

The background of the entire cover is a photograph of a football player from behind, walking away from the viewer down a long, dark tunnel. The tunnel's walls are lined with rows of wooden bleachers, creating a strong sense of perspective that leads to a bright light at the far end. The player is wearing a dark jersey and a red helmet with a white 'V' logo. The overall mood is one of determination and focus.

FRESNO STATE

MAGAZINE

HOW

ATHLETICS

HELPS THE UNIVERSITY

THRIVE

Let's be **BOLD!**

Nine months have flown by since I became president of Fresno State, and as Commencement nears — the university's 103rd and my first here — I am thrilled with our new and continuing projects underway.

I have been challenging students, faculty, staff and administrators with a simple phrase — **let's be bold!** Their response has been tremendous. Throughout the campus there is communication and collaboration, new ideas and new twists on old ideas, suggestions and solutions. Excitement and anticipation abound.

One of the initiatives I proposed when I started this past August is well on its way to implementation. Our Fresno State tablet program — DISCOVERe — will launch with 40 faculty fellows incorporating tablets in the classroom to teach 1,200 students from freshman to graduate level. It's an aggressive initiative to break down the digital divide and rethink educating tomorrow's leaders, and I'm proud that Fresno State is ahead of the curve.

As the cover story in this edition suggests, the success of Fresno State's athletics program is providing us an opportunity to reach more students, their parents and community members with information about the university's excellent academic programs. I have no doubt that Fresno State's academic and athletic programs can — and will — rise together.

Will you join us and get engaged or continue your connection with Fresno State? Together, let's be bold and make every day a great day to be a Bulldog!



President Joseph I. Castro





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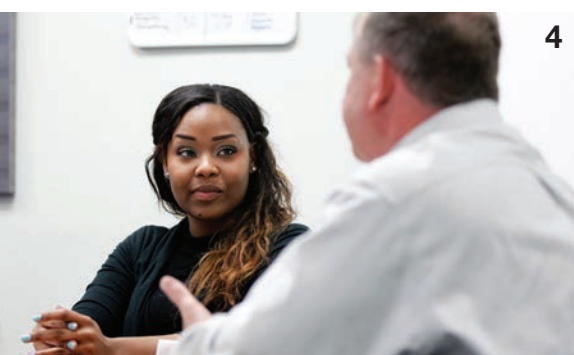
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Stay in touch!

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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.

Front and back cover photos: Cary Edmondson

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CRACKING THE FUTURE *of the* PISTACHIO INDUSTRY

Private support brings specialized researcher to Fresno State

by Kathleen Schock

When Dr. Timothy Spann arrives on campus this summer, his goals will extend far beyond the walls of his classroom in the Department of Plant Science. As the first to hold the Rodger B. Jensen Endowed Professorship in Pistachio Physiology and Pomology, Spann is tasked with a deceptively simple goal — help farmers do more with less.

This professorship was made possible by a \$1.5 million pledge last year from the California Pistachio Research Board to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. This gift paves the way to bring Spann to campus to conduct advanced research and education for the pistachio industry.



Cary Edmondson

As the first to hold the endowed professorship, Spann will bring his expertise to help solve industry challenges while training the next generation of agricultural professionals. The position will focus on applied research in pistachio physiology and teaching courses in pomology, the science and practice of growing fruit.

Currently, Spann works as a research project manager for the California Avocado Commission. He holds a doctorate in plant biology from UC Davis and master's and bachelor's degrees in horticulture from University of Florida.

The pistachio industry has long been Spann's passion. His doctoral research was focused on the architectural development of the pistachio tree canopy. And when he relocates to Fresno, Spann will find himself at the heart of the industry. According to American Pistachio Growers, California produces 99 percent of the nation's pistachios, and of California's production, 97 percent comes from the Central Valley.

Spann starts on campus in August 2014 and will work closely with the pistachio board to prioritize his research.

"My approach to research is to do things that help make the growers more productive and able to do more with the resources they have available," Spann says.



When the gift establishing the endowed chair was announced last year, board chair and pistachio grower Tom Coleman said it comes at a pivotal time for the industry. "During the past 20 years the California pistachio industry experienced rapid growth, and we have relied on researchers from across the state. Unfortunately many of these academic researchers recently retired or will retire soon.

"Fresno State is the ideal location with respect to our growers. It is one of the top agricultural universities in the country and is deeply committed to supporting the agricultural community," Coleman said.

The California Pistachio Research Board comprises pistachio producers dedicated to researching pistachio propagation, production, harvesting, handling and preparation for market. The board also provides educational opportunities and material for pistachio growers. They named the endowed professorship after industry leader Rodger B. Jensen, the first president of the Pistachio Association and owner of S&J Ranch.

While this research will be vital to the industry, it is just one component of Spann's mission at Fresno State. As a teacher and adviser his focus also will be to connect students to leaders in the agricultural industry. "I'm very much looking forward to getting to work with students," he says.

Spann says he jumped at the opportunity to come to the Jordan College and work with students as they train at the 1,000-acre farm laboratory, of which 25 acres are dedicated to pistachios. "This position is something I've waited a long time for, and I can't wait to get started."

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



Filling a Void

University takes a team approach to making counseling services available to all

by Kathleen Schock

Tucked away in a non-descript strip mall in central Fresno is a place so treasured by Maira Martinez she can scarcely describe it.

“For me it’s family. It’s passion. It’s commitment,” Martinez says. “It’s a labor of love that has been my baby for so long. I’ve seen it grow from the ground up, seen all the hard work that the students put in I can’t really put it in words.”

The place Martinez struggles to define is the Fresno Family Counseling Center. Operated through the Kremen School of Education and Human Development at Fresno State, the center has been giving graduate students an opportunity to gain clinical experience in marriage, family and child counseling since 1985.

But a short conversation with any of the center’s students or faculty reveals that it’s so much more.

“There is just an incredible passion here,” says Dr. Christopher Lucey, who directs the center and supervises students. “There is just so much potential in this place that it makes my head spin.”

The Fresno Family Counseling Center provides low-cost counseling services to the public with a staff of up to 90 graduate level Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) student trainees, 20 post-graduate registered MFT interns and a team of licensed marriage and family therapists who are faculty in the Kremen School.



Cary Edmondson

Dr. Christopher Lucey, who directs the center, discusses recent counseling sessions with students.



Above: Marriage, Family and Child Counseling students Eric Rosen, Marcela Segura and Noralyn Marano monitor a session.

The sessions are videotaped and monitored by licensed supervisors, enhancing the quality of counseling for patients and providing immediate and intensive training for student therapists. Lucey says it's a system that maximizes student learning while providing great benefit for clients. "When you come here you're paying for one therapist, but you're really getting seven."

By the end of this academic year the center is expected to have held more than 10,000 sessions. Two-thirds of the clients are considered impoverished and cannot be served by the local mental health system because of county budgetary constraints or other barriers to access.

"The work we do here is important to our students who are getting an incredible clinical experience, but it's also so important to the community because many of our clients have nowhere else to go," says Dr. Kyle Weir, a supervising faculty member in the counselor education program.

While clients are expected to pay for their sessions, the fees are on a sliding scale. Lucey says that contributing financially to treatment, even if it's as low as one dollar, encourages ownership and accountability.

"We serve a lot of low-income families and we have the skills, techniques and experience to really make a difference in their lives," says Xee Thoa, who has spent two-and-a-half years with the center and is now applying to doctoral programs. She says her personal background has profoundly influenced the work she is doing through the center.

REACHING THE COMMUNITY

Thoa is the oldest of six children. Her parents are Hmong refugees from Laos. "When I went into the MFT program I was confused about mental health because it wasn't something that was talked about in my family or in the Hmong community," she says.

Looking for a way to educate and engage her community in mental health issues, Thoa partnered with Stone Soup, a Fresno-based organization that supports Southeast Asian refugee families. Thoa established a summer program for adults on parenting issues, and a program for teenagers that discussed identity, relationships, emotional well-being and coping skills.

"There is a real lack of research about Hmong mental health needs," Thoa explains. "Fresno Family Counseling Center allowed me to be innovative and creative in how I worked with and engaged my community."

Martinez, who started with the center as a student and now works as the program manager, is also committed to destigmatizing mental health care. "I want to educate the community that mental health care is not for 'crazy people.' It's a tool that can help everyone."

In 2010, Martinez provided "Placticas," a program that provided mental health outreach at food distributions in rural Fresno and Madera counties through a Kaiser Family grant with Fresno Family Counseling Center and Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission. Counselors would talk with people as they waited in line and refer them to group sessions they held throughout the San Joaquin Valley on depression, anxiety, parenting and relationships.

When funding for that program ran out, Martinez says the students and faculty continued to volunteer for an additional year because they understood the value of the outreach. "I've never seen that kind of passion in any other group that I've worked with. We're just a jewel in the community. I want everyone to know about the work we are doing so we can continue to grow."

RELYING ON PRIVATE SUPPORT

Dr. Harry Moordigian, a retired Fresno dentist and alumnus of Fresno State, is a major donor to the Fresno Family Counseling Center. "Mental health issues need to be addressed, one way or another," he says.

Dr. Moordigian has a long record of supporting the university, but his passion for the Fresno Family Counseling Center grew from a letter written in Armenian that he discovered three years ago. After having the document translated, Moordigian learned that it was letter to his father, written by his mother shortly before her death from breast cancer at age 33.

"My parents were survivors of the Armenian genocide," Dr. Moordigian explains. "Through this letter I learned that in addition to my paternal grandfather, my mother's father had also been killed in the genocide when my parents were very young." He says she was able to escape to America and start a family, but died of cancer when Moordigian was just 3 years old.

"This letter is how I finally met my mother. And when I realized what she went through without any counseling, it just tore me apart."

Moordigian shared the letter with faculty at the Fresno Family Counseling Center and learned that his mother likely suffered from depression. "I said to myself, 'OK, I want to support what they are doing for the community in memory of my parents.'"

Private support is critical to the center, which operates on a shoe-string budget. The center's 12 counseling rooms are furnished with hand-me-downs from campus, the walls were painted by student volunteers and the small staff is constantly looking to stretch its budget to maximize its reach.

