

FRESNO STATE

MAGAZINE



PRESIDENT

JOSEPH I. CASTRO

STUDENT SUCCESS
IS TOP PRIORITY

PLUS

THE LEGACY OF PHILANTHROPY

CARR HOPES HIS JUGGLING ACT
HAS THE PERFECT ENDING

President Joseph I. Castro

Dedicated to student success

I am humbled and honored to be your new university president and to have the privilege of meeting and working with you to accomplish Fresno State's No. 1 mission: student success.

As a Valley native, I identify with that mission's success stories and challenges yet to be conquered. I also recognize the significant impact our university has in the region through innovation, service, entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

Students, alumni, faculty and staff have made Fresno State one of California's premier institutions, with a well-rounded, global-reaching reputation for both academics and athletics.

Working together, you have made Fresno State a model of discovery, diversity and distinction. You have created opportunity for tens of thousands of students — many of whom, like me, were the first in their families to attend college.

Our growing base of alumni and friends stretches around the world and never forgets the importance of generously supporting opportunities so today's students can follow your example.

My wife Mary and I grew up within 40 miles of campus and we chose to return to our roots to make a difference in our own home community. Working together, we will open new opportunities for student success and map new avenues of service in our region.

It's a great day to be a Bulldog!

Joe I. Castro





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Phone: 559.278.2795

Fax: 559.278.2436

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Stay in touch!

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Fresno State serves the richly diverse region of Central California. The U.S. Department of Education designates our university as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

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Front and back cover photos: Cary Edmondson



THE TOP DOG

THE LEGACY OF PHILANTHRO

by Kathleen Schock

Everyone who gives to Fresno State joins a family of supporters who believe in the power of higher education to change lives. The generosity of donors like the Jordan, Lyles, Richter, Gazarian and Meyers families were celebrated in the spring as Fresno State concluded the Campaign for Fresno State, a nearly eight-year effort that raised more than \$214 million in support of the university's students, faculty, staff, facilities and endowment.

But generous giving to Fresno State extends far beyond the start of the Campaign in 2005. Gifts made decades ago continue to shape the university and directly benefit students.

What follows are examples of individuals and families indelibly tied to Fresno State. The impact of their gifts continues to reverberate across the campus.



SID AND JENNY CRAIG

Sid Craig, a Fresno State alumnus and co-founder of Jenny Craig International, understood the effect a thriving business school can have on the economic health of the surrounding community. In 1992, the Craigs showed their dedication to the Central Valley with a \$10 million gift to name the Craig School of Business — the first college-naming endowment in the California State University system. The Craig gift elevated the college to the top tier of business schools in California. Dr. Craig, who was awarded an honorary doctorate by Fresno State in 1993, died in 2008. "His vision and investment in his alma mater two decades ago have made the Craig School of Business a living legacy that is celebrated in the achievements of thousands of students who have benefited from his generosity on campus and have paid it forward after leaving Fresno State," says Dr. Robert Harper, dean of the Craig School.



THE DOWNING FAMILY

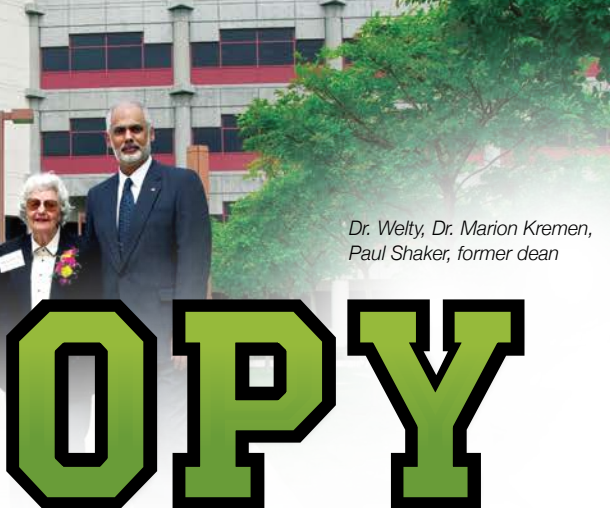
Downing family support of the College of Science and Mathematics is best described as stratospheric. The long partnership between the Downings and Fresno State started with a gift from Dr. F. Harold Downing, an orthopedist, to construct the Downing Planetarium. This facility has exposed more than 300,000 visitors to the wonders of the cosmos since opening in 2000. "The Downing Planetarium is a great example of how one family can make a huge difference in our community," says Dr. Steven J. White, a physics professor and the planetarium director. "Their generosity made possible not only the planetarium but our museum and a scholarship program for all seven departments in the College of Science and Mathematics." Dr. Downing died in 2003 but the family's connection to Fresno State continues with his son, Dr. Tom Downing, a Fresno dentist, who along with wife Cynthia generously supports the university.



ROBERT E. DUNCAN

Fresno State Athletics facilities have had no greater champion than businessman and philanthropist Bob Duncan, the driving force behind construction of Bulldog Stadium, Save Mart Center and a training center for student-athletes. The Robert E. Duncan Athletic Training Room is home to offices, locker rooms, computer labs and a team meeting room. Dr. Duncan, awarded an honorary doctorate by Fresno State in 1996, led fund drives and served on countless boards and committees, including the Foundation Board of Governors and the University Advisory Board. In 2003 he was honored by the National Association of Athletics Development Directors.



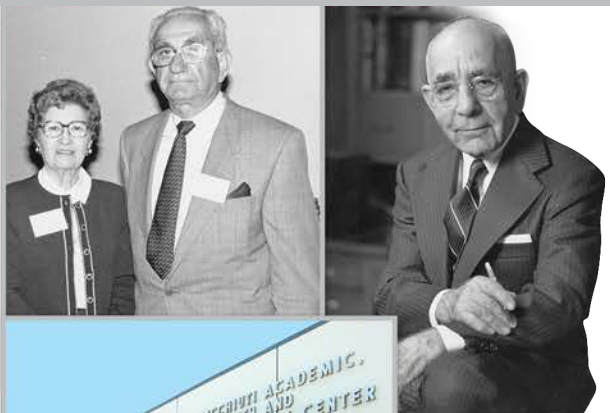


Dr. Welty, Dr. Marion Kremen,
Paul Shaker, former dean

DR. MARION KREMEN

Dr. Marion Kremen dedicated her life to education. In 2001 she honored her husband Benjamin's memory and his 25 years as faculty at Fresno State with an estate gift to support generations of future educators. Today's Benjamin and Marion Kremen School of Education and Human Development is one of California's largest providers of K-12 educators, awarding hundreds of credentials, master's and doctoral degrees. Dr. Kremen passed away in 2012 but her legacy endures in the national reputation the college has earned. "We are indebted to her for the many contributions she made to our college," says Dr. Paul Beare, dean of the Kremen School. "The Kremens' legacy includes Fresno State's first independent doctorate program that trains educational leaders to improve their schools today while laying a solid foundation for future generations."

THE PETERS FAMILY



"My husband started with nothing," Alice Peters said in 1966 of her husband, entrepreneur and philanthropist Leon S. Peters. "He didn't have an education beyond high school and neither did I. But after working very hard, with never as much as a day off work, he was able to start his own foundation in 1956. Leon and I didn't have any children of our own, so this is our way of leaving a legacy." In support of Fresno State and other community institutions, they were joined by Leon's brother Dr. Pete P. Peters. On campus, the Peters name graces an educational center, auditorium and public exhibit spaces in the Henry Madden Library and Business Building. The family's generosity also supports multiple scholarships, programs and facilities. Dr. Leon S. Peters died in 1983 and posthumously received an honorary doctorate in 1997. His wife passed away in 2011. His brother Pete P. Peters was awarded an honorary doctorate in 2008 and died in 2012. But the Peters name and spirit will live on at Fresno State for generations.

THE RICCHIUTI FAMILY



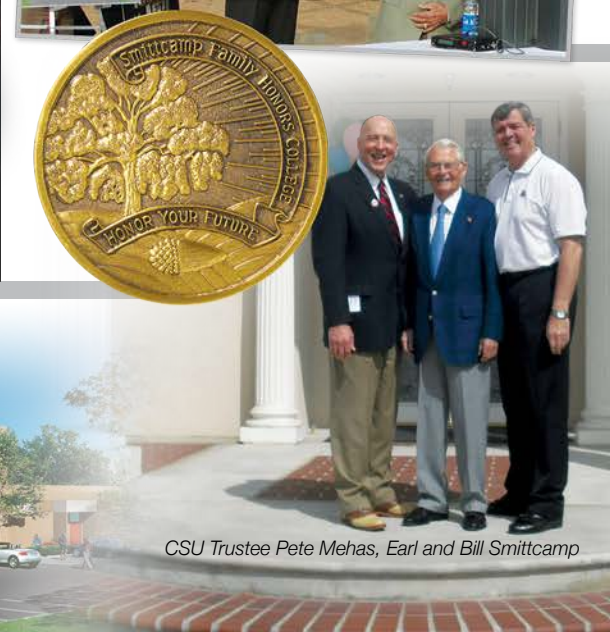
The Ricchiuti family's support for athletics and agricultural education at Fresno State has touched students for many years. Pat Ricchiuti, an agricultural pioneer, established the Ricchiuti Chair of Viticulture Research, the Ricchiuti Academic, Strength and Conditioning Center for student-athletes and supported the Ag One Foundation, Bulldog Foundation, President's Fund and John Wright Theatre. "Pat's generosity will forever be felt by thousands of Bulldog faithful," said Fresno State Athletic Director Thomas Boeh following Ricchiuti's passing in 2009. Pat Ricchiuti Jr. and his wife Vinci continue to support the university through philanthropy and leadership on the Fresno State Foundation Board of Governors, Ag One Foundation, Agricultural Research Initiative Board and other committees.

LARRY SHEHADEY



John Shehadey says his father Larry instilled a passion for philanthropy in his children long before he achieved success as the patriarch of Producers Dairy Foods. "At first we couldn't afford to give much because we didn't have much. He always told me, 'You can't just take; you have to give back.'" And give back he did — to organizations throughout Central California including Fresno State Athletics. In 2002, the Larry A. Shehadey Clock Tower was named at the Save Mart Center in recognition of his \$3 million donation and for his service on several boards and committees at Fresno State. "I hope my gift will encourage others to come forward and support Fresno State," Larry Shehadey said at the naming ceremony, seven years before his death at age 102.

THE SMITTCAMP FAMILY



More than 700 of the nation's finest high school students have come to Fresno State and received full-tuition and support as members of the Smittcamp Family Honors College since the signature program was established in 1998. "The President's Scholars truly appreciate the financial and academic support they receive while studying at Fresno State," says Dr. Honora Chapman, director of the Smittcamp Family Honors College. "Their success after graduation shows that our graduates can truly go on to make a real difference in our Valley and the wider world." Fresno State alumni Earl and Muriel Smittcamp, along with their children, extended their legacy at the university with a gift to establish the Smittcamp Alumni House, which opened in 2000. Mrs. Smittcamp passed away in 2009. Her husband, children and grandchildren continue to be leaders in agriculture and community involvement, especially generous with time and financial support for Fresno State.

— Kathleen Schock is the director of media and development communications at Fresno State.

Pure altruism motivates alumnus' **estate gift for scholarships**

by Kathleen Schock



John W. Long spent his career selling men's suits. He lived alone, never married and had no children.

But he had a passionate desire to help students, so he pledged nearly his entire estate to Fresno State to support scholarships and then spent 40 years steadily building his worth through investments in real estate.

