Motions

University of San Diego
SCHOOL OF LAW

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A First Semester Guide for 1Ls...Page 7

CENSORED!

and Much, Much More...
From the Editor

I am sorry that there was not a September issue of Motions. I have a long list of excuses, like losing most of the staff to law review and getting kicked out of the Motions office space in the University Center and having to move into a copy room in the back of the LRC, but I won’t go on and on about bad things.

More importantly, things are starting to come together for us and we are learning to adjust to our new cubicle, one at a time, of course, since two people can’t really fit in the new office at the same time.

The new downsized and streamlined Motions is ready to get into a groove and start putting out issues on a regular and predictable basis. The plan is to have an issue come out during the first week of each month. (I’m crossing my fingers, and if it doesn’t happen feel free to fire me.)

This issue of Motions has been officially censored! Yes, before we can take an issue to the printer it first must pass the scrutiny of the administration. Our new “The Sinner” column gave them fits! I was called in to see Dean Rodriguez and Dean Wilson where we were required to remove two offending passages. To tell you the truth, if I were in their shoes I would have done the same thing. I can see how certain very important people would have been very offended by the passages.

But I’m not in their shoes so it’s more fun to make a big deal about it, exploiting the censorship in a pathetic effort to get ratings for the newspaper. I admit it. After all, I’m a lame-duck editor and a lame-duck student. (A lame-duck student is a 3L who already has a job lined up after graduation. It doesn’t matter how a lame-duck student does during his third year, so long as he can pass the bar exam. He no longer needs an impressive class ranking and he doesn’t need reference letters from anyone.)

I hope that this issue is somewhat entertaining and informative and that at least a dozen people end up reading it, because we sure spent a lot of our time putting it together. We want to get more people involved in next month’s issue. We will hold a meeting some time soon for people interested in contributing articles or ideas for the next issue. Keep your eyes on the bulletin boards.

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Key Education Resources
Dean's Sidebar

By Dean Daniel Rodriguez

For all you first year students, I am very happy to be able to welcome you to USD Law School. And for the rest of you, welcome back. I am the brand new dean of the law school and not, as is indicated in the "Sinner" column, merely Dean #3, but a real, live person who intends to stick around for awhile. As a newcomer, I am anxious to meet and greet you over the coming weeks and months. Please stop by so I can do so, or else I will drop me in the hallways, parking lots, and coffee carts which make up our fabulous USD infrastructure.

Beyond "meeting and greeting," I look forward to learning from you about our law school and its challenges.

This year promises to be an exciting, action-packed year with a variety of programs, speakers, special events, and activities. It will also be a year of change. Whatever the nature and scope of this change, we will move forward and we will make adjustments and changes with an eye toward better serving the needs of our students. As my predecessor, Professor Grant Morris, reminded all of us, we are here because of you.

Law School Mourns the Loss of a Student

By Mei Mei Cheng

The USD community suffered the tragic loss of third-year student Kyle Tracy, who passed away on August 17, 1998 in San Diego from a massive cerebral aneurysm. Kyle graduated from UCSD in 1996 with a double major in Aquatic Biology and Environmental Studies. Upon graduation from UCSD, Kyle attended California Western School of Law, where he was involved with the Student Bar Association and a member of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity. Kyle finished his first year at California Western in the top 25% of his class and transferred to USD last fall.

Kyle was born and raised in Lafayette, California and had hoped to become an environmental lawyer. He recently completed a summer internship at Eschobar, Chanos and Eschobar in Las Vegas, Nevada.

According to the Contra Costa Sun, Kyle loved the water from a very early age and “throughout his high school and college years, was an expert swimmer and water polo player, earning his letters in both sports in 1991.” In all aspects of his life, from swimming, to surfing, to studying aquatic life, he couldn’t seem to separate himself from it. According to his mother, Joann Tracy, “Water was a way of expressing himself.”

A part of his love for the water included a commitment to the environment and community service. This commitment included a desire to educate the public, and is clearly demonstrated by his numerous internship positions dedicated to this pursuit.

Kyle volunteered his time at The Santa Barbara Sea Center, where his duties included interpreting marine species and educating the public in aquatic habitats. At The Cultured Abalone, Kyle was involved in growing, spawning, hatchery techniques and diatom cultures related to the production and sale of abalone. Finally, he volunteered his time to the UCSD Environmental Studies Department where he served as an Environmental Educator responsible for educating third graders about the environment. However, what friends and family will remember most about Kyle are his generosity, passion and warm-heartedness. The positive affect he had on other people was obvious from the nearly 400 family and friends who attended services for Kyle at St. Perpetua’s Church.

George Hegarty, Kyle’s longtime swimming buddy remembered Kyle’s gift for putting people at ease, “There was a feeling of comfort that came along when he was around”, he said. Other friends will remember Kyle for his inspiration. Elisa Santoro, a classmate of Kyle’s at California Western gave Kyle credit for inspiring her to give law school another chance after a tough first year. “Not too many people can have such a special impact as a friend in such a short time,” she wrote. “Not a day will All-Americans like me forget Kyle’s encouragement while I start law school all over again.”

Although, Kyle was only a part of the USD community for a short time, he was well known by many faculty, staff and students. His presence was definitely a credit to this school; he will be sorely missed.

SBA President’s Message

By William Ota

Congratulations on finishing your first full month of law school! Acclimating to your new environs will be quite taxing in the beginning. My first two or three days literally felt like a month.

You’ll adjust quickly, however. By now, you’ve already experienced the Socratic Method, whether directly or vicariously. You’re beginning to get a feel for the general tenor of your courses. Each of your professors has now revealed something of their particular teaching style and temperament; Their expectations are no longer a complete mystery. The anxiousness of the first week has helped you to get to know at least some of the individuals in your section. Hopefully, you no longer feel quite so alone.

There are likely a number of things that still make you uncomfortable. When I started law school, I was horrified at the notion of speaking in class. Individuals all around me were offering poignant insights and expressing themselves with startling lucidity, but when I was put on the hot-seat, I could summon all the eloquence and coherence of a Homer Simpson. I wanted to claw at a rock at the time. But law school turned out to be a more forgiving place than I had expected. I realize now that professors (and students) are generally supportive. If you’ve prepared for class, faltering over your words is nothing to fear.

One of the things I would like to emphasize about this school is the approachability of those here. Students, faculty, and the administration alike are all quite willing to help. This is a rarity in American law schools. Take advantage of it. I wish you the best of luck this year.

Sallie Mae Reporting Errors May Affect your Credit Report

By Curtis Crews

Several USD law students have complained that Sallie Mae has double-reported the number and balance of their student loans to credit reporting agencies, resulting in rejections when they apply for private student loans and other types of credit.

One student said that his credit report indicated that he owed over $140,000 on 18 student loans obtained over a two year period when he actually only owed about $70,000 total. He discovered the errors when he was turned down not only for a Law Access Loan, but also when he applied for consumer credit. This is a cutout through a jungle of red tape, this student was able to correct his problem. After hearing similar complaints from several classmates, he recommends that other law students obtain a copy of their credit report and check it for accuracy.

You can find information on obtaining a copy of your credit report by calling one of the following numbers.

Experion 1-800-422-4879
Equifax 1-800-270-3435
TransUnion 1-800-888-4213
USD Survives ABA Inspection

By Frank Marchetti

We were warned in advance that they were coming. We were asked to cooperate so that everything would go smoothly. They came to our school and were among us for a week, and then as quickly they were gone. Some of us never knew they had been here. No, I'm not talking about aliens. I'm talking about the ABA Site inspections.