While the staff says the financial constraints are a constant struggle, it is well worth the effort. "Coming here is like coming home to my second family," Martinez says. "This is soul work."

ACADEMICS

AND

ATHLETICS

**BOLDLY RISE TOGETHER
AT FRESNO STATE**

by Eddie Hughes





Derek Carr earned Academic All-America and athletic All-America honors in becoming Fresno State's all-time leading passer.

It was one of the coldest football games ever played at Bulldog Stadium. The temperature chilled to 34 degrees by the time No. 24 Fresno State wrapped up a 24-17 win over Utah State in the inaugural Mountain West Conference championship game. Purple and black confetti sprayed through the cold, night air as thousands of Fresno State fans poured out of the stands to celebrate with the team at midfield.

But this isn't just a sports story. It's about more than that. It's about the role of athletics within a major university and how tapping into the passion of the community can define the university's future.

The Red Wave fell in love with the 2013 Fresno State football team during its 10-0 start and climb toward the top of the national rankings — the same way the community rallied around the 1998 softball team and 2008 baseball team as they each won national championships.

It has been said that Fresno State athletics are the “porch light” of the university — a shining beacon of school spirit that gets alumni, prospective students, community members and donors interested and excited about what's happening on campus.

Through successful athletics programs, Fresno State can shed light on some of the notable academic work happening as well. This past season, Fresno State had 11 nationally or regionally televised football games.

“Each time we play on ESPN, they come back from commercials and show our vineyards, our agriculture or our water institute. Those things show people that Fresno State is a leading institution when it comes to those disciplines,” says Thomas Boeh, Fresno State's athletics director.

“In essence, it becomes a three-and-a-half-hour commercial for Fresno State.”

11 **NATIONALLY AND REGIONALLY TELEVIEWED FOOTBALL GAMES IN 2013**

Fresno State football games are the only events with the potential to bring more than 41,000 community members to the same place, at the same time, dressed in their Fresno State colors and proudly representing their university — while potentially millions tune in across the nation.

First-year Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro declared that he wants academics and athletics to excel together — and early signs are encouraging.

“From my early days transitioning to the presidency, some people presented academics and athletics as an ‘either-or’ to me, and I believe that's a false choice,” Castro says. “I know some people love one or the other more, but they are both so important to the university, community and Valley. I want academics and athletics to rise together, and I want us to invest more in both areas.”

continued

Former Bulldogs football players donated room in the Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center

“Many practical things are learned through the hard work you must put in to be a successful college athlete. Learning how to be responsible, hard-working, show good character and deal with temporary setbacks are just some of the things athletes learn in college. Lance and I believe athletics are a very important piece of the successes of the university as a whole.”



— JEFF THIESEN

Jeff Thiesen and Lance Dueker

UNIVERSITY INTEREST FUELED BY ATHLETICS

The university can't say for certain how much student interest in Fresno State has been driven by recent success of the athletics programs, but data show an almost 7 percent increase in freshmen applications and about 15 percent increase in graduate applications over the past year.

With a record 23,060 students enrolled at Fresno State this past fall, there's no doubt interest in the university is growing. In a survey sent to the 3,227 first-time freshmen (another record) who were accepted, 90 percent said Fresno State was their top university choice.

Demand for admission was so strong this past fall and last year that the university had to turn away 3,000 fully eligible first-time freshmen, yet still accommodated all eligible applicants from the Valley.

"Most would agree that a rising tide raises all ships," Boeh says. "Athletics and academics on a campus not only fit together, intercollegiate athletics is woven into the fabric of higher education in the United States. It's very much part of the culture."

Informal research shows the national exposure generated by athletics has also boosted the university's attractiveness to potential faculty and staff.

"Fresno State is hot right now," says Jamie Ferrare, managing principal of the AGB Search firm that has handled several of the university's recent national searches for president, provost and vice president.

"People are recognizing what Fresno State is doing and part of that is the athletics program. People want to be part of a positive environment."

Ferrare, whose firm handles 80-100 searches a year, says good candidates do their homework when applying for a position, and seeing the university in national news headlines and on television is a plus.

425+

STUDENT-ATHLETES
IN NCAA SPORTS



7%

INCREASE IN FRESHMEN
APPLICATIONS OVER
PAST YEAR

15%

INCREASE IN GRADUATE
APPLICATIONS OVER
PAST YEAR

Fresno State was featured on the front page of the Los Angeles Times on Nov. 21 with a subhead stating, "The Bulldogs of Fresno State are unbeaten and perhaps unmatched for fan pride among college teams in California."

A full-page graphic in the Wall Street Journal this fall illustrated where all 125 major-college football programs rate on and off the field. The programs are ranked athletically (from "weakling" to "powerhouse") and academically (from "embarrassing" to "admirable"). Fresno State was one of just 32 programs in the "admirable-powerhouse" quadrant of the chart.

Ferrare says, "When we ask, candidates say Fresno State has really good publicity of late, partly because of the football program. They say how exciting it seems to be a part of a community like that."

A 2012 University of California, Berkeley study provides further evidence there could be a tight-knit link between athletics success and a boost in academic prestige. The study found that winning football games leads to an increase in student applications, a rise in SAT scores of incoming students, increases in alumni donations and an overall enhancement of the school's academic reputation.

"That first entrée to campus could be at the Downing Planetarium or a science fair, but it could be at a football or basketball game, too," Boeh says. "People look around and say, 'Well maybe I can belong here, too. Maybe I should aspire to be a college student.'"

Castro says as a kid growing up in Hanford, he first learned about Fresno State in the 1980s while watching its powerful men's basketball program under former coach Boyd Grant.

"The athletic programs provide an opportunity to engage for all sorts of people, young kids and families who aren't touched by the academic part of what we do," Castro says. "I watched the NIT championship on my grandmother's black-and-white television. I didn't know anything about the academics at Fresno State at that time, but I knew about these basketball players who were college students and I thought, 'How great is that?'"

FRESNO STATE facebook



UNIVERSITY

46,000+ Likes

www.facebook.com/FresnoState

ATHLETICS

47,000+ Likes

www.facebook.com/FresnoStateAthletics

SOCIAL MEDIA HYPE MACHINE

Perhaps nowhere is it more evident how athletics can generate interest in the university than on social media. The university's official Facebook page has about 46,000 likes. The page predominantly shares major academic news and accomplishments at the university, but also shares sports news to help build school spirit.

It's no surprise the biggest surge in likes this past year came between September and December — football season — with more than 4,000 new likes.

"Sports are what energizes people," says Dr. Tamyra Pierce, Fresno State's director of social media and integrated marketing. "Every football post that we put up got huge numbers. And we saw similar results with women's basketball and some of the other fan favorites."

FALL 2013 UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT

23,060

(ALL-TIME RECORD)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

600+

(ALL-TIME RECORD)

FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN

3,227

(ALL-TIME RECORD)

The athletics department's Facebook page — which has about 47,000 likes — shared news of the Fresno State equestrian team's win over No. 2 Baylor in February, generating 752 likes, 45 shares and 33 comments.

And Twitter showed similar results. In July 2013, during summer break at Fresno State, the university's official Twitter handle (@Fresno_State) generated 285 retweets. Fast forward to November 2013, during the height of Fresno State football's rise in the national rankings, and there were 3,255 retweets.

"We were trending worldwide on numerous occasions on Twitter," Pierce says. "Facebook was exploding. We even had sports bars on the East Coast and in New York tweeting us saying, 'It's going to be a late night on ESPN, but we're watching.'"

FRESNO STATE twitter



@Fresno_State

12,000+ Followers

@FSAthletics

13,000+ Followers

A WINNING TRADITION ACROSS THE BOARD

Though much of the recent national attention has been generated by a winning football program, Fresno State has a history of success across the board athletically. The baseball program is just five years removed from its captivating "underdogs to wonderdogs" run to win the College World Series, and the softball program won the school's first team national title in the 1998 Women's College World Series.

But perhaps no program on campus has made a bigger rise to prominence over the past decade than women's basketball. The team has won its conference tournament title six of the past seven seasons and earned seven straight NCAA tournament berths.

"When we win, our fans and donors continue to grow in their support of Bulldogs athletics," says second-year women's basketball coach Raegan Pebley, who led Fresno State to Mountain West tournament championships in its first two years in the conference. "They are investing in student-athletes' futures and future championships."

So what comes first, support or winning? Boeh says it works both ways — while winning can fuel ticket sales and donations, those things are needed in order for a program to win. "We're getting ambitious and bold with our aspirations," Boeh says.

"We need to capitalize on the success we've had. In college athletics, if you look to be average you're going to lose. Everything we do, whether we have the resources or not, every thought has to be, 'How do we win championships?'"

Right now, part of that thought process is upgrading facilities. In addition to the recent projects in the Student-Athlete Village, Fresno State is working to complete construction of its 1,000-seat soccer/lacrosse stadium and break ground on a new two-story, 22,000-square-foot faculty and coaches office building near Bulldog Diamond.

