

The Empire Writes Back

Volume 18, Issue 2, Summer 2018

Congratulations Students of the Month!

Kim Kaur, Haley Cleveland, Mae Vaughn, Mariah Treankle, Kenneth Goodson, and Frances Bengtsson



MARCH—Kim is always spot-on when it comes to course material, and she helps classmates when they are struggling. She is very smart and understands the material but doesn't ever make anybody feel like they aren't "getting it." She provides useful tips and tricks too.

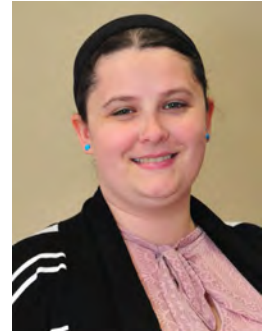


APRIL—Haley has a positive attitude and is helpful to other students. She is very energetic, always looking for opportunities to excel both academically and personally. Her exceptional leadership skills show her determination to take advantage of everything her education has to offer.

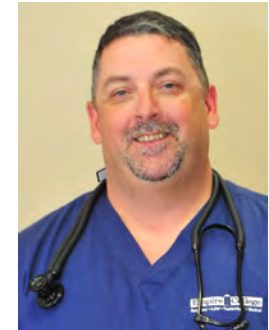


MAY—Mae has been involved with night ELSA and was key in raising money for the Camara Children Trust and undocumented Sonoma County residents impacted by the wildfires. During her time at Empire, she has demonstrated the qualities that will make her a successful paralegal.

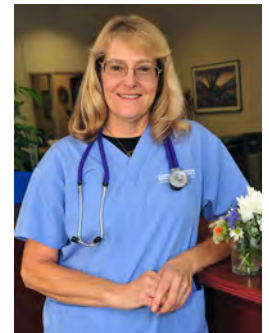
JUNE—Mariah is motivated and committed, with diligent attention to detail. She is also helpful, caring, and a problem solver for her peers. She is not afraid to ask thoughtful questions and contribute to discussions or to express new and unique insights to common accounting issues.



JULY—An active member of the U.S. Army, when Ken had to take a few weeks off for mandatory training, he got his work done ahead so that he could rejoin his class. His jovial personality makes him well-liked by his peers. He spearheaded several fundraising events for American Heart Association.



AUGUST—Fran is a high-performing student. She played a key role in the Heart Health Month in February, helping to earn more than \$700 for AHA. Always ready to help, Fran has been elected Education Chairman for "MASC," Medical Assistants of Sonoma County. ▲



WE GOT THE JOB!

Accounting

Jamie Ballentine
Shelley Dawson
Oscar Juarez
Amanda Seiffert
Mariah Treankle
Stacy Wassana

G & C Auto Body, Inc.
Commonwealth Property Management
Sequoia Senior Solutions
Purple Wine & Spirits
Trattore Farms & Winery
Molkenbuhr Enterprises, Inc.

Clerical Lead
Assistant to Property Manager
Payroll Administrator
Production Coordinator
Accounting Assistant
Accounting Assistant



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Turn to Jobs!... Page 9

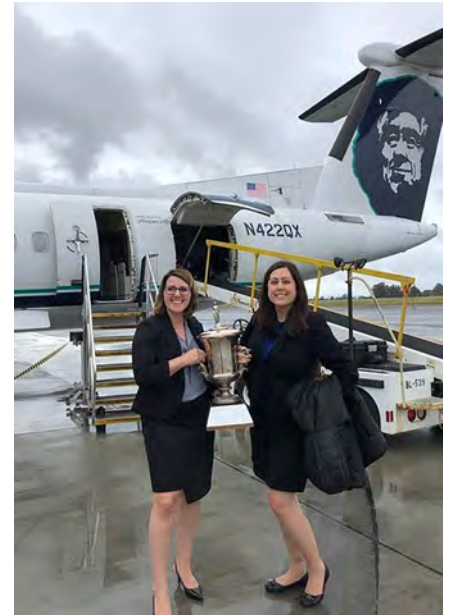
The School of Law In Brief

Moot Court Competition Team Wins BIG!

Empire Law's Roger J. Traynor moot court competition team of Michelle Novi and Stephanie Ransom with proud coach Connie Burtnett had remarkable results at the April competition in Los Angeles, capturing first place in oral argument.

In addition, both team members were recognized for individual excellence in appellate advocacy for their oral arguments, Ms. Novi as the #1 oralist in the competition.