Last semester the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) sent a team of seven inspectors to conduct a joint fact-finding inspection of the University of San Diego School of Law. The Law School is inspected every seven years. The inspectors consisted of five professors, a dean, and a Justice of the Supreme Court of Indiana. Throughout the week they attended several classes, met with students, faculty, administrators and alumni.

U.S.D. is a member of the AALS, and one of the duties of the inspectors was to make sure that we were complying with all of our membership requirements. If the team decides that U.S.D. is not meeting AALS standards, U.S.D. could lose its membership.

The ABA is the national organization that accredits law schools. In order for law schools to obtain federal financial aid, the school must be accredited as it enters the next millennium. That our law school will remain accredited is not guaranteed to pass a site inspection, the outcome is never certain.

So, did U.S.D. pass? We won't have an answer for about a year. However, former Interim Dean Grant Morris was informed by the chair of the inspection team that U.S.D. has within its grasp to be ranked along with UCLA as one of the most prestigious schools in southern California. U.S.D. may not be guaranteed to pass this inspection, but it is not something most of us should be worrying about.

The inspection team did note several areas in which U.S.D. could improve. One of their recommendations was that the library should be wired to allow students to use the LRC network from carrels within the facility. They also emphasized enhancing financial support from the University, alumni, and other private donors, building a sense of community, and increased student interaction with the facility outside the classroom.

In sum, the site inspection was most likely a resounding success for U.S.D. We can rest peacefully, knowing that our law school will remain accredited as it enters the next millennium.

New high-tech camera adorns wall of classroom 3-C

Law School

Building Benefits from Summer Improvements

By Mei Mei Cheng

While most of us were either working, on vacation or going to summer school, Bill Anderson, Administrative Service Manager of USD Law School had an extremely busy summer. He was overseeing several major projects aimed at improving our law school. Most of these projects commenced at the end of our spring semester and were completed shortly before the start of this semester. Anderson, who has been with USD for the last six years, said that in terms of improvements to the law school, "this summer has been by far the busiest I have ever seen."

The installation of an air conditioning system for the remainder of the classrooms in Warren Hall and in the LRC was highly anticipated by both students and faculty. However, Anderson points out that we need to be patient as there are some problems in the system that still need to be worked out. These problems are primarily due to the extreme weather conditions that we have recently been experiencing.

Another major improvement is the addition of a new classroom 3-C in Warren Hall. The classroom replaced the Faculty Research Library, which was scaled down and relocated, to Warren Hall 308J. This new classroom is equipped with state of the art media equipment, including an overhead data projector and video taping capability. Warren Hall 2-C was also remodeled and turned into the Graduate Programs Offices, which house USD's General LLM, LLM in Comparative Law, LLM in International Law, and LLM in Taxation programs. These offices were formerly located in Warren Hall 203E, but were moved to allow the admissions and financial aid offices room to expand.

Most second and third-year students have probably noticed the new carpeting in the 3rd floor hallways, the Writs and inside the student organization offices housed inside the Writs. The student organization offices and moot court have also received new desks and are scheduled to receive new computers in early October.

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia Teaches at USD Summer Program

By Harry Kassakhian

As some students lounged their summer away on the sunny beaches of California, other USD law students traveled abroad to learn about foreign legal systems, international law and even hear lectures from a Supreme Court Justice.

USD School of Law's Institute on International and Comparative Law had summer programs in Barcelona, Dublin, Florence, London, Moscow, Oxford and Paris.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia taught at USD Summer Law Program at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Justice Scalia taught Comparative Constitutional Law.

Students such as Pierre Pine, a second year law student at USD School of Law, attended the Dublin program in order to attend lectures taught by the Justice Scalia. Pine said that the Justice lectured for nine sessions including discussions regarding his views on Clinton v. Jones, and his views on Constitutional interpretation.

"He's a dynamic speaker," Pine said, "I think a lot of people were intimidated the first day of class when he walked into the room...He's a presence." Pine said.

In addition to Justice Scalia, the Dublin program was taught by Professor Kenneth Kant, who teaches at UCLA and Prokerm, Dermot Walsh, who teaches at the Dublin Institute.

"The last day that Justice Scalia was teaching they (the university) paid everyone's barbill," said Pine, "He was like a rock star, everyone wanted to have their picture taken with him."

Supreme Court Justice Scalia also lectured at the summer program at Regents College in London. Megan McCarthy, a second year law student from USD, said that Justice Scalia gave the students an insight on how he decides cases.

"He was genuinely interested in us and our interests," McCarthy said.
The Saint

Love and Law School Don't Mix

"I just wanted to call to see how you're doing," she said and I detected a touch of nervousness in her voice "How's law school?"

"Law school? You don't really want to hear about that, do you? I know I don't. It takes up enough of my time without having to talk about it also," I joked. "I'd rather hear how you're doing."

"But, I thought law school was so important to you," she said and suddenly I began to understand why she was calling. "I needed to study law to be able to follow my dreams." "But were your dreams the only ones that mattered?" she asked and then didn't say anything, but I heard a twinge of regret in her very silence. She knew that this was ground that we'd covered so many times before.

"We've already been over this," I said "Can't we just talk as friends? It's been so long, I'd really like to just know how you've been doing." At that moment, I thought about the last time I'd seen her. We'd taken a trip to Monterrey for Valentine's weekend. It had been an absolutely perfect weekend and could have been a foreshadowing of many more perfect weekends to come. Maybe it should have been, but it was the weekend when I told her that I was planning on making the law my career. She told me that she couldn't be with someone that wouldn't have enough time for her and I told her that I couldn't make any promises about my future. We ate dinner in a restaurant overlooking the bay and kept our tears on the inside, but we both knew that it was over after then.

"I'm engaged to be married," she finally said. Somehow I knew that she was going to say that. In the background, on her end of the phone, I imagined that I could hear a man's voice and, eventually, the voice of many children. A glance over the papers on my desk made me smile. I thought she'd made the right choice.

We talked for a long time after that. Eventually she asked something else that was on her mind "Have you found anyone?"

I thought briefly of the girl that I'd dated this summer. Then I looked at the reflection of myself in the mirror. I really was buried in all these books and papers. Then, looking more closely I thought to myself, that guy in the mirror is not too unhappy either!

I smiled again and told her "Have I found someone? Nah, who's got the time!"

A Letter to the Dean

Editor's Note: This letter was sent to Dean Rodriguez and was forwarded to me by the author, who remains anonymous.

Dear Dean Rodriguez:

I am a recent graduate of the USD School of Law. There is an issue that has been bothering me for a long time, but I wanted until I was out of school and practicing as an attorney before I wrote this letter.

As the new Dean of the Law School, I thought you should know the USD Law Career Center is not only ineffective, but more importantly, the advisors are rude and unresponsive to recent law graduates. I know that the Career Center cannot list jobs that don't exist and that it is not their responsibility to find jobs for all the recent graduates. However, it is the Career Center's job to facilitate the job search.

It was very frustrating to use the Career Center for my job search. The biggest problem was not the lack of legal jobs, it was the ATTITUDE of the advisors. Helping the recent graduates was not a priority for these women. For example, when I needed to urgently fax my resume to a prospective employer, I asked if someone would proof-read my resume for simple errors. I was told that they don't do rushes and I would have to wait 24 hours. These same women then wandered to the back of the office, and sat around for 40 minutes shooting the breeze about their weekend plans. I actually stood near the front desk and heard their conversation. This behavior typifies their lack of concern for students and their lack of understanding the importance of our career prospects.

As one other example, the materials at the career center aren't arranged for the convenience of law students, they are arranged for the convenience of the advisors. There is only one single binder that lists attorney jobs. Thus, if any other student has checked out the binder, you will have to wait around until they return from reviewing the entire listing. As you know, there are many, many students looking for post-bar positions, so that book is checked out most of the time. My suggestion of creating a second binder was met with disdain by the advisors. It just can't be that difficult to make two copies of every job listing instead of one copy.