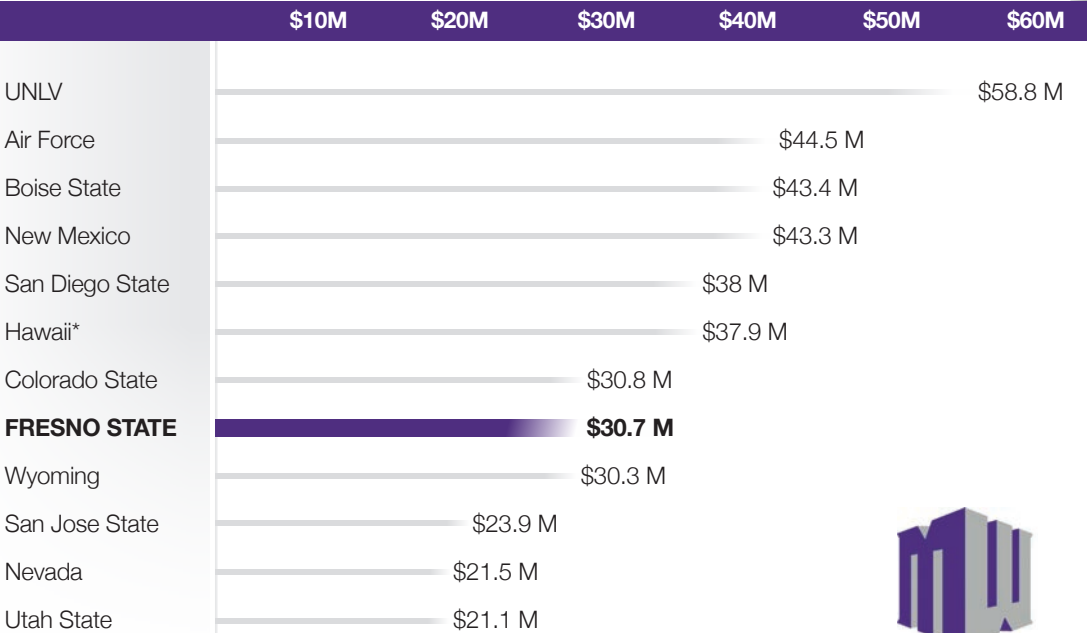
There's never a shortage of needs, but resources are often the biggest challenge. Fresno State's athletics revenues of \$30.7 million rank just seventh in the 11-member Mountain West (eighth if including Hawaii, a football-only member). UNLV, which tops the conference, boasts revenues more than \$28 million larger than Fresno State's. Yet, Fresno State has won back-to-back Mountain West football championships in its first two years in the conference, as well as two women's basketball tournament titles.

"To have sustainable success, we will need to invest more," Castro says. "It's the same way I look at academics — to raise our academic profile, we will need to invest more."

And with sustainable success, comes growth. The university is investigating the feasibility of reinstating the once-top 10 men's wrestling program after it was cut in 2006 due to budget concerns. Castro has identified the men's wrestling program and a new women's sport as areas he'd like to see investments in from the university and private supporters.

continued

MOUNTAIN WEST ATHLETICS REVENUES



*Hawaii is a football-only member of the Mountain West.



"Students (athletes or not) attend the university to get an education, better themselves, become productive members of society and hopefully give back to their local community. The athletic department allows a tremendous opportunity to bring marketing and exposure to the university and put the institution on the national map."

- DAN BUSHEY

Women's basketball
Hoop Club president,
Bulldog Foundation
board member



THE NEED FOR PRIVATE SUPPORT

The UC Berkeley study showed that a one-win increase at that university during a football season translated to 104 additional applications for admission and \$74,000 in increased giving to athletic programs.

At a university like Fresno State, where private support is the only way to compete on a national level, the benefits of a successful sports season go a long way.

"We're going to need more support to be able to continually play at this level and be able to maintain a sense of competitiveness," Boeh says, "because the rest of the industry is moving very, very quickly."

Fresno State is doing its best to keep up. In September, the university opened its new \$6 million, 10,000-square-foot Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center, featuring hydrotherapy pools, rehabilitation equipment, treatment and diagnosis space and a nutrition education area. The facility will impact the physical well-being of all 425 Fresno State student-athletes and serve as a cornerstone to Fresno State's Student-Athlete Village, designed to centralize sports medicine, academic counseling and strength and conditioning.

The project was made possible by a lead gift from Marvin Meyers, a Fresno State alumnus who established an innovative water banking project in the late 1990s and has become an educational resource for water conservation. Meyers' involvement with the university has since extended beyond athletics, as he now serves on Castro's recently formed Presidential Commission on the Future of Agriculture.

"He's just as excited about how we're going to strengthen agriculture as he is about athletics," Castro says.

Castro says it's increasingly common for the university's top supporters to be involved with both academic and athletic programs.

Christopher Morse and Ken Wittwer, who own local accounting firm Morse, Wittwer, Sampson LLP, provided a major gift for the Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center and the lead gift to remodel Fresno State's strength and conditioning center — another project that touches all student-athletes and impacts recruiting. Morse and Wittwer also support the Craig School of Business and the Fresno State Alumni Association.

"It's a way to give back to our community in a far-reaching way — the ability to provide student-athletes with a great education and the facilities to reach their professional goals," Morse says. "The majority of our student-athletes don't go get a paycheck in their sport, but they get a degree and become great members of this community."

While these major gifts have the ability to spark transformation and propel the university to new heights, there are a variety of other ways to support Fresno State. And it might be as simple as going to a game, contributing to the annual fund or joining a booster club for \$50.

Dan Bushey, president of the Hoop Club and Bulldog Foundation board member, latched on to the women's basketball program 10 years ago and used it as a way to spend quality time with his daughter, who was 6 years old at the time. "We really enjoyed the games together," Bushey says. "She became a ball girl that season, and I started to get more involved."

Donated lead gift to remodel strength and conditioning center, donated room in Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center



Christopher Morse and Ken Wittwer

"We want to give back to the community and this is the way to do it. When Fresno State does well, our whole community gets a shot in the arm. There's more Bulldogs T-shirts, more Bulldogs flags flapping on people's cars, it's just a sense of pride. It helps the image of Fresno State and the Central Valley."

— CHRISTOPHER MORSE

Fresno State has also expanded efforts to reconnect with student-athletes from years past and make sure they feel a lifetime link to their alma mater.

In February, Fresno State hosted its fifth annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day, honoring the many Fresno State female student-athletes and coaches who helped pave the way for today's enhanced opportunities for women. The university has also arranged alumni weekends for various sports and recognized past players and teams by bringing them back to campus, such as the 1983 NIT men's basketball champions.

Wes Lovell, a Bulldogs golfer from 1996-2001 who's now a Valley-based home mortgage consultant, says he felt it was his responsibility to support Fresno State after graduating because the university supported him.

"I would encourage everyone to do whatever they can within their means to support Fresno State athletics and academics, whether it is financial support, attending athletic events or spreading the good word," Lovell says. "The better Fresno State does athletically and academically, the better the Central Valley becomes."

"Without athletics, many Fresno State student-athletes may not have a chance at college and a better future. Athletics makes that dream a reality for those who want it. I want to contribute the best I can so we have the best student-athletes possible to compete at the highest level in the nation in the classroom and in sports."



— WES LOVELL

Former Bulldogs golfer,
Fund for Excellence
donor for men's golf



MERCHANDISE SALES

\$1,500,000
\$1,000,000
\$950,000
\$900,000

JULY-DECEMBER 2011	\$939,142
JULY-DECEMBER 2012	\$903,592
JULY-DECEMBER 2013	\$1,668,521

BLACKOUT GEAR SALES

T-SHIRTS	7,793
STICKERS	2,025
SWEATSHIRTS	1,259
RALLY TOWELS	1,167
MINI HELMETS	800

GROSS SALES
\$250,000



GETTING IT DONE IN THE CLASSROOM

In the fall 2013 semester, Fresno State student-athletes earned a cumulative 3.11 grade-point average, outperforming the general student population at the university. And during the past year, 132 Bulldogs earned Academic All-Mountain West honors.

STUDENT-ATHLETES CUMULATIVE GPA

3.11

(HIGHER THAN THE
GENERAL STUDENT
POPULATION)

ACADEMIC ALL-MOUNTAIN WEST HONOREES

132

STUDENT-ATHLETES

Redshirt sophomore Charles Washington, a starting safety on the football team, says his mother and grandmother have always pushed him to do well in school and get a degree. "That would be a major thing for my family," Washington says. "Not too many people in my family even made it to college. For me to graduate in four years, that would be something big."

That type of parental guidance is a common theme with some of the university's top scholar-athletes.

"I have always enjoyed learning," says Vonnie Martin, a senior third baseman on the softball team who's studying mechanical engineering. "My parents and grandparents enforced a good work ethic for my classes at a young age, and it stuck with me all these years."

Coach Pebley says student-athletes receive tremendous support and in turn want to make the campus community proud. "The best way we can do that is to model what it means to be a part of Fresno State," she says. "We need to strive for excellence in the classroom and on the floor, as well as give back to our community."

A WELL-ROUNDED, "BRAND-NAME" UNIVERSITY

Giving back to the community is a part of the culture of Fresno State athletics. Fresno State student-athletes volunteered 4,225 hours from July 2013 to February 2014, leading all Mountain West schools for the second straight year. Members of every team on campus often visit hospitals and schools, volunteer at the Bulldog Pantry and help sell newspapers for The Fresno Bee's annual Kids Day benefiting Children's Hospital Central California.

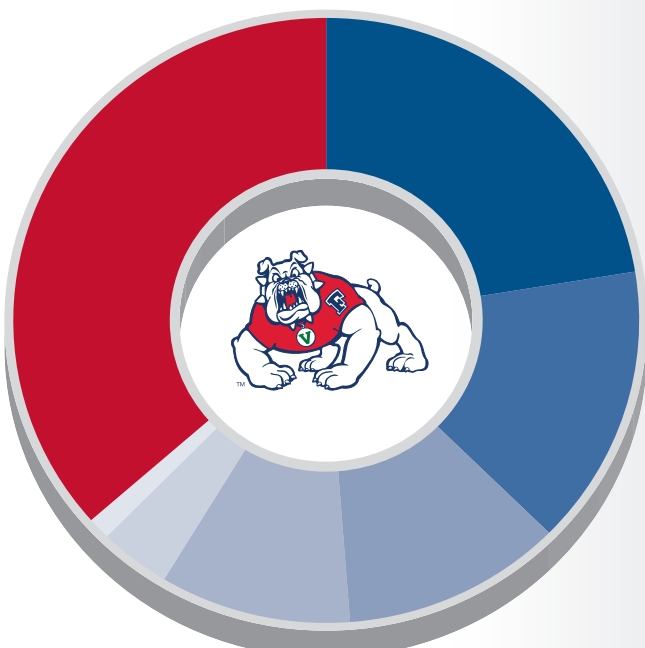
It's part of the overall athletics approach to academics that has grabbed Castro's attention. He believes there are methods and tools that can apply to the university's general student population. "We're starting our Fresno State tablet program to give all students access to technology that can help their education," Castro says. "Student-athletes have had tablets for more than a year, as well as advising resources."

A list of the top 50 public academic institutions in the country, with a few exceptions, mirrors the top athletics programs in the country, Boeh says — whether it's women's volleyball, football or another sport.

