

March 2014



# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

COLLEAGUES IN LAW

## ALUMNI INTERVIEWS



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## CAREER SERVICES +

In-House Counsel Panel

Business Law Resumes & Careers

Mock Interviews Now Available

OCBA Section Specialty Day

Interview Workshop

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And...  
ALUMNI EVENTS  
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# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Your Alumni Newsletter

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MARCH 2014

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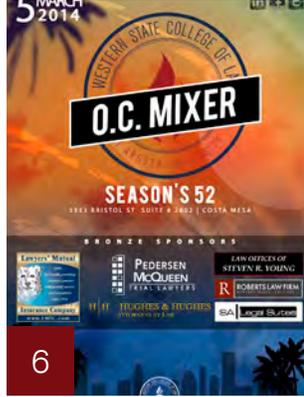


WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW  
AT ARGOSY UNIVERSITY





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THIRD ANNUAL  
**HALL OF FAME** *GALA*  
SATURDAY, SEPT. 27, 2014

5:30 PM Casino & Cocktails  
7:30 PM Dinner & Awards Ceremony

Balboa Bay  
CLUB



SAVE THE DATE

INVITATION TO FOLLOW

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



**O**ne of the great benefits of being the dean is that I rarely run out of good news. The Western State community fairly hums with students and faculty and alumni doing innovative things or achieving some unique distinction.

Recently, two of our students advanced to the quarterfinals of the Whittier Law School National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition, and their brief was judged one of the best of the competition. Western State competes in a number of interscholastic moot court competitions throughout the United States, and does quite well in them. I am blessed with a faculty that is gifted in teaching the art and skill of trial practice, and students fully capable of receiving and giving flight to the instruction they receive. There are few activities in law school more arduous and demanding of a student's dedication and focus than moot court. It is among the myriad of activities woven throughout the course of study that provides students with the practical skills they will need to fully serve their future clients as well-rounded practitioners. It is through moot court that many of us get our first peek and the professional our students will become.

I have a great deal of admiration for our students. I am genuinely impressed with the grit and determination with which they pursue the challenges presented to them. Far from becoming stale, as the years pass, my relationship with them has only deepened. I find myself increasingly looking forward to those times when I am able to engage them through my teaching, through meetings with their leadership, and through judging their moot court rounds.

I feel that I know enough about our students to be certain they will make a salutary impact on the legal community, as leaders and as professionals.

Our students have developed a degree of professional competence that might surprise the most seasoned practitioners. I would not be reticent about recommending them for responsibility in the most demanding legal work environments; I would certainly encourage the nurturing of their talent through scholarship donations.

I genuinely like our students, and I consider their careers eminently worthy of your investment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William E. Adams, Jr." in a cursive script.

William E. Adams, Jr.  
Dean and Vice Chancellor, Western State College of Law

P.S. - Campus Update:

We are in the process of finalizing our search for a new campus, and I expect to be able to announce the location shortly. We have before us the rare opportunity to re-shape our law school in exciting new ways as it enters its fiftieth year; I promise a campus tailored to facilitate the programming and resources of a twenty-first century law school.



## O.C. MIXER A SUCCESS



On March 5th, the Western State Alumni Network hosted its first alumni mixer of the year. The attractive venue, Season's 52, at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa, welcomed an eclectic gathering of nearly 100 alumni representing graduating classes ranging from 2013 back to 1977.



[Click here to view the photo gallery](#)



The evening co-sponsored by [Hughes & Hughes](#), [Lawyers' Mutual Insurance](#), [Pedersen McQueen](#), [Roberts Law Firm](#), [Santa Ana Legal Suites](#) and [The Law Offices of Steven R. Young](#) drew alumni from as far away as San Bernardino County. To conclude the night, Dean Adams addressed the audience and then drew raffle winners.