The only exception to this prevalent indifference of the Career Center was secretary, Linda Sola. She alone actually seems to care about your job search and will make that extra effort to help the sincere job seeker.

As the new Law School Dean, you have the ability to revamp and re-vitalize the Career Center. There are many recent graduates out there who feel bitter about the Career Center and the way they were treated by the women there. I suggest you send a survey to the recent graduates and ask their opinion of the assistance they received from the Career Center and suggestions for improvements. Trust me, you will get a response. Sincerely, A USD Alum
Editor's Note: “The Sinner” is a new column designed, in part, to balance out the unflinching idealism of Ray Estolano’s “The Saint” column and more accurately reflect the jaded, cynical views of many USD law students. The author, for obvious reasons, wishes to remain anonymous.

INTRO

First, as a member of the third year class, it is my pleasure, no, my duty, to welcome the latest Dean, our third in three years. After all, both the previous Deans, even the one who left under a cloud of controversy, were nice enough to welcome me, and it’s time I gave something back. So, welcome Dean #3. I’m just going to call him that for now, partly because I don’t know what his name is, but mostly because there’s no sense in becoming too intimate with him until I’m sure he’s staying longer than a year or so. Dean #2, by the way, was my favorite, because he operated under the “keep the natives drunk and happy theory” and threw frequent and regular Dean’s Keggers, plying us with unlimited amounts of beer during class hours. We’ll miss you a lot, Dean #2, unless of course Dean #3 offers us good-ol’-boy-club on campus can, and throw the natives drunk and over 162 had more value. Amen.

ORIENTATION. THE CAMPUS.

You all went through Orientation, right? And as they told over and over again, you wouldn’t be here if you didn’t deserve to be. Which isn’t quite accurate, because you wouldn’t be here if any really good schools had let you in. And you wouldn’t be here if anyone with a LSAT over 162 had decided to come here and had taken your spot instead of going to Davis. And don’t forget, you have at least a five to ten percent chance of not “deserving!” to be here next year. But, other than that, you belong.

Let’s move to the less appealing aspects of USD. As you’ve probably discovered, is a Catholic school. Specifically, that means no bar – as in no watering hole, not the legal sense of bar, which comes later, when considering USD’s dress code passage rate, there’s still no bar for you – on campus and no condom dispensers in the bathrooms, so plan on stocking up on booze and sheaths elsewhere. Other than these two minor inconveniences, you’ll notice everywhere the giving spirit of Catholicism pervading the campus. Except of course when it’s your turn to contribute to the offering plate in that den of inequity, the Student Accounts office. There you’ll pay the ungodly price of $21,000.00 a year for your “values based” legal education. That works out to about $2000.00 per class per semester, or, as you’ll find out, $1000.00 for each class session of Contracts and Property you actually attend your second semester. Hence, values based. Attend more often for more value. Amen.

Hey, isn’t the campus beautiful though! (Count the number of times you hear that this year.) Just look at the pretty brochure. A fabulous gem of a campus. Anytime you feel a bit confined or caged - in trudging the Warren Hall - LRC - feeding pen triangle, stop whatever you are doing. Pull out the USD brochure that attracted you here in the first place. Stare at the cover. Enjoy the acres of green, green grass and the wide open spaces. Look at the way the beautiful Spanish Renaissance buildings gleam. Wow. Drool over the gorgeous campus artistically arranged so that it appears to perch mere steps from the enticingly sparkly Pacific? Hell, you could walk that inch-and-a-half from campus to the beach between classes I bet. And the landscaping on campus! Wow again. The old joke you hear about one gardener per-bush at USD is quite true, but more about bush later.

ORGANIZATIONS, COMPETITION, & COMPETITIONS

Though the tuition you pay for your “values based” education (distant bay-view and neatly clipped bushes included) may seem a tad spendy, many of the law school organizations are free or inexpensive and offer impressive benefits. Take, for instance, the SBA. For your mandatory $50.00 SBA fee you get a great Halloween party and a rockin’ Mardi Gras party. Wait, you pay for those separately, and steeply too. Well, you get some cool intramural sports, such as softball, and, well, softball. Odds, hold that thought, you pay extra for that also. Okay, for that you get to pay the salaries of the SBA officers. And you are forced to support a variety of student organizations, even those, such as the Republican Club – otherwise known as the “People Kissing the Pork-Engorged Bellies of Low Level Politicians and Helping to Fatten Big Business While Plotting Ways to Rid the World of Non-White-Republicans Club” – who may offend your Catholic sensibilities. But make use of your SBA fee and join them anyway. They can party like no other personal twist, handing out awards like “Best Breeze,” or the dreamily sexual “Best Oralist.” (Did I mention the great Civ. Pro. outline I have to trade?) So work really, really hard, and you too can spend the next few years gigging with prospective employers about your propensity to list your sexual exploits and undergarment preferences on your resume.

I don’t know much about Mock Trial. If anything, being “Mock” it’s probably even less real than “Moot Court.” I hear that the selection process is both hard and rigid, and that it’s a bit skewed in that they require an equal number of women and men, but that may just be sour grapes. Ask someone on the team, or any angry guy who didn’t make the team for the real scoop.

ACADEMICS, GENERALLY

Feel free to ignore your professors. After all, you are paying their salaries, so in a sense, they work for you. Tell them that often, preferably loudly while in class. And don’t be intimidated by them either. If they really were God’s gift to Civil
FEEL FREE TO DATE AS MANY OTHER PEOPLE IN YOUR SECTION AS YOU CAN, REGARDLESS OF YOUR, OR THEIR, GENDER.

Harvard tie into shirt pocket seconds before yakking by the side of his car, only minutes after getting slapped by aged Property prof. in the faculty parking lot. Silly man, he was probably drunk and confused enough to offer her an outline for her class.

Anyway, I'm usually not a morning person, and certainly not a class person, but some Friday morning classes are worth the pain. True example. It's Friday morning, mere hours after the non-part-of-your-SBA fee, Thursday-night Halloween bash. Nine a.m., Criminal Law, Professor Cole presiding. A student, partly dressed as a court jester, still in partial makeup from his royal jesting the night before, looking exactly like he has spent a couple of hours sleeping in the front seat of his car in the law school parking lot (which he has), occupies the seat in front of me, his head lolling, soft groans occasionally escaping his greenish jester face.

Professor stands in front of class, picks random name from seating chart. All eyes turn to jester. Professor calls name again, loudly. Class scoffers as jester raises head. Soft gagging/choking noise from jester. Professor waits.

Green head rolls and gentle moans ensue. As the class is caught completely by surprise about "looking a bit green in the face this morning" and moves on. Moans and soft gagging noises subsides and head lollops back to rest position. Jester, incidentally, made Law Review the first semester. True story! Is there a moral? Nah, unfortunately not. If going to class drunk were all it took, half of us would have made Law Review the second week.

On the other hand, outlines for professors who have taught a class only once before, or never, are a bit more difficult to wrangle and may occasionally involve the trading of sexual favors. Go with it. It's a law school tradition. That's what Bar Reviews are for. By the way, there is a certain Civ. Pro. professor who has only taught the class once before. I'd be happy to trade my outlines, which really are excellent. Anytime you want one and are willing, you can reach me, care of the Honor Court or possibly, the Dean's office (this semester's Dean, that is) for a copy.