Any program on campus, from the Craig School of Business and the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology to the track and field and volleyball programs, contributes to the "branding" of the institution.

"Prestige is prestige," Boeh says. "When an institution stands for excellence, whether it's academics or athletics, it's still excellence."

— Eddie Hughes is the FresnoState Magazine editor.



CURRENT OPERATING BUDGET

Gate Receipts and Guarantees	\$5,900,000
Donations	\$3,940,000
NCAA and Conference	\$3,000,000
Marketing Rights and Commissions	\$2,600,000
Merchandise and Concessions	\$970,000
Other Revenues	\$310,000
Total Generated Revenues	\$16,720,000
Other Support	
University Support and Student Fees	\$9,600,000
Total Operating Revenues	\$26,320,000

Fresno State's equestrian team climbed to No. 8 in the nation in March.



MEET SOME OF

Fresno State's *Scholar* Athletes

These 6 standouts
define what it means
to be a Fresno State
student-athlete

by Eddie Hughes

Sai Nakireddi

Junior, Tennis

3.6
GPA

Hometown	Vishakhapatnam, India
Major	Finance
Career goal	Investment banker
Accolades	Academic All-Mountain West (2013)

“The most challenging class I have taken at Fresno State would most definitely be Business Law. This was a hard class, as I am a foreign student and the class involved terms and laws which were completely different, although it really helped me learn about the various laws in business.”



Fresno State student-athletes recorded a 3.11 cumulative grade-point average in the fall 2013 semester and landed 132 Bulldogs on the list of Academic All-Mountain West honorees.

“I talk about academics and athletics rising together, and that’s my vision for Fresno State, that we continue to see success in the classroom and in the community,” university President Joseph I. Castro says.

“That’s leadership — leading in the classroom, leading in community service and leading on the field or court.”

The six Fresno State “scholar athletes” featured here embody those qualities, attacking their fields of study with the same tenacity as their sports.

Vonnie Martin

Senior, Softball

3.3
GPA

Position	Third base
Hometown	Plano, Texas
Major	Mechanical Engineering
Career goal	Design jets
Accolades	All-Mountain West (2013) Academic All-Mountain West (2013) Second-team All-WAC (2012) Academic All-WAC (2012) WAC All-Tournament Team (2012)

“I have always enjoyed learning. My parents and grandparents enforced a good work ethic for my classes at a young age, and it just stuck with me all these years.”



Cary Edmondson

Kayla Kret

Senior, Soccer

3.3
GPA

Position	Defense
Hometown	Newhall
Major	Biology-Human Anatomy and Physiology
Career goal	Research and development
Accolades	Academic All-Mountain West (2013) CoSIDA Academic All-District VIII (2011) Academic All-WAC (2011)

“In Systematics Biology, we designed our own projects to look at genes and how they have mutated through species. I researched a collagen gene through 20 different mammals to see how the gene has evolved.”



Charles Washington

Redshirt Sophomore, Football

3.2
GPA

Position	Strong safety
Hometown	Encino
Major	Criminology-Corrections
Career goal	Correctional officer
Accolades	Academic All-Mountain West (2012, 2013)

“My mom and grandmother have always pushed me to be my best not only on the field but off the field and get a degree. That would be a major thing for my family. Not too many people in my family even made it to college. For me to graduate in four years, that would be something big.”

Uniform courtesy of Correctional Officer J.M. Rodriguez, Avenal State Prison.



Jake Alvarez

Senior, Baseball

3.3
GPA

Position	Second base
Hometown	Fresno
Major	Communication
Career goal	Sports broadcasting
Accolades	Academic All-Mountain West (2013) Second-team All-WAC (2012) Academic All-WAC (2012) WAC All-Tournament Team (2012)



"There's a satisfaction I get in studying for a test and getting a good grade, as well as in athletics. You practice, and when you go out there and perform in front of others it's kind of the same rush. Inside your head there almost is a crowd cheering."



Cary Edmondson

Marcy Levatino

Junior, Lacrosse

3.8
GPA

Position	Attack
Hometown	Laguna Hills
Major	Nursing
Career goal	Nurse practitioner
Accolades	Academic All-Mountain West (2013) Second-team All-MPSF (2013)

"Coordination between my professors and coaches has been essential, and I am extremely fortunate to be surrounded by people who want to help me reach my goals."



Nadia Lewis

'Barking Bulldogs'

debate team earns national respect

by Juana Mosqueda

Fresno State's "Barking Bulldogs" debate team left some of the country's most prestigious universities in its wake on the way to a No. 11 national ranking.

The team proved its bite was as strong as its bark, defeating Harvard University, Stanford University, University of Southern California, University of California, Berkeley, University of Oklahoma, Arizona State University, Dartmouth and others.



Cary Edmondson

Candis Tate and Sierra Holley

The debate team is offered within the College of Arts and Humanities to engage students in public debate using a variety of formats and to compete in policy debate.

This year's success signals a rebound from tough times. Just 10 years ago the team had to suspend competition because there weren't enough women participating. The Barking Bulldogs were reborn in 2011 and now have 14 members on the team (*including six women*).

Team director and lecturer of communication Deven Cooper, originally from Baltimore, is responsible for all facets of the team effort, from organizing and monitoring communication classes to booking travel plans. Besides coaching the team at tournaments, Cooper recruits students, manages accounts, makes sure dues are paid and heads fundraising efforts.

Cooper is proud of how far the team has come over the past four years.

"Some of my most memorable moments are when debater Sierra Holley and her partner Candis Tate won three of the regional tournaments and made it to the final rounds of a semi-national tournament at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas," he says.

Holley is a political science and Africana studies major. She saw there were not many women on the team and says she joined despite her timid personality. She now dreams of one day becoming a lawyer.

"I joined the team so it could help me improve my speech," Holley says. "I was terrified of public speaking.

"It's intimidating knowing you are in a male-dominated field. A lot of women quit because of this. Sometimes we get harsh comments during rounds, but we always have a lot of support to help us deal with it."

Holley is a big reason the team reached No. 1 in the Pacific District rankings.

At Wake Forest University's Shirley Classic, she helped the Barking Bulldogs beat No. 2 Harvard.

Debater Jamila Ahmed and her partner Nadia Lewis also made history this year. At the Henry Clay Invitational Tournament at the University of Oklahoma, Ahmed and Lewis became the first two African-American, non-traditional speakers to ever receive first-and-second place individual awards.

The feat earned the two students recognition in JET magazine and several online news sites.

Ahmed, a senior majoring in communication, says she was encouraged to join debate because of the opportunities it provided after college.

"I am really glad about the accomplishments of the team this year," Ahmed says.

"We are successfully debating at the national level, and we all joined debate (*for the first time*) in college, which is rare for most debaters."

Holley says the Barking Bulldogs will continue to leave their mark across the nation.

"To know you inspire people in what you have done and achieved makes it worth all the hard work."

— Juana Mosqueda is a University Communications student assistant.



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NEW WIND TUNNEL

will allow breakthrough air quality research

by Steve Olson



Cary Edmondson

A newly-constructed dust tunnel on the Fresno State campus is enabling research to help improve air quality in the San Joaquin Valley and throughout California.

The tunnel will measure water misting as a means of controlling particulate matter caused by agricultural field operations.

Athanasios Alexandrou, associate plant science professor, is leading the work along with support from staff engineering specialists Diganta Adhikari and Patrick Barnes of Fresno State's Center for Irrigation Technology.

“The main objective of this project is to investigate the efficacy of a dust plume suppression system in lab conditions,” Alexandrou says.

Dust raised by agricultural operations carries particulate matter, which can be harmful to humans when inhaled. Alexandrou says particulate matter control in the agricultural industry has been a focus of both local and state air pollution control agencies.

Over the past two years the project team has collaborated with a local industry partner

to test a modified disk designed to spray a water mist during operation. The problem, from a scientific perspective, was the lack of control in field conditions. “By the time we set up to start the mist and measure the effects, the temperature changed or the wind shifted, changing the whole dynamic of the experiment,” Adhikari says.

To achieve reliable data, the team needed a laboratory setting. With no wind tunnel of appropriate size in Central California, the team contracted with Texas A&M University to use a tunnel on that campus. The testing produced important preliminary data, but the long-distance travel and work became too costly and time consuming. With the support of area industry partners and funding organizations, the team decided to build its own tunnel on the Fresno State campus.

“The tunnel offers a high degree of automation, which allows the system to start, stop and record each event automatically, avoiding human error,” Alexandrou says. “The design allows the research team to add various devices and to monitor the particulate matter using a variety of instruments.”

One of the goals of the research is to prove that the misting process can effectively reduce particulate matter. This will require extensive testing under a variety of treatments. It will also provide the research team with solid data for use in developing techniques that will mitigate particulate matter not only for agriculture but potentially for other industries that raise or emit particulate matter into the air.

“The interest for the agricultural industry in this work is significant since the project may provide us with a technique to reduce fugitive particulate matter emissions during disking operations,” Barnes says.

The wind tunnel is housed in the large open laboratory area of the International Center for Water Technology at Barstow and Chestnut avenues on the Fresno State campus. The tunnel boasts a 40 horsepower, three-phase variable-frequency drive electric motor with a blower capable of generating wind speeds up to 25 miles per hour in a three-by-three-foot-square tunnel.

“It feels like a cyclone in there at top speed,” Adhikari says.

Experimental work and data recording will continue over the next year. Partial funding for the work is from the California State University Agricultural Research Institute.

– Steve Olson is publications editor for the California Agricultural Technology Institute at Fresno State.

UNIVERSITY'S PATENT PROGRAM

allows faculty to 'BE BOLD' with ideas

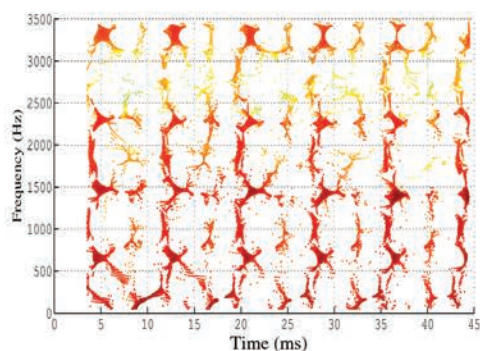
by Lanny Larson

At Fresno State, intellectual property encompasses speaker ID analysis, delaying Alzheimer's disease, new crops for old soil and shrimp control — and each area boasts the patents to protect university researchers' inventiveness.