When Mr. Long passed away Jan. 26, 2013 at the age of 89, the value of his estate had grown to more than \$5 million — enough to endow full-tuition scholarships for more than 20 Fresno State students every year in perpetuity.

Mr. Long wanted no name recognition for his gift, asking to remain anonymous until after his death and to name the scholarships in memory of his mother Miriam Long.

“The impact of his gift to Fresno State is staggering. Thousands of lives will be changed, but he wanted no acknowledgement for his generosity,”

said Director of Planned Giving Steve Spriggs, the only representative from Fresno State with whom Long agreed to meet.

“When I asked Mr. Long if he understood how significant these scholarships will be for so many students,” adds Spriggs, “he simply said, ‘I just wanted to help.’”

His connection to Fresno State goes back to his mother, who earned her teaching credential in 1919 when it was Fresno State Normal School and established on the campus that today is home to Fresno City College.

Miriam Long left campus and spent her career teaching elementary school in West Fresno. What she made from her teaching helped to support her son when he attended Fresno State to study Commerce, which now is called Business.



Above - Miriam Long's first grade class at John Burroughs Elementary School, 1930.

Below - John W. Long's Bachelor of Arts degree from Fresno State.



World War II interrupted Mr. Long's college experience. He enlisted in the Army and served on a medical ship, returning to campus after war's end. He developed a passion for retail while working in the Fresno State bookstore.

He worked in men's retail throughout his career, living a private and simple life that according to Spriggs gave him the money to invest in apartment complexes near the University of California, Los Angeles.

Spriggs expected that Mr. Long's estate will be settled by the end of 2013, and three scholarship endowments will be established at Fresno State so the inaugural Miriam Long Scholars can be named for the 2014-15 academic year.

"Mr. Long will never know the thousands of students to be touched by his generosity, but his legacy will transform countless lives," Spriggs said. "It gives me goose-bumps to think of the pure altruism in his heart."

STUDENT PROFILE

AUSTIN JONES

Major: Linguistics TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) with a minor in Mandarin

Year: Junior

Hometown: Porterville, Calif.

Info: Austin is a determined student. He beat out hundreds of students from across the nation who applied for the David L. Boren scholarship. Winning this award gives him the opportunity to spend the academic year studying in China.

He's excited: Austin is headed to Southwest University for Nationalities in Chengdu, Sichuan. He'll be taking classes in Standard Mandarin Chinese and the Tibetan culture. "I was already studying Mandarin and I decided I wanted to make a career out of this."

Proud of his hard work: "I never would have thought I would be chosen for this scholarship. I grew up in the Central Valley and didn't have the opportunities that some of my competitors had."

His plans after China: Austin is looking into internship opportunities in Washington D.C., or in local government.

— Juana Mosqueda is a University Communications News assistant.





PRESIDENT JOSEPH I. CASTRO

STUDENT SUCCESS
IS TOP PRIORITY

by Eddie Hughes

It's the end of his first full week as Fresno State president. Dr. Joseph I. Castro and his wife, Mary, load into their new sand-colored Jeep Wrangler and leave campus at 6:15 a.m. for a day trip to Hanford — no GPS necessary.

Castro was born and raised in Hanford, a town of 55,000 people about 40 miles south of Fresno, making him the first San Joaquin Valley native — in fact, the first California native — to serve as president in Fresno State's 103-year history. He's also the first Latino president on the campus, which has a student body that is about one-third Latino.

"This is personal to me; it's not just professional," Castro says. "To be able to come back home and be the president of the university in my home area, that's as special as it gets."

Like many Fresno State students, Castro was the first in his family to graduate from college. At a press conference on Aug. 1, his first day on the job, Castro choked up with emotion when talking about inspiring Valley youth and showing them more opportunity.

"I had rehearsed that statement a couple of times, and I was emotional when I rehearsed it," Castro says. "I could feel the importance of the day, the importance for young people to know that they can achieve their dreams. Because it was possible for me to achieve my dream, it could also be possible for a lot of young people here in the Valley, regardless of their family's income or the personal challenges they might be dealing with at home."

Reflecting on that statement during his drive to Hanford, Castro's voice cracks slightly — he pauses to regain composure — and his passion for student success seeps out again. "I hope my appointment will help to inspire some young people around the Valley to achieve their dreams, to show that there aren't any ceilings on any young person, especially anyone from the Valley."

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY

The Castros pull into the driveway of a modest, well-kept home in a Hanford subdivision about 7 a.m. It's where Castro's grandparents once lived and where his mother, Anne Marie Mendez, lives now. Castro grew up there with his mother and sister from seventh grade until he left for the University of California, Berkeley.

As he walks through the doorway, President Joseph I. Castro, Ph.D., becomes simply, "Joey."

"He only gets the full name if he's in trouble," Mary Castro says. "One of Anne Marie's former coworkers said, 'He's not President Castro, he's President Joey.'"

His mom and sister April Aquino greet him and Mary at the door. Childhood photos adorn the hallway wall, the refrigerator and a shelf in the living room. Castro recalls a passion for learning from his earliest days, a trait he shares with Mary. "I would spend whole days in the summer taking classes," he says, "just because it was fun."

Though his parents didn't attend college, getting an education was stressed in his household. "My mom and my grandparents set that expectation early. Although they didn't understand it all, they always talked about that being important for me."

His father, a Korean War veteran, was a long-haul truck driver "with an extraordinarily strong work ethic," says Castro, who describes him as a good man. "I was able to develop a relationship with him as an adult, and I was honored to be a pallbearer at his funeral in 2007."

Castro's mother has prepared one of her specialties for breakfast, chile verde, and asks how everyone wants their eggs cooked. But he tells his family to sit around the kitchen table as he prepares eggs for each person — over easy.



A - President Joseph I. Castro and his wife, Mary take a tour of campus.

B - President Castro congratulates Hanford High graduates.

C - Anne Marie Mendez, April Aquino and Joseph I. Castro.

D - With his grandparents on the day he received his master's degree at UC Berkeley.

E - President Castro prepares breakfast for the family.



continued



Cary Edmondson

President Castro leaves his mother's house in Hanford after an early-morning breakfast.

"Mom, you got rid of your table?" he asks, noticing his mother recently replaced the kitchen table he grew up with. His mother nods and sits there smiling, still getting used to the idea of her son being one of the most-recognizable faces in Hanford.

She knew her son was interviewing for the president position earlier this year and remembers a text message he sent her late in the process.

"He texted me and said, 'It was very hard mom,'" Mendez says. "And then he called me 45 minutes later, that quick, and said he got it. He was crying, I was crying. It's unbelievable really. I know it's a big job, but he's up for it."

Castro remembers his mother's reaction: "Aye! A-y-e, exclamation point." Then she shared the news with his sister, who remembers, "I was crying a lot too. I couldn't speak for about 15 minutes."

Mendez, a retired Hanford beautician, says she now gets frequent Fresno State news updates from people around town.

"My girlfriends are always telling me what's going on, they're always saying, 'Did you hear about Joey with this and Joey with that?'" Mendez says. "I never had a computer or a tablet, so I finally bought me one and now I'm practicing."



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

After he hugs his mother and sister and says goodbye, Joey Castro switches back to being President Joseph I. Castro. He has a meeting with California State University Trustee Steven Glazer in Visalia, about a 30-minute drive east from Hanford. He quickly whips out his iPhone to tweet from his official Twitter account — [@JosephICastro](https://twitter.com/JosephICastro).

"In beautiful Visalia and Hanford today for the first of many visits as [@Fresno_StatePresident](https://twitter.com/Fresno_StatePresident)," he tweets at 9:04 a.m.

Before driving to Visalia, Castro and his wife stop for a quick cup of coffee and reminiscing at the Hanford Burger King. Still the same location, near downtown, but the orange tables they so vividly remember are newer and more modern. It may have been remodeled, but this Burger King brings back fond memories. It's where they first met.

Mary, then 17, was working to pay for her tuition and uniforms during her senior year of high school at nearby Riverdale Christian Academy. Castro had graduated from Hanford High School and was an 18-year-old freshman at UC Berkeley who needed to make some money during winter break.

The restaurant's policy was that a male employee had to walk a female employee to

her vehicle at the end of the night. Strategically, Mary says, Castro made sure his breaks came at the same time as hers so he could walk with her. Problem was, she had a boyfriend.

"After a few months where I heard she wasn't dating him anymore," Castro says, "then, I felt like I could make my move."



The young woman behind the counter taking the Castros' coffee order overhears the conversation and becomes curious. Castro, dressed in khaki slacks with a tucked in red Fresno State polo shirt, explains to the employee. "Hi, I'm Joe Castro," he says. "I'm the new president at Fresno State, and my wife and I first met while working at this Burger King."

A smile blossoms over the young woman's face. She didn't say it, but maybe — just maybe — she was thinking about her own future career possibilities.

The Castros walk out to their Jeep, holding hands. He drops off Mary at his mother's house and drives to Visalia.

★ A LOCAL CELEBRITY

Now dressed in a navy blue suit, with a neatly pressed white shirt and a red tie covered with Fresno State Bulldogs, Castro returns to downtown Hanford after an hour-long meeting. Several folks recognize him outside the iconic Hanford Auditorium and walk up to introduce themselves.

Meanwhile, Castro notices a group of about 20 children in matching orange shirts having a picnic on the lawn. He's on a tight schedule, but connecting with the children is his No. 1 priority. He walks up to the group with Mary and, one-by-one, they introduce themselves to each child and their accompanying chaperones on a field trip to Hanford's Superior Dairy from Fresno.

"Are you the real president? Do you live in the White House?" one little girl asks.

Castro smiles and says, "Yes, I'm the real president of Fresno State. I do live in a white house, but it's not *the* White House.

"I'll tell you a secret," Castro says. "I know the two best flavors of ice cream at Superior Dairy. One is peach, and they only have it in the summertime. The other is chocolate chip. They have the best chocolate chip anywhere."

The president and his wife say goodbye and take a short walk to Superior Dairy, recently ranked by Yahoo! Travel as one of the top eight spots in the country to eat ice cream. As soon as they walk in, patrons throughout the shop recognize Castro, including some employees and one of his mother's longtime friends.

Ernie Wing, whose wife Susan owns the shop with her brother, Tim Jones, approaches to shake Castro's hand. Castro tells Wing how much he's always loved the ice cream. Castro hands Wing his business card and invites his family to the president's suite at Bulldog Stadium for a football game during the fall.



The Castros sit side-by-side in a pink cushioned booth and share a few bites of a chocolate chip sundae. The ice cream tastes just as good as Castro remembers, but he has to save his appetite for an important lunch meeting.



🚶 BACK TO BUSINESS

In rural Hanford, amidst a large, successful dairy, sits the log cabin-style home of George and Gloria Soares. The couple hosts a nearly three-hour lunch meeting with Castro and several of the area's agricultural leaders. Fresno State is home to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and Castro wants to ignite more growth in the ag program.



"I want to identify areas where Fresno State can be an even greater place, have an even greater impact on the Valley," Castro says. "Agriculture is certainly one of those areas. The challenges we face around education is another. Health is another. I'm thinking about how Fresno State can help to strengthen the Central Valley economy."

Castro says meeting leaders in various industries, learning from them and sharing ideas is atop his to-do list. He wants to focus on how the university can support students to ensure they graduate in a timely manner.

Castro anticipates a major challenge he'll face is ensuring the academic and athletic programs at Fresno State are financially sustainable over time. He knows community support plays a major role in how much the university can accomplish.

"Private fundraising is going to continue to be very important in terms of ensuring the future quality of Fresno State," Castro says. "I'm out friend-raising right now and building those relationships and reconnecting. Hopefully that will lead to the additional support that we're going to need to be the greatest university we can be."

