

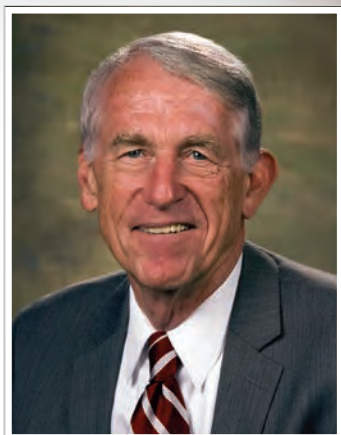
FresnoState

The Magazine for the New California

*All the
right notes*



OUR COLLEGE OF *Accomplishment and Honors*



I'm so proud of our College of Arts and Humanities. Not only does it have the largest enrollment among Fresno State's academic units, but its alumni and faculty have amassed achievement after achievement, many on the national and international stage.

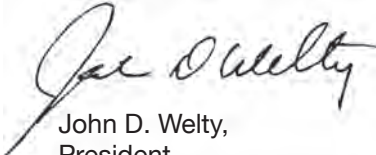
The most recent accomplishment was emeritus professor Philip Levine's selection by the Library of Congress as the nation's poet laureate. He adds that to numerous awards for his poetry, including the 1995 Pulitzer Prize.

Through the years, the college has become a training ground for artists, actors and musicians who teach and perform; for communicators from journalists and advertising specialists to linguists, poets and novelists; and for philosophers and classicists.

At the core of this training are dedicated faculty like Levine, who also enjoy substantial reputations in their fields. Their energy, enthusiasm and sheer ability inspire students to challenge themselves to excel.

In this issue, you'll read about two of those faculty members, hear from current and recent students just getting started in their careers and also from other alumni who have distinguished themselves since leaving campus.

Arts and humanities programs have grown and changed from the very beginning of Fresno State's first century and promise to continue doing so – with even greater distinction – for generations to come.


John D. Welty,
President

Fresno**State** Magazine
is published by the Office
of University Communications
at California State University, Fresno.

Fall 2011

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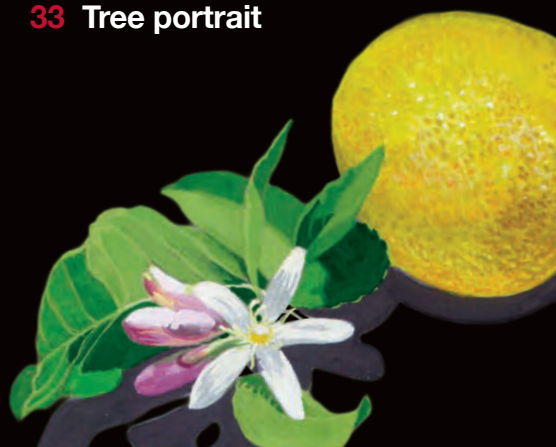
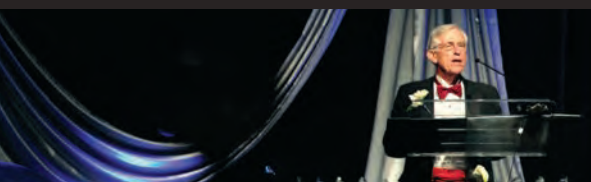
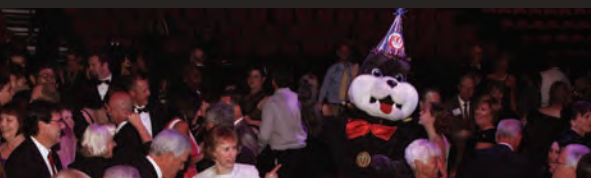


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Fresno State is a minority-serving institution and a federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, reflecting the rich diversity of Central California.





Gibson gift will transform Farm Market

Construction is expected to commence in spring 2012 on a new home for the Rue and Gwen Gibson Farm Market, about 100 yards south on Chestnut Avenue of the existing structure.

That transformation from cramped, crowded and decidedly dated to comfortable, spacious and 21st century is possible because of a 2008 gift from Joyce Gibson, a daughter of Rue and Gwen Gibson. The \$1.5 million gift was recognized by the California State University Board of Trustees, who approved naming the campus outlet for student-produced food the Rue and Gwen Gibson Farm Market.

“The ability to have a retail outlet on campus to showcase the work of Fresno State students in the Jordan College has been invaluable,” says Dr. Charles Boyer, dean of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

The current building was erected in 1955 as Fresno State was building agricultural facilities for the 1,100-acre farm that was part of the “new” campus. Originally the campus farm’s Post Harvest Building, it was converted to market use in 1984.



“The market connects the local community with our campus while they support student projects,” Boyer adds. “Students, with the assistance of faculty and farm unit enterprise staff, learn how to produce agricultural products as well as create new value-added products, enriching their academic and research experience.”

But at 2,500 square feet, the building can no longer adequately serve the growing needs of any modern market. The crowds that gather for the annual arrival of Fresno State’s renowned sweet corn are so big now, entrance to the store is restricted to groups of 30 at a time. And there are other events that attract too many people for comfort.

Wine tastings, a fresh meat counter, adequate freezer and refrigerated space for dairy products and a showcase area for the university’s award-winning extra-virgin olive oil will be better accommodated by the 4,000-square-foot market on the drawing board. The plans also include areas designated for a wine cellar and tasting, an ice cream scooping parlor, a floral shop and a fresh meat/deli counter.

Additional support spaces will include offices, staff-locker room, gift-packaging area, loading dock/shipping-receiving area, dry-goods storage, seasonal-display storage, freezers and coolers for segregated product storage, food preparation facilities and an outdoor seating area.

Construction of the new market is expected to be complete in 2013.

The Gibson Farm Market is an enterprise operated by the Agricultural Foundation of Fresno State, a university auxiliary organization.



“The generous support of Joyce Gibson will provide an excellent, modern environment to continue our mission and attract more members of the community to our campus,” said Boyer.

A profile in philanthropy

By Kathleen R. Schock

Joanne W. Schroll's long and distinguished career at Fresno State officially came to a close in 2000. But she continues to change lives on campus, more than a decade after her retirement.

Beginning in 1963, Schroll dedicated herself to Fresno State students. She was a professor in the Department of Physical Education (now Kinesiology), athletics administrator, department chair and women's basketball coach before that sport was sanctioned by the NCAA.

It is easy to understand her connection to Fresno State students: she was one herself, earning undergraduate (1959) and graduate degrees (1966).

“When I was a student at Fresno State it was back when the school was primarily funded by the state,” Schroll explains. “Now that the state has cut back its support so significantly, it is essential for those of us who can to give back.”

Schroll was raised in Ojai. After high school, her interest in science evolved into a passion for physical education. She relocated to Central California to attend Fresno State.

As a professor, Schroll focused on teacher instruction. She says that many of her students became elementary and physical education teachers. “I was very involved with all of my students because you never knew who you were going to touch.”



Several years ago, Schroll included a gift to Fresno State in her estate. She never thought to notify Fresno State about the bequest until she learned how important that knowledge is to the university.

“When we know about a bequest we can ensure the funds are spent according to the donor's wishes. It also allows the department to properly plan for the gift,” says Steve Spriggs, director of planned giving.

“When I started asking donors to inform us of their planned gifts, Joanne was one of the first to step forward.” Spriggs says it was during their conversation about her bequest that they discussed a charitable IRA rollover. “She was interested in this option because it was an additional and immediate way for her to support Fresno State.”

Schroll chose to roll over this year's annual required minimum distribution from her individual retirement account (IRA). This allowed her to make an immediate gift to the university and eliminated the tax consequences of the mandatory distribution.



Planned giving at Fresno State

Planned gifts provide Fresno State with a vital future source of private funding made even more necessary by the recent decreases in state support.

Working with your estate and financial advisers, our Planned Giving Office can ensure that your estate gift will be used for the specific college, school, scholarship, program or project that you desire.

As we start our second century of service to students and the community, we remain grateful to those friends and alumni who have already chosen to invest in Fresno State's future. We encourage you to join these visionaries and consider a legacy gift that will enhance the educational experience of Fresno State students for generations to come.

The process was fast and simple, adds Schroll. After talking with Spriggs, she contacted her financial advisers who took care of the transfer in a matter of days. “Knowing how far the university’s budget is stretched, I thought this was a wonderful opportunity for me to help,” she says.

Her gift went directly to the Department of Kinesiology. She worked with the department to determine how the funds were allocated.

“They will never name a building after me, but I don’t care,” she says with a laugh. “My gift is not a huge amount, but every bit helps. And maybe by sharing my story I can encourage more Fresno State supporters to do the same.”

With her gift, Schroll joins the Heritage Society, created to honor alumni and friends who have included Fresno State in their last will and testament or have made another type of legacy gift to the university. Heritage Society members are invited to campus each year for a special luncheon with Fresno State President John D. Welty.

Schroll is proud she’s able to support Fresno State and enjoys participating in campus events. She says, “I don’t need acknowledgement. I simply want to help Fresno State in any way that I can. That is what delights me.”

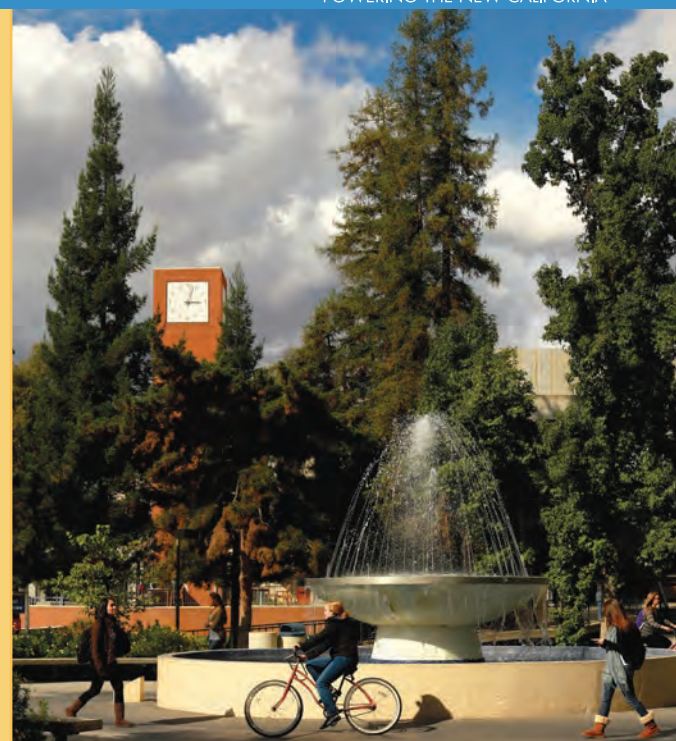
— Kathleen R. Schock is Fresno State’s campaign communications director.

The Heritage Society honors alumni and friends who have included Fresno State in their last will and testament or have made another type of planned gift to the university. Membership is automatically conferred upon notification that you have arranged to make a gift to the university from your estate.

Heritage Society members are invited to campus each year to attend a special luncheon where they are recognized for their planned gift. Attendees are treated to an update by the University President, who shares some of the exciting things happening on campus. Members also have an opportunity to meet and hear from students who are benefitting from past estate gifts to Fresno State.

If you have already planned an estate gift to benefit Fresno State, we would be honored to add your name to an exclusive list of individuals who are investing in the future of our great university.

While we encourage donors to allow their names to be published so that their generosity serves as an example to those who may want to consider similar gifts. However, Fresno State respects the wishes of those donors who wish to remain anonymous.



IRA charitable rollover benefits expire soon

The law allowing for a charitable Individual Retirement Account (IRA) rollover expires at the end of 2011, leaving a short window of time to take advantage of this tax saving opportunity.

IRAs are popular investment vehicles that require a minimum distribution every year after age 70½. Steve Spriggs, director of planned giving, explains that distributions are generally taxed as ordinary income, but for a limited time individuals can avoid tax consequences with a charitable rollover.

The gift of an IRA charitable rollover contribution can be made two ways:

- Donors aged 70½ or older can roll all or a portion of their IRA account valued up to \$100,000 to Fresno State.
- Donors aged 70½ or older can roll over the annual required minimum distribution from an IRA account valued up to \$100,000 to Fresno State.

To learn more about how to help a student today by making an IRA charitable rollover, contact Spriggs at 559.278.8337 or sspriggs@csufresno.edu.

More information about giving opportunities is at:

www.supportfresnostate.com.



Teaching and performance in concert

By Felicia Cousart Matlosz



Loewenheim in concert

Dr. Thomas Loewenheim will lecture and play a cello concert at a presentation for Phi Kappa Phi, the campus honor society, at 8 p.m. Jan. 20, 2012, at the Concert Hall in the Music Building on campus.

www.csufresno.edu/music/concerts



In the worlds of Dr. Benjamin Boone and Dr. Thomas Loewenheim, music is a transcendent experience to be shared widely and taught with gusto.

