

# FRESNO@STATE

MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER 2018



suppression technology



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**Cover photo** by Cary Edmondson. Dr. The Nguyen, a Fresno State mechanical engineering professor, is working with a graduate student to develop new tremor-suppression technology to help improve quality of life for Parkinson's patients. (Note: The device pictured is subject to change.)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

**W**ith academics and research at the core of Fresno State, our talented faculty are critically important to the University's mission to boldly educate and empower students for success. They are committed to teaching undergraduate and graduate students in a way that fosters critical thinking and welcomes diverse ideas and opinions.

Our continued rise in several national rankings of excellence — including our No. 24 national ranking by Washington Monthly — is a direct reflection of the extraordinary talent and contributions of our faculty and their work with students.

With more than 1,500 faculty, including 309 new tenure-track faculty hired since 2013, the breadth of the professoriate's expertise is impressively broad, varying from viticulture and enology to digital humanities to accounting.

On any given day, instances of Fresno State professors engaged in academic and research programs highlight numerous fields of study:

- Designing low-power sensor nodes for wireless networks that can be used in forest-fire detection and smart-watering applications.

- Providing free health services, like blood-pressure screenings and flu shots, in underserved areas.
- Developing, testing and improving innovations to equip farms of the future with cutting-edge technologies and strategies to enhance irrigation efficiency.

In addition to being leaders in their fields, Fresno State faculty are also motivated to contribute to the well-being of society. In this issue of Fresno State Magazine, you will learn about the remarkable strides one professor is making in improving the quality of life for those with Parkinson's disease (Page 10).

It is an extraordinary privilege to work among such talented and dedicated educators. I hope you enjoy the snapshot we provide in this issue of the many types of contributions they are making to our students, this community and the world on a daily basis.

*Joseph I. Castro*  
 Dr. Joseph I. Castro  
 President, Fresno State

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*Fresno State serves the richly diverse region of Central California. We are proud to have the U.S. Department of Education designate our University as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.*

### Stay in touch!

We welcome your comments about Fresno State Magazine at [magazine@csufresno.edu](mailto:magazine@csufresno.edu). If you receive more than one copy, please pass it along to a friend of Fresno State. If you would like to support the University, visit [fresnostate.edu/givenow](http://fresnostate.edu/givenow) to make your contribution. Thank you.

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## Plenty to Cheer For

Photo by Cary Edmondson

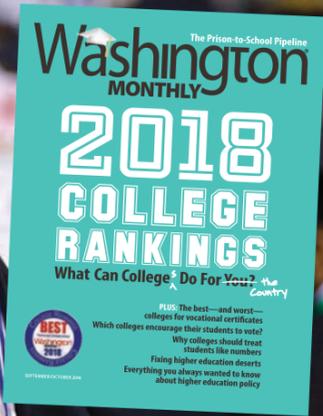
In what has quickly grown into a beloved tradition on campus, hundreds of Fresno State faculty and staff lined the entryway of the Save Mart Center on Aug. 20 to welcome new students to campus with high-fives and cheers before an uplifting performance from the spirit squad.

Each new, transfer and graduate student who attended received a free Bulldog born, Bulldog bred T-shirt and entered the arena to hear inspiring messages and campus tips from Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro and administrators. Keynote speaker Dr. Matthew Jendian, chair of the Department of Sociology, discussed "Maximizing your University Education at Fresno State," and the Bulldog Marching Band and spirit squad provided entertainment while students got a glimpse of Victor E. Bulldog III.

Fresno State received more than 29,000 applications for the fall 2018 semester, including 26,000 undergraduate applications for about 5,400 new spots.



By Eddie Hughes



## Top 25 Again and Again

The newest national ranking of the top universities in the United States shows Fresno State is delivering on its mission to boldly educate and empower students for success. For the third consecutive year, Fresno State is among the nation's best at combining academic excellence with economic opportunity.

Washington Monthly, a D.C.-based magazine known for its annual rankings of American colleges and universities, announced that Fresno State placed No. 24 on its list of the top national universities.

Fresno State was selected alongside seven Ivy League institutions, including top-ranked Harvard University; six University of California campuses; and MIT on the list. Fresno State ranks 12th among the 17 public institutions included in the rankings.

"Fresno State is proud to once again represent the California State University system in the top 30," says University President Joseph I. Castro. Among more than 400 American Association of State Colleges and Universities members, Fresno State is the only to make Washington Monthly's top 30. Fresno State and Utah State University (No. 12) are the only Mountain West Conference schools to make the list.

Washington Monthly has been ranking colleges and universities for 13 years with what it calls "a different kind of college ranking" focusing on three equally-weighted criteria: social mobility, research and public service. The rankings are "not based on what colleges do for themselves, but on what they do for their country," recognizing universities that "push the boundaries of scientific discovery and provide paths to opportunity for the next generation of low-income students."

"These types of national distinctions are possible when we choose to be bold in all that we do at Fresno State," Castro says. "Every day on campus and in the community, we encounter students and alumni who are using the opportunities provided at Fresno State as a launching point to advance in their lives and achieve their goals. That happens with thousands of graduates each year and the result is a more prosperous region."

In May, Fresno State celebrated its largest graduating class ever with more than 6,000 students earning degrees. Enrollment at Fresno State this fall is at an all-time high of more than 25,200 students, and more than 87 percent of those students are from the Central Valley.

### WASHINGTON MONTHLY FRESNO STATE RANKINGS

**No. 1** Among CSU Campuses

**No. 12** Among 17 Public Institutions Listed

**No. 24** Overall Nationally

**1 OF 2** Mountain West Institutions Ranked

**No. 1** Only AASCU\* Institution Ranked

\*American Association of State Colleges and Universities



## 8 Tips for Identifying Fake News

Jim Boren, executive director of the new Institute for Media and Public Trust at Fresno State, shared insights gleaned from his 48-year journalism career in a blog post where he lists tips for identifying fake news. Boren, the former executive editor of The Fresno Bee, also recently hosted a First Amendment forum to explore free-speech issues on university campuses nationwide.

### Boren's tips include:

- 1. Look past your own biases.** We often believe the worst about people or politicians we despise. Those biases can temporarily blind us to what we are sharing.
- 2. Do you recognize the source of the news item?** Take extra time to confirm the facts on sites you may not recognize.
- 3. Use search engines to see if anyone else is reporting the story.** If it's as big a story as is being promoted, surely some other outlet will have a version of the story.
- 4. Check the link in your browser.** Many fake news sites try to mimic actual news sites. The link might have a slight variation from the legitimate news site.
- 5. Are there other stories on that particular website, and what is their tone?** Do they pass the "smell test"? Does the writing style have excessive capital letters, exclamation points or grammatical errors?
- 6. Google the author to see if the byline is from an actual person.** Check the "Contact Us" or "About Us" links to see if they are working.
- 7. There are many good fact-checking sites.** Use them to see what they say about the story before you post it on social media. Try factcheck.org, snopes.com, politifact.com or other nonpartisan sites.
- 8. Always be skeptical.** It will help make you a smart news consumer.

**BOLD**  
*gives*  
**BACK**

## Energizing a Fraternity House

The Sigma Chi fraternity at Fresno State is well positioned for the future thanks to some forward-thinking alumni who donated \$177,388 for a 135-panel solar energy system that is expected to power the house for the next 30 years.

According to Sigma Chi's national headquarters, the Fresno State chapter house is the first known to have a solar system that offsets the majority of its energy costs.

The system, installed by Sol-Tek, is mounted on a structure over the fraternity's parking lot on Bulldog Lane to provide shade and it includes additional security lighting underneath and two electric vehicle charging stations.

