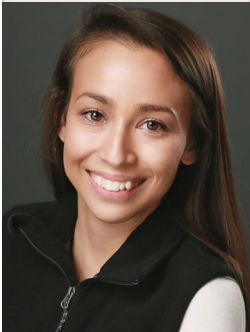


The Empire Writes Back

Volume 19, Issue 3, Fall-Winter 2019



Congratulations Students of the Month!

Jessica Vasquez, Azizeh Radwan, Lillian Dutcher & Kristi McGunagle

SEPTEMBER—Jessica achieved all of her industry certifications prior to graduation: Excel, Payroll, QuickBooks, and Bookkeeping. She volunteered as the Accounting Student Mentor as well as an accounting tutor, and she has served as treasurer of the IMA (Institute of Management Accountants) student chapter.

OCTOBER—Azizeh has proven herself to be a very committed student, and she excels in all she sets out to accomplish. Like most Empire College students, Azizeh has a very busy life with family responsibilities that she balances with her education schedule and study time to meet her goal of finishing successfully.

NOVEMBER—From her first day as an Empire student, Lillian has been dedicated and hardworking. She is always willing to help and answer her fellow

classmates' questions, often following up with them to make sure they understand the material and do not need any further help. Lillian is patient, particularly with computer-challenged students.

DECEMBER—Kristi is a go-getter and always asks for a full schedule. She is eager to learn and has done well in every class she has had. Kristi loves to volunteer and has sought out opportunities to help from the moment her enrollment began. She is now serving as Treasurer for MASC (Medical Assistants of Sonoma County) and has accurately maintained the checking and savings accounts. ▲



WE GOT THE JOB!

Accounting

Jessica Fairfield	Empire College	Accounts Receivable Manager
Kathryne Maynard	Emergency Equipment Management	Customer Service
Tia Reed	Access Ingenuity	Office Coordinator/Operations Specialist
Christina Rivera	Petaluma Creamery	Accounts Payable

Business

Moncerat Carrillo Paniagua	Smile Orthodontics	Schedule Coordinator
Laurel Driedger	Sonoma Promo	Customer Service
Shavon Gilroy	Soligent	Credit Administrator
Dante Hernandez Reyes	Filtration Group	Machine Operator Lead/Supervisor
Josephina Landen	Anesthesia & Analgesia Medical Group	Accounting Clerk
Victoria Lebowitz	Smart & Final Extra	Person in Charge

Information Technology

Blake Buchanan	DaVita Medical Group	Service Desk Analyst I
Crystal Hollenbeck	DriveSavers Data Recovery	Customer Service
Mark Parrish	Sonic	Technical Support
Christopher Simons	Coast Networks	Computer Network Technician

Legal

Theresa Cannata	Anderson Zeigler	Legal Assistant/Paralegal
Genesis Hernandez Morales	Law Offices of Andrian & Gallenson	Receptionist
Stephanie Morales	Anderson Zeigler	File Clerk/Scanner



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Turn to Jobs! ... Page 7

The School of Law In Brief

Pro Bono Awards

The Sonoma County Bar Association held its annual Pro Bono recognition event on December 3rd. Many Empire Law students and alumni were recognized for their legal work which provides much-needed assistance to thousands in our community each year.

Three Empire Law students were recognized with awards for their outstanding service in our clinics: Cody Molica, Disability Law; Max Courtney, Legal Aid; and Nickolas Rineberg, Elder Law.



2020 Moot Court Competition Team

Empire Law's Roger J. Traynor moot court competition team for 2020 is comprised of Joe Brighenti, Haley Patrick, and Kristin Whalley. They already have a case record summary and are beginning to prepare for the late-March 2020 competition. Coach Burnett indicates that the team will be busy with record review, research, and brief preparation once they finish their exams. Go Team Empire!



