

FresnoState

The Magazine for the New California



Citizens of the world

Fresno State offers a world of opportunities



Michael Karibian

Welcome to the Fall 2007 edition of Fresno**State** Magazine. It's always great to take another glimpse into campus life and the people who make Fresno State such a special place.

We are truly a university of opportunity. In the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno State is the main path for women and men of all backgrounds to fulfill their dreams of a college education.

Our continuing commitment to providing opportunities is reflected in outreach throughout our diverse region, in our broad range of courses, in students who are the first in their family to go to college and in community partnerships that promote public service and work experience.

Since Fresno State's founding in 1911, our mission has broadened dramatically both geographically and in the variety of disciplines through which we prepare our students to be good citizens of the world.

Each year, we welcome to our campus hundreds of students and faculty from outside of the United States, who help us expand our horizons as they expand theirs.

Through partnerships, initiatives and exchanges, we send students and graduates out into the world – even into space – to study and pursue careers, learn about other cultures and share their own perspectives.

As we provide opportunities and serve the people of the Valley, we're also serving people around the world. It's the perfect job description for a world-class university like Fresno State!

John D. Welty,
President

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

Fall 2007

President
John D. Welty

Vice President of University Advancement
Peter N. Smits

Associate Vice President for University Communications
Mark Aydelotte

Director of News Services/Magazine Editorial Direction
Shirley Melikian Armbruster

Fresno**State** Magazine Editor
Lanny Larson

Director of Publications and New Media
Bruce Whitworth

Graphic Design Consultant
Pam Chastain

Campaign Communications Director
Jill Wagner

Alumni Editor
Sarah Woodward

University Communications Editorial Team
Margarita Adona, Andy Faught, Esther Gonzalez, Todd Graves, Priscilla Helling, Angel Langridge, Kevin Medeiros, April Schulthies, Tom Uribes

Student Assistants
Megan Jacobsen, Jaime Schaffer, Brianna Simpson, Andrea Vega

The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect official university policy. Letters to the editor and contributions to the Class Notes section are welcome; they may be edited for clarity and length. Unless otherwise noted, articles may be reprinted as long as credit is given. Copyrighted photos may not be reprinted without express written consent of the photographer. Clippings and other editorial contributions are appreciated. All inquiries and comments, including requests for faculty contact information, should be sent to Editor, Fresno**State** Magazine, 5244 N. Jackson Ave., M/S KC45, Fresno, CA 93740-8027.

Phone: **559.278.2795**

Fax: **559.278.2436**

On the Web: **www.FresnoStateNews.com**

© 2007 California State University, Fresno

Stay in touch!

We'd like to hear your comments about Fresno**State** Magazine. Please e-mail them to **magazine@csufresno.edu**. If you receive more than one copy of Fresno**State** Magazine, please pass it along to a friend of Fresno State. If you would like to support Fresno State, please visit **www.SupportFresnoState.com** to make a contribution.

From our readers

Photographs inspire third-graders

I really enjoyed the photographs in the (Spring 2007) magazine. I'm a third-grade teacher at a school in central Fresno. What the pictures represent to my students are positive images of people in their community. For example, the picture of Ms. [Laurie Marshall] Grindle with the rocketship or the four alumnae in front of the new library construction or the students who received the Peter Robertson scholarship. Though the students might not be able to read the articles, they can quickly make an association with the images that they, too, can be part of the university community in the future.

Tony Garcia (2002)

Fresno

Flores should have been listed

Not to offend Lane Kiffin or the Raiders, I find your article very unjust and unfair in referring to someone as a successor to former Raiders head coaches Madden, Gruden and Shell without acknowledging Tom Flores. Flores, born in Fresno County, raised in Del Rey and a graduate of Sanger High School, was the successor to Madden as Raiders head coach. He took the Raiders to – and won – their last two Super Bowls (XV in 1981 and XVIII in 1984). I might also mention that Flores has won Super Bowls as a player, as an assistant coach and as a head coach. Flores also has the distinction of having been an assistant coach, head coach, general manager and president in the NFL. Who else has done that?

Sam Bogoshian

Indian Wells

Proud of his alma mater

As I finished reading my first issue of Fresno**State** Magazine (Spring 2007), I realized how Fresno State has grown up and matured since I attended. Well done: It makes me proud to be a graduate. Keep up the great work.

Larry D. Reiner (1978)

Boise, Idaho

Yearbook mislabeling perpetuated

Unfortunately my picture was mislabeled years ago when it appeared in the yearbook. This error was reflected once again when my picture appeared on Page 42 of the Spring 2007 Fresno**State** Magazine under "Blasts from the Past." It is the fifth item: Can you name this fraternity sweetheart? The answer indicates that my name is Marilyn Daniels. It is correct that I was the sweetheart for the fraternity. However, my name is *Elizabeth Daniel*, not Marilyn.

Elizabeth Daniel Luke

San Ramon

Editor's note: We welcome your letters. Please send them to: Editor, Fresno**State** Magazine, 5244 N. Jackson Ave., M/S KC45, Fresno, CA 93740-8027 or email them to **magazine@csufresno.edu**.



Joan Sharma

FresnoState

The Magazine for the New California

10 Players on a worldwide stage

Stories about students, faculty and alumni reflect some of the many ways Fresno State connects around the globe. People from the university study, teach, do research and pursue careers abroad, while the campus hosts students and faculty from all over who share their cultures and experiences, expanding knowledge and appreciation of diversity.

4 Campus & Beyond

28 Campaign News

32 Sports

41 Campus Portrait

42 Alumni News

49 Tree Portrait



On our cover

Fresno State student Chuck Slaght, left, Dr. Claire Sham Choy, graduate coordinator of the counseling program in the Kremen School of Education and Human Development, and Dr. Robert Hudgens, director of International Studies, exemplify the university's multifaceted involvement in developing good citizens of the world. Their stories are told among those of others on Pages 10 to 27.

Cover photo: Perry Cooper

Back cover photo: Michael Karibian

Fresno State News



TL: Shaun Ho

Library taking shape

With the installation of 15-ton texturized concrete panels, the new portion of the Henry Madden Library began looking more like the architectural drawings than an Erector Set.

Sixty-four wall panels were swung into place by a crane. Each of the panels – 14 feet high, 30 feet wide, 6 inches thick – was created in Sacramento and trucked to Fresno. The work was scheduled so the library was closed for a few hours on just one day.

The panels were installed on the south, east and west walls. The north wall will be glass.

The \$105 million library expansion and renovation project is on track for completion of construction in late 2008.

To share your news and comments, e-mail magazine@csufresno.edu.



Fresno State, university in Japan establish exchange program

Fresno State's newest exchange program is an agreement with Japan's Niigata University of Health and Welfare that provides opportunities for students, professors, administrators and researchers from both schools to study health and human service programs abroad.



Top: Dr. Hikeada Takahashi, left, and Dean Benjamin Cuellar conclude an exchange agreement between Niigata University in Japan and Fresno State. Above: The Fresno State delegation to Japan includes Dean Cuellar, seated third from left, his wife, Julia, and Drs. Peggy Trueblood and Marilyn Miller, from left of Cuellar.

During the three-year planning stage, Dr. Marilyn Miller, associate professor of physical therapy at Fresno State, arranged for more than 65 students and faculty to visit the campus and gain a global perspective on physical therapy and social work education. This three-year initiative was supported by the community, the Department of Physical Therapy and the College of Health and Human Services at California State University, Fresno.

“We are committed to providing enriching experiences for students and believe that by introducing them to a different way of life, we are expanding their opportunities for personal and career growth,” says Dr. Peggy Trueblood, chair of the Department of Physical Therapy at Fresno State.

Trueblood gave a special presentation on programs to reduce the risk of falls for older adults at the 42nd Congress of Japan's Physical Therapy Association Conference in 2007. She also published an article on the subject in the association's journal.

Miller was invited to teach a class for Niigata University graduate students on the value of multidisciplinary study in health professions.

Miller believes there are many benefits in the exchange, saying, “International study helps individuals appreciate the similarities among cultures, nations and people as well as learn to see the differences.”

Grad student's groundbreaking work helps farmers harvest more precisely

By Charles Radke

When Sivakumar “Siva” Sachidhanantham came to Fresno to pursue a master's degree in industrial technology, he didn't expect to spend so much time in a vineyard.

But thanks to an important collaboration between Fresno State's Viticulture and Enology Research Center (VERC) and professionals from California's grape and wine industry, that's precisely where he has found himself. “Precise” is an apt descriptor for his work.

Sachidhanantham left a family manufacturing business in southern India for Fresno State's graduate program. He was taking a geographic information systems (GIS) class when his professor, Dr. Matthew Yen, noticed his commitment. “He stayed late to complete all his assignments,” Yen says.

Yen recommended his enthusiastic, promising student to VERC director Dr. Robert Wample, who needed a graduate student to help with the mapping component of a larger project. Sachidhanantham was invited to join the research team and charged with using global positioning systems (GPS) and GIS technologies to create data maps for a 45-acre vineyard near Lodi.

Combining NIR and GPS, Sachidhanantham created ‘quality maps’ of the vineyard.

“Siva was instrumental in demonstrating such technology for the first time in the world,” Yen says.

The idea was an extension of Wample's previous work using near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) to measure grape quality in the vineyard. Combining NIR and GPS, Sachidhanantham created “quality maps” of the vineyard to guide harvesting. “We generated a surface map of high-quality and low-quality zones and uploaded the map into a mechanical harvester,” says Sachidhanantham.

Kingsburg's Oxbo International Corp. provided the harvester and equipped it with the technology necessary to sort the grapes into two gondolas. One was for grapes of higher quality and one for grapes of lesser quality, says Oren Kaye, a former Fresno State graduate student who now is winemaker for research and development with Constellation Wines U.S., a partner in the project.

Sachidhanantham's contributions to the differential harvesting project, says Kaye, have been extremely valuable.

“Siva was learning on the go, which was very exciting for him,” Kaye says. “This type of mapping application represents a giant step forward in the marriage of viticulture and technology in the California wine industry. A lot of people are trying to get where we are now with this kind of mapping.”



Viticulture and Enology Research Center

The research team was so satisfied with the initial results, a bigger project was scheduled for the 2007 harvest, based, Kaye says, on “the presumption that differential harvesting will be economical.”

Sachidhanantham is excited about the opportunity to continue working in the industry after completing his degree. “We'll have to see what happens,” he says, “but I'm open to staying in the country and doing this work.”

Adds Yen, “I am very pleased to see his life blossoming.”

— Charles Radke is the thesis consultant in the Division of Graduate Studies at Fresno State.

Left: Siva Sachidhanantham

Teacher in space started at Fresno State Lab School

Fresno State was where educator astronaut Barbara Morgan, a Fresno native, received her earliest formal education, attending kindergarten at the old Lab School and starting on a journey that took her into space aboard the shuttle Endeavor in summer 2007.

Morgan, a science teacher in Idaho at the time, was the backup astronaut to teacher-in-space Christa McAuliffe in 1986, when the shuttle Challenger exploded after liftoff, killing McAuliffe and her crew mates. The teacher-in-space program was shelved, but Morgan's enthusiasm for space travel didn't wane, and she trained to be an astronaut, which led to her flight Aug. 8 to 21.

The Lab School has been succeeded by the Joyce M. Huggins Early Childhood Education Center in the Kremen School of Education and Human Development. The center still gives students, teachers and others training, demonstration and research opportunities in education, child development and in marriage, child and family counseling.



Courtesy: NASA



Courtesy: California Fig Advisory Board

It takes a gentle touch to box ripe figs.

University partners with fig industry in revitalization project

The California Fig Advisory Board and Fresno State’s Viticulture and Enology Research Center are partners in a program to help revitalize the California fig industry, which is centered in Fresno.

The California State University’s Agricultural Research Initiative, headquartered at Fresno State, authorized the partnership project to expand market opportunities and update industry practices. The work is in response to studies of the health benefits of eating dried figs and the governor’s Buy California Initiative.

Cognitive science program approved

Fresno State has launched a cognitive science program that offers both a minor and a bachelor of science degree.

Cognitive science draws from courses in computer science, linguistics, philosophy and psychology to develop an introductory understanding of human intelligence. Students choose from among three tracks: cognition and knowledge, language and computer science and informatics.



Courtesy: Tanya Crabb/USMC

Tanya (Hibbert) Crabb

First Generation story
Putting fear into perspective

By Tanya Crabb

I grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., but first and foremost I consider myself a Jamaican. My family immigrated to the U.S. when I was 4.

My mother was one of 13 children, and she gave birth to four of her own – three girls and one boy. I was the second born.

My mother never went to college but she was a strong proponent of education. She often talked about her own desire for higher education. Unfortunately her dream was derailed when she became pregnant at age 17. She still wanted to attend, but four children later the odds of returning to school diminished.

I know it must seem odd to some that I found the Marines less frightening than college.

Although my mother wanted us to go to college, the reality was she was a single woman with four kids and a limited income. Financially, we were barely making it. Then my older sister got pregnant in her senior year in high school. That added another mouth to feed.

As the next in line, I knew I’d be expected to go to college. However, college wasn’t in my plans. I dreaded the thought of another four years in school. I didn’t want to go because I was scared. I didn’t know a thing about college. I had never been on a college campus.

I worried that I wasn’t smart enough to get in. Or that I’d make it in by the skin of my teeth only to flunk out. “Besides,” I reasoned, “even if I survived the first year, how would I pay for college?” My grades were average at best and I knew nothing about financial aid. All I knew was smart people with money went to college, and I was neither. Rather than go to college, I decided to enlist in the Marine Corps.

I know it must seem odd to some that I found the Marines less frightening than college. To me it made perfect sense. It meant one less person for my mother to support. No job interview was needed, just a desire to serve. The only way they’d reject me is if I was medically or psychologically unfit. Plus, as my recruiter pointed out, when I got out I could pay for college with the GI Bill.

While it wasn’t what my mother planned, she was somewhat relieved. Enlisting meant I wouldn’t be running the streets. I’d have food, shelter and the possibility of a better life. Neither one of us counted on my unit being called to action during Desert Storm.



Courtesy: Tanya Crabb

Tanya (Hibbert) Crabb, right, celebrates her university graduation with her sister, Kareen, who is serving as an Army combat medic in Iraq.

Four years after enlisting, I decided to leave the service and go to college. There is nothing like sitting in a fighting hole during a Scud [missile] alert to put your fears in perspective.

Admittedly, the thought of returning to college filled me with insecurities. I had been out of school for four years. Would I even remember any of the stuff I learned in high school? Would I feel out of place among the younger students? What if I didn’t get accepted to any of the colleges I applied to? All the old fears resurfaced. This time though, I took a deep breath and filled out the application anyway.

In 1999, I graduated from City College of the City University of New York. In fact, I graduated with honors, magna cum laude. It turns out my biggest obstacle to college was me.

I would be lying if I said college was a breeze. It wasn’t. It took hard work. It required an investment of time and energy. There were moments of doubt and fear, but I pushed through them.

I am reminded of something a friend once told me. “Do you know what the definition of fear is?” he asked. When I shook my head no, he said, “FEAR [is] false evidence appearing real.” Since then I’ve taken the advice of Ulysses S. Grant. I’ve chosen not to take counsel in my fears. In fact, now I’m considering graduate school. 🌸

– Tanya (Hibbert) Crabb is on staff at University Outreach Services.