Speaking of Thursday night Bar Reviews, go to them. Maybe it's just me, but Friday classes move along like pond-water, and I can't escape the nagging feeling that the professors are hungover too and are speaking in slo-mo. Wow, an epiphany! Maybe, our professors DO go out and have their own Bar Reviews on Thursday nights. The images are perversely gratifying – brilliant young Civ. Pro. prof. tucking the night before your final. Best of all, in keeping with our university's Catholic tradition, your chastity remains intact, and your willingness to trade your "personal property rights" for a Property outline doesn't become a debating point in third-year classes (see trading hints above).

If all else fails, buy a commercial outline. They aren't great, but they sure as hell beat your class notes. Finally, I've seen people, laptops tucked under their arms, walking around the library with rather large volumes called "hornbooks." Whatever. Ignore them.

SOCIAL STUFF

Feel free to date as many other people in your section as you can, regardless of your, or their, gender. USD, as you will soon discover, is an extremely liberal, open-minded campus, so go ahead and publicly explore your sexual lines with any of your classmates. Don't worry either about the possible ramifications of your randy, goat-like behavior as you try to bag every other girl in, say, the second row of Contracts. As the year draws to a close, there is a certain feeling of satisfaction when you walk into a class, sit in your customary back-row seat, and survey the shining curls and waves which is all you can ever see of your, uuhmm, partners from the back row, and spend a pleasant hour contemplating some of the simple pleasures law school affords.

After all, you sit in the back row, and the year's socializing...
Student Spotlight

Former UCSD Student Body President Chooses USD

By Mei Mei Cheng

The beginning of a new school year brings a new crop of faces to the USD campus each with different experiences and backgrounds that enrich our student body. One such student is first-year, Souleye Mane Diallo of Huntington Beach, CA. Diallo graduated from UCSD in 1998 with a major in Political Science, but that's not all he did. Diallo also served as the student body president of UCSD, a job that required him to represent over 14,000 undergraduate students.

Diallo spoke to us about the interesting experiences and accomplishments he had while serving as the student body president of a large public university. He called the job a "great experience" citing highlights such as meeting President Bill Clinton, Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, addressing his fellow graduates at commencement and working with the UC Regents, local elected officials and UCSD administration to formulate public policy for the university.

Diallo shared with us what he considered some of his biggest accomplishments while in office. At the time of his presidency, Diallo noted that UCSD was "dealing with a lot of diversity issues regarding the implementation of Proposition 209." Diallo's administration worked hand in hand with the UCSD administration in an attempt to propose new policy. One idea that came out of this was the "CREATE" proposal, a multifaceted proposition that revolved around the concept of a "model school." This idea emphasized partnerships between UCSD and junior high and high schools to better prepare students from lower socio-economic backgrounds for entry into the UC system, in particular UCSD.

Diallo's administration also made strides in improving the quality of life at UCSD. This improvement was often prompted by the results of student survey, where students rated the social experience at UCSD as poor. To counter-act this, Diallo's administration came up with a proposal that included the successful passage of a student supported activity fee increase in order to fund bigger and better activities, elevating the athletic program into Division two, and a move for a campus-wide commencement.

According to Diallo, the student activity fee at UCSD had not increased for twelve years. The students wanted the fee increased in order to fund better programming. Through lobbying efforts, the student government successfully passed a fee increase, which enabled more money to be allocated to the 270 student organizations on campus.

The UCSD athletic program was also elevated from Division three to Division two, partly due to his heavy lobbying efforts. This promotion was something that the students believed would benefit the school in terms of school pride, prestige and stature.

A campus-wide commencement may also become a permanent fixture at UCSD thanks to Diallo's lobbying efforts. Diallo explained that in the past, each of the five separate colleges at UCSD held their own separate commencement ceremonies. However, two years ago, when President Clinton was the featured speaker, UCSD held its first campus-wide commencement. This was not meant to be an annual event; however, Diallo felt that the students really enjoyed having the campus-wide commencement and it was a good unifying event for the students. This type commencement was allowed for the second time at Diallo's graduation and will continue for the next two years on a trial basis to determine whether this should become an annual event.

When asked what attracted him to law school, Diallo answered "It's something that I've always wanted to do. I have always been interested in the impact that law makes on society and I think it is a profession that permeates every avenue of society." Although, Diallo was accepted at several other schools such as Loyola, Santa Clara, Hastings and UC Davis, he says chose to come to USD because "I love San Diego. I think it's a great school with a lot of outstanding faculty.

USD Student Externs at California Supreme Court

By Harry Kassakhian

Tim McGinity is the first USD law student to work as an extern for a California Supreme Court Justice. McGinity, a second year law student, worked as an extern for California Supreme Court Justice Ming W. Chin. McGinity said that the California Supreme Court, which is located in San Francisco, has a extern program where law students are trained and have the opportunity to meet with the justices.

"Justice Chin had a Bronze Star from Vietnam" said McGinity, a Navy veteran, and he said that he identified with Justice Chin's military service. McGinity said he wrote to Justice Chin, and that the Justice said he could meet at the Hyatt Hotel in La Jolla. "I was pretty nervous, I didn't know what to expect," McGinity said, "I imagined him having a robe and a halo." But McGinity found a fit, approachable man who wore sweats and had just returned from his workout. He said the interview with the Justice lasted an hour.

At first the Justice was hesitant to hire a law student who had just finished his first year and had not taken Evidence or Constitutional Law. Nevertheless, Justice Chin reconsidered his initial opinion. McGinity said that Professor Shaun Martin's letter of recommendation was the decisive factor in getting the job. McGinity said that Justice Chin liked USD because he said that he normally doesn't see professors write customized letters for students.

"Each justice has five full-time staff attorneys," said McGinity, who worked as a paralegal at the law firm of Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O'Keefe and Nichols in Los Angeles prior to attending law school. The California Supreme Court hears oral arguments during the first week of the month for 10 months of the year and the court does not hear arguments in July and August.

McGinity attended the oral arguments presented to the Supreme Court.

"Each case was an hour long," said McGinity. Each party is allowed one-half hour to present the argument. He said that each party usually used 15 minutes of its time, and that amicus curiae would use the rest of the 15 minutes to present other arguments.

"You get a sense of how intimidating it is," McGinity said about presenting an argument to the highest court in the state.

Besides observing the arguments presented to the Supreme Court, McGinity had the opportunity to meet with the justices.

He said that the best experience at the California Supreme Court were the weekly brown-bag lunches with each justice in his or her chambers. Each justice would receive a brown bag lunch from the externs and would answer the externs questions.

McGinity said that Chief Justice Ronald George requested a tuna-salad sandwich and apple juice.

Joining the USD student were students from UC Hastings School of Law, the University of San Francisco School of Law, and Santa Clara School of Law. McGinity said "USF has a program with the California Supreme Court where the dean can recommend one person to one justice," he said.

McGinity said he is very interested in judicial clerkships and that he would like to one day work for the United States Supreme Court.
An Interview with Dean Daniel Rodriguez

By Ray Estolano

It was a dusty day in Logan Heights. The air was heavy, as my friend Juan and I sat in the front yard. We looked out at the crumbling row of houses across the streets and just thought about life for a moment. I'd grown up in a community much too similar to this. My friend Juan still lived here, but studied in hopes of a better life than this. We watched as an old man in tattered clothes walked down the sidewalk pushing a shopping cart full of his possessions.

An hour later, Juan and I were worlds removed from this scene. We sat in the comfortable office of the new Dean of the University of San Diego School of Law. We had gone from the rough streets of Logan to a place that many would consider the ivory tower of Academia, but as we were to discover, the new Dean was a man of the people - Ralph Nader as a model to students and professionals.

Rodriguez grew up in the Long Beach area, in a place known as Harbor City. His father was a history professor in East Los Angeles. For a time he taught history in Roosevelt, a school which is known for being the rival to the rough school featured in the movie Stand and Deliver. His mother also worked. She was in the insurance industry.