Swearing-In Ceremonies for New Attorneys

Empire Alumni, Sonoma County Superior Court Judge Averill and Commissioner Rasmason welcomed new attorneys in local swearing-in ceremonies. Monica Lehre, Reed Moran, Danielle Petersen, Nicole Umemoto-Snyder, and Christopher Van Nuys took their oaths and were joined by family, friends, classmates and faculty. Congratulations Counselors!

Social Media and Internet Law Has a New Name

Professor Heather Bussing has retitled her spring 2020 elective course. Formerly "Social Media and Internet Law," it will now be known simply as "Internet Law" and expands to include artificial intelligence.



Law Faculty News

- Sonoma County Superior Court Judge Honigsberg joins Empire as a Professor of Criminal Law in Spring
- Karlene Navarro, Esq. joins Empire as Professor of Criminal Law in Spring
- Jeffrey Scheiner, Esq. joins Empire as a Professor teaching a Bar Prep elective in Spring
- Professor Gerber will teach the February Introduction to Law course

Free Informational Law Night Seminar

A free informational seminar will be held Wednesday, February 26, 2020 from 6:30-8pm at the Empire College campus. Alumni guest speakers will discuss their experiences at Empire and in the practice of law, and will answer questions from prospective law students. Contact the Law Admissions Office at 707-546-4000 to reserve your seat. Guests are welcome.

If you know someone with questions about law school, please have them email LawAdmissions@empirecollege.com to request a tour. Intro classes start February 3, June 1, and October 5.

Dean Purtill Collaborates with CSBARS on CA Bar Exam and Accreditation Guidelines

Law School Dean Brian Purtill, as a member of the State Bar's Committee of State Bar Accredited and Registered Schools (CSBARS), is currently working with other Deans to review and revise all guidelines and rules by which Empire is governed and accredited. CSBARS is also considering recommendations to be presented to the Committee of Bar Examiners on all things related to California's Bar Examination, including its length, format, and passing score. Work is continuing on into 2020 through two-person working groups and ongoing meetings of the CSBARS in Los Angeles and San Francisco. ▲

See more photos and videos at:



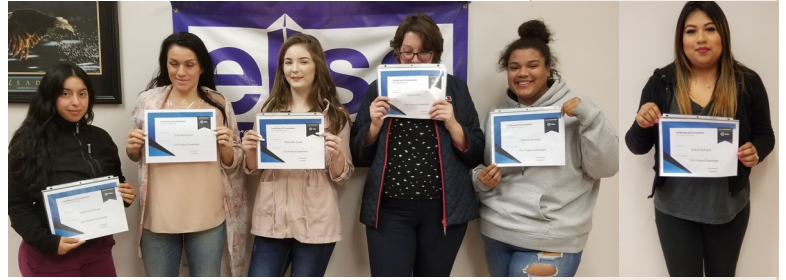
[facebook.com/
EmpireCollege.
SchoolofLaw](https://facebook.com/EmpireCollege.SchoolofLaw)



Paralegal Department News

Legal Students Earn Certificates in CLIO and Lexis Advance

In Calendaring I day and night legal students successfully completed training in CLIO, a case management software program for law offices. Legal Research II students earned their Lexis Advance certificates. Congratulations!



Empire Legal Students Join the Sonoma County Bar Association

Empire Legal Students are now members of the Paralegal and Legal Support Section of the Sonoma County Bar Association. Noemi Ornelas is Empire’s Student Representative with the Paralegal and Legal Support Section. ELSA (Empire Legal Student Association) is excited for all of the networking opportunities available for students.

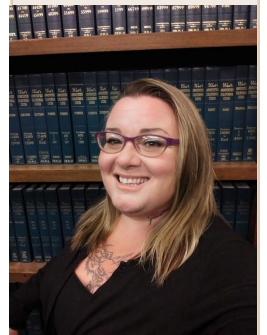
Guest Speaker Series

Legal students enjoyed pizza and Private Investigator John Garretson who came to Empire to speak to legal students about his investigative techniques and how he works with attorneys.