First Generation Project experiences resonate with today’s students

Tanya Crabb’s story and those of a dozen other Fresno State staff members and faculty are collected in “First Generation Stories,” published in August 2007 as part of Fresno State’s First Generation Project.

The effort is dedicated to sharing experiences of people on campus who were the first in their families to complete college. Their experiences help today’s first-generation students – an estimated one-third of all new students at Fresno State – by inspiring them and providing guidance on issues they’re likely to encounter.

Read more at <http://firstgeneration.csufresno.edu>.



TLT: Randy Vaughn-Datta

Photovoltaic parking project is biggest of its kind at a U.S. university

A solar power project completed in fall 2007 provides more power and parking on campus. One-fifth of Fresno State's electricity demand is being met by photovoltaic panels atop 11 parking shelters in what is the largest such solar-power project on any university campus. The \$12 million project – a partnership between Fresno State and Chevron Energy Solutions – provides the first covered parking on campus – more than 700 spaces for students and additional premium reserved parking for staff and faculty.

Tree Fresno honors university for green campus initiative

Tree Fresno presented a Judges Special Award to Fresno State for “its continuous and varied efforts to enhance the community not only by beautifying but by educating the general public as well as the students about horticulture options.” The award cited the campus’ arboretum status, an iris demonstration garden (undertaken in partnership with the Fresno Iris Society) and the university’s ability to handle the challenges of a large-scale green space. In presenting the award, Tree Fresno also expressed its optimism about landscaping that will accompany the expansion and renovation of the Henry Madden Library. Tree Fresno is a community organization founded to enhance urban forest by ensuring that trees are planted in all public and private building and landscaping projects.



Larry Larson

Fresno State addresses critical lack of nurses

The Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing at Fresno State, grants for new training programs and California State University money to admit new students are components of the university’s response to the region’s critical nursing shortage.

The center, opened in May 2007, is the foundation of Fresno State’s effort, serving as a valuable repository for nursing research, education, leadership and policy in the San Joaquin Valley. It also is a catalyst for partnerships with regional providers and a means of keeping lawmakers informed of challenges and realistic solutions.

“Crisis in Care: The Nursing Shortage in the San Joaquin Valley 2007,” details the increasing gap between the supply of nurses and the demand for health care.

The Nursing Shortage in the San Joaquin Valley 2007,” issued by the center, details the increasing gap between the supply of nurses and the demand for health care. The aging population, chronic diseases among children and adults and budget constraints are regional problems hampered by a shortage of faculty to prepare additional nurses for the workforce.

“We have an ambitious agenda that will focus on enhancing nursing education and practice at both the graduate and undergraduate levels,” says Dr. Mary Barakzai, director of the center and lead author of “Crisis in Care.” “This will be accomplished by bringing together local and regional leadership and interests to collaboratively address these complex problems.”

Supplementing the center’s efforts, a state grant helps the Family Nurse Practitioner Training Program develop new community-based clinical training sites and the CSU allocation opened opportunity for 34 more nursing students during the 2007-08 academic year.

The region’s nursing crisis isn’t new, and establishing the Central California Center for Excellence in Nursing took years of planning, explains Dr. Benjamin Cuellar, dean of the College of Health and Human Services.

He says, “It’s exciting to watch the center develop and to see new collaborations being formed that support innovative and long-term solutions to the Valley’s nursing shortages.” 🌸

Emergency preparations given top priority

Planning for emergencies – Topic A at virtually every college and university in the country – has taken on even more significance at Fresno State in the past year. Two high-profile shooting incidents – one on the campus and the other nearby – prompted clear, decisive action on the scene and in days following to refine Fresno State’s emergency procedures.

The campus has reviewed its crisis planning. It has changed some of its training for police officers and staff and it has initiated multiple communications techniques to inform campus and community.

“The safety of our students, faculty, staff and guests is our most important mission,” says University Police Department Chief David Huerta. “We received guidance from other university police agencies, conducted campuswide emergency drills, evaluated communications equipment and trained hard to honor our commitment to protect the campus community.

“There is no 100 percent guarantee, but our efforts this past year have made Fresno State just about as safe a campus as you will find anywhere.”

On the second day of classes in August 2006, bank robbery suspects sped through campus on Barstow Avenue, shooting at pursuing Clovis Police officers. Fortunately, no one was injured, and the suspects were apprehended several hours later. The incident required closing part of Barstow and guiding students from some parking lots during the investigation.

In May 2007, at an apartment complex a block away from campus, one resident was shot to death and two others wounded. Another resident, who was a student, fled the building and surrendered several hours late. He was charged with murder.

The fatal shooting occurred less than three weeks after 32 people were shot to death at Virginia Tech, stirring nationwide concern about campus safety.

President John D. Welty closely monitored the situation near Fresno State as it unfolded throughout the morning and determined that the campus would remain open for classes.

“Based on the ongoing information we received from Fresno Police, we felt confident that the campus was not threatened,” says Welty.

Throughout the 13-hour incident, the university communicated vital information to the campus and community through several channels:

- Mass e-mail messages
- Web postings
- Campus emergency radio station
- Telephone hotline
- Portable electronic signboards
- Notification by building safety officers
- Distribution of news and announcements to area news media, which provided important alerts and updates

“Our emergency communications plan worked very well,” says Mark Aydelotte, associate vice president for University Communications. “We will continue to seek the best communication methods to reach people during emergencies.” 🌸



STARS Program

At Yale University for a summer program are Fresno State students, from left, Jacqueline Ma, Leslie Dominguez, Christian Aguilar and Melany Klauser.

Yale summer biology study helps four Fresno State students

Four Fresno State biology students participated in Yale University’s elite summer program of classroom and lab research in genomics and bioinformatics, disciplines that use computers to analyze biological data, some of which is locked in genetic code.

Fresno State participants in the Science, Technology and Research Scholars (STARS) program are sophomores Christian G. Aguilar of Riverside, Leslie M. Dominguez of Placentia and Melany R. Klauser of Visalia, and junior Jacqueline W. Ma of San Jose.

The opportunity to study at Yale arose because of the work of Dr. Alejandro Calderón-Urrea, an associate professor of biology at Fresno State, with Yale researchers to increase interest among his students in Ph.D.-level research in biological sciences.

Winemaker earns international acclaim

The International Office of the Vine and Wine Prix de l’OIV was awarded to enology professor Kenneth Fugelsang, the Fresno State Winery manager, and Dr. Charles Edwards of Washington State University for their textbook on wine microbiology.

The Paris-based office, an intergovernmental scientific and technical body with 43 member nations, has overseen the world’s grape and wine industry for more than 80 years. “The OIV plays a major role in the regulation of the world wine market from grape growing to soil management and winemaking,” says Fugelsang.

Fugelsang joined the university in 1972, and the campus commercial winery’s first harvest was in 1997. The student-operated Fresno State Winery has won more than 200 awards in major wine competitions.

For the latest news go to
www.fresnostatenews.com



Players on a worldwide stage

By Marni Katz

When Fresno State was founded in 1911, its mission was to train the region's teachers and farmers. Today, the university prepares men and women for world citizenship.

That means graduates trained as businesspeople, medical personnel, criminologists, irrigation specialists and – yes, teachers and farmers – ready to take their places on the ever-shrinking world stage to lend their expertise on global issues.

It's not surprising that the campus is an international hub. Fresno State is in one of the most culturally diverse regions in the United States with more than 75 languages spoken and people from about 100 cultures. The region's economy depends increasingly on developing links to global markets and understanding business, history, religion and culture on a world scale.

"Like most American universities, Fresno State realizes we live in an increasingly global economy and increasingly diverse society," says Dr. Robert Hudgens, director of Fresno State's International Programs Office. "We try to provide students with the skills they need to function in that global society."

The International Programs Office offers more than 100 opportunities to study in other countries: one-to-one foreign exchanges, summer study tours and overseas semester programs. In 2006, nearly 250 Fresno State students studied abroad, and the university aims to triple that by its centennial in 2011, Hudgens says. The university also sponsors study tours abroad that attract community members who want to expand their horizons.

Fresno State faculty spend time every year at foreign universities as Fulbright fellows or recipients of international travel grants. They lecture, present research findings at conferences, publish their writings and consult overseas on all kinds of subjects.

Students and faculty learn how they fit into the world by experiencing cultural differences abroad and by being exposed to people of different cultures on campus.

"Employers today seek recruits who have some global understanding and who can work comfortably across cultural and linguistic boundaries," Hudgens says.

Fresno State regularly hosts nearly 600 students and 50 visiting scholars or guest lecturers from points across the globe, helped by the office of International Student Services and Programs.

"It enriches the campus and this Valley to have students and scholars from other countries come here and share their

world with us and allow us to share our world with them," says Dr. Lucia Hammar, director of International Student Services and Programs. "It helps us prepare students here for world citizenship."

Campus investment in world citizenship includes international committees in many colleges and departments devoted to promoting a global vision within their programs.

The Craig School of Business encourages students to learn firsthand how to operate in the global economy, sending students on overseas business internships each summer through its International Business Programs. In summer 2007, 70 business students took abbreviated international business courses in Belgium, and 90 other Fresno State students studied in Mexico, Armenia, Spain, Ghana, France and India.

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology's Viticulture and Enology Program collaborates with Swiss universities on a summer program for grape-growing and winemaking students from the entire California State University system and Europe. The university's Viticulture and Enology Research Center has visiting scholars from Brazil, China, France and Italy working on cooperative research programs.

Hammar says opportunities for interaction among international and American students and faculty promote greater global literacy on campus. It comes to life during the annual International Culture Night, where music, dance and costumes from around the world provide a multicultural bridge for Fresno State and the community.

Weekly International Coffee Hours feature informal talks with visiting students and faculty, and the CineCulture Club screens movies, many of them foreign films.

The university opens the campus to a wide range of community cultural activities and develops programs targeted to help the immigrant community meet challenges and fully participate in American society.

Fresno State exposes students, faculty and the entire Valley community to the ever-shrinking world by building understanding and forging partnerships to enrich the region and the world.

– Marni Katz is a freelance writer based in Fresno.



Dr. Lucia Hammar

Michael Karbman



Dr. Robert Hudgens

Perry Cooper

Courtesy: Joan Sharma

A Fresno State study tour of Northern India attracted students, faculty and community members.



Research by alumnus Wayne Craig helps feed world's hungry

By Adrian Rodriguez

Dr. Gerald Wayne Craig already had the beginnings of a world view when he left Fresno State in 1976 with degrees in Russian and chemistry, but the guidance and enthusiasm of some of his professors steered him to a career helping feed the world.

Honolulu-born Craig went to Fresno State from the farm center community of Reedley. He says he never thought he would be a chemist for one of the world's biggest crop production companies (Syngenta). Nor did he envision becoming a citizen of Switzerland, where he has lived nearly two decades.

In the lab, Craig specializes in developing fungicides and insecticides by synthesizing molecules with biological properties designed to protect specific crops without harming others. It's constant evolution, Craig says: "We often discover new ways to modify molecules and glean how chemical reactions and rearrangements take place."

However, early in his college career, he says, his direction wasn't as well-focused as now. "It wasn't clear how I would connect Russian with chemistry."



Courtesy: Dr. George Kauffman
Dr. George Kauffman

Dr. George Kauffman, now a chemistry professor emeritus, became the catalyst for connecting Craig's passions. He put Craig to work using his Russian expertise to do research for a journal article about major contributions to platinum compounds developed in Russia.

Craig was a teacher's assistant for Dr. Joseph Toney, also now an emeritus chemistry professor, when Kauffman learned about his unusual double major. "He had the knowledge of both Russian and chemistry," says Kauffman of Craig. "He had a hell of a time with it, and he got a really good [intellectual] workout. We published the article."

Other professors at Fresno State also encouraged Craig's development.

Wayne Craig specializes in developing fungicides and insecticides ... designed to protect specific crops without harming others.



Courtesy: Dr. Wayne Craig

Alumnus Dr. Gerald Wayne Craig lives in Switzerland, which fits his interests in backpacking, bicycling, history, tennis and language.

"I spent long days and nights studying borrowed chemistry books from Professor Toney. We often had philosophical discussions about how organic and inorganic chemistry were evolving," Craig says. "This was only achievable with enthusiastic chemistry professors such as Stephen Rodemeyer and Richard Ciula or Russian literature professor Helen Dmitriew." (Dr. Rodemeyer retired as a chemistry professor in 2004 and directs the Smittcamp Family Honors College. Dr. Ciula, an emeritus chemistry professor, died in 2007. Dr. Dmitriew is an emerita professor of Russian literature.)

Other major influences were chemistry professors Dr. Ron Marhenke, who retired in 2006, and Dr. Howard Ono, who remains on the faculty where he has taught since 1972. Craig says, "They were always accessible for thought-provoking discussions about chemistry problems and interesting philosophical ones, too."

After graduating from Fresno State, Craig started his graduate work at the University of California, Berkeley, where he spent two years learning about alkaloid chemistry from medicinal chemist Henry Rapoport, who "taught me the essence of living and breathing chemistry," says Craig.

He moved on to the University of California, Davis, where he received his Ph.D. and began a career distinguished by



Courtesy: Dr. Wayne Craig

Dr. Craig visited the Mediterranean island nation of Cyprus during 2006.

more than a dozen journal articles and winning 12 patents for research in herbicides and fungicides.

After moving to Basel, Switzerland, in the late 1980s and reading the research work of chemists from all over the world, the combination of science and language makes perfect sense to Craig, who's added French, Spanish and German to his repertoire.

Of parallel and equal importance to his research work with Syngenta, Craig says, is living a well-balanced life in a community where people are respected for their contributions.

In addition to being a "democratic country modeled after the American government," he says, "Switzerland is environmentally conscientious. It looks for other ways to utilize energy rather than oil, and it is a perfect eco-conscious country for a backpacker, cyclist, tennis, history and language enthusiast like myself."

Craig also revels in the history of chemistry found in Switzerland, the birth of what is called "the central science."

He continues to work with Kauffman, who is an editor for The Chemical Educator. The two reconnected in 2005 to work on a series of articles about 101-year-old Albert Hofmann, who discovered LSD.

"Hofmann works in Switzerland, in the pharmaceutical industry, and Wayne speaks fluent German, so I asked him to collaborate," Kauffman says.

Craig calls his initial and current work with Kauffman "a tremendous influence" on his interest in writing historical articles concerning chemistry.

In a way, Kauffman says, it's like coming full circle for Craig. The two are collaborating on another profile, this time about an unusual pair of Americans – analytical chemist Frederick Pearson Treadwell and his son, William Dupré Treadwell, who also adopted Switzerland as their home.

– Adrian Rodriguez is a freelance writer based in Fresno.



Students' global experience is a two-way street

By Dorina K. Lazo

Study abroad has expanded considerably from the days when only the privileged could afford it.

Now, Fresno State students from the United States may savor gelato in Italy or debate international politics in Germany while others from Saudi Arabia, Ecuador or India get hands-on experience in a Fresno State lab and a cultural education inside and outside the classroom.

During 2006-2007, nearly 250 students participated in international programs through Fresno State, while 547 residents of other countries traveled to the heart of Central California to learn.