Twelve law schools sent teams to the competition, including Loyola (which placed second), Hastings, U.C. Berkeley, McGeorge, and Golden Gate. The Traynor competition is California's oldest and largest moot tournament. This is the 13th year that Empire's team has placed at the competition since 2000.



Farewell Dean Mullins and Welcome Dean Purtill

Local attorney Brian J. Purtill has been appointed Dean of Empire College School of Law, where he previously taught Civil Procedure and Professional Responsibility. As the eighth Dean in the history of Empire Law School, he succeeds J. Michael Mullins, who has served as Dean since 2015. In addition to spending more time with his grandchildren, Dean Mullins has joined Legal Aid of Sonoma County as a part-time supervising attorney.

Dean Purtill began his career in 1984 as a civil litigator in Sonoma County with what was then named the O'Brien Watters & Davis law firm, and spent the last ten years of his litigation career as "Of Counsel" to the Santa Rosa firm of Spaulding McCullough & Tansil LLP, leaving that firm in 2014. Since that time, he has devoted his time to his mediation and arbitration practice, which, like his litigation career, includes a variety of claims, including: personal injury; insurance claims; trusts and estates claims; real estate sales disputes; partnership dissolution; landlord/tenant claims;

and other personal and business disputes.

Dean Purtill has been an Arbitrator and Mediator with Santa Rosa's Arbitration & Mediation Center (AMC) since 1996, and has twice served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Bar Association. In addition to his new position as Dean of the Law School, he will remain on the panel at AMC, and will rejoin the SCBA Board and participate as a voting member.

Community service has also been high on Dean Purtill's priority list. In addition to providing support for his children's school and sports organizations, he spent six years on the Board of Directors of the Santa Rosa non-profit Social Advocates for Youth, the last two of which as its President, and later served on SAY's Capital Campaign Committee to build the SAY Finley Dream Center Campus in Santa Rosa. Dean Purtill also currently sits on the Rebuild Steering Committee for Santa Rosa's Habitat For Humanity, helping in its efforts to address the housing shortage exacerbated by the October 2017 wildfires.

California Bar Exam

The Law School faculty and staff of Empire College extend a huge CONGRATULATIONS to February 2018 California Bar Examination passers: Alexandra Apodaca, Yuvanna Davis, Ashlee Hellman, Christina Howard, and Dale Miller. These students' accomplishments required years of dedication and hard work in law school and hundreds of hours of preparation.

More recently, in late-July, another group of Empire Law graduates sat for the July Bar Exam. In November, they will learn the outcome of their efforts. We wish them the very best as they attempt to patiently await their results.



Dale Miller and Ashlee Hellman were sworn into the practice of law by Hon. Prof. Allan Hardcastle.



Paralegal Department News

Meet Cierra Cassero, Legal Department Student Mentor

Hello, I am Cierra Cassero, the Legal Student Mentor, a position that I take very seriously. I am honored to be the mentor for all the students at Empire, and not just students in the legal field. I have had many jobs, but I came to Empire College looking for a career. I graduated high school with no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I have a passion for helping people, for learning, writing and research, and I wanted to find a career that could combine all of my passions into one job. The legal field has so many opportunities within it to grow, continue learning, and so many different types of law to learn. I thought I would try the Paralegal Program. It combined every one of my passions into one career that I will enjoy doing, and will provide me with financial stability.

I fell in love with my school. My teachers challenge me to be the best, and do my best, in order for me to reach my full potential. I also discovered how much I love learning about the law! The Paralegal Program gave me a new passion to focus on, everything legal.

While I love my school, and the community of friends and support it has provided me, I look forward to graduating and exploring all of the fields of law that I can go into. I feel like no matter what, I will always have something new to learn, and a career I will never get bored of. Empire College has gone above and beyond providing me with the tools I will need as a paralegal, with hands-on learning about the ins and outs of working within a law firm. When I graduate I will feel confident in the skills I have learned at Empire College so I can hit the ground in my new career. I cannot wait to get started!

UPDATE: Since writing her Student Mentor bio, Cierra has achieved her Paralegal Certificate of Mastery – Lexis Advance from LexisNexis. She also started interning at the Santa Rosa law firm that has partnered with Erin Brockovich to work on behalf of North Bay fire victims. Cierra got to meet Ms. Brockovich (who is Cierra's inspiration for pursuing a career as a paralegal) and have a one-on-one conversation with her!