Empire paralegal alumna Autumn Gillette also visited recently to share her experience as a Legal Document Assistant (LDA). A Legal Document Assistant, as defined by the California Business & Professions Code (Section 6400 (c)) is: “Any person who is otherwise not exempted and who provides, or assists in providing, or offers to provide, or offers to assist in providing, for compensation, any self-help service to a member of the public who is representing himself or herself in a legal matter, or who holds himself or herself out as someone who offers that service or has that authority, or a corporation, partnership, association, or other entity that employs or contracts with any person who is not otherwise exempted who, as part of his or her responsibilities, provides, or assists in providing, or offers to provide, or offers to assist in providing, for compensation, any self-help service to a member of the public who is representing himself or herself in a legal matter or holds himself or herself out as someone who offers that service or has that authority.”

Autumn graduated from the Legal Secretary program in 2010 and worked for the Brayton Purcell law firm for a number of years. She returned to Empire College in 2016 to complete her paralegal degree. Autumn shared that it was a bit terrifying to launch her own business as a single mother of two young boys and knowing that the success of the business, including the backside such as bookkeeping and marketing, was up to her. However, she has found it to be unbelievably rewarding.

In January graduate Nancy Clark will be sharing her experiences working as a paralegal. Stay tuned for more guest speakers in 2020. ▲



Read more of Autumn’s story at <https://empcol.edu/graduate-testimonials/self-employed-legal-document-assistant/>

Warm Season’s Greetings from #EmpireLaw!



Information Technology Department News

NBBJ Cybersecurity Summit

It has been an exciting time of year for the IT Department. The IT Department Head, Ryan Donham, was a keynote speaker and crowd favorite at the North Bay Business Journal's Cybersecurity Summit, performing live hacks on stage which included finding audience members' hilarious passwords online, setting up a live phishing site to steal audience members' credentials and hacked cell phone that appeared to be off, yet recorded users' conversations and live streamed video.

Empire College IT Department Cybersecurity Mixer

Two weeks later on October 3rd, the IT department hosted a community-wide event for Sonoma County showcasing the current issues of cybersecurity. The event was promoted at the NBBJ conference as well as on KSRO radio. Empire alumni, IT and cybersecurity professionals, and anybody who was willing to learn, came to the college and did some live hacking, met new people, and geeked out! The IT student body was front and center during this event showcasing their amazing technical and people skills to IT professionals and attendees. (Yes, this group of students have amazing people skills!) From organizing the event, greeting people at the door and classrooms, and teaching hands-on hacking skills to the community, the Empire College student body shined. Empire's faculty and staff could not be any more proud of these students.

Empire students taught the community how to use Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) to find emails and passwords involved in a databreach (change your passwords!) and how to find if your home networking devices and cameras have been hacked. They also cracked Wi-Fi encryption, put up cloned websites to showcase how credentials can be stolen, hacked computers remotely and cracked all the passwords, recorded keystrokes and performed anti-forensics by changing system logs and file attributes. All attendees performed these activities with the help of students.

Various businesses had tables setup to advertise their services including Exchange Bank, Fusion Technologies, Vista Consulting, Computer Security Investigative Services and ACS Technologies. Many Prizes were given out, including the grand prize of an iPad which went to techie extraordinaire...Barbara Harland! Catering was donated by Lodan Burroghs Business Solutions and Therese and Ben Filippo from The Bread Maker.

Thank you to everyone involved in making this event such a success!

New IT Mentor – Robert Kinlin

Joining Anthony Adams and Jacob Rash as student mentors is Robert Kinlin. Robert is a hard worker and a great student that, like our other mentors, will provide IT students with guidance and support while attending the College. Welcome Robert!

Guest Speaker – Amy Wood, ACS Technologies

Amy Wood, President of ACS Technologies LLC, spoke to IT students and others on November 13th. Amy is a HIPPA databreach Mitigation Specialist with expertise that encompasses IT, medical and legal professions. ACS specializes primarily in getting dental offices HIPPA complaint. This includes providing IT services, protecting health records, and investigating data breaches. She is also a continuing education provider for private practice and clinics, dental associations and many others. ▲

The State of California offers the Cal Grant Program to Empire College students!