Elsa Galvan studied business for a semester in Torino, Italy, and spent time in Rome on a State Department internship. In Torino she found a city bigger than she expected (about 1 million) with a world of open-air markets, gelato shops and coffee bars. She learned to speak Italian in a region where very few people speak English.

"The only way you notice the culture is by experiencing it and living it," says Galvan, who graduates in spring 2008 and will take her global interest and experience into a career in international business.

"I think it is important for everyone to take the opportunity to live at least one time away from your country. Such an opportunity helps you to grow as a person," says Galvan. "In my case, studying abroad was a positive experience that I want to repeat as many times as possible."

Chuck Slaght, a senior history major headed for grad school, probably would agree after studying history and German in Luneburg, Germany, where he saw the world with new eyes and discovered world politics was the main topic for debate.

"Here in the United States, our culture has us sheltered from the world," Slaght explains. "People have different obligations, traditions and worries than we do, and it only helped me to see and relate to how other people see the world and the United States."

Slaght's time abroad taught an important life lesson.



Juan Pablo Moncayo

and Programs, introduced Moncayo to the university during a recruiting trip to Ecuador.

Fast forward to May 2006 when Moncayo was elected student body president – the first international student to hold this post.

"Fresno State has an excellent international student program," explains Moncayo, a senior majoring in finance and physics. "I am fortunate enough to be a part of it."

It wasn't an easy road, Moncayo remembers, even though he had lived several years in Southern California before returning to Ecuador for his teen years. When his family moved to Florida to live, Moncayo, arrived at Fresno State.

"The first two days were pretty scary; I'll be honest, I was terrified" Moncayo remembers, leading to restroom pep talks to himself to cope with some situations. Moncayo taught salsa dancing, talked with more and more people and looked for a way to express his concerns as a student.

He learned how student governance works by joining the board that oversees the University Student Union. "I got to see how Associated Students works. I realized how cool it was. It's one of the organizations with the most potential I've ever seen," he says.

son. "By making me a fuller person," he says, "I feel that I can contribute to society better as a whole."

While Galvan and Slaght left the U.S. to experience life beyond their native comfort zones, Juan Pablo Moncayo immersed himself in an unfamiliar setting by coming to Fresno State from Ecuador.

Carol Munshower, former director of International Student Services



Ali Shwaiheen

He won election as A.S. president in 2006 and was re-elected without opposition in 2007, then went to New York for a summer internship he hopes will increase his global connections and further his planned business career.

Similar stories about seizing opportunities at Fresno State can be told by students like junior Ali Shwaiheen from Saudi Arabia studying mechanical engineering and Yamishka Rodrigues, a graduate student in business administration from India.

Shwaiheen won a scholarship and had heard that Fresno State professors used creative teaching methods – something he felt his nation's schools lacked. Shwaiheen says his teachers give him a greater vision for the world of mechanical engineering and he helps classmates understand Saudi culture.

Rodrigues says life in Mumbai, India, is distinct from Fresno, but she has learned to embrace the differences. Through the Wise Owl tutoring program, she volunteers time to help schoolchildren from an economically disadvantaged neighborhood near downtown Fresno.

Rodrigues is thankful for instant messaging, MySpace and Webcams that help her stay close to family and friends in India despite the 8,500 miles that separate them.

Rodrigues recognizes that, "In today's world, most companies have some global connection."

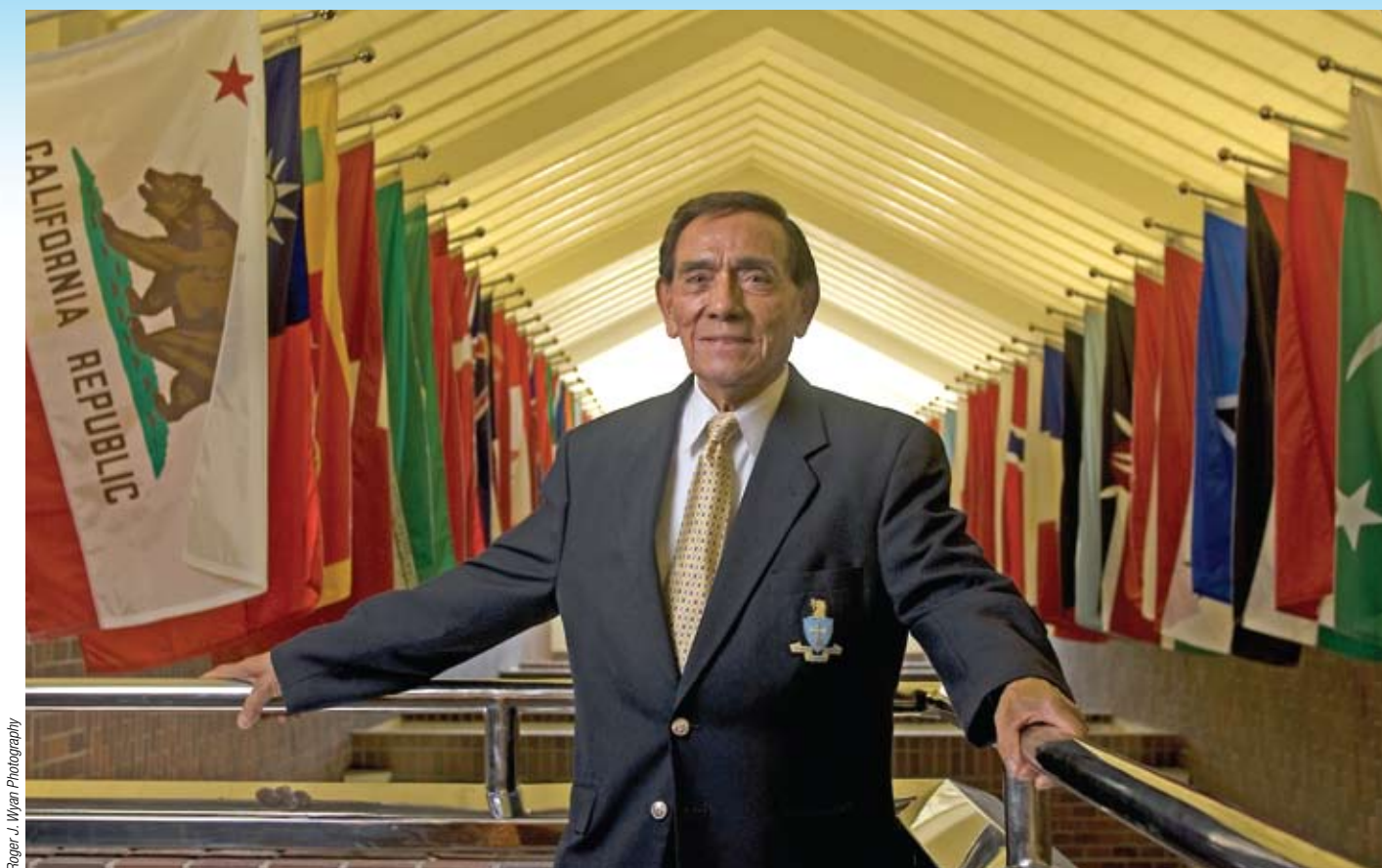
"Coming to another country for my education has helped me understand the culture, thinking and way of life of not only the American people but also of people from various countries represented here on the campus," she says. "Now, being here, I know that I belong not just to India, but to the world. I am a global citizen."

– Dorina K. Lazo is a freelance writer, children's book author and teacher in Fresno.



Yamishka Rodrigues

Fresno State students from the United States may savor gelato in Italy or debate international politics in Germany while others from Saudi Arabia, Ecuador or India get hands-on experience in a Fresno State lab.



Roger J. Wyan Photography

Sanchez diplomacy extends to and from his alma mater

Peach plucker, cotton chopper, fig picker – Phil Sanchez was all of those and much more on his trip toward becoming a virtual man of the world.

Over 78 years, he's packed a portfolio matched by few: farmworker, fraternity president, college student body vice president, county administrator, National Guard general, War on Poverty general, ambassador, publisher, grandfather and always proud American of Mexican descent.

Phillip V. (for Victor) Sanchez, Fresno State Class of '53, wore more hats than Carmen Miranda and the first President Bush combined. He has more miles on him than the beaten up old flatbed truck that hauled him and his immigrant parents, after toiling in San Joaquin Valley fields, from Pinedale across the Pacheco Pass to live in tents and work the crops in the Santa Clara Valley.

The early travels serve as a metaphor for a full and productive life that took him from Moscow, Paris, Madrid and Rome to Honduras and Colombia, where he served as the U.S.



Roger J. Wyan Photography

Phillip V. Sanchez talks with students at a Fresno State-hosted Hispanic Youth Conference.



As ambassador to Colombia, Sanchez is greeted by people in Medellin in 1976.

ambassador – the one and only Fresno State alumnus with that lofty distinction.

A fledgling who would molt into a jet setter, Sanchez earned his educational wings at Fresno State when it was still a college just off McKinley and Weldon, heeding the wisdom and advice of such legendary professors as Hubert Phillips, Dallas Tueller, Carlos Rojas and Jose Canales.

"They talked to you person to person and you learned about the world," he says, adding with a chuckle, "And there was a lot of criticism, of course."

In the mid-1940s, he often was the only Latino in a classroom, but he sensed no racism, subtle or otherwise. "Education at Fresno State leveled the playing field. It was all a part of my development," he recalls.

The playing field leveled so much that he was elected president of Sigma Chi fraternity and student body vice president, ruling with President Robert Coyle. "We were Mutt and Jeff," he says of his tenure with his much-taller schoolmate who would become a federal judge.



Sanchez meets Mother Teresa at a convent in Paris when he was a newspaper publisher.

Brilliant move, as it turned out, except for one misstep. After nearly a decade as Fresno County chief administrative officer, he was talked into running for Congress, only to be beaten by the unbeatable B.F. Sisk. "Something I'm trying to forget, though I didn't do badly," he says. "I came in second."

Like most of his contemporaries from south of the border, Sanchez was a registered Democrat, a party stalwart, president of the Fresno County Young Democrats. All that suddenly changed at a meeting where a party elder was asked about Mexicans. As the about-to-be former Democrat and soon-to-be Republican remembers, "He said something about getting a couple trucks and have 'em all over."

'After all, it's really a small planet.'

Despite the setback, he was on his way to Washington, D.C., anyway, tapped by the Nixon Administration to be second in command of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Two years later he became the numero uno poverty warrior when the boss, Donald Rumsfeld, stepped aside.

That was followed by ambassadorships in Honduras and Colombia, where the Mexican from Pinedale was known as the Gringo Ambassador. "Not a bad word at all," he remembers, because the South Americans reasoned that the Gringo from the north would protect his neighbors in the south. After four years of state dinners, toasts, many handshakes and much hugging, Sanchez was back in the states, this time in New York, where he donned still another hat as newspaper publisher – first of Noticias del Mundo, then the New York City Tribune, among others. He also was vice president of the Washington Times.

Three years ago, the frequent flyer flew back to Fresno, but not to hang his hat permanently. The world is still his stage as he travels from one speaking engagement to another. Nor has the 1977 Fresno State Distinguished Alumni Award winner forgotten his seat of learning, taking on jobs to raise money for the school and serving on its National Board of Visitors.

Fit and with hair still as dark as it was when he was walking the furrows of the Valley, Sanchez has no plans to retire. "I am not allowed to," he says as he prepares to fly to Korea for a speaking gig. "I'm pulled here and there." The only institution from which he *did* retire finally is the Army Reserve, as a colonel.

Throughout it all, he and his wife of 57 years, Juanita (he still sports a boyhood tattoo on a shoulder in her honor), managed to raise six children, three of them adopted, and have 15 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Closing on 80 years, Phillip V. Sanchez has come full circle. He has seen the world and likes what he has seen. "I would like to see us come together as a world," says the worldly fig and peach picker from Pinedale. "After all, it's really a small planet."



In 1974, U.S. Ambassador Sanchez joined relief workers after Hurricane Fifi struck Honduras.



Found in translation

By Lisa Lieberman

It's only fitting that a university with such a culturally diverse campus community serving a region that counts about 100 ethnic and cultural groups should be getting a growing international voice.

That's because Fresno State faculty who are authors have been "discovered" by readers around the world thanks to translations of their literary works into dozens of languages.

"If you start looking at universities around the country that have bigger reputations than Fresno State, you'll find that they don't have faculty that are getting published in as many places as some of the people who have taught here," says Steve Yarbrough, the James and Coke Hallowell Professor of Creative Writing at Fresno State.

Emeriti faculty and poets such as Philip Levine, Peter Everwine and C.G. Hanzlicek, and the recently retired Lillian Faderman, a pioneer in multiethnic literature and women's studies, were among the first to put Fresno State on the international literary map. Current faculty like Yarbrough and others are extending the tradition of global literary reach directly from Fresno State.

Yarbrough, who grew up in the Mississippi Delta and is the author of seven books, often writes about racial issues. His work has been published in Polish, Spanish, Russian, Dutch, Japanese and Swedish.

The themes covered by Yarbrough, whose 2004 novel "Prisoners of War" was a PEN/Faulkner Award finalist, resonate with international readers because he shows a difficult side of America.

"I think that people are always surprised to find out that race relations in the Deep South haven't advanced any farther than they have," Yarbrough says. "What you have is a school system where all black kids go to public schools and the white kids go to private schools. It's a completely racially divided society."

International readers relate to the racial inequities in his stories, Yarbrough says, because most countries have their own "dirty secrets."

Fresno State faculty who are authors have been 'discovered' by readers around the world.

"Poland's dirty secret is its anti-Semitism," he says. "There are fewer than 10,000 Jews left in the country, and so prejudice is something that Polish readers understand very easily."

Two newer writers are recent additions to the Fresno State Department of English — Alex Espinoza and David Anthony Durham — also are making a splash internationally.

Espinoza, who was born in Mexico and raised in Southern California, had his first novel, "Still Water Saints," published by Random House in January 2007. The novel has appeared in Spanish and is being translated into Italian.

The story is set in a small Latino community and centers on a 72-year-old proprietor of a general store who helps her clients cope with issues of sexuality and cultural identity.

"The trick with the novel is that it's about situations that aren't just specific to one culture," Espinoza said. "They're struggles that everyone faces."

Durham attracted international audiences with his 2006 novel, "Pride of Carthage," which tells the historical tale of Hannibal and his 218 B.C. march on Rome. The book has been translated into Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish, Russian and Polish. The Spanish edition spent seven weeks on the best-seller list in Chile.

Durham's fourth novel, "Acacia," was published this summer. The 592-page fantasy, published by Doubleday, chronicles the rise and fall of the imaginary Akran Dynasty, whose



Alex Espinoza



Steve Yarbrough, left, and David Anthony Durham

empire is built on the slave and drug trades.

Unlike some fantasy novels, where white characters are portrayed as being "good" and black characters are "bad," Durham's "Acacia" is more multidimensional.

"So many fantasy novels are populated with just white people, except for maybe an elf or a dwarf, which stands for cultural diversity," says Durham, who is African American. "Even in 'The Lord of the Rings,' there are no people of color who have meaningful lives. What I have in my novel is a much more noticeably diverse world, where there are lots of imagined cultures."

These new books by Durham and Espinoza, according to Yarbrough, continue the thread of diversity here from writers such as Levine, who came from an ethnic background in Detroit; like Faderman, an openly gay Jewish writer; and like Hanzlicek, a Czech American.

