

Summer 2010

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Celebrating the 37th Graduating Class

On a sunny May 29th, 2010, 43 people saw the circumstances of their lives change forever; they were awarded Juris Doctor from San Joaquin College of Law at its commencement ceremony at the William Saroyan Theatre.

By Missy Mckai Cartier, Public Information Officer

ommencement speaker, Assembly Member Juan Arambula urged the graduates to be passionate about their practice of law, especially when it comes to addressing problems in the Valley ranging from poverty and pollution to public safety, prisons, and public participation. Arambula drew laughter from the crowd when he referred to being the only Independent in the Assembly, saying he is a "party of one," or a "party of Juan."

Class Valedictorian, Jesse Fretwell, celebrated the entire class, reminding them that a home and money can be taken away, but their education is with them forever. That class initially arrived at SJCL bearing Bachelor's Degrees from 17 different universi-

ties, including five U-C campuses and six California State University locations. Their majors ranged from Political Science to Mathematics, English, Psychology, Agricultural Business, Philosophy, Biology, Criminology, History, Business Administration, and more. They range in age from 24 to 46 years old. Some have children, some don't. One has seven children, and two other students gave birth during their final year of law school.

Some came to San Joaquin College of Law as a legacy; Pauline Seiler is the daughter of SJCL Hall of Fame inductee Kathy Hart (Law '77) and Jennifer Mele is the daughter of James Mele (Law '76). Others did not have the benefit of such a role model; Monica Bermudez is the first person



Juan Arambula, Assembly Member

in her family to graduate high school. She is also a single mother with a nineyear-old daughter who has commuted to law school from Visalia while working in the Tulare County Public Defender's Office. That office was well-represented; classmate Ron Weber also works there and Public Defender Michael Sheltzer, an adjunct professor at SJCL, took his place on the stage of the Saroyan Theatre. In all fairness to the "other side of the aisle," it should be noted that graduates Heather Pietroforte and Jessica Weatherly have been working as law clerks for Tulare County District Attorney Phillip Cline (Law '78). Other graduates have held similar positions in Fresno and Merced Counties, and some have been working for other government entities, nonprofits, or private firms as they finished their studies.



(L-R) Jennifer Mele, Oliver Larrivee, Scott Levy, Bo Koenig, Frank Kocs, Alexia Kirkland, My-Linh Huang, Carey Hartsock, and Melissa Garza-Perry

In the late 1960's, Superior Court Judge Dan Eymann felt the San Joaquin Valley needed a state-accredited law school. He invited a large number of local attorneys to his home for dinner to discuss founding such a school. I'm told that a number attended simply because Mrs. Eymann had a reputation as a fantastic cook. All who attended were invited to a second meeting. Only now United States District Court Judge Oliver Wanger and John Loomis returned. From the three of them, San Joaquin College of Law was born and opened its doors to its first class on September 4, 1970.

wonder if any of them envisioned where the law school would be 40Lyears later. SJCL attained provisional state accreditation in 1974 and full state accreditation in 1976. In 1980 it moved from the unique round classroom on the campus of Fresno Pacific University to the Shields Avenue building. In 1987, SJCL became a candidate for regional accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Multiple site visits followed with the school attaining WASC accreditation March 1, 1993. In 1997, SJCL moved to its beautiful facility in Clovis (which it is now close to outgrowing) and SJCL's accreditation was reaffirmed in March of 1999.

Following an intense three-year process, SJCL's regional accreditation was reaffirmed again in June of this year. This process entailed the preparation of four reports, including two massive self studies, the last totaling more than 2,000 pages of text, records, and statistical studies. It is an experience in self-evaluation and change. The WASC



accreditation process is designed to help an institution improve itself. It has certainly served this function for SJCL.

As a practical matter from the students' perspective, reaffirmation of accreditation enables students to continue to receive federal financial aid. Financial aid has been critical to opening the opportunity for a legal education to all. On a larger scale, reaffirmation demonstrates that SJCL

is a serious institution committed to compliance with the standards of higher education.

For the fiscal year 1971-72, SJCL's total income was \$59,309. There were no full-time faculty and only part-time staff. Forty years later, for fiscal 2010-11, total income will be almost \$3.8 million with a full-time faculty of 8 and staff of 22, performing functions from recruitment, placement, financial aid administration and counseling to fundraising, public relations, and financial administration. A total of 212 students are enrolled. Over our forty years, 85% of the graduates who have attempted the bar examination have passed, and now practice in every conceivable arena of law.

This is an amazing transformation. Thank you to everyone who has played a role in this story – students, board, faculty, staff, and community friends. I hope to see many of you at one of the 40th Anniversary events. It would be such a pleasure to reminisce together.



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'98 Alumni Appointed Superior Court Judge

By Missy Mckai Cartier, Public Information Officer

Merced County Chief Deputy District Attorney Mark Bacciarini (Law '98) was in court on June 30th, running his felony calendar, when his phone began to vibrate at 10:15 a.m. He quickly excused himself and stepped outside to call his wife, Lynda. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger had just appointed him to the Merced County Superior Court bench.

The newly appointed judge gave little indication as to whether he was expecting that sort of call, saying only that those who are appointed are "always surprised."

The 52-year-old served as chief deputy district attorney for the Merced County District Attorney's office for the past year and was a deputy district attorney from 2000 until 2009. He was an associate attorney for Morse, Morse, & Morse for two years following his graduation from San Joaquin College of Law in 1998.