Deborah Cain Named REAP Paralegal of the Year

Empire College instructor Deborah Cain has been named Paralegal of the Year by the Redwood Empire Association of Paralegals (REAP)! Her name will be submitted to CAPA (California Alliance of Paralegal Associations) where she will be honored at the next statewide conference and will be up for possibly winning CAPA's Paralegal of the Year award.

Deborah is a certified paralegal through the National Association of Legal Assistants. She received her specialized associate's degree from Empire College. She has experience working for attorneys in the areas of adoption, real property, and estate planning/probate litigation. She currently works for probate litigation attorneys at Eberts Law Group in Santa Rosa.

Deborah also holds a bachelor's degree in special education and a master's degree in education. She teaches courses in the paralegal and business programs at Empire College. Deborah started working with REAP during her last year as a student at Empire, and was inspired by the president at that time to be involved in the paralegal community.

Paralegal Grad Receives Nation's Top Honor for Community Service

Congratulations to Empire College paralegal graduate Andrea Hernandez Dominguez, who has received national recognition from the White House for her volunteer service of more than 100 hours as a legal translator at the Sonoma County Small Claims Advisory Clinic. As the second-ever Empire College recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award, she was recently presented a personalized certificate of achievement together with a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States.

"I feel very honored and blessed to have received this award; it really means a lot," Andrea said. "Volunteering in the Small Claims Advisory Clinic while a student really helped me understand what was being taught in the classroom."

A 2011 graduate of Nueva Vista High School and 2018 honors graduate of Empire College's Specialized Associate Degree – Paralegal program, Andrea volunteered her time two days a week for over a year as a translator while she pursued her paralegal degree. She is now employed as a paralegal with the Law Offices of Richard J. Meechan. ▲



News from the Business Administration Department

The Road to Success Starts with You!

Business students created a video for their project in the Project Management class by using Google Slides, allowing everyone to work on the project at the same time, then downloading into PowerPoint, and exporting to a video.

They chose the topic: *"The Road to Success Starts with You!"* In addition, they each added a slide stating why they came to Empire.

Students who created the video are (L-R): Daniel Vargas-Machuca, Moncerat Carrillo, Victoria Lebowitz, Marcus Corey, and Dante Hernandez. Not pictured are: Suleima Vega, David Johnson, Carmen Sandoval, and Jordyn Price.



Business Students Achieve Microsoft Certifications

Congratulations to the following Business students who recently passed Microsoft certifications:

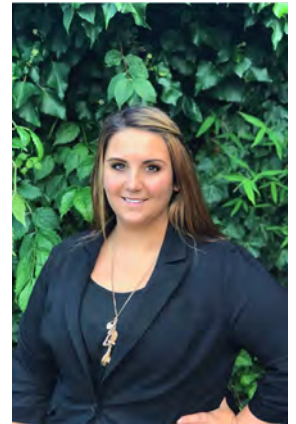
Melissa Chavez: Word

Tabby Rivas: Word

Krista Sarmiento: Word and PowerPoint

Meet Kara McFarlane, Business Student Mentor

In September 2017, I decided that it was time for me to make a change in my life. I had heard about Empire College through family and friends who had come to Empire in the past and after some research, I realized that Empire was the right fit for me. I am currently pursuing my Associate's Degree in Business, and I would love to open an animal sanctuary someday. In addition to being a day student, I also work as an Administrative Assistant at the front desk in the evenings. Feel free to stop by and say hello anytime. My intention when I started here at Empire was to get in and get out. What I did not expect was all the guidance and support I would receive from the staff and faculty, and finding my second home.



Laurel's Internship with Sonoma Media

Laurel Driedger was hoping for an internship with a radio station, and that's just what she got...with Hot 101.7, Froggy 92.9, and KSRO. During her last week, she had the opportunity to produce a commercial. She chose the sound bites, voiced a line, and completed the editing for on-air use! Her fully produced spot started on air the following day. Laurel also worked a couple of remote events, including the premier of Urban Inferno. ▲



Accounting Department News

Empire's VITA Tax Clinic Among Top Producers

Tax season may officially be over, but accolades for Empire's volunteers keep coming. Suzanne Yeomans, Financial Stability Program Officer for United Way of the Wine Country's Earn It! Keep It! Save It! program (aka VITA), shared this update:

Empire is the 3rd best producing site in Kimberley Brown's, IRS agent, whole territory which I believe includes Hawaii! Kim said she cannot give me the specific name of the SF sites, but just considering the size of the city and access to both volunteers and clients....wow! Please share this with all of your volunteers. The size, scope and accomplishment of this cannot be overstated.