"What all of this says about Fresno State is that it doesn't matter where you came from or how you got here,"

Yarbrough says. "All that matters is your talent as a writer and your ability to connect with readers."

— Lisa Lieberman is a freelance writer based in Three Rivers.

Durham attracted international audiences with his 2006 novel, 'Pride of Carthage.' The book has been translated into Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Swedish, Russian and Polish.



India intrigues visitors from Fresno State

By Joan Sharma and Brijesh Sharma

For 13 days a group that included Fresno State students, former students and community members, took a close look at northern India, visiting sites of historical, religious and architectural interest and encountering hospitality that extended to a parade in our honor and a group meditation.

Our 13-day tour began with our arrival at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport, where each of us received a long-stemmed rose. It didn't take long until the next display of hospitality when we were greeted at the Taj Mahal Hotel – one of India's finest –with a jasmine and rose garland.

The tour was more than just a vacation. Like other programs through Fresno State's Division of Global Education and Extended Learning is was designed as an educational experience, exposing participants to the history, customs and people of northern India.



In Delhi, we visited Qutub Minar – an ancient Hindu capital conquered by Muslim rulers in the 12th century – famed for its high minaret and red sandstone monuments decorated with Arabic calligraphy carved by Hindu artisans.

At the majestic Baha'i Lotus Temple, we saw one of Delhi's most frequently photographed buildings, and then the second Mughal Emperor Humayun's tomb, whose architects and designers appear to have influenced some aspects of the Taj Mahal. Our busy day concluded with folk and Indian classical dance performed in Parsi Anjuman, the Zoroastrian fire temple of Delhi.

Traveling to Agra, we stopped at an archaeological museum famous for its sandstone and metal sculpture from the first century during the Kushan Dynasty. The Kushans originally were Han Chinese who migrated towards Afghanistan in the second and third centuries BCE and intermarried with Greeks, who stayed after Alexander the Great returned to Macedonia.

By the first century, when they conquered northwestern India, their facial features resembled people of Greek origin and they had converted to Hinduism and Buddhism. Sculpture from this period depicts both religions' deities with Greek features and flowing Greek robes.

At the mausoleum of the third Mughal Emperor, Akbar, popularly called Sikandara, the main entry gate into vast geometrically planned



Left: Jodhpur's hilltop fort of Mehrangarh is home to a museum exhibiting 15th- to 17th-century relics. Above: In Delhi is Qutub Minar, famed for its red sandstone monuments.

Right: Dawn light and mist greet a Fresno State group visiting the Taj Mahal, whose façade (bottom) is intricately carved.

Photos courtesy: Joan Sharma



Photos courtesy Joan Sharma

Fresno State study tours get travelers close to people such as a man (top) in Jaipur. A Nimaaj vendor's vegetables (bottom) look familiar to San Joaquin Valley visitors.



gardens is more impressive than the mausoleum. This entrance gate was added during the reign of the fourth Mughal Emperor, Jahangir.

We left our hotel at 5.30 a.m. to witness sunrise over the Taj Mahal. As the Taj Mahal emerged from the night's fog, its white marble surface constantly changed color reflecting the changing light. We remained there three hours to admire, reflect on and photograph this work of inspired and majestic design.

After this breathtakingly beautiful monument, we visited a local factory where descendants of artisans who worked on the construction and intricate inlay at the Taj Mahal continue to create beautiful objects using marble and semiprecious stones. Today's artisans work with the same implements used 300 years ago.

As we were leaving Agra, we stopped at the white marble palaces at Agra Fort, where the fifth Mughal Emperor, Shahjahan, was kept prisoner by his own son during the last eight years of his life.

About an hour's drive west of Agra is another World Heritage Site – Fatehpur Sikri, home to the palaces and mosque of the third Mughal Emperor, Akbar, a visionary who established the capital so he could enjoy the company of Sufi spiritual master Sheikh Salim Chistie, who had prophesied that the emperor would have three sons. The architecture reflects the emperor's tolerant and liberal religious philosophy.

Our tour continued to the rose pink city of Jaipur – a capital established by Hindu Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II in 1727 and planned to reflect the founder's interest in astronomy and the ancient Hindu treatise on city planning, the "Shilpa Shastras."

Jaipur was constructed in 1876 to honor a visit by the Prince of Wales. All building facades were painted with distinctive pink mineral paint. We stopped at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds), a viewing gallery only three feet deep with finely carved lattice screens designed so royal ladies could watch the Maharaja's ceremonial processions in privacy without being seen by the public on the streets below.

Before Jaipur's construction, Kacchawaha Rajput ruled from the Fort of Amber perched high on a hilltop. We were carried by beautifully decorated, hardworking elephants up a winding path to the hilltop palaces in Amber Fort, whose architecture is an intriguing mixture of Hindu Rajput and Mughal. The palaces of Maharaja Jai Singh I are noted for tiny convex mirrors cut into ornamental shapes and inlaid in plaster on the walls.

Jaipur is famous for its City Palace, where descendants of the former royal family continue to live. The public areas of this palace house India's largest collection of beautiful Mughal and pre-Mughal miniature paintings and manuscripts in Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic. Just outside is Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh's impressive astronomical observatory, where all but one of its 29 astronomical instruments continues to function and the large sundial is accurate to seven seconds.

Between Jaipur and Jodhpur (the Blue City), we had lunch in the ancient Nimaaj Castle, situated on a hilltop surrounded by the village of Nimaaj. We rode on brightly



decorated ox carts in a ceremonial procession through the village accompanied by drums and a brass band and welcomed by colorfully dressed villagers. As the sun began to set, we visited Jodhpur's hilltop fort of Mehrangarh and its museum to view 15th-17th century relics.

Our next stop was in the lush valley of Ranakpur, where the Chaturmukh Jain Temple is surrounded by the Aravali Mountains, shimmering like a pearl in a sea of emeralds. The chief priest offered to lead mediation for our group. He chanted ancient Sanskrit verses that resonated throughout the stone temple constructed in the 15th century of marble and white granite. Each pillar in the courtyards is uniquely carved and decorated, while the interior is filled with intricate sculpture.

After visiting the City Palace in Udaipur, the city of lakes and palaces, we boarded decorated boats on the shores of Lake Pichola for the trip to the 263-year-old Jag Niwas Lake Palace Hotel to enjoy a sumptuous lunch. The hotel is on an island in the middle of the lake.

That evening, a local woman decorated the palms of some in our group with intricate henna motifs, and we celebrated the 40th birthday of one of our tour participants with a gala that included decorative lighting in the garden and stage, local folk performances, a DJ, lively music, dancing and fireworks.

A short drive north of Udaipur is the small, ancient kingdom of Devghar, where we stayed in the exquisitely renovated, hilltop castle of the former Raja of Devghar. Some participants went horseback riding for a few hours throughout the countryside and surrounding villages before our drive back to Jaipur and the train back to Delhi for our return flight Jan. 6, 2007.

– The 2006/07 winter break "Northern India Study Tour" was led by Joan Sharma, associate professor in the Department of Art and Design, and her husband, Brijesh Sharma, CEO of India Traveller LLC.



Michael Karthian

Joan and Brijesh Sharma at the President's Gallery in the Thomas Administration building during an exhibition of her photographs.



Photos courtesy Joan Sharma

Top left: A Jainist priest meets with tour group member Lauren Crist at a temple in the Aravali Mountains. Top right: Study group members get a welcome parade in Nimaaj. Middle: Intricate henna designs are displayed by Fresno State study group members. Bottom: An attraction in Udaipur is vintage American cars.

Where in the WORLD is Fresno State?



CANADA

Robin Mackin will take a year off from Fresno State to practice with the Canadian national softball team preparing for the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Mackin was the winning pitcher in relief as Canada won the gold medal at the 2007 International University Games in Thailand.



MONTANA, U.S.A.

Alumnus **Greg Pape** (1973) a poet and University of Montana creative writing professor, was appointed by the governor as Montana's poet laureate.



GEORGIA, U.S.A.

The Blackstock Vineyards winemaker is **David Harris**, a 1985 graduate of the enology and viticulture program.



FLORIDA, U.S.A.

Steven E. Ibson (1983) is the special agent in charge of the FBI's Tampa, Fla., division. His nearly 20-year FBI career has included responsibility for white collar violent crime and investigative programs along the U.S. border with Mexico.



PERU

Dr. James Kus, a geography professor, leads tours each year to Inca lands.



CHILE

Dr. William Skuban, a history professor, made several research trips to Peru and Chile in the process of writing "Lines in the Sand," a recently published book about a frontier dispute between the two nations in the early 20th century.



NIGERIA



GHANA

Dr. Yaw Oheneba-Sakyi (Africana Studies) received a Fulbright Scholars grant to study higher education in his native Ghana.



PENNSYLVANIA, U.S.A.

Research conducted by alumnus **Dr. Glen Tellis** (1995) and some of his graduate students at College Misericordia led to proposed new standards of education for speech language pathologists to best serve youngsters.



BARBADOS

Former Bulldog **Toni Atherly**, who received a criminology degree in 2007, played for the Barbados senior women's basketball team at the Caribbean Basketball Confederation Championship in Puerto Rico.



ABU DHABI

Mohamed Almulla, (1987) who studied business management at Fresno State, was appointed chief executive officer for HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd.



SOUTH AFRICA

Retired Professor **Richard Berrett** (Child, Family and Consumer Sciences) has taken groups to study international service learning.

ENGLAND

Dr. Honora Chapman, a classics professor, presented a paper on first century historian Josephus at Cambridge University. While there, she met alumni Anna Vallis, studying in Bristol for her doctorate, and Ryan Harbert, studying at the University of Liverpool.



FRANCE

Louis Moreau, who graduated from the enology program in 1990, is an award-winning sixth-generation winemaker in Chablis.



FRANCE

Dr. Dan Nadenor, an art and design professor, screened two films at the "Images Contre Nature," an international experimental video festival in Marseilles, France. One film was invited to a festival in Argentina.



SPAIN

Cory Whitehead, an assistant professor of music led students to Cordoba to learn about the Flamenco guitar art form.



NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Alumna **Deanna Atalig (Castro) Sabian** (1997) is a senior analyst with the Office of the Public Auditor for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.



LAOS

Dr. Song Lee, an assistant professor in Fresno State's Counseling, Special Education and Rehabilitation Department and an alumna (2000), is a Hmong refugee from Laos who has received a national award for multicultural counseling.



THAILAND

Dr. Steve Blumenshine, an assistant professor of biology, spent six months in Thailand as a Fulbright fellow.



MALAYSIA

The Craig School of Business is helping organize the 19th Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting issues in Kuala Lumpur.



INDIA

Dr. Devandra Sharma, an assistant professor of communications, was a consultant to the United Nations for its project to raise HIV/AIDS awareness. In the state of Bihar, he helped people design and implement a pilot folk performance/electronic media campaign to help combat the disease.



Illustration by Todd Graves

All in just one summer



Dr. Claire Sham Choy, in yellow, is the focus of attention in a procession in Ghana before she was installed as Development Queen Mother.

Fresno State's global perspective is the sum of so many parts, we can't do all of them justice in this magazine.

Three answers to the question, "What did you do during the summer?" give you some idea.

Dr. Claire Sham Choy, a native of Trinidad and Tobago who chairs Fresno State's Department of Counseling and Special Education, has made several trips to Ghana since being inspired by her university mentor in Toronto, a Ghanaian. She visits Ghana "to appreciate indigenous knowledge," traveling to schools and universities and talking with tribal rulers and government officials.

"The highlight of my experience," she says, "was always the easy and down-to-earth connection with the people. It was like being home."

In summer 2007, Sham Choy was honored as Nkosuohema (Development Queen Mother), responsible for "all aspects of development of the village for as long as I am able and willing." Sham Choy keeps in touch by phone and online on issues as drainage, better computer access and training of young girls.

Brian Turner, an award-winning poet and Fresno State alumnus whose "Here, Bullet" recounts his experiences as a soldier in Iraq, blogs for the New York Times Web site.



Brian Turner

During summer 2007, he visited Uganda torn by two decades of civil war, and watched his guide's poignant search for a fallen brother, concluding:

"When I shift my thoughts to the incredible number of Iraqis who have fled as refugees from the war, and when I consider how many stories like this there must be, and how my own hands are in the making of these tragedies, I find it all overwhelming. I push it down deep."

Chantella Perera, a standout Fresno State basketball player (2003-07) and student, traveled to Australia, Spain, Russia, China and Thailand to help her native Australia earn a silver medal in the Under-21 World Championships and gold at the World University Games.

"When they called our country it was cool to walk out with all the other athletes from Australia," she says. "I've always watched the Olympics as a kid. This brings me one step closer."

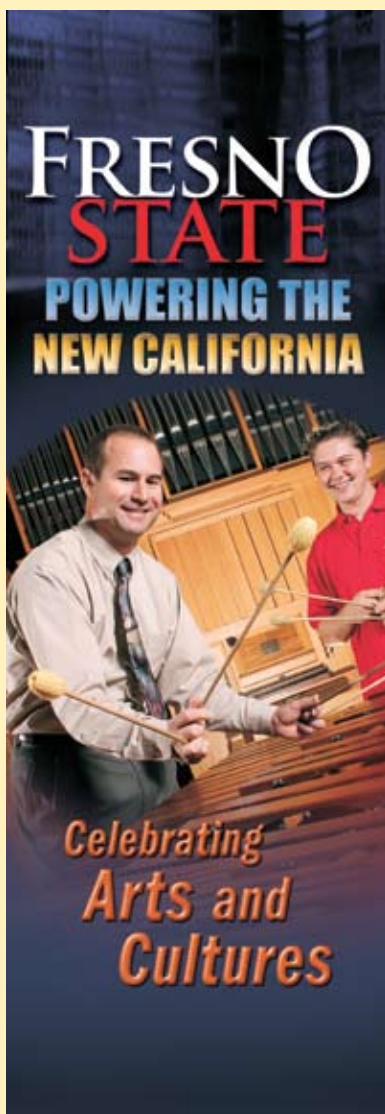
She hopes to represent Australia in the 2012 games after playing professionally in Australia for the Dandenong Jayco Rangers.

Three stories, three months, five continents, one campus: Fresno State.



Chantella Perera

Courtesy: Basketball Australia



Campus banners proclaim campaign theme

New banners are out on the Fresno State campus calling attention to the emphasis on "Powering the New California" as the theme of the Campaign for Fresno State.

The university's engagement with the region includes research on issues vital to the area, partnerships to encourage economic growth and stability and programs tailored to develop leaders for today and in the future.

For information about how to participate in the campaign, visit SupportFresnoState.com.

Campaign aims to provide resources to help power the New California

By Jill Wagner

Dynamic shifts in population, culture and the economy are at the heart of Central California's transformation into the New California.

Perfectly positioned to lead is Fresno State, with nearly a century of commitment to education, research and service solving regional issues and developing leaders to effectively manage change. Fresno State is truly powering the New California, the fastest-growing region in the state.

For the first time since the Gold Rush, more than half of Californians live outside the Bay Area and Southern California. Migration within the state is heading from east to west as Californians seek an affordable area to live, work and establish families.

These shifts present significant opportunity for Fresno State to lead the region to a new economy that provides employment in good-paying jobs and for the university to help guide smart growth and preservation of precious resources. While no one can predict what the New California will look like in 20 years, Fresno State is ensuring that the tools and people are in place to maximize the region's strengths.