Judge Bacciarini says he was "very serious during law school," which he attended as a second career. He admits he had no idea whether he was getting a good legal education until after he graduated. It was at that point he was happy to discover he found himself to be, in his words, "as well or better prepared than my adversaries." His stepdaughter, Kathryn Gates, is also preparing to be that well-prepared; she's a third year law student at SJCL. His other stepdaughter, Haley, is a freshman at Fresno State who is considering mirroring the Judge's BA in Music from UOP. Bacciarini's son,

Michael, is a freshman in high school.

Bacciarini says he didn't aspire to be a judge during law school, but that desire grew as he progressed



through his career. In his new position, he fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Frank Dougherty last November. Dougherty served nearly two decades on the bench. With this latest appointment, SJCL now has 15 alumni serving as judges, along with 6 Administrative Law Judges and 6 Court Commissioners.

The Champagne Tradition Continues!

By Missy Mckai Cartier, Public Information Officer

Tome of the best traditions never seem to make it into writing, but that unwritten code is still the law of the I land. That seems to be the case with the Champagne Reception for San Joaquin College of Law grads who pass the bar. The reception is held in the grand hallway of SJCL the Monday evening after bar results are announced. The latest was held May 17th, as the law school celebrated a dozen graduates who passed the February bar. Another 27 had previously been toasted in November for passing the July bar. It's also an unwritten tradition that all alumni, especially former classmates of those bar passers, are invited to pass on their congratulations. While virtually all of this year's bar passers thanked family members for their shared sacrifice, it was truly a family affair for two of the most recent bar passers. Alexandra and Christopher Noyes met in law school, married during law school, clerked in the office of Alexandra's father, and both passed the February bar.



TOP ROW (L-R): Rosie Nunez, Ambra Dorsey, and Richard Ruiz Middle Row (L-R): Shon Wilson, Michael Arnold, and Jamie Gearon Front Row (L-R): Eric Castellon, and Jennifer Byers
ALSO PASSING BUT NOT PICTURED: Alexandra Noyes, Christopher Noyes, Sung Bae Park, and Dan Rogers

Full-Time Faculty

Justin B. Atkinson, Richard M. Cartier, Christine A. Goodrich, Denise M. Kerner, Janice L. Pearson, Sally A. Perring, Jeffrey G. Purvis, Peter Rooney

Adjunct Faculty

Larry Artenian, Jesse Avila, Art Baggett, Barry Bennett, Alyson Berg, Hristo Bijev, Raquel Birch, Hal Bolen, Andreas Borgeas, Dave Camenson, Chrystine Carvalho, Dan Casas, Hilary Chittick, Lisa Coffman, Jon Conklin, Phil Cronin, Mark Cullers, Matt Farmer, Gregory Gillett, David Guy, Jason Hamm, Shannon Harding, Kathi Kesselman, Stephanie Krause-Cota, Abigail Leaf, Jeremy Lusk, Jeff Manning-Cartwright, Deanna Martinez, Bill McLaughlin, Mark Miller, Dave Mugridge, Doug Noll, Kim Nystrom-Geist, Timothy O'Connor, Rose Safarian, Rene Sample, Gary Sawyers, Mike Sheltzer, Mike Slater, Jacqueline Yates

Inter Amicos

By Missy Mckai Cartier Public Information Officer

We're among friends. That's my reply when asked why we don't take a formal tone every time we write an article in Inter Alia or send e-mail to alumni. We're among friends who take our calls when they're swamped at work, who play Santa to children at the Marjaree Mason Center, who empty trash cans following events simply because it needs to be done, and friends who have sustained, nurtured, and helped push San Joaquin College of Law to each new level of success.

I have to admit I have shamelessly cashed in on that genuine affection for this Law School. The alumni have become both a resource for media interviews and a collection of personal confidants and advisors who help me showcase SJCL as the academic legal resource gem that it has been all along. While we love to celebrate the accomplishments of individual graduates, the cumulative power and reach of our collective alumni and friends is formidable. Their names and interviews cover the Multimedia page of our website. Their pictures fill two albums from Race Judicata and the O'Neill Scholarship Breakfast on our Facebook page. Their plaques decorate our Donor Wall and fill our Hall of Fame. Their presence fills our courthouses. Their accolades fill the press.

Elsewhere in this edition of Inter Alia I want to tell you about some of the great things I've been able to do since my arrival at San Joaquin College of Law. But first, I want to make it clear: none of this would be possible if we weren't among friends.

2010 Hopper Moot Court Competition



Back Row (L-R): Matthew Bowden, Kyle Roberson, Gary Caine, Manuel Ignacio, Jesse Molina, Bryon Clay, Tim Jolly, Brian Jones, Mark Castro, and the Hon. Jon Conklin Front Row (L-R): Brittany Nicol, Michelle Tostenrude, Lorena Garcia, Christina Widner, and Jonna Williams

BEST ORAL ADVOCATE

Tim Jolly

ORAL ADVOCATE FINALISTS

Gary Caine Bryon Clay Jesse Molina

BEST BRIEF

Jonna Williams & Brian Jones

BEST BRIEF FINALISTS

Christina Widner & Kyle Roberson Lorena Gracia & Michelle Tostenrude Matthew Bowden & Manuel Ignacio

BEST ORAL ADVOCATE SEMI-FINALISTS

Mark Castro Manuel Ignacio Brittany Nicol Jonna Williams

Special Thanks to our Judges

Justin Atkinson
Stan Boone
Karen Buck
Ken Carver
Dan Casas
Hon. Hilary Chittick
Carl Faller
Mia Giacomazzi
William Hahesy
Katherine Hart
James Lambe
Hon. W. Richard Lee
Kathleen McKenna
Carol Moses
David Mugridge

Hon. Shelia O'Berto
Hon. Lawrence O'Neill
Sally Perring
Hon. James Petrucelli
Ofra Pleban
Kimberly Raven
Peter Rooney
Hon. Houry Sanderson
Kathy Servatius
Geoffrey Sims
Hon. Mark Snauffer
Hon. Steven Vartabedian
Ann Voris
Melody Walcott
Melissa White

So What's Your Story?