As Castro's lunch meeting ends, Soares takes him on a tour. They talk about the future of Fresno State as they walk past Soares' dairy cows while a tractor's powerful engine roars nearby. It's about 3:30 p.m. now and Castro's shirt sleeves are rolled up as he follows the dirt path across the farm, listening intently to Soares.

The two men stop in front of a field of tall, green cornstalks, gently rustling in the breeze. They stare out at the corn field, joking about it being a "field of dreams." For Castro, it's a meaningful end to a day that has taken him full circle from his Valley childhood to president of Fresno State, representing everything young Valley students are capable of achieving — if they dream big.

🕒 ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

After a full day in Hanford and Visalia, the Castros returned to the president's on-campus office before heading to an introductory dinner meeting and social event with a prominent member of the Native American community. The Castros arrived home at University House around midnight.

PRESIDENTIAL FUN FACTS

8

FAVORITE MEAL:

Me-N-Ed's pizza and a cold beer for a casual meal. Grilled fresh fish (halibut, sea bass or opakapaka) and a glass of Fresno State wine for special occasions. And plenty of fresh jalapeño peppers!



LUCKY NUMBER AND WHY:

since I am Fresno State's eighth president.

IDEAL VACATION SPOT:

Maui, because I love to swim and snorkel in the warm ocean water.



FAVORITE VEHICLE AND WHY:

Jeep Wrangler Safari because it reminds me of my driving adventures on vacation in Hawaii.

FAVORITE PART OF LIVING AT UNIVERSITY HOUSE:

The swimming pool.

BEST CHILDHOOD MEMORIES:

Saturdays working on outdoor projects with my grandfather and long summer evening walks with my grandmother.

AT LUNCH TIME ON CAMPUS, WE'RE MOST LIKELY TO FIND DR. CASTRO:

At the Student Union eating lunch and visiting with students, faculty and staff.



BEST PART OF YOUR FIRST FRESNO STATE FOOTBALL GAME AS PRESIDENT:

The 47-yard field goal made by our freshman kicker Colin McGuire on his first-ever college attempt. It would have been good from at least 10 yards farther.



FAVORITE ITEM AT GIBSON FARM MARKET:

Ice cream!



CONCERT YOU'D MOST LIKE TO SEE AT SAVE MART CENTER:

Adele or Prince.





FRESNO STATE'S FIRST VALLEY-BORN PRESIDENT



INTRODUCING FRESNO STATE'S MOST ACCESSIBLE PRESIDENT:

@JosephICastro

by Eddie Hughes 

Fresno State has a long history of university presidents who have been accessible to students, faculty, staff and alumni, but new President Joseph I. Castro entered uncharted connectivity the first day on the job when he asked people to join him on Twitter.

"I invite people to follow me on Twitter, and I usually follow those who follow me," Castro says. "I think it helps to create that larger community."

When Castro was announced on May 22 as the eighth president in Fresno State's 103-year history, he began using Twitter to get acquainted with folks involved with the university. Castro is also using a feedback page at www.FresnoState.edu/president/feedback to engage with the public. His wife, Mary G. Castro, joined him in connecting with the community on Twitter. Her handle is [@MGCastro5](https://twitter.com/MGCastro5).

"Having that chance to at least connect through Twitter has been helpful, and it's something that I want to continue to use in all the right ways," Castro says.

Among his peers, Castro is in the forefront of using such technology. Only four of the 23 California State University presidents were using Twitter when Castro issued his invitation at a press conference. That day, he already had more than twice the followers of the other three CSU presidents.

It didn't take long for people to notice. At a reception for educators and legislators, Assemblymember Henry T. Perea, D-Fresno, said Castro tweeted him a congratulatory message when his son was born in July — a month before Castro began as president.

Perea isn't the only one communicating with the new president via Twitter. Take a look at some highlights straight from Castro's Twitter profile.

— Eddie Hughes is a University Communications writer.

Honored and humbled by the [@calstate](https://twitter.com/calstate) Board of Trustees' confidence in appointing me as the eighth President of [@Fresno_State](https://twitter.com/Fresno_State). Go Bulldogs!

7:36 AM - 23 May 13

Historic day at #FresnoState as we transition to the presidency of Dr. [@JosephICastro](https://twitter.com/JosephICastro). pic.twitter.com/sMMtlt0b8U

2:33 PM - 31 Jul 13

Retweeted by [Joseph I. Castro](https://twitter.com/Joseph_I_Castro)



[@AsmPerea](https://twitter.com/AsmPerea) Congratulations, Assemblyman Perea and Family! Future [@Fresno_State](https://twitter.com/Fresno_State) Bulldog!?

7:34 PM - 3 Jul 13

MARY CASTRO

EXCITED TO BE AN ACTIVE 'PRESIDENT'S WIFE'

By Shirley Melikian Armbruster



Mary Castro's role as "president's wife" presents a plate overflowing with responsibilities. But it also unleashed a cup overflowing with joy.

From the moment she learned that her husband would become the eighth president of California State University, Fresno, Mrs. Castro says she has been "thrilled beyond belief." This appointment is the fulfillment of a dream they shared.

"We wanted for a long time to come back home to the Valley," she says. "There just wasn't a fit that was right. When Joe got the call [offering him the Fresno State position], it was all joy. It was something we had hoped for, dreamed about, made sacrifices for as we moved to different areas to get experience."

As she settles into her new role and the family's new residence at University House, Mrs. Castro brings energy and enthusiasm for what she calls the "exciting adventure" ahead.

Her role, she says, is to support her husband and to help him be as productive as possible. That will include hosting and planning functions at University House, Bulldog Stadium, the Save Mart Center and other venues, and attending community events with President Castro.

She also is mom to their three children: Isaac, a graduate of UC Berkeley who spent a year serving in AmeriCorps, now works in an after-school program in Richmond and plans to become a teacher; Lauren, starting her fourth year at Humboldt State, who is majoring in critical race, gender and sexuality studies; and Jess, almost 3, the Castros' much wanted "bonus baby," who is enrolled at the Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center on campus.

Mrs. Castro also is eyeing an oft-delayed personal goal: completing her college education. She attended Dominican College in San Rafael for one year, studying musical theater. She views being at Fresno State as the perfect opportunity to explore new interests and to achieve her goal of earning a degree.

Like many Fresno State students, Mrs. Castro comes from a hard-working family of modest means. She was raised in Laton, a small farming community 23 miles southeast of Fresno, where her father, Manuel Borges, milked cows for 40-plus years, earning only one or two days off a month. Her mother, Mary Borges, was a certified nursing assistant in nursing homes in Hanford and took on extra work doing in-home care or cleaning houses.

When she was 16, her father was injured and unable to work. She and her mother took over her father's responsibilities for four months — going to the barn, milking the cows and feeding the calves.



Cary Edmondson

Above - Mary Castro takes a tour of a Hanford dairy with Gloria Soares.

Below - President Castro and Mary Castro meeting staff at a welcome reception.



During her senior year in high school, she worked at a Burger King restaurant in Hanford where she met Joseph Castro, a UC Berkeley freshman home to work during his winter break. She needed the paycheck for her tuition and uniforms at Riverdale Christian Academy and to make payments on a car for which her parents had co-signed. She also gave a portion of each check to her parents to help cover household expenses.

Life was mostly good growing up, and she and her younger sister, Victoria, enjoyed close ties with their grandparents and extended Portuguese family.

A fond memory is frolicking in a makeshift swimming pool.

“Our houses on the dairies were not the most glamorous and never had swimming pools,” she recalls. “My dad would open up the irrigation drain in the front yard, which had a dip to it, and it would flood the yard. We would slip and slide like it was our swimming pool. Then we would lie back on the grass, with the smell of the fresh-cut alfalfa around us and enjoy the peace.”

Before she went to kindergarten, she spoke Portuguese, but “lost” it when she started school and the grandfather who spoke to her in his native tongue passed away. She still understands some of the language and hopes to relearn and use it again.

What she didn’t lose was her love for Portuguese culture and food: She’s marched in Portuguese *feita* celebrations throughout the San Joaquin Valley and at Pismo Beach, starting at age 6. One of her signature dishes is sopas, a soup of beef and cabbage served over sliced French bread that was brought to the U.S. by immigrants from the Azores.

Mrs. Castro loves to cook, and mindful of her husband’s Mexican heritage, has a good menudo recipe that her family loves. Last year, for the first time, she canned peaches from the family’s adopted tree at the Masumoto Family Farm in Del Rey.

She also has a passion for reading, instilled when her parents began \$2-a-month payments on an encyclopedia set sold to them by a traveling salesman. “That was a big deal for them to commit to, but my parents ‘got it,’ and it started a love of reading for me,” she says.

While Mrs. Castro is a digitally connected, high-tech woman, she’s old-school in her reading preference, resisting her older children’s suggestion to use an electronic reader.

“I have a passion for books and a respect for bound books. There’s just something about holding the books and looking at the paper. I see my parents making the sacrifice [to buy the encyclopedias] and my mom taking the time to read to me.”

Mrs. Castro is no stranger to the needs of students and their families. She worked as an information specialist in financial aid at UC Santa Barbara. Answering calls and helping students or parents understand the options available to them was her favorite part of the job.

At UCSB, she was the office representative during the annual campuswide United Way fundraising campaign. She was recognized during a special ceremony by the United Way two consecutive years with the Department Representative “Super-Star” Award for raising or increasing the most donations.

She says she is eager to learn of ways that she may become involved in programs at Fresno State that directly affect the lives of students.

Mrs. Castro knows much is required and expected of the Fresno State president’s wife, and after multiple moves for her husband’s career and the jobs that she has held, she feels ready. Her life experiences — from milking cows to enjoying vacations on Hawaii beaches and plenty in between — have prepared her for whatever is ahead.

Says Mrs. Castro, “Some jobs require heels, some jobs require boots. I can put on a pair of either to get it done.”

— Shirley Melikian Armbruster is the associate vice president for University Communications and Integrated Marketing.



CAN MONEY BUY HAPPINESS?

by Shirley Melikian Armbruster

That age-old question is getting a 21st century examination by Fresno State professor Robert Levine and other members of an international United Nations team working on a “New Development Paradigm” to enhance well-being throughout the world.

To get a unique perspective, the team traveled to the kingdom of Bhutan, a Himalayan country smaller than West Virginia and larger than Maryland, where happiness is part of the national conversation.

“It’s a very poor country where you see a relatively high level of psychological and social well-being, very few homeless people, very few starving people, almost no beggars,” says Levine, an internationally recognized author and scholar who’s been teaching at Fresno State since 1974.

What’s up with Bhutan and happiness?

Levine explains: The value of happiness was elevated to national status 40 years ago when Bhutan’s king established Gross National Happiness (GNH) as an alternative model to Gross National Product (GNP) to measure national progress. GNH targets the overall quality of life — educational attainment, physical, psychological and emotional well-being and cultural and ecological integrity.

“Their leaders understand that making money is a part of happiness but it’s not the entire answer,” he says.

The concept gained international credibility in 2011 when the U.N. General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution placing “happiness” on the global agenda and appointed Bhutan to spearhead the project.

Last fall, Levine was invited to be part of a U.N. team of writers, philosophers, economists and other social psychologists from around the world. It was right up his alley, having spent decades researching and comparing various cultures and countries.

“One of the international economists on the project made an observation I really like – that the point of a healthy economy is to serve people,” Levine says. “With the Gross National Happiness project, we are developing a new model of economic development for improving the quality of life in the world.”