Through its intellectual property program, the university's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs facilitates the transfer of knowledge, helps faculty members learn about registration and guides applications for patents, trademarks and copyrights.

Dr. Sean Fulop, a linguistics professor, says the program came about after he went through a lengthy and costly patent application program beginning in 2007. Fulop and Dr. Young Kim, an electrical engineering professor, invented a voice-recognition algorithm to determine whether audio samples were spoken by the same person.

The patent wasn't registered until 2011 and has not attracted financial support for further development, Fulop says, although there has been interest internationally in the invention. "Like 98 percent of all patents," he says, "it didn't really go anywhere."



Example of audio sample

However, it became known as Fresno State's first patent.

Dr. Thomas McClanahan, associate vice president for research and sponsored programs, says the intellectual property focus came about because "we decided to fill a need not only in the Valley, but also in the California State University system, and we're making significant strides in these areas in a short period of time."

Patent attorney Grace Liu was hired in 2011 to work on intellectual property issues and on grant applications. McClanahan says Liu has been the catalyst for the university's outstanding progress in this area.

"...change their thinking from being investigators to being inventors."

— GRACE LIU

Liu encourages faculty to make invention disclosures so she can assist them in finding industry or government-agency partners or funding to develop ideas to marketability. Asked about the financial benefits resulting from the first seven patents, Liu suggests that's the wrong question, because Fresno State does not have a licensing program.

Liu says Fresno State's intellectual property program will help attract research investment, expanding opportunities for faculty and students and making more investors and researchers aware of the university's work. But, she says, it will take more resources in her office.

She's optimistic because of Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro's enthusiasm for research and interest in new ideas. At his first Spring Assembly Castro called for "boldness in creativity," then added, "Let's generate new ideas, try new things, push ourselves into new realms."

The intellectual property focus is new in the CSU system, Liu says, with only the Fresno, San Diego and Pomona campuses actively engaged. Liu helps other CSU campuses through consultations, application preparation and education about intellectual property law.

She provides the legal expertise for applications, removing a substantial cost barrier by not having to hire outside counsel, as was necessary for Fulop's invention. Liu also educates Fresno State researchers to "change their thinking from being investigators to being inventors."

Instead of asking "why," Liu says, researchers must ask how they can solve a problem and what can be created. "I'm teaching them to consider what they're doing and what's patentable," she says.

Part of her excitement comes from the variety of inventiveness behind Fresno State's patents.

A year and 13 days after the Fulop-Kim patent, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office awarded a patent to biology professor Brian Tsukimura for an organic chemical composition using a hormone to inhibit the growth of tadpole shrimp. It could be used in manufacturing pesticides for organic-farming practices.

Fresno State and partners Red Rock Ranch of Five Points and the U.S. Department of Agriculture received four patents in 2013 for cultivated varieties of *Opuntia* cactus pears that grow in high-selenium, boron-saturated, water-starved soils. Such conditions exist on the San Joaquin Valley's West Side, where 400,000 acres were taken out of production, causing economic hardship for growers and residents of one of California's most impoverished regions.

Fresno State's most recent patent was issued in January 2014 for a method of slowing or stopping the progress of Alzheimer's disease. Organic chemistry professor Santanu Maitra and research partner Nilay Patel, a cell biology professor at California State University, Fullerton, invented the process based on easily administered organic molecules.

Invention will accelerate at Fresno State with construction of the Jordan Research Center, with research programs across the campus dedicated to resolving regional needs and with new investment by government, private industry and individuals.

"We're starting new conversations about research on campus and it's very exciting," says Liu, who hopes to build on the early successes so Fresno State can meet today's research needs and lay the groundwork for the university's inventors of tomorrow.

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

'Supporting the **STEM** *Career Pipeline*

FROM PRESCHOOL *TO* GRADUATE SCHOOL'





EDUCATING STUDENTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH

by Ashlie Day

Hoots and hollers of excitement filled the room as Fresno State students demonstrated the laws of physics to Alicia Clark's pre-school class at Clovis' Century Elementary School by levitating a beach ball with a leaf blower. It's all part of Fresno State's Physics 168S service-learning course aimed at increasing interest in future science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) students to fill the growing demand.

"What better way to interest future STEM students than making science fun and achievable?" says Fresno State Physics professor Don Williams. "Our best bet at increasing the amount of STEM graduates and occupations is to teach people not to be intimidated by (science)."

Williams' Physics 168S course engages students through hands-on learning and live demonstrations at local pre-K through high schools to generate interest in STEM careers.

"What makes this course different is that you do not have to be a science major to take it — it is open to all," Williams says. "In fact, most of my students now are liberal studies majors wanting to become teachers with a concentration in STEM."

The Mathematics and Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI) is a California State University system-wide effort to increase mathematics and science teaching credentials at each of the CSU campuses to help meet the state's continued need for fully credentialed middle and high school teachers.

The number of single-subject mathematics and science teaching credentials awarded at Fresno State has increased from 25 in 2006, when MSTI was first funded, to more than 90 in 2013, says Dr. Carol Fry Bohlin, Fresno State mathematics education professor, director of Mathematics and Science Teacher Initiative and special assistant to the provost for STEM initiatives.

A Department of Commerce 2012 report found that demand for STEM occupations grew three times faster than non-STEM occupations in the past 10 years. STEM occupations are projected to grow by 17 percent from 2008 to 2018, compared to 9.8 percent growth for non-STEM occupations.

"Fresno State is committed to its role as a highly engaged and collaborative leader in STEM education, supporting the STEM career pipeline from preschool to graduate school," Bohlin says. "The growth we have seen these past few years is just remarkable — and a lot of that has to do with William's vision and passion for his students."

First-year physics student Sarah Kroeker says her favorite part of the class is seeing the reactions of the younger students first hand. "Professor Williams always says that no matter our age, major or

experience, every one of us will walk out of this class feeling confident in what we have learned and be able to teach it," Kroeker says. "And after seeing the impact we have made on these kids, I believe it."

In fall 2013, the class visited 40 different schools: 20 elementary schools, four middle schools, eight high schools, two colleges and six private/charter schools in 11 school districts — Chawanakee, Clovis, Cutler-Orosi Joint, Fowler, Fresno, Madera, Hanford, Island Union Elementary, Merced, Sanger and Selma — plus Children's Hospital of Central California.



Fresno State physics students make ice cream using liquid nitrogen.

Graduate physics student Max Bright has been a part of the program since it began in 2012 with just two faculty members, four graduate and one undergrad physics student. Today, the class has more than 20 students from various majors.

"The growth of the course has been remarkable," Bright says. "Having more students allows for more opportunities to share the fun and beauty of science with those in the community."

Chris Fiorentino, director of Fresno State's Jan & Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, says, "This course is responsible for an incredible contribution to campus outreach and recruitment efforts in STEM concentrations. The Fresno State students involved in this project repeatedly indicate what a positive service-learning experience this has been for them and how it has increased their knowledge and the motivation of many STEM students to go into pre-K-12 science education."

Not only does Physics 168S instill confidence in students, Bright says he also notices a newfound confidence in teachers at the schools they visit. "Seeing the students teach physics principles and concepts to their class reassures teachers that they can teach science too, and that is what we want to teach STEM students."

"On my path to teaching physics, I have found the STEM concentration courses have offered me tools and techniques that I will use in my classroom," Bright says. "For the students that take the course, it offers a fantastic opportunity to go to schools, teach science, gain courage in speaking and teaching and just have a lot of fun."

— Ashlie Day is a University Communications student assistant.

FRESNO STATE'S TABLET PROGRAM

by Shirley Melikian Armbruster



Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro has championed the use of tablets in the classroom since Day 1 of his presidency.

His own iPad is always with him. He swipes, taps, pinches and maneuvers the sleek device with ease. He wants everyone else at Fresno State to become equally comfortable using a tablet. And from that desire was born the tablet program, called DISCOVERe at Fresno State.

The tablet program is at the core of Dr. Castro's bold vision to find new ways of teaching that will engage and challenge students to improve their success in the classroom and the university's graduation numbers. It's an aggressive initiative to break down the digital divide and rethink how to educate tomorrow's leaders.

This isn't a "let's check Facebook and play solitaire" tablet initiative. Rather, it is a well-researched, carefully designed program to harness technology to make learning a rich, multimedia, interactive experience.

"Tablets are a teaching and learning tool that Fresno State will embrace to meet the needs of today's tech-savvy students — those already enrolled and future students from throughout the Valley and state who already are using tablets in K-12 schools," Castro says.

There's a buzz on campus as the first cohort of 40 faculty tablet fellows prepare a fall launch.

"I think using tablets will make class more interactive and exciting, which will enhance student learning and increase participation," says Communications professor Dr. Marnel Niles Goins (*below*). She will teach a small group communication course with the iPad in the fall. The course is a part of the First Year Experience Program, where all students in the cohort are first-generation college students.

"I plan to use a number of new platforms and applications that are available on my tablet to engage students in the classroom and when they're doing assignments," Goins says.



Cary Edmondson



Dr. The Nguyen, (*above*) who'll use his iPad in teaching engineering product design, agrees that tablets will increase student engagement.

"The apps will allow students to experiment with things described in the lectures immediately — for instance, some mechanisms of machines," he says.

"I would like to engage my students more by using current technology. I'd like my students to use tablets for browsing and collecting information, taking notes, doing homework, writing reports and interacting with each other (and professors) in and out of the classrooms."

Faculty fellows are using university-issued iPad Air tablets with a keyboard and protective case. The hardware cost is \$850 each with an option for a data plan.

Students who enroll in their classes may use their own tablets of any brand, or may lease or purchase tablets from the Kennel Bookstore on campus, which is working to offer several choices of affordable devices.

"We selected Apple iPads for the first faculty cohort, but we are building a platform that is agnostic — in other words, adaptable for use with any brand of tablet," says Associate Provost Lynnette Zelezny, chair of the task force that is working to implement the program.