Rodriguez expected to go to college since he was very young, but unlike many other students he worked his way through school full time. He worked in a variety of jobs, including one as an insurance claims adjuster. As he remembers, working full time while attending night school, helped him develop the discipline that lead to his later success in law school.

Night students were pretty motivated, he said “there was a definite sense of commitment and no non-sense going on. A student had to say that he had to prioritize when you were going to study to ensure that it got done.” Law school was disorienting at first for him. He’d never even been on the East Coast before and now he found that he was at Harvard law school. He found that his toughest classes were property, anti-trust and tax. (Incidentally, I lobbied him to drop our Tax I requirement, but no luck). Rodriguez rose to some challenges, eventually becoming the Supreme Court Editor of the Harvard Law Review.

Rodriguez found that what he enjoyed most was the public policy side of law. Unlike many law students, he didn’t see law as an opportunity to be a Perry Mason. What was it that you liked the most about law school, I asked him. He smiled for a moment, then looked at Juan and I.

When I entered law school I felt privileged because I didn’t have to work full time and study. I saw it as a luxury!” he said with a grin.

In his work after law school, he has written extensively on the nature of legal institutions. For instance, something that interests Rodriguez is how the initiative system can act to hurt local government by limiting its ability to compromise and influence state policy. Now that he is in San Diego, he would like to learn more about state and local issues and he feels that is important for students to do the same.

As dean, he would like to see more course offerings along these lines. He mentioned the idea of possibly having a class on California Constitutional law. Mexican Law would also be a natural fit for our school, given our proximity to Mexico. Here, Rodriguez proposes using a persuasive method of teaching. This would entail including more international law principles in many of our current classes. He also sees more conferences on Mexican law, like our recent Cinco de Mayo Conference.

Biotech law is another area that he thinks is a natural fit for San Diego.

Rodriguez also talked about what it’s like to be a successful minority. He says that he doesn’t want to be considered as simply a successful minority, but as a successful person regardless of his color. Nevertheless, Rodriguez understands that it is his responsibility to be a role model for many people. In fact, he’s agreed to take part in the annual Little Red Riding Hood Trial hosted by the La Raza Law Students. This mock trial gives underprivileged elementary school students an opportunity to visit the law school. This year, as part of this program, Rodriguez will talk to these students about the real opportunities that they have to live successful lives.

All in all, Rodriguez sees a strong future for our law school. He would like to urge students to feel free to talk to him about changes that they want in the school.

"I want students to know that they shouldn’t be afraid to come to me with suggestions on how to make this school a better school," he says.

Center for Public Interest Law Begins Nineteenth Year as Advocate for the Public Interest

USD’s Center for Public Interest Law (CPIL) recently welcomed 19 law student interns to its yearlong clinic program aimed at opening up the process of California regulatory agencies and teaching students administrative and public interest law and practice. Praised by consumer advocate Ralph Nader as a "model program" to be followed by other law schools, CPIL has graduated over 700 students from its program and is now in its nineteenth year of advocacy.

Created in 1980, CPIL is an academic center of research, teaching, learning, and advocacy in public interest and administrative law. The Center focuses its efforts on the study of an extremely powerful, yet often overlooked, level of government: state agencies which regulate business, trades, and professions.

Center interns take a yearlong course entitled Public Interest Law and Practice which teaches them the substantial and procedural laws which govern these agencies. As part of the course, each student monitors two of California’s major regulatory agencies, which include the State Bar, the Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Insurance, the Medical Board, and Cal-Osha, among many others. Students attend meetings of their assigned agencies, monitor and analyze their activities, interview agency officials and licensees, and track rule-making, legislation, and litigation affecting their agencies. Several times during the year, students submit articles summarizing agency activities for publication in the Center’s journal, the California Regulatory Law Reporter (with attribution to the student author). The Reporter is reprinted on Westlaw.

Following the yearlong course, many CPIL interns pursue (for additional credit in Public Interest Law Clinic) an in-depth advocacy project involving one of these agencies. In the past, these projects have included comprehensive agency critiques; petitioning an agency to adopt regulations; drafting model legislation; filing suit to enjoin the Administrative Procedure, Open Meetings, or Public Records Acts; or submitting amicus curiae briefs on public interest issues pending appeal. Student critiques of publishable quality often appear as feature articles in the Reporter, and may also satisfy USD’s written work requirement.

The Center offers its interns a chance to personally observe and participate in state regulatory agency activity; an opportunity to have their work published several times during law school in a unique legal journal; a chance to work closely with experienced public interest attorneys and advocates.

In addition to teaching the law which governs these agencies and direct clinic skills in public interest law, CPIL has an action component. Through its professional staff (in both San Diego and Sacramento) and assisted by student interns, CPIL drafts and sponsors legislation, litigates test cases, and represents the interests of the unorganized and underrepresented in state regulatory proceedings. The goal of CPIL is to make the regulatory functions of state government more efficient, visible, and accountable by serving as a public monitor. In November 1990, CPIL was endowed by Sol and Helen Price, through a $1.8 million gift which created the Price Chair in Public Interest Law; the Price Chair is held by Professor Bob Fellmeth, who directs CPIL.

According to Professor Fellmeth, perhaps the most promising aspect of Center scholarship and activity has been the entry into state regulatory agency staffs, legislative committee staffs, and public interest advocacy groups of a large number of Center interns following graduation.

“One of CPIL’s graduates is now the executive director of the nation’s third-largest utility ratepayer advocacy groups; another served as chief consultant to a key Assembly Committee for a decade; and yet another works in the general counsel’s office of the state Department of Insurance. We offer experience and education in areas outside the conventional private practice of law - areas in which the student/practitioner can make a difference in public policymaking.”

FROM A STORY OF PUBLIC INTEREST LAW
MEMORANDUM

TO: USD Community
FROM: Dr. Alice Hayes
DATE: September 1998
SUBJ: Substance Abuse Policy

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 10-690, Title V, Subtitle D) requires that employers receiving federal grants take specific steps to ensure a drug-free workplace. The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act also mandates that universities provide a drug-free, healthy, safe and secure environment for its students and employees. Employers and students of the University of San Diego are expected and required to be in appropriate mental and physical condition to perform their employment and scholastic responsibilities.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, sale, purchase or use of a controlled substance (as defined in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 United States Code §812, as amended) and alcohol on University premises or while conducting University business off University premises is prohibited.

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 requires that employees directly engaged in the performance of work on a federal contract or grant must, as a condition of employment, abide by the terms of the above policy and report any conviction under a criminal drug statute for violations occurring on or off University premises while conducting University business. A report of a conviction must be made to Human Resources within five days after the conviction. The University is required to notify the federal contracting or granting agency within ten days of receiving notice of such conviction and to take appropriate corrective action or to require the employee to participate satisfactorily in an approved drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

USD SANCTIONS

Violations of this policy will result in corrective action in accordance with established University policies and procedures, up to and including termination of employment and/or enrollment, and may have legal consequences.

HEALTH RISKS

Drug and alcohol abuse is a significant public health problem; it is pervasive in our society. It is a problem no one can afford to ignore. A recent national Institute of Drug Abuse nationwide household survey indicates that 19% of Americans over 12 years of age have used illicit drugs. In the 18-25 year-old adult population, representing those entering the workplace and college, 65% have used illicit drugs—44% most recently. Based on government estimates, substance abuse (drug and/or alcohol) costs approximately $100 billion dollars in lost productivity each year. Substance abuse impacts an employee's ability to safely and effectively perform on the job. The same can be said for a student's ability to perform scholastically. The end result is absenteeism, increased accidents, substandard performance, poor morale or damage to the University’s reputation.