“I would like to see people begin to talk more about a new economic paradigm, to think about it, to re-evaluate values. And to try to avoid economic treadmills and take a little better control over the quality of people’s lives.”

We can’t legislate happiness, Levine says, but wide-scale discussions allow ideas to become part of the vocabulary and lead to culture change.

While he watches to see if that will happen, Levine expects to return to Bhutan for more work. On his first trip, he met the fifth and reigning Dragon King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Queen Jetsun Pema, and he had dinner with the country’s prime minister.

Levine also will incorporate his experiences into the classroom at Fresno State.

“One of my interests, the goal of my teaching, is to give people some tools for enhancing the quality of their lives. And as I meet and work with people from throughout the world, I hope to get our students involved in projects in direct and indirect collaborative research.”

That should make Fresno State students happy.



Faculty cohort diversifies Fresno State's water connection

by Lanny Larson

For more than a century, water has been a cornerstone of Fresno State's connection with the San Joaquin Valley. Now the university is taking its investigation of this life-sustaining and troubled resource to a much higher level in the second year of a new faculty Water Cohort.

The five faculty cohort members spent 2012-13 establishing promising partnerships on and off campus, charting new projects, identifying funding sources, developing courses to improve university and community water literacy and learning about regional water challenges.

Fresno State was "baptized in water" — founded in 1911 to train teachers for the children of farmers and others who "rushed" to the Valley from all over the world in the late 19th century, attracted by the free flow of water running down from the Sierra snowpack.

Fresno State Normal School quickly expanded its teacher-education curriculum, adding courses about the region's No. 1 economic driver — farming — and its driving force — water.

Fresno State now is a world center of water. Partnering with industry and government agencies, Fresno State faculty, students and staff study efficient water delivery, conservation, drought-tolerant crops, supply development, quality, recycling and incorporating new technologies (satellite, infrared and computer).

The campus houses the Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT), International Center for Water Technology (ICWT) and the Water and Energy Technology (WET) Center and is a partner in Blue Tech Valley — an ambitious initiative to create a Silicon Valley-like hub of water research and development.

The cohort enhances all that, says Charles Boyer, dean of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, by embracing the premise that water touches nearly every aspect of our lives and deserves comprehensive investigation by Fresno State. After decades of agricultural emphasis in its investigation of water, Fresno State's Water Cohort "is part of a more integrated approach to water management," Boyer says.

"Campus-based research addresses a wide range of local issues, including water use efficiency in agriculture and urban settings, integrated regional water management planning and water needs of disadvantaged communities," says David Zoldoske, director of Fresno State's Center for Irrigation Technology and water policy adviser for the California State University system.

Fresno State is the lead organization for the Water Resources Policy Initiatives, bringing together expertise from the 23 CSU campuses to focus on solutions for California water challenges and training students to be the water problem-solvers going forward.

Fresno State and its partners, says Zoldoske, seek "sustainable water supplies and improved water quality [while] proving that, on a good day, water brings the community together like few other issues to find a common path for our future."

The faculty Water Cohort became reality in 2012 with a \$300,000 research fund gift from Claude Laval, a water filtration entrepreneur, longtime Fresno State benefactor and partner in water research.

At its launch, the Water Cohort envisioned participation from many departments (and their schools/colleges):

- **Civil and Geomatics Engineering** (Lyles College of Engineering), specializing in hydraulics, water resources and environmental engineering.
- **Curriculum and Instruction** (Kremen School of Education and Human Development), specializing in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education (STEM).
- **Earth and Environmental Sciences** (College of Science and Mathematics), specializing in hydrogeology.
- **Geography** (College of Social Sciences), specializing in water management for landscape.
- **Management** (Craig School of Business), specializing in relationships between water quality and water policy, sustainability, logistics and entrepreneurship.
- **Mass Communication and Journalism** (College of Arts and Humanities), focusing on media production (environmental media production and journalism).
- **Plant Science** (Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology), specializing in irrigation and water management.
- **Public Health** (College of Health and Human Services), specializing in water quality and community health.

In its first year (2012-13), five slots in the cohort were filled by:

- **Frederick Nelson**, an assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, who teaches science methods courses for future elementary and secondary teachers and is studying how the Water Cohort is collaborating on the design and implementation of an interdisciplinary general education course on water literacy.
- **Fayzul Pasha**, an assistant professor of water resources in the Department of Civil and Geomatics Engineering, who is an expert on energy management in water distribution systems and hydropower resource assessment.
- **Florence Cassel Sharma**, an assistant professor of plant science and water-management expert, whose ongoing research is helping West Side San Joaquin Valley growers to tailor irrigation delivery methods and amounts to specific crops.
- **Jes Therkelsen**, an assistant professor of environmental media, is a documentary filmmaker who has worked with potential community partners to produce short documentaries on a variety of water issues.
- **Beth Weinman**, an assistant professor of earth and environmental sciences, who has worked with students on research into water contaminants and on building alliances on campus to conserve water.

The university recently earned approval for an online Professional Science Master of Water Resources Management degree program. Water Cohort faculty are facilitators in a new course offered through the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences: "Interdisciplinary Topics in Water: The Social, Political and Scientific Theories of Water."

At the Blue Tech Valley Conference in May, cohort members learned about Valley water resources, their use, problems caused by scarcity, water-management solution possibilities, efficiency options and how agricultural yield and energy efficiency can be improved, says Fayzul Pasha, assistant professor of water resources.

The interdisciplinary water-literacy course is one answer to conference questions. It's scheduled for a fall 2014 launch.

The course will emphasize water's importance in the Valley and engage local, regional and national experts across many disciplines to bring perspective to critical issues. Students will follow up each expert session with a small-group discussion led by a cohort member. Students will form collaborative groups for a culminating project to be archived for future student and community use.

One goal, Pasha reports, is increasing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) participation by including students outside traditional STEM disciplines. The course also will "create a more informed, environmentally literate citizenry equipped to better evaluate and resolve environmental challenges."

Beth Weinman, assistant professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences, experienced a multidisciplinary academic approach in her doctorate program at Vanderbilt University, participating in a year-long study of storing the nation's nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, Nev. It was team-taught by engineering, sociology and geology faculty with undergraduate and grad students in psychology, sociology, geology and engineering.

"I saw for the first time the role of my discipline — the long time and earth system perspective geologists can contribute to solving a complex problem versus the engineering, political and social aspects," says Weinman. "From that class, I learned to appreciate even more what the other disciplines contribute and the important relevance of each to society."

To chart this new academic course at Fresno State, Water Cohort faculty received a grant from the Water Resources Policy Initiative. "We have submitted a letter of inquiry to the Bechtel Foundation's Environmental Literacy Program to support the design and implementation of this new course, 'Water Questions,'" says Frederick Nelson, assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Cohort faculty also accepted an invitation to present a paper on its course-development to the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities Conference in Louisville, KY.

Zoldoske says, "The region's fate is determined by how much water runs down the mountains, is pumped from beneath our feet and flows to us from the north. When these water sources are in balance, all is well. When they fail to deliver, it's front-page news."

"The campus has truly poised itself to bring about new cultures of learning to help with global problems, such as water," Weinman says. "These types of problems are not solved by one discipline alone, and Fresno State, with its cohort support, is the perfect place to launch more engaging solutions."

"Because of the relationship building experienced with the Water Cohort, I have felt comfortable in seeking out other interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities," Nelson says. "Students will see faculty collaboration modeled, as we work in each other's programs and courses to achieve our outcomes of enhanced water literacy."

And Nelson believes one result of the Water Cohort will be a new generation of STEM teachers with broad-perspective training and understanding of water issues.

Says Nelson, "I see an experience with water as a stimulus for reflection, engaging teachers in a new consideration of their decisions about teaching and learning" that will resonate with their students for generations to come.

— Lanny Larson is a freelance writer and editor in Clovis.

Early collaborations signal cohort success

Before a formal interdisciplinary watery literacy course is added to the curriculum, Fresno State students, faculty and staff already are collaborating with Water Cohort faculty on a variety of water issues:

- Jessica Sanchez, one of Dr. Beth Weinman's Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) students, researches measurement of personal care products, pharmaceuticals and other contaminants that survive urban wastewater treatment and go back into the ground and aquifer below.
- Graduate EES student Dustin White is investigating arsenic distribution in Tulare County groundwater, collaborating with alumni Chris Johnson and Ken Schmidt and geochemical students at Cal State Bakersfield.
- EES students are working on other arsenic research partnerships, one with the University of Minnesota and India's Physical Research Laboratory and another with Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, focused on groundwater in Bangladesh.
- Weinman and colleagues Mara Brady and Peter Van De Water, and J.P. Moschella and Criss Wilhite, both in the Department of Psychology, are establishing a sustainable learning community to conserve water on campus.
- Fayzul Pasha (Civil and Geomatics Engineering) has met with Facilities Management division leaders on campus to talk about water-management issues.
- Efforts have begun to bring faculty, students and staff together to ensure good tree canopy coverage and sustainable landscape on campus, which is a state arboretum and has won national recognition for its forest.
- Florence Cassel Sharma (Plant Science) and some of her students have worked with sugar beet producers in western Fresno County on the impact of changing traditional surface irrigation practices to more efficient and sustainable drip systems.
- With other faculty and students, Frederick Nelson (Education Curriculum and Instruction) assists the "Physics Pedagogy and Outreach" course to develop a protocol for observing and evaluating effectiveness of student-led outreach demonstrations.

ASPIRE

our commitment to diversity

Fresno State is a university built on the belief that diversity and inclusion are essential to academic excellence. That is why the President's Commission on Human Relations and Equity created a comprehensive plan to ensure that acceptance and fairness are embraced throughout the campus community.

The 30-person commission — students, faculty, staff, administrators and community members — worked for more than a year to develop “A Strategic Plan for Inclusion, Respect and Equity” (ASPIRE).

Committee chair Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson, university vice president for Administration and chief financial officer, says the project was a labor of love for all involved.

“We defined diversity very broadly and are dedicated to reducing any barriers to success caused by race, gender, religion, learning style, personality, age, or any human characteristics,” she says. “It was such a rewarding process to ensure that inclusion and respect positively influence all aspects of the university experience.”

The commission was founded by former Fresno State President John D. Welty, but the work continues with the full support of President Joseph I. Castro.

“As a native of the San Joaquin Valley, I was raised to appreciate that the rich tapestry of diversity that defines the region is one of our greatest strengths,” Castro says. “At Fresno State, exploring the diversity of thought and discouraging marginalization are valued as means of enriching knowledge and critical thinking.”

The commission declares race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, culture, religion, linguistic diversity, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, geographical region, personality, learning styles, life experiences and other human characteristics as elements of diversity.



Cary Edmondson

The commission developed four themes to target all aspects of the campus community and identified within each theme strategies, actions and indicators to support the objective. The themes are:

- **Promoting and supporting excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship.**
- **Supporting student access and educational success.**
- **Recruiting, developing and supporting employees.**
- **Affirming a university culture of inclusion, respect and equity.**

“I encourage everyone connected to Fresno State to learn more about this plan because diversity, inclusion and respect are everyone’s responsibility,” Teniente-Matson says.

Information about the President’s Commission on Human Relations and Equity and ASPIRE is available at www.FresnoState.edu/pchre.



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As a surgical nurse, Alpheda Knorr contributed to the health of thousands.