Mike Patton, who joined Sigma Chi in 1963 and retired five years ago after selling his Patton Air Conditioning business, says this solar system will offset 97 percent of the house's \$17,700 electrical costs each year, allowing the Sigma Chi House Corporation to provide amenities to give students in the house the best experience possible.



"We're in for the long haul to serve this community and this University," says Brad Fischer, president of Sigma Chi's Fresno State alumni chapter and a senior vice president for Premier Valley Bank. "It puts a challenge on others to take pride in the property and for alumni to reinvest. The Sigma Chi alumni have really stepped forward in investing their treasure."

The solar project was dedicated on Aug. 4 to Steve Heinrichs, who died in 2016. Heinrichs earned a bachelor's degree from Fresno State in 1968 and went on to earn the Fresno State Alumni Association's Top Dog Award for the Craig School of Business in 2008.

The Sigma Chi fraternity is involved in several community projects, and raised \$10,000 for Valley Children's Healthcare in 2017.

## Constructing a Concrete Canoe

Each year, Fresno State engineering students build a canoe to compete against other universities from around the nation and globe. It's active learning at its finest — where students benefit from collaboration, hands-on experience and exhibiting their skills. What happened at the competition this year was a shock to everyone — but the way students reacted showed that Bulldogs don't break that easily.



See the full story, video and photos: [stories.fresnostate.edu](http://stories.fresnostate.edu)



Cary Edmondson

## AROUND THE FOUNTAIN

### Donations on the Rise

Nearly 10,000 people contributed more than \$22.4 million to Fresno State during the 2017-18 academic year — \$18.3 million for academics and \$4.1 million for athletics. That's a 22 percent increase in overall giving from the year before. Individual donor participation was also up 9 percent and alumni support grew by 14.5 percent.

**\$18.3 M**  
**ACADEMICS**  
AND  
**\$4.1 M**  
**ATHLETICS**

### 1.44 Million Hours

Fresno State students, faculty and staff provided more than 1.44 million hours of service to the community during the 2017-18 academic year, setting a new campus record. The Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning at Fresno State announced the estimated economic impact of service at \$40.3 million.



**\$40.3 M**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICE**



### NBC All-Star Teacher

Jennifer Click, a Fresno State alumna and chemistry teacher at Edison High School in Fresno, was selected as one of five nominees for the All-Star Teacher Award and featured in a video on NBC's website. At Edison, she founded the E-City Pantry Club that donates hygiene packs to local schools and shelters.



### CLUB HOPPING



## Men's Rugby Club

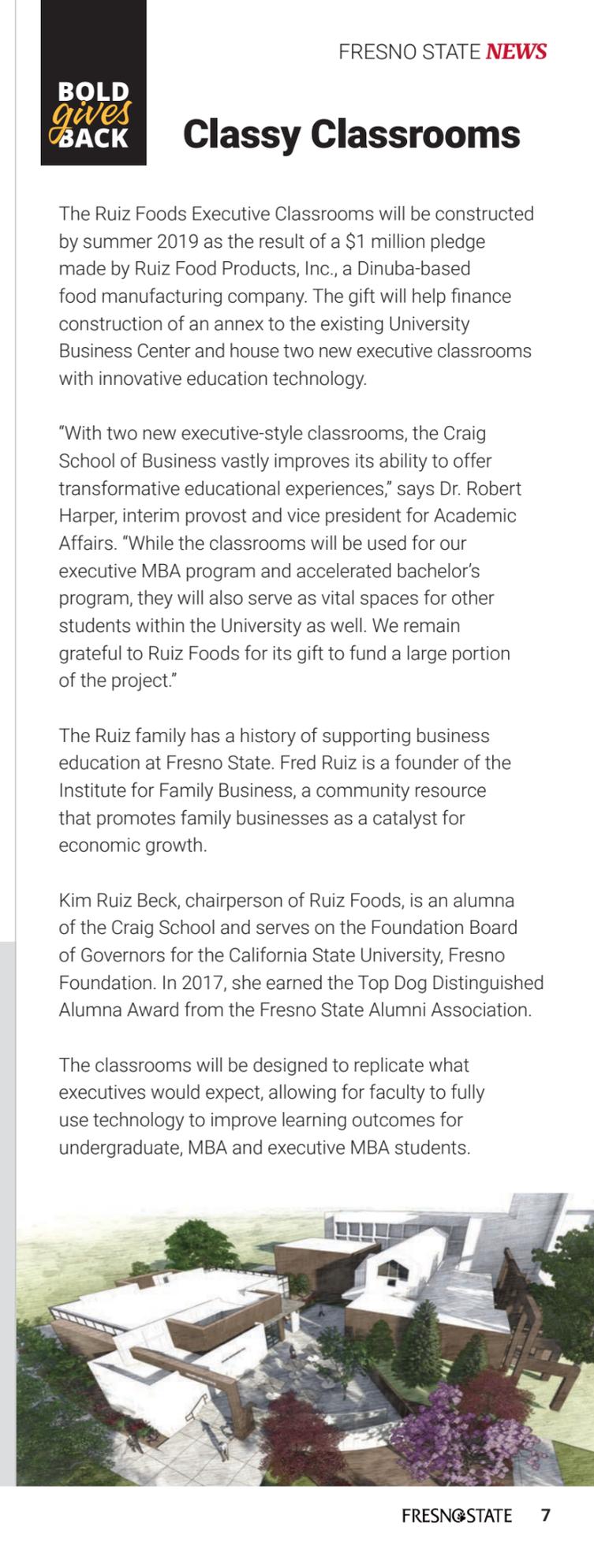
Fresno State club men's rugby player Isaia Kruse (pictured) was one of 14 rugby players in the country chosen to represent Team USA at the Youth Olympic Games of 2018 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The U.S. team competed for gold against Argentina, France, Japan, South Africa and Samoa. Fresno State has 22 club sports teams — not governed by the NCAA — that are dedicated to providing students with a competitive athletic experience on campus and in competitions.

### Hall of Fame Worthy

The National Football Foundation announced that Fresno State alumni Bernard Berrian (1999-03), who set a Bulldogs record and led the nation with 2,776 all-purpose yards in 2001, and the late Darryl Rogers (1956), who coached the Bulldogs from 1966-72, are on the 2019 College Football Hall of Fame ballot. The Hall of Fame class will be announced Jan. 7.

### 'Game of Thrones' Wine

To celebrate the final season of hit HBO show "Game of Thrones," Fresno State alumnus Bob Cabral (1984) crafted three wines last year to match the strength of the show's characters. Cabral is the director of winemaking at Three Sticks Wines in Sonoma and formerly of Williams Seylem in Healdsburg. The wine is available at [gameofthroneswines.com](http://gameofthroneswines.com).



**BOLD gives BACK**

## Classy Classrooms

The Ruiz Foods Executive Classrooms will be constructed by summer 2019 as the result of a \$1 million pledge made by Ruiz Food Products, Inc., a Dinuba-based food manufacturing company. The gift will help finance construction of an annex to the existing University Business Center and house two new executive classrooms with innovative education technology.

"With two new executive-style classrooms, the Craig School of Business vastly improves its ability to offer transformative educational experiences," says Dr. Robert Harper, interim provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "While the classrooms will be used for our executive MBA program and accelerated bachelor's program, they will also serve as vital spaces for other students within the University as well. We remain grateful to Ruiz Foods for its gift to fund a large portion of the project."

The Ruiz family has a history of supporting business education at Fresno State. Fred Ruiz is a founder of the Institute for Family Business, a community resource that promotes family businesses as a catalyst for economic growth.

Kim Ruiz Beck, chairperson of Ruiz Foods, is an alumna of the Craig School and serves on the Foundation Board of Governors for the California State University, Fresno Foundation. In 2017, she earned the Top Dog Distinguished Alumna Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association.