| Preparer | ACCEPTED |
|---------------------|----------|
| San Francisco | 2,528 |
| San Francisco | 1,758 |
| Empire College VITA | 1,613 |

Accounting Students Achieve Certifications

Congratulations to the following Accounting students who recently passed certifications:

Magaly Ayala Fajardo: Bookkeeping and Payroll

Jeniebel Coto: Excel

Shelley Dawson: Excel

Nam Doran: Excel

Oscar Juarez: Excel

Edith Ocegüera: Excel

Tia Reed: Bookkeeping and Payroll

Jasmine Sanchez Lombera: Payroll

Mariah Treankle: Excel and QuickBooks



IMA Student Chapter News

Congratulations to Empire College accounting students Katie Bart and Jessica Vogt, who were awarded scholarships from the IMA (Institute of Management Accountants) parent chapter at their annual Student Appreciation Luncheon!

As usual, the Empire IMA student chapter has been busy raising funds for United Way and VITA with their nacho and pizza fundraisers. They have also collected certificates to enhance their portfolios through participation in these events. Well done!



Above: Accounting instructor Susan Gugliotta with scholarship recipients Jessica Vogt and Katie Bart.

Meet Deanna Wassana, Accounting Student Mentor

Hello, my name is Deanna Wassana. I started Empire College June of 2017 in the Business program. After taking the first two accounting classes and hearing all the job opportunities in the accounting field I decided to change majors. I could not have made a better decision. I am now in the Accounting Essentials program and look forward to upgrading my program.

I worked retail for several years and knew that was not what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I also worked a couple of office positions and knew that I needed a better educational background to better my skills. When I had the opportunity to come back to school, I jumped right on it! Since coming to Empire College, I have come a long way and could not be any happier. I am excited to be a mentor for my classmates and continue to strive for greatness.▲



Medical Department News

MASC Organization Launched

Medical Assistants of Sonoma County, also known as 'MASC,' is the new organization for Medical Assistants and medical students. This organization launched right here at Empire College and they held an election of officers, adopted a mission statement, and began making plans for the future!

All Medical Assistant students are eligible to join and can pick up an application from their Med Term instructor or at the first meeting on Wednesday, August 15th at 6:30 pm in the Student Lounge.

Officers pictured, from left to right: Alyson Brisco - Advisor, Ken Goodson - Vice President, Adelina Werby - Co-Chairman of Membership and Hospitality, Lisa Arciga – Secretary/Treasurer, Jaime Koste – President, Cherie Pearson – Co-Chairman of Membership and Hospitality, Shannon Tinsley, Advisor, Ed Carrithers – Co-Chairman of Education, Fran Bengtsson – Co-Chairman of Education.



MASC will hold monthly meetings here on campus as well as other events. Come to the meeting and share your ideas!

River Rock Casino Volunteer Event

Dry Creek Rancheria and River Rock Casino have invited us to be a part of their annual Employee Health Fair! This event promotes a variety of wellness ideas and services through local vendors and insurance carriers for employees and their families. Empire students will be educating their employees on ways to improve their health and wellness. The event is held at the casino from 9 am to 5 pm on August 16th. The following students are signed up to attend: Megan Schneider, Abby Leon Reyes, Nansi De La Torre, Fran Bengtsson, Lissette Montes, and Adelina Werby.

Seeking Volunteers for Catwalk for a Cure

Sutter Medical Group sponsors a fantastic event every year to raise money for Breast Cancer services in our county. Cat Walk always has a very special pink theme and this year will be no exception. The theme for 2018 is Sweet 16 Pretty in Pink! The decorations will be vintage Willy Wonka candy shop! For years Empire's medical students help the week of the event by putting decorations together, filling goody bags, painting, folding napkins, and other miscellaneous tasks. This aspect of volunteering can be done in casual clothes any time between 11 am and 5 pm on October 2nd, 3rd, or 4th.

Volunteers are also needed on the day of the event and will need to dress for success at this high glamour function! We have three shifts, an early morning, mid-day, and afternoon shift. The early morning shift is final set up and the last shift is a clean-up and tear down role. The middle shift is during the actual event and we typically manage the silent auction and sell raffle tickets to the guests.

This is a high energy, positive atmosphere and volunteers love it from year to year. The after party for all volunteers is pretty fun as well!

Please email Shannon directly if you are interested in signing up for this event!