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If you would like to discuss charitable estate giving options, please contact Steve Spriggs, director of planned giving, at 559.278.8337, sspriggs@csufresno.edu or visit fresnostate.giftlegacy.com



CARR

HOPES HIS
JUGGLING ACT
HAS THE
PERFECT
ENDING

by Eddie Hughes

Cary Edmondson



Derek Carr looked downfield, rolled out to his right to pass and – *whoosh!* – got splashed with full buckets of water from both sides while more water rained down on him from a hose. Fresno State's star quarterback was doing a preseason promotional photo shoot, modeling the team's new all-white uniforms. The waves of water were tossed around him to symbolize Fresno State's Red Wave fan base.

It was part of a busy summer Carr spent juggling frequent media requests and press conferences to promote the team and to discuss his numerous preseason accolades. Even before training camp and the start of the fall semester, Carr was awake at 5 most mornings for conditioning, studying film with teammates and leading Fresno State on the practice field to prepare to defend its Mountain West Conference championship.

Most importantly, it was a time of waiting for Carr and his wife Heather as the birth of their first child drew near. (The Carrs welcomed a son named Dallas — which is Derek's middle name — on Aug. 5. Two days later, the new dad was back at practice between visits to the hospital where his newborn son was battling an intestinal disorder. The couple was finally able to bring Dallas home three weeks after his birth.)

Even with all the demands on his time, Carr showed up right on schedule for his afternoon photo shoot that 100-degree July day, dressed in full uniform and walked out to the university amphitheater stage where the lights were set up. He spent nearly two hours getting drenched during the creative shoot and recording video promos and interviews — and did it all while cracking jokes.

“I can’t complain,” Carr says. “I’m so blessed to have my wife, to have my son and to have a program that believes in me enough to put my face on everything.”

Carr is indeed the face of a program getting national media attention for its lofty goals. Heightening that attention is the fact he's the brother of David Carr, arguably Fresno State's greatest quarterback ever. David was the No. 1 overall NFL draft pick in 2002 and led Fresno State as high as No. 8 in the national rankings in 2001.

“Our careers and what we have tried to establish for the Fresno community are not entirely separate,” says David Carr (*right*), an 11-year NFL veteran. “He doesn’t look at my career as something he has to live up to. He has looked at my time in Fresno as something he aims to finish.”



In 2001, Fresno State was the national media darling, knocking off Colorado, Oregon State and Wisconsin and generating buzz about being the first team from a non-Bowl Championship Series conference selected for a BCS bowl. David Carr was placed on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* with the headline, “Fresno?” But a shocking home loss to a then-unknown Boise State program derailed the Bulldogs’ dreams.

Derek Carr was just 10 years old then, sitting in Bulldog Stadium with his family, emotionally drained. The years went by and Fresno State again flirted with BCS dreams in 2004, 2005 and 2008. But each of those runs ended with unexpected losses.

Meanwhile, Derek was developing into a highly touted high school recruit, drawing attention from LSU, USC, Alabama, Notre Dame and most of the Pacific 12 Conference. He turned down an offer from Cal to play for Fresno State.

“I am probably the biggest Fresno State football fan there has ever been,” Carr says. “There are a lot of people who would argue with me about that, but I love Fresno State football. I am a huge fan who gets to play quarterback.”

And his wife is a Fresno State fan who got to marry the quarterback.

Heather Carr said her parents began taking her to Fresno State games as a child. Then, four years ago, while she was waitressing at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Fresno, Carr was eating there with some teammates and asked for her phone number.

“We ended up hanging out and have been inseparable ever since,” says Heather, who graduated from Fresno State two years ago with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies. Derek has already met the requirements for his degree in recreation administration and leisure services management.

Heather recalls last season when the Bulldogs clinched the Mountain West championship and her husband ran off the field hoisting the trophy. The look on his face that day, she says, makes it worth the daily juggling act Carr performs with all of his commitments.

“Derek does a wonderful job of balancing his life and everything he has going on,” she says. “He’s very good at keeping his priorities straight — God, family and then football. As a wife, I do worry that he might get overwhelmed with everything going on, but when you look at Derek you see how well he is able to handle all the pressures. I try to take the pressures of home from him so that when he gets home he can just focus on what he needs to.”

On the field, Carr is focused on leading. He knows all eyes are on him — and that's exactly the way he wants it.

It hasn't always been that way. Though Carr came in as the most promising Bulldogs quarterback recruit in a decade, he served his first two seasons as a backup to Ryan Colburn, redshirting his second season to preserve a year of eligibility. Carr says that's when he realized he had to mature as a leader.

“The biggest way to be a leader when you get here is to just shut your mouth and work,” Carr says. “It can’t just be a one-time, one-day thing. It’s got to be every repetition, every day. When that happens, guys look at me as a leader.”

All-conference sophomore wide receiver Davante Adams says Carr's talent and leadership were among reasons he chose Fresno State.

Carr says it's not just him, it's the whole team taking responsibility to work hard. And Carr says that's why team chemistry is at an all-time high. “Those great teams, they have to be together. That's the point of difference,” Carr says. “That's one thing we've got, we've got 100 guys that will go out to battle for everybody.”

continued



Original photograph: Cary Edmondson • Photo illustration: Todd Graves



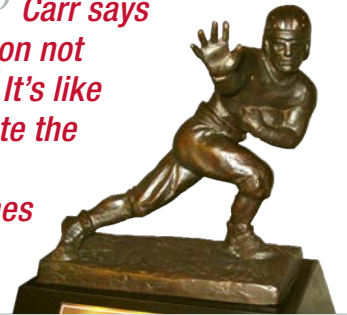


But, deep down, Carr knows he's going to battle for more than those 100 or so teammates. He's playing for that 10-year-old boy locked away in his memories. The one who sat in Bulldog Stadium and watched his role model and older brother David lose in the final seconds on that October night in 2001. The loss killed any hope of a BCS bowl game and a Heisman Trophy for David.

Derek remembers calling in to a radio station that year, in tears, pleading that his big brother deserved to win the Heisman.

Memories like that don't fade, and there's only one opportunity left to follow in the footsteps of his big brother and accomplish all of the things that 2001 team couldn't.

"It's amazing," Carr says with the season not yet started. "It's like someone wrote the perfect book, and here comes the ending."



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A PITCHING PIPELINE TO THE MAJORS

by Eddie Hughes



Matt Garza pitching against the Oakland Athletics.

Cary Edmondson

MATT GARZA, SP TEXAS RANGERS

9-6, 4.06 ERA, 128 SO, 39 BB



2003-05: Fresno State

Honors: Western Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year (2005)

2005: Drafted by Minnesota Twins (Round 1, Pick 25)

2006: MLB debut with Twins

2008: Traded to Tampa Bay Rays

2008: Earned ALCS MVP, started Game 3 of World Series

2010: Pitched first no-hitter in Rays history

2011: Traded to Chicago Cubs

2013: Traded to Texas Rangers

TANNER SCHEPPERS, RP TEXAS RANGERS

6-2, 2.05 ERA, 49 SO, 22 BB, 1 SV



2006-08: Fresno State

Honors: WAC Pitcher of the Year (2008), first-team all-WAC (2007-08)

2009: Drafted by Rangers (Round 1, Pick 44)

2012: MLB debut with Rangers



DOUG FISTER, SP DETROIT TIGERS

12-9, 3.67 ERA, 141 SO, 42 BB



2005-06: Fresno State

Honors: ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District Team, first-team all-WAC

2006: Drafted by Seattle Mariners (Round 7, Pick 201)

2009: MLB debut with Mariners

2011: Traded to Detroit Tigers

2012: Started Game 2 of World Series



Five summers ago, the “underdogs to wonderdogs” mantra was all the craze as Fresno State charismatically played its way to a baseball national championship.

But calling a Bulldogs baseball team an underdog doesn’t really fit a program with as much tradition as Fresno State has sending players to baseball’s top echelon.

Justin Wilson took the mound for the Bulldogs in the final game of the 2008 College World Series, pitching a gem on short rest and showcasing his professional potential. In 2013, his first full season as a Pittsburgh Pirates reliever with a 100 mph fastball, Wilson was one of four former Fresno State pitchers in Major League Baseball, joining Tanner Scheppers (2008), Doug Fister (2006) and Matt Garza (2005).

Fresno State tied for third among universities with the most alums pitching in the big leagues.

“It speaks a lot for [Fresno State] Coach Mike Batesole,” Wilson says. “Regardless of win or lose, he teaches you the game and prepares you for the next level. And if the next level is not in your future, he’ll make you the best college player you can be.”

That’s a common theme when talking to all the former Bulldogs.

Scheppers, a relief pitcher for the Texas Rangers, was the ace of that 2008 Fresno State team until he was injured just before the end of the regular season and missed the entire postseason. But he battled back from the injury and was chosen in the first round of the 2009 Major League draft. Scheppers said that competitiveness is common among former Fresno State players.

“Batesole does a really good job of breeding winners,” Scheppers says. “I saw that competitive drive from a lot of players coming out of Fresno State. They’re just Bulldogs, coming out wanting to compete, wanting to win.”

Garza, a first-round draft pick of the Minnesota Twins in 2005, has proven his ability at the highest level. He earned MVP honors in the 2008 American League Championship Series when he was with the Tampa Bay Rays. Garza started Game 3 of the 2008 World Series, allowing four runs and six hits in a no-decision. He was traded halfway through the 2013 season by the Chicago Cubs to bolster the Texas Rangers starting rotation.

Fister started Game 2 of the 2012 World Series for the Detroit Tigers, allowing just one run and four hits in six innings in the eventual 2-0 loss. Fister says taking the mound that day was a whirlwind of emotions.

“It was a very special moment, realizing what was going on and what it meant,” Fister says. “There were a few moments when I had to take a minute to look around and soak in the unbelievable feeling of being on a stage doing something that I love.”

Fister’s career path is a unique one in a baseball landscape where standout college players often turn pro after their junior years, as Wilson, Scheppers and Garza did. Fister had the same opportunity. He was drafted by the New York Yankees in the sixth round in 2005 but chose to return to Fresno State to complete his liberal studies degree and play his senior season.

“It is something I am very proud of, standing my ground and continuing on the path of education, growing closer to where I needed to be,” says Fister, who was an ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District selection his senior year. “I try to help by giving back to the kids, by telling them my story and giving them insight into what my journey has taught me and how it may pertain to their lives.

“I love seeing the local kids get the chances they deserve, whether it’s in sports, education, theater or any aspect or talent that a child can show.”

Fister, the son of former Bulldog football player Larry Fister (1976-77), makes his offseason home in Merced, where he grew up. He was back in Fresno in February to be inducted into Fresno State’s Dugout Club Wall of Fame.

“Being a Bulldog is much more than a name,” Fister says. “It’s being part of a great tradition and it’s such a great honor to be a ‘Dog. Being an inductee to the Wall of Fame was such a humbling experience, and it’s something I attribute to the many great teammates and coaches I had. None of the achievements I have had the opportunity to be a part of would have happened without those great men.”

Producing Major Leaguers is nothing new at Fresno State, which tallies 36 collegiate All-Americans and 13 first-round MLB draft picks, including outfielder Aaron Judge, a 2013 New York Yankees draftee.

Garza credits another one of those first-rounders, 1991 NCAA Player of the Year Bobby Jones, with giving him a memorable piece of advice. Jones, who made the 1997 All-Star Game with the New York Mets, was later an interim assistant coach for the Bulldogs when Garza was a sophomore struggling to control his fastball.

“He told me to quit messing around and just throw the darned thing over the plate,” Garza says. “I threw a shutout my next start.”

The impressive lineage of pitchers at Fresno State also includes San Francisco Giants bullpen coach and former standout player Mark Gardner (1985), first-round pick and World Series winner Jeff Weaver (1998), and first-rounders Ben Fritz (2002), Steve Soderstrom (1993), John Hoover (1984) and Dick Ruthven (1972).