The classrooms will be designed to replicate what executives would expect, allowing for faculty to fully use technology to improve learning outcomes for undergraduate, MBA and executive MBA students.

# GET SOCIAL

By Jenny Toste and Alexis Ford

[facebook.com/fresnostate](https://facebook.com/fresnostate) [@Fresno\\_State](https://twitter.com/Fresno_State)

Did you know Fresno State has about 70,000 followers on Facebook and Twitter and 29,000 on Instagram? Here's a snapshot of what people are posting lately:

## On Fresno State's No. 24 national ranking by Washington Monthly:

### FACEBOOK:

#### Julius Rizzotti

Wow, way to go Fresno State. Both of my sons graduated from there. They got a great education.



#### City of Clovis, California - Government

Congratulations to Fresno State on their Top 25 national ranking! What a privilege to have such an impressive university in our backyard!

#### Irma Ramirez Rangel

Bravo Fresno State!! Working on this campus was a true honor and pleasure.

#### Maria Williams

Go Dogs!!!! Proud alum...class of 2000!

### INSTAGRAM:

#### @baby\_panda85

Just saw this on the news!! Woo woo! So proud to be a bulldog!

#### @jleann88

So amazing. So proud to be a bulldog alum.

#### @fresnocommunitychorus

So proud of you...us!

## Razmik Cañas

Ending my education where it all began.  
Once a Bulldog, Always a Bulldog!  
[#FresnoState](https://twitter.com/FresnoState)



#### About the U.S. News Ranking:

No. 3 in graduation-rate performance among public universities

#### Butch Crawford

Dr Castro deserves a lot of credit for this. He has made getting done in 4 years an attainable goal.

#### Elizabeth V. Elizondo

Go Dogs! [#Bulldogborn](https://twitter.com/Bulldogborn) [#Bulldogbred](https://twitter.com/Bulldogbred)

#### Filomena Pimentel Rocha

This is all wonderful and amazing news. I am glad my daughter chose to be a Bulldog.

#### Skip Briner

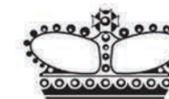
My daughter graduated in 4 years from Fresno State, she is in her first year of teaching at a local high school. She turns 23 tomorrow. Pretty impressive.

Want to share a photo or memory?  
Tag us or use [#FresnoState](https://twitter.com/FresnoState)

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ORLOFF JEWELERS  
FIG GARDEN VILLAGE



Developing

suppression technology to help people with Parkinson's

By BoNhia Lee | Photos by Cary Edmondson



▲ Mechanical engineering professor Dr. The “Leo” Nguyen (right) and graduate student Sreekanth Rudraraju have developed various prototypes on the path to creating the Tremelo family of tremor-suppression devices to help Parkinson’s patients improve their abilities to do daily tasks.

**M**echanical engineering professor Dr. The “Leo” Nguyen crouches down toward the floor of his testing facility trying to get a good look at the trembling hand of Winston Field, a 78-year-old man with Parkinson’s who is part of a trial study for the professor’s new invention.

Nguyen rests his chin between his thumb and index finger, eyes fixated on his subject’s hand and the intricacies of each involuntary movement shaking right to left, going up and down, faster then slower.

The Lyles College of Engineering professor at Fresno State is collecting observational data that he and a graduate student will take back to the lab and use to refine the tremor-suppression device he’s created. They follow this process week after week with patient after patient, and will do so until they get it just right.

After years of work in machine design and dynamics, Nguyen decided it was time to use his skills to help people. He spent some time in medical engineering, working to improve the design of leg prosthetics to reduce the cost so people without insurance can afford it.

Now, in between teaching classes, he’s working on the research and development of hand and arm devices with graduate student Sreekanth Rudraraju.

“With my expertise, I said, ‘OK, why not do this?’ I already work on vibrating machines and structures,” Nguyen says. “Human arms would be much more complex, but let’s give it a try.”

The devices use the principle of energy absorption — normally found to steady planes, bridges and tall buildings — to counteract the shaking in hands. The prototypes have a patent pending and are still in the research and testing phase, but early results show that they are working to reduce tremors and improve fine motor skills for some of the patients in the trials.

New California Ventures LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fresno State Foundation, provided early seed money and a significant capital investment to Nguyen to conduct research and develop a prototype device through Five Microns, a medical-device company he started. This allowed Nguyen to complete the patent application process, conduct further research and develop and test his prototypes.

Fresno State is the only campus in the California State University system with a for-profit entity that can retain a percentage ownership in such start-up companies. Once a patented product or service is licensed and commercialized, Fresno State will receive a portion of the licensing fees that can be reinvested into scholarly research.

*Continued*

“EVERY TIME YOU SEE A PATIENT, YOU’RE TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THEIR BEHAVIOR. THEN IT’S UNDERSTANDING THE MECHANICAL MISTAKES AND HOW TO INFLUENCE THE DESIGN, HOW TO MODIFY THE DESIGN. THAT IS REALLY MOST CHALLENGING.”

**SREEKANTH RUDRARAJU**  
Graduate student



### DESIRE TO HELP PEOPLE

Nguyen’s interest in hand tremors started in Vung Tau, Vietnam, where he grew up watching soldiers battle Parkinson’s years after exposure to Agent Orange, a blend of herbicides used by the U.S. military to kill leaves, other foliage and crops during the war. Studies have shown that exposure to Agent Orange increases the risk of developing Parkinson’s.

The Parkinson’s Foundation estimates that 930,000 people in the United States will be living with the disease by 2020. About 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with Parkinson’s every year, the foundation says. In California alone, there are 85,100 people with the disease.

In 2012, Nguyen came to the San Joaquin Valley to teach at Fresno State, where he continued to see and meet people with Parkinson’s. The Valley is known to have one of the highest rates of Parkinson’s disease in the nation.

“This is affecting people’s lives, their independence,” Nguyen says. “They’re not really ill. They can still lift weight, it’s just that they cannot do fine movement anymore. That’s my goal, to help that.”

Nguyen collaborated with colleagues in the Physical Therapy Department at Fresno State who work with Parkinson’s patients. He brainstormed design possibilities with students and made it a class project. In 2016, Nguyen used a basic mechanical engineering concept to create the first prototype.

The Tremelo is a sleeve with two to four vibration absorption panels fitted around a patient’s wrist. Inside each panel is a mass-spring-damper system that swishes back and forth against the arm, absorbing the energy created by the shaking which helps stabilize the arm. The device does not run on batteries and it does not deliver electric shocks.

In recent months, the Five Microns team created two more devices, using the same vibration control concept, to address the range of tremors that exist — some swing back and forth, some go up and down and others happen only while resting.

Rudraraju, who is from India, says this is one of the most intricate designs he’s ever worked on. The mechanical

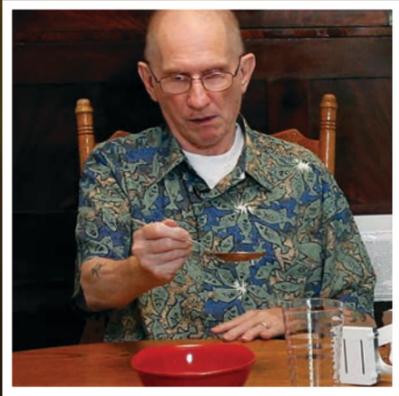


▲ Sreekanth Rudraraju, who is on pace to earn his master’s degree in mechanical engineering in December, worked professionally in India for nine years before pursuing his graduate degree at Fresno State while helping to research and develop tremor-suppression technology.

engineering major, who will earn his master’s degree in mechanical engineering at the end of the fall semester, has worked on the tremor project with Nguyen for two years. Before that, he worked in the mechanical engineering industry in India for nine years.