Boone, 47, and Loewenheim, 40, have established themselves as artistic dynamos in Fresno State's talented music department. Their impressive biographies show extensive experience here and internationally, from undertaking university projects and community activities to leading master classes and reveling in live performances.

Teaching drives them, whether it's guiding Fresno State students or promising youngsters from the entire community. And, it's not just a matter of playing music but helping students understand the educational and emotional depth of the music they play.

Says Boone, who delights in sharing his musical expertise with elementary school children, "The most important thing I teach is critical thinking and logic. Music is a wonderful vehicle through which these can be taught – how to truly analyze. It's a skill people need in everyday life."

Boone, who came to Fresno State in 2000, is a saxophonist, composer and scholar. Loewenheim, who joined the faculty in 2007, is a cellist, conductor and researcher. Both men have earned university accolades recognizing their contributions to Fresno State and beyond. In 2011, Loewenheim received the Provost's Award for Outstanding New Faculty, while Boone received the President's Award of Excellence that was established in honor of President John D. Welty by community leaders who advise the university.

For Loewenheim, the focus always is on the highest quality of music at every level. He has directed the rebirth of Fresno State's orchestra program and is the music director and conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Youth Orchestras of Fresno. Those participants range from 6 to 20 years old and come from schools throughout the region.

“My goal in life is to teach them that hard work is fun,” Loewenheim says. “You conquer your own limitations and grow beyond them.”

Dr. Michael Caldwell, who chairs the Department of Music, says Loewenheim is a high-energy educator, who believes in producing top-caliber performances and programs. Loewenheim's also engaged in the community, spurring more connections for the department. “He is the type of individual,” Caldwell says, “who tends to inspire those around him to reach for the stars.”

Caldwell says Boone is a global thinker when it comes to education. He adds that Boone “believes in students having practical experiences that not only have an impact on them and their learning but will also have an impact on the community.”

In fact, Boone is a faculty mentor for Fresno State's Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, which embraces the belief that service to others strengthens and enhances communities.

Boone's and Loewenheim's influence as teachers is rooted in their gifted musicianship. Loewenheim cites noted Hungarian-American cellist Janos Starker, whom Loewenheim studied with at Indiana University: “You can't be an amazing teacher without being an amazing performer.”

That essential element is easily fulfilled by both faculty members.

continued

Loewenheim, who was born in Germany and grew up in Israel, has toured around the world, performing as a cellist, conducting and teaching. His performances have been broadcast over national radio networks in Austria, Canada and Israel.

Career stops include teaching at the Indiana University String Academy and serving as music director and conductor of the Musical Arts Youth Orchestra in Indiana. He founded that orchestra's festival in Bloomington and also co-founded the international Tuckamore Chamber Music Festival in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Boone, a native of North Carolina, is a classical composer. As a jazz saxophonist, he and the Benjamin Boone Quartet have wowed audiences at the Rogue Festival, Fresno's renowned annual fringe festival. The group's debut jazz CD – "The Benjamin Boone Quartet: Live with Steve Mitchell" – earned a spot on national airplay charts in 2010. His classical compositions have been performed in more than 24 countries, from New York's Carnegie Hall to China. In 2012, the Bordeaux Saxophone Society in France will host a conference on Boone's saxophone music.

Donald Munro, the Fresno Bee's longtime arts and entertainment columnist, appreciates what both men have given to the community. He cites Boone's strong presence at Rogue. "It's clear he relishes the give-and-take between audience and performer of live jazz," Munro says. "I think it's great when Fresno State professors venture off campus and into the community."

Loewenheim, Munro says, has raised the visibility and prestige of the Youth Orchestras of Fresno program by drawing out the best in them. "Loewenheim has had similar expectations for Fresno State's orchestra,

which he has rebuilt into an impressive ensemble," Munro says. "While I think Loewenheim is a terrific musician, he's also just as terrific in his ability to sell himself and his ensembles to the community."

Both educators had their own musical influences along the way. They talk of their mothers, families and mentors. Loewenheim studied with gifted cellists Starker and Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi and with conductor David Effron. Boone talks about listening to his brothers play piano, learning from Bob Williams, his eighth-grade band director, and from the University of Tennessee's pioneering jazz educator Jerry Coker.

Boone and Loewenheim find it difficult to say what gives them the bigger rush: performing or seeing their students discover the joys in music. As Boone says,

“Any teacher will tell you that one of the greatest thrills of their career is when a former student contacts them and articulates how that teacher helped them.”

For Loewenheim and Boone, underlying everything is their love of music and its power to move people.

"Music gives you a joy that nothing else can," says Loewenheim. "For me, it's all about music. It's all about the humanity. It's all about the goodness of people. It's all about the goodness of the heart."

– Felicia Cousart Matlosz is a Fresno-based freelance writer and a Fresno State alumna.

Levine will use laureate appointment to **promote poetry**

Philip Levine at the Library of Congress

English professor emeritus Philip Levine added United States Poet Laureate to an impressive list of achievements that includes the 1995 Pulitzer Prize, awards and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Levine doesn't consider the honor bestowed for a one-year term by the Library of Congress atop his list of accomplishments, telling The Fresno Bee,

"I had some amazing students here who went on to wonderful careers as poets. Many became very good friends of mine."

Among those students are the late Roberta Spear and Sherley Anne Williams and Lawson Inada (a former Oregon poet laureate), Ernesto Trejo and Gary Soto. Levine also helped Fresno State gain a national reputation for creative writing that inspired its Master of Fine Arts Program that attracts top students and faculty.

His legacy for readers includes "The Simple Truth," the 1995 Pulitzer Prize-winner for poetry, and "The Bread of Time: Toward an Autobiography" (1994), "Don't Ask" (1981), "So Ask: Essays, Conversations, and Interviews" (2002) and "Breath" (2004).

Dr. Vida Samiian, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities that houses the Department of English, says, "Levine's impact on American literature is not easy to calculate, but it is profound."

Levine is closely identified with Fresno, where he lives seven months of the year when he doesn't reside in Brooklyn, N.Y., or is in residence at a university. Samiian said, "Everyone in American Literature knows and

respects him and identifies Fresno with Phil Levine. So many times, at conferences and literary events, when I mention Fresno, the reply is, 'Home of my favorite poet, Phil Levine.'"

He nourishes the nation's next generation of poets through the Levine Prize, presented annually by Fresno State's MFA Program.

Levine hopes to use his poet laureate appointment to expose more Americans to poetry and more poets to readers. He told the Associated Press, "There's a great deal of American poetry that's hardly known and that should be known. As a poet who didn't get published for a long time, I know what it's like to not to be read."

Levine's other goal: "... Reach out to readers. I would like to bring attention to the kind of people I've written about."

Levine at Fresno State in 1972



Chacón teaches with award-winning authority

Another success story in Fresno State's Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program is Sasha Pimentel Chacón, a 2011 American Book Award winner for "Insides She Swallowed" (West End Press), whose poems focus on culture, immigration, food and the body.

Born in Manila, Philippines, raised in Atlanta, Saudi Arabia and the New York City region, Chacón received her bachelor's from Georgia State University and was recruited to Fresno State. She earned her MFA in 2006. A multiple Pushcart Prize nominee, she received a Philip Levine Fellowship and the Ernesto Trejo Prize. Her work has been published in The American Poetry Review, Callaloo, Gulf Coast, Colorado Review and OCHO.

The American Book Awards recognize outstanding literary achievement across the spectrum of America's diverse literary community and are bestowed by other writers. So we asked Chacón what the award means to a poet trying to get established.

Chacón: I'm humbled that a well-respected poet like James Bertolino, who chose my book and who has been publishing for over 40 years, would read my work, let alone award it. I see it as a kind of wink, "keep going" from an artistic elder. It also perhaps means credibility-by-association, like a kid trying to get into a bar with real adults.

It means I'll have the same award attached to my work as American Book Award winners Sesshu Foster, Robert Creeley, Jessica Hagedorn, Jack Hirschman and Fresno's own Lawson Fusao Inada, Tim Z. Hernandez, Gary Soto, Juan Felipe Herrera and Andrés Montoya. And with Kimiko Hahn, Li-Young Lee, Don DeLillo and Joy Harjo. And also like Toni Morrison (for one of my favorite novels, "Beloved"), and my dear friend and colleague Benjamin Alire Sáenz, who also won the award for his first collection of poems and whom Poets & Writers magazine recently named one of the 50 "most inspiring authors in the world."

Most importantly to me, also like my husband Daniel Chacón, who received it in 2009 for his co-editorship of the posthumous works of José Antonio Burciaga.

It means that I'll have to work harder now to get to earn the right to walk into that bar. The people I've listed have done much, much more than win this one award. They've written, written and written, and they've done it well.

FresnoState Magazine: What writing projects are you working on now?

Chacón: I'm working on a collection of poems tentatively titled "Bodies and Other Natural Disasters." It's about sex and immigration, the end of the world and women in war. It's particularly concerned with the ongoing drug war in Ciudad Juárez (which I can see from where I live in El Paso), where, since 2009, over 3,000 people have been murdered, along with a history of over 400 women reported dead through sexual homicide.

FresnoState Magazine: What is it like teaching when you were just recently a student?

Chacón: It's an immense gift to have the opportunity to teach to students from across the Americas. As a student at Fresno State, my teachers generously gifted me and my classmates their love of literature and their intimacies with the craft of writing. Because of their intelligence and compassion – and what is one without the other? – each class was like Christmas. We unwrapped every poem we read. It was stunning.

A teacher myself now, I'm still learning from my Fresno State teachers as much as I am from my students. I'll teach a poetry writing seminar and articulate a point of craft, and as I'm talking I'm realizing it's the same issue that Corrinne Clegg Hales or Tim Skeen were trying to tell me about when I was their student. And I'm only now really coming to understand. One learns by listening, but also by articulating, and it sometimes takes years to learn just one thing.

In this way, teaching and writing are intuitive together. In teaching, I'm continually defining how a poem takes on its shape, a discernment I can use in my own writing. And when I learn something by writing through it, I can teach that, too. Also, teaching keeps me more honest than I often want to be: I can't hold my students to a certain discipline and not hold myself to that same standard, which is good, because I hope I'm hard on them.

The faculty I studied under at Fresno State, Connie, Tim, Lillian Faderman, Steve Yarbrough and Steven Church, are all incredibly nice people in-person and at a party, but on the page, they're wonderfully demanding. They push students to write not what students think they want to write, but the poems, essays and stories that ache to be written—students often confuse the two.

So, being close to that student experience allows me freedom now in urging the writers in my tutelage. But since, like them, I'm also just a beginning writer, I hope I can relate to and understand their struggles as well. Or at least speak in passable slang.

FresnoState Magazine: Does your husband try to interest you in writing novels and do you ever suggest that he write poetry?

Chacón: Daniel likes to say to me, "Why don't you try to write a novel about such and such, and we'll try to sell it, make a little money?" Of course he's joking. But it's true you can't buy a steak dinner off of poetry the way you can off of fiction. I've tried to write some short stories and he's written poems. His are good, mine were awful. Luckily, two computers I've had crashed, and I lost everything.

I say to my students, "How can you write prose after the thrill of playing with margins, the whitespace, the horizontal and vertical meanings and textures in poetry?" It's more of a rush to me than finding myself on a mountain's peak at sunset when I rock-climbed.

But maybe after I finish the poetry collection I'm working on now, I could take a few years to really study the novel form, work with Daniel and then try to write one, try to sell it, use the money to buy a rib-eye and books of poems.

And then keep on going ... writing poetry.



Insides She Swallowed by Sasha Pimentel Chacón

Training ground for career achievement

By Felicia Cousart Matlosz

The best testament to Fresno State's College of Arts and Humanities is the impressive achievements of its students and faculty, who have won Oscars, Emmys, Pulitzers and Peabody awards, been best-selling authors, cutting-edge artists and poets laureate.

College of Arts and Humanities alumni have distinguished themselves as artists, journalists, photographers, dancers, musicians, scholars, lawyers, university presidents and teachers. And that's just a snapshot of successes nurtured and shaped by Fresno State's largest college.

Like the university itself, the college's origin was humble. Art instruction was part of the teacher training curriculum in 1911 when Fresno State Normal School opened its doors. It wasn't until the 1930s, though, that instruction broadened to career training in the arts.

Aggie Rodgers (Theatre Arts, 1967) embraced the opportunity for self-discovery, becoming a costume designer whose work on "The Color Purple" was nominated for an Academy Award. Her costumes can be seen in films such as "American Graffiti," "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," "Star Wars: Episode IV – Return of the Jedi" and "Beetle Juice."

“Mostly, the time spent at Fresno State allowed me to just grow up and see what it was I wanted to do. This seems simple but, as a kid, it is hard,” Rodgers says.

Her favorite memory is acting in "Little Women." "Not only did we get to have a character, we got to make our own clothes," she says. "That was it for me. Wow."

Chantal Sagouspe (French, 1979) has lived a full life as a professional dancer, manager of the Vineyard Restaurant and Bar in Madera, jewelry designer and freelance photographer and journalist. She also appeared in films and television shows, including the movie "Dance With Me."

