquin College of Law.

SJCL Dean Janice L. Pearson gave a special thanks to Wanger, who has volunteered literally thousands of hours to the

Law School over the last two decades as professor, counselor and board member.

“What an asset to have an individual so dedicated to public service become a part of the federal judiciary,” Pearson said.

Wanger, 50, was a senior partner who specialized in business litigation with the firm of McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte and Carruth. He succeeds retiring Judge Edward Dean Price and will join Judge Robert Coyle as the two full-time judges in the Fresno branch of the Eastern District. ■

Paralegal Perspectives

This is the first in a regular series of articles written by SJCL Paralegal Alumni.

BY GWEN HARNISH CARRIGAN

After many years of dead-end employment as a cocktail waitress, during which time I completed a degree in English Literature and Creative Writing at U.C. Santa Cruz, it was wonderful to find a profession in which I could use my formal education as well as the skills I acquired in the restaurant business.

Since I completed the SJCL Paralegal Program in August of 1986, I can truthfully say that my life has changed in a number of positive ways.

I have found that the good memory I developed as a waitress, my attention to detail, the ability to remain calm in stress-

ful situations and overall “people” skills have all been assets in my job at the law firm of Jory, Peterson & Sagaser.

I have very happily been employed at the same firm since the day I graduated from the SJCL Paralegal Program. Even after five years, I am still challenged and rarely have a dull day at work. In addition, I have enjoyed being a part of the SJCL Program teaching courses in Ethics for Paralegals, Office Practice, Summarization Techniques and Legal Research and Writing.

It is through this involvement that I hope to contribute to the practical or “real life” side of paralegal education.

The best part of my paralegal experience at SJCL was, of course, meeting my husband, Mike, while we were both panelists for a paralegal career seminar! ■

News Briefs

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFFERS

SJCL is pleased to announce the addition of two new faces to the staff. Michele Creighton has been hired as the new Coordinator of Continuing Legal Education (see article). She is responsible for the development and implementation of all CLE courses sponsored by the Law School. Michele joined SJCL in April and immediately began planning a comprehensive schedule of some 20 CLE courses to be held over the next year.

Joan Lassley was hired in May as Financial Assistant to Jill Waller. Joan's duties include handling all accounts payable matters, preparing the payroll, updating all financial forms and supporting Lonsetta as receptionist. Please join us in welcoming both Joan and Michele to our staff.

ALUMNI GOLF TOURNEY

Riverside Golf Course was the site of the First Annual SJCL Alumni Golf Tournament last April, which brought together 56 alumni and friends. The 14 teams participated in a relaxed four-man scramble format. Organizer Glenn LoStracco ('88) indicated that the success of this year's event may lead to an annual tournament to be hosted by the Law School. First Place honors went to the team of Terry Wapner, Jeff Lucia, Matt DeFendis and Brian Combe; Second Place was awarded to the team of Joe Cooper, Tim Logoluso, Peter Rigby and Paul Rigby; and Third Place was won by the team of Glen Gates, Mike Mayer, Russ Reynolds and Don Lescoulie. Last Place distinctions went to the team of George Cajija, Ralph Salcido, Ralph Torres and Carl Reed.

NEW LAW REVIEW EDITOR NAMED

The 1990-91 Editorial Board of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review announced last April that Alfred Gallegos has been selected Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review for the upcoming year. Barbara Greaver has been selected Executive Articles Editor. Alfred and Barbara are currently selecting associate editors to join the Law Review Staff. Please join us in wishing both Alfred and Barbara all the best in their new positions.

ATTENTION PARALEGAL ALUMS

The SJCL Paralegal Alumni Association is looking for graduates of the program. We

are preparing for our 10th Anniversary Celebration and would like to find you, meet you and get you involved. Please call Pam Ramirez, SJCL Paralegal Program Director, at 225-4953 or Lynda Williams at 298-7118.

KEEP US POSTED

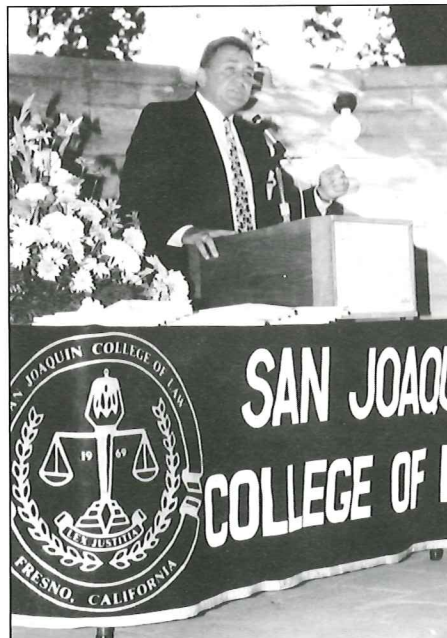
If you have relocated, please let us know so we can keep our mailing list current. We also want to hear about any other news you would like included in *Inter Alia*. And we encourage you to submit any articles or ideas you think our readers would be interested in. Remember to send all correspondence to Bill Eryasian, Director of Institutional Relations.

ALUMNI SWEATSHIRTS ON SALE

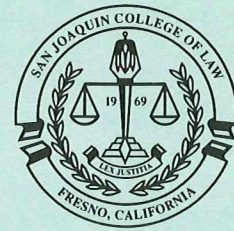
What? You don't own a SJCL sweatshirt? SJCL Alumni Association Hooded Sweatshirts and Coffee Mugs are now available while supplies last. The specially-designed sweatshirts come in two colors: royal blue with the white SJCL logo and white with the royal blue logo. Cost is \$20 each. Mugs are grey with black SJCL logos and are \$5 each. Call Karen Besecker in the Institutional Advancement office at 225-4953 to order.

JOB ALERTS

Does your firm need associates, clerks or paralegals? SJCL will gladly post your job announcement and help you find the right person. Call the Law School for more details. ■



Jack C. Parnell, Former USDA Deputy Secretary, was the guest speaker at the publication reception for the inaugural issue of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review.



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