These funds are for eligible California residents and do not have to be repaid.

Cal Grant Application Deadline is March 2, 2020

There are three types of Cal Grant: A, B, and C. Each have different allotted amounts and are need-based. If you're eligible for Cal Grant, you will be assigned by the Student Aid Commission to one of these grants, based on how you fill out your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or CADA (California Dream Act Application) and based on your GPA Verification.

Students are encouraged to apply October 2019 through March 2, 2020.

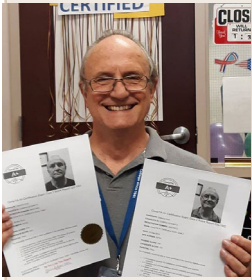
Empire College Financial Aid Department will be hosting several Cal Grant workshops in January/February 2020.

For more information on how to apply, please reach out to Financialaid@empirecollege.com.

More information and details will be emailed to our current students.

Read more at
<https://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/events/10064306-181/cybersecurity-business-data-california-privacy-law>

Listen to the KSRO interview at <https://empcol.edu/information-technology/cybersecurity-concentration/>



Congratulations to Clarence Dold and



Robert Kinlin who recently passed their CompTIA A+ certification exams.



Accounting Department News



IMA Student Chapter Events

As always, our dynamic Accounting Department and IMA Student Chapter have been busy with meetings, meet and greets, and field trips. Soon-to-be accounting grad and evening IMA chapter director Jessica Vasquez recently gave a presentation on the 100 year timeline of IMA, and accounting students went on a field trip to the Accounting Department of Redwood Credit Union, which was conducted by their Controller, Michael Gay.

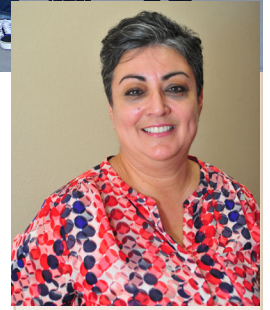
Introducing Rosaura Flores and Kyle Smith, Accounting Student Mentors

Rosaura (right): I am married with three adult children. I married at a young age and did not complete my college education but I promised myself that I would pursue my dream once my youngest child had graduated from high school. As a teenager, I assisted my father, a farmer, with the bookkeeping for his business. It was then that I found my calling. I am currently employed in the public accounting sector and have been employed with the same firm for almost 30 years.

Kyle (below right): I came to Empire looking to try and get a solid footing to move forward in life. I spent a few years at the JC before transferring here. I was a math major so I figured accounting would be right up my alley. I'm hoping to have a good career once I finish up here so that I have a good foundation to work from if I want to pursue my dreams. I'm happy to be here and hope that I can contribute in some way to the success of other students as well.

Accounting Students Achieve Certifications

Congratulations to Bobbie Jean Henderson and Kathyne Maynard who passed their Microsoft Excel certification; to Guadalupe Aguilera and Juan Valdez (below right) on achieving their Payroll certifications from the National Bookkeepers Association; and to Hamidah Salzman (right) for achieving her Payroll and Quickbooks certifications! ▲



Below: Part of the bake sale team – Catarina, Victoria, Nick, Ashley & Hazra – were in a very festive mood.

Business Department News

Putting Salesmanship and Project Management to Practical Use

The business students have been busy practicing the skills they have been learning in the Salesmanship and Project Management classes.

For the Project Management course, the students were tasked with choosing a topic they would cover during the mod; they chose Time Management Strategies. They created a bulletin board using project management skills including: determining the goals of the project, creating due dates, and listing the resources required to complete the project. If you haven't had a chance to see the board, stop by Room 218 and take a look! They did a fantastic job.

For the Salesmanship class, the students were tasked with selling something as a team. They chose to sell soap at a Farmers Market. They created a Sales and Marketing strategy by determining who might be interested in buy their product; in addition, they had to determine the best venue to sell the product. They did a fantastic job of creating a backdrop for a Farmer's Market booth.