"Rather than just preparing me for my career, my education in the arts and humanities program prepared me to experience a richer and fuller life that just wouldn't have been possible had I not learned French and Spanish," Sagouspe adds. "The experiences, joys and opportunities that are a result of my education go far beyond my work."

Sagouspe and other alumni warmly recall beloved and respected teachers who made a difference in their education and in their lives. Sagouspe says Paul Kinzel, a professor of French, encouraged her academically and cared about her personally.

Dean Ing (Speech Communication, 1956), a New York Times best-selling novelist, says professors such as Edwin Lombard "gave me room to swing a cat in by letting me write and direct programs to be performed on radio" and early TV. Today, Ing is an Air Force veteran who enjoyed careers as an aerospace engineer and university professor. He's known for intricate science fiction and techno thrillers, such as "The Ransom of Black Stealth One."

"Fresno State," Ing says, "gave me salient encouragement in fostering a 'can do' climate that other schools utterly lack."

The synergistic bonds between students and faculty have forged the College of Arts and Humanities' reputation and stature, which was celebrated as the college welcomed back distinguished alumni for special events during the University Centennial Homecoming.

“Equally amazing are the range and diversity of the success stories, a testament to the value of the arts and humanities,” says Dr. Vida Samiian. “This shows that our disciplines in the arts and humanities are about life, both intellectual and practical.”



A. Victor Davis Hanson
B. John Bliss
C. Chantal Sagouspe
D. Barbara Sellers
E. Steve Yarbrough
F. Dianne Solis
G. Carmen Carey
H. William Feightner
I. Dean Ing
J. Aggie Rodgers

The college's beginnings date from Fresno State's origin in 1911, when founding President Charles L. McLane invited his friend and respected music teacher Arthur G. Wahlberg to help.

Art, English and music were among the first courses. The first musical group, a glee club of young women, was soon formed. In 1912, the Dramatic Club staged its first play, and within 15 years, dance, foreign languages and philosophy courses were added. In 1929, the first journalism course was offered, and Yale graduate John W. Wright was hired to oversee the drama program in the English Department.

From there, the college continued to broaden its scope, developing into its current nine departments. Among unique programs the college established were Armenian Studies in 1977, one of the first of its kind in the country, and a Feminist Art program in the early 1970s with genre icon Judy Chicago teaching.

Faculty have included Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Philip Levine, selected in 2011 as the nation's poet laureate; noted author Lillian Faderman; critically acclaimed novelist Steve Yarbrough; and Victor Davis Hanson, who created the classics program and is a nationally-known columnist and political essayist.

Former students are iconic film director Sam Peckinpah ("The Wild Bunch") and Brad Lewis, a producer and director of the Oscar- and Golden Globe-winning animated feature "Ratatouille." Roy Christopher is a perennial Emmy winner for his production designs, and composer and music educator Leslie Bassett received the 1966 Pulitzer Prize in music.

Sherley Anne Williams earned Pulitzer and National Book Award nominations and won an Emmy for a performance of poems from her "Some One Sweet Angel Chile."

Poet Lawson Inada won an American Book Award for "Legends from Camp" and was Oregon's poet laureate; and Greg Pape, a poet and writing professor, was Montana's poet laureate.

Sometimes, an arts and humanities degree leads to places that a degree wouldn't necessarily indicate. William Feightner (Philosophy, 1971) is executive vice president and chief technology officer of EFILM, known for advances in digital technology and innovations in digital imaging for motion pictures. In 2007, Feightner and the company received an Academy Award for technical achievement.

Geoffrey Gamble (Linguistics, 1965 and '71) was a writer, professor and administrator before becoming president of Montana State University from 2000 until his retirement in 2009.

Gamble says Fresno State "helped instill a desire to learn that sustains me even now." He recalls that Fred Brengelman's linguistics class "ignited a flame that burns brightly in me still."

Gamble also wants to make sure that the linguistics department inspires and nurtures future students, so he and his wife, Patricia, announced a \$1 million bequest to Fresno State to enhance the program through two endowments.

Carmen Carey says her years at Fresno State "established essential foundations and reinforced important characteristics" that have guided her throughout her career: being open to new ideas and experiences, being disciplined, and sharing success and knowledge. "Stay curious and explore as much as possible," were take-aways from professors and fellow students.

It's hard for Carey to pin down just one favorite memory, but her time on Douglas Fraleigh's debate team stands out: "While our win rate did not make headline news, our commitment and camaraderie were second to none."

The college's alumni also include people who inform us about issues that have consequences on everyday lives.

Dianne Solis (Journalism, 1979) is a senior writer at the Dallas Morning News, after working at the Wall Street Journal and Fresno Bee. She has reported on immigration, drug cartels in Mexico and working conditions in the meat-packing industry, and was named the Frank Del Olmo Print Journalist of 2007 by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Solis says Fresno State prepared her for her career by keeping "me grounded in the interests of real people, blue-collar America, the native born and the immigrant."

She has "many fine memories," including one of journalism professor Roger Tatarian, an alumnus who became a foreign reporter and then vice president and editor-in-chief of United Press International. He told Solis "to become a citizen of the world. That guidance will stay with me forever."

Victor Hernandez (Journalism, 1998), director of domestic newsgathering for CNN, won a Peabody Award for coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

He says the college instilled a work ethic that serves him daily as a foundation built on critical thinking and other core values. Hernandez remembers courses in the McKee Fisk Building, where the rooms and long-used equipment looked as they did in photos from previous decades.

"Yet somehow the rooms and aging resources didn't seem to matter so much the minute Professor Jim Wilson's jovial discussions began and his wondrous stories of newsroom lore ensued," Hernandez says. "He challenged and inspired."

The College of Arts and Humanities encourages students to open their minds to possibilities.

Barbara Sellers (Theatre Arts, 1967) enjoyed a nearly 40-year career as a theater designer, educator, administrator and production manager of more than 500 productions. As producing director of the Denver Center Theatre Company, which received a 1998 Tony Award, she created production management systems still in use.

"Not only was I given the skills I would need to pursue a career in the professional theater, I was taught to think on my feet, to be brave in my decision-making and to fearlessly pursue the goals I set for myself," Sellers says.

"Two professors in particular, Dr. Janet Loring and Jeanette Bryon, dared me to dream and challenged me to soar. Their confidence gave me the backbone to head into a very competitive field."

Memories come easily for Master Sgt. John M. Bliss, who earned a master's in music performance in 1996. He is a staff arranger and composer for the Air Force Band, based at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. He wrote "Centennial Tribute" for Fresno State's landmark anniversary, debuted during the Centennial Concert performed by past and present students and faculty as part of the College of Arts and Humanities' monthlong milestone celebration.

After earning a bachelor's degree at San Jose State, Bliss was encouraged by professor Gary Gilroy to pursue a master's in Fresno, "which proved to be real turning point for me."

He met other Fresno State music professors such as George DeGraffenreid, Larry Sutherland and Ritchie Clendenin, and traveled with the Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band to Carnegie Hall and the Mobile (Ala.) Jazz Festival. On campus, he remembers "hearing my first symphony premiered antiphonally in the new Vocal Performance Hall [now the Concert Hall]. The list goes on and on."

Over the past 100 years, Fresno State's arts and humanities alumni have returned to campus to share their talents, provide insight and inspire future generations of students.

Victor Hernandez





Master of Fine Arts

in Creative Writing

Writing program thrives on student, faculty successes

The greatest evidence of success in Fresno State's Master of Fine Arts program in Creative Writing over the past few years is written in the accomplishments of the students and of faculty who inspire them.

MFA alumnus and poet Burlee Vang and his brother Abel Vang, a biology alumnus and cinema enthusiast, won a prestigious Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Their collaboration was one of only five screenplans chosen from among 6,730 submitted in the competition that draws attention to beginning screenwriters.

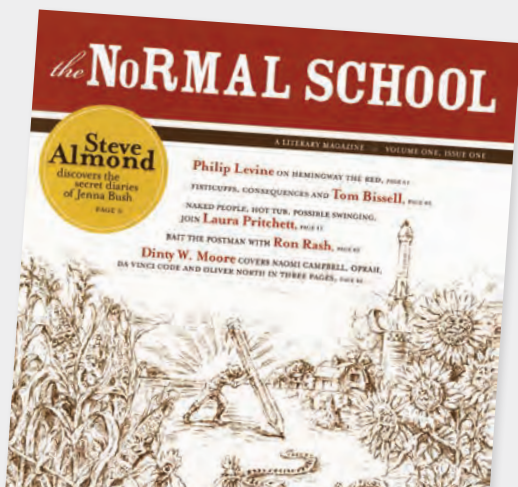
You could compile a sizeable impressive reading list just from the recent work of Fresno State MFA students, alumni and faculty:

- Poetry grads Sasha Pimentel Chacon ("Insides She Swallowed"), James Tyner ("The Ghetto Exorcist") and Burlee Vang ("The Dead I Know") published chapbooks.
- Michelle Brittan (poetry) was published in NIMROD and in the "Twenty Poets Under Twenty-Five" anthology, edited by world-renowned poet Naomi Shihab Nye.
- Sarah Fawn Montgomery (nonfiction) placed seven essays from her 2010 MFA thesis in magazines such as The Pinch and Southern Review.
- Karen Sikola's material (nonfiction) has been published in web magazines Front Porch, Monkey Bicycle and Pure Slush.
- Erin Cook (fiction) has published over a dozen stories in South Dakota Review and Black Words on White Paper, among others.
- Fiction student Tiffany Crum was published in Narrative.
- Other students or recent grads have been published in American Poetry Review, Bamboo Ridge, Diagram, Monkey Puzzle, Fourth Genre, Fugue, The North American Review, Atlanta Review, Post Road, Colorado Review, Paris Review and other magazines.

Faculty have been active, too:

- Fiction professor Alex Espinoza's novel "Still Water Saints," released in 2007, was selected for Barnes and Noble's Discover Great New Writers program. Forthcoming work includes a novel-in-progress, an essay in a collection on Chicano writers and poets from the University of Arizona Press and a review in the American Book Review, a reassessment of the work of John Rechy and Gil Cuadros. In 2009, Espinoza received the Margaret Bridgman Fellowship in Fiction at the Bread Loaf Writers Conference.
- Newest MFA faculty member Randa Jarrar made presentations at the PEN World Voices Festival, Hay Festival in Wales, Beirut39 in Lebanon, American Library Association, DIWAN: a forum for the arts in New York, and at the Radius of Arab American Writers, for which she is vice president. She was awarded residencies in Turkey and Italy, was published in Guernica and the Utne Reader, and had one story nominated for a Pushcart Prize.
- The work of poetry professor Dr. Tim Skeen, the MFA coordinator, has been published in Connecticut Review, Limestone, Monkey Puzzle, Prairie Schooner, The Southern Review, The Dos Passos Review, BorderSenses, Poet Lore and The Paterson Literary Review.
- His colleague in poetry, long-time MFA program coordinator Dr. Corrinne Clegg Hales, published a new book, "To Make It Right," which won the 2010 Autumn House Poetry Prize. She also was appointed the James and Coke Hallowell Professor of Creative Writing at Fresno State.
- Nonfiction professor Dr. John Hales' essay, "Helpline" won the prestigious Missouri Review Editor's Prize. He served on a panel at the 2011 Associated Writing Programs conference in Washington, D.C., and has been the English Credential program adviser for the English department the past few years.
- His colleague in nonfiction writing, professor Steven Church, has published essays recently in AGNI, Fourth Genre, The Pedestrian, Wag's Revue, Brevity, New South and Colorado Review, winning three Pushcart nominations and a Best of the Web nomination. Church also is the founding editor of the MFA Program's nationally recognized literary magazine, The Normal School, distributed in bookstores nationwide and in Canada. The magazine is staffed mostly by MFA students and faculty and regularly receives attention and praise from literary agents, editors and best-selling authors of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction.

— The information in this article was compiled by professor Steven Church.



A passion for poetry



Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing student Andre Yang came to the United States speaking only Hmong. Now his English skills and love of writing are being channeled into giving voice to the Hmong-American experience.

His accomplishments, community service, academic excellence and triumphs over adversity were rewarded with the California State University's highest recognition for a student – a 2011 William R. Hearst/CSU Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement. Just one student at each of the 23 CSU campuses is chosen each year for a \$3,000 Hearst/CSU Trustees scholarship.

Yang began life in Laos and came to the United States in 1979. He is the eldest of seven children. His parents' lack of English-language and job skills meant financial struggle for the refugee family in economically depressed southeast Fresno.

Hmong was his first language, so Yang had to persevere through low scores on standardized exams to become proficient in English. His determination paid off. After graduating from Edison High School in 1999, Yang became the first in his family to go to college when he enrolled at the University of California, Davis.

“I had intended to go into the medical field until I realized it wasn't for me,” Yang says.