The human cost to society and the social, economic and legal costs to business have created a new awareness of the multi-faceted problems resulting from substance abuse. There is now awareness among the government and business communities that action must be taken to reduce these costs.

People often use drugs to cope with problems or to help them socialize. Sooner or later drugs can become more important than anything else. However, instead of helping one solve problems, drugs and alcohol can lead to even more serious problems. Besides legal, financial, relationship and health problems, drugs and alcohol can change ambitions and values. The user of drugs and/or alcohol many times has promised to stop, but used again. Usage of drugs can become so habitual that one may have a hard time getting through the day without them.

Drugs and alcohol can:

- Make one careless or forget important safety steps;
- Cause lateness and absenteeism which may increase the workload on others;
- Alter one's sense of space, time and distance;
- Cause crime on the job;
- Cause major work errors.

The law requires the University to strictly control certain drugs in our workplace. The following are the drugs of concern:

Marijuana (Pot, Grass, Weed) is stronger than it was 20 years ago. Workplace dangers include slowing of physical reflexes, reduction of mental powers and the alteration of space and distance judgment. It is addictive, though many believe it is not. It can cause impaired short-term memory, lung disease and infertility. The effect can go on for 4-6 hours after smoking, and it is worse if also used with alcohol.

Amphetamine (Crystal, Uppers, Speed) is probably the most abused illegal drug in San Diego County. A powerful stimulant, crystal can make one rush around wildly and carelessly. Continued use causes periods of sleeplessness followed by periods of sleep, mood swings, irritability and depression. Amphetamines, with continued use, produce a psychosis characterized by altered personality and paranoia.

Cocaine and Crack (Coke, Snow, Freebase, Rock) are highly addictive stimulants which speed up performance. However, the effect is short-lived. It causes a temporary feeling of almost superhuman power, impairing decision-making ability and judgment. General emotional problems, mood swings and a lack of dependability can also occur. Dangers of cocaine and crack include damage to the respiratory and immune systems, malnutrition, seizures and loss of brain function.

Prescription drugs (Stimulants, Downers, Hypnotics) are safe only if taken as prescribed under a doctor's supervision. If not prescribed or taken at all, they can lead to sluggishness or hyperactivity, impaired reflexes, liver and kidney damage, addiction and brain damage.

Heroin (Junk, H, Horse) is addictive and causes disinterest in workplace safety, personal productivity and relationships. Dangers of overdose are coma and death.

Hallucinogens (PCP, LSD, Ecstasy, MDMA, Designer drugs) are related to stimulants and cause the user to hallucinate. They change how one looks at things. They are generally used for sexual enhancement. They may cause roughness or hyperactivity, impaired reflexes, liver and kidney damage, addiction and brain damage.

The University recognizes drug and alcohol dependency as an illness and a major health problem. The University also recognizes drug and alcohol abuse as a potential safety and security problem. Students needing help are encouraged to contact the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education (ext. 4618) located in the University Center, room 221. Employees needing help in dealing with such problems are encouraged to use USD's confidential Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and health insurance plans as appropriate. Conscientious efforts to seek such help will not jeopardize any employee's job. The EAP can be reached by contacting Human Resources (ext. 6611) in Maher Hall, room 101.

Drug use costs everyone; accidents multiply, performance drops and morale declines. If you are involved with drugs, use the help available. What can you do if you suspect a student or co-worker is abusing drugs? Covering up only allows the cycle of abuse to continue. Get support, don't try to handle it alone. Talk to someone. Expressing concern is the hardest, yet most important step.

LOCAL STATE AND FEDERAL LEGAL SANCTIONS

Local, state and federal laws establish severe penalties for unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. These sanctions, upon conviction, may range from a small fine and probation to imprisonment for up to one year or a $1,000 fine or both. In the case of possession and distribution of illegal drugs, these sanctions could include the seizure and summary forfeiture of property, including vehicles. It is especially important to know that recent federal laws have increased the penalties for illegally distributing drugs to include life imprisonment and fines in excess of $1,000,000. A partial example of local or state laws are:

- The purchase, possession or consumption of any alcoholic beverages (including beer and wine) by any person under the age of 21 is prohibited.
- It is not permissible to provide alcohol to a person under the age of 21.
- Selling, either directly or indirectly, any alcoholic beverages, excise taxes paid under the authority of a California Alcoholic Beverage Control license, is prohibited.
- It is a felony to induce another person to take various drugs and intoxicating agents with the intent of enabling oneself or the drugged person to commit a felony. The person who induced the other may be a principal in any crime committed.
- Your health and well-being are of utmost concern to us. Please keep this advisory in mind when planning those events in your life which could put you in jeopardy.
Children's Advocacy Institute Offers Unique Clinical Experience

USD's Children's Advocacy Institute (CAI) is a public interest organization dedicated to improving the status and well-being of children in California by representing their interests and their right to a healthy, nurturing childhood. CAI focuses on four target areas: prevention of child abuse and neglect, enhancement of child care and development, health and safety issues, and effort to improve the government's delivery of children's services in California.

CAI offers two courses at the USD School of Law to students interested in Child Advocacy: Child Rights and Remedies and Child Advocacy Clinic. Child Rights and Remedies, a course offered in the fall semester, surveys the broad array of child advocacy challenges: the constitutional rights of children, defending children accused of crimes, child abuse and dependency court proceedings, tort remedies and insurance law applicable to children, and child property rights and entitlements.

Taking or completing Child Rights and Remedies qualifies students to participate in Child Advocacy Clinic, a unique clinical program spanning up to two semesters. Student clinicians have two options. First, they may choose to work with an assigned attorney and social worker from the San Diego Office of the Public Defender representing abused children in dependency court proceedings. These cases may concern an adolescent who has been in foster care for three years after being abandoned by both parents and left with a substance-abusing older sister; an infant who has been severely physically abused by her parents; or a young child who has been molested by his father. For a semester, students work two days per week at the Public Defender's Office; they are expected to participate in all aspects of their assigned cases, including court appearances, trial preparation, interviews of witnesses (including the child), and trying a case.

Child Advocacy Clinic interns have a second option - policy work with CAI professional staff involved in state agency rulemaking, legislation, test litigation, or similar advocacy. In the past, these policy projects have included the filing of a lawsuit to force a state agency to adopt public playground safety regulations, legal research on the unconstitutionality of a legislative bill which would have authorized the public paddling of juvenile graffiti offenders, or legal research and writing on the California Children's Budget, an annual publication of the Children's Advocacy Institute which tracks state spending on programs affecting children. Students may also opt to work on the projects of CAI's Information Clearinghouse on Children, which publishes the Children's Regulatory Reporter, a semiannual journal highlighting decisions affecting children made by California regulatory agencies.

Through these projects, students can make an impact on public policy before graduating from law school. For example, in 1994, Clinic intern Susan Drake conducted a statewide survey of all 58 California counties to ascertain what qualifications are required of attorneys who represent minors in dependency proceedings. Duke issued her findings in a report, which was the basis for successful legislation sponsored by CAI assuring qualified counsel for children. That legislation was recently upheld by the Second District Court of Appeal, which cited Duke's study as support for its decision.

Eric Sedwick (3L) was married to Eve Bradley at City Hall in the 6th Arrondissement of Paris this summer while in Europe for a USD Summer Program.
Dear Job Goddess,

My girlfriend is in her first year at a tier one law school and is trying to find a position with a law firm for the summer. She is having no luck at all even though her grades and class rank are great. What can we do?