Medical Skills Certifications

Empire medical assisting students now have a choice of three certifications recognized in California: state certification (CCMA) through the California Certifying Board for Medical Assistants and two national certifications, NCMA (National Certified Medical Assistant) through NCCT and RMA (Registered Medical Assistant) through AMT. Congratulations to our new Certified Medical Assistants:

Patrice Acker, NCMA
Emily Amador Godinez, NCMA
Crystal Avina-Avina, NCMA
Cynthia Brenner, NCMA
Adel Caal Bonilla, NCMA
Marisa Chacon, NCMA
Jennifer Crosby, NCMA
Cynthia Gonzalez Alvarez, NCMA
Ashley Johnson, NCMA

Claudia Lopez, NCMA
Wendy Monroy, NCMA
Cynthia Prieto, NCMA
Jessica Quintal, NCMA
Paula Lucia Sanchez Ortiz, NCMA
Kelsey Thompson, NCMA
Latisha Tristano, NCMA
Rebekah Turknett, NCMA



Information Technology Department News

Empire Techies Attend RSA Security Conference

The IT department took a field trip to the Moscone Center for the world's biggest IT security conference. Students witnessed and got hands-on demonstrations on the latest advancements in IT security.

Each year the conference expands and this year was no exception. Cloud based security once again dominated the expo. Third-party companies are managing businesses' IT security through the cloud, making it easier for businesses and administrators to get the security services they desperately need. Firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS), Data Loss Prevention (DLP – tracking the movement of data), and Multi-factor Authentication (using tokens and biometrics to logon) were just some of the technologies presented.



Guest Speakers Share Industry Insights

Empire graduate and current Information Systems Security Officer, John Mills, recently returned to the classroom to speak to IT students. John was recently promoted and now handles security for the Veterans Administration. John stressed the importance of customer service and people skills. He then gave students some great advice when it comes to interviewing and finding employment.

Eddy Gilbert, Empire Career Placement Advisor, also recently spoke to IT students about job placement, interviewing skills, and the importance of certifications. Eddy is available to help you find that new job you have been looking for and assist you with your resume. Please introduce yourself to Eddy ASAP and visit him often, especially those students getting ready to graduate.



I.T. Blog Launched

Blog Blog Blog Blog Blog!!! No, that's not Charlie Brown's teacher yapping at you...That's right, it's the IT Department's new blog!

Check out Brandan Merrick's new entry about the importance of certifications at <https://empcol.edu/blog/certifications-why-should-you-get-them/> and Nathan Jackson's post about cybersecurity at <https://empcol.edu/blog/basic-computer-security-everyone-needs/>.

RDP IaaS ... "The Cloud"

in this constantly changing world of IT, new technologies and trends are thrust upon us quickly. Imagine a world where we can access our PCs and servers at any time, any place and on any device without any physical limitations. Imagine a world where IT students can create complex mixed OS networks with a couple clicks of a mouse in a virtual environment. What do we call this Virtual Insanity? No, it's not a cheap rip-off of the movie *The Matrix*; it's called Cloud Based Infrastructure as a Service, AKA "the greatest trend in IT." And here at Empire College...we have that!

IT students can now have access to create networks, operating systems, and complete labs from anywhere on the planet. A special thanks to our Network Administrator Neo (Trenton Schuttler) for all his hard work on this.



I.T. Club Has Swagger and Swag!

You're in IT. You have a style and swagger that's all your own which oozes confidence and envy of all those around you. There's no question you can't handle. Except, for maybe... "What do I wear today?"

The next time you go out on the town put down that brandname pocket protector. Nothing says "I can fix your computer" with the style and comfort of IT Club polos and tees available now in the bookstore!

The shirts were funded by money raised through a raffle and at the club's BBQ on National Hamburger Day on May 28th. The coals were flaming, the cheese melting, and the smell of sizzling bacon filled the College. And the IT Club raised \$178! Thank you for supporting the Empire College IT Club.