Then, in his third year, he became deeply involved in medical practice when he was diagnosed with Minimal Change Disease, a kidney malfunction that allowed his body to become saturated with fluid. Yang was on the verge of needing dialysis treatment when a last-resort intravenous procedure succeeded in helping his body expel fluid – dropping from 218 pounds to 145 in just five days.

“I was miraculously cured,” Yang says. “My doctors said they never understood why I was cured so easily.”

Overcoming his medical emergency, he says, “helped give me a new outlook on life, teaching me that sometimes things don't need to make sense for us to make the most of life.”

The disease robbed Yang of a year in his pursuit of a baccalaureate degree. He enrolled at Fresno State in liberal studies.

With encouragement from his brother-in-law, Yang tried creative writing. However, it wasn't until his final semester that he began writing poetry in classes taught by Dr. Michael Clifton and Cecille Harding. “I wrote my first poem in 2005. Prior to that, I never read much poetry (or prose, for that matter). So I always feel like I have to catch up to others,” says Yang, who caught up enough to graduate magna cum laude.

“I've always been passionate about words and the synergy created when they are put together,” Yang says. “But for the longest time I just never realized a person like me, a child of Hmong refugee immigrants, could ever really contribute to the literary arts.”

He entered the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program in 2008 and became a Philip Levine Scholar, Provost's Scholar and a graduate/editorial assistant for Fresno State's internationally distributed literary magazine, *The Normal School*. He's scheduled to graduate in spring 2012.

Yang won a Kundiman Fellowship for emerging writers and attended the Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, Tin House Summer Writers Workshop in Portland, Ore., and the Napa Valley Writers Conference.

In 2004, Yang and his brother-in-law were co-founders of the Hmong American Writers Circle, a grassroots group that conducts weekly public creative-writing workshops, organizes literary readings and strives to build a Hmong literary culture.

“This effort has special significance because Hmong did not have a writing system until the 1950s. Many Hmong refugees to the United States could speak, but not write the language,” he said.

Yang and other Writers Circle members co-edited California's first Hmong literary anthology, “How Do I Begin?: A Hmong American Literary Anthology” (Heyday Books/\$16.95).

He plans to become a university professor and a poet, helping others follow in his footsteps, even as Yang says he was helped by MFA instructors Asao Inoue (composition theory), Linnea Alexander (literature), Alex Espinoza (fiction), Connie Hales (poetry), Tim Skeen (poetry) and Steven Church (creative nonfiction).

The MFA faculty not only teach the technical part of the writing craft, they have established a nurturing reputation that includes encouragement on the program's online listserv.

“It's incredible the number of people from across the disciplines, faculty, staff, students (present and graduated), who chime in to congratulate one another when one of us contributes our work into the world,” says Yang.

“I have attended many national conferences and have come to the conclusion, as I've told my classmates over and over again, that we at Fresno State are as talented as, if not better than, anyone anywhere across the country,” adds Yang. “And we're genuinely nice people on top of that.”

– Adapted from an announcement written by Tom Uribes of the Office of University Communications.



NEW COACH

DOESN'T ACCEPT EXCUSES

By Paul Loeffler

“No excuses.”

It sounds like a simple, straightforward motto for Rodney Terry as he assumes the reins of the Fresno State men's basketball program.

“No excuses” might ring hollow if not for the plethora of potential rationalizations that surround the new coach, as accessible as his clipboard.

Fresno State started the Terry era after four straight losing seasons – just the third time that's happened since Bulldog basketball began in 1921. But Terry opts to leave that crutch under lock and key.

The highs and lows of the program's last two decades attempt to lure his attention like one of those colorful tabloids in the grocery aisle. Terry won't bite.

The fact that the Bulldogs' only established post presence, 6'10" Greg Smith, left after his sophomore season, the third Fresno State star to jump early in the last five years? That won't qualify as justification for on-court struggles, either. Not for Terry, not for his assistants, and not for his players.

“There are no excuses. Get it done!,” says Terry, an assistant at the University of Texas the past nine years who helped the Longhorns to one Final Four and three Elite Eight appearances. “That sums up our approach in all aspects of what we do.

“How hard you work. What you are giving back to the team. Being an unselfish guy and a great teammate. All those things go into no excuses.”

And for Terry, it all goes back to his roots as a self-described “small town country boy” growing up in Angleton, Texas – 30 miles south of Houston and just 12 miles from the Gulf of Mexico.





RODNEY TERRY

(1st season)

For a young Rodney Terry, it was a million miles away from anyone who was going to hand him a silver spoon, a golden ticket or any kind of shortcut to success. "I really came from nothing, and I've never forgotten that," says Terry, a three-sport star at Angleton High, where he was the Wildcats' MVP for football and basketball his senior season.

"I've been blessed to work with some really great people who helped shape my philosophies and things that I stand behind," says Terry, pointing to Texas' Rick Barnes and current Bulldogs' assistant Jerry Wainwright, for whom Terry toiled at UNC Wilmington.

But if "no excuses" is the bedrock of this mentor's mentality, it was a credo impressed upon a much younger Rodney by a less-acclaimed basketball mind: his mother's.

Brenda Phillips was at the Save Mart Center for her son's introduction as Fresno State's new coach, illustrating the consistency Terry sees reflected throughout his 43 years. "My mom has always been there for me," he says, remembering how she learned the ins and outs of basketball after marrying Rodney's stepfather, Calvin, the current coach at Angleton High.

"I'd come home from one of my games and she'd critique my game. No excuses," says Terry. "She's been a steady influence in my life with her example, her hard work and living a Christian life. I wouldn't be here in this position without the values she instilled in me."

As he seeks to impart some of those same principles to a roster culled from seven states and another continent (freshman Grant Hefeng is from China), Terry's first piece of advice to the players is to examine their adopted hometown.

“Our vision for this program is to mirror this community,” he says, enumerating perceived attributes of central San Joaquin Valley culture. “We want to be a hardworking, a hardplaying team that gives great effort night in and night out ...”

What's coming next could not be clearer, but the coach pauses to reflect on how determination and accountability have paced him on his journey from Division II point guard to Division I head coach.

He takes a brief detour through his conviction that the Bulldogs' lack of size this season can be overcome by quickness, conditioning, versatility, focused preparation and intense effort. Then, just as a Texan of an older vintage invoked "Remember the Alamo," Terry returns to his 21st century battle cry: "... we want to be a team that has no excuses."

— Paul Loeffler is the radio voice of Bulldog Athletics.

Age	43
Hometown	Angleton, Texas (pop. 19,123)
Family	Fiancee Amanda
Education	B.A. in business administration, St. Edward's University, 1990

Collegiate coaching career

2002-11, assistant University of Texas
1998-2002, assistant UNC-Wilmington
1996-98, assistant Baylor University
1990-91, assistant St. Edward's

Best moment as a player

Nailing game-winning 15-foot jumper for St. Edward's Hilltoppers against Incarnate Word. "We were trailing the whole game, but had a last-second opportunity. Coach drew up a play, but as we tried the different options, there was nothing there, and there was nothing left to do but take the shot because I had the ball in my hands as the point guard."

Top vacation destination

Maui

On his pizza

Pepperoni, hamburger or sausage

Boyhood sports hero

Magic Johnson

Aspiration built upon **ACHIEVEMENT**

By Paul Loeffler



Maybe it's his age (38), or maybe just his refreshingly sincere humility, but Adrian Wiggins doesn't think he's made it yet.

“I know we've done well,” says the most successful coach in Fresno State 40-year women's basketball history, “but, man, Coach [Mike] Batesole's won a national championship, [softball coach] Margie Wright's won a national championship, and Coach [Pat] Hill's had his football team in the Top 10 before. That's insane! That's what I want to do.”

Those are lofty aspirations in a collegiate sport dominated, to a greater degree than perhaps any other, by teams from six power conferences.

No school from outside those leagues, which are fueled by football money, has made the Women's Final Four since Southwest Missouri State in 2001. Finding a national champion from outside those conferences takes you all the way back to 1988, when Fresno State Western Athletic Conference rival Louisiana Tech cut down the nets.

An improbable dream? Maybe. But “improbable” might as well supplant Michael as Adrian Wiggins' middle name.

Roiley and Rita Wiggins didn't envision four straight NCAA Tournament berths when they adopted the infant son of their teenage daughter in 1973.

Sam Carroll couldn't have predicted two WAC Coach of the Year awards for the 17-year-old he remembers sneaking into the YMCA in Lawton, Okla. The teenager's punishment? Teach swim lessons and coach basketball to earn his keep.

And surely no one who watched Wiggins lead the Y's (not so) Mighty Mites to exactly zero wins that winter would have foreseen a .710 winning percentage through a little more than six seasons of Division I basketball (147-60).

Frankly, very few people who witnessed Wiggins emerging from the Stacy Johnson-Klein saga as Fresno State's interim head coach in 2005 thought his Bulldogs would ever be able to beat Louisiana Tech.



“I can still remember the crowd. I can still hear them roaring,” says Wiggins about the 3,115 fans in the Save Mart Center who witnessed that watershed win over the Lady Techsters on Jan. 14, 2006. “To get here and be so behind for a little while, and to finally get to that moment, it was like, ‘Wow, we did it!’”

For an interim coach trying to earn the permanent job, that 67-58 dethroning of the WAC’s formerly invincible superpower sent a pretty emphatic message that Wiggins belonged.

It was the same feeling he’d experienced years earlier, at Division II Cameron University, when he stepped into the batter’s box against Chris Ward. These days, Ward is a successful dentist in Oklahoma. In 1992, he was the best pitcher that sophomore Adrian Wiggins had ever seen, and the bloop single he delivered felt better than a grand slam. “From then on, it took me to another level,” recalls Wiggins.

That feeling of belonging, of possessing a unique gift that serves the greater purpose of the team, is what Coach Wiggins seeks to foster in his players.

Working with a roster that blends seven Californians and three Australians with players from Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, and Ohio, creating a common culture is paramount.

“Family Time,” a portion of practice devoted to exploring off-the-court topics ranging from history to philosophy, helps Wiggins demonstrate one of his core tenets: “There’s more to life than basketball, and we like to say there’s more to basketball than basketball.”

Voicing the ideals of selflessness, commitment and faith about as often as he employs the whistle around his neck, Wiggins is determined to practice what he preaches. Count his passing up of more-lucrative opportunities as evidence that he genuinely believes there’s more to coaching than championships and super-sized salaries.

“I’m just different,” says Wiggins. “I would rather do it here at a place where people say, ‘Oh, you couldn’t do that.’ We’re not okay with where we are. We really think we can get better.”

With Wiggins’ track record of defying conventional wisdom, we would be foolish not to take him at his word.



Keith Kountz

ADRIAN WIGGINS

(7th season)

Age	38
Hometown	Lawton, Okla. (pop. 96,867)
Family	Wife Heather Daughter Aubrey (12) Son William (9)
Education	M.S. in alternative studies, Cameron University, 2001 B.S. in psychology, Cameron, 1995
Collegiate coaching career	2005- present, coach Fresno State (147-60) 2002-05, assistant Fresno State 2000-02, coach Cameron (40-17)
Best moment as a player	Opposite field home run in Jayhawk League (wood bat collegiate summer league) off of Miami Hurricanes’ closer
Top vacation destination	San Diego
On his pizza	Pepperoni
Boyhood sports hero	Michael Jordan



Dual-purpose Aquatics Center

part of Athletics' enhancements

Fresno State dedicated its \$7.5 million Aquatics Center, next door to Bulldog Diamond, in October, marking the third enhancement to Athletics facilities completed or begun in 2011.

Fully financed by Bulldog fans is the \$1.2 million Field Turf Project that gave the Bulldog Stadium floor a complete makeover in just a few weeks.

The new surface allows use during any type of weather, is safe and consistent for competition and practice year-round and reduces maintenance time and costs.

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center earlier in early October marked the beginning of a \$6 million capital project. Athletics Director Thomas Boeh says,

“No single athletics facility will have a more consistent positive impact upon the physical well-being and daily lives of all 425 Bulldog student-athletes.”

The Meyers Center will provide preventative medicine, nutritional counseling, physician examination, injury treatment, on-site x-ray and rehabilitation services and serve as a cornerstone of Fresno State's Student-Athlete Village. When complete, the village will centralize student-athlete support functions such as sports medicine, academic counseling, strength and conditioning, nutrition education and equipment services.

Major benefactors are Marvin Meyers, an alumnus, and his son, Greg, who own and operate Meyers Farm Family Trust and Oxford Farms Inc. in Firebaugh. Construction will begin soon.

The just-completed Aquatics Center has a 926,432-gallon competition pool for the swimming and diving team; a 68,313-gallon pool for kinesiology classes in swimming, water aerobics, lifeguarding and aquatics theory; and a warm pool used by competitors between dives.

Construction began in February 2010 using \$3 million in California State University capital renewal funds and a \$4.5 million loan from the CSU Risk Management Authority, the CSU's self-insurance program.

Boeh says that all three facilities are examples of Fresno State's commitment to finding innovative ways to maximize every dollar for student benefit.