As the faculty receive training this spring and summer on how to prepare classroom materials for iPad delivery, additional cohorts of student and staff tablet fellows will be added.

Plus, infrastructure upgrades will be made in the campus wireless network and in classrooms to support the use of tablets. Help center locations in the Madden Library and elsewhere are being scouted.

Mike Pronovost, a senior business administration major and member of the Tablet Program Committee, says students already have ideas about how they can leverage the devices for better interaction in the classroom and with each other.

"When students have the tablets in their hands, the real creativity will come out," he says.

An assessment component built into the program will provide a clear analysis of the impact of tablets. Four assessments are included: faculty learning, student learning, program measures during the first year and a final assessment at the end of the first year.

Funding for the tablet program is from blended sources of the state general fund, Fresno State Foundation and donor support. A \$1 million technology infrastructure upgrade was already planned.

Castro says it's money well spent. "We are investing in our people and in the education of our students."

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

Student rep on tablet task force brings wealth of experience



Senior Mike Pronovost, 24, a business administration major, lives and breathes technology. A passion since his teens, it's propelled him to start his own businesses, work alongside Fortune 500 companies and accept two invitations to the White House.

As a member of the Fresno State Tablet Program task force, he brings a seasoned student voice to the process, plus a decade of creative, hands-on experience.

He likes Fresno State's leap into the educational tablet world, which has some of the same entrepreneurial spirit that defines his own life.

"The tablet program and the changes we are making at Fresno State to reshape curriculum for tablets put us ahead of almost all universities," says Pronovost.

Pronovost's technology and entrepreneurial journey began at age 16 when he started his first business called Extreme PC Parts. At 17, he was hired in the corporate IT division of a local firm. At 18, he started Powerband Internet, a hybrid compression technology company, and within months was working alongside companies like Verizon, Citrix and Walmart.

In 2009, he launched Pronovost Technology Corp., and within three years employed 25 people worldwide, gave speeches across the U.S. on entrepreneurship and worked on projects to bring broadband to developing nations.

Pronovost was named the 2012 U.S. Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneur of the Year, and at age 22 became the youngest person to make the national Impact 100 list — the country's most successful entrepreneurs under the age of 30 selected by Business Week and the Wall Street Journal.

He has received two awards at the White House and gave a speech there on youth entrepreneurship. He has been invited back to meet regarding national technology, infrastructure and mobile devices.

Pronovost has become increasingly involved with the entrepreneurship program at Fresno State, and this past fall represented the Central Valley in the national Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization competition.

Among his many current ventures is the Student Success Academy, which partners with Ivy League college students as mentors to at-risk high school students. The academy earned \$362,000 in gross revenue its first two years and created 24 jobs nationally.

Also, Pronovost Technologies is spearheading a project to bring tablets, e-books and educational technology to schools and colleges across the United States.

ALUMNA NAMED

Fresno's first female fire chief

by Nathan Fuentez

Newly appointed Fresno Fire Chief Kerri Donis — the first woman to hold the position in the 137-year history of the Fresno Fire Department — says her decision to come to Fresno State and play softball was the best choice she ever made.

Across the nation, it's not uncommon to find female fire chiefs, Donis says. "It's just finally found its time in Fresno."

Born and raised in Moline, Ill., Donis was recruited out of high school to play softball at Illinois State under coach Margie Wright. Soon after, Wright took the coaching job at Fresno State, leaving Donis with a sense of dissatisfaction. "I knew I wasn't going to meet any of my personal or career goals athletically [without her] so I sought her out," Donis says.

Donis transferred to Fresno State in 1987 and played softball until 1990.

"My time at Fresno State was a great experience," says Donis, now 46. "The campus had a very homey feel, a safe, comfortable environment to be in."

She received her bachelor's degree in exercise science at Fresno State in 1990 and earned the Fresno State Alumni Association's Top Dog Alumna Award on behalf of the department of Athletics in 2008.

The Bulldogs finished as the national runner-up at the Women's College World Series each of Donis' three years on the team. Donis says she owes a lot of her teamwork skills to Wright.

Wright guided the Fresno State softball program to the NCAA Women's College World Series 10 times, including a national championship in 1998. "Her record speaks for itself," Donis says. "She was great at what she did and was a great mentor and an extremely good motivator. She pulled the best out of her players."

The two kept in contact after Donis graduated, and their relationship could not be stronger.

Wright, who retired as Fresno State's coach in 2012 and moved back to Illinois, flew to Fresno to see Donis sworn in as fire chief on Jan. 14. "I'm extremely proud of her," Wright says. "I always knew Kerri would do something special."



Kerri Donis has spent 18 years in the department, including a stint as deputy fire chief before being named chief in January.

Wright says she often told her players, "However good you think you are, you can always be better."

Donis says the skills she learned in sports helped shape her career, but she had no idea she would gravitate to firefighting.

After college, Donis became a fitness trainer. A client mentioned that she would make a good firefighter because of her attitude. That client was the wife of the deputy chief of the Fresno Fire Department at the time. The encounter piqued Donis' interest in firefighting, as the similarity to team sports was uncanny.

"You have to be a team player, disciplined, mentally tough, physically prepared," Donis says. "It all lined up."

Donis became an entry-level firefighter in 1996 and worked her way up through the ranks.

Gena Strang-Behrens, a former softball teammate and friend of Donis, says Donis is driven and always did what was best for the team. Strang-Behrens, who is a member of the Presidential Transition Team for new Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro, was also present at Donis' swearing-in ceremony.

"I'm just so proud of her and the work she does," Strang-Behrens says. "I am proud to call her my friend."

— Nathan Fuentez is a community journalism student at Fresno State.

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At Peace in the Peace Corps

by Chhun Sun

A few days before 2014, I found myself wearing three layers of clothing and lying underneath about two tons of blankets inside a walk-in freezer of a bedroom in Azerbaijan. In front of an iPad screen, I was trying to express in words how I got to this very place.

Outside was an unknown world to many people. Just a few feet away, in another house, I could hear my host mom's daughter trying to put her 3-month-old son to sleep with an Azerbaijani lullaby. Jackals were howling into the winter air of my small village near the Georgian border, probably hungry for my host family's chickens and turkeys that were locked up outside. I was cold (*despite a wood-burning stove*) but full from a home-cooked meal and a cup of hot tea. I was well taken care of. I was happily at home.

I could be somewhere worse.
Or somewhere better, for that matter.

Before Peace Corps, I was in a good place in my life. College-educated. Well-experienced in print journalism. Single with no major attachments. A decent salary. A manageable student loan. A reliable car. Supportive family. Good friends. A 401K plan. A solar-powered apartment in San Luis Obispo. A five-minute drive to the beach.

But something was missing.

A year after graduating from Fresno State in 2006, I began seriously researching the Peace Corps. I was looking for an adventure, and the Peace Corps — which started in 1961 during John F. Kennedy's presidency — seemed meant to be.

It felt like falling in love or listening to your favorite band for the first time. I always wanted to live outside of the U.S. as an adult, and here it was: a well-respected, well-known volunteering program that sends people to different parts of the world to live, teach and learn with the locals and in return grants such benefits as medical insurance, student loan deferments and a solid resume-builder.

I'm more than halfway finished with my 27-month service as an English teacher. I can say wholeheartedly that this is the most worthwhile thing I've ever done. I don't regret what I gave up or went through to be here.

I'm a Cambodian-American who was born in a Thai refugee camp in 1981, just two years after my parents escaped the brutal grips of the Khmer Rouge — which, under the ruthless commander Pol Pot, is responsible for the deaths of at least 1.7 million Cambodians. I'm convinced I wasn't meant to be here.

My mom's first husband was murdered by a Khmer Rouge soldier, and my dad's first wife died from malaria. My parents were captured after the Khmer Rouge invasion of Cambodia in 1975 and secretly got married in a slave camp (*since such unions were prohibited by the regime*).

When the Khmer Rouge's rule of Cambodia ended in 1979, my family walked to Thailand. They accepted an offer to go to America while some of our relatives chose to stay behind. We were privileged to be in America because of the opportunities. Our relatives, I'm told, still struggle to maintain their farmlands and often ask my parents to wire money. I could have easily been part of that struggle.

But it wasn't so easy in America, either. In the mid-1980s, we were placed in the Tenderloin neighborhood of San Francisco, where I once witnessed a fatal daytime stabbing as I was walking to the corner Asian market to buy veggies for my mom. After our confidence was shaken by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake that destroyed our modest apartment, my family and I moved to Modesto. This has been our home ever since.

But the problem with growing up in a neighborhood where drive-by shootings, drug dealings and street fights took place was trying to fit in. The temptation to join a street gang was there, since some of my friends and family fell into that trap. But I just knew that was not the life my parents hoped for.

I graduated from high school and attended Modesto Junior College before transferring to Fresno State, where everything changed. I surrounded myself with good, motivated people from Fresno natives to international students. I joined the campus' Cambodian Collegiate Association.

Through various cultural events and activities and connections with a small group of Cambodians, I was reminded to not be ashamed of my upbringing. We all had a purpose. We all had a path. We all had a voice. I kept those thoughts in mind as I worked my way to a print journalism degree, with much of my time spent crafting my voice at The Collegian — the student newspaper.

Fresno State opened a life of possibilities. I remember feeling like I couldn't be tied down or handcuffed after I graduated. I had the freedom to be what I wanted. I had the freedom to go anywhere I wanted.

And here I am, in Azerbaijan.

CLASS NOTES

1930s

Marian (Schrack) Henderson (1938), was selected as grand marshal for the Selma Rotary Marching Band Festival Parade in October.

1960s

Augie Garrido (1961), head baseball coach at Texas, was inducted in the inaugural class of the Omaha College Baseball Hall of Fame. As an all-conference player at Fresno State, he played in the 1959 College World Series. Garrido was inducted in the Fresno State Hall of Fame in 1993; and named an Outstanding Alumnus by the Fresno State Alumni Association on behalf of the Department of Athletics at the Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala in 2002.

Senator Jim Nielsen (1967) and his track and field teammates were inducted in the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame.

Charles L. Renfro (1968) is now an officer for the Pacific Grove Police Department.