So far this year, SJCL faculty, students, and alumni have made over 30 media appearances, including print, television, and radio.

By Missy Mckai Cartier, Public Information Officer

Part of the reason for this success lies in the caliber of our alumni, but another part lies in our ability to bring story ideas to media. Many of those ideas have come from the attorneys themselves, who are then interviewed by the media. While that publicity is good for any attorney, the interviews are also useful to the community, bringing information about trends, potential pitfalls, or solutions to new problems. SJCL alumni are the insiders for virtually all areas of legal expertise, and become the eyes and ears for the law school, the media, and the community.

Are there new trends in your area of legal expertise? Are there changes in the law which will have an impact locally? Has the economic downturn affected your clients and changed their needs? These are possible elements for stories of interest to the media and community. Please contact me if you would like to contribute a story idea and interview for our Media Partners.

And speaking of Media Partners:



KMPH Fox 26 became our newest partner when producer Kianey Givens contacted the law school, looking for a legal expert to talk about prenuptial agreements. Erin Rhames Childs (Law '02) joined hosts Kim Stevens and Kopi Sotiropulos during their "Great Day" show as part of "Wedding Week." That video, along with about three dozen other media interviews, can be found on the Multimedia page of our website.

BUSINESS JOURNAL

Alumni Circle Member Jody Winter (Law ' 06) provided not only the idea, but the actual interview for a Business Journal article on an increase in partnership dissolutions as one partner faces prosperity and the other poverty. The Business Journal has asked SJCL for more legal stories related to the business community, so please forward your ideas to the law school!



SJCL Constitutional Law Professor Jeffrey G. Purvis took on topics ranging from gun control to health care reform in an appearance on KFSR's "San Joaquin Spotlight." That weekly show is hosted by SJCL Alumni Circle Member Sevag Tateosian (Law '08).



The San Joaquin College of Law Roundtable has soared to new heights since its inception in January. The weekly show airs Tuesdays during the noon hour on Bill McEwen's "Straight Talk" program. One show was broadcast live from elections headquarters at the invitation of Fresno County Clerk Victor Salazar (Law '93). Other recent shows featured Jennifer Walters (Law '04) on Grandparents' Custodial Rights, Tim Magill (Law '78) on Employment Law, Mark King (Law '05) discussing difficulties with the insanity defense, Bob Hirth (Law '96) on medical marijuana defense, and Teresa

Petty (Law '07) detailing legal issues surrounding the hiring of a care giver. The Roundtable has also taken on a "breaking news" tone at times, including an interview with Brenda Linder (Law '04) on the same day she represented four medical marijuana clinics trying to stop the Board of Supervisors from shutting them down. In addition, Alex Peltzer (Law '01) gave some legal perspective to the BP Oil Spill and Professor Jeffrey G. Purvis discussed Elena Kagan's nomination to the Supreme Court.

McEwen also interviewed SJCL Student Ashley Allred on her comment in the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review titled "Solutions to a Stinky Problem: Congressional Legislation to Promote the Use of Cloth Diapers."

In addition, in our role as the Regional Academic Legal Resource Center, the law school has scheduled some non-alumni guests. Rene Lastreto and David Jenkins appeared in conjunction with the Central California Bankruptcy Association to talk about the "Fundamentals of Bankruptcy" program and attorney William Kreig discussed "lemon laws."



There are more faces on our Facebook page than ever! More than 300 photos celebrate Graduation, Legacy Luncheons, Race Judicata, the Champagne Reception for Bar Passers, and more. Our Facebook page also allows us to immediately notify "fans" about upcoming media appearances, events, and more. If you're reading this article, you're probably already a fan of SJCL. If you're on Facebook, check out the SJCL page and find lots of reasons to hit the "Like" button!

Class of 2010

HIGH HONORS

Jesse Raby Fretwell Karen Jean Ray Alicia Diaz Wrest

HONORS

Wendy Sedillo Pauline Elizabeth Seiler

DISTINCTION

Devika Indrani Choudhury Christopher Owen Foin Frank Michael Kocs Jonathon L. Petty Shara Elysse Tirapelle Jessica Diane Freeman Weatherly

Ivan Domingo Ahmady Monica Lara Bermudez Amanda Silva Bishop Kristi Marie Costa Scott W. Darling Joy Kathleen Dockter Pamela Renee Elliott Rebekah Anne Eropkin Melissa Anne Garza-Perry Carey Lynne Hartsock My-Linh Mary Huang David Ibarra Alexia Dezaree Kirkland Bo Shachar Koenig Oliver Joseph Larrivee Scott David Levy Jennifer Marie Mele John Lawrence Migliazzo Naser Ali Nekumanesh Brandon Michael Ormonde Jonathan Omar Peña Nicholas James Perry Heather Lee Pietroforte Daljit Rakkar Vernon James Reynolds Eloise Kelsey Souders Ann Janette Stokes Monica Elizabeth Thissen Thuy Ha Thi Tran Michael Francisco Vasquez Ronald Richard Weber Jr. Mark Wilson