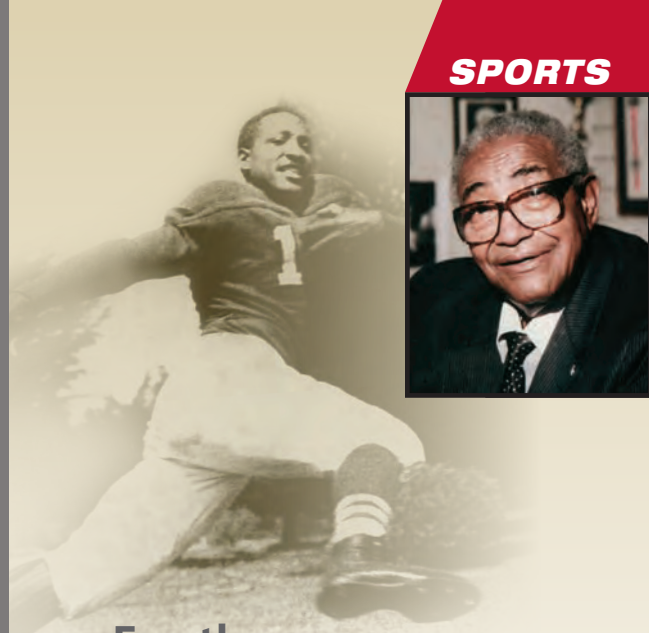
Cary Edmondson



Keith Kountz



Dana Roost



For the record

Jack Kelley, who starred as an athlete at Fresno State in the 1940s and became an iconic leader in Fresno's African-American community, passed away Oct. 25. He was 91.

Mr. Kelley was profiled in FresnoState Magazine in spring 2010, remembering being left behind with teammate Millard Mitchell, also African-American, when Fresno State's football team traveled to Oklahoma City University. Instead, says teammate Jerry Jury, both players traveled with the team, but were not allowed to eat or sleep in the same hotel as their white teammates and sat in street clothes on the bench during the game itself.

The issue of whether the Bulldogs should play a game in which African-American players were excluded divided the campus in passionate debate, marking a turning point in diversity for Fresno State.

At Mr. Kelley's passing, Fresno State President John D. Welty said,

“The story of Jack Kelley's time as a star Fresno State athlete in the 1940s is inspiring. He went on from campus to become a model of service and accomplishment in the Fresno community, blazing a trail that opened the door to many who followed. Mr. Kelley was a pioneer in leading the way for the diverse campus that we've become today.”



Centennial Gala



Vintage Days 2011



Vintage Days 2011 Open House



Musical-instrument petting zoo



Physics show



Commencement



Beverly Brock, the great-granddaughter of founding President C.L. McLane



A. Jerrold Perenchio awarded Honorary Degree of Doctor of Fine Arts



A Centennial celebrated in style

By Tracy Newel

With a flurry of spring events, we wrapped up Fresno State's Centennial celebration, paving the way for the university's second century beginning Sept. 11, 2011.

It also was the end of an exhilarating time for me at Fresno State. I was a graduate student, development officer for the Craig School of Business and the Centennial celebration coordinator. I learned a lot about the history of Fresno State, of course, but I also had the privilege of working with many people on and off campus who are inspiring in their accomplishments and in their deep affection for the university.

In conjunction with Vintage Days 2011, we hosted a campuswide open house that featured everything from a physics show to glass blowing demonstrations, health screenings and a musical-instrument petting zoo!

I had the pleasure of coordinating the Centennial tent, which stood in the center of campus as a landmark for visitors hoping for a glimpse into the past. Photos hung from the rafters, and a wonderful pictorial timeline greeted visitors. Countless alumni shared stories from their experience on campus and reminisced on the bygone days of Fresno.

By far the most elegant part of the Centennial celebration was the Grand Centennial Gala in May, where the Save Mart Center was transformed into a magical place for alumni and others to share memories and make new ones.

The Centennial Gala brought together staff, faculty, students and community members to honor Fresno State's history and have a little fun. Guests dined while watching a video set to the music composed especially for the Centennial. Birthday cakes with giant sparklers were paraded spectacularly.

The evening ended with everyone dancing to music across the decades played by the immensely talented West Coast Music. It was a wonderful moment to see our administration and community supporters of all ages, surrounded by students wearing their best suits and gowns, raising their arms in unison to hit tunes by the Temptations, Abba and, of course, Lady Gaga.

The Centennial's official conclusion was the May Commencement for our 100th graduating class. We had the special privilege of having the full Fresno State Symphony Orchestra play a pre-ceremony concert. And we directly connected with Fresno State's very beginning when Beverly Brock, the great-granddaughter of founding President C.L. McLane, joined us.

In addition, each graduate pinned his or her neighbor with a gift from the Fresno State Alumni Association, signifying their special place in our history.

For the past year, the entire campus and community celebrated with us as we reflected on our traditions and triumphs. It became clear that our first 100 years are the foundation for lasting impact on our students and the community as Fresno State begins its second century.

— Tracy Newel (right), whose MBA was conferred at the Centennial Commencement, is a development officer for the Craig School of Business.



Lessons from the university's history

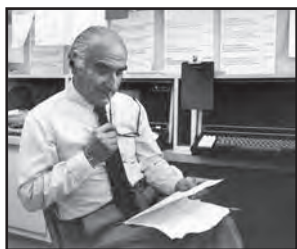
By Lanny Larson

I came to Fresno State to learn how to report history as it happened. I never imagined that training would pay off a half-century later helping write about Fresno State's past for articles in *FresnoState Magazine* and for our Centennial book, "A Century of Excellence," co-authored with William B. Secrest Jr.

Here are a few lessons from Fresno State's first 100 years:

- Fresno State's commitment to helping our Valley neighbors began even before the school existed. In the early 20th century, the fast-growing region's homegrown prospective teachers went to Southern California or the Bay Area to earn credentials, and few returned. Fresno School Supt. C.L. McLane rallied the community to push for state approval of a local teachers college. In Sept. 11, 1911, Fresno State Normal School opened to train and retain local teachers.

- One teacher who wasn't trained in that discipline at Fresno State was H. Roger Tatarian, who studied journalism, instead, and went on to a distinguished international career with United Press International. In retirement, he returned to campus to become a beloved professor and mentor to Fresno State's newest generation of budding journalists. Researching Roger's story, I looked at old "Campus" yearbooks and couldn't help notice that every time Roger's picture popped up, so, too, did Eunice Krauchi's. Theirs was like many journalism romances kindled at Fresno State, but longer-lasting than some. They married in 1940 and were still together 55 years later when Roger passed away.



- Historical research can be surprising. I read professor Arthur Wahlberg's reflections on turning 70. His words were written in pencil onto now-yellowed scratch paper. The date struck me: June 6, 1944. I couldn't wait to share my "discovery." It was several disappointments, though, before anyone knew the date was D-Day. I learned that my generation's history isn't the history of other generations.

Not all good stories make their way into print, such as this one by alumna Anne Thurston of Michigan, who became a columnist for the *Boyne City Gazette*.

Thurston wrote that she and Army Air Corps Capt. Ed Thurston, who at 22 was two years older, met at Ohio State University and married in 1943 after his graduation. "Two days later," she wrote, "Ed and I climbed off Sante Fe's Super Chief in Barstow and climbed on the Santa Fe Special and headed northwest to Fresno," where he was the transportation officer at Camp Pinedale.

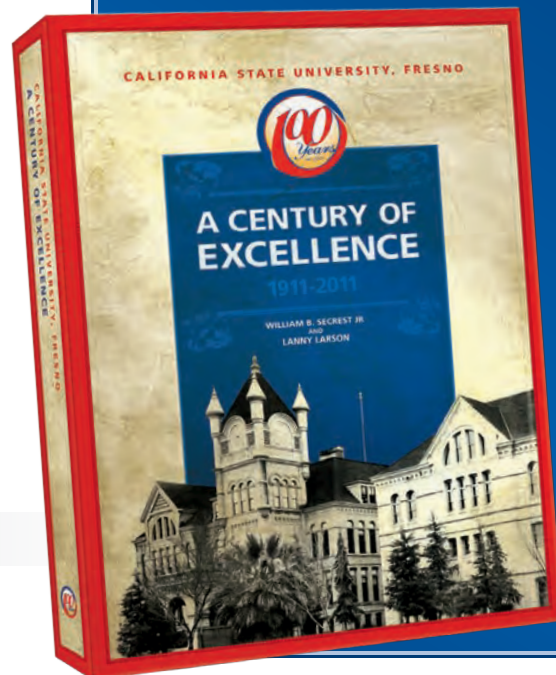
Their apartment on Home Avenue was in "a Spanish-style, dark red brick structure with open passageways around the four sides of an interior courtyard. The telephone was large enough to have to be dusted as it sat on a table or hung on the wall.

"I remember a small meat market a block from us and the kind butcher who taught me how to prepare brains and stuff half a turkey for Thanksgiving. But best of all were the grapes at market. Being from the Midwest, I thought grapes were all blue Concord's."

Used to Ohio State, Thurston wrote, "The size of Fresno State seemed almost a return to high school. But I found the faculty



far more modern in their instruction, and I was treated with unbelievable respect as the only married student enrolled."



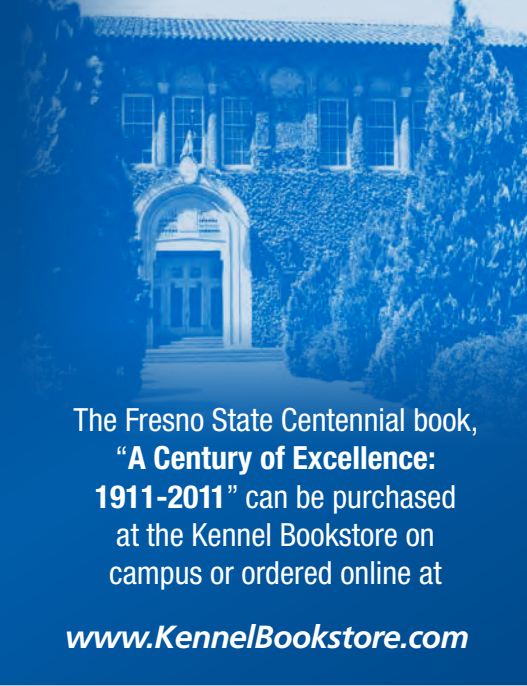
Psychology professor Osta Feurt's "life" mentoring was as important as her academic encouragement, wrote Thurston. At Commencement, Thurston's husband was in Texas for training, and she was too shy to attend, knowing there would be no friends or family to applaud.

"The following morning the phone rang," Thurston wrote. "I heard Miss Feurt's small, gentle voice, 'Anne, are you all right, dear? I didn't want to call last evening for fear you were in bed. We missed you yesterday at graduation. How are you today?'" Taught not to lie, I simply said, 'Oh, I'm sorry, Miss Feurt, but Ed was out of town and my family is all too far away to come, so I just decided to stay home.'"

Miss Feurt's voice answered: "Anne, you would not have been alone. Your friends here on campus had a special surprise prepared for you. We have kept it a secret so that the surprise would be special. You were our magna cum laude graduate, dear. We all are so proud of you and what you have done. You have been a wonderful example for all of us. We are going to miss you this coming year and wanted to give you our warm wishes for a wonderful life. I'm so sorry you weren't with us."

Anne Thurston's story offers telling insights into how lives were lived on campus during World War II and also a full measure of the bonds shared by hundreds of thousands of individuals touched in some way during Fresno State's first century of excellence.

— Lanny Larson edits *FresnoState Magazine* as part of his duties in the Office of University Communications. This article was adapted from an article written for *Fresno Magazine's* May 2010 issue.



The Fresno State Centennial book,
“A Century of Excellence:
1911-2011” can be purchased
at the Kennel Bookstore on
campus or ordered online at

www.KennelBookstore.com



Roberta Sumner teaching in 1967
(above right)

Barstow Grammar School (above)

Sumner's Sunday school class (below)

Eighth grade class photo (bottom)



Alumna's childhood teaching dream came true

Roberta Adelia (Beebe) Sumner was one of Fresno State's oldest alumnae when she passed away on July 29, 2011.

Mrs. Sumner's life coincided with Fresno State's first 100 years and her story illustrates connections for generations the hundreds of thousands of students, faculty, staff and community residents who have connected with the campus through the generations.

Roberta Beebe was born in Coalinga in 1911 – the same year Fresno State Normal School was founded. Her family moved to Fresno when she was 6 years old, using a horse-drawn surrey to cover the 55 miles to southeast Fresno, near the then-new Fresno County Fairground.

Said Buller: “She always told the story of how it took two days and how they slept on the ground, and [how] her dad had to find some milk for the kids.”

A few years later, Lewis Beebe moved his family to the Barstow Colony, northwest of Fresno, where Roberta finished grammar school before attending Central High School near Rolinda. She was a member of the first class to attend all four years at Central High, graduating in 1929, just a few months before the stock market crash sent the United States reeling into the Great Depression.