Medical News (continued)

Congratulations to the following students who passed the national Phlebotomy Technician CPT-1 certification exam:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Stephanie Aguilar | Savannah Guinard | Jacqueline Scheid |
| Emily Amador | Theresa Holmes | Anthony Schenone |
| Brenda Beltran | Hanna Langley | Crystal Silveria |
| Brenda Campos | Erica Lamburth | Alondra Soto |
| Alyssa Dentoni | Kelly Muelrath | Devon Walker |

Congratulations to medical majors who have recently earned injection, EKG, phlebotomy, and/or urinalysis skills certifications:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Patrice Acker | Jessica Garcia | Cherie Pearson |
| Kelsey Ahlborn | Kenneth Goodson | Rachael Piceno |
| Emily Amador Godinez | Sheena Helems | Jordyn Price |
| Eloisa Ambriz Oregon | Taylor Householder | Jessica Quintal Alvarez |
| Lynnsey Avina Avina | Daryll Huff | Angela Ramos |
| Brenda Beltran | Tiffani Kinney | Xenia Reyna |
| Frances Bengtsson | Kelsey Langhals | Natalia Rodriguez Patino |
| Jordan Burger | Monica Lemley | Alicia Salomon Padilla |
| Crystal Calderon | Dulce Leon Reyes | Dillon Saltzer |
| Silvia Calderon-Guzman | Janery Leon Reyes | Brittney Schneemann |
| Ashley Cardenas | Claudia Lopez | Megan Schneider |
| Daisy Cardiel Lopez | Vanessa Lopez Munoz | Angelique Sinnott |
| Jennifer Clay | Claudia Magdaleno | Reanna Stoneham |
| Nansi De La Torre | Alison Manson | Leslie Valdez Herrera |
| Cynthia Enriquez Carlino | Joana Marron | Ana Vazquez Mondragon |
| Sandra Espinosa | Yoselin Menjivar Orellana | Adelina Werby |
| Alicia Frieze | Stephanie Miglio | Brooke White |
| Carmen Garcia | Nathan Passantino | Andrea Zuniga Velasquez |



Nijahia Sanchez Awarded Kaiser Permanente Scholarship

Congratulations to Nijahia Sanchez, our 2018 recipient of the Kaiser Permanente Excellence in Education Scholarship! During the June graduation ceremony, John Fannin, who is Support Services Administrator for Kaiser Permanente Santa Rosa, presented the \$2,500 scholarship.

Nijahia has been tutoring students before and after school. In her scholarship essay Nijahia stated: “Since I have started tutoring I realized the importance behind the title I have been given and take full pride over it. By investing my time and effort I am able to help people not be defined by the hardships they face through schoolwork. Being able to understand the feelings of struggle, stress, etc. allows me to relate with students seeking extra guidance. Once overcoming those turmoils we can, sequentially, Live Well and Thrive towards whatever the future holds.” ▲



Raffle prizes included a Windows 10 desktop computer, a Cisco wireless router, and a handheld document scanner!

IT News (continued)

Congratulations to the following IT students who recently passed industry certification exams:



Hardware

Blake Buchanan
Matthew Lyall
Sam Merrill

Operating System

Blake Buchanan
Matthew Lyall
Sam Merrill
Shane Whitman



Blake Buchanan
Matthew Lyall



Christopher Rivera



Marc Hunter, Networking Fundamentals
David Johnson, Installing and Configuring Windows 10



Logan Peterson ▲

JOBS! (continued from page 1)

Business and Hospitality/Tourism

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Haley Cleveland | Dasco Inc | A/P Accounting Clerk |
| Jesus Martinez | Walmart | Assistant Store Manager |
| Iris Mowforth | Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa | Front Desk Agent |
| Joeline Ross | Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa | Front Office Agent |
| Julia Stark | EBA Engineering | Receptionist/Office Support |

Information Technology

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Abraham Gonzales-Zarate | River Rock Casino | Systems Specialist |
| Marc Hunter | Boys & Girls Club | Technology Manager |
| David Johnson | KLH Consulting | Desktop Technician |

Legal

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rachel Ahm | Brockway Law | Legal Secretary |
| Jean "Mae" Vaughn | Law Office of Richard Meechan | Paralegal |