Fresno State already is one of the nation's most diverse major universities. In many ways the unique combination of cultures reflects the future of the global economy. Our crisscross of cultures has compelled Central Californians to forge new relationships and to work together on regional improvement.

More than one-third of Fresno State's new students are the first in their families to attend college. And when they graduate, they are part of a diverse, career-ready workforce sought by employers across the country and in other parts of the world as well.

Fresno State has the faculty, expertise and community relationships in place to bring the resources of the university to bear on the key issues of the region. The 1,200 faculty members, working with 22,000 students, address the key issues of Central California today, but also encourage development of people who will be the innovators and creative problem-solvers in the years ahead.

Fresno State alumni who have served in prominent leadership positions such as Phillip V. Sanchez, ambassador to Honduras and Colombia and Paul O'Neill, secretary of the treasury. Two space shuttle commanders, the late Col. Rick Husband and Col. Steven R. Nagel, are Fresno State engineering alumni.

Fresno State degrees were cornerstones in the careers of state and national elected officials and executives with Microsoft, Boeing Company, Amazon, Patagonia, HSBC Bank and other international businesses. Other alumni are leaders in research, education, social work, water and agriculture, security and military affairs.

Like many universities of its size and scope, Fresno State promotes basic research goals, focusing on studies that directly relate to the New California in such areas as health, agriculture, service, business and resource enhancement and protection. Fresno State specializes in applied research, innovation and entrepreneurship, aligning the university's resources with the needs of the San Joaquin Valley.

The region is known for hard-working people who have often had to struggle to improve the quality of their lives. For nearly 100 years, Fresno State has provided a way

Right: Dr. Premchand Mahalik and graduate student Surendra Annavarapu work in the Industrial Technology Laboratory, which is developing ways Fresno State can help expand the region's food processing industry.



FresnoStateNews.com: Shaun Ho



Fresno State's new Earthquake Modeling and Simulation Facility, which includes a shaking table, helps engineering students research ways to make structures safer.

Courtesy: Dr. Thomas Altard

Gifts from Ed Dunkel benefit Fresno State engineering, athletics programs

Ed Dunkel Jr. is paying Fresno State back for what it gave him with financial support to Bulldog athletics and to the College of Engineering.

Dunkel graduated from Fresno State in 2001 with a bachelor of science degree in engineering and founded Fresno-based Precision Engineering Inc., in whose name the gift was made.

His \$100,000 to the civil engineering program at Fresno State will “help transform our current Soil Teaching Lab into a comprehensive geotechnical and geoenvironmental teaching and research lab,” says Dr. Ming Xiao, an assistant professor of civil engineering.

Part of the donation will sponsor the annual Senior Design Awards in civil engineering and land development.

“This donation provides a great opportunity to expand our civil engineering program – particularly the geotechnical engineering program,” says Xiao.

Dr. Jesus Larralde, the program coordinator, says the gift will help faculty conduct research “on the complex areas of behavior of building foundations and soil structures in difficult conditions, such as earthquakes, high water pore pressure and others.”

Students, he adds, benefit from learning “innovative, cutting-edge techniques to characterize soil materials and their relation to structural performance and engineering design.”

Dunkel also made a similar gift in support of Fresno State student-athletes. He serves as a Bulldog Foundation board member.

“I wanted to give back to the program that helped make me a successful entrepreneur,” says Dunkel. “I hope this contribution will help ensure a whole new generation of engineers for our region.”

continued from Page 28

for Central California students to reach their highest dreams. The Fresno State story continues to be one of hard work, perseverance, inspiration and achievement.

For California and the U.S. to thrive will require well-prepared students from diverse backgrounds to serve the New California. From the halls of the state Capitol, to executive boardrooms, to the command deck of the Space Shuttle, Fresno State produces those students.

Already there are great demands on regional resources. Fresno State is developing ways to preserve them while supporting growth. Water supplies and air quality take center stage, but the need to preserve the region’s economic base – agriculture – remains a key component.

The university also is keenly aware of another resource – financial support. The state treasury funds the essential core of the university, but to live up to Fresno State’s growing status as a nationally acclaimed university, requires much more support. Hard work through the years has positioned Fresno State to attract substantial donations from private individuals and organizations.

The margin of excellence at great universities is private support, not reliance on public funds. Many of the most significant academic and program initiatives on campus have been funded through private gifts. Some obvious examples: the Henry Madden Library expansion sponsored by Table Mountain Rancheria, the proposed Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, the Downing Planetarium, the Smittcamp Family Honors College and Smittcamp Alumni House, the Craig School of Business and the Kremen School of Education and Human Development.

The Campaign for Fresno State is a historic effort to transform the university, its academic programs and the lives of its faculty and students through a sustained investment in academic excellence.

To continue offering the highest-quality undergraduate and graduate-level education in the region, Fresno State must continue to develop and encourage a nationally acclaimed faculty dedicated to teaching and research. The Campaign is designed to provide the resources to attract and sustain top-notch faculty in an environment that also encourages continued student success at Fresno State.

Now, Fresno State is asking many of those who have benefited from its near century of leadership to step forward to assure a promising future for the university in its vital role of powering the New California. 🌻

– Jill Wagner is director of communications for the Campaign for Fresno State.



Jan and Bud Richter

Campaign for Fresno State

Alumna Marleen Dong Wong gives back through Madden Library service

By Andrew Faught

Crisis counselor Marleen Dong Wong (1969) knows firsthand the mental toll that traumatic events can take on children. She was there in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City courthouse bombing, the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado and the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York and near Washington, D.C. In each, Wong heard a similar refrain.

“It used to surprise me that a small number of individuals at every single tragedy think the trauma will just go away,” says Wong, director of crisis counseling and intervention for the Los Angeles Unified School District and one of 13 Fresno State Top Dog Alumni Award 2007 honorees.

“Two weeks after the bombing in Oklahoma City, one of the middle school principals said, ‘It’s over and I’m not talking about it anymore,’” she says. “There are people in Oklahoma City who would be highly offended if anyone said that today because no one who experiences a traumatic event is unaffected.”



President George W. Bush with Dr. Marleen Dong Wong recognizing her contributions in helping children traumatized while at school.

Courtesy: Marleen Dong Wong

Research has shown that children traumatized by community violence or natural disasters can suffer long-term academic effects, including lower grades and reading scores, increased absenteeism or reluctance to attend school.

After the 1992 Los Angeles riots and the Northridge earthquake in 1994, Wong, who grew up in Fresno, developed mental health recovery programs for traumatized students. She was one of the first social service officials to gain crisis counseling grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Wong remained a consultant and trainer for school psychologists, social workers and counselors in the Oklahoma City Public Schools for two years after the bombing.

She also helped develop one of the nation’s only interventions for adolescents who have suffered psychological trauma. Called CBITS – for Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools – the effort has been identified by the White House as the most effective program for school-age youth.

“There is a strong desire to think that human beings are simple and if we just get on with things, the thoughts and feelings will go away. That’s not how we’re wired as people,” Wong says. “As human beings, we may attempt to push things under the rug, but adults who were traumatized by violence as children will tell you that there was a great price to pay.”

At Fresno State, Wong graduated summa cum laude with a degree in social welfare. She was on the student Senate and founded the Oriental American Student Coalition, which brought together students and community leaders in discussions about cultural and societal issues affecting Asian Americans.

Wong joined the Henry Madden Library Leadership Board in 2006. Her goal is to establish an endowment that will provide books and other reference materials in the library for students in social work and social welfare.

– Andrew Faught is a senior writer in the Office of University Communications.



Michael Karthian

Dr. Marleen Dong Wong was the 2007 Top Dog Alumni Award winner for the Madden Library.

Some Q & A with Athletics Director Thomas Boeh

Q. (FresnoState Magazine): Since you arrived in 2005, what are your most significant accomplishments?

A. (Athletics Director Thomas Boeh): Our first priority was to assemble an experienced senior management team equipped to immediately resolve and stabilize unfortunate issues of the past relative to NCAA compliance, academics, gender equity, student-athlete conduct, finances, personnel and professional collegiality.

Of course, we still have some issues that have not yet been fully resolved. However, we believe that it remains the role of the courts and other oversight agencies to determine the legal interpretation of what transpired in the past and to alert us to the need for any appropriate additional corrective measures. Our role as the leadership of today's Fresno State Department of Athletics is to learn from previous issues and remain focused upon working toward a better future.

Distractions aside, it is imperative to remain mindful that Fresno State Athletics has achieved a great deal the past several years. Many dedicated student-athletes and staff members have provided countless thrilling moments, individual academic honors, enhanced community service, numerous WAC titles and advancement to post-season competition. It is fitting and important that we continue to celebrate and take pride in their many accomplishments.

I am very pleased with the senior administrative team that we have recruited over the past two years – a diverse group of individuals with significant experience at the NCAA Division I-A level. I believe we now have the leadership team in place to guide the program into a “New Era of Bulldog Athletics.”

Q.: Who's on the management team?

A.: Senior Associate Athletics Director Betsy Mosher, who enjoys an outstanding national reputation, is the cornerstone of the senior administrative team. Her extraordinary experience and expertise have provided an immediate and positive impact toward our efforts regarding NCAA compliance, gender equity, student-athlete conduct, academic achievement and other student-athlete welfare issues.

Associate Athletics Director Paul Ladwig and his staff have quickly made improvements within marketing, broadcasting and communication, as well as the daily and game-day fan experience. Numerous other initiatives lie ahead for more effective outreach to Bulldog fans everywhere and expanding the Red Wave.

John Kriebs has been elevated to associate athletics director for facilities and operations. John has displayed terrific leadership and loyalty, and

Many dedicated student-athletes and staff members have provided countless thrilling moments, individual academic honors, enhanced community service, numerous WAC titles and advancement to post-season competition.



Athletics Director Thomas Boeh meets frequently with sports reporters to talk about Bulldog student-athletes' accomplishments.

Fresno State enjoys an exceptional fan base that is deeply committed to the Bulldogs. Their passion and often-demonstrated loyalty will be critical for the ... ultimate success of the entire athletics program.

his experience at Fresno State provides the new members of the staff historical perspective.

Balancing the athletics budget the past two fiscal years was also a significant accomplishment for our entire staff, requiring a great deal of hard work, creativity and sacrifice. We recruited Martina Buckley, a CPA with several years of Division I-A experience, as an associate athletics director to oversee our business office and further stabilize and grow our budget and financial operation.

Associate Athletics Director for Development Danny White arrives with experience and success at three Division I-A institutions. His energy, creativity and insight will be key to expanding the outstanding fundraising traditions of the Bulldog Foundation.

Q.: What excites you about Fresno State Athletics?

A.: I have been impressed with the skill level, commitment and resilience of many of our student-athletes. It is clear that we have a wide array of talented young men and women committed to academic, athletic and social achievement.

We are fortunate to have an experienced, talented and dedicated coaching and support-services staff that is deeply devoted to creating an exceptional experience for our student-athletes. It also is gratifying that we have the support of President Welty and other members of the university's central administration.

And finally, it is clear that Fresno State enjoys an exceptional fan base that is deeply committed to the Bulldogs. Their passion and often-demonstrated loyalty will be critical for the continued growth and ultimate success of the entire athletics program.

Q.: What does the future hold for Fresno State Athletics?

A.: The reality is that the environment within major college athletics is changing at a rapidly accelerating pace. We appear to be at crossroads of sorts, and the next 10 years will likely be critical to the long-term placement and sustainability of Fresno State Athletics. As a community, we must confirm our collective commitment to maintaining our place among the NCAA Division I-A institutions, the nation's highest level of collegiate athletic competition as well as academic prestige.

Fortunately, we are located in a fast-growing region known as a hotbed of exceptional high school student-athletes. Further, our university serves as the educational and cultural center of "The New California." Subsequently, our athletics program could become a more significant force within Division I-A in the same manner that the San Joaquin Valley is emerging in national significance.

A critical step toward that end is for our institution and the Department of Athletics to review and adopt the industry's best practices and achieve industry standards in every component of the program.

The New Era in Bulldog Athletics envisions a broad-based, nationally competitive and honorable program where all applicable sports teams are consistently ranked among the Western Athletics Conference elite and participate frequently in NCAA championships. To realize that vision:

1. We will identify and recruit highly skilled professional staff members positioned to demonstrate exceptional leadership and management techniques.
2. We will identify and recruit the most promising student-athletes available and provide them with a campus and intercollegiate athletics support infrastructure designed to foster one of the West Coast's finest "student-athlete experience."
3. We will be a highly transparent organization and adopt new methodology to communicate regularly and effectively with key athletics constituents, as well as with the community at large.
4. We will foster a "culture of NCAA compliance" based primarily on a consistent approach, continual education, built-in accountability and an unwavering decision-making process.
5. We will significantly improve the NCAA-defined academic progress rates and graduation success rates of student-athletes.
6. We will promote and celebrate gender equity, diversity, sportsmanship and collegiality. We will continue our commitment to full compliance with Title IX, which likely will include additional women's sports programming in the near future.
7. We will provide our student-athletes and coaches with the state-of-the-art facilities that are necessary for competitive achievement, as well as for success within today's highly competitive recruiting environment.
8. We will continue to boost revenue streams and implement operating efficiencies to achieve sustainable fiscal stability and better support the efforts of our student-athletes.
9. We will build upon the extraordinary success and traditions of the Bulldog Foundation Annual Scholarship Fund to expand all fundraising ventures. 🌟

Fresno State Athletics

The New Era in Bulldog Athletics envisions a broad-based, nationally competitive and honorable program where all applicable sports teams are consistently ranked among the Western Athletics Conference elite and participate frequently in NCAA championships.

Tennis teammates share a world of experiences

By Lisa Lieberman

Fresno State women's tennis is thriving with its mix of international and homegrown student-athletes bringing different backgrounds and sharing their experiences to build a competitive, close-knit team.

Danon Beatty, a native of Bakersfield, says having teammates from around the globe has been an opportunity she'll never forget: "It's been an amazing experience to play with such high-caliber players who are also such a great group of girls, both on and off the court."

Fresno State's 2007 roster includes players from the Czech Republic, Russia, Brazil, Jamaica, Canada and Australia. Of 13 players, six are from the United States. Their coach is French-Canadian.

The mix has proved to be a winning formula. Fresno State ended 2007 ranked No. 14 in the nation after winning its sixth Western Athletic Conference title and advancing to the NCAA Round of 16 in postseason. Six players were on the All-WAC Academic team – Beatty, Melanie Gloria (Canada), Vanessa Heroux (Canada), Jacqueline Haskett (Australia), Bruna Paes (Brazil) and Tinstea Rowe (Jamaica). The team's overall grade-point average was 3.6.

"All the girls take school and tennis very seriously, and they fight for their goals," says Simon Thibodeau, the coach.

The Bulldogs practice 20-plus hours a week during the year and also live, travel, study and socialize together. They stay in touch over the summer and breaks via e-mail and MySpace.com.

"We get to know each other inside and out. That's especially important in doubles" says Beatty, a junior this academic year.

Beatty knows, for instance, that her doubles partner, Heroux, a sophomore from Montreal, likes to bounce the ball exactly three times before every serve.