Roberta chose Fresno State because she'd wanted to become an elementary school teacher. But economics figured in, too. “We were really poor,” she remembered in spring 2011. “We just barely had enough. That's the one reason why I didn't go out of town or anything. I never asked them because I felt they couldn't afford it.”

At Fresno State, she completed her student teaching at Edison Tech in Fresno, but wound up a few credits short of her teaching credential. She also was determined not to teach high school because of potential discipline problems with the boys, but that was the credential available at the time.

continued

Instead, Roberta completed a degree in commerce in 1933, qualifying her for office work. However, with the Depression fully established, jobs were few and far between in offices or anywhere else.

In the summer of 1934, she met Laurence Sumner at a dance at the Rainbow Ballroom in downtown Fresno. The romance that followed led to marriage and to three children before the Sumners divorced in the late 1940s, said son-in-law Loren Buller.

As a single mother, Roberta Sumner returned to Fresno State in the early 1950s to get the units she needed to receive her credential and fulfill her childhood teaching dream.

After two summer sessions – at 44 years old – she received an elementary teaching credential. Her first teaching assignment was – fittingly – at Barstow Colony School, where she'd studied as a youngster. She taught at Easton-Arcola School in Madera County, too, retiring after reaching the then-mandatory retirement age of 65 in 1976.

Mrs. Sumner said that at Fresno State the environment was equally supportive of female and male students even though there were more men enrolled (a big change from the beginning of Fresno State when it focused primarily on teacher training). She remembered when upper-classmen threw a freshman in the fish pond, but Mrs. Sumner said her time at Fresno State was relatively tranquil. She packed a lunch each day to save money and concentrated on her studies.

She never regretted her career choice, although she wished she'd been in the classroom earlier. "I'd still be a teacher," she told April Schulthies; her goal even as a child when she was "teaching my pets and my dolls and everything else," she said. "That was how I entertained myself."

Mrs. Sumner passed on her Fresno State legacy to future generations. Her daughter Kathryn Buller and her husband Loren both graduated from Fresno State in 1971, Kathryn with a degree in social science (so she could teach) and Loren with a degree in industrial technology. The Bullers' son Randy Buller and his wife Laura (Davidson) were members of Fresno State's classes of 2003 and 2002, respectively, and met as members of the Bulldog Marching Band.

Mrs. Sumner also is survived by her sons, Ronald Sumner and Jack Sumner; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and five great-great grandchildren.

This story is compiled from an interview conducted by April Schulthies of the Office of University Communications and information supplied by Mrs. Sumner's son-in-law, Loren Buller.



Wedding in 1934 (above)



Fresno State
Commencement 1933 (left)

Roberta with family (below)



View video of Mrs. Sumner:
<http://youtu.be/PuiBdihtTo>

Broad-spectrum Fresno State training helped launch Bluetooth

By Jim Kardach

Bluetooth.

Reading this one word probably conjures up some product that has the ability to connect to your phone, computer, television or even car. Bluetooth is a fact of modern life and a staple of our technological culture. This wasn't always the case.

The naming of the invisible wire that connects your headset to your phone occurred almost entirely by accident as I headed an Intel product team. Bluetooth was a code name, originating from a historical interest I gained from working with a Scandinavian colleague.

Before 1996, Bluetooth exclusively referred to a 10th century king of Denmark. He united Denmark, converted the country to Christianity and, we believe, would have wanted notebooks and cell phones to link seamlessly. OK, I may be taking some historical license with that last point.

Anyway, through a series of unlikely events that you can read in an article I wrote a few years ago for EE [for Electronic Engineering] Times online <http://www.eetimes.com/electronics-news/4182202/Tech-History-How-Bluetooth-got-its-name>, Bluetooth went from being a king, to an insider code name and, finally, to one of the most-recognized technology brands in the world.

I have a lot of fun with this story because it demonstrates how quickly the world can change. The idea of Bluetooth, a low-power radio frequency "wire," seemed so strange in the mid-1990s. One of the highlights of my career is leading the team that made Bluetooth commonplace.

Seamless connectivity was always our goal with Bluetooth. If you can see the wire, you know that things are connected. How do we get that same data to travel just as smoothly and securely on a radio wave while still being user friendly? Moreover, we want all of this access to be virtually universal so that device A will sync with B, C, D and E — even if they have entirely different manufacturers.

Needless to say, we needed a lot of people to get on the same page, to agree to the same language (digitally speaking) and to adopt the same rules.

When you are creating something new, like Bluetooth, there is no roadmap. No clear step-by-step process. New technologies are driven by doing things differently.

I have to credit my Fresno State education for giving me a broad view of engineering that allowed me to bring together novel ideas with the technology and experts who could help connect the dots.

When working with very smart people holding powerful degrees, I have noticed that many academic programs specialize early and provide students a deep knowledge of a very particular field.

My experience at Fresno State provided a much broader foundation. I learned about the engineering of computers, but I also learned about the physics of fluids, heat and waves. What I learned above all else was problem solving.

A deep understanding and expertise is critical, but I found my niche in pulling various pieces of the puzzle together in order to see something different. I attribute much of this ability to the lessons I learned at Fresno State.

— Jim Kardach (1985), a 2010 Top Dog Alumni Award winner, is senior principal engineer, chief power architect at Intel Corp. He is featured in the "Working for California" project that celebrates California State University alumni leaders.



Peter Robertson

Top Dog Gala honors 15 alumni

The Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala honored **Dr. Diana Meehan** (1966), the educator and documentarian who co-founded the Archer School for Girls in Los Angeles, as the 2011 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association.



Thirteen other former Fresno State students were recognized for their post-graduate accomplishments and **Peter Robertson** (1992, '95, 2005) **LIFE**, received the Arthur Safstrom award for his service to the university, Alumni Association and community.

This year's Top Dog Alumni Gala also introduced Alumni Association scholarship winners.

The 2011 Outstanding Alumni are:

Norman P. Engelman (1968 and '72, Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology) **LIFE**
Robert Ritter (1972, College of Arts and Humanities)
Yvette Roberts (2006, Department of Athletics)
Carole Andersen (1978, Craig School of Business)
Marcus P. Johnson (1975, Kremen School of Education and Human Development)
Gaylord "Rick" Ransom (1977, Lyles College of Engineering) 🐾
Phil Souza (1977, '82, Division of Graduate Studies)
Tim B. McCarthy (1978, College of Health and Human Services)
Don Larson (1960, Henry Madden Library)
Brad Anderson (1986) and **Diane Anderson** (1976, College of Science and Mathematics)
Hon. Armando Rodriguez (1959, College of Social Sciences) **LIFE**
Manuel Olgin (1974, '78, Division of Student Affairs) **LIFE**



Educators

Teacher education was the founding mission of Fresno State and it remains at the core of the university's work a century later. Here are some of the achievements of alumni in education:

Dr. F. Paul Chounet (2002), who was superintendent of the Wasco Union Elementary School District, was appointed superintendent of the Santa Paula Elementary School District.



Steven M. Corey (1988), was installed as president of Olivet College in Michigan. He previously was executive vice president of Prescott College in Arizona.

Jon Corippo (1989), an instructional tech coordinator for the Chawanakee Unified School District in North Fork, was one of the

76 teachers selected members for the Apple Distinguished Educator, which recognizes classroom innovation.

Dr. Laurie Goodman (1992), was confirmed as the new deputy superintendent for Exeter Public Schools.



Dr. Teenie Matlock (1983, '85), a professor of cognitive science at the University of California, Merced, received the international research organization Sigma Xi's 2011 Young Investigator Award for excellence in research.

Dante Simi (1963), is co-founder of Learn4Life Concept Charter Schools, based in Lancaster.



Timothy White (1970), is the Chancellor of UC Riverside and was featured on an episode of CBS-TV's "Undercover Boss."

Lori Willson was appointed principal of Roosevelt Elementary School by the Kingsburg Elementary Charter School District.



2010

Michael Peter Benno (1972),
December, in Fresno.

Leroy A. "Lee" Bjornsen (1954),
Nov. 24, in Fresno.

Carolee Boele (1966), Dec. 14,
in Fresno.

Joaquin Cuesta Castro (1994),
June 12, in Fresno.

Jeremy Clark (1989), Dec. 14,
at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Richard Duncan Collins (1952),
Dec. 1, in Fresno.

Ronald L. Deaver (1961),
Dec. 9, in Kingsburg.

Edythe (Burrell) Donham (1958,
'68), October, in Stratford.

Marilee Louise Etheridge
(1990, '91), Dec. 15,
in Chowchilla.

John H. Gibbs (1974),
Sept. 18, in Fresno.

Marilyn Louise Heinrichs
(1999), Nov. 28, in Fresno.

Shirley Ann (Graves)
Hildebrand (1964), June 3,
in Fresno.

Milena (Kurtovich) Milovich
(1964), Dec. 16, in Fresno.

Leola (Moxsy) Miner (1940)
LIFE, Sept. 29, in Fresno.

Amy Kay Mustain (1995),
Sept. 14, in San Francisco.

Ben Nakagawa (1961) **LIFE**,
Sept. 20, in Fresno.

Irene (Kinney) Patrick (1972),
Sept. 16, in Fresno.

Donald A. Perry (1948),
Dec. 23, in Fresno.

George Melvin Phillips (1951),
Dec. 9, in Sonora.

Mark Phillips (1978),
Dec. 23, in Porterville.

Anna Rosenberger (1945),
Sept. 29, in Fresno.

Gary J. Sampson (1961) 🐾,
Dec. 22, in Clovis.

Richard H. Simonian (1966),
Dec. 30, in Fresno.

Douglas Gene Smith (1973),
October, in Fresno.

Ronald A. Smith (1962),
Dec. 24, in Newport Beach.

Elizabeth Mae (Chapman)
Sparks (1964), Dec. 9,
in Fresno.

Travis Joe Whitford (1955),
Dec. 5, in Fresno.

2011

Shirley (Anderson) Arnold
(1972) 🐾, March 22, in Fresno.

Thelda (Anderson) Bartlem
(1923), June 7, in Orland.

Lori A. Budd (1986), June 1,
in Fresno.

Grace Edna "Pat" Cady (1951),
April 22, in Vacaville.

Blanche Cain (1977),
May 13, in Fresno.

Concha R. Cesena (1972),
April 15, in Tulare County.

Darrell Copeland III (2009),
April 25, in Clovis.

Tina Cox (1978), May 15,
in Friant.

William E. Crumpacker (1950),
May 29, in Fresno.

Manuel Anthony DeBrum III
(1968), April 25, in Fresno.

James M. Donnelly (1959),
May 7, in Santa Rosa.

Mark Thomas Doolittle (1982),
Feb. 19, in Salinas.

Harold E. Gaede (1960),
April 14, in Fresno.

Anita Donagy Greene (1936),
April 28, in Redding.

Nancy Ann Golembeck (1973),
May 29, 2011, in Stockton.

Steve Hanada (1970), April 28,
in Fresno.

Joseph Ronald Harness (1952),
May 9, in Clovis.

Dana Jensen (1972), May 24,
in Reedley.

Charlotte (Painschab)
Lindstrom (1981), April 7,
in Fresno.

Chester "Chet" Lungren
(1967), Jan. 28, in Fresno.

William David Mitchell (2005),
April 27, in Fresno.

Ellen Morrison (1987),
May 20, in Fresno.

Jaqueline (Sintic) Multanen
(1957), Feb. 24, in Lancaster.

Marlene Delane Nolan (1957),
April 29, in Fresno.

Hope Mae Ostendorf (1952),
Feb. 3, in Fresno.

Joyce Miriam (Garabedian)
Ovoian (1970), Jan. 12,
in Clovis.

Mark Edward Parrott (1973),
June 28, in Stockton.

Elizabeth Ann Pereira (1987),
Feb. 9, in Riverdale.

Hartley Farr Phillips (1953),
May 28, in Visalia.

Lloyd Beryl Pipes (1973),
April 30, in Fresno.

Bobby Gene Shults (1952),
May 23, in Burley, Idaho.

Dean Loren Slagel (1988),
May 31, in Fresno.

Ferol L. Stanton (1971, '73),
May 20, in Fresno.

Michael J. Thompson (1990),
April 30, in Manteca.

Maria Clara Torres (1949),
April 17, in Fresno.

Linda Lou (Richardson)
Trachman (1962), May 6,
in Fresno.

Thomas C. Turk (1962),
April 25, in Madera.

Lois Ann (Wallace) Turner
(1970), May 16, in New
Braunfels, Texas.

Frank Thomas Uriarte (1962),
April 21, in Fresno.

Jeannie L. (Mah) Vasquez
(1992), Jan. 2, in Fresno.

Jim Webb (1959), May 4,
in Visalia.

Anthony A. Welch (1972),
May 17, in Fresno.

Charles Wright (1981) **LIFE**,
Jan. 9, in Fresno.