“Every time you see a patient, you’re trying to understand their behavior,” Rudraraju says. “Then it’s understanding the mechanical mistakes and how to influence the design, how to modify the design. That is really most challenging.”

*Continued*



▲ Winston Field, who first noticed his arms shaking in 2008 while riding his motorcycle, has been participating in trial studies at Fresno State in hopes that a new tremor-suppression device can help him or others improve their quality of life.



### PROMISING RESULTS

Winston Field, the man participating in trial studies, is upbeat and eager as he walks slowly into the Water, Energy and Technology Center, a business incubator at Fresno State, to test Nguyen's hand-tremor devices as he's done several times before as part of the trial.

An avid motorcyclist for 35 years, Field first noticed his arms shaking in 2008 while gripping the handlebars of his bike. He was diagnosed a year later with Parkinson's. His father had it, too.

The disease has slowly taken away Field's ability to use his right hand for tasks like drawing a straight line and using a spoon. He takes two pills five times a day to suppress the shaking. But on this day, Field skips his mid-morning dose because he needs the severity of his hand tremors to show.

There aren't many options for treating Parkinson's, just loads of medication or brain stimulation surgery when the meds don't work. Exercise can also help.

Field, a former psychiatric nurse, once participated in balance assessments through the College of Health and Human Services at Fresno State.

“THE DEVICES WORK. THEY DO WORK. AND THEY'VE GOTTEN TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN MY OPINION.”

WINSTON FIELD  
Trial study participant

Dr. Monica Rivera, assistant professor of physical therapy at Fresno State, introduced Field to the Five Microns team two years ago, and he has become their most loyal community participant.

He walks the treadmill four times a week and participates in balance classes twice a week. He doesn't want brain surgery and wants to reduce his dependence on drugs.

There are other hand-tremor devices in the research and testing stages, but none that use the energy absorption concept that makes the Tremelo family of devices unique, Nguyen says.

Dr. Bhupinder Singh, assistant professor of physical therapy at Fresno State who helped Nguyen submit grants for the device, agrees the product is one-of-a-kind. Nguyen has collaborated with physical therapists who know how this will work on patients and he is actually testing the device in different ways, Singh says. Singh specializes in the study of gait and biomechanics and

also runs the Gait Analysis Movement Evaluation lab, which works with Parkinson's patients in the Valley.

“Everyone else is focused on what they call aggressive exercises to help improve the ability to do a task,” Singh says. “Dr. Nguyen is trying to address the problem first hand.”

Nguyen and Rudraraju are working hard to finalize designs for the devices.

“We are doing our best to get the device to the users as soon as possible,” Nguyen says. “It will potentially help thousands of patients with severe tremors regain many activities of daily living to improve their quality of life. That's the ultimate goal of this work.”

To demonstrate, Field holds a black marker in his hand and attempts to trace a straight line on a whiteboard. His right hand shakes back and forth picking up speed creating long waves weaving through the straight line like a seismograph that has just picked up strong vibrations in the earth.

The tremors get faster when he's excited by an activity. Then, Rudraraju slips the Tremelo on Field's arm. He goes back to the board and traces the line with more ease and smaller, less frequent waves.

“The devices work. They do work. And they've gotten to be more effective in my opinion,” Field says.

In August, Nguyen and his team brought pizza to Field's Fresno home to celebrate his birthday — and used it as another opportunity to test their research. Field wraps his hand around the handle of Nguyen's newest model, holds a cup with water and raises it to his mouth with no shaking. Without the device, the water slops over the sides of the cup.

“One of these days, there will be a cure for Parkinson's,” Field says. “Dr. Nguyen was very real about this and said it wasn't going to solve things next year or the year after that. But I think there are real possibilities.”

— BoNhia Lee is a writer in University Communications at Fresno State.



For more information about the Tremelo, or to learn how to participate in or support the project, visit [fivemicrons.com](http://fivemicrons.com)

# Investing in Invention

Unique fund helps Fresno State innovators pursue commercialization

By Eddie Hughes

**A**s is the case with any great business idea, the idea itself is only the beginning of the hard work to come. But Dr. The "Leo" Nguyen, the mechanical engineering professor who has been using the principle of energy absorption to develop a tremor-suppression device for Parkinson's patients the past two years, is giving Fresno State faculty, staff and students a how-to lesson on using the unique resources the campus provides.

New California Ventures LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fresno State Foundation, has provided 22 mini-grants to support business concepts on campus since the entity was established in 2012.

The entity was created to facilitate work that Fresno State's Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship engages in with start-up companies to provide consulting services and financial assistance to help launch commercialization efforts.

The Foundation has invested about \$240,000 so researchers on campus can protect their intellectual property by pursuing patent protection and then monetizing their ideas if they reach that stage of development.

One of those mini-grants provided the seed money Nguyen needed

to continue his research and development with patient trial studies for his Tremelo family of devices. Five Microns, a medical-device company, was created to do the work.

"There are a lot of resources on campus for entrepreneurs, whether it's in engineering, ag or health and human services," says Debbie Adishian-Astone, Fresno State's vice president for administration, chief financial officer and executive director for the Fresno State Foundation. "Dr. Nguyen's story will resonate with the faculty because his story is really a billboard for the campus and showing that we know how to move forward with a concept and hopefully get it to market and turn it into a profitable venture."

The entity is similar to what is found at Stanford and other major research universities, but Fresno State is the only campus in the California State University system with a for-profit entity focused on helping faculty, staff and students launch their projects into private business ventures.

Once the product or service is commercialized, Fresno State, which co-owns the patent, will receive royalties to help support future scholarly research.

Adishian-Astone says, in addition to supporting research on campus, New California Ventures has the potential to make an economic impact. "It can be challenging for start-ups to attract the capital to pursue an idea, and this funding helps ease that challenge. When successful, concepts like Dr. Nguyen's can help contribute to economic development and job creation in our community and beyond."

— Eddie Hughes is the senior editor for Fresno State Magazine.



HANDY DEVICE

**“IT CAN BE CHALLENGING FOR START-UPS TO ATTRACT THE CAPITAL TO PURSUE AN IDEA, AND THIS FUNDING HELPS EASE THAT CHALLENGE.”**

**DEBBIE ADISHIAN-ASTONE**

Fresno State vice president for administration, chief financial officer and executive director for the Fresno State Foundation

▲ Dr. The "Leo" Nguyen and mechanical engineering graduate student Sreekanth Rudraraju are taking advantage of a unique funding opportunity to get their tremor-suppression product to market.

Cary Edmondson

# A Community Need

University exercise program provides free services for Parkinson's patients

By Melissa Tav

For 30 years, Mel Stratton made a living by relying on the precise, timely motion of his hands and arms as he directed high school bands locally and across the nation. Though a Parkinson's diagnosis in 2000 threatened his ability, he didn't let it deter his passion of creating visual and melodic works. In fact, the sounds of the electric beats inspired him to march on.

Stratton was initially diagnosed with arthritis in 1999 at age 52, but something in his gut told him to examine his health further. Something more was causing his strength and hand-eye coordination to deteriorate. It was Parkinson's disease, a central nervous system disorder that affects movement and often includes involuntary tremors.

Stratton now spends his Mondays and Wednesdays at Fresno State, where the Department of Physical

Therapy has offered a unique, free exercise program for individuals with Parkinson's since 2015.

In the Central Valley, a region known to have one of the highest rates of Parkinson's in the nation, having a free, accessible exercise program was necessary, said Dr. Monica Rivera, an assistant physical therapy professor at Fresno State and director of the exercise program.

"What we know is that therapy or physical activities are strongly advocated by neurologists," Rivera says. "Parkinson's is a degenerative disease, but through an intervention exercise program we can improve aspects of motor control and function by participating in a six- to eight-week program. What we are trying to discover is, can we carry that on for a longer period of time if they keep exercising?"