1970s



Diana (Bates) Mock (1976) has been named vice president, Advancement and University Relations at Fresno Pacific University. She joined FPU in 2001 as director of communications and university relations.



David Orth (1979) was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California Water Commission.

Brothers **Mike** (1972), **Marc** (1979) and **Rich Schuil** (1982), owners of Schuil & Associates, are celebrating 30 years in the real estate industry.

Carol Tikijan (1973, '85) exhibit, "Draw the Line," was displayed at Gallery 25 in Fresno.

1980s

Angelo Bracco (1982) was named one of five California Teachers of the Year.

Jeff Cardell (1986) was named personnel director for the City of Fresno. He was previously Tulare County's human resources director.



Michelle Chenowith (1987) was named teacher of the year for Madera County.

Greg Clark (1985) was named Napa County agriculture commissioner-sealer of weights and measures. He previously served as assistant agricultural commissioner.



Cynthia Daley (1986), professor at Chico State, was named to the advisory board for The Organic Center, a nonprofit research group in Washington, D.C.

Kristie Jones (1988) was appointed vice president of marketing for Marrone Bio Innovations.

Bret Kofford (1982) is a proud Bulldog now teaching at San Diego State.



Felicia Cousart Matlosz (1982) is the new panorama editor for The Reedley Exponent.



John Neufeld (1989) was named vice president of operations and engineering for the Special Shapes Refractory Co, Inc.

Rich Salvestrin (1987) is the third generation of the Salvestrin Winery, celebrating 81 years of grape growing.

Lawrence Valett (1986) was appointed as the Federal Reserve Board associate inspector general for investigations.

Patrick Wiemiller (1989, '91) is the new administrator for the City of Lompoc. He previously served as director of the City of Fresno's utilities and public works departments.

Sarah L. Williams (1988) is the new chief communications officer for 3M Co.

1990s



Irvin Arroyo (1997, '00) received a \$40,000 USDA scholarship toward his Ph.D. in environmental science at University of California, Merced.

Robert Cargill (1996) Bible expert, is a consulting producer for the History Channel's six-part documentary "Bible Secrets Revealed."



Cary Catalano (1999), CEO and co-founder of public relations firm Catalano Fenske & Associates, has announced his run for Fresno City Council District 1.

Fred Cogan (1996) is now principal at Kingsburg High School.



Scott Cory (1997) is now Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District superintendent.



Dale Engstrom (1993) is conductor of the Kingsburg Community Band and band director at Fresno City College.

Genoveva Islas-Hooker (1991) was appointed to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley by Governor Jerry Brown. She is currently the regional program director for the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program.

Leonard Perez (1992) was named vice president bank loan officer for Bank of the Sierra in Fresno.

Chris Rosander (1997), former rocket engineer, was inducted into the International Space Hall of Fame in the New Mexico Museum of Space History.



Ashley Swearengen (1994, '97), current Fresno mayor, has announced her candidacy for state controller.

2000s



Nicolette Chavez Andersen (2011) was named director of the new Selma Performing Arts Center.

Johnna Byrd (2012) was named junior account coordinator for Marketing Plus.

1st Lt. Brian Campbell (2009) and **Capt. Luc Taylor** (2000) are due home after serving in Herat, Afghanistan.



Tyler Clutts (2007) signed with the NFL's Dallas Cowboys.



Cary Edmondson (2002), Fresno State's university photographer, had his work published on two Sports Illustrated covers in 2013.

Jayson Emerian (2004) founded Trinity Construction in Clovis.



Alejandra Garcia (2013) is now account coordinator at Jeffrey Scott Agency in Fresno.

Kymm Griffin (2012) is a kindergarten teacher at Greer School.

Jacob Gunning (2004) joined the office of Michael Gunning as a certified public accountant.

Kirstie Hettinga (2006) is now assistant professor of communication at California Lutheran University.



Shane Hildebrand (2008) is now Spanish teacher for Chawanakee Unified School District.



Eddie Hughes (2005) was named editor of FresnoState Magazine.

Ryan Jacobsen (2002, '04) has been elected president of the Ag One Foundation at Fresno State. As a student, he was the Associated Students, Inc. president from 2001-2003 and recognized as the Jordan College Dean's Medalist and the Craig School of Business Graduate Dean's Medalist.

Lee Lor (2013) was appointed to the 35th District Agricultural Association, Merced County Fair Board.

Breanne Loyd (2010) was hired as certified trade show manager for Marketing Plus.

William Eric McComas (2003), former attorney, was hired to lead Fresno County's Economic Development Corporation.

Nhia Moua (2013) and three current students founded CarbonForce, a startup hoping to raise \$12,000 to manufacture and sell bottle-opening phone cases.

Kathy Powers (2003), creator of "Hey Kids, Let's Cook!," attended First Lady Michelle Obama's second annual kids' state dinner at the White House, covering the "Let's Move!" initiative to help solve childhood obesity.

Oscar Ramos (2003) is owner of award-winning Ramos Torres Winery in Kingsburg.

Michelle E. Salas (2010) was awarded the U.S. Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration Scholarship for her doctoral studies at the University of Texas Pan American.

Nat Sangha (2000) was hired as independent insurance adjuster for Sams & Associates, Inc.



Matthew D. Shulz (2004, '10) was named assistant director of parent engagement and discovery programs for Fresno State Alumni Association.

Jimmie Soto (2001) was reappointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the California State Independent Living Council, where he has served since 2013.

Devon Thrasher (2013) is now sports reporter for local TV stations KGPE/KSEE.

Alan Wileman (2013) is now reporter for Sierra Star newspaper.

Trent Wilson (2000) was named assistant principal at Del Oro High School.



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C5317

CLASS NOTES

MISCELLANEOUS

Graduation/attendance record dates unknown



Erica Banta is now executive director for the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce.

Will Brown is new principal at Davis High School. He previously served as principal of the junior high portion of Smythe Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Adam Castaneda, president of the Kingsburg Chamber board, is the next executive director of Kingsburg Chamber of Commerce.

Heather Garcia is now Inderkum principal. She was previously principal at Tenaya Middle School in Fresno.

Karl Longley was appointed to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Faiza Jama Mohamed is the Nairobi office director for equality in Kenya since 2000. She previously was a member of the Women's Movement in Somalia and was instrumental in the coalition-building of women's organizations.

Timothy D. Treloar was named vice president of operations for California Water Service Group.

Julie Vlasis was named chief operating officer for the building of Sonoma Community Health Center.



RETIREMENTS

Sandy Stoddard retired after 28 years of service as event planner for American Cancer Society.

Rebecca Wiseman (1975) retired as a 5th District Court of Appeal justice, serving since 1995.

MARRIAGES

Myndi Hardgrave, (1993) and Arriana Hernandez were married on July 1 in Tulare.

Dolly Silveira (2010) married Brook Justin on July 10.

BULLDOG 'PUPS'



Ray and Mayra Elizabeth Caldera (2009) welcomed their third child, Cristian, in June.

Derek Carr (2013), academic All-American and NFF Scholar Athlete, and wife **Heather** (2011) welcomed their first baby boy, Dallas, on Aug. 5.



Josh (2006) and **Michelle (Melikian) Jaccard** (2006) welcomed their first baby girl, Mia Elizabeth, in September.

Sarah (2002) and **Jeffrey Schmidt** (2003) welcomed their first baby boy on Jan. 6.

NEW KFSR
RADIO SHOW

Fresno's Business Street Online "40 Under 40" class of 2013 included 17 Fresno State alumni who were honored as outstanding business professionals in Central California under the age of 40:

Mark Alcorn (1990), **Courtney Bautista** (2004), **Lawrence Clark** (1999), **Ashley De Young** (2011), **Michael Duarte** (2002), **Tal Eslick** (2007), **Tracie Gamoian** (2011), **Megan Jacobsen** (2008), **Jody Ketcheside** (2000), **Casey Lamonski** (2002), **Robert "Beto" Mejia** (2005), **Joanna Odabashian** (1997), **Christine Park** (2006), **Katie Rogers** (2009), **Angela Vega** (2006), **Ian Wieland** (2007) and **Amanda Williams** (2003).

'First Lady's Focus' features Mary Castro

"First Lady's Focus," a new weekly program on Fresno State's radio station KFSR 90.7 FM, is hosted by Mary Castro, wife of Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro.

Co-hosted by KFSR Program Director Julie Logan, the program airs Sundays at 10 a.m. on 90.7 FM and is streamed online at www.kfsr.org.

The public affairs program showcases the personal stories of "people who love Fresno State," Mary Castro says. She and Logan will interview faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni, donors and other friends of the university.

"Since President Castro and I joined the Bulldog family last summer, I have met many people who have a passion for this university. They have interesting backgrounds and stories about how they became inspired to follow their personal dreams. Fresno State played an important role in their success," Castro says.

"I hope through this program to introduce them to the community, so they can share their stories and motivation for being a part of Fresno State's bright future."

KFSR is a member-supported, non-commercial public radio station licensed to and operated by California State University, Fresno. The station broadcasts at 2600 watts and can be heard throughout the Fresno/Clovis metropolitan area, with the potential to reach more than 500,000 Valley residents.



Cary Edmondson

Mary Castro interviews alumnus Marvin Meyers.

FRESNO STATE AND THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY: WORKING FOR CALIFORNIA



With 2.9 million California State University alumni making a difference in the lives of people in California and around the world, the CSU Working for California project highlights leaders in every industry. The Fresno State Alumni Association and the CSU Office of the Chancellor proudly announce Fresno State's 2014 inductees to the project:



Robert Aguilar (1962, BA, education) serves as superintendent for Delano School District. He attended Delano schools in the 1950s and returned as a teacher in the 1960s. His career spans more than 50 years in the education field.



Rosendo Peña (1977, BA, political science) serves as associate justice, Fifth District Court of Appeal; appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown. He was the first Hispanic/Latino to serve on this court's bench and also serves on the Fresno State Alumni Association's board.



Linda Penner (1978, BA, social welfare) serves as chairman for the Board of State and Community Corrections (State of California). She served for seven years as chief probation officer for the County of Fresno.



Gary Soto (1974, BA, English) is an award-winning poet and author of more than 40 books. A self-described "cheerleader for reading," he earned the Top Dog Alumni Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association in 2004, on behalf of the College of Arts and Humanities.