EG, New York

Dear EG,

The Job Goddess applauds all of you for hitting the legal career ground running. Why, when she was in your shoes in her pre-Goddess incarnation, the Job Goddess was thinking, "If I max out my credit cards, can I spend the summer in Egypt?" You, of course, not only have the right instincts, but also the divine guidance of the Job Goddess pool of experts. You will be delighted to know that, approached strategically, your first law school summer can launch your legal career into the stratosphere.

How? The important point to remember about your first summer is not to focus on what your classmates will focus on — that is, getting a paying position with a large law firm as possible. There are at least three reasons not to do this. One is that unless you go to one of the tiny handful of schools whose first year students are sought by large firms, you will quickly frustrate yourself by trying to break into their traditional summer clerkship programs. The Job Goddess does not want you to be frustrated; she wants you to be happy and fulfilled.

Another, more important reason is that you can get broader experience and make valuable contacts from other kinds of employers than you can from large firms.

Where should you look, the Job Goddess hears you asking? Your happiest hunting grounds are likely to be small firms and judicial internships, and of those two, a judicial internship is likely to open the most doors for you. As you undoubtedly know, there are, a buildingly between the federal court system, states, municipal courts, and specialty courts. All of them have judges, and judges all need clerks. As you know, the Job Goddess does not advise you to work out mass mailers. Instead, check with your career services office is a great place to find out about those jobs.

Your job is to turn those opportunities into interviews — and the more interviews you get, the better the quality of your choice. There may well be, as Lisa Lesage says that "When attorneys say they want 1 to 3 years of experience, what they really want is someone who knows the ropes. Jobs you have during law school can easily give you that." She advises you to "Look at all the law-related work you’ve done, no matter what it is, and disgorge a line or two on every single thing. Don’t simply say that you ‘researched issues’ or ‘drafted memoranda and motions.’ Instead, be very specific. Say that you drafted a motion for summary judgment in a 1983 case concerning privacy. Or that you prepared a deposition for a Title 7 case involving sexual harassment. For non-law-related jobs you’ve had, be similarly specific so that you can pull out the skills that you can transfer to the legal job you want.

The Job Goddess congratulates you for contacting her instead of just throwing in the towel.

With that in mind, how do you improve your odds of being the lucky candidate? Lisa Lesage, Career Services Director at Lewis & Clark Law School (and herself an attorney for several years), gives you two steps to follow: one is researching what you’ve got, and the other is finding out all you can about the employer.

When you look at what you bring to the table, Lisa Lesage says that "When attorneys say they want 1 to 3 years of experience, what they really want is someone who knows the ropes. Jobs you have during law school can easily give you that." She advises you to "Look at all the law-related work you’ve done, no matter what it is, and disgorge a line or two on every single thing. Don’t simply say that you ‘researched issues’ or ‘drafted memoranda and motions.’ Instead, be very specific. Say that you drafted a motion for summary judgment in a 1983 case concerning privacy. Or that you prepared a deposition for a Title 7 case involving sexual harassment. For non-law-related jobs you’ve had, be similarly specific so that you can pull out the skills that you can transfer to the legal job you want.

The Job Goddess

Continued Next Page
Cont. From Previous Page

help give you fodder for a cover letter, and it will also help you overcome any interview objections. You will be able to say, "I may have just graduated, but I've got the experience you're looking for."

The other task at hand for you, VS, is to research the employer. Most ads state who the employer is; if you find ads that don't - in other words, it's a "blind ad" - you are not out of luck. Lisa Lesage says that "If the return address is a P.O. box, and the employer is incorporated, the post office must tell you the name of the box holder. Once you know who the employer is, go to your career services office at school and see if they've compiled data on the employer or if there are alums from your school who have worked there. Such an alum can be an enormous help, since they will not only be able to tell you about the employer and how you can position yourself to get a job there - but they may also be willing to walk your application over to the person who's doing the hiring, and perhaps even put in a good word for you. Needless to say, this is a great way to distinguish yourself from other people applying for the same job.

Of course, VS, you know that the Job Goddess prefers that you find your dream job by getting to know people, through school and law-related activities, than through job ads. But the fact remains that many people do find jobs they like through ads, and if you follow the advice here - why, VS, there's no reason why you can't, as well.

Eternally Yours,
The Job Goddess

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Financial Aid

1ST Year Students Access Advisor Disk
The completed print out of the Law School Loan Summary Chart and the In-School Financial Aid Budget are due in the Financial Aid Office by December 1, 1998. Failure to comply will result in a hold of your spring disbursement.

Financial Aid Bulletin Board
Check out the Bulletin Board in the Financial Aid Office. Outside Scholarships and other financial aid information are posted here.

Moot Court

1998 Appellate Moot Court Board
Best Oralist: Matt Mahoney
Best Brief Petitioner: Patrick Shipley
Best Brief Respondent: Michael Lee
1st Place
Michael Lee
2nd Place
2nd Place
Patrick Shipley
Ard Place
Carolyn Schmit
4th Place
Michael Ruiz
Congratulations to all of the competitors!

Legal Research Center

Beginning of the week of September 21st, the LRC began conducting a series of "Drop In" Research Clinics for students at 12:30 and 5:00 P.M. each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Students who don't have time to sign up for an hour of training will be able to "drop in" to the LRC on their lunch breaks or after work for a quick, focused, 20- to 30- minute session on a specific research skill or topic. The clinic will include classes on legislative history, legal research on the internet, advanced SALLY searching, Westlaw & Lexis (Wexis) site checking tools, conquering the Bluebook, finding law review and journal articles, using the LRC home page as a research tool, updating Wexis research, Wexis tips & tricks, and "getting a grip" on primary sources. Instructors will include LRC librarians and Wexis representatives.

The schedule is posted prominently on bright yellow sheets on law school and LRC bulletin boards and is also available at the Reference Desk and in the library newsletter Ex Libris.

Career Services

ALL JAG Day
Wednesday, October 7, 1998
12 noon, Room 131, 1st Floor
JAG attorney from the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy will briefly review the legal and permanent hiring process. On-campus interviews will begin at 1:00PM

Video Mock Interviewing
Fridays, 2:00-3:30/3:30-5:00, various dates throughout the fall. Please stop by Career Services to sign up.

Sandwich, Soft Drink, Small Group Discussions
Beginning week of October 12, 1998
12 noon-12:50PM and 4:00-4:50PM.
Meet with your classmates, career services staff and practicing attorneys to discuss your career plans and job search. Each discussion group will focus on specific types of employers or practice areas. Lunch provided by Career Services. Space limited. Please stop by Career Services to sign up AFTER October 5, 1998.

USD Hosts Nationally Televised Town Hall Forum

"Crisis in the White House"

By Curtis Crews

The eyes of America (Well, at least those who have cable and who happened to be watching MSNBC) were focused on USD on August 25th when Shiley Theater was the site of "Crisis in the White House", a Town Hall Forum produced by MSNBC and anchored by second-string NBC reporters Kelley O'Donnell and Josh Mankiewicz.

A good-sized audience drawn from the USD community shivered in the powerful air conditioning and watched the stage as a 45 member panel, intended to represent a cross-section of San Diego County, gave their opinions on Bill Clinton and the recent White House scandals.

Almost every imaginable cultural or political group was represented on the stage. There were senior citizens, children, people with funny hats, priests...countless accoutrements of cultural identity on proud display. Truly a global village.