Class notes

1960s



Blair Looney (1969), a
longtime advertising and public
relations executive, was hired
as president and CEO of the
Fresno-based Better Business
Bureau of Central California.

1970s

John B. Cullen (1974), a former Contra
Costa County administrative officer, was
hired as executive director of the California
Social Welfare Education Center in Berkeley.

Diana Dooley (1972), who worked in
the first Jerry Brown administration, was
appointed by Gov. Brown as secretary of the
Health and Human Services Agency.

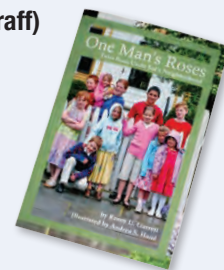


Rick Elkins (1975) 🐾, a
longtime newspaper reporter,
editor and publisher, was
appointed editor of the
Porterville Recorder.



**Renee (Updegraff)
Garrett** (1974),
who played
basketball at

Fresno State and became
a United Church of Christ
pastor in Bangor, Maine,
has published "One
Man's Roses — Tales from
Uncle Sol's Neighborhood."



Hon. Brad R. Hill (1977, '79) **LIFE** was
confirmed as the presiding justice of the
5th District Court of Appeal in Fresno.
He replaces **James Ardaiz** (1970),
who retired.

Fresno City College established the **Gary
Soto** (1974) Literary Center in the renovated
Old Administration Building, Fresno State's
former administrative center. Soto's first
poem was published in the Rampage, the
Fresno City College student newspaper.

Robert Woolley (1977), a 25-year Clovis
employee, was chosen as Clovis city
manager, replacing **Kathy Millison** (1991),
who became Santa Rosa city manager.

🐾 - Annual FSAA member

LIFE - FSAA life member



Iconic campus squirrels get their due

By Katie Johnson



It's Squirrel Week at Fres-no Staaate

View Squirrel Week Videos
at Fresno State's
YouTube channel.



Bulldogs and squirrels may be natural enemies most places. But at Fresno State, Bulldogs love their squirrels.

For decades, thousands of people have enjoyed the outrageous antics of curious campus squirrels, telling stories about the furry-tailed rodents that have become part of Fresno State's oral tradition. Instead of talking about squirrels, today's students turn to Facebook and Twitter to give play-by-play accounts of their squirrel encounters, putting Fresno State squirrels in cyberspace.

In spring 2011, the Fresno State Facebook page launched the inaugural Squirrel Appreciation Week honoring our über-cute four-legged friends, who scamper about campus posing for photographs and pausing to be fed.

Squirrel-inspired content was posted on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, proving to be the perfect, low-cost solution to create some good old-fashioned fun on the 21st-century campus.

And fun it was! Students competed in challenges and contests throughout the week on Facebook and Twitter to win a highly coveted "I ♥ Fresno State squirrels" t-shirt. (Scan the QR code to view students singing in public for their prize.)



Other Squirrel Appreciation Week highlights were an original jingle written, performed and produced by Fresno State psychology student Vincent Aguirre and a video of Jordon Anderson, a graduate student researching squirrels in the Fresno area.

Wanda-the-Squirrel became the official mascot of Squirrel Appreciation Week, visiting offices all over campus and posing with students for photos in the Free Speech Area. Squirrel Week promoters were excited that students posted pictures of themselves with Wanda as their Facebook and Twitter profile photo for the week.

Even TimeOut supported the celebration. Committed to maintaining diplomatic relations among squirrels and bulldogs at Fresno State, TimeOut called a press conference with Wanda to announce his support. In a show of true canine maturity, he vowed to not chase squirrels for one whole week; and he lived up to his pledge (but we knew he would!).

The fun generated by Squirrel Appreciation Week united students, alumni, faculty and staff in a little amusing relief from all the doom and gloom of tough economic times. Some voiced concern about the silliness and using Fresno State resources. Thankfully, a squirrel-loving alumna donated funds to make this week a success.

Because of the positive momentum during the week, squirrel shirts were sold, generating about \$800, which was donated to the Bulldog Pride Fund to support student scholarships.

This week wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of student volunteers Nicole Giglio (2011), Carols Perez, Leilani Esqueda, Reganie Smith-Love, Madison Artist, Christy Patron (2011) and TALK PR's public relations students in the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism.

After one successful effort, the question is: Are you ready for Fresno State Squirrel Appreciation Week 2012? It's going to be nuts!

— Katie Johnson (2003, '11) *LIFE* was Fresno State's director of social media relations and remains a major squirrel fan in her new home in Utah.

By the NUMBERS

2
2
4

Alumni who are producers at Fresno talk radio station KYNQ, 940 AM: **Gail Marshall** and **Steve Kaiser** (2006).

Alumni who were grand marshals of the 21st annual Pride Parade in Fresno: **Matthew Mazzei** (2010) and **Robin McGehee** (1998).

Alumni honored by the Fresno Advertising Federation at its 2011 Hall of Fame awards: **Casey Lamonski** (2002), Professional of the Year; **Amy Glines** (1994), Nancy Thielen Award; **Cary Catalano** (1999), J.U. Berry Award; **Ana Reyes** (2007, '09), Rising Star Award.

Class notes

1980s

Joseph Blohm (1983) was named Kerman chief of police after 32 years with the Fresno County Sheriff's Department.

Eric Bouchard (1983) was promoted to vice president and divisional manager of U.S. Bank Home Mortgage in Boise, Idaho.

Ana Carretero (1987) was the Woodlake Woman of the Year, named by the Woodlake Kiwanis Club for her community involvement.

Elizabeth (Payne) Covino (1984) was chosen as vice president of marketing and development at the Merrimack Valley YMCA in northern Massachusetts.

Eric Delabarre (1989), a writer and director on "Law & Order," wrote the novel "Saltwater Taffy" for young readers.



David Fitzgerald (1989) is the author of the recently published "Nailed: Ten Christian Myths That Show Jesus Never Existed at All."



Nancy Hollingsworth (1982), who started at St. Agnes Medical Center in Fresno as an oncology staff nurse in 1982, was appointed president and CEO of the hospital.

Tim Mathos (1987) was appointed Tulare County assistant assessor/clerk-recorder.

Andy Souza (1981), a former Fresno city manager, was hired as chief executive officer of the Community Food Bank in Fresno.

1990s

Randy Bling (1995), director of planning and purchasing for Florsheim Homes, was elected president of the Building Industry Association of the Delta, based in Stockton.

Carole Goldsmith (1991, 2005), a West Hills Community College District vice chancellor, was appointed to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley by then-Gov. Schwarzenegger.

John Jay (1998), coached Clovis' Buchanan High School boys volleyball team to a No. 2 national ranking and to conference, regional and Southern California championships with 32 consecutive victories.



Eric E. Johnston (1993), the president and publisher of The Modesto Bee, added president and publisher of the Merced Sun-Star to his duties. Both are owned by the McClatchy Co.

Kurt Kilburn (1992) was promoted to deputy Tulare County agricultural commissioner.



Robin McGehee (1998) was invited to the White House to witness President Obama signing the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Maile Pingel (1995) is a founder/editor of Entra, a digital design and architecture magazine published in Los Angeles.

Jacinda Potikian (1992), a longtime Fresno-area musician, released her first solo CD of original material, "Continental Skyline."



Peter Robertson (1992, '95, 2005) **LIFE**, was appointed the Fresno State Alumni Association's director

of alumni marketing and engagement. Robertson also received a President's Volunteer Service Award from President Obama for his community service.

Gregory Seigel (1995) and his wife, Nicole McPherson, perform as the Silverwind Duo, released the album "American Kaleidoscope." More info: www.silverwindduo.org.

2000s

Megan Jacobsen (2008) was appointed as director of membership at California Grape and Tree Fruit League.

Richard A. Johanson (2005) **LIFE**, board chair of Fresno-based interstate trucking company Johanson Transportation, accepted the Family Business of the Year Award presented by the university-based Central Valley Institute for Family Business.



Matthew Mazzei (2010) founded the Rainbow Delegation, which promotes awareness of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning community through awareness by encouraging people to wear rainbow-colored wristbands.



Ana Medina (2004) joined the community relations team at Community Services and Employment Training in Tulare County.

Tara Powers (2005, '10), a graduate student, won the Student Leadership Award at the California State University Alcohol and Other Drugs Education Conference.

Diana Vu (2008), and **Johnny Soto** (2007) and their An Open Mind Productions produced their first feature film, "Showboys." Details: www.showboysmovie.com.

Anniversaries

Carl and Carole (Ogburn) DeWing (1961), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 25, 2010. They reside in Redmond, Ore.

Marriages

Lena Parker and **John Blackburn**, Oct. 30, 2010, in Lahaina, Maui.

Mitchell Ryan Lucas (2010) and **Keira Justine Neumann** (2010), June 5, 2010, in Three Rivers.

Katina Mamigonian (2010) and Nicholas Lonescu, March 27, 2010, in Laughlin, Nev.

Sara Mohr (2009) **LIFE** and Geoffrey Frauenheim, April 30, 2011, in Reedley.

5

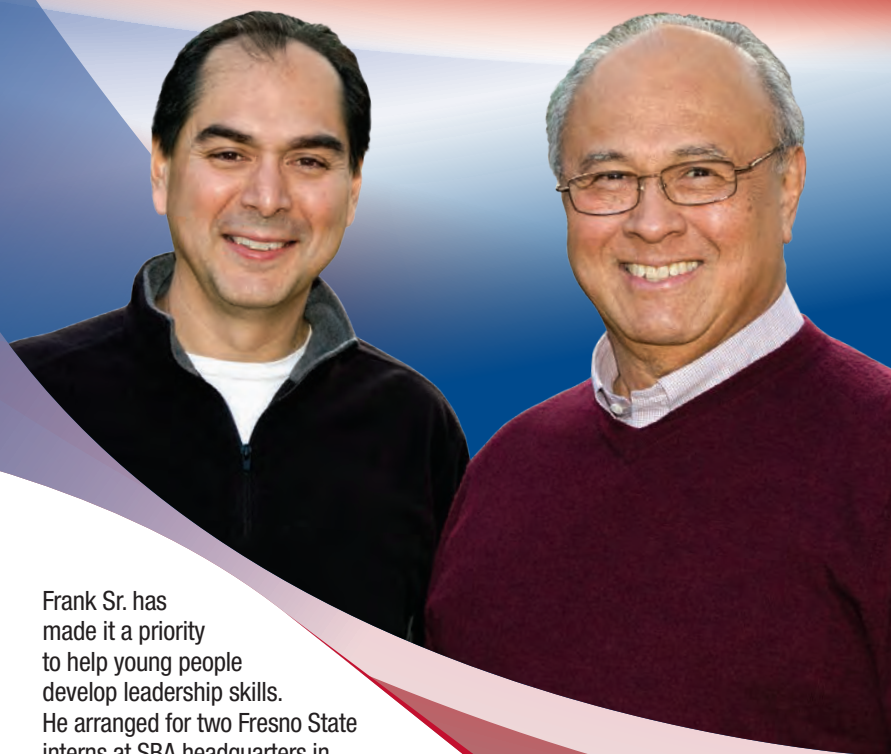
Alumni with Fresno State's Advancement Division honored by the Central California Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America with eight Image Awards for work done in 2010. **Shirley Melikian Armbruster** (1973) **LIFE**, **Katie Johnson** (2003, '11) **LIFE**, **Todd Graves** (2003), **Peter Robertson** (1992, '95 and 2005) **LIFE** and **Lanny Larson** **LIFE** received Awards of Excellence in Social Media Campaign, Electronic Communications, Magazine and Speech competitions.

20

Alumni on BusinessStreetOnline.com's 40-Under-40 awardees for establishing successful careers in the Fresno area before turning 41: **Tim Rios** (1993), **Lee Ann Jansen** (1994), **Eric McCormick** (1994), **Julia Dudley-Najieb** (1995), **Michelle Asselin** (1999), **Teresa Fierro** (1998), **Rico Guerrero** (1998), **Kevin Jordan** (2001), **Josh Tehee** (2002), **Jay Petersen** (2003), **Chris Austin** (2004), **Danielle LeBouef** (2004), **Mike Snell** (2004), **Sevag Tateosian** (2004), **Brian Domingos** (2005) **LIFE**, **Adam Stirrup** (2005) **LIFE**, **Amy Huerta** (2007), **Melanie Davis** (2010) and **Ryan Jones** (1996).

Ramos family personifies pride, public service

By Shirley Melikian Armbruster



A tradition of Bulldog pride and public service is woven into the Ramos family, whose Fresno roots have spread to the Washington, D.C., area they now call home.

Frank Ramos Sr. earned a degree in social sciences in 1960 and his son, Frank Ramos Jr., whose 1991 degree is in business with finance emphasis, are proud Fresno State alumni who have contributed significant service in federal government.

Frank Jr., like his dad, is moving up the federal government ranks; now the deputy financial officer for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. The center is a major U.S. laboratory for developing and operating unmanned scientific spacecraft and manages many of NASA's Earth observation, astronomy and space physics missions.