David Tobin (1999, BA, psychology) invented AudioJack, an audio-based movie with no words, music or video; using only sound effects to tell a story. He has served as photographer for Rolling Stone, Revolver and Time magazines and produced more than 35 television shows.

"Fresno State is proud to have five more graduates represented from more than 200,000 alumni worldwide with the Working for California website. This is our third year to participate in this stellar project."

— **JACQUELYN GLASENER**

Executive director for the alumni association

Affinity Partners privacy notice

Important privacy choice

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

Your rights

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

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

Your choice

Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:

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

Time-sensitive reply

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

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

1. Reply electronically by visiting www.fresnostatealumni.com and clicking on the "SB 569" graphic.
2. Fill out, sign and fax the form to 559.278.7925.

3. Call 559.278.4036 or call toll-free 866.414.8136.
4. Fill out, sign and send back this form to us at the following address (you may want to make a copy for your records).

Fresno State
ATTN: SB 569
5244 N. Jackson Ave. KC45
Fresno, CA 93740



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

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

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

Current email address _____

Daytime telephone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

IN MEMORIAM

Karen Renee Adams (1996),
Nov. 8 in Salinas.

Billy Lee Aston, Nov. 24.

Sandy Stella Balich (1984),
Sept. 8.

Mark C. Bebout (1984),
Sept. 25 in Fresno.

Pauline Bradley (1929),
Dec. 23 in Fresno.

Craig Leonard Brians (1988),
Nov. 10 in Virginia.

Ronald L. "Ron" Brown (1960),
Nov. 19 in Sacramento.

Jesse Campbell (1953),
Sept. 28 in Fresno.

John R. Castine Jr. (1950),
July 2 in Fresno.

Neil Oliver Chamberlain (1953),
Oct. 10 in Columbia, Tenn.

William "Bill" Chidlaw (1951),
Dec. 7 in Sacramento.

Raymond C. Clayton (1951),
Dec. 27 in Simi Valley.

Edward Jason Coffeen (1962),
Dec. 21 in Fresno.

Karen Perkins Cosgriff (1966),
July 28 in Fairhaven.

Joy Covey (1982),
Sept. 18 in Portola Valley.

Betty Dewitt, Sept. 15 in Caruthers.

Donald Douglas (1953),
July 31 in Fresno.

Kathryn A. Errecart,
Oct. 22 in Tehachapi.

Steve Feaver (1971),
Dec. 11 in Turlock.

Allyn K. Gerard (1958),
Aug. 10 in Fresno.

Fairy Alice Norton Gilbert
(1945), Oct. 20 in Fresno.

Sue Carol Goerlich (1958),
Dec. 19.

Irene Palacios Gonzalez,
Nov. 2 in Fresno.

John Dennis Goss (1960),
Jan. 10 in San Diego.

Jeff Gronemeyer (1988),
Nov. 11 in Sacramento.

P. Guz Guzman (1950),
Aug. 11 in Fresno.

Carolyn Matthews Magill Harding
(1947), Oct. 8 in Fowler.

Charles Edward Harris (1955),
Nov. 25 in Fresno.

Robert Heller (1930),
Oct. 21 in Fresno.

Richard Hodge,
Nov. 20 in Palm Desert.

Fred Jay Howard Jr. (1951),
Aug. 14 in Fresno.

Dorothy Downs Hughes,
Oct. 10 in Fresno.

Sandra Longcor Isaacson
(1964), Dec. 20 in Fresno.

Faith Ivancovich (1957),
Oct. 1 in Fresno.

Bineta Jean "Bunny" Johnson
(1983), Sept. 7 in Fresno.

Richard "Rich" Peter Juarez
(1964), Nov. 1 in Merced.

Dennis B. Linscott (1968),
Oct. 16 in Fresno.

Andrea Kaye Long,
Aug. 27 in Fresno.

Edward H. "Eddie" Lopez (1977),
Oct. 30 in Fresno.

Pete Mehas (1963),
Sept. 27 in Fresno.

Ray Melikian (1944),
Oct. 25 in Visalia.

Araxie Kalfayan Menendian,
Aug. 26 in Visalia.

Eleanor Margaret Miller (1945),
Nov. 4 in Fresno.

Michael Patrik Minahen (1952),
Oct. 3 in Sonoma.

Ronald Alec Miyata (1957),
Oct. 10 in La Quinta.

Harold Missakian (1961),
Oct. 3 in Fresno.

Craig Kenneth Moltzen (1974),
Oct. 18 in Fresno.

Morito "Mo" Nakamoto (1950),
Aug. 11 in Fresno.

Jim Nephew (1952),
Oct. 4 in Bakersfield.

Johneene P. Newton (1962),
Nov. 4 in Fresno.

Fletcher Duane Niehaus,
Sept. 2 in Fresno.

Fern Parker (1940),
Nov. 30 in Fresno.

Norman Phillips (1960),
Dec. 20 in Visalia.

Edwinne Pickard (2002),
Dec. 9 in Fresno.

Bobby Qualls (1953),
Oct. 18 in Fresno.

Lt. Col. Charles F. Raus,
Nov. 14 in Tulare.

Catherine Loverne Morison Rehart
(1962), Sept. 6 in Fresno.

Harriet Roberts (1924),
Aug. 2 in Fresno.

Wayne L. Roberts (1963),
Aug. 24 in Madera.

Barbara Lee Rose (1956),
Sept. 28 in Fresno.

RoseMary Ross (1954),
Aug. 18 in Bakersfield.

Jack Michael Saba (1954),
Sept. 25 in Bakersfield.

John Savona (1955),
July 22 in Fresno.

Edward Schmall (1949),
Dec. 5 in Morro Bay.

Regina Sue Sheehan (1957),
Nov. 2 in Selma.

Cleo Stenbert (1941),
Dec. 27 in Fresno.

Patricia Stocking (1943),
Oct. 19 in Fresno.

Arzellene M. Teixeira (1943),
Dec. 1 in Fresno.

ALUMNI NEWS

Walter Lawrence Larry Thornton Jr.
(1958), Sept. 5 in Fresno.

Erma Trowe, Oct. 13 in Fresno.

Scott J. Wessels (1986),
Sept. 24 in Fresno.

Dewey Dee White (1957),
Oct. 22 in Fresno.

Victor Wiens (1947),
Sept. 25 in Fresno.

George Zenovich (1948),
Sept. 25 in Fresno.

FACULTY AND STAFF

David Carl Anderson Jr. (1980),
Sept. 26 in Fresno.

Benjamin Marvin Bakkegard,
November in Fresno.

James Brownell,
Nov. 4 in Cambria.

Robert Comegys,
Dec. 14 in Fresno.

Harry George Costis,
Dec. 21 in Fresno.

Donna Hamm, Aug. 13 in Fresno.

Sydney P. Jackson,
Jan. 2 in Fresno.

Eugene William "Doc" Krebs,
Sept. 1 in Fresno.

Stanley Elmer Lindquist (1940),
Dec. 6 in Fresno.

Octavio Tocchio, Dec. 11 in Aptos.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: **Clyde Ford** (1980, '84) **LIFE**

President-Elect: **Adam Stirrup** (2003, '05) **LIFE**

Vice President, Engagement: **Brian Domingos Jr.** (2005) **LIFE**

Vice President, Scholarship: **Diana L. Gomez** (1988) **LIFE**

Vice President, Recognition: **Rosendo Peña** (1977) **LIFE**

Vice President, Finance (Staff Director): **Russel D. Statham** (2009, '11), **LIFE**

Past President: **Brad Fischer** (1981) **LIFE**

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Russell A. Bader (1972)

Doug Broten (1971) **LIFE**

John Gomes (1978, '94) **LIFE**

Ashley Greco (2012)

Ani Grigoryan (2012) (Student Director)

Brent Hansen (2006) **LIFE**

Kathleen (McFall) Hushek (1975)

Ruth (Peckham) Khan (1975)

Timothy Kotman (2007, '10)

Amanda (Holder) Leath (1999) **LIFE**

Regina A. (Kirk) Leathers (1995)

Mitzi Lowe (1981, '89) (Faculty Director)

Jaime Moncayo (2012, '12)

Frank Oviedo (1994)

Antonio Petrosino (1953) **LEGACY**

Julie (Farnesi) Small (1978) **LIFE**

Valerie Vuicich (1979) **LIFE**

Doug Yavanian (1967) **LIFE**

LIAISONS

University President: **Joseph I. Castro**

Vice President, University Advancement: **Peter N. Smits**

President, Associated Students: **Moses Menchaca**

Executive Director, Fresno State Alumni Association: **Jacquelyn K. Glasener** (2002) **LIFE**

STAFF

Executive Director: **Jacquelyn Glasener** (2002) **LIFE**

Director of Alumni Marketing and Engagement: **Peter Robertson** (1992, '95, '05) **LEGACY**

Director of Annual Giving: **Patricia O'Connor**

Assistant Director of Parent Engagement and Discovery Programs: **Matthew D. Schulz** (2004, '10)

Assistant Director of Alumni & Student Engagement: **Blair Smittcamp** (Alumna)

Business Office Manager: **Joanne Deaver**

Smittcamp Alumni House Manager (Interim): **Janie Porrez**, (2008)

Program and Events Assistant: **Peggy Ramos**

Social Media & Website Student Intern: **Justin Kamimoto**

FRESNO STATE
Alumni Association

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probertson@csufresno.edu

FSAA CONTACTS

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Fax: 559.278.6790

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California State University, Fresno



Saturday, May 10, 2014

Save Mart Center

Ceremony begins at 2 p.m.

*Community picnic
following ceremony*

**Please submit your RSVP
to the following website
by April 25:**

www.fresnostate.edu/presidentrsvp

Enter code: **JCastro**

Information:

www.fresnostate.edu/investiture

CASUAL BUSINESS ATTIRE



Aquatics Center

Constructed in 2011, Fresno State's Aquatics Center is one of the premier swimming and diving venues in Central California, featuring a 50-meter by 25-yard competition pool and many other top-notch amenities.

— **Joel Beery** is a graphic designer for University Communications. He created this original oil painting.



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