For 45 minutes at a time, Stratton and other community members participate in exercises that strengthen their cores, stimulate their motor systems and heighten their balance — all of which are meant to improve their physical function and quality of life. Physical therapy faculty and students facilitate the program.

During class, those like Danielle Roche, a third-year doctor of physical therapy student, set up an obstacle course of boxes and cones and have Stratton strategically maneuver over and around each one.

The goal of the agility- and gait-training exercise is to have Stratton practice changing motor plans, a common and difficult feat for most with Parkinson's. For Roche, who plans to specialize in neurology after she graduates, Stratton's improvement has been inspiring.

Mel Stratton, a former high school band director, works with physical therapy faculty and students twice a week as part of an exercise program to improve his Parkinson's symptoms. He uses the Bertec machine for gait analysis and balance assessment in an effort to lessen his risk for falling.

"One day after a session he was able to walk with excellent posture and gait, which was significant because he would normally have to use his scooter to get to each of our treatment rooms due to his freezing episodes," Roche says.

The initial idea for the Parkinson's exercise program was spearheaded by 2015 doctor of physical therapy alumnus Dr. Audrey Tan, who now runs the program's popular yoga component one day a week.

## Cognitive Services

Hoping to further increase services, the Department of Communicative Sciences and Deaf Studies at Fresno State launched its Parkinson's Research Clinic to provide clients an opportunity to work on cognitive communication functions, as well.

After his exercise program, Stratton walks to another area of campus where graduate speech-language pathology students greet him.

For the next hour, he receives individual speech therapy, working to achieve better communication, voice projection and speech intelligibility.

After eight weeks, clients move on to the second phase of the program, group therapy. Graduate students, who receive clinical hours, facilitate all sessions.

"For students, this experience will prepare them to work with this population upon graduation, which further increases the treatment opportunities for local clients with Parkinson's," said Sabrina Nii, director of the Parkinson's Research Clinic.



Individuals with Parkinson's are just one of the many populations the College of Health and Human Services assists. It also offers an Aphasia Group Clinic for individuals who have experienced a stroke and now have communication issues.

The Senior Awareness Fall Education Central Valley Coalition holds its Fall Balance Screenings, which bring together physical therapy, kinesiology and nursing students to collaborate with pharmacy students from

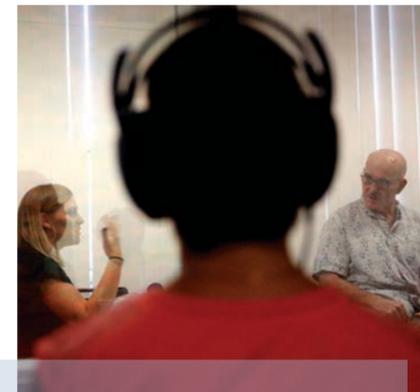
California Health Sciences University in providing free balance and gait tests for older adults.

This practice of interprofessional education allows clients the best possible care, while giving students real-world experience.

"It's the best outcome for the patients for their health-care providers to always be connected," Rivera says.

For Stratton, the opportunity to receive free services through Fresno State has been invaluable toward slowing the progression of his Parkinson's. He credits the creativity of students and faculty for his improvement and for giving him the confidence to continue to step to the beat.

— Melissa Tav is a communications specialist for the College of Health and Human Services at Fresno State.



After his exercise program concludes, Mel Stratton meets with graduate speech-language pathology students to work on cognitive communication.



For more information on these services call 559.278.2422.



For an exclusive online story on the Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic visit [fresnostatemagazine.com](http://fresnostatemagazine.com)

# STUDENT CUPBOARD

SPRING 2015 – FALL 2017

**11,329**  
UNIQUE VISITORS  
AND  
**141,578**  
TOTAL VISITS

NOV. 2014 – MARCH 2018

**675,000+**  
POUNDS OF FOOD



**\$440,954**  
DONOR SUPPORT  
\* March Match Up total

# Fresh Produce, Fresh Minds

New garden provides a healthy way to fight student food insecurity

By Lisa Maria Boyles



◀ Hunavy Luy, Student Cupboard assistant, works with program coordinator Jessica Medina to maintain the fresh produce garden on campus.

Cary Edmondson

In a small corner next to the University Courtyard Atrium, Jessica Medina and student volunteers tend to a garden that serves as Fresno State's newest tool to fight student hunger.

The garden grows fresh produce for the Student Cupboard, a free food and hygiene pantry for students — and its harvest far exceeds the produce plucked from the 595 square feet of soil.

As awareness of the new garden has grown, other entities — both on and off campus — have stepped up to help provide more fresh, healthy produce for Fresno State students experiencing food insecurity.

“Beyond our small garden space, it's important to discuss all of the other gardens and harvests that have come about because of it,” says Medina,

*“I think it's raised a lot of awareness of the fact that we want to provide fresh produce to our students, and we know our students are asking for it.”*

**JESSICA MEDINA**

Student Cupboard program coordinator

the program coordinator. “Our Plant Science Club has since reached out to us and over the summer they planted a quarter of an acre of produce for us on land they cultivate. It was wonderful to have that donated.”

That partnership opened up interest from classes on campus that are doing ag research.

“Whenever they get done doing their research,” Medina says, “they put corn, broccoli and romaine lettuce off to the side and we were able to come and get that for distribution to students through the Student Cupboard. I think it's raised a lot of awareness of the fact that we want to provide fresh produce to our students, and we know our students are asking for it. Whenever we get fresh produce, it's one of the first things to go. They love it.”

## Food Security Project

The Food Security Project at Fresno State started in August 2014. A CSU-wide survey published in 2018 found 43.7 percent of 1,514 Fresno State students reported experiencing food insecurity. Research has shown students who are hungry or at risk of being hungry experience health problems and academic challenges.

Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro and First Lady Mary Castro have spearheaded efforts to meet the basic needs of the University's students. The Student Cupboard is one of several efforts on campus to help address food insecurity.

Enrolled students can get food and hygiene products from the Student Cupboard up to once a day. The cupboard, located in Room 144 of the Grosse Industrial Technology Building, is open five days a week during the school year.

Between November 2014 and June 2018, the Student Cupboard had 11,329 unique visitors with 141,578 visits. It distributed more than 675,000 pounds of food from November 2014 to March 2018. Donors have given \$440,954 in two March Match Up campaigns.

The Food Security Project received an honorable mention for the 2018 Excellence in Innovation Award sponsored by Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest collegiate honor society. The honor recognizes an institution for finding powerful answers to important local, regional, national or global challenges.

## Cross-campus Collaboration

Established in March 2017, the Student Cupboard garden yields two harvests per year. The fall planting, which harvests November through April, results in lettuce

varieties, radishes and kale. The summer planting, which harvests May through September, produces eggplant, tomatoes, peppers (bell and jalapeno) and basil.

Medina said the physical space for the garden materialized when Erin Boele, director of student housing, provided a small, unused plot near the residence halls.

Once the space was acquired, different entities on campus came together to make the garden a success.

Lecturer Laurie Taylor-Hamm teaches a nonprofit management class in the Craig School of Business. Students in her class created a project plan for an on-campus garden.

“The collaboration with the Student Cupboard is always popular,” Taylor-Hamm says. “Students come to class the first day asking if there is a project with the Student Cupboard and if they can be on that team. Word gets around when the students enjoy the projects and feel like they are making a difference.”

Medina says Calliope Correa, of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology University Farm Laboratory, helps provide seasonal seeds or plants for the garden's crops. She also developed a sustainability plan for the garden. The Plant Science Club does student research related to the garden and helps connect Medina with opportunities to source extra crops. Facilities Management helps keep the sprinklers in good repair. And student volunteers work the garden year round — planting, weeding and harvesting its bounty.