The partners share some idiosyncrasies. "If we win a point, we try to use the same ball again. If we lose the point, we figure that ball wasn't working for us, and we try to avoid using it again," Beatty says.

Heroux and Beatty complement each other. "I'm more composed and she's more emotional on the court," says Beatty. "I can calm her down when she gets upset, and when I need to get fired up, she can get me going."

When she came to Fresno State, English was the biggest challenge for Heroux, whose native language is French. "There



Vanessa Heroux, above, of Canada has teamed with Bakersfield native Danon Beatty (below with Coach Simon Thibodeau) as doubles partners at Fresno State.



Photos: Fresno State Athletics

was so much English that I wasn't used to that. By the end of each day, my head was hurting," she says. "But I was lucky. I got a lot of help from my teachers, and Danon would help me with my homework when I needed it."

"A lot of the girls would ask me to read their English essays to make sure they were OK, or they'd ask how to say a certain thing in English," Beatty says of her teammates. "But they've really helped me more. When I got here, most of them had already been here a year, and they showed me around. They knew the campus inside and out. They've also helped me improve tremendously as a tennis player."

Thibodeau isn't surprised "because so many players come from different places and they're all in the same situation – being on their own for the first time in a different culture."

From the beginning, Thibodeau's goal was to assemble the best team. The fact his players – recruited here and abroad – have come together so closely by learning from each other is a bonus. 🌸

Finding time is a balancing act

By Adrian Rodriguez

For Clint Stitser, practicing time management isn't merely an academic exercise.

Like all student-athletes, Stitser does double-duty. As a kicker for the Bulldogs football team and also working on his MBA in the Craig School of Business, the Reno, Nev., native has managed his time well enough to become a solid athlete and a Dean's Medal winner for academic achievement. He graduated in May 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a finance option.

And while maintaining a perfect 4.0 grade-point average (good for All-Western Athletic Conference Academic recognition), he has volunteered time with the Big Heroes-Little Heroes program that helps patients at Children's Hospital Central California increase self-esteem and establishes role models. Teammates elected him to the Fresno State Football Leadership Council and Student Athlete Advisory Council.

That kind of balance is a cornerstone goal of the Fresno State Athletics Department for all its student-athletes: play competitively for Bulldog teams and prepare for future careers outside athletics.

Another success story is Ryan Moore, who hopes to make his mark in the legal world after studying political science, starring on the Bulldog track and field team and forging a 3.83 GPA.

The Visalia native won two WAC 400-meter hurdles titles, qualified three times for NCAA championship competition and was a four-time All-WAC Academic honoree. He also was selected for the 2007 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District 8 team – one of 10 student-athletes from western universities.

The balance between academics and athletics was especially strong in spring 2007. Fifty-four Fresno State student-athletes were named to the All-WAC Academic team (at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and participation in half of the team's contests). Spring sports at Fresno State are men's and women's track and field, softball, baseball, men's and women's tennis and men's and women's golf.

Scheduling can be challenging. Stitser credits Fresno State's Academic Gameplan, taught by Associate Head Football Coach John Baxter with helping him get organized.

"Just as the saying goes, 'If you want something done, give it to someone who is busy,'" Stitser says. "I learned to manage my time throughout school by breaking huge projects down into small tasks. Then, by staying on top of those small tasks each day, the project is done before you know it and there is time to meet all your other daily needs such as football, leisure, etc."

Stitser hopes to take what he's learning at Fresno State about investment banking – and, presumably, time management – into business ownership. 🌸

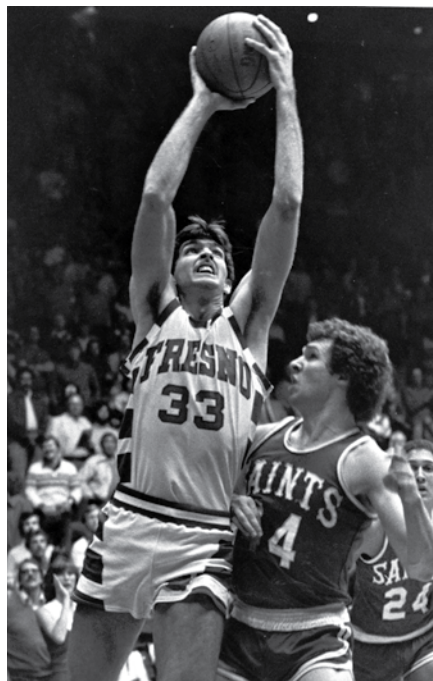


Fresno State Athletics



Memories to last one Bulldog backer a lifetime

Newscaster John Wallace (top), a longtime Bulldog booster, remembers basketball player Bobby Jones (33, below) as one of Fresno State's best.



Fresno State Athletics

It was a dark and stormy night, as many were, when this cub radio reporter lugging a bulky Wollensak reel-to-reel tape recorder sloshed his way to Ratcliffe Stadium's small brick restroom, doubling as a dressing room, to interview mud-caked Bulldog gladiators. It was the fall of 1969 and the beginning of my relationship with Fresno State athletics.

Many Bulldog supporters with far more history than I have a wealth of memories about their experiences – some undoubtedly inglorious. Mine are of obscure occurrences forming a patchwork quilt of joy and laughter that transformed me from professional observer to avid fan to involved booster.

I remember our quarterback, Neftali Cortez, sprawled on his back at mid-field after a vicious sack. As J.R. Boone rushed to his side, Nef said, "I'm okay, coach. How are the fans taking it?" Cortez, by the way, now gains ground as a successful land baron in Southern California.

Also in that venerable venue, perky Fresno State cheerleaders spent pre-game hours dyeing white handkerchiefs red to distribute to the 12,000 souls for the first-ever Red Wave. It was a Bulldog-San Diego State game. Or maybe it was Long Beach. Whatever. Alas, the hankies turned out pink and the 'Dogs played more pastel than red.

By John Wallace

History will remember that Fresno Bee reporter Ron Orozco coined the term Red Wave to describe caravans of scarlet-clad fanatics who navigated Pacheco Pass, rallied at South Bay shopping malls and easily outnumbered hometown Spartan faithful in San Jose during the early 1980s.

It was pure family fun when Cheri and I and our growing brood joined the Barkers, Duncans, Lewises, Gaykians and other loyalists traveling in a pack, wearing our red and having a common purpose: Bulldog pride and support.

From Billings, Mont., to Baton Rouge, La., Wichita, Kan., to Waco, Texas, Indianapolis to San Juan, Puerto Rico – we shared the team's fortunes and missteps. The last locale, in a diminutive gymnasium, provided me with another indelible memory. Chris Herren got into a deafening shouting match with his brother, Michael, who was in the stands as Chris stood at the foul line for the front end of a one-and-one. Chris missed and water quickly became thicker than blood.

Through thick and thin: that's the way it's been. We have seen, supported and welcomed into our community thousands of student-athletes who built the bridge for today's Susdorfs, Glorias and Stitsers to cross.

Art Williams, perhaps the Bulldog who singularly changed our basketball fortunes; Bobby Davis, best slam dunk EVER; Mariann Sjtun, whose travails led to an unforgettable meeting with Michael Jordan; plus Marvin Carter, Rod Kraft, Mark Gardner, Bobby Jones, Gena Strang and so many others. They played and they stayed.

Our children are grown. Our twin daughters, Cameron and Paige, have vague recollections of romping around in their cheerleader outfits. Cass, who became a Bulldog swimmer, was a gangly ball girl in the Ron Adams era of men's basketball. Carson is a Fresno State grad and businessman, and Taylor is scaling new heights as a Bulldog pole vaulter.

I suspect they will carry on our family tradition as Bulldog backers. And I'm sure they'll enjoy it as much as their parents still do. 🌸

— John Wallace, a news anchor at Fresno CBS affiliate KGPE, is president of the Board of Trustees for the Bulldog Foundation Board Scholarship Fund and vice chairman of the foundation's board of directors.



Bulldog Foundation



Photos: Fresno State Athletics



Softball player Geena Strang (top photo) and basketball guard Chris Herren (left) are among former Bulldog student-athletes cheered by loyal members of the Red Wave.

Bulldog teams shine in spring

Spring 2007 was a shining example of Bulldog athletic success as men's and women's teams starred in Western Athletic Conference competition and into NCAA postseason play.

And Bulldogs were stars off the field, too, with 54 student-athletes winning All-WAC Academic honors.

Here's a brief recap:

BASEBALL

Coach Tim Batesole completed his fifth season with his second consecutive conference and championship titles and the Bulldogs' 30th appearance in the NCAA Tournament. The Bulldogs fell to Cal State-Fullerton in the regional final, closing out the season 38-29 and placing six players on the All-WAC first team. Under Batesole, 21 Bulldog players have been drafted into the major leagues, including four in 2007: outfielders Brian Lapin, Ozzie Lewis and Steve Susdorf and pitcher Brandon Miller.



Jakub Cech

SOFTBALL

For an NCAA record 26th straight year, the Fresno State softball team reached the NCAA Tournament, losing in the Palo Alto regional to complete a 47-18 record with a No. 23 national ranking and the WAC Tournament championship. Six Bulldogs earned All-WAC honors, including sophomore Robin Mackin of Newmarket, Ontario, who pitched for Team Canada during the summer and hopes to earn a spot on Canada's roster for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

As reported on Page 38, Fresno State ranked 14th in the nation, won its sixth straight WAC title and made its fourth trip to the NCAA Round of 16. The team finished with 13 straight match victories, 11 of them shutouts.

MEN'S TENNIS

The Bulldogs lost in the final round of the WAC Tournament to Boise State for the second straight season after winning 13 consecutive matches during the regular season. Jakub Cech completed his college career with 71 singles victories. Charles Irie ended with 68 singles triumphs to rank 16th and 18th in program history. Cech won first-team All-WAC honors in singles and freshman Mirko Zapletal was a conference first-teamer in doubles.

TRACK AND FIELD

Freshman pole vaulter Andrew Pancotti kept a streak going when he won the 10th straight



Margie Wright

WAC title in his event. Senior Roy Phelps was second and junior Ryan Rupcich fourth. The men's team placed fourth in the conference and the women's team seventh. For the third time, Mallory Webb, a senior, earned All-America honors in javelin, and discus thrower Katie Richardson qualified for the NCAA Championship.

EQUESTRIAN

Bulldog riders finished seventh in the 2007 Varsity Equestrian Championships in Waco, Texas, defeating host Baylor in their final match and ranked eighth in the nation at the end of the season. Cambria Kissell had four straight victories, earning praise from Coach Becky Malmo: "She's a special student-athlete and continues to rise to the occasion against good competition."

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Bulldogs finished fifth at the WAC Championship led by junior Laura Leuthke, who tied for second in individual competition. The Bulldogs finished their season with the low score of the day.

MEN'S GOLF

Freshman Grant Doverspike, using borrowed clubs (his had been stolen) and battling swirling winds, won the individual WAC title and led the Bulldogs to a fourth-place finish in the conference championship. Matt Ryan and Doverspike were All-WAC honorees. 🌟

Campus portrait

The modern design of the Science II building – Fresno State's newest academic structure – is enhanced by its landscaping, which includes a bird of paradise garden. This late-summer floral display sets the stage for fall's spectacular change of colors in many of the hundreds of trees on campus.



Michael Karibian

Francisco Galvez (1986) wins iPod for sharing a campus memory

Francisco Galvez now has another reason to appreciate being an alumnus of Fresno State.

He's the winner of an iPod Nano awarded by the Fresno State Alumni Association to one of the people who responded to a question in the spring edition of FresnoState magazine.

Galvez is a 1986 engineering graduate who works as an electrical engineering associate with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. He lives in Rowland Heights.

"When I look back and think about the people I met, the friends I made, the camaraderie and school spirit, and of course the education I received," he says, "I think the most memorable thing about Fresno State was attending the Bulldog football games. Go Bulldogs!"

Galvez is a proud lifetime member of the Alumni Association, too.

Katie Johnson (2003) joins FSAA staff

Katie Johnson (2003) is the new alumni outreach administrator for the Fresno State Alumni Association.

Most recently, she was director of agency relations at the Community Food Bank. Johnson says her favorite pastimes are traveling, kayaking and rooting for Bulldog athletic teams.

We invite your contributions

News about alumni around the world always is welcome. We invite you to contribute through the Fresno State Alumni Association Web site, www.fresnostatealumni.com, or to FresnoState magazine, magazine@csufresno.edu.

We also welcome photos of you and of other alumni, but we need them in a format we can use (at least 300 dpi resolution and large-sized jpg images). Photos should be accompanied by complete caption and credit information. E-mail as directed to the Alumni Association or send directly to the magazine at the address above.

 Fresno State Alumni Association member


Class Notes

1950s


**Roy Christopher** (1957, 1961) **LIFE** 🌸 received an honorary doctor of fine arts at Fresno State's 2007 commencement. His work has been nominated for Emmy Awards 35 times and he has won eight. He received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award and two Garland awards for his creative theater-design work. In 2003, he received the Art Directors Guild Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jesse Perry (1952) led a delegation of English teachers to South Africa and was invited by the People to People Ambassador Program to lead a similar group to Rwanda in 2008.

1960s

**Hon. Marvin R. Baxter** (1963), associate justice of the California Supreme Court, was the keynote speaker at Southwestern University School of Law's 92nd commencement ceremony in Los Angeles.

Malinda Pennoyer Chouinard (1969) was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree during commencement. She is a co-founder of Seattle-based Patagonia Inc., the international outdoor recreational outfitter, and helped lead her company in numerous conservation efforts and in initiatives to help women in the workplace.

**Richard Houghten** (1968) **LIFE** 🌸 is the head of the Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies in La Jolla. He was the 2005 Fresno State

Distinguished Alumnus and the 1997 Outstanding Alumnus of the College of Science and Mathematics.

Larry Knuth (1964) was inducted into the California Community College Track and Field and Cross Country Hall of Fame. He ran cross country at Fresno State and was varsity manager/student assistant for the Bulldogs track and field team that finished third in the NCAA Championships, the best team finish in Fresno State history. He retired from full-time teaching in 2003 and

has been a volunteer track coach at Orange Coast College (Costa Mesa) and Pasadena City College; an Amateur Athletic Federation clinician; and will publish an anecdotal book on track and field in 2008.

Anthony O'Geen (1966) is slowly retiring after 38 years teaching physics and biology at Bret Harte High School in Angels Camp. The school's Teacher of the Year in 1996 and 2006 teaches two classes at the high school and coaches cross-country at Columbia College. When fully retired in a few years, O'Geen plans to continue running and travel more.

**Patrick Ogle** (1965), 🌸 executive director of the Bulldog Foundation since 1982, received the National

Association of Athletics Development Directors' Lifetime Achievement Award. Ogle was a TV broadcaster prior to his career with the Bulldog Foundation, responsible for funding scholarships for student-athletes.

1970s

Chris Appel (1972) was appointed Smart Balance's vice president of quality control and assurance and new product commercialization for the healthy foods manufacturer headquartered in New Jersey. Appel earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology.

Scott Cathcart (1977), previously athletic director at Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, was



Deborah (Koligian) Poochigian with California Sen. Dave Cogdill, left, and her husband, former state Sen. Charles Poochigian, after she was honored as 2007 Woman of the Year.

appointed athletic director at Palomar College in San Marcos.

Stacey Douglas (1977) was appointed manager of the bookstore at Colorado State University's campus in Pueblo. He has 20 years' experience in the university bookstore business.