(L-R) Shara Tirapelle, Pauline Seiler, Ann Stokes, and Eloise Souders



(L-R) Wendy Sedillo, Vernon Reynolds, Karen Ray, Daljit Rakkar, and Heather Pietroforte



(L-R) Alicia Wrest, Mark Wilson, Ronald Weber Jr., Michael Vasquez, and Thuy Tran



 $(\mbox{L-R})$ Jonathon Petty, Nicholas Perry, , Jonathan Peña, Brandon Ormonde, Naser Nekumanesh, and John Migliazzo



Jesse Raby Fretwell, Valedictorian

Traynor Team Score Honors

Despite facing competition from virtually every law school in California, students from San Joaquin College of Law brought home honors from the Traynor Moot Court Competition for the second year in a row.



PICTURED (L-R): Rachel Gonzalez, Rachel Cartier, Lisa Cutts, and the Honorable Jonathan Conklin

ast year, Alexia Kirkland won an "Outstanding Individual Achievement in Oral Argument" award. This year, on April 10th, both Rachel Gonzalez and Rachel Cartier won the same awards. Judge Jonathan Conklin, who served as the coach and advisor for the SJCL Team, was quick to note those awards would not have been possible without the brief and assistance provided by the third team member, Lisa Cutts. The competition is named for the late California Supreme Court Justice Roger J. Traynor, who was described by Time Magazine in 1966 as a "law professor's judge." The graduation ceremony this year was a lovely event and we welcome this new group into our fold. We are gearing up for fall's activities which are just around the corner. We have four important events coming up in the Fall.

First, in September on the 10th and 11th is the SJCL 40th anniversary celebration, we hope you will all be joining us. The Judy Wiseman Golf Tournament is going to be on September 11th at Eagle Springs Golf and Country Club and is supporting the scholarship that we have been a part of for eight years. Kathy McKenna (Law '99) and Joan Lassley are the co-chairs for this event. Second, November 6th we will be hosting the annual Got MCLE? event that is chaired by Robert Abrams (Law '08) and co-chaired by Nitza Coleman (Law '03) and Roger Wilson (Law '97). Third, Senior Citizen's Law Day, an event which provides vital assistance to people truly in need of our help. Marcella Downing (Law '05) is chairing this event, it will be held on November 13. The fourth event, chaired by Kevin Hansen (Law '85) is the Hall of Fame. The event is being planned for late October. For all these events, we could use your help so please contact either me, Joan Lassley, or the event chair of the event you would like to help with.

If there is something you think that the Alumni Association should be doing, let us know. Thank you for your support of the Alumni Association. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming activities.

Sincerely, Scott Jones (Law '07) 2009 Alumni Association President

Staff

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Legacy Luncheons – Celebrating All 36 Classes

These luncheons started in June 2008, with the classes of 1974 & 75. We tried to find and invite every graduate from SJCL to lunch. The idea came about as we wanted to reconnect to all the alumni that have passed through

our halls leading up to our 40th Anniversary. For our Founder, John Loomis, and Jan and Sally it was a time to see how "their kids" have done.

Legacy Luncheons



Class of 2006

Back Row (L-R): Elizabeth McGee Mello, Rick Horowitz, Stacie Melikian, Jody Winter, Janice Pearson, Dean, Shannon Pell Harding, Serita Rios, Gary Winter, Irene Ramirez, Bret Grove, Richard Ruiz, John Dyer, and Sally Perring, Dean of Academic Affairs Front Row (L-R): John Tully, Dallas Neumann, Brenda Hook, Catarina Benitez, and Kara Schacher.

Also attending but not pictured were staff: Missy Mckai Cartier and Joan Lassley



Class of 2007

Back Row (L-R): Patrick McManaman, Richard Wheeler, Maria Hoover, Janice Pearson, Dean, Ann Bennett, Quentin Cedar, Sally Perring, Dean of Academic Affairs, Julie Jones, Scott Jones, Christina Hathaway, Brian Doss, Teresa Petty, Erik Peterson, Connie Parker, Jim Miller, Doug Harrison, and Benny Barco

FRONT ROW (L-R): Desiree Terronez, Laura Arnold, Dede Agrava, Daniel Martin (Law '05), and Amy Guerra Also attending but not pictured were staff: Missy Mckai Cartier and Joan Lassley

The first luncheons really informed us about those early trailblazers and the extreme conditions they endured to get through the program. As each luncheon was completed we heard more amazing stories about the accomplishments of so many. We thank all those

who were able to join us and share stories; we look forward to the upcoming 40th Anniversary Celebration in September, and hope to continue these smaller get togethers in the future.