“When you come from a school with a lot of pro athletes, it feels good to say, ‘Yeah, I went to Fresno State and I represent it,’” Scheppers says. “It speaks for the talent in the program.”

Wilson, a communications/criminology major who grew up going to Fresno State games with his dad and still lives in his native Clovis in the offseason, says the confidence he gained from his team’s 2008 College World Series championship gave him momentum starting his pro career.

“That dog pile on the field, I don’t think you can top that really,” Wilson says, remembering the postgame celebration. “It was an unreal experience; absolutely outrageous support we got from the city of Fresno and all around. I can speak for every one of those players on that team: they’ll remember it forever.”



JUSTIN WILSON, RP
PITTSBURGH PIRATES
6-1, 2.15 ERA, 55 SO, 26 BB

2006-08: Fresno State

Honors: Started and won Game 3 of the 2008 College World Series

2008: Drafted by Pirates (Round 5, Pick 144)

2012: MLB debut with Pirates





STUDENT PROFILE

RICHARD ALONSO-LAZARO

Major: Criminology

Year: Senior

Hometown: Clovis, Calif.

Info: Richard knows firsthand how hard it can be for disadvantaged kids — he grew up in the foster care system and at one point was homeless. But today he balances his criminology classes with hundreds of hours of volunteer service. Along with his Pi Kappa Alpha (PIKE) brothers, Richard is accomplishing amazing things for children in need.

Helping kids and communities:

“This past spring PIKE hosted a Mud Volleyball tournament raising money that we donated to Fresno State revitalization. We were also able to partner with Old Navy to provide new shoes to children in need who live around the Fresno State campus,” he said. “I didn’t always have a lot of support growing up but there were those special people who helped me along and helped me get where I am today. Now I want to help other kids and be that positive support for them.”

He’s awesome: Richard received the Pearson Prize Award last summer. That honor gave him the opportunity to achieve his goal of having his very own strength and conditioning gym. He will provide personal training classes for no charge to children who are in foster care.

His plans for the year: “I am in the beginning stages of writing a book related to my experience growing up in the foster care system.”

— Juana Mosqueda



THE TOP DOG

ALUMNI AWARDS GALA

FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

THANK YOU TO THE 2013 SPONSORS:

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED TO THE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT!

The Fresno State Alumni Association is proud to award more than \$125,000 in student scholarships this year. Students are selected based on academic achievement, financial need and service to the community. The Fresno State Alumni Association leads all of the 23 alumni associations of the California State University in annual student scholarship giving.

**WELLS
FARGO**

FRESNO STATE

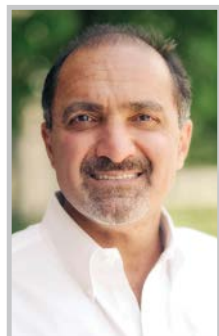
Office of the President
University Advancement
Alumni Association



THE TOP DOG

DARIUS ASSEMI

A MODEL OF COMMUNITY BUILDING



Fresno-area developer, farmer and community leader **Darius Assemi** (1983) is the 2013 Top Dog Distinguished Alumnus Award winner – the highest honor presented at the Fresno State Alumni Association's Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala each fall.

Assemi says he wants to improve the well-being of people in our community by promoting positive change, and he puts his money where his mission is.

Assemi and his family have been instrumental in residential, agricultural and commercial development since the 1970s after emigrating from Iran. The Assems are helping re-imagine and re-invigorate downtown Fresno and have set the wheels in motion to build a pharmacy college and other for-profit health care colleges on a campus near Fresno.

The Assemi family has made its mark on the community through its annual Home of Hope drawings that have raised millions benefitting Fresno State and other organizations. The Assemi-established Fresno Islamic Cultural Center is a model of interfaith understanding.

He has also been part of the American Overseas Relief effort that helped open a hospital in war-ravaged Afghanistan.

Omel Nieves (1983) **LIFE**, a lawyer in Southern California, and **Dennis R. Woods** (1969) **LIFE**, a banker in Fresno, are the 2013 co-winners of the Arthur Safstrom Service Award, honoring their volunteer leadership in the Campaign for Fresno State.

The efforts of Nieves and Woods, along with other volunteers and Advancement Division staff, helped the campaign take in more than \$214 million – exceeding the \$200 million goal to help sustain Fresno State's mission now and in the future.

Recognized as Outstanding Alumni at the 2013 Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala:

- **Ruben V. Castillo** (1994) (Kremen School of Education and Human Development), senior director for the Migrant Education Program, Region IV, Fresno County Office of Education.
- **Enrique E. Figueroa** (1973) (Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology) a former U.S. Agricultural Marketing Service administrator, now an animal science professor at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and director of its Roberto Hernández Center.
- **Carole Goldsmith** (1991, '05) (Graduate Studies) president of West Hills College in Coalinga and a member of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.
- **Kirk D. Grimes** (1980) (Lyles College of Engineering) group president for supply chain at Fluor Corp., a professional services and project management corporation.
- **Nancy Hollingsworth** (1982) (College of Health and Human Services) the president and CEO of St. Agnes Medical Center.
- **H. Anthony Marquez** (1985) (College of Arts and Humanities) Los Angeles bureau chief of the Associated Press news organization.
- **Henry R. Perea** (1974) (College of Social Sciences) a longtime elected official who chairs the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.
- **Carissa Phelps** (2002) (Student Affairs) nominated for her work as an author and speaker focusing national attention on child trafficking.
- **Tim Rios** (1993) (Craig School of Business) an executive with Wells Fargo bank and member of the James Irvine Foundation board of directors.
- **Ken Schmidt** (1964) (College of Science and Mathematics) a hydrogeologist and recognized expert on water resources in the Sierras.
- **Sandra "Sandy" (Speers) Stubblefield** (Henry Madden Library) a longtime university benefactor.
- **Kevin Sweeney** (1987) **LIFE** (Athletics) a record-setting Bulldogs quarterback, National Football League player, now a Wells Fargo bank senior vice president.

An important part of any Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala is the \$125,000 in Alumni Association scholarships to students based on academic accomplishment, financial need and community service. Fresno State leads the 23-campus alumni associations in the California State University in student scholarship giving.

ALUMNUS, FARM BUREAU CEO **JACOBSEN** LEADS AG ONE

by Lanny Larson

Paying it forward to the Valley farm community in which he grew up and also to Fresno State, **Ryan Jacobsen** (2002, '04) **LIFE** honed his business acumen, agricultural skills and leadership talents. And in recognition of those talents, the Fresno County Farm Bureau CEO has been named president of the Ag One Foundation.

“It’s a tremendous privilege to lead an organization that has contributed to so many students’ lives, including mine as a past scholarship recipient,” says Jacobsen. “Ag One has a rich history with many of the region’s agricultural leaders and innovators.”

Established in 1979, the Ag One Foundation has raised more than \$16 million in endowed funds and provided scholarships and grants to more than 3,250 students of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

Jacobsen, one of those beneficiaries, is deeply rooted in Fresno County agriculture in the Easton area, which has been farmed since the 1870s. He’s a fourth-generation farmer on both parents’ sides, and he is following in their footsteps of active involvement in agricultural events and issues.

Already an accomplished student at Washington Union High School (founded in 1892 and Fresno County’s oldest high school) and planning a career in agribusiness, Jacobsen enrolled at Fresno State. He earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science in 2002 and a master’s in business administration (entrepreneurship emphasis) in 2004, winning Dean’s Medalist recognition at both commencements.

Jacobsen served two terms as Associated Students, Inc. president at Fresno State. He was president and secretary on the Council of President’s Scholars, an officer in the Pre-Veterinary Association and active on the student executive council and as the student member of the curriculum committee.

At Fresno State, he was active in the Golden Key National Honor Society, California Young Farmers and Ranchers Club and Fresno County Farm Bureau, and was assistant ranch manager of his family’s J&L Vineyards.

After leaving campus, Jacobsen continued to farm and became the Farm Bureau’s issues and membership coordinator. He was promoted in 2006 to executive director/CEO. The Farm Bureau represents 4,700 members on a range of environmental, labor, water supply, land-use, crime and other issues in the nation’s richest agricultural county.

He is a director of the Fresno Irrigation District and active on the Business Advisory Council of the Craig School of Business and Easton Lions Club. He served on the community group updating new Fresno State President Joseph Castro about the region.

Jacobsen married **Ashley DeBenedetto** (2003) **LIFE** in 2005, and they are the parents of Maverick Laub Jacobsen, born in 2011.

“My experiences as a student at Fresno State were life-changing and set me on the path to where I am today,” Jacobsen says. “Supporting the university is an important part of my life to ensure that today’s students can continue to reap the many benefits that were once offered to me.”



Cary Edmondson

OTHER ALUMNI SERVE AG ONE



Fresno State alumni also joining Ag One’s executive board are **Jason Karr** (1998, '05) of Derco Foods, as vice president, and **John Migliazzo** (2007), a lawyer, as secretary. New to the board are alumni **Aaron Attebery** (2001) of Green Leaf Farms and **Don Parreira** (1980) of Ultra Gro.

Harwell brothers

model success to at-risk youngsters

by Lanny Larson

With new Fresno State degrees in hand, Byron Harwell (Mass Communication and Journalism) and brother Brent Harwell (Criminology, law enforcement option) spent the summer of 2013 working on the next stage of their journey from foster care to college success to helping others follow their lead.

Graduating from Chino Hills High School in Southern California, the Harwells accomplished what only half of foster care youth are able to accomplish. They are among only 3 percent of former foster-care children who earn college degrees.

Now, they want to help other disadvantaged children beat the odds, so they've enrolled in Fresno State's Master of Science in Student Affairs and College Counseling program, planning to counsel students before and after they get to college.

The brothers' childhood didn't predict success. They were homeless for a time, had a gambling-addicted mother, struggled in a big family (there are nine Harwell siblings) spread between California and Indiana, made multiple moves, repeatedly missed school and seldom had enough money.

One result, Brent Harwell told an ABC 30 reporter, "I didn't know how to read or write or do math, and that was really tough for me growing up."

Byron Harwell remembers being asked to read aloud in sixth grade: "I tried sounding it out and it just wasn't happening. The kids were laughing at me. They probably didn't know what was going on, but it hurt."

The Harwells were in foster care for two years before their older brother gained legal custody and they began attending school full time in Southern California. Brent was diagnosed with a learning disorder and held back a year, putting the brothers in the same grade.

After high school graduation, Brent wanted to live in the San Joaquin Valley and play football for the Bulldogs. "I wanted to be with Brent, so I decided to come here," Byron says. "Plus, I heard that Fresno State has great school spirit, and I wanted to go to a college that had that."

Once at Fresno State, the football dream didn't pan out, but the Harwell brothers benefitted from the Renaissance Scholars Program aimed at helping students with foster care backgrounds.

Byron says the program "helped me grow into the leader that I am today." It paid for an internship and helped him build an on-campus network and add to his résumé.

He worked for Upward Bound, mentoring more than 70 high school students and maintaining records of all student contacts and reports. Byron says he guided students in math, English, science and social-cultural studies workshop sessions. He also recounted his life story to encourage them.