Vince Elizondo (1979), the Visalia Parks and Recreation Department director since 2004, has added the Visalia Riverway Sports Park and a state-of-the-art aquatics center to a list of projects lauded for nontraditional approaches in the private and public sectors.

**Bill Jones** (1971) **LIFE** 🌸 was a keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture

in Sacramento. A former California secretary of state, he is a co-founder and chairman of the board of Pacific Ethanol.

Ron Marchese (1970), a professor of archaeology at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, is working on research in Turkey.

Nancy Osborne (1976) celebrated her 30-year milestone as an anchor, reporter, producer, writer and host at KFSN, Channel 30, Fresno's ABC affiliate. Osborne earned degrees in speech communication and theatre arts at Fresno State.

Deborah (Koligian) Poochigian (1974) **LIFE** 🌸 was named 2007 Woman of the Year for the 14th

Senate District of California. She serves on the Fresno State Alumni Association's Board of Directors.

Richard Rodriguez (1972) received two awards for the California Office of AIDS and the Project Team. Rodriguez is an assistant deputy director of the California Department of Health Services.

1980s

Mark Astone (1983, 2000), **LIFE** 🌸 the principal in ASTONE advertising agency, participated in the Harvard Business Owners Program and moved his business into downtown Fresno. ASTONE expanded to serve Sacramento, San Francisco and San Diego markets and also works with clients in Mexico, Central and South America.

**Vicki Barbolak** (1981) won the "Nick at Nite's Funniest Mom in America 3" competition and its \$50,000 prize.

Paul Bergson (1985) was appointed senior vice president, agricultural loan officer of Community Business Bank in Stockton. Bergson had been vice president and branch manager for Pacific State Bank.

Abel Corchado (1989), a watercolorist, joined with several other Fresno-area artists to initiate the Contemporary Humanitary Artist Association, a support group for artists who have yet to have their work displayed in professional exhibits.

Michael Der Manouel Jr. (1985), 🌸 president and CEO of Fresno-based Der Manouel Insurance Group in Fresno, is a substitute talk show host and political analyst on KMJ radio in Fresno.

**Rod Higgins** (1982), a basketball star at Fresno State before a career as a player, coach and front-office executive in the National Basketball Association, was appointed general manager of the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats. Higgins oversees all player personnel matters, which includes scouting, draft preparations, training camp,

preseason scheduling and the North Carolina team's athletic training, equipment and conditioning programs.

Mark Houghton (1989) became Manteca's public works director after working as a deputy director of public works for Tuolumne County.

Col. Ottis Hutchinson (1983), was promoted to 50th Mission Support Group commander at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo. He is responsible for providing security, civil engineering, fire protection, medical response, personnel, contracting, logistics and services support to more than 6,000 personnel.

Rhonda (Fried) Jorn (1989), 🌸 was appointed public affairs officer for the city of Fresno.

Sarah Koligian (1984) was appointed superintendent of the Golden Valley Unified School District in Madera after serving as associate superintendent of educational service in the Central Unified School District west of Fresno.

Kevin Lehar (1989) was elected chairman of the California Onion and Garlic Research Board of which he was a founding member. He also is on the San Joaquin Valley Cotton Board.

Beth Payne (1984) serves on the YMCA of the USA National Marketing Advisory Committee and as a director of the Association of YMCA Professionals Chapter IV. She received an award for Outstanding Program Development.

Roxanne (Nury) Stephenson (1982), owner and president of Promac Fabrication and Equipment in Fresno, which designs and manufacturers wine processing equipment, was appointed to the University Advisory Board. The panel of community members advises President Welty about improvement and development of the university.

James Vergara (1980), media production coordinator for San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, won an Aurora Award for a recruitment video for his school's police academy. Aurora Awards recognize excellence in video/film/ media production.



Alumni Profile Robert Thissen

by Leslie Cunning

Fresno State alumnus Robert Thissen (1997 BS, 2001 MS in Mass Communications) is a Renaissance man when it comes to filmmaking.

He does it *all*, from composing music to script writing to operating the camera to producing, directing and editing. *And*, if needed, he creates special effects.

Whew.

In June, his many talents were rewarded when his film, "Paradox Road," won the Exposure Film Contest sponsored by cable TV's Sci Fi Channel in collaboration with the Sundance Channel.

"It took a couple of weeks to write 'Paradox Road,' two weeks to shoot it and six months to edit it," Thissen says. The film was shot on a budget of \$500 (!), and originally was 42 minutes, but had to be edited to eight minutes for the contest.

Not bad for a kid born and raised in Chowchilla who went to Fresno State to study music. At college, when opportunities presented themselves, Thissen grabbed them and got the experience of a lifetime.

"I originally signed on for Fresno State television to write music for shows, but ended up doing some directing and other behind-the-scenes work," Thissen says. "And then the Fresno State master's program gave me the freedom to explore new ideas and techniques."

View Robert Thissen's film, 'Paradox Road,' at www.sundancechannel.com/exposure.

Of all his movie talents, though, Thissen's passion is directing. When he watches a film, he looks for the director's style and nuances.

"Although they're behind the scenes, a viewer can see how the director angles the camera and works with the actors," says Thissen. "I enjoy a big action movie like 'Armageddon' directed by Michael Bay [of the summer hit 'Transformers'], and, of course, Martin Scorsese films."

Thissen takes the next step on his career journey that began at Fresno State with the trip to New York to take his meeting with Sci Fi executives.

— *Leslie Cunning is a freelance writer based in Fresno.*

Blasts from the past

Fresno State alumni congregate on campus for all kinds of reasons. Some flock to Bulldog football games, others to concerts and lectures and still more to work with others to advance the university's mission.

That's the case for these three alumni from the 1960s, who were prominent in the 2007 Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala. Can you identify them?

- 1. This past student senator from the School of Social Welfare, and one of the founders of the Oriental Students Association, was a member of the class of 1969.
- 2. This 1963 graduate was junior class vice president and president. He also was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.
- 3. This alumnus from the Craig School of Business still participates on campus, just as he did when he was an Interfraternity Council representative.

Answers are on Page 46.



On further review ...

A mention on Page 45 of the spring issue listing individual Fresno State alumni inducted into the Fresno County Athletic Hall of Fame neglected to say that the 1961 Fresno State Mercy Bowl football team also was inducted.

That was the only Bulldog football squad to go undefeated, capping a 10-0 season with a 36-6 victory over Bowling Green in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

The game raised \$200,000 to benefit families of 17 members of the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo football team killed in a plane crash returning from a game against Bowling Green in 1960.

Team members were (front row, left to right) Bruce Seifert, Glenn Riggert, Tommy Sommers, George Ward, Bill Kendrick, Don Brockett, Beau Carter, Ron Itskoff, Jerry Allen, Jim Sanderson and Grove Marris. Second row: Bill Knocke, Dan Stockton, George Omata, Jerry Nimmo, Mike Slagle, Gary Taylor, Fred Tuttle, Herman Hamp, Gerald Hauser and Bill Musick. Third row: Birger Johnson (trainer), Bob Van Galder (assistant coach), Stan Alloway (manager), Doug Brown, Pete Mehas, Sonny Bishop, Dick Murray, Jon Anabo, Bill Laughlin, Montie Day and Kenny Gleason (assistant coach). Back row: Cecil Coleman (coach), Jack Alder (JV coach), Jan Faris, Jan Barrett, Mick Masich, Jay Buckert, Larry Fogelstrom, Jack Bohan, J.R. Williams, Jack Knight and Bob Burgess (assistant coach).



Courtesy: Ron Itskoff

Class Notes

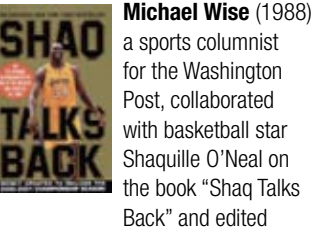


U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Don Brannum

Col. Otis Hutchinson, right, accepts the 50th Mission Support Group guidon from Col. John Hyten to take command. (See Page 43.)

Daniel Walls (1985) has been appointed senior vice president and chief lending officer at 1st Capital Bank in Monterey.

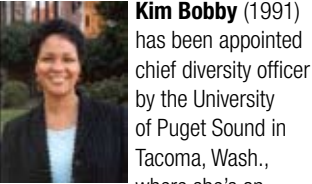
Brenda (Carpenter) Weatherly (1986), has joined the Gennis Agency in Salinas as director of sales after working with the Hollister Free Lance newspaper and other San Benito County businesses and organizations.



Michael Wise (1988), a sports columnist for the Washington Post, collaborated with basketball star Shaquille O'Neal on the book "Shaq Talks Back" and edited "Chronicle of the Olympics 1896-1996."

1990s

A. Reza Assemi (1998) has developed two building projects in downtown Fresno. His work is considered a cornerstone of the downtown redevelopment effort, which emphasizes lofts, row houses, office and retail spaces.



Kim Bobby (1991) has been appointed chief diversity officer by the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., where she's an

associate professor of education. She earned a BA in business administration at Fresno State.

Todd Fuller (1994), an economics graduate of Fresno State, is the new chief financial officer of the

1st Pacific Credit Union branch in Vacaville.

James Gonzalez (1992), a producer at Fresno CBS affiliate KGPE, Channel 47 won Associated Press Mark Twain Awards for Best News Broadcast (30 Minutes) and Best Spot News.

Kirk Green (1990) is president of Gonzo Communications public relations agency in Rancho Santa Margarita. The firm received the 2007 Jim Alexander Outstanding Communications Intern Site Award from the California State University, Fullerton Department of Communications for helping students seeking careers in communications.

Steve Molina (1994), assistant principal at Righetti High School in Santa Maria since 2001, became principal at the school. He taught bilingual math and advanced-placement calculus for six years at Oxnard Union High School before moving into administration.

Andy Nazaroff, 🌺 **Warren Fortier** (1996, 1998) 🌺 and **Sam Cavallaro** (1994) 🌺 opened Realty Executives Summit, which serves Fresno, Madera, Kings and Tulare counties.

Adam Peck (1995, 2004) was hired to head the Tulare County Workforce Investment Department, which trains jobseekers and helps match workers with employers that need workers. Peck serves on the Visalia Planning Commission.

Marc Raygoza (1995) founded Vine Global, an online service offering e-commerce solutions that enable online retailers in the United States to expand into international markets through language.

James Rodems (1990) is the new director of Hutchins Street Square, an entertainment, business and conference venue in Lodi.

2000s

Melody Canady (2002) was appointed assistant superintendent of finance for the Greenfield Union School District in Monterey County.

Air Force 2nd Lt. Michael Conn (2006) was deployed to a forward-operating location in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ronald Jenkins (1990), a peace



Courtesy: Adam Longatti

Oil painting by Adam Longatti

officer with the state Department of Youth Authority, was featured in a documentary for his work and mentorship of a victim of childhood prostitution.

Adam Longatti (2002) showcased his oil paintings depicting San Joaquin Valley agriculture in the Lisadent Gallery in San Francisco.

Cornelius O'Neill (2007) was the oldest graduate at Fresno State's 2007 Commencement when he received a bachelor of science in engineering at the age of 84. O'Neill originally pursued a degree during the 1940s, but his college career was interrupted by WWII.

Megan Prihoda (2006) was selected as New Teacher of the Year in the elementary-primary level by the Clark County (Nev.) School District, the fifth largest district in the nation. Prihoda is a first grade teacher at Richard C. Priest Elementary in North Las Vegas.

Joseph Rachal III (2001) joined the Lockwood Agency in Visalia as a graphic designer.

Jason Rider (2001) was sworn in as a firefighter with the Fresno Fire Department.



Jeremy Rue (2004) received the 2007 Dorothea Lange Fellowship for his photographic work chronicling migrant farmworkers in the

Huron area of the San Joaquin Valley.

Miscellaneous

Editha "Ann" Atkinson and her husband, **Jerry**, who own Center Chevrolet in San Bernadino, received the Rotary High Ethical Standards in Business Award for their and their company's community and state involvement. They met while attending Fresno State.

Robert Gazewood was hired as interim finance director for the city of Newport Beach.

Ross R. Jenkins II 🌺 was named the 2007 Livestock Man of the Year by the California Cattlemen's Association.

Linda Penner, chief probation officer for Fresno County, was appointed to the Corrections Standards Authority and the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency.

Alumni Profile

John Gomes

Fresno State stakes its claim, one lifetime alumnus at a time.

Of all the things Valley people want to "shout" on license plate frames – from "I ♥ my cat" to "My grandkids are cuter than yours" – nothing tops the love of Fresno State alumni for their alma mater.

You see them everywhere you drive or park. Some frames promote Bulldog sports. Some pay tribute to a particular college or school at Fresno State. Others say it in three simple words: "Alumni Fresno State."

The Fresno State Alumni Association was incorporated in 1940 to help former students maintain campus connections. Now it has more than 1,600 lifetime members, including association past president John Gomes, who received a Bachelor of Arts in Business in 1979 and his MBA in 1994.

"I come from the small town of Gustine," says Gomes, "so to meet people, I joined Alpha Kappa Psi" (America's oldest professional business fraternity).

Gomes remembers that in 1988, long after his graduation, he and a dozen or so other alums founded the School of Business Alumni Association (the school was named for benefactors Sid and Jenny Craig in 1992). Soon Gomes was involved with the Fresno State Alumni Association, and by then



Fresno State Alumni Association

he also had established himself in a financial services career.

"Fresno State gave me my lifelong career," says Gomes. "They arranged for my interview with Fresno Guarantee Savings, and Guarantee was my employer until a few years ago. My membership in the Alumni

Association has allowed me to give back to the community and to work with alumni to make a difference."

Jacquelyn Glasener, executive director of the association, appreciates the contributions of Gomes and other alumni who volunteer to put action behind those Fresno State license plate frame proclamations.

The top priority of the Fresno State Alumni Association is its student scholarship program. The generosity of association members like Gomes in the past decade has allowed awards of more than \$500,000 in scholarships.

"It is imperative that the Alumni Association have dedicated volunteers like John Gomes," a grateful Glasener says. "His passion for making the association successful in its efforts to increase alumni involvement and participation with the university is a great example of what it means to be a Bulldog for life."

Fresno State has proud alumni, and those license plate frames let others know, too. — by Leslie Cunning

Fresno State ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Board of Directors

Executive Board: President Valerie Vuicich (BS 1979); Vice President, Alliances/President-elect Judy Sharp Bennett; Vice President, Alumni House Charles Small (BS 1979); Vice President, Board and Volunteer Development Doug Yavanian (BA 1965); Vice President, Finance Richard Whitten, MD (BS 1961); Vice President, Membership and Marketing Warren Fortier (BS 1996, MBA 1998); Vice President, Special Events Maureen Lewis (BS 1995); Past President John Gomes (BS 1979, MBA 1994).

At-large directors: Dr. Arthur A. Parham (BS 1971), faculty member; Frances Peña-Olgin (BS 1977, MSW 1979), staff member; Mel Dias (BA 1971); Caroline (Cuadros) Edwards (BA 1965, MA 1990); David Emerzian (BS 1999); Bret Engelman (BS 1996, BS 1999); Brad Fischer (BS 1981); Clyde Ford (BS 1980, MBA 1984); Karri Hammerstrom (MA 1997); Hon. Brad Hill (BS 1977, MBA 1979); Betsy Kimball (BA 1973); Carol Machado (BA 1970); Stephen Ortega (BA 2005); R. Michael Patton (BS 1967, MBA 1972); Deborah (Koligian) Poochigian (BS 1974); Sarah Reyes (BA 1985); Hon. Armando Rodriguez (BA 1959).