Medical

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Emily Amador Godinez | Sebastopol Orthopedics | Medical Assistant |
| Deanna Alvarado | Santa Rosa Community Health | Medical Receptionist |
| Silvia Calderon-Guzman | Santa Rosa Community Health | Medical Assistant |
| Jennifer Clay | St. Joseph Health | Medical Assistant/Receptionist |
| Caitlyn Diedrich | Dr. Gonzalez | Front Office/Sterilization Tech |
| Samantha Fernandez | Napa Valley Family Medical Group | Medical Assistant |
| Caitlyn Garma | Hammer Chiropractic | Chiropractic Assistant |
| Jaime Koste | Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation | Medical Assistant |
| Kelsey Langhals | Institute for Health Management | Medical Assistant |
| Morgan Longacre | Northern CA Medical Associates | Medical Assistant |
| Yoselin Menjivar Orellana | North Bay Vireoretinal Consultants | Medical Back Office |
| Arlette Montes Esquivel | Santa Rosa Community Health | Medical Assistant |
| Rachael Piceno | Northern CA Medical Associates | Medical Assistant |
| Cynthia Prieto | Northern CA Medical Associates | Dermatology Tech |
| Jessica Quintal Alvarez | St. Joseph Health | Medical Assistant/Mobile Driver |
| Crystal Robert | Northern CA Medical Associates | Medical Assistant |
| Natalia Rodriguez Patino | Santa Rosa Community Health | Medical Assistant |
| Enrique Quiroz | Fresenius | Dialysis Tech |
| Carolina Roman Villafane | West County Health Centers | Medical Assistant |
| Berenisse Rosas-Cruz | Northern CA Medical Associates | Medical Assistant |
| Dianne Sforzo | Drs. Su and Rowen | Medical Assistant/Receptionist |
| Alyssa Solbert | Prima Medical Group | Medical Assistant |
| Sandii Titoni | Robert Half/St. Joseph Health | Medical Records ▲ |



SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, October 3rd
3:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Empire College Campus

In Brief (continued from page 2)

Class of 2018 – Proud Law Graduates

District Attorney/Professor Jill Ravitch delivered the commencement address at Empire College School of Law's graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 3, 2018, at the Mary Agatha Furth Center in Windsor. Juris Doctor degrees were conferred upon 17 graduates, and 14 graduates received Master of Legal Studies degrees.

Professor Martin Seeger, who is a professor of Civil Procedure, addressed the graduating class on behalf of the School of Law's faculty. Christopher Mendoza, who graduated Magna Cum Laude, delivered the valedictory address.

Five graduates – Christopher Mendoza, Justin Smock, Robin Bartholow, Monica

Lehre, and Michelle Novi – were recipients of Scholastic Achievement Awards provided by eleven local law firms: Abbey, Weitzenberg, Warren & Emery; Bluestone Zunino & Hamilton, LLP; Cochran | Erickson PC; Johnston Thomas, Attorneys at Law, PC; Law Offices of Anderson Zeigler; Law Office of Paul Lozada; Law Office of Richard J. Meechan; O'Brien Watters & Davis, LLP; Shapiro, Glavin, Shapiro & Moran; Smith Dollar, PC; and Spaulding, McCullough & Tansil LLP.



Informational Law Seminar

An informational seminar will be held Tuesday, August 28 from 6:30-8pm at the Empire College campus. Featured alumni speakers will be Sarah Lewers and James Zakasky, who practice in the areas of civil litigation and trusts/estates. They will discuss the importance of their practical legal education with interested, prospective law students. Additionally, they will share their law school experiences and answer questions. Please contact the Law Admissions Office at 707-546-4000 to reserve your seat. Guests are welcome.

If you know anyone with questions about what law school is like, please have them reach out to Assistant Dean Murray Cockerill to learn more or they can email

LawAdmissions@empirecollege.com to request an appointment for further information.

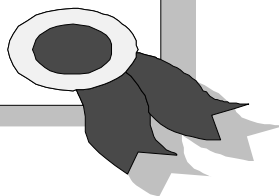
Professor Bussing Recognized As Top Educator

Congratulations to Professor Heather Bussing, who has been recognized by the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce for Excellence in Education in the four-year college category. Joining the College in 2004, Professor Bussing teaches Social Media & Internet Law, Advanced Legal Writing, and Professional Responsibility. "Legal Writing" is an essential course for law students who must proficiently reduce arcane legal opinions into cogent and clear paragraphs for their clients of the future as well as convince the bar examiner of their worth before they are allowed to practice. Professor Bussing is not only an outstanding instructor but enthralles her students.

Heather has served as a Settlement Panelist for the Sonoma County Superior Courts and has donated hundreds of hours of pro bono work for the citizens of Sonoma County. She works with former students now opening their own practices. To 'hang out your own shingle' is a courageous action requiring a seasoned hand to mentor. Professor Bussing has provided hours of mentorship to Empire graduates. She has answered numerous inquiries from employers who need legal advice, all for no fee. In addition to her legal work on a pro bono basis, Professor Bussing volunteers her creative talents as a photographer to take and provide professional portraits for new attorneys, as well as providing free photographs during Legal Aid events. ▲



Honor Roll



Students listed have achieved President's or Dean's Honors as of August 2018.