Class of 2008

Back Row (L-R): William Reiland, Brianna Ellis, Bob Abrams, William McComas, Stephen Malm, Janice Pearson, Dean, Sevag Tateosian, Sally Perring, Dean of Academic Affairs, Bennie McGriff, Peter Wall, Nick Aniotzbehere, Mary Thornton Wall, and Joel Winter Front Row (L-R): Amy Lovegren-Tipton, Catherine Dwyer, Pahoua Lor, and Kristen Gates

Also attending but not pictured were staff: Missy Mckai Cartier, Joan Lassley, and Robin Leppo



Class of 2009

BACK ROW (L-R): Valerie Velasco, Katwyn DeLaRosa, Beth Waldow, Stephen Labiak, Adam Rodriguez, Christopher Noyes, Alexandra Noyes, Michael Arnold, and Sung Bae Park

MIDDLE Row (L-R): Crystal Cabrera, Janice Pearson, Dean, Sally Perring, Dean of Academic Affairs, Jennifer Byers, Lacey Sanchez, Sherlyn Greer, Bryce Hatakeyama, Wendy Aguilar, and Dennis Yamada

FRONT ROW (L-R): Rosie Nunez, Alicia Hinton, Lisa Madden, Hulya Reshad, Brande Gustafson, and Lisa Horton.

SJALR – 20 Years and Growing

On June 12, 2010, the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review held its Welcome Luncheon for prospective candidates.

By Erick J. Rhoan, SJALR Production Editor

The luncheon is a special occasion where the Editorial Board gives interested students an overview of law review candidacy. This luncheon was particularly special because it ushered in the Journal's 20th Anniversary. Twenty years ago, the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review was established to provide a forum for scholarly articles written by students and attorneys that focus on legal issues affecting the nation's agricultural industry. Today, this year's Editorial Board, along with the boards of the previous two decades, continues to carry on this fine tradition. This year's Editorial Board consists of Editor-in-Chief, Lisa Cutts; Managing Editor, Ashley Allred; Executive Editor, Kyle Roberson; Production Editor, Erick Rhoan: and Notes & Comments Editor, Rachel Cartier. Together, they addressed the prospective candidates at the luncheon, giving them a general overview of the law review candidacy process. For Volume 20, the Board is utilizing two approaches to candidacy: a "fast track" that places candidates on a more rigorous schedule, aiming to front load much of the research and writing process during the summer to avoid a heavy work load during the fall; and the traditional schedule of deadlines that previous Boards utilized in past volumes. In addition, the luncheon featured Marcie Downing (Law '05), a member of the Journal's Emeritus Board and practicing attorney, who

gave words of wisdom and encouragement to the prospective candidates.

Lisa Cutts gave a brief introduction to the law review process and the two paths to candidacy. Rachel Cartier addressed the differences between a law student comment and a case note, as well as outlining the schedule for the "fast track." Kyle Roberson gave helpful tips to candidates on picking a topic. Ashley Allred addressed what the candidates will get, both academically and professionally, from writing a Comment or Case Note. Erick Rhoan gave the candidates a pep talk and directed them on what to do next. Afterwards, the Board took questions from the candidates and thanked them for attending.

Volume 20 will not only be unique, but it will feature the same level of high quality scholarship that it has displayed in the past. In addition to recruiting many excellent candidates, the Board members themselves are once again displaying their writing skills by writing small pieces for Volume 20. If you would like more information regarding Law Review, or if you are interested in making a contribution to the journal in any way, please visit the Law Review's website at www.sjcl.edu/sjalr. You may also support this year's volume with a gift to the Law Review fund at www.sjcl. edu/givingback.



(L-R): Lisa Cutts, Editor-in-Chief, Erick Rhoan, Production Editor, Rachel Cartier, Notes & Comments Editor, Kyle Roberson, Executive Editor, and Ashley Allred, Manging Editor

Dean's Reception Welcomes Entering Class

Nearly a hundred people from 31 different schools, nine states, and three countries will make up the 2010 entering class.

By Diane Steel, Director of Admissions

hat do nearly a hundred people from 31 different schools, nine states, and three countries have in common? They're all part of the new incoming class at San Joaquin College of Law, but some of the ties go deeper than meet the eye. At least three of the incoming classmates are "legacies," continuing a long tradition at SJCL where alumni family members enroll to continue the tradition of success. Alumni relatives of the three new students include a father, an uncle, and a wife. Also at the Dean's Reception, one incoming student was surprised to see he would be classmates with a girl he hadn't seen since she was a baby. She is his second cousin; their grandmothers are sisters.

Many of those mingling at the Dean's reception on July 22, 2010, were pleasantly surprised to find others received a bachelor's degree from the same place. Three of the Cal Poly alumni have discovered each other and are looking for the fourth. Cal Poly is one of six CSU campuses contributing grads to this year's class, along with eight U-C campuses. Other students come from universities in New York, Washington, Iowa, Wisconsin, Florida, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Oregon. The countries of England and India are also represented.

Following Dean Jan Pearson's welcoming remarks, current students Lorena Garcia, Henry Campa and Christina Widner offered the students encouraging hints for success. Christina Widner, third year law student in



the four-year program, discussed the importance of forming study groups and using the practice exams to prepare for the midterm and final. She encouraged incoming students to seek out other students, faculty and family for support. Henry Campa, third year law student in the three-year accelerated program, talked about his initial thought process of wondering if "what he had was enough." As he transitioned into becoming a law school student he discovered "it is all about the mindset and believing in yourself, believing you can do it." He encouraged students to join student organizations and seek out upper class members for guidance. Lorena Garcia, fourth year law student in the five-year option discussed the importance of finding a balance between family, work and school. She advised incoming students to focus on quality of time verses the quantity of time. She acknowledged that she intentionally chose the five-year option so she could

make time for her husband and live a balanced life. She encouraged students to "enjoy the ride."