“All of our projects are very cross-campus collaborative, which is so important,” Medina says. “It's how we sustain and do so well.”



— Lisa Maria Boyles is the public information officer for Fresno State.

# Feeling the School Spirit

## See what Terry Tumey says is the role of athletics at the University

By Eddie Hughes

**T**erry Tumey appears in the doorway of his athletics director's office on the first floor of the Duncan Building on Fresno State's campus — smiling, shaking hands and making small talk as he straightens out his red and blue necktie.

He's personable, warm and friendly, with a disarming laugh and a physique that suggests he could still get down in a three-point stance and rush a quarterback. The former UCLA defensive lineman is in his first couple months leading Fresno State's Department of Athletics.

He draws on his past experience as director of athletics at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (2016-18), a unified Division III program in Southern California, UC Davis (2012-15) and Dominican University (2009-12). He also spent time on the UCLA football coaching staff as well as the staffs of the San Francisco 49ers and Denver Broncos.

And now he takes over at Fresno State, an athletics program with a proud history of doing more with less — and with a future that will require strategic investments and growing support.

Fresno State Magazine sat down with Tumey to get to know him and discuss his vision and priorities.



*“When you talk about spirit and the feeling of pride that you get for a university, athletics is a way that you can see it, you can touch it, you can almost visualize that spirit for a university in competition. It brings communities together. It's a very intimate feeling that you get toward a university that comes through athletics.”*

**TERRY TUMEY**  
Director of Athletics

### Fresno State Magazine:

**What's your first impression of things since you got here and officially took over in the department?**

Terry Tumey:

*I think my first impression is really simple, it's community. This place is phenomenal in terms of the support and really the love that they have for Fresno and for folks who represent Fresno, so it's been truly a blessing to be here.*

**What makes Fresno State unique when it comes to athletics and community support?**

*I think it's the big little institution. It's big in the fact that it has all the assets that a big university has. It has great professors and great student body and great leadership in President Joseph Castro, but I think what makes it really unique is how it can be very individual and invest in its students in an individual manner where you feel like the University cares about them.*

**You've had experience at previous universities, but this is your first gig at a Football Bowl Subdivision school. What do you anticipate being the biggest adjustment?**

*The level rises as you move up through the FBS ranks. I feel as though that's something I've yearned for. Being as though I've been at the highest level in professional athletics, it's wonderful to have that mix of academic excellence and athletic excellence all in one place.*

**What makes you the right guy for the job?**

*I'm the right guy because I'm committed to Fresno State. I'm a person who believes and sees the power of Fresno State and what it can offer to our community, to our students, regionally and nationally.*

**In your letter to the Red Wave you talked a lot about the importance of the student-athlete experience at Fresno State. What does that mean to you?**

*Student-athletes are the reason why we're here. To be able to invest in individuals as they're developing, and really to have an impact or an imprint on their lives as they move forward, and to be able to take this transformational experience and be a part of it — it's a blessing. It's truly an honor to be a part of that. So we value the student-athlete experience, probably more than anything else.*

**What role does winning play in providing a positive student-athlete experience?**

*It's so important. You can't have a real positive experience without experiencing winning. I want to have those experiences for student-athletes. I want them desperately. But I also want them desperately for our student body. I want everyone to feel like winners when*

Cary Edmondson

they come out of Fresno State. I want them to understand that this athletic department represents them. It represents our student community, and I want our students to be so proud and excited about our teams in competition, because they truly are a reflection of that student body.

**A lot of the fans and donors want to know your vision for elevating the athletics program. Describe that vision from a competitive standpoint.**

I think the biggest thing we need to understand here at Fresno State is that we belong. We belong at the highest level of academics; we belong at the highest level of athletics. My vision is to make sure we're promoting that in every way possible. We promote that through how we invest in our student-athletes. We promote that in terms of the experiences that we give to our general student population, how we serve our community and how we serve this region. If we do all those things, I promise you, the national prominence that goes along with being Fresno State surely will be here.

**Does Fresno State have some challenges that other places don't when it comes to the budget and providing those resources?**

I don't think there's an institution in the country that doesn't face some of the financial constraints that Fresno State's going to face, or has been facing in the past. But I don't think there are as many places that truly have a fan base and a



Cary Edmondson

▲ New Fresno State athletics director Terry Tumey is eager to meet the Red Wave and build community partnerships.

community that would be as committed as the folks here in Fresno, and in the Valley. We're going to lean on that.

**What's the role of athletics at a university?**

When you talk about spirit and the feeling of pride that you get for a university, athletics is a way that you can see it, you can touch it, you can almost visualize that spirit for a university in competition. It brings communities together. It's a very intimate feeling that you get toward a university that comes through athletics. That's why people love athletics, because it really shows us competing on a larger platform, a larger stage.

**Do you think that's what makes alumni feel and stay connected, decades down the road?**

Absolutely. I think they see themselves going through hardships and see themselves rising and succeeding, because of the support of our community, helping them move forward. That does resonate. It stays with you for your lifetime. I think that's very important for our students to feel that. And I think it's very important for our alumni to see students going through that, because it reminds them that this was a very special place in their path that they had in terms of their growth and development as individuals.

**Historically, Fresno State has seen so many well-known professional athletes, so many top 25 teams and national champions in softball, baseball, tennis, track and wrestling. What will it take to continue that level of national prominence?**

I think that's a real compliment to our past and current coaching leadership. I think continuing to invest in our coaching staff and in the staff who helps to support coaches is vitally important. The growth of a student-athlete is not just dependent upon their hard work. It's also dependent upon the investments that we place into that athlete.

**Having played a sport yourself, what difference can it make when the student body is really behind the team, showing up and making noise?**

It makes all the difference in the world. It's the difference in thinking that you can win and knowing that when someone comes to your town, to your place, to your university, you're going to win.

**How important is the success of the football program at Fresno State for the entire athletic department?**

Football is important because it's like a portal. Once football becomes successful, it opens up so many other avenues for success in other sports, because it has such an attraction and such an appeal. It allows the community to get so energized and excited. But I'm as excited about football wins as I am about soccer,

volleyball and equestrian wins. All these sports are representative and reflective of the success of Fresno State.

**What are your expectations across the board for those various programs and what level can they can reach?**

We are going to invest in every program to where there's a championship experience for all of our students. That's the goal. Not just to have a great student experience, but to try to have a championship experience. So I really have an expectation that we will be champions in every sport, not just football, basketball, tennis, which we had a championship there last year. I want to see success in all of our sports.

**What's your plan of attack to get the community as engaged as they can be at the stadiums and arenas?**

We need to use all channels of communication. We have so much diversity in our population, we have so many varied ways in which we can communicate. We need to really start figuring out which way is the most effective. I know with some of our younger population, it may be through social media. For some of our older population, it may be through some more traditional means, whether it be through radio and television or print. But I think we need to start looking at really expanding our ability and our breadth in terms of trying to figure out how we can communicate best with our population.

**Is there anything that surprised you about Fresno State?**

I think the thing that surprised me the most is, no matter where you go, people know that you're a part of Fresno State. You are recognizable here, which is great, because that means that people really are paying attention to this University and what it does for the community. So I love the fact that I could be pumping gas somewhere and they say, 'Hey, aren't you?' And I say, 'Yes, I am,' and we talk about Fresno State. To me, that is exciting and that's a lot of fun.

**Academics and athletics rising together. I assume that's a phrase that you've heard since you've been here. From the athletics department perspective, what types of measures are in place to ensure student success?**

I think that's one of the most important aspects of what we're going to be doing here, is really looking at comprehensively what the student experience looks like. So when we talk about development, it's not just about the physical development of our student-athletes, but it's also how can we support their growth academically or from a career path? How can we make sure that these young people are on the right path so when they matriculate through this institution they're going to be successful Bulldogs and be able to give back to our community once their careers are over as athletes? 