Frank Sr. retired in January 2007 as the director of Small Business Programs in the office of the Secretary of Defense. His distinguished career started with the Treasury Department and included stops at the Internal Revenue Service and senior executive positions at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and with Virginia's governor.

Father and son agree that their Fresno State education played an important part in their success.

"My Fresno State experience gave me the strong people skills and solid technical foundation that I needed to lead a highly competitive, modern and diverse workforce in today's federal government," says Frank Jr.

“I've worked with people with degrees from major universities and discovered that my education from Fresno State enabled me to collaborate with people at all levels in the public and private sectors successfully. I can honestly say that all those classroom learning experiences with my teachers at Fresno State were instrumental in leading me successfully through my career in the real world,” Frank Jr. added.

Frank Sr., whose father was an immigrant with little formal education, was the first in his family to graduate from a university. He recalls that he was one of a handful of Hispanic students at Fresno State at the time.

In retrospect, he wishes he could have had a mentor earlier in life like the late Fresno State professor Dr. Robert Segura, who helped him discover his latent leadership skills. Throughout his career and even today,

Frank Sr. has made it a priority to help young people develop leadership skills. He arranged for two Fresno State interns at SBA headquarters in Washington, which was a first.

"Mentoring enables students with an insight into their career direction," says Frank Sr. "And it helps those who have leadership abilities recognize their potential and develop it to its fullest."

Frank Sr.'s accomplishments have been recognized with high honors by the secretary of defense, the Treasury Department, the SBA, the city of Fresno and the governor of Virginia. He was named Outstanding Alumnus by both Fresno City College and Fresno State, where he was a Top Dog Alumni Award winner in 2004, representing the College of Social Sciences. He was included in the Fresno Bee's Notable Alumni during Fresno State's Centennial celebration in 2010-11.

He has served in leadership positions in diverse domestic and international business and community-based organizations while in Fresno, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Frank Jr. began his federal career as an operating accountant at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and then with the Department of Education Chief Financial Officer's Office as a systems accountant. His next stop was the Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service CFO's Office as an accountant, where he prepared the IRS's \$1.4 trillion financial statements.

He returned to the Education Department's Federal Student Aid Office as branch chief over the Federal Family Education Loan Program and then was director of financial analysis, directing the oversight of a portfolio of more than \$240 billion in student loans.

Before joining NASA in October 2010, he was associate chief financial officer with the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

Frank Jr. and his wife Amelia live in Rockville, Md., with their two sons.

Frank Sr. and his wife Margaret live in Clifton, Va. They have another son, Paul, who, though not a Bulldog, also is making a mark in public service as an IRS program manager in Dallas. Paul Ramos recently was commended by the IRS commissioner for assisting after the February 2010 plane crash into an IRS office in Austin, Texas.

— Shirley Melikian Armbruster is associate vice president for the Office of University Communications.

Class notes

2010s

Brett Cooper (2010) 🐾 and Lauren Peters started a headband business, Inglenook Accessories.

Sean Johnson (2010), owner and instructor of Pacific Rescue Systems, was named emergency preparedness officer for the city of Fresno.

Brenda Wright (2011), who started college at age 60, was the commencement speaker at West Hills College Lemoore.

Misc.

Rafer Alston, a Bulldog basketball star who played in the NBA, was appointed boys basketball coach and athletic director Christian Life Center Academy in Humble, Texas.

Miguel Baez was appointed coordinator at Proyecto Campesino in Farmersville, which advocates for farmworkers and their working and living conditions.

Christopher Brazil who owns Ramblin' Rose Florist in Fresno, won his second straight floral art design competition at the Fresno Home and Garden Show.



Dot-Marie Jones, a track and field athlete at Fresno State, joined the cast of the hit TV show "Glee" and was nominated for an Emmy.



Tom Kana was named a vice-president at Denver-based GRAnderson Wealth Management Group. An Air Force veteran, Kana is a pilot for Delta Air Lines.

David Manning was promoted to editor of HIS magazine, based in Fresno.



Valerie Salcedo was chosen as Miss Fresno County 2011.



The Rev. Edward G. Udell was named volunteer chaplain at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston.

Retirements



John Edstrom, after 26 years as a UC Cooperative Extension farm adviser in Sutter, Yuba and Colusa counties in Northern California.

Barbara Xavier (1973), after 37 years as a teacher and administrator in Tulare.

Bob Zimmerman (1973), after 32 years on the board of the Tulare County Association of Governments.

Future bulldogs

Tonantzin (Soto) Rodriguez (2007) **LIFE** and **Mauricio Rodriguez** (2007) **LIFE** welcomed a daughter, Citili Adelina Rodriguez, June 15, 2010.

Margarita Adona (2004) and Pablo Juarez welcomed a daughter, Estrella Leticia Juarez, March 1, 2011.

Jennifer Lupo (2002) welcomed a son, Maddox Wayne Northrup, Sept. 25, 2009.



Alumni Association privacy notice

Important privacy choice

You have the right to control whether we share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners (companies that we partner with to offer products or services to our alumni). Please read the following information carefully before you make your choice below.

Your rights

You have the following rights to restrict the sharing of your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners. This form does not prohibit us from sharing your information when we are required to do so by law.

This includes sending you information about the alumni association, the university or other products or services.

Your choice Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:

Unless you say "NO," we may share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners. Our affinity partners may send you offers to purchase various products or services that we may have agreed they can offer in partnership with us.

Time-sensitive reply

You may decide at any time that you do not want us to share your information with our affinity partners. Your choice marked here will remain unless you state otherwise. However, if we do not hear from you, we may share your name, address and electronic mail address with our affinity partners.

If you decide that you do not want to receive information from our partners, you may do one of the following:

1. Reply electronically by visiting our website at www.fresnostatealumni.com and clicking on the "SB 569" link.
2. Fill out, sign and fax the form to 559.278.6790.
3. Call 559. 278.ALUM or call toll-free 866.378.DOGS.
4. Fill out, sign and send back this form to us at the following address (you may want to make a copy for your records).

Fresno State Alumni Association
ATTN: SB 569
2625 E. Matoian Way SH124
Fresno, CA 93740-8000

Please print clearly and complete this information below to ensure accurate processing of your request.

☐ NO, Please do not share my name, address and electronic mail address with your affinity partners.

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

Current email address _____

Daytime telephone _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Alumni Association Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Brad Fischer (1981) **LIFE**, President
 Judy Sharp **LIFE**, Past President
 Frank Gallegos (1987) **LIFE**, Vice President, Finance
 Diana Gomez (1988) **LIFE**, Vice President,
 Alliances & Leadership Development
 Clyde Ford (1980, '84) **LIFE**, Vice President,
 Alumni House/President Elect
 Adam Stirrup (2003, '05) **LIFE**, Vice President,
 Membership and Marketing
 Valerie Vuicich (1979) **LIFE**, Vice President,
 Special Events

Board Members

Raj Singh Badhesha (2005)
 Doug Broten (1971)
 Mel Dias (1971) **LIFE**
 Brian Domingos Jr. (2005) **LIFE**
 John Gomes (1978, '94) **LIFE**
 Brent Hansen (2006) **LIFE**
 Ruth Khan (1975)
 Amanda Leath (1999) **LIFE**
 Mitzi Lowe (1981, '89)
 Carol Machado (1970) **LIFE**
 Nathan Magsig (1999, 2003)
 Frank Oviedo (1994)
 Jennifer Reimer (2006)
 John Savage - Student Director
 Julie Small (1978) **LIFE**
 Chris Williams (2001)

Ex-officio Members

John D. Welty, University President
 Peter N. Smits, Vice President,
 University Advancement
 Selena Farnesi, President, Associated Students

Association Staff

Jacquelyn Glasener (2002) **LIFE**, Executive Director
 Peter Robertson (1992, '95, 2005) **LIFE**,
 Director of Alumni Marketing and Engagement
 Joanne Deaver, Alumni Office Manager
 Jennifer Burgess, Alumni House Manager
 Peggy Ramos, Outreach and Program Coordinator
 Brooke Lindblad, Alumni Events Coordinator



Contact Information

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Online and links to Twitter, Facebook
 and LinkedIn social networks:
www.fresnostatealumni.com

Runnin' with the BIG DOG

Globe-trotting Flat Victor E. proudly took Fresno State to more places around the world, thanks to a little help from his Bulldog alumni friends.

Victor E. had a chance to visit the St. James Gate Brewery in Dublin, Ireland, with Bob Holland (1984). We're told he did a little sampling and was sure to have a designated driver to help get back to his hotel safely.

And on the other side of the world, Flat Victor E. visited one of Beijing, China's, top attractions with Shirley Brown (1974). The Temple of Heaven was a sacrificial altar, built in the early 15th century.

Joyce Adams Gutierrez (1982) gave Flat Victor E. a double treat. She and her husband escorted him to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where our hero got up close with local hero Muddy the Moose, an icon in the resort city.

And what could be more fitting than a vacation that also included Canada, which is famed for its moose population? At Sidney, a port on the southeastern coast of Vancouver Island, Victor didn't see any moose, but he confided that he spotted a bufflehead or two with other seabirds at the marina.

While that was relaxing, Flat Victor E.'s sojourn in San Francisco was anything but. He went 13.1 miles with Leslie (Pedroza) Carlsen (1998) in the Nike Women's Marathon, Leslie's first half-marathon competition. The big news was that they raised more than \$3,400 to benefit the Leukemia Lymphoma Society as part of a Team in Training program.

Says Leslie: "Victor E. graciously allowed me to keep the Tiffany & Co. necklace we received after crossing the finish line. Go Dogs!"

If you take Flat Victor E. on your travels, snap a photo and e-mail it to us. The info is at:

www.fresnostatenews.com/victore.pdf



A Dublin, Ireland



B Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



C Sidney, B.C.



D San Francisco, CA





Citrus x limon 'Eureka' – Eureka lemon

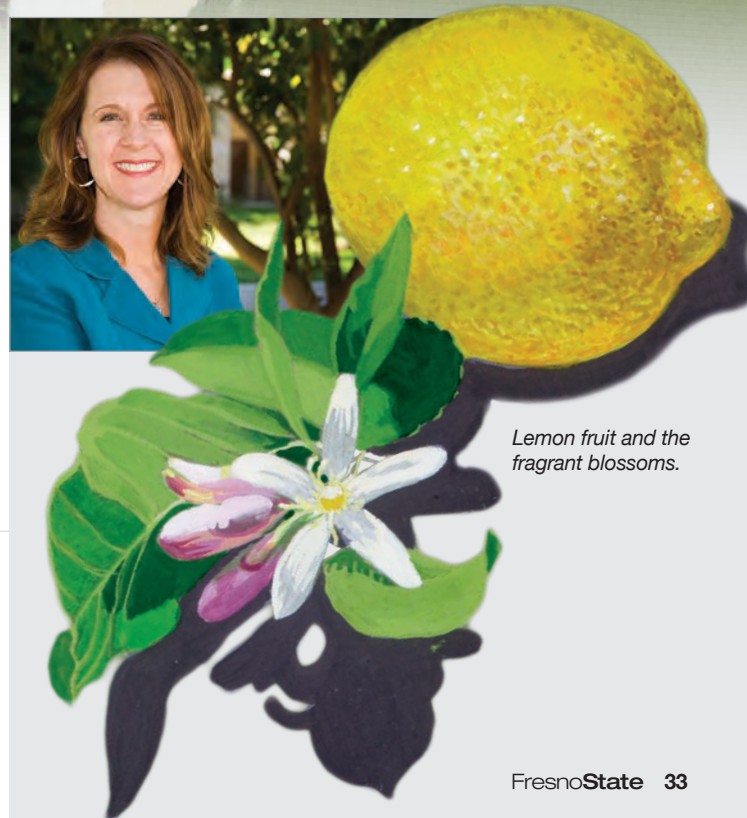
This trio of lemon trees is just beyond the east entry of the McKee Fisk Building. The Eureka variety was developed in California in the 1850s and is typically available at the supermarket. The illustration is painted in opaque watercolor on colored mat board.

The healthy and robust lemon trees adorning the Roger Tatarian Memorial Plaza are a fitting tribute to the late professor of journalism and former editor-in-chief of United Press International. He loved lemons, particularly their fragrance and divine flavor in cooking. The trees are a living legacy of a man who embodied the highest standards of journalism ethics and skill. They offer ample shade for the seating arch underneath, where students can conduct interviews or reflect on the appropriate angle to develop a story.

Betsy Hays is an assistant professor of Mass Communication and Journalism

Illustrator Doug Hansen, a professor of Art and Design, is the author and illustrator of “Mother Goose in California” (Heyday/\$16.95).

With about 4,000 trees, the campus was designated an arboretum in 1978. We invite the campus community and alumni to write about a favorite Fresno State tree to be illustrated in “Tree portraits.” Contact Hansen at dhansen@csufresno.edu or 559.278.2817.



Lemon fruit and the
fragrant blossoms.

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