Aside from support from fellow students, the newcomers also felt the warmth of alumni pride. Civil Trial Attorney and SJCL Hall of Fame Inductee Michael Marderosian (Law '77) was among those to speak to the new students about having a passion for law, adding "The fire burns even brighter today than when I began this journey." He told the first-year law students that 37 years ago he was a grocery clerk at a Savemart Supermarket when he started at SJCL. Mick stated "the commitment to succeed comes with sacrifices." He stated law school is a life-changing experience. He talked about the pride students will acquire from reaching one's goals. "The fact that you could make money and have this kind of fun is actually a terrific experience," he said.

Alumni Profiles

SJCL congratulates our alumni celebrating 10, 20, and 30-year anniversaries in 2010. It has been my pleasure contacting and interviewing each of you. Thanks to those who participated in this effort. I look forward to catching up at the next milestone.

-Joan Lassley, Alumni Liaison

1980 David Anderson

David worked with Ted Forrest (Law '77) at the District Attorney's office. It was Ted who persuaded David to come to school at SJCL and to be best man at his wedding- those are fond memories. David has been involved in entertainment law and business law since graduation and through many of those clients he built relationships that took him to producing TV and films. David produced TV for Ted Turner all over the world and William Shatner worked for David's company for several months. David has worked on many films; he was also part owner of a music company that produced over a hundred artists.

David and his wife, Christina, have 5 amazing children. Ron obtained his Juris Doctor from Oklahoma University and currently has his PhD in Economics. Elizabeth graduated from University of San Diego and practices law in Napa. Kathy is an amazing and accomplished mom. Christina holds a business degree in Real Estate. Mary, who lives in Fresno, was recently selected as "Teacher of the Year." These children have provided David and his wife with 15 grandchildren. They enjoy the opportunities they have had that allowed them to really get to know their kids. His wife, Christina, just finished writing and performing a musical and David is completing a film titled "Exogenesis."

Early years at SJCL were amazing; they even had catered parties for their study groups led by Ted Forrest. The path that David took allowed him many opportunities and he is grateful to those early founders, Judge Eyman, John Loomis and Judge Wanger, for making the education available to him.

Gerald Farrington

And Memories of Robert Gorman (Law '80) "In his own words."

When I entererd SJCL in 1976, I already had 10 years of full-time teaching experience under my belt, the last 6 at Fresno City College. Through law school and until 2003 I continued to teach at Fresno City College while maintaining a small law practice, first with Edward Marouk and Linda Bonett, and later with just Linda Bonett. For 18 of those years I served as Hearing Officer and Counsel for the Fresno County Civil Service Commission because I had developed something of a specialty in Public Sector Labor and Employment Law. So my working career consisted of 37 years of teaching (33 at Fresno City College) and 23 years as a practicing lawyer. I retired from teaching and became inactive in the practice of law in 2003.

For many years until his unfortunate death in 2000, I provided legal services to, and was a business associate of, our classmate, Robert Gorman, whose chemical engineering consulting business was Industrial Process Consultants. Bob Gorman, much beloved by his classmates, for his Southern homespun sense of humor and because he was the oldest student, was a chemical engineer, who constructed and deconstructed chemical plants all over the world. I came to learn that Bob was intimately familiar with every ammonia, urea, and nitric acid plant in the entire world.

A highlight of my professional career was developing an academic and teaching expertise in Soviet and Chinese political and governmental institutions, as well as the ideological framework underpinning them. This interest took me to China for lengthy professional visits. These visits followed having earlier similar immersion in Soviet-bloc Poland and Soviet Russia, dating as far back as 1963.

The longest visit to China was for a full year in 1981-1982 as a Visiting Professor at Yunnan University in Kunming.

I taught the American Constitution and a kind of overview of American law and legal institutions. I taught the Class of 1977-1981--the first university class to graduate after the end of the infamous Cultural Revolution. These students were completely fluent in all aspects of English, and most of them went on to distinguish themselves. For example, one became an executive with Honeywell Corporation and is now the head of marketing of General Electric Avionics for all of Asia.

In 1989 I was also privileged to be an exchange professor at the Technical University of Budapest.

My wife, Judy, (of 44 years) and I have a daughter (Jocelyn) who works in the field of International Development. At present, she lives in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, West Africa, where she works as Head of Programming for Catholic Relief Services.

Perhaps the most interesting memory I have of SJCL classes on the old Pacific campus was the night of the Civil Procedure final exam with Oliver Wanger. He came to class more than a half hour late in his tennis shorts. Needless to say, there was some interesting interaction between some students and Professor Wanger about this.

In retirement, Judy and I live six months in Ridgway, Colorado (in a County of about 4,500 people) and the other six months in Tucson, Arizona. We also have a condo in the San Francisco Bay area where we visit several weeks a year. Judy and I spend our time traveling the world, golfing, hiking, and fly fishing in the mountains of Western Colorado.

Nancy Winston Silacci

Nancy began the practice of law as a Research Attorney for Fresno County Superior Court Judges Martin, Caeton and Mardikian. Next she worked as a Deputy District Attorney in Fresno County in the Criminal Division. Nancy then moved to private practice for 6 years with Hanna, Brophy et al. in Workers' Compensation Defense. Subsequently she returned to the D.A.'s office Workers' Comp Fraud Division and then the Family Support Division where she practiced about 10 years. In 2005 Nancy retired and moved to Prescott, Arizona where she is surrounded by 5 lakes and a quaint downtown area. She lives in the mountains about 2 hours south of Flagstaff and finds it to be heaven there.