On December 18th the Business students held a cookie bake sale fundraiser with proceeds going to a local school.

Business Students Achieve Certifications

Congratulations to Stephanie Raymond who passed her Microsoft Outlook certification; Angelica Santana for achieving her Word certification; and to Moncerat Carrillo who passed her Outlook, Powerpoint, and Excel certifications! ▲



Medical Department News

Introducing Medical Student Mentor Angelica Vigil

I am Angelica Vigil and I enrolled into the Medical Assisting program here at Empire College in February 2019. After being a part-time stay-at-home mother and working a job that was unfulfilling, I decided I needed a change. I want to be a great role model to my daughter. I've always had an interest in the medical field and am really glad I have decided to go back to school! It has been one of the best decisions I have ever made! Everyone here at Empire is so welcoming, and the friends I have made here are a wonderful support system in helping me stay motivated. I am happy to be a student mentor and tutor and look forward in helping others succeed and stay motivated during their time here at Empire!

Medical Skills Certifications

Congratulations to our new Certified Medical Assistants, Office Assistants, and Phlebotomy Technicians and to those who have passed skills certifications in CPR, injections, EKG, phlebotomy, and more!

CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

Jessica Alice
Audrey Blank
Kayla Blyleven
Amy Brinkel
Krista Dutcher
Rhianon Fitzpatrick
Gina Haake
Kasey Kenny
Venneranda Kirabo
Victoria Lacey
Vanessa Martinez
Andrea Neace
Lucy Purdom
Annabell Sisouvanh
Viviana Suarez
Christie Townsend
Shekainah Valerio
Victoria Vincent

CERTIFIED MEDICAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

Leanne O'Sullivan

CERTIFIED PHLEBOTOMY TECHNICIANS

Rebeca Ayala
Susana Bustamante
Krista Dutcher
Joseph Edwards
Sandra Espinosa
Veronica Gonzales
Kasey Kenny
Kristen Redmond
Eleanor Sapien
Christie Townsend
Shekainah Valerio

Injection, EKG, phlebotomy, and/or urinalysis skills class certifications:

Kasey Behr	Maria Ortiz
Amy Brinkel	Jessica Palominos
Yaquelin Buenrostro Castellanos	Kaydeelynn Picky
Rosario Diaz Iniguez	Suleima Pimentel
Tasha Dunlap	Graciela Ponce
Emma Gusto	Azizeh Radwan
Gina Haake	Mariana Ramirez
Toshianna Jones	Metzli Ramirez
Kailie Kaasch	Mariela Romero
Kasey Kenny	Eleanor Sapien
Victoria Lacey	Alyssa Segobiano
Luisa Mariscal Lopez	Jennifer Tamba
Laticia Martinez	Esmeralda Velazquez Sanchez
Ediui Miata-Avarez	Celina Zamudio Sanchez
Paulette Miller	Stephanie Santiago ▲
Andrea Neace	



From learning a new skill, to volunteering in a clinic, to getting your externship ID...there is always something exciting going on in the Medical Department.

JOBS! (continued from page 1)

Medical

Christy Arga	St. Joseph Health	Medical Assistant
Fran Bengtsson	St. Joseph Health	Medical Assistant
Eliza Crow	Santa Rosa Foot	Medical Coder
Phil Fox	Aurora Hospital	Medical Coder
Ma Gomez	St. Joseph Health	Medical Assistant
Sheena Helems	Siyan Clinical	Medical Assistant
Daryll Huff	Santa Rosa Community Health	Medical Assistant
Kim Kaur	Sonoma Surgical Medical Supply	Medical Administrative
Jo Marron	Harvest Pediatrics	Medical Assistant
Mary Morris	Nelson Staffing/St. Joseph Health	Customer Service Rep/Biller
Cherie Pearson	Santa Rosa Community Health	Medical Assistant
Xenia Reyna	Dr. Schmidt, Eric	Admin/Clinical Medical Assistant
Alicia Salomon	St. Joseph Health	Medical Assistant
Megan Schneider	Sutter Health	Medical Assistant
Angelique Sinnott	Santa Rosa Community Health	Medical Assistant
Leslie Valdez	Petaluma Health Center	Medical Assistant
Ana Vazquez	Alliance Medical Center	Medical Assistant
Brooke White	Eye Care Institute	Medical Receptionist
Andrea Zuniga	NCMA-Admin. Office	Dermatology Tech