Ex-officio members: University President Dr. John D. Welty; Vice-President, University Advancement Dr. Peter N. Smits; Associated Students President Juan Pablo Moncayo.

Association staff: Executive Director Jacquelyn Glasener (MA 2002); Manager of Membership and Marketing Sarah Woodward (BA 2002); Alumni Outreach Administrator Katie Johnson (BA 2004); Office Manager Diana Sewell; Membership Coordinator Elizabeth (Ragandac) Salvador (BA 2000); Smittcamp Alumni House Manager Lois May; Programs and Events Assistant Peggy Ramos; Student Assistants Elise Aydelotte and Jennifer Vogt.

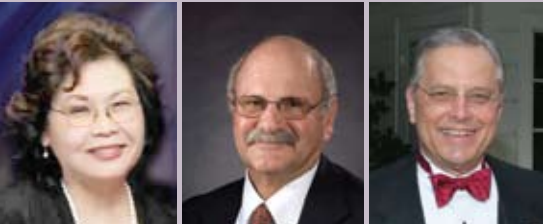
CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 559.278.2586
Fax: 559.278.6790

Online: www.fresnostatealumni.com

🌺 Fresno State Alumni Association member



Blasts from the past

Answers from Page 44:

1. Marleen Dong Wong, the Outstanding Alumna for the Henry Madden Library, is an expert on school safety programs.
2. Frank Markarian, the Outstanding Alumnus for the College of Engineering, received the Navy's highest award for civilian service.
3. Robert Oliver, a Fresno County Superior Court judge, was a Top Dog Alumni Award recipient in 1997. He has returned as master of ceremonies at several Top Dog Alumni Awards Galas.

Write on



Frederiko Aguilar has published “The Desert Has No King,” a novel about a young man who powers his way to the top in Las Vegas.

Donnell Alexander, whose first book, “Ghetto Celebrity,” was published in 2003, expects his next, “Rollin’ with Dre: Tales from the Man Next to The Man” to be released in winter 2007-08.



Joel Davis (1986) is the author of “Justice Waits: The UC Davis Sweetheart Murders,” a book about two murders at the university in 1980. Davis is an award-winning Sacramento-based journalist and college journalism instructor.

Daniel Silva’s (1983) newest thriller, “The Secret Servant,” rose into the top 10 in sales during the summer. His previous best-seller, “The Messenger,” was released in paperback.



Class Notes



Amy Spithorst has been named Teacher of the Year by the Elk Grove Unified School District, where she

teaches agriculture at Florin High School.

Bulldogs of tomorrow

Billy Hemphill Jr. (1998, 2001) and his wife, Michelle, celebrated the birth of a daughter, Makayla.

Elizabeth Meza (2002) and Armando Mendoza celebrated the birth of a son, Armando Sebastian, on Nov. 27, 2006.

Marriages

JessaLee Blackwell (2002) and Sonny Goehring on Oct. 7, 2006 in Lodi.

Florence Ndidi (O’Neal) Griffin (1985), a nursing professor, to Louie Myers on July 7, 2007.

Ranetta Van Klaveren (2004) and **Mark Bron** (2004) on July 7, 2007 in Merced.

Erin Perry [2004] and Brent Davis on May 12, 2007.

Retirements

Joseph Camarillo (1970), after 27 years as Madera County 4-H adviser with the University of California Cooperative Extension.

David Chumley (1973), after nearly 20 years as the city of Madera’s director of public works.

Randy Fendrick (1971), after 37 seasons with the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. He will continue playing trombone with his jazz band, Southside Chicago Seven.

Al Sanchez (1969), after 23 years as principal of Mayfair Elementary School in Fresno.

Joseph Soldani (1971), after 14 years as the Madera city attorney. He was Madera’s first full-time city attorney.

Susan Wallace, after 17 years as a history, science and language arts teacher at San Lorenzo Middle School.

Warren Weaver (1969), after nearly four decades teaching agriculture at Elk Grove High School. His classes were attended by an estimated 8,000 students over the years.

By the Numbers

19 Fresno State grads employed by Wier Floway Pumps of Fresno are **Maren Byerlee** (1997), **Susanna Burgess** (2003), **Lee Callow** (1975), **Robert Carroll** (1992), **Allan Chouang** (2005), **Anthony Garcia** (1990), **Rick Goudy** (1996), **Bryan Gudgel** (1996), **Devin Hanson** (2004), **Barbara Hearnnes** (1986), **Jim Laurenti** (1997), **Shari McCoy** (1989), **Reubin Menashian** (1970), **Khanh Nguyen** (1996), **Jose Ojeda** (2006), **Wendy Peppel** (2004), **Steve Pfeifer** (1970), **Barjinder Singh Samra** (2006) and **John Wright** (1970).

3 Vintners promoted at Napa Valley wineries. **Eric Stern** (1987) was appointed winemaker and **Gregory Stach** (1992) as assistant winemaker at Landmark Vineyards. **Matthew Taylor** (2004) is the winemaker at Araujo Estate Wines. He joined the winery in 2005 as vineyard manager and then was assistant winemaker.



Eric Stern

3 Babies born to alumni on Valentine’s Day 2007. **Shane** (1999) and Bianca **Gunn** welcomed twin daughters, Marisol and Isabella. **Timothy Jones** (1998) and **Nelina (Patino) Jones** celebrated the birth of a son, Alexander David.

2 Alumni who won Good Samaritan Hero Awards at the 2007 Madera-Fresno Red Cross Heroes Breakfast. **Stewart Asselin** (1995) was cited for rescuing a man and woman involved in a boating accident on Millerton Lake. **Kirsten Gross** (1997), director of the Madera County Animal Control Center, was cited for helping save the lives of thousands of homeless animals.



Michael Karichian

Scholar Profile
 Whitney Walker

Back in the day, words like valedictorian, mathematics and scholarship winner conjured up visions of young men wearing horned-rimmed glasses, pocket protectors and neckties.

Zoom to the 21st century and, boy, have times changed. Meet Whitney Walker, a valedictorian of the Clovis East High School Class of 2006 with a 4.4 GPA. She’s vivacious and hip. She’s also a winner of a prestigious Smittcamp Family Honors College scholarship.

“I applied to a lot of universities and almost didn’t apply for Smittcamp because it is a big undertaking,” she says. “They ask for three or four essays, plus all of the other life information, plus GPA and SAT – the list goes on. It was a lot of work.”

The effort paid off, though, and she was accepted for the full-ride scholarship much to the delight of her parents Rick and Lisa Walker, who have three more children who will be on their way to college eventually.

Part of her financial support comes from the generosity of Fresno State Alumni Association members who contribute to the FSAA scholarship program. Twelve students in the Smittcamp Family Honors College this year benefit from FSAA scholarship assistance.

Each year, the Smittcamp program admits 50 students and supports them by paying in-state fees,

book costs and on-campus residence expenses.

Walker is majoring in mathematics with an eye on statistics. She has been a math whiz ever since third grade when Michael Baba, her teacher at Gettysburg Elementary School in Clovis, recognized her potential and began teaching her algebra.

During the past summer, she worked at a daycare, tutored students in math and hung out with family and friends, before taking a 17-unit load in the fall semester.

“Smittcamp allowed me to stay home and get a great education,” she says. “Plus the scholarship enabled me to stay involved with my siblings. Had I gone out of town, I would have missed a lot.”

She sums up her feelings about education in a nutshell: “I just really enjoy going to school,” says Walker with a smile, adding that she plans eventually to obtain a Ph.D. as she pursues a research career, possibly in medical statistics.

Welcome to the 21st century.

– by Leslie Cunning

In Memoriam
 Generosity distinguishes William N. Beck’s legacy



Peter Robertson

William N. Beck, right, attended the inaugural Bulldog Pride Scholarship Fund presentation to Jared Lindo during a campus visit in 2006.

William N. Beck (1952), who had great success in wine marketing and was a benefactor of the Bulldog Pride Scholarship Fund at Fresno State, died July 2 in the Bay Area town of Inverness.

Mr. Beck established his reputation as one of the people who helped the California wine industry’s initial expansion by acquainting people with wine in a variety of ways during the 1960s and ’70s.

In retirement, Mr. Beck took a special interest in the Bulldog Pride Scholarship Fund, established by Peter Robertson (BA 1997, MA 1995, MBA 2005), the university’s director of annual giving.

“Mr. Beck had a sincere altruistic appreciation for his alma mater, and in the last year of his life, he made two trips to the Fresno State campus,” says Robertson.

His first was in fall 2006 when he attended the presentation of the inaugural Bulldog Pride Fund scholarship to Jared Lindo, a junior majoring in civil engineering. Mr. Beck also attended the Top Dog

Alumni Awards Gala at the Save Mart Center and received a private tour of the old Administration Building and Library at Fresno City College, site of Fresno State when he was a student.

When Mr. Beck returned to Fresno State in spring 2007, Robertson says, “He eagerly noted the diverse student body trekking to and from class as he sat on a bench at the Memorial Fountain. At the University Courtyard Dining Hall [formerly the Residence Dining Hall], he was Jared’s guest. A highlight was a soft-serve ice cream cone.”

Benefiting from the generosity of Mr. Beck and other contributors to the Bulldog Pride Scholarship Fund are 2007 awardees Sara Martinez (Social Work), Adrian Quintero (Criminology and Latin American Studies) and Lindo.

For information about the Bulldog Pride Scholarship Fund: www.bulldogpride.org.

Boeing’s Larry Dickenson
chosen Distinguished
Alumnus

Larry Dickenson, Boeing Company’s Commercial Airplanes Group senior vice president for sales and a 1965 Fresno State grad, is the 2007 Top Dog Alumni Awards’ Distinguished Alumnus recipient.

The awards are presented at October’s Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala.

Dickenson, a Bakersfield native who received a bachelor’s in business administration, has been lauded in aviation industry publications for his expertise. He also is a member of Fresno State’s National Board of Visitors.

This year’s other honorees are:

- **College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology:** Ernest A. Bedrosian (1955), Krikor Y. Bedrosian (1957) and J. Kenneth Bedrosian (1967), brothers and partners in raisin industry leadership and benefactors of Fresno State.
- **Athletics:** Dr. Rod Kraft (1977), a family and sports medicine physician who has helped Fresno State student-athletes for many years.
- **College of Arts and Humanities:** Dennis Woods (1969), founder, president and CEO of United Security Bank.
- **Craig School of Business:** John E. Horstmann (1958), president of Horstmann Financial and Insurance Services in Fresno.
- **Division of Graduate Studies:** James Finley (1974), deputy undersecretary for acquisition and technology in the U.S. Department of Defense.
- **Kremen School of Education and Human Development:** Dr. Larry Powell (1971), elected the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools in 2006.
- **College of Engineering:** Charles “Frank” Markarian (1962), who was awarded the Navy’s highest award for civilian service.
- **College of Health and Human Services:** Dr. Bette Rusk Keltner (1972, 1974), dean of the School of Nursing and Health Studies at Georgetown University.
- **Henry Madden Library:** Dr. Marleen Dong Wong (1969), an expert on school safety programs.
- **College of Science and Mathematics:** Dr. Joan Otomo-Corgel (1972), a former California State University trustee, who is a dentist and UCLA adjunct professor.
- **College of Social Sciences:** Steve Magarian (1972, 1974), a former Fresno County sheriff.
- **Student Affairs:** Gerald Tahajian (1963), a former Fresno State student president and prominent lawyer.

The **Arthur Safstrom Service Award** recipient is Rosellen Kershaw (1947), whose volunteer service and financial support has helped numerous community organizations.



Larry Dickenson

Courtesy: Boeing Company



Rosellen Kershaw

Courtesy: Kershaw family

Courtesy: Scott Fichtner

Alumni Profile
The Fichtner Family

Now please pay attention in case there’s a Fichtner family quiz at the end.

Edwin W. Fichtner from Burlingame, in the Bay Area, made a choice when he came to Fresno State in the late 1950s. “I thought Fresno State was a better school than Cal Poly,” he says now.

Fichtner graduated from Fresno State in 1962 with a degree in animal husbandry. While on what then was a new campus, he met Patricia Daldin of Fullerton, who received her bachelor’s degree in elementary education in 1964. Ed and Patti married in 1965 and had three potential Bulldogs: Edwin C., Garrick and Scott.

Edwin C. graduated from Fresno State in 1997 in plant science. Garrick chose a different path and went to helicopter school. But Scott continued the family tradition, enrolled in Fresno State and received a Bachelor of Science in Plant Science in 1998.

No way it stops there, though. Scott Fichtner continued on to Colorado State to get his Ph.D. in plant pathology, which is where he met his future wife, Raney Dobbs of Fresno.

And while Raney didn’t go to Fresno State, her dad, Danny Dobbs, graduated in 1992 with a degree in agribusiness; her mom, Vickie Wolf Dobbs, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in biology in 1972; and Raney’s late brother, Ryan Dobbs, received his animal science degree from Fresno State in 2000.

If all those Fichtner-Wolf-Dobbs graduates aren’t enough Bulldog pride for one family, in 1992 the Fichtners established the Adelaide K. Fichtner Endowment (named for Ed’s mother) through the Ag One Foundation. The endowment funds two scholarships a year, allowing other families to start Fresno State traditions in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

Those Fichtners, Bulldogs through and through.

And because you paid attention, no quiz.

— by Leslie Cuning

Tree Portraits

by Doug Hansen

Crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*)

This crape myrtle is one of several along Keats Avenue, south of the Music Building. It is painted in opaque watercolor on colored mat board.



Angelica Shirley Carpenter

I have learned to track the seasons in California with plant specimens that were, when I moved here from St. Louis, entirely new to me. As each summer heats up, I watch the row of crape myrtle trees on Keats Avenue. Bang! Dramatically, they burst into blazes of frilly fuchsia. The tops look like the kind of flowered hats my mother wore to church in the early 1960s. Their shadows make round, lacy skirts on the ground, twirling around the slim trunks as the sun moves.

Angelica Shirley Carpenter, curator of the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children’s Literature in the Henry Madden Library, is president of the International Wizard of Oz Club.



Frilly clusters of red, fuchsia or lavender flowers are on display all summer. Strips of bark separate from the tree leaving smooth, pale trunks and branches.

Illustrator Doug Hansen teaches in the university’s Department of Art and Design.

The Fresno State campus, which has 4,000 trees, was officially designated an arboretum in 1978. If you’d like to write about a favorite tree at the university and have it illustrated for Tree Portraits, contact Hansen at dhansen@csufresno.edu or 559.278.2817.

FresnoState

California State University, Fresno
Office of University Communications
5241 N. Maple Ave. M/S TA49
Fresno, California 93740-8027

Change Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FRESNO, CA
PERMIT NO. 262

A world of opportunities

The University Business Center displays flags from countries around the globe with Fresno State connections. Students travel abroad or come to the campus to learn. Fresno State's citizens of the world also include faculty and alumni who teach, conduct research and pursue careers in a broad variety of fields outside the United States.