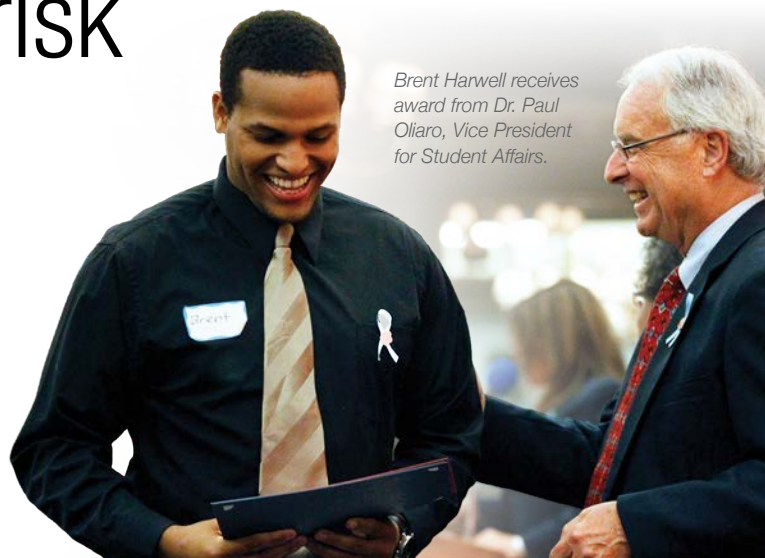
Byron was a resident assistant for Renaissance Scholars and student adviser for the Educational Talent Search, which reaches out to first-generation, low-income high school students.

"I love the feeling when students would come tell me that they got a good grade on a test or in a class because of what I said to them," he adds.

"I was able to talk to a lot of students every week, and I began to love the field of counseling," he says. "I am not a doctor but I was saving lives. I realized that counseling was meant for me."

Both Harwell brothers are grateful for Fresno State opportunities.

Brent Harwell receives award from Dr. Paul Oliaro, Vice President for Student Affairs.



Brent Harwell says he got help from multiple Fresno State programs:

- Renaissance Scholars provided "academic advising, [guidance on] my own personal life issues, grants for my cost of living and networks for the internships I completed."
- Summer Bridge "helped me get to know the campus, with counselors guiding me to take the right G.E. classes" and to complete six units before his first semester to jump start his academic success.
- "Services for Students with Disabilities helped me with first priority in adding classes and getting help in my classes with note taking," he adds.



"The staff, faculty and professors were willing to help me succeed. I encourage all foster youth to not only follow my footsteps but to do it better and become positive example for other foster youth," says Byron.

"I can't thank Fresno State enough for the help it has offered me, including my education," Brent says. "When I get the chance, I advise any youth to get the help they need and don't be afraid to chase their dreams."

Outside of class, the Harwells continue to be engaged in helping at-risk youngsters — Byron, through the Renaissance Scholars Program, and Brent through 2nd Home Inc., which helps give youngsters skills to get out of custody and into foster care or family homes.

CLASS NOTES

1940s

Elaine Mason (1947) a professor emerita of physical education was honored for lifetime tennis achievements by the Fig Garden Swim & Racquet Club in Fresno.

1950s



Elvin C. "Chuck" Bell (1959) received the Florida Panhandle's Significant Sig Award, Sigma Chi fraternity's highest award for professional service and civic leadership.



Hon. Armando Rodriguez (1959) **LIFE**, retired Fresno County Superior Court judge, received the Fresno County Bar Association's Bernie Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award.



Jerry Tarkanian (1955) former Bulldogs men's basketball coach, was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

1960s

Dr. Edward Diener (1968) a University of Illinois professor, received an American Psychological Association Distinguished Scientist Award for scholarship and research.

Larry Duncan (1969) became chairman of the board of Duncan Enterprises, a Fresno-based creative crafts company.



Augie Garrido (1961) the Texas coach, was inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame in Omaha.

Morris Proctor (1967) a trucking company operator and farmer, was grand marshal of the Kings County Homecoming celebration.

Doug Yavanian (1967) **LIFE** was selected to serve on the 2013-14 Riverside County Grand Jury.

1970s



Lynne Ashbeck (1977) became Clovis mayor for a second time.



Diane Chambers (1974) a veteran actor, appeared in the SyFy monster/disaster movie sendup "Sharknado."

Edmund D'Arcy-Clarke (1973, '77) was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart and Prisoner of War Medal for World War II Army service.

Rohan Fernando (1978) an Iowa State University professor, received the American Society of Animal Science's Rockefeller Prentice Memorial Award in Animal Breeding and Genetics.

Maree (Mundelius) Hawkins (1971) was named one of Stanislaus County's Outstanding Women of 2013.

John Ledbetter (1975) a grape grower, was recognized by Notably San Joaquin for major contributions to Valley agriculture and the community.

Linda Penner (1978) Fresno County chief probation officer, was appointed executive officer of the Board of State and Community Corrections.

Jim Ringelman (1975) conservation director for Ducks Unlimited's Great Plains region, received the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's International Canvasback Award.

1980s



Mark Astone (1988, '00) **LIFE** owner of Catalyst Marketing, received the Agency of the Year Award from the Fresno Advertising Federation.

Geri Derbyshire (1989) was named chief development officer for the American Red Cross' Connecticut and Rhode Island region.



Brad Fischer (1981) **LIFE** a past-president of the Fresno State Alumni Association, was named vice president and operations support manager of Premier Valley Bank.

Carol Hartman (1984) a landscape painter in Butte, Mont., was named 2013 Woman of the Year in the Arts by the National Association of Professional Women.

Stan Louie (1988) **LIFE** received the Selma District Chamber of Commerce Community Spirit Award.

Dave Martin (1983) co-founded Nettra Digital Marketing.

Christine Maul (1982, '97) a Fresno State professor of communicative disorders and deaf studies, was appointed to the Future of the State Developmental Centers Task Force.



William McDonald (1984) was named chief of the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Department.



Monica Nino (1985) was appointed San Joaquin County administrator.

Don Rhoads (1985) was appointed Canyon City chief financial officer and director of administrative services.

Luke Serpa (1985) a civil engineer, was named Clovis public utilities director.

Amy Shuklian (1987) the mayor of Visalia, was grand marshal of Fresno's annual Rainbow Pride Parade.

Kevin M. Smith (1988, '92, '01) was appointed Fresno State Winery's business and marketing manager.



Thomas Watson (1986) was appointed South Lake Tahoe city attorney.

Kathy Weststeyn (1981) was the Ceres Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Woman of the Year.

Aleta Wolfe (1980, '88) a Fresno State career counselor, received the H. Sanford Gum Award from the California Internship and Work Experience Association.

Rob Yraceburo (1984, '90) was appointed to head Wells Fargo bank's National Food and Agriculture Division.

1990s

Frank Barajas (1991) a history professor at California State University, Channel Islands, was the honorary marshal at that university's 2013 commencement.

Darryl Booth (1998, '00) was appointed president of Fresno-based Decade Software Co.



Larry Farnsworth (1998) **LIFE** was named communications director for U.S. Rep. Lee Terry, R-Neb.

Tim Foster (1992) was appointed College of the Sequoias Foundation director.

Tara Gomez (1998) is general manager of the new Kitá Wines in Santa Ynez.

Betsy Hays (1991, '99) a Fresno State professor of mass communication and journalism, was elected to the Public Relations Society of America's College of Fellows.

Wil Hooker (1997) was appointed coach of the American Basketball Association's Fresno Griffins.

Pete Nolan (1992) a senior Riverside County deputy district attorney, was the California District Attorney Association's Outstanding Prosecutor.

Vidal Perez (1993) was hired as winemaker at J. Wilkes in Santa Maria.

Gary Quintana (1999) a wrestler, was inducted into the Selma Athletic Hall of Fame.

Peter Robertson (1992, '95, 2005) **LEGACY**, Fresno State director of alumni marketing and engagement, was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Jimmie Soto (1999, 2001) was appointed by Gov. Brown to the state Independent Living Council.

Dora Westerlund (1996) was chosen CEO of the Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

2000s

Rick Chavez (2001) was selected Fresno County's chief probation officer.



Erica Henry (2008) an assistant at Grambling State University (Louisiana), was selected as women's basketball coach at Fort Valley State University (Georgia).

Rob Hoyt (2008) was appointed men's basketball coach at Columbia College in Sonora.

Ryan Joneson (2006) of Nettra Digital Marketing received the Fresno Advertising Federation's Ralph E. Brown Award.

Kent Karsevar (1994, 2012) a senior development director at Fresno State, received the John Grenzbach Award for Outstanding Research in Philanthropy for Educational Advancement by the national Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

Jesse Katz (2007) winemaker at Lancaster and Forth estate wineries in Healdsburg, was named to the 40 under 40 list compiled by Wine Enthusiast magazine.

Jeff Macon (2012) was named manager of the Technology Commercialization Program of the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Jess Martinez (2006) a veteran law enforcement officer, was inducted into the Kings County Professional Latin-American Association Hall of Fame.



Geoff Martzen (2001) was hired as Brigham Young University's coordinator of football player personnel and on-campus recruiting.

Matthew McGee (2010) was presented the James MacArthur Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Resident Play at the Helen Hayes Awards.

Edward Moreno (2005) was appointed the Monterey County public health officer.

Anastasia Petukhova (2001) and **Laura Pola** (2012) launched *GetMeATeam.com*, which helps high school athletes get recruited by college coaches.

Andrew Robinson (2002) an assistant women's basketball coach, was promoted to men's basketball coach at Imperial Valley College.

CLASS NOTES

Chad Spencer (2005) was named Bulldogs men's golf coach after coaching Nevada's women's team.

Oscar Torres (2003) of Ramos Torres Winery in Kingsburg received a gold medal at the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition for 2010 temperanillo.

James Tyner (2003) was named Fresno's inaugural poet laureate.

MISCELLANEOUS

(Graduation/attendance record dates unknown)

Craig Bronzan, Brentwood parks and recreation director, was a Liberty Union High School District (Brentwood) Graduate of Distinction.



Paul George of the Indiana Pacers was the National Basketball Association's Most Improved Player and played in his first All-Star Game.

Gabriela Mello was named Wells Fargo community development officer for Kern, Kings, Tulare, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

CURRENT STUDENTS

Greg J. Chavez was named general manger of C.O.R.E. Sports Nutrition in Fresno.

Daniel Clark was elected California State Student Association vice president of legislative affairs.

Michael Eberhard received the North American Intrafraternity Conference Undergraduate Award of Distinction.

Anthony Mosely was inducted into the Selma Athletic Hall of Fame for his football exploits.

Stephanie Nash was chosen by the California Milk Advisory Board (Dist. 8) as its dairy princess.

Gurbhupinder Sahota, Estevan Gutierrez, Tamar Karkazian, Ray Caldwell and **Genesis Del Bosque** founded the Fresno Language Project while trying to break a record for languages spoken in a video.

Ryan Woods received a Williamstown Theatre Festival apprenticeship, National Partners of the American Theatre Classical Acting Award and an invitation to perform at the Shaw Festival in Canada.



BULLDOG 'PUPS'

Todd Graves (2003) and **Claudia Graves** (2002) welcomed a son on May 16.

Rob Robinson (2009) and **Amanda Robinson** (2002) welcomed a daughter on Jan. 29.

Fatih Yenen (2006) and Bilhan Yenen welcomed a daughter on May 23.

MARRIAGES

Derrek E. Becker (2009) and Ryan Gallego, May 25, in Portland, Ore.

Roseanna Ferroggiaro (2000) and **Matt Horton** (1993, '95), Jan 19, in Fresno.

Thomas Gaffery (2004, '09) and **Shane Strickland** (2009), July 8, in Fresno.

Michael Grissom (2002) and **Summer McGowen** (2006) April 27, in Tulare.

Myndi Hardgrave (1993) and Arriana Hernandez July 1, in Visalia.

Garlyn Hollingshead (2003, '06) and **Gerald Rude** (2010, '12), July 7, California.