For more fun facts and an exclusive online video: [fresnostatemagazine.com](http://fresnostatemagazine.com)

FUN FACTS

**Tell us about your family.**

My wife's name is Candace, and we've been together since college. My oldest daughter is Cameron and my youngest is Simone.



**Any game day superstition?**

I used to like to tape my hands myself. It kind of gave me a sense of power and strength in terms of me preparing myself mentally for a game. You do so much as a student-athlete to prepare for snippets of time in your life, but there's such a joy in competition that it's all worth it.



**Dodgers or Giants?**  
A's.

**Niners or Raiders?**

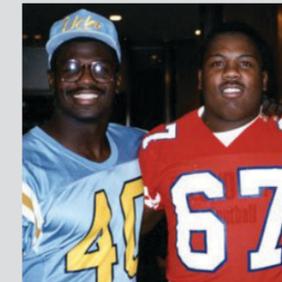
I worked for the Niners for so long and know so many of those individuals, I feel like I better say Niners. Unless it comes to Derek Carr, then it's all Raiders.

**When you get a cut, do you bleed Bulldog Red or UCLA blue?**

I think if you cut my wrist right now it's going to be totally red. It's so funny, I always think of it like this. You have a home. Everyone comes from a home, but a lot of times we leave home and we find a place that we love. So I've left home, and I found a place that I love and that's Fresno State.

**Bulldog alum you've known the longest?**

Kelly Skipper and Jethro Franklin, those two former football players. I've known them since I played in college. I met Jethro at a bowl game we had, called the Japan Bowl, back in the day. We've been friends ever since.



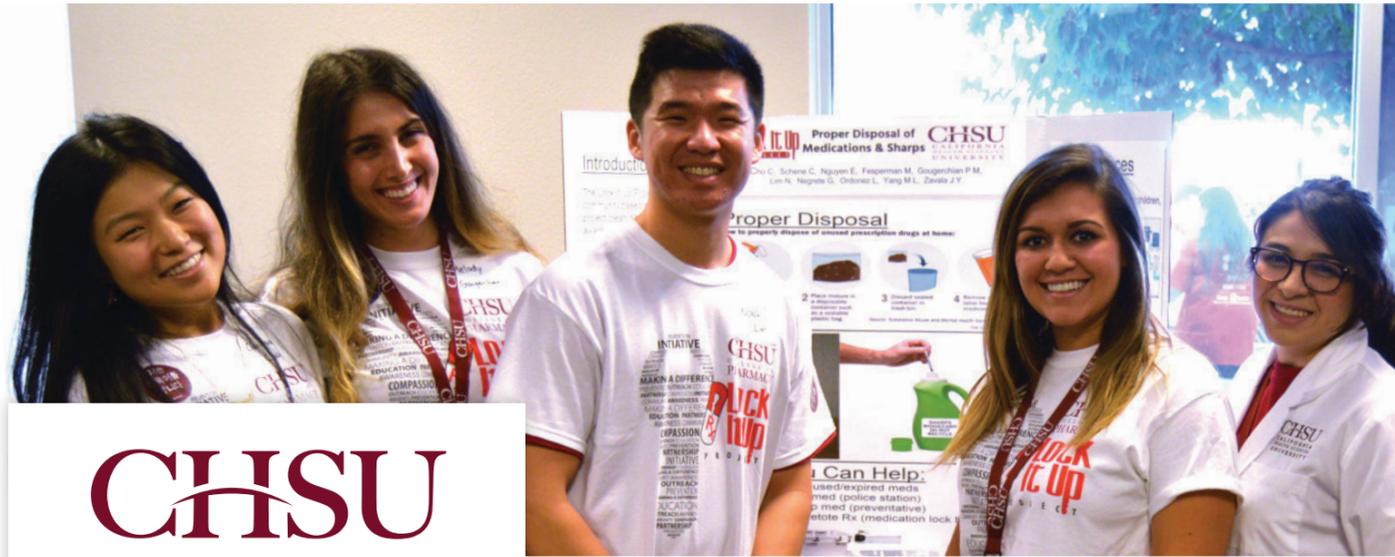
**Have you talked to him since you got the job?**

Oh yeah! Don't mess it up, Tumey. Do a good job, Tumey.' He's a proud Bulldog. He's very proud of his alma mater, and I promise you, Jethro, I'm not going to let you down.

▲ Terry Tumey (left) and Jethro Franklin

# CHALK TALK

Fresno State coaches explain the Xs and Os of the game for fans in attendance.



**CHSU**  
CALIFORNIA  
HEALTH SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY

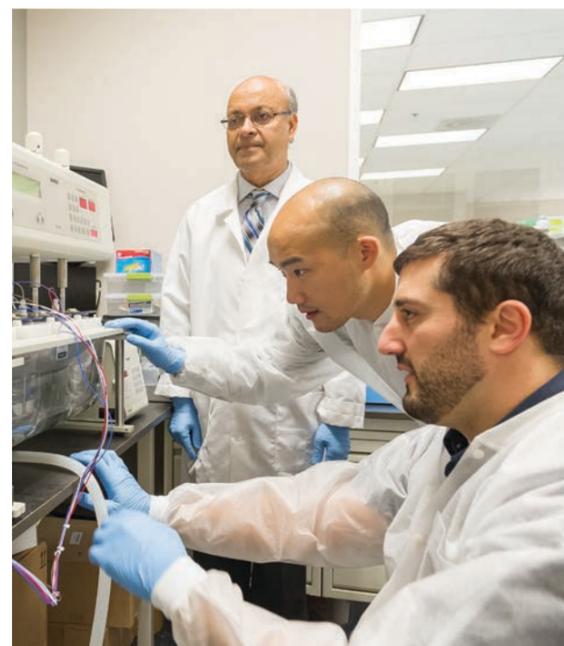
## Doctor of Pharmacy Program

CHSU is a local university established to meet the growing need for health professionals in Central California. Offering a Doctor of Pharmacy degree program, its innovative curriculum will prepare graduates to work in collaboration with physicians and other health care professionals in the provision of patient care.

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### 1. PASS

Using her forearms, the passer gives direction to the ball that was just served by the opponent. She aims to pass the ball twice the height of the net, three feet off, and slightly right of center.



### 2. SET

The designated setter has the responsibility to set the second contact, hopefully with her hands to the hitter of her choosing. She must remain balanced while she pushes the ball to her chosen hitter with the correct height and speed.



### 3. HIT

The hitters are all told by the setter before the play where to approach to hit using a specific footwork of four steps. With rhythm and correct timing, the setter delivers the ball to the hitter, who jumps high and swings with the purpose of scoring a point by having the ball land on the other side of the net in the court or go off the block and out of bounds.

### How to set up a spike

The Fresno State volleyball program got off to a quick start this fall under first-year coach **Jonathan Winder**, who came to the Bulldogs after spending three years as assistant indoor coach and head beach volleyball coach at Washington. In his playing days, Winder was the 2007 NCAA Player of the Year at Pepperdine. So who better to turn to for a quick lesson on what to watch for next time you take in a match? Here is Winder explaining how to set up a spike at the net.



### Upcoming matches at the Save Mart Center:

- NOV. 1** ···· Boise State
- NOV. 3** ···· Utah State
- NOV. 15** ··· San Jose State
- NOV. 17** ··· Nevada
- NOV. 19** ··· Air Force



For more information about volleyball or Fresno State athletics, visit [gobulldogs.com](http://gobulldogs.com)

Illustrations by Todd Graves



# A Crystal Clear Purpose

Distinguished Alumna recalls a time at Fresno State that helped shape her future

By Eddie Hughes and Esra Hashem

**S**afiya Umoja Noble sees change when she walks onto Fresno State's campus nowadays. She senses more diversity, more unity and more opportunity. But she also remembers a campus, in her day, that presented the types of challenges that ignited her passion for getting involved and making a difference.