Nancy married Art Silacci in 1998 and has 5 step-children and 6 wonderful, beautiful grandchildren ranging in age from 3 to 10 years. They are spread between California and Colorado. They don't get to see them all enough! Trips to Disneyland are a great favorite with the kids.

Nancy says bird and nature photography are her main interests. Travel is another love and they have been fortunate enough to travel to Canada, U.S. and Central and South America to pursue these interests and see what history has to offer at Copan and Tikal or nature in The Canadian Rockies, Maine, Louisiana, Florida, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Copper Canyon and the marvelous Galapagos Islands. Of great importance to Nancy is her chance to go on cruises with fellow SJCL class-

mate, Nancy Smith. This summer they are off to the Baltic for a chance to see the Hermitage and other wonders; last year it was Alaska.

Nancy is involved with the Prescott Audubon Society; Highlands Center for Natural History in Prescott; Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary in Prescott and supportive of Guide Dogs for the Blind of California and Best Friends Animal Shelter in Utah.

The after-class camaraderie was very important to Nancy. There were many nights after class spent dancing at a local, shall we say, club, (and Russ Cook could dance all night!) or eating breakfast after class at Cedar Lanes Bowling Alley. She recalls special memories of their two "Bobs" - Giovacchini and Gorman who left us too soon. Who could forget study group first year with Chuck Dreiling and Jim Sanderson, assisted by Kathy Hart and Ted Forrest who were seniors studying for the Bar? Most of the class was working full time and these wonderful fellow classmates helped each other hold it together and make it through!

Nancy Smith

Nancy was born in Old Fort, North Carolina and graduated from the University of North Carolina. She came to California in 1973 with her two children. She lived and worked in Merced while commuting to law school classes in Fresno. After law school, she worked as an associate for Allen, Ivey, et.al., a law firm in Merced. She accepted employment with the Fresno County Counsel's office and moved to Fresno in 1984. She worked as a research attorney at the Fifth District Court of Appeal from 1987 to 1992, for Justice Hamlin until his retirement and for Justice Vartabedian thereafter. In 1992 she accepted a position as an Administrative Law Judge with the California Unemployment Appeals Board, where she served until her retirement in April, 2010 (although she does continue to work part time as a retired annuitant.)

After several years in San Diego, Nancy's daughter now resides in Fresno, with her husband and daughter. She enjoys her work in the real estate business. Nancy's son is an attorney working in Burbank, where he lives with his wife and daughter.

Of Nancy's many interests, spending time with her granddaughters is foremost. They visit often and Nancy has taken the older one to the Grand Canyon and to Hawaii to swim with the dolphins. This summer she will cruise to Alaska with the younger one. Nancy's favorite adult travel companion is Nancy Silacci (Law '80). They have traveled to England, Alaska, and Mexico. They will visit the Baltic States and Russia this summer.

Nancy enjoys the opera, traveling to Seattle, San Francisco, Santa Fe, and Los Angles for performances. She and her daughter-in-law frequently attend the opera in Los Angeles, where they recently heard Placido Domingo sing the title role in Bajazet. Nancy was a runner for many years; while waiting for Bar results, she trained for and completed a marathon. While not running so much in recent years, she still enjoys walking her two dogs miles a day and hiking in the Sierras as often as possible.

From law school Nancy remembers the support and assistance she received from Geri Brown (Law '79) and her husband Rich, a ridiculous amount of reading, studying for the Bar exam with Nancy Silacci, and being very young. She is grateful for the availability of San Joaquin College of Law, since due to her domestic obligations at the time, she could not have participated in a more traditional law school setting. San Joaquin College of Law allowed her to realize her goal of becoming an attorney and enjoying a career of personal satisfaction and service to the community.

1990

Gregory Tanner

Greg is a partner at Malmquist, Fields and Camastra in Glendale, CA where he has worked since 2001. Greg practices mostly worker's compensation defense, but also handles wage and hour cases on behalf of employers. Additionally, Greg provides ADA and other human resources consulting and handles some intellectual property matters, primarily copyright issues and licensing agreements.

Greg married Graciela in 1989. They have two Holland Loop rabbits and a dog.

Greg's interests include very intermittent writing, sports such as golf and racquet-ball and some photography. Greg also enjoys traveling and most recently spent two weeks in China last year.

Greg truly enjoyed his time at SJCL and felt that he received an extraordinary level of instruction. His most memorable moment however was the emotion he felt driving home after his last final exam!!

2000 Shannon Geiger

Shannon is currently employed as a temporary reference librarian for the Fresno County Law Library and as an instructor at Heald College in the Paralegal program.

Shannon is engaged to Michael Wise. She has a 9 year old son, Patrick. Michael has 4 children: Elizabeth, 19, Erin, 15, Johnathon, 14 and Felicity, 7, so Shannon enjoys being a de facto stepmom to his children as well.

Shannon loves to travel, take pictures, read and spend time with her family and her 9 month-old Lab puppy, Nick. Shannon is also training for the Two Cities Half Marathon which will be held in November. She has completed two triathlons for Team In Training and tries to do volunteer work for Team In Training whenever she can.