Lisa Lopez (2003) and Kurt Jasso June 8, in Visalia.

Eric Maul (1992) and Joseph Belpasso June 28, in San Francisco.

Vincent Ricchiuti (2005) and Ashley Gunlund May 25, in Carmel.

Dolly Silveira (2010) and Brook Justin, July 10, in Fresno.

Kathleen Smith (2012) and **Spencer Carr** (2013) June 15, in Visalia.

Garrett Stroup (2008) and Angie Bazzano Oct. 13, 2012, in Tracy.

ALUMNI IN EDUCATION

Fresno State's founding mission of training teachers continues in the university's 103rd year.
Continuing that mission:

Zachary Boswell (2007) named assistant principal at West High School in Tracy.

Scott Cory (1997) named superintendent of the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District.

Renee DeCanio (1998) of Selma High School received the Bob Burton Spirit Award at the California Association of Directors of Activities area convention.

Alfonso Gamino (1992) appointed the inaugural superintendent of the Santa Paula Unified School District in Ventura County.

Joe Hendrix (2004) hired as principal at Nuestro Elementary School in Live Oak.

Paula Heupel (1988) appointed Merced Unified School District director of curriculum and categorical programs.

Steve Martinez (2012) chosen as Twin Rivers Unified Schools superintendent in North Highlands.

Dorothy McDonald (1971), a retired teacher in Corcoran, chosen Kings County Homecoming queen.

Jerimicha "Jeremy" Powell (2006) **LIFE** selected as superintendent of the Sequoia Union Elementary School District in Lemon Cove.

Leonard Ramirez (1960) was a Fresno County Office of Education Teacher of the Year for his work with adult students with intellectual disabilities.

His brother, **Manuel Ramirez** (1978), a 7th-grade science educator in Lamont, was the Kern County Department of Education's Teacher of the Year.

Jeff B. Schmidt (2003) named boys basketball coach at Bullard High School.

Robb Young (1975), Hanford High School's longest-serving educator, retired after a 35-year career.

RETIREMENTS

Fred Bologna (1972) director of the "New Wrinkles" annual productions at Fresno City College.

Bob Cooper (1974) economic and redevelopment manager for Henderson, Nev.

Mike Foley (1967) planning director of Maui County, Hawaii, and a geography professor at Maui Community College.

Dan Hemesath (1960) after 31 years as a commercial photographer in Clovis.



Manuel Jimenez (1973) a small-farm adviser in Tulare for the University of California Cooperative Extension.



Lanny Larson **LIFE** from Fresno State's University Communications after 50 years in journalism and strategic communications.

Manuel Lopez, San Joaquin County administrator for 11 years.



Larry Powell (1971) Fresno County Office of Education superintendent and a 40-year educator.

Robert Speer (1965) after a journalism career that included 30 years as editor of the Chico News Review.

Angelo Stalis (1970) from ABC 30 in Fresno after 43 years, much of it as a weathercaster.



Mike Watney (1979) after 34 years as the Bulldogs men's golf coach.

BULLDOG BOOK CLUB

Looking for something to read?

Here are recent works by Fresno State alumni for your reading list:

Lee P. Brown (1961) "Growing Up to be Mayor" (BGI Press/\$17.95)

Stephanie Carroll (2008) "A White Room" (Unhinged/\$14.99)

Jim Escalle (1983) "Unforgotten Hero: Remembering a Fighter Pilot's Life, War and Ultimate Sacrifice" (Traylor House/\$16.95)

David Fitzgerald (1989) "The Complete Heretic's Guide to Western Religion – Book One: The Mormons" (CreateSpace/\$14.99)

James A. Herrick (1976) "After the Genome: A Language for Our Local Biotechnical Future" (Baylor University Press/\$39.95), cowritten with Michael J. Hyde

Raymond Ibrahim (1999, 2002) "Crucified Again: Exposing Islam's New War on Christians" (Regnery/\$27.95)

Doug Krikorian (1965) "Between the Bylines: The Life, Love and Loss of Los Angeles' Most Colorful Sports Journalist" (History Press, \$21.99)

Christopher R. Martinez (2009) "Ashes in the Fall" (Amazon Digital/99 cents)

Sylvia Ross (1969) "East of the Great Valley: The Story of Merab McCreary" (Bentley Avenue/\$17.95)

Daniel Silva (1983) "The English Girl" (Harper/\$27.99)

The following letter from an alumnus after receiving the fall 2012 FresnoState Magazine speaks for itself:

As a very proud Fresno State Bulldog journalism alum (1971), FresnoState Magazine [Fall 2012 issue] is the finest publication I have received from the university. The contents are informative, entertaining and exceptionally composed.

Ironically, I had contacted the Fresno State Alumni Association office in 2010 and 2011 regarding the cost of membership for seniors living outside of the Central Valley [because] our opportunities to attend events is “distance-limited.”

I was informed there were no exceptions: I could either pay by the year or buy a lifetime membership. End of conversation.

My greatest joy reading the magazine was the discontinuation of dues and that every student – present or past – “automatically is considered a member of the Alumni Association.” I believe this policy change will only enhance alumni participation in all avenues.

Living in Los Angeles, I regularly wear Fresno State apparel promoting both the university and the Bulldogs. Our reputation in Los Angeles is stellar, and everyone I come in contact with says one message:

“Fresno State should have been selected for the Pac-12!”

I took it upon myself, with the assistance of Peter Robertson, our outstanding director of alumni marketing, to get this accomplished during the Pac-12’s recent expansion plans. I contacted Pac-12 headquarters in Walnut Creek and was able to obtain an email address for the commissioner.

We posted “Fresno State in the Pac-12” and received more than 15,000 hits requesting action. Although we were not invited, our efforts drew significant attention from Pac-12 headquarters regarding our enthusiasm and perseverance.

Now that we’re in the Mountain West, I firmly believe our conference will rival the Pac-12 in all sports and fare far better. I also look forward to receiving the next outstanding edition of the FresnoState Magazine!

Bulldog Pride Forever! – David N. Mitzman



IN MEMORIAM

Ken Adamske (1956)
June 2, in Fresno.

Alan Lee Allen,
March 16, in Fresno.

Bandar Alodahi (2013)
June 7, in Merced.

Judith M. (Keown) Anderson
(1961) July 18, in Upland.

Raymond C. Baker (1961) **LIFE**,
April 24, in Fresno.

Robert Benneyan (1943)
May 23, in Fresno.

Leonidas Bersentes (1933)
May 17, in Fresno.

Richard Braun (1966)
June 11, in Fresno.

Laura Ann Brenner (1983)
May 6, in Fresno.

Charles Raymond Chaney Jr.
(1932), May 15, in Riverside.

Steven W. Chow (1955)
March 27, in Fresno.

Florence “Polly” Connor (1940)
LIFE, May 15, in Fresno.

Dr. Curtis C. Darby (1944)
March 12, in Bend, Ore.

Donald B. Diebert (1955)
April 15, in Fresno.

Richard Stanley Dixon (1954)
July 19, in Newport Beach.

Roberta Jean Duffy (1979)
May 27, in Fresno.

Robert Emerzian (1960)
April 4, in Fresno.

Helen Lynn Esajian (1968)
June 25, in Fresno.

Morrell Fitch, June 28,
in Lakeport.

Dorothy Jane Fox (1979)
April 24, in Modesto.

Thomas D. Gerhart (1962)
Dec. 25, 2012, in Florida.

Eva Marjorie Goodgame (1950)
June 23, in Crescent City.

Kathryn Ann Haas (1973)
July 24, in Visalia.

Jean Heckadon (1948)
April 22, in Hughson.

Stephen Hiraoka (1972)
May 14, in Fresno.

Fredrick J. Johnson (1991)
March 20, in Napa.

Reynold L. Johnson (1968)
July 15, in Fresno.

Bob Kazanjian (1971)
May 5, in Fresno.

Ellery Kirkbride (1946)
March 16, in Hanford.

William C. Laughlin (1966)
July 27, in Stockton.

John Lawton III (1991)
March 11, in San Francisco.

James Ledford (1962)
May 23, in Fresno.

Ellen Lohmeier (1974)
June 19, in Fresno.

Marian James Lopes (1942)
July 3, in San Luis Obispo.

Irving Lurker (1948)
May 11, in Fresno.

Katherine (Kudenov) Malone,
May 20, in Fresno.

Virginia H. Martin,
June 7, in Fresno.

Elaine Marion McCullough
(1981), April 23, in Fresno CA.

Nancy Lee McNeil (1953)
April 12, in Fresno.

Milenda Meders (1957)
May 27, in Madera.

Peter G. Mehas (1962)
September 28, in Fresno.

Keith Miller (1947)
July 7, in Santa Cruz.

**Margaret Arletta
(Snow) Mingle** (1935)
May 10, in Fresno.

**Lyla Joan Tilston Brewer
Monpere** (1981)
April 24, in Fresno.

Edward T. Moran (1948)
April 5, in Los Osos.

Dean Morse,
July 5, in Fresno.

Susan Nelson (1969)
April 17, in Clovis.

Daniel Okamura (1977)
June 6, in Fresno.

Karl Joseph Oyer (1952)
May 22 in St. Charles, Mo.

Christopher T. Peepe (1970)
May 15, in Crescent City.

James B. Perez (1966)
April 15, in New Orleans.

Melvin Phillips (1950)
June 7, in Fresno.

Earl Rocca (1951)
March 31, in Fresno.

Judi Slayton,
May 23, in Fresno.

Mary Stutzman (1971)
June 10, in Fresno.

Lucille Vlahos (1942)
June 21, in Fresno.

Paul G. Wasemiller (1947)
LIFE, April 2013, in Fresno.

James Wright (1971)
March 21, in Fresno.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Bonnie Jo Bevans,
July 11, in Fresno.

James Cruz-Crossbuck,
Feb. 23, in Fresno.

Charlotte Dishian,
June 26, in Fresno.

Sharon Eagle,
April 2, in Portland.

Nancy Louise Mundy,
March 16, in Fresno.

June Paldi,
June 10, in Fresno.

Russ Perry (1982)
April 15, in Fresno.

Darlene Stewart (1971)
March 26, in Medford.

Peroza Torosian,
April 7, in Fresno.

Lelia McCain Veaco,
April 18, in Stockton.

G. “Vishu” Viswewaran,
March 30, in Pinole.

Melvin Whealen,
June 3, in Fresno.

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Moses Menchaca, President, Associated Students Inc.
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Fresno State Alumni Association

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FSAA CONTACTS

California State University, Fresno
Smittcamp Alumni House
2625 E. Matoi Way SH124
Fresno, CA 93740-8000

Telephone: 559.278.2586
Fax: 559.278.6790

www.FresnoStateAlumni.com



STUDENT PROFILE

MONIQUE MARIE BIENVENUE

Major: Agricultural Communications

Year: Senior

Hometown: Downey, Calif.

Info: She's outstanding! Monique won the 2013 McClure Outstanding Chancellor of the Year Award for her leadership in the Alpha Zeta's Cal Epsilon chapter.

She's pumped about it: "I put a lot of time and effort into creating a more unified and focused chapter that will appeal to future ag majors."

City girl naïf to ag evangelist: "Growing up in L.A., I didn't learn much about agriculture and that seriously affected how I viewed agricultural industries and the policies behind their actions. Moving to Fresno I quickly learned how things were done and why. Now I want to share that with people in urbanized areas."

She's social: Monique manages social media for Central Valley California Women for Agriculture and the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and is senior chair of the Press Corps committee for the California FFA.

— Juana Mosqueda



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