We at Western State would like to express our sincerest appreciation to everyone who helped make this event a success, and we look forward to seeing you at the 2014 Hall of Fame Gala this September.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAY 22:**  
Long Beach Young Alum Mixer

**JULY 17:**  
Inland Empire Mixer

**SEPTEMBER 27:**  
2014 Hall of Fame Gala

**OCTOBER 23:**  
Los Angeles Mixer

**NOVEMBER 13**  
Bay Area Mixer

**DECEMBER 11:**  
Holiday Mixer

WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW PRESENTS:  
- A NATIONAL SECURITY SYMPOSIUM -  
THE CONSTITUTIONALITY AND CONSEQUENCES OF  
AMERICA'S USE OF DRONES AND THE NSA SPYING PROGRAM

SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2014  
KEYNOTE BY DEAN ERWIN CHERMERINSKY  
MODERATED BY PROFESSOR RYAN T. WILLIAMS

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!](#)



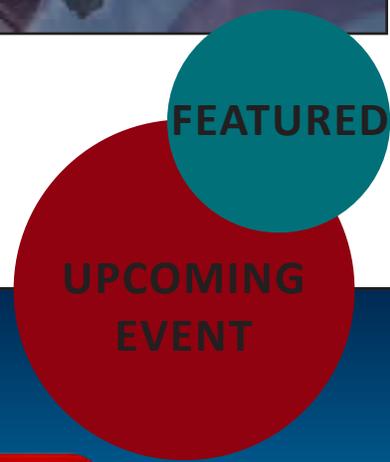
## LONG BEACH MIXER

THURSDAY - MAY 22, 2014  
6:30 - 9PM

Interested in sponsorship? [Click here](#)



To request accommodations in connection with this event, contact the Student Affairs Department or program organizer in advance at 714.459.1105.



# Faculty Highlights



**Professor Myanna Dellinger** recently represented Western State at a luncheon with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker, and spoke with Pritzker about U.S. financial interests in climate change efforts. Dellinger was put in touch with one of Pritzker's top aides for follow-up on the issue Dellinger raised of the advantages of being on the forefront of various climate change efforts, rather than allowing other more proactive nations or regions to reap those financial benefits. Pritzker's audience at the downtown Los Angeles hotel included consuls general from Mexico, France, and the United Arab Emirates, and others with an interest in free trade agreements.

Professor Dellinger's climate change law review article, "Narrowed Constellations in a Supranational Climate Change Regime Complex: The 'Magic Number' is Four," was selected to be presented at the annual American Society of International Law Research Forum, held at NYU Law School in early November. Dellinger represented WSCL at a reception that followed at the United Nations headquarters in New York. The article, will be published in the *Fordham International Law Journal* in 2014.

In addition, Professor Dellinger wrote three other articles this last year: "Localizing the Law of Climate Change," 14 *Min. J. L. Sci. & Tech.* 603 (2013); "An Unstoppable Tide: Creating Environmental and Human Rights Law from the Bottom Up," forthcoming in *Oregon Review of International Law*, Volume 15, Issue 2 (2013); and "That's Wild! The Ongoing International Trade in Endangered Species," *OC Lawyer Magazine* (December 2013).

Professor Dellinger is also a regular guest blogger for ContractsProfBlog, where she recently posted her inaugural blog.



**Professor Philip L. Merkel's** law review article, "Physicians Policing Physicians: The Development of Medical Staff Peer

Review Law at California Hospitals," was cited in a recent California Supreme Court opinion. The article was published in the *University of San Francisco Law Review*. It discusses substantive and procedural due process requirements hospital medical staffs must follow when attempting to discipline member physicians. The Supreme Court first referenced the article in *Mileikowsky v. West Hills Hospital and Medical Center* (2009). Recently, the Court cited the article in *El-Attar v. Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center* (2013). Professor Merkel, who has represented clients in medical staff peer review hearings, intended the article to be a guide for attorneys who practice in the area.



**Professor Stacey Sobel** moderated a panel on LGBT advocacy, "The Movement for LGBT Equality: Lawyers, Activists, and Setting Priorities," in conjunction with a symposium at La Verne College of Law honoring the 60th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*: "Brown v. Board of Education at 60: Cause Lawyering for a New Generation," on February 28th.



**Professor Jennifer Koh's** article, "Rethinking Removability," has been published in the *Florida Law Review* (65 Fla. L. Rev. 1, 803-2013).

Prof. Koh presented a draft of her article, "Love, Grace, and the Immigration Laws," on February 9th, at the Herbert and Elinor Nootbaar Institute on Law, Religion and Ethics Conference at Pepperdine Law School. The article examines the Christian doctrine of grace and its implications for the current U.S. immigration system.

On November 15, 2013, Jennifer Koh joined a panel entitled, "Delivering Immigration Services to the Masses and Reaching the Most Vulnerable Communities," as part of the 5th Annual Advancing Justice Conference, hosted by Asian Americans Advancing Justice, a coalition of the country's leading civil rights organizations for Asian American communities. Koh discussed the Western State Immigration Law Clinic's work in providing legal services to young immigrants in Orange County who are eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a program the federal government created last year to provide safety from deportation and temporary work permits to certain young people.



**Professor Kevin Mohr** spoke on a panel "Surviving the State Bar & Angry Clients: Navigating Ethics & Thriving in a Contracting,

Increasingly Mobile & Hyper-Competitive Legal Marketplace" at the California State Bar's Annual Meeting on October 10th, in San Jose.

Professor Mohr was a co-presenter with Ellen Pansky, of "Attorney-Client Relationships Including Motions to Disqualify Counsel, Motions to Withdraw, and Abandonment" at an ethics symposium conducted by the Professional Responsibility and Ethics Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association.



## WILLIAM R. BLACK

Class of 1987 | Dean's Counselor

**What are some of the most startling distinctions you've experienced in non-American legal systems?**

There are a number of distinctions that are not commonly recognized, but not necessarily startling. In France and many other European countries, for example, there is no Attorney-Client Privilege afforded to In-House lawyers. The theory is that a lawyer must be independent, and if a lawyer works for a single company as an employee, that lawyer lacks independence and cannot act as a true attorney at law. In fact, if a member of the French bar (an Avocat) joins a company as in-house counsel, they must withdraw from the bar and cease to be an avocat for the time they are in-house. Also in litigation in the French courts, a lawyer is not permitted to prepare a witness to testify. It is considered an ethical violation to assist a witness with any part of their testimony; it is viewed by the courts sort of like witness tampering or obstruction of justice.

Without exception, **the single most startling difference** that struck me is the British anti-money laundering statute. Under UK law, lawyers (called Solicitors) who believe or suspect that their clients may be involved in a criminal enterprise or may have obtained money illegally must report their client to the government and then must go through a charade of pretending to represent the client without telling them that they have been reported or that they are under investigation by the Government. If a solicitor fails to report a client under circumstances where the solicitor "knew or should have known" that the client possessed funds that had been obtained illegally, the solicitor is guilty of a crime and can be prosecuted by the government. If the lawyer alerts the client that they have been reported or are under investigation, the lawyer is guilty of "tipping" and is subject to criminal prosecution.

FULL INTERVIEW



## RYAN HIROTA

Class of 1981 | Dean's Counselor

**What were some of the highlights in leading a regional bar association?**

I was President of the Long Beach Bar Association, and the only male president of the Women Lawyers of Long Beach. I am honored to say that I am the only male president of the Women Lawyers of Long Beach. I worked my way up through the chairs. The membership stood behind me, demonstrating that "we don't discriminate," and we had a very fun and educational year, along with growth in our membership.

**What are your favorite memories of Western State?**

The camaraderie of the students. The evening program had everyone in most of the same classes. Our Torts 1 & 2 professor, Judge Griffin, had a pretty dry sense of humor, very funny. It was just a fun time being there. With an active judge as a professor, we were all scared of being grilled, so we were all very well prepared. **I brought a crash-helmet** with me one evening and dressed up like a race car driver when I briefed the case regarding crash victims. The judge really liked that. Then a couple years later, when I passed the bar, Judge Griffin swore me in!

FULL INTERVIEW



## CHRISTOPHER MONTES DE OCA

Class of 2006 | Dean's Counselor

**How do you view Western State's position in the legal community?**

Western State graduates are in great numbers in Orange County & Long Beach. I run into Western State alumni every day. In Compton Court this morning, I met one. I got email this morning from a Western State graduate referring me a case—and one this afternoon asking me for advice. I have this type of encounter on an ongoing basis. That's how crazy it is. If you're from Western State, there's always an alum nearby who will extend a helping hand if you reach out. **This type of camaraderie is rare in the legal community.**

**What advice would you offer to attorneys just entering the practice?**

I think it's really important to be kind to everyone you meet. The practice of law involves meeting and communicating with various types of people every day. Certain cases can bring out passion in attorneys, which can be good. However, passion can sometimes lead to frustration and impatience. I think we would all benefit to remember the golden rule we learned when we were younger: "Treat others as you would like to be treated."

FULL INTERVIEW



## ANDREW H. STRUVE

Class of 1998 | Hall of Fame | Dean's Counselor

### How do you anticipate provisions of the Affordable Care Act impacting your practice?

It's actually been an enormous part of our focus. Mannatt has been hired by 16 different states to help them set up their exchanges. The relationship between providers, payors, and patients is a very complex and interdependent one. Whenever you have major changes in a short period of time to the delivery model, you have increased stress to all stakeholders. So we've devoted a tremendous amount of time to help our clients in the face of the implementation of the program—a very significant event in the course of any practitioner in the field.

### What are your favorite memories of Western State?

Graduating was pretty nice; I sure remember that. I don't know; there were a lot of good times. I really liked studying with a whole bunch of other students. **We were all in it together, and none of us knew how it would turn out.**

### How has the practice of law changed from when you first started?

There is a lot more law (kidding). The days of general practice are numbered. I think client education and knowledge has become much more sophisticated in a reasonably short time. Clients are becoming much more careful and efficient consumers of legal services. They're expecting or wanting a much more laser focused subject matter knowledge from their lawyer. Clients expect serious effort on the part of their representation to learn all about their company. They view you as a member of their upper management team, and that's not always possible since providing legal counsel is not always in accordance with the goals of the management team.

[FULL INTERVIEW](#)



## SOLANGE RITCHIE

Class of 1994 | Hall of Fame | Dean's Counselor

### What are your favorite memories of Western State?

I think my favorite memory is of being part of the Robert Traynor Moot Court Competition. It was very exciting. We traveled up to Stanford. I was so proud to be there to participate. I remember becoming Editor in Chief of Law Review after I wrote on to Law Review. Then I moved up through the ranks, while working full-time. At the time, people were telling me that I could not handle Law Review because I worked full time. For people that know me, if you tell me I can't accomplish something, my response is "stand back and get out of the way" and I get it done. I guess that is the bulldog mentality in me, which is funny since bulldogs happen to be my family's emblem.

### What do you see as the most important/pressing issue in the legal system?

(Hmmm) Interesting. I'd say there are now significant issues with the decisions coming out of Supreme Court – **a mentality that protects Corporate America, not the mainstream America.** It's not what most people think they should be doing, and it's very sad. I don't see it changing any time soon, given the current make up of the Court.

[FULL INTERVIEW](#)



## MARLA ROBINSON

Class of 1987 | Dean's Counselor

### What do you like most about the practice of law?

This may sound silly. My motto at work is, "Fighting for Capitalism." I love to be part of helping clients grow their businesses in an environment that seems to attack their efforts. Also, I am blessed to have the greatest clients ever who I'm honored to also call my friends. One of my biggest (in revenues with the firm) clients I've known since I was 9 years old. I worked for him after college and throughout law school. Another large client used to be my neighbor and our children have grown up together.

### What are your favorite memories of Western State?

That's hard... I have so many good memories. . . Probably graduation—no—THIS is my favorite: Judge Gary Ryan, one of our favorite instructors, was teaching Remedies our last year. My friend, Emily Quinlan, skipped a Saturday class to go to the race track, and she won big. Professor Ryan's response the following Saturday class was, **"Your punishment is you are buying drinks after class for the whole class."** And she did.

[FULL INTERVIEW](#)

# A L U M N I K U D O S

Western State is proud to have an alumni base that is over 11,000 members strong. Distinguished alumni include state and local judges, district attorneys, public defenders, and city attorneys throughout the state, in addition to highly-respected private practitioners in all areas of the law across the nation.



**Tamara Bogosian** (Class of 1998) has joined Best, Best & Krieger's Public Safety Group in Irvine, where she oversees the firm's complex code enforcement cases across Southern California.



**Jacqueline Goodman's** (Class of 1994) article "Et Tu Brutalite," a meditation on the Kelly Thomas murder trial, was published in the January 21st Issue of the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*.



**Patrick Longhi** (Class of 1981) was recently honored by the Superior Court of Fulton, Georgia for his 17 years of service as Law Day Chair and for his support of Fulton County's high school students through his work for Future Leaders of America and the Washington Workshops Foundation, as well as his outstanding efforts to raise funds for scholarships for youth programs.



**Joseph DeVanon** (Class of 1976) was profiled in October 11th Issue of the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*. DeVanon is a neutral for IVAMS and Alternative Resolution Services. He recently retired from a distinguished career as a judge for the Los Angeles County Superior Court.



**Vincent Howard** (Class of 2003) was recently named First Vice-President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association.



**Rusty Prindle** (Class of 2006) has been named Deputy District Attorney of Lake County, Colorado. He was formerly Chief Deputy District Attorney of Routt County, Colorado.



**James Eiler** (Class of 1986) of the Long Beach firm of Kaiser, Swindells & Eiler was a presenter on Franchisor/Franchisee Relations at the recent Hospitality Law Conference, February 10-13th in Houston.



**William Shapiro** (Class of 1978) has been named the recipient of the John B. Surr Award by the San Bernardino County Bar Association. The Surr Award is given "to the member of the legal community who has best exemplified the high standards of the profession and the administration of justice."



**Guillermo Marquez Tello** (Class of 2011) of Rippetoe Law has been named the 2014 Secretary of the Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County.



**John Trieu** (Class of 1994) was co-counsel in the wage and hour class action of Van Ba Ma (and others) vs. Covidien Holding Co., et al, that recently settled for \$2.5 Million.



**M. Joseph Whittington** (Class of 2013) has joined the Bakersfield firm of Klein, DeNatale, Goldman, Cooper, Rosen, Lieb & Kimball, where he focuses on business litigation.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Western State Alumni named to leadership at the 2014 Long Beach Barristers Installation Luncheon



**Christopher Montes De Oca**  
Class of 2006

President



**Sean Brady**  
Class of 2008

Vice President



**Elisa Guadan**  
Class of 2011

Secretary



**Christy Beard**  
Class of 2006

Membership Chair

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### ANABELLA BONFA



Anabella Bonfa, a 1994 graduate of Western State College of Law and member of Rotary Club of Irvine, received the Rotary International Vocational Service Leadership Award on January 20, 2014. The award, presented by Rotary International President Ron L. Burton, recognizes Rotarians who exemplify integrity and high ethical standards in their vocation and in Rotary. Recipients are honored for using their vocational talents to serve the community and for personally mentoring and teaching others about their chosen profession.

Anabella mentors 3 to 7 law students or new attorneys each year, assisting them as they choose a specialty and helping them market their individual talents. She has written articles and spoken extensively at local law schools, including her alma mater, Western State College of Law, Chapman Law School and Whittier Law School, on the topics of 1) integrity and fairness in practicing law, 2) the need for improving the image of lawyers as a whole, 3) professionalism with other lawyers in the industry, 4) the importance of customer service for lawyers and their role as advocates, protectors and defenders of their clients, and 5) the need for mentorship for young lawyers.

Anabella's article, "12 Tips for Law Students and New Attorneys to become Successful at Legal Marketing" has recently been accepted for publication by one of the leading national law school publications.

Interested In Speaking On-Campus?

[CLICK HERE](#)



STUDENT PROFILE

TATIANA YOKOYAMA



**Tatiana Yokoyama, 3L, named Student of the Year by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association**

Tatiana Yokoyama, a 3L law student at the Western State, was awarded the National Student of the Year Award at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Annual Conference in Kansas City, Missouri on November 8, 2013. This merit-based scholarship award recognizes student leaders in the Asian Pacific American community from across the country.

To make a charitable donation toward Western State scholarships click here:

[Give Now](#)

The Education Foundation  
a 501(c)(3) corporation

**Law students win release from detention for clients in Immigration Court bond hearings**



Kristalyn Bautista and Angel Lalama, 3L law students participating in the Advanced Immigration Clinic, each represented a client detained under federal immigration laws. Their efforts led to release or release on bond for their clients.

**Western State Moot Court Team Places Second in Best Brief Competition**

The Western State team of Marta Bachynska and Kaitlyn Daley advanced to the quarterfinals of the Whittier Law School National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition and placed second in the Best Brief Competition. They accomplished this solely by their own efforts, as the competition rules do not permit input from their faculty coach.



**Western State Student speaks at U.C.I. Law Symposium**



WSCL student Steve Bell opened the first panel at a day-long symposium titled “Prisoners’ Access to Justice: Exploring Legal, Medical, and Educational Rights,” held at U.C.I. School of Law on Saturday, February 22nd. The event was intended to educate and advocate for prisoners’ rights and access to basic services. Featured speakers included attorneys, educators, and prison experts assembled in four panels: Legal Services, Medical Care, Mental Health Services, and Education.

**PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK**

**VITA**  
4/5. 9am-3pm

**Public Law Center Housing Event**  
4/8. 9-12pm

**Artesia High School Mentoring Event**  
4/8. 2-4pm

**Blood Drive**  
4/9. 11-5pm

**Bone Marrow Registry**  
4/9. 11am-5pm

**Easter Basket Building**  
4/9. 5pm

**Orangewood Easter Carnival**  
4/10. 5:30-8pm

**VITA**  
4/12. 9-3pm

**Craig Park Clean-Up**  
4/12. 9-12pm



Dear Alumni,

One of the best ways you can give back to the law school that gave you your start in the legal profession is by referring a new generation of well qualified students to Western State. **We hope you will recommend Western State** to bright, motivated aspiring lawyers in your office, community and family as a law school that will prepare them well for success on the bar exam and for good placements in the legal community, as well as connect them with a strong base of over 11,000 accomplished alumni. Along with our high bar pass rates, current students continue to cite outstanding teaching, career services support, and opportunities for good placements among top reasons to select Western State. We know that our alumni network is key to our good reputation in the legal community and also to the placement opportunities from which current students benefit.

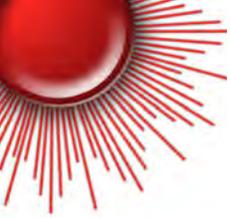
When you refer a student who is admitted and matriculates at Western State, **you can also help the incoming student access a \$1500 tuition reduction** for their first year of law school. Again, in 2014-2015 Western State will offer a “friends and family” reduction to incoming students who were referred by an alumnus/a. Have the student mention you in their application or provide a letter of reference, and upon admission they will be offered a \$1500 “friends and family” reduction from Western State (in addition to any merit award they may also be offered, not to exceed 100% of tuition). You will be asked to email us your name, your year of graduation from Western State, and the name of the student you referred, to confirm their eligibility.

We are taking applications now through June 1st for the fall 2014 class, and beginning September 1st for the January 2015 start. We continue to offer our part-time evening option as well as the full-time program. Our Admission team will gladly help candidates regarding the requirements and appropriate timing of applications, LSAT exams and other planning for the respective start. Individual meetings, class visits, or law school informational programs are available so they can meet Western State students and faculty. Upcoming events, webinars, and class visit days are published on the [www.wsulaw.edu](http://www.wsulaw.edu) site – please feel free to attend, along with your prospective student.

We value your good opinion and pride in Western State; **our alumni significantly influence the quality and quantity of applicants we attract each year**, and especially their decision to attend Western State. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Gloria Switzer  
Assistant Dean for Admissions



## IN-HOUSE COUNSEL PANEL



The Orange County Asian American Bar Association (OCAABA), in conjunction with Western State Career Services, hosted a panel presentation on Career Paths to In-house Counsel on campus in Room 405. Moderated by Professor David Groshoff, the standing-room-only crowd enjoyed hearing the first-hand experiences of three in-house counsel attorneys. Susan Myers of Hyundai Capital America was joined by Ako Williams of Apria Healthcare and our own Western State alumna Tram-Anh Nguyen of Loan Depot. Western State graduates, Vineet Sahni of GMP Laboratories of America and Mark Nelson, Lease Administrator at PacSun, rounded out the panel. The attorneys shared their experiences and stories of their careers and provided insight into the pros and cons of being in-house counsel and most importantly, how law students and new graduates can get their foot in the door (the key: networking!). The event was followed by a wine and cheese reception, with guests and panelists staying well past the conclusion of the event. Thank you to OCAABA and especially Ace Aldana for organizing the event, to Professor Groshoff for an amazing job of moderating, and to the panelists for sharing their expertise with Western State students.



## BUSINESS LAW RESUMES & CAREERS



Room 101 was the site for a rousing presentation by Professor David Groshoff, aided with enthusiastic comments by Professors Edith Warkentine and Tracie Porter.

Students learned the ins and outs of creating a business resume, interview dos and don'ts, professionalism tips, and other key information to assist with their job search efforts into the world of business law. Various career paths were also discussed, along with ways students and graduates can position themselves to ace the interview, especially for JD-preferred positions. Professor Porter included examples from her career experience to bring home several of the topics discussed. And Professor Warkentine added insights from her early career experiences. The workshop's handout, resources comprehensively compiled by Reference Librarian Lei Zhang, ensured a successful and helpful event for the students.



**Career Services  
is now on  
Facebook!**

Visit Western State Career Services Department for an update on events, daily job alerts of hot jobs in the Southern California area, and other intriguing topics.

Invite your friends and show us you "like" us!





## Interview Workshop

Our own Professor Ryan Williams hosted the second annual Interview Workshop Jamboree for students interested in honing their interview skills. To a full classroom, Professor Williams provided a step-by-step approach to acing the interview. Insider tips included performing extensive background research on the law firm and interviewers, dressing to impress, and techniques on how to come across as the ideal candidate. Professor Williams has large law firm experience in hiring and knows first hand the qualities that employers look for when hiring law clerks and lawyers. Thank you, Professor Williams, for helping our students outshine their interviewing competition!

## OCBA SECTION SPECIALTY

Western State students had the chance to meet and mingle with practicing lawyers from twelve specialty areas including solo practice, business litigation, construction law, elder law, trusts and estates, and insurance defense, among others. With a delicious lunch brought in by OCBA event coordinators, over forty students had the chance to pose questions to attorneys on a broad range of topics. Questions ranged from practice-specific (“Why do you like this area of law? How did you get started?”) to more general questions on clerking and interviewing. Students not only had the opportunity to gain important information on potential future practice areas, but most left with business cards and requests to follow-up with the attorneys. Western State sends a big “Thank you!” to the OCBA for coordinating this fantastic event!



## Mock Interviews Now

Due to the efforts and energy of Professor Ryan Williams, Western State now offers all students the opportunity to mock interview with their professor of choice. “I felt that the time was right to really boost the students’ interview skills and confidence as they head into the job market.” Launched in March, the program allows students to sign-up for interview times with volunteering professors. Interviews last for 20 minutes, followed by a 10 minute de-brief session. Each interview is recorded to allow students and professors the chance to review the session in depth at a later date. The student feedback so far has been tremendous. “This was an incredibly helpful experience,” enthused 1L student Kellen Dugan following his mock interview with Professor Myanna Dellinger. “I have the opportunity to gain varying perspectives on my resume as well as my interviewing style from different professors, all of whom have provided helpful feedback on how to best approach an interview,” says Ryan Bevans.



For students interested in improving their interview skills, sign-up sheets are available on the counter in Student Services.

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It's been nearly 35 years since I graduated and like many, the law has provided me not only the canvas to practice my chosen profession, but financial security at the same time. For me, it was time to "give back," a little. For some, now may not be the time, but I speak for now and I speak for the future. For those who can give something to the students, do it, it's the kind of assistance they need, and will always treasure.



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