Shannon recalls her study group first year arguing over slander per se. She also recalls surviving Purvis' Con Law class with her dignity intact and working harder than she had ever worked for anything.

Jo Anne Morales

Jo Anne practices worker's compensation defense. She packed up her life and sold her Fresno home in 2007 to move to Pismo Beach to work with Goldman, Magdalin & Krikes there. However, she missed Fresno and talked her boss into letting her open a Fresno office for the firm. Jo Anne moved back to town in 2008.

Jo Anne has been married to Scott since 1992. They have two beautiful children and two not so beautiful dogs. Their daughter is McKenzie Taylor; she is 7 going on 15. Their son is Gavin Scott and he is 5 years old.

Jo Anne strives to be "Mom and Wife of the Year."

Jo Anne loves her family and children. Their daughter wants to be a professional dancer, so Jo Anne's spare time is spent as a taxi cab driver, attending her daughter's many dance practices and competitions, her son's swimming lessons and T-ball practices and games. If she is not working, she is spending time with her family and wouldn't have it any other way.

Jo Anne is a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, but is so busy enjoying her family life, that she is not really as involved as she could be.

Jo Anne recalls the first year of school at the old site, hanging out by the dumpster and walking to the donut shop at break. She remembers studying for finals with Kathy Mackie and always having to talk her down off the edge, assuring her that she would pass. She remembers studying for the Bar exam every day, from 8 am to 5 pm, 7 days a week from June 1, 2000 up until the first day of the exam - of which she still has nightmares.

James Myers

James works for Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & Moresi, LLP, where his speciality is worker's compensation defense.

James just celebrated his 20th anniversary with wife, Laura. Their children - James, George, Joshua and Marilynwere all together at Laton High School last year. Their youngest, John, just finished 3rd grade.

James stays active with his family participating in the responsibilities of Scouts. They love to backpack. They are committed to their church and youth groups. (He was in the Fresno Bee on May 30th putting out flags for Memorial Day with their church and scout group.)

Special SJCL memories include; Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches; white shirts and blue jeans; the move from one campus to another; good friends and professors; searching for electrical outlets; Race Judicata; Discussions on politics and O.J.; and one cool Hawaiian shirt.



"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." - Aesop

his year, your acts of kindness have allowed SJCL to reach and surpass a monumental fundraising milestone for the first time in its history. SJCL alumni and supporters have contributed \$67,801 to the annual fund the largest amount ever raised to date. The annual fund, is unrestricted contributions that allow the law school to continue to operate and provide excellent legal education to all who have attended, past and future. Our call to you to support us during our 40th anniversary celebration has been answered with resounding force. The results from this year's Class Challenge are in and listed on the following pages. We had the largest participation of alumni giving in the 40 year history of the law school!

We are looking forward to celebrating with you all at the 40th anniversary gala weekend on September 10-11. Friday night will be a great time to mingle with former classmates, colleagues, faculty and staff and relive 40 years of memories. We are honored to have President of the Fresno County Bar Association, Melissa White, and President-Elect, Tim Sullivan as Co-Masters of Ceremonies for Saturday night's gala event. From what I hear from them, it will be an entertaining evening with lots of fun and surprises in store! If you are a golfer (or not), don't forget to come out and support a great scholarship program at the annual Wiseman Golf Tournament on Saturday at the beautiful Eagle Springs Golf Course at Table Mountain.

Make sure to check the 40th anniversary webpage with all the details of that weekend at www.sjcl.edu/40th or on the SJCL Facebook page. For those of you who may not be able to attend but would still like to support SJCL on their 40th anniversary can do so by purchasing an anniversary raffle ticket for \$5 or a book of 5 for \$20. We have some great items available to win so go and check them out on the 40th webpage!

This edition of the Inter Alia is dedicated to recognizing all our donors who have given throughout the last fiscal year. As we head into our 41st year, we look forward to our continued relationship with our esteemed alumni, valued supporters, and ever-growing number of friends.

You deserve to be properly recognized for your contributions, and we strive for 100 percent accuracy. If we have made an error, please contact the Advancement Department at 559-323-2100 or email kwelte@sjcl.edu with corrections. Please note our new format of recognizing donors will include those donors and gifts received during the period between each Inter Alia publication instead of an annual cumulative list. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are unable to report cumulatively on one page anymore.

2010 CLASS athon

Winning Class for Total Contributions

Class of 1985 (\$12,575)

Winning Class for Total Participation

Class of 1975 (50%)

Annual Fund Recap for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

(Goal of \$65,000 and 13% participation rate)	
Total contributions	\$67,801
Total 1st time gift – alumni donors	63
Total alumni donors	192
Total alumni participation rate	16.24%

Total Giving Report for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Total Contributions to all fund categories......\$124,301 Total % of funds contributed by alumni......48%

Total Giving (August 1, 2009 - July 31, 2010) 4% 2% Annual Fund (55%) Scholarships (30%) General Donations (9%) Library Fund (4%) Endowment Fund (2%)

SAVE THE DATES

40th Anniversary Celebration Weekend	d September 10-11 www.sjcl.edu/40th
Constitution Day	September 17 CSU, Fresno
Central California Bankruptcy Institut	t e September 23-24 <i>Radisson Hotel</i>
SJCL Alumni Hall of Fame	October 28

For additional information on these events please visit our website at **www.sjcl.edu**.

2009-2010 Donors

August 1, 2009-July 31, 2010

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