An old man wearing a VFW hat with lots of pins on it argued with a female Rabbi that the President should be impeached since a member of the armed forces could be discharged for adultery. A mother wondered how she would explain to her young son what "oral sex" is. A liberal academic-looking man commented on how the mores of society are changing so as to be more accepting of marital infidelity. A gay sumo-wrestler beat a nude midget about the head and shoulders with a spike-heel pump. (Wait a minute...maybe that was Jerry Springer)

But seriously, a wide variety of opinions were presented. While many demanded that the President resign, most seemed willing to give him a second chance. Keep in mind, however, that this all took place a couple weeks BEFORE the release of Kenneth Starr's entertaining report, with it's tales of the President discovering interesting new uses for cigars and falling asleep during phone sex. It would be interesting to see how this same forum would play out if it were held today.

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Editor's Note: If your law school office or organization has any announcements or calendar items it would like printed in this section, please jot it down and place it in the Motions box in the faculty mailroom. We will be happy to print all announcements, space permitting.

Motions Needs Writers!
Motions is in desperate need of more good writers and more good ideas!

If you have a good idea for a story...WRITE IT! Or at least call 260-4600 x4343 and tell us your idea.

That Means You!
Intemural Softball Underway

It may not be too late to sign up for intermural softball. The USD Intemural league, which is probably the best choice for those who have actually swung a bat before, plays on Sundays with start times from 6 to 9PM. Team captains are:

Dave Boyd
Lucas Mast (293-7683)
Harry Harrison (273-5838)
Jason Ota (715-6803)
Jay Parker (297-2387)
Jack Balderson (500-7832)
Robert Bradley (660-9961)

The Co-Rec League is for those who want to play just for fun. It is non-competitive, so nobody cares if you have never actually swung a bat before. Start times are from 6 to 9PM on Fridays. There are nine teams:

Team: Section B
Capt: Michael McKern (551-8571)
Team: Section A
Capt: Kathryn Felice (291-2487)
Team: Insufficient Mens Rea
Capt: Jamie Smith (467-1519)
Team: C2000
Capt: Charles Kim (581-2671)
Team: USD Cubs
Capt: Jeff Feasby (275-4647)

Even the top-notch pitching of Heather Marlow (1L) couldn't save 1L team "INSUFF MENS REA" from a 17-5 trouncing at the hands of 3L team "Last Chance" on opening night.

Team: Last Chance
Capt: Frank Marchetti (292-8455)
Team: (No name)
Capt: Kent Bailey (574-5739)
Team: Faculty
Capt: Pam Teune (X2615)
Team: The Justices
Capt: Helen O'Donnell (544-6303)

LRC Gets New Computers, Staff, and Offers New Clinics

By Brian Derdowski

Even those students who do not live in the library probably have noticed the new, faster computers at the LRC computer lab. Fortunately for all of us, those who actually do live in the library have been working on all kinds of improvements to make it easier to use. For example, Ruth Levor, Associated Director at the Legal Research Center, is happy to say that it should be easier to learn online researching once a new, $6,000 improved-resolution projector arrives.

For those who have specific research questions, two new reference librarians have been hired full-time. Owen Smith joins the LRC from the Sixth Circuit Court Of Appeal, where he was Satellite Librarian at the Louisville office, and John Atkins comes to San Diego from Golden Gate University where he was Associate Director of the Law Library. Owen and John both have law degrees and library degrees, and are eager to assist you.

For routine research, the new Sally terminals will help, as will the new user-friendly Online Public Access Catalogue available on the Web. And researching employers just got easier, because the remodeled LRC homepage now contains links to every San Diego lawfirm's homepage in addition to helpful links to area courts and local rules.

Additionally, the library is planning a series of drop-in clinics to teach advanced online research, as well as practical resources such as LawDesk, which allows users to integrate research and document production. Also in the works is the Microdax system, which Minolta is setting up to allow fiche to be downloaded to disk.

Computer lab users may be concerned about the availability of the lab when online training sessions occur. Hopefully within a month, the upstairs computer lab will be open with ten terminals for Lexis and Westlaw research. It is unclear whether the upstairs lab will have email or word-processing capability, but new data links are planned for some of the study desks that will enable laptop users to use everything available on the server. Laptop users may want to purchase security chains to attach their computers through holes to be drilled in the desks.

All students should be aware that the LRC has new Westlaw software that they can have, and that Lexis is no longer providing software, but it is available at Lexis-Nexis.com, where it will ask for your identification number and your password, which is your last name. Owen at the Reference Desk suggests that everyone learn both the software and the web versions of Lexis and Westlaw, because you never know what version your employer will use.

One common concern among researchers is the absence of Rutter Group Practice Manuals at the LRC. Although the practitioner may have to go to California Western to use Rutter Group manuals, students can access these materials through Westlaw. Finally, no article on the LRC would be complete without trying to explain why the printers cost ten cents while the copiers cost only five. Like all great philosophical questions, the answer is elusive. Apparently, the pricing has something to do with an arrangement between the University Print Shop and an outside company that manages the metering equipment.
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SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS

SAN MATEO
- Saturday, September 19, 1998: Noon-6:00 pm
- Sunday, September 20, 1998: Noon-6:00 pm
- All sessions will be given live at the Villa Hotel, 4000 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo

SAN DIEGO
- Saturday, September 26, 1998: Noon-6:00 pm
- Sunday, September 27, 1998: Noon-6:00 pm
- All sessions will be given live in the Auditorium at the Western University School of Law, YO Colton St., San Diego

ORANGE COUNTY
- Saturday, October 3, 1998: 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-4:00 pm
- Sunday, October 4, 1998: 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:30 pm-4:00 pm
- All sessions will be given live at Hope International University, 2001 University Dr., Fullerton, across from Cal. State Univ., Fullerton, Second Floor, Room 205, Fullerton, CA

LOS ANGELES
- Saturday, October 10, 1998: 11:00 am-5:00 pm
- Sunday, October 11, 1998: 11:00 am-5:00 pm
- All sessions will be given live at the 12th Annual Law School Prep Seminars and First, Second and Third Year Law School Final Review. The organizer and director of the prep seminars is the author of the Legal Exam Writing Workshop. Both are seminars involving intensive exam writing techniques designed to train the law student to write the superior answer. Professor Fleming is the founder and director of the Legal Exam Writing Workshop. Held at the University of California, Los Angeles, the seminar is the creation of the Exam Solution Tape Series, which helps law students in exam preparation. The author of the First Year Exam Writing Workshop, The Second Year Exam Writing Workbook, and the Third Year Exam Writing Workbook. Available in legal bookstores throughout the United States.
- Professor Fleming has been a leader in the legal community for more than 15 years. He has written and published over 300 articles on law and legal education. His most recent book, "The Legal Exam Writing Workshop," is now in its third edition. He has also been a visiting professor at several law schools, including the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the American Law Institute. He is married to a lawyer and they have two children. He enjoys biking and hiking in his free time. He is the author of "The Legal Exam Writing Workshop," which is available at major bookstores or online. He can be reached at (310) 477-7070 or email: flemings1@aol.com.

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For the past twenty years, Professor Fleming has devoted his legal career towards the development of legal pre-exam seminars designed to aid Law Students and Bar Candidates in exam writing techniques and substantive law. Professor Fleming includes the Lecturing of Exam Writing Seminars and First, Second and Third Year Law School Preparatory Seminars and First, Second and Third Year Law School Final Reviews. He is the Organizer and Lecturer of the Bar Review Seminar and the Founder and Lecturer of the Legal Exam Writing Workshop. Both are seminars involving intensive exam writing techniques designed to train the law student to write the superior answer. He is the Founder and Lecturer of Longhorn Test Bar Review. In addition, Professor Fleming is the Publisher of the Performance Exam Solution* and Multistate Exam Workbook, the author of The Exam Solution Tape Series, which helps law students in exam preparation. The author of the First Year Exam Writing Workshop, The Second Year Exam Writing Workbook, and the Third Year Exam Writing Workbook. These are available in legal bookstores throughout the United States.

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