In the early 1990s, Noble recalls some fellow students referring to her and her friends as “socialists” or “communists” when they would champion diversity. She says contentious political debates once led to incidents of vandalism. She remembers student newspaper stories consistently opposing the ideas she believed in.

While no one experiences college life — or life at Fresno State — exactly the same, that was part of the way Noble experienced it. And it ignited a passion in Noble to get involved and let her voice be heard.

“Fresno State is the place where clarifying who I wanted to be, the kind of human being I wanted to be in the world, crystallized,” Noble says.

As a student, she helped organize international trips for her peers, and helped establish a black theater project, the Women's Resource Center and a children's activity room in the library for students who were parents. In 1993, she became the second African-American student body president at Fresno State.

And now, as an author and assistant professor at the University of Southern California, Noble is being honored with the Fresno State Alumni Association's Top Dog Distinguished Alumna Award. Based on scholarship, leadership and service to the University, the award is the highest alumni honor given.

Each year, one alumna is chosen from each of the University's academic schools and colleges, and a select few other areas (page 32) to receive a Top Dog Outstanding Alumni Award.

Noble graduated from Fresno State in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in social sciences before earning her master's degree in information science and her doctorate in philosophy (information science) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Noble is revered as a researcher, focusing on the ways digital media impacts and intersects with issues of gender, race, culture and technology design.

“My work is concerned with looking at what happens when the public is highly reliant upon online information,” Noble says. “How do people make sense of disinformation, or commercial information, or advertising or some type of optimized paid content that might be completely fraudulent? And that, of course, has tremendous impact on our society.”

Noble's research has led to numerous peer-reviewed articles and published books, including “Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism.”

At the time of her research, Noble says she found that when she searched for phrases like “black girls,” “Latina girls,” or “Asian girls,” pornography was a primary search result.

“That's led to a long research agenda of looking again at who's

made vulnerable, who loses control over their identity, their story, the narrative, their representation online in these spaces and what's at stake when that happens,” Noble says.

She was shocked to learn she was chosen to receive the Top Dog Distinguished Alumna Award, which she will accept on Oct. 26 at the Save Mart Center during homecoming week. She will be joined by 14 other high-achieving alumni who have made an impact on their communities in their own ways.

*“Fresno State is the place where clarifying who I wanted to be, the kind of human being I wanted to be in the world, crystallized.”*

SAFIYA UMOJA NOBLE

Noble left her mark, and she continues to make an impact on a broader scale globally with her research, writing and speaking engagements. Call her an advocate or call her an activist — to her, it simply means she's acting on her values.

“When I walk on campus now, it seems and feels more diverse than it was in that time,” Noble says. “Maybe the fact that the students aren't quite as active around certain kinds of issues, around racial exclusion, maybe that's a signal that they feel more comfortable, they feel more accepted, they feel like there is more possibility for them there than my generation felt. I can't deny that as a type of progress.”



Meet the 2018 Top Dogs in an online video: [fresnostatemagazine.com](http://fresnostatemagazine.com)



**THE TOP DOG**  
ALUMNI AWARDS



**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA**

**Safiya Umoja Noble**  
1995



**ARTHUR SAFSTROM SERVICE AWARD**

**Harry Gaykian**  
1955

**OUTSTANDING ALUMNI**

**JORDAN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY**



**Jim Marderosian**  
1979

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**



**Gerald McMenamin**  
1972

**DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS**



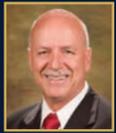
**Chris Williams**  
1994

**CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**



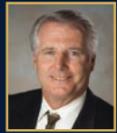
**James G. Parker III**  
1972

**KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**



**Michael Giovannetti**  
1970, '72, 2001

**LYLES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**



**Steven Schmidt**  
1977

**DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES**



**Mike Snell**  
2004, '10

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**



**Timothy McGonigle**  
1980

**HENRY MADDEN LIBRARY**



**Ellen Gorelick**  
1979

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**



**Raymond L. Rodriguez**  
1969

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**



**Rosendo Peña, Jr.**  
1977

**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**



**Christopher Morse**  
1988



**Kenneth Wittwer**  
1986



Cary Edmondson

**POOL SPIRIT**

**T**here's a new place on campus where the Bulldog spirit can be *felt* — literally. The red felt on three new pool tables inside the residence halls features the iconic Fresno State four-paw Bulldog logo. The officially-licensed tables were purchased through Pool Tables R Us in Fresno and debuted for students to use this fall semester in the recreation rooms of Baker, Homan and Graves halls.



**“We are excited to bring in this new form of Bulldog-inspired entertainment. It provides another space for our students to connect, relax and build community.”**

**ERIN BOELE**  
Director of Fresno State student housing

**Do you have that Bulldog spirit?**

Show us how you keep Fresno State pride alive at your home or business and you might be featured in a future issue of Fresno State Magazine!

[magazine@csufresno.edu](mailto:magazine@csufresno.edu)

# CLASS NOTES

## 1950s

**Arpie (Torigian) Dick** (1954), a longtime Red Waver and educator, has been recognized over the years for her service to the community.

**Betty Ann (Noorigian) Hagopian** (1955), a longtime educator in Fresno Unified School District, has served the community for 20 years.



**Jesse Perry** (1952) was recently awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by American Baptist Seminary of the West, Berkeley. He is the first layperson to be so honored.

**Phyllis Sadoian** (1953), of Kingsburg, has been recognized over the years for her service to the community.

## 1970s

**Gary Serrato** (1978) will retire next year after 33 years with the Fresno Irrigation District.

## SHARE YOUR NEWS

Submit an alumni Class Note and high-resolution photo to:

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## 1980s

**Christopher L. Chaimes** (1981) was appointed vice president and chief communications officer at Carnival Cruise Line.



Gage Skidmore

**Dot-Marie Jones** (1988), an actress known for her roles in "Glee," "Modern Family" and many other shows and movies, will be inducted into the Fresno County Athletic Hall of Fame on Nov. 1 after a record-setting track and field career at Fresno State in which she was a three-time All-American in the shot put.

**Sean M. Lane** (1989) was appointed as the new dean for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

**Alyssa Lynch** (1986) was named the Association of California School Administrators Region 8 Superintendent of the Year for Santa Clara County.

**Gilbert Nye** (1970, '85) retired in 2016 as president of Lawrence Nye Carlson Associates, Mechanical Engineers after 25 years.

**Craig Pedro** (1980) will retire at the end of the year as Tuolumne County administrator.

**James H. Schaad** (1987), a past faculty member, was appointed as the new assistant city manager for the City of Fresno.

**Tony Souza** retired after 27 years with the Manteca Police Department, most recently as captain.

## 1990s

**Lisa Maria Boyles** (1995) is now the public information officer in University Communications at Fresno State.

**Devonne G. Edwards** (1992), a former Fresno State linebacker, was inducted into the 13th class of the Bakersfield High School Driller Football Hall of Fame.

**Charlie Jones** (1996), former Fresno State and San Diego Chargers wide receiver, shared his testimony at a men's group breakfast at New Covenant Community Church in Fresno.

**Mark A. Lawrence** (1995), who got his first taste of advertising as a student while working for the Insight campus newspaper at Fresno State, is now production manager for JP Marketing in Fresno.

**Matt J. Machado** (1994) is now director of public works in Santa Cruz. He was previously director of the Stanislaus County Public Works team.

**Robert A. Nevarez** (1990), former deputy chief of the Fresno Police Department, is now Delano chief of police.

**Timothy Peck** (1990) