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### Ann Johnson TSSA FALL 2014

Ann M. Johnson

CSUSB, [ajohnson@csusb.edu](mailto:ajohnson@csusb.edu)

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## TSSA Grant Report October 2014.

In the October 2014 I attended the Clute International Business and Education Conference in Las Vegas, NV. I teach Legal Environment of Business at least three times per year and I teach Business Law at least once per year. I often teach using the Socratic Method. However, other methods have been used by law and accounting professors for working through problems. The problem method ensures that assessment occurs often. Therefore because the students are interacting with the material, where misunderstandings occur can be easily detectable. With the Socratic Method it is possible to miss whether all students are understand the law and the context.

My presentation, which was published in the proceedings, was entitled Teaching Business Law in the Inland Empire. Credit and debt are particularly important issues in the Inland Empire due to the housing crisis that occurred starting in 2008. Moreover, many students have been affected by foreclosures, so understanding mortgages and bankruptcy is especially important. San Bernardino has the state's third highest foreclosure rate and the area has one of the country's highest poverty rate.

Furthermore, many of our students at California State University San Bernardino are first generation college students. Families may be running their own businesses, so understanding contracts to attain supplies and to hire employees applies directly to the lives of students.

The Clute conference allowed me to learn a new pedagogical skill and publish on how I teach the substance of the particular material of my classes. The feedback from other faculty in the profession was invaluable.