Annual Job Fair Nets Interviews/Jobs for Grads and Students

Empire hosted its annual Job Fair on October 2nd and we had 20 local employers that attended. It was a great opportunity for all of our students to practice networking directly with these local employers – and get hired! Shavon Gilroy, who attended just to check out who was hiring, was offered and accepted a job at Soligent! We also had OneLegal who has recently hired 4 of our graduates and alumni. There were also quite a few staffing companies that set up interviews with our attendees. Plus employers provided 20 great raffle prizes which included a \$100 gift card to Bear Republic from Redwood Empire Stereocasters.

The student mentors from all the departments (below left) were on hand to greet the employers and help them set up their exhibit table. Look at those smiles! Also, many staff and faculty volunteered to help make the Job Fair a success. Thanks to everyone who helped and who participated! ▲



Students listed have achieved Honors as of November 1, 2019.

PRESIDENT'S HONORS: 3.85-4.0 cumulative GPA, no I or F grades

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

Honor Roll



President's Honors

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Karin Abramo | Robert Kinlin |
| Anthony Adams | Ivette Leon Montes |
| Stephany Alvarado | Kristi McDonald |
| Christina Ayala | Kristina McGunagle |
| Eric Alvin Baldwin | Anika McLea |
| Amy Brinkel | Adriana Miramontes |
| Yaquelin Buenrostro Castellanos | Danielle Morganti |
| Ana Campuzano Perez | Sanaila Namua |
| Claire Clickner | Marcie Noble |
| Monica D'Arrigo Restrepo | Aida Ocegüera |
| Arianna DeSantos | Brianna Ortiz |
| Clarence Dold | Lucy Purdom |
| Emma Elliott | Azizeh Radwan |
| Mandi Emery Flynn | Chaila Richards |
| Jone Furlong | Magdalena Ruiz |
| Samantha Gallardo | Eleanor Sapien |
| Daniel Gonzalez | Cathleen Seiffert |
| Alicia Gurrola | Nicholas Stone |
| Huda Hakim | Jennifer Tamba |
| Deborah Hart-Tinsley | Angelica Vigil |
| Jessica Hauck | Alicia Webb-Keith |
| Claudia Jimenez Espinoza | Blake Weston |
| Nicholas Kahler | Paige Willey |

Dean's Honors

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Natalie Ceja | Suman Nepal | |
| Kathy Cochran | Lesbeth Ortiz | |
| Victor Contreras | Andre Ortiz | |
| Rosario Diaz Iniguez | Kevin Pangan | Brett Stein |
| Lillian Dutcher | Caitlin Paul | Molly Sutherland |
| Rhiannon Fitzpatrick | Mariana Ramirez | Taylor Tischbern |
| Nancy Garcia Gudino | Metzli Ramirez | Alexandra Tyree |
| Diana Hernandez | Jacob Rash | Kelsey Wilkinson |
| Valerie Hiatt | Justin Reinke | Veronica Zekarias |
| Hannah Kaighin | Carl Ricco | |
| Kasey Kenny | Kenji Robles | |
| Krystina Kuhn | Marita Rodriguez | |
| Victoria Lacey | Benjamin Ryder | |
| Maria Lopez | Alyssa Segobiano | |
| Luisa Mariscal Lopez | Annabell Sisouvanh | |
| Tiffani McHale | Kyle Smith | |
| | Ho euth Soto | |



Happy Holidays!



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