PRESIDENT'S HONORS: 3.85-4.0 cumulative GPA & no Incomplete or F grades

DEAN'S HONORS: 3.45-3.84 cumulative GPA, no I or F grades

President's Honors

Adams, Anthony
Arciga Coria, Lisa
Arga, Christy
Armanini, Michelle
Ballesteros, Yedmi
Bedrosian, Gina
Buchanan, Blake
Carrillo Paniagua, Moncerat
Chrysosovergis, Aletha
Crespo, Mariah
Crow, Eliza
Davis, Calista
Dunlap, Tasha
Dutcher, Krista
Evans, Alyssa
Fairfield, Jessica
Fox, Philip
Gomez Baltazar, Esbeide
Gomez Sanchez, Ma
Goodson, Kenneth
Hilliard, Hope
Howard, Ryan
Juley, Devin
Kelley, Theresa
Lebowitz, Victoria
Lyll, Matthew
Mahoney, Christie
Martinez, Laticia
McFarlane, Kara
Pearson, Cherie
Purdum, Lucy
Reed, Tia
Sapien, Eleanor
Schwartz, Carol
Segobiano, Alyssa
Shaffer, Jody

Sinnott, Angelique
Sisouvanh, Annabell
Smith, Alycia
Srna, Hyon
Vargas-Machuca, Daniel
Wilkinson, Amy

Dean's Honors

Albino, Keyry
Ayala Fajardo, Magaly
Bengtsson, Frances
Chiquet, Guillermo
Corey, Marcus
Dominguez, Julisa
Fitzpatrick, Rhiannon
Garcia, Carmen
Humble, Auriana
Inocencio, Melody
Jimenez Moya, Atanacia
Johnson, David
Johnson, Diana
Laws, Melissa
Lowry, Rebecca
Ramos, Angela
Ryder, Benjamin
Salomon Padilla, Alicia
Sanchez Lombera, Jasmine
Sanchez, Nijahia
Santiago, Stephanie
Schneider, Megan
Tlatilpa, Angelo
Tomsky, Sondra
Valerio, Shekainah
Whitman, Shane

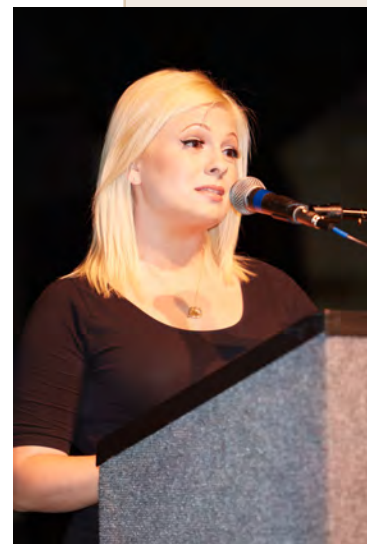


Graduation ... a Celebration of Success

Commencement Exercises were held for graduates of the Business School at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts on Wednesday evening, June 20, 2018.

Empire alumna Sheena McDermand Toledo, Clinical Support Services Manager for West County Health Centers, delivered the commencement address to the graduates. Marc Hunter, an honors graduate from the Specialized Associate Degree – Information Technology program, spoke on behalf of the graduating class, and medical instructor Alyson Brisco offered remarks from the Empire College faculty.

Congratulations to all graduates on your hard work and accomplishments. You did it! ▲



Financial Aid at Empire College

Come down the hall, hang a left at the post
Where Samantha and Lea have knowledge to boast
About all things financial, and are willing to share
If you sit at the desk in that roll-around chair.

Mary is full of Financial Aid knowledge,
For 21 years, she's been at the College.
Guiding our students and helping us out,
Regulations and Rules, is what she's about!

Back down the hall, across from Admissions
You'll find Kass, full of ambitions
Of helping each student with their Federal Loan,
Mostly in person, but sometimes by phone.
Guiding your next steps, after graduation,
With encouraging, credit-building "Congratulations!"

That's our team in a little rhyme,
Please come and see us anytime!



Send us a question at Financialaid@empirecollege.com

Mary O'Brien, Director of Financial Aid
Kass Von der Mehden, Federal Loan Repayment Manager
Samantha Calderon, Financial Aid Advisor
Lea Smith, Financial Aid Advisor

**SAVE THE
DATES !**

LAW SCHOOL INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR
Tuesday, August 28, 6:30-8:00pm (details, page 10)

EMPIRE COLLEGE JOB FAIR
Wednesday, October 3, 3:00-5:30pm

**Empire
College**
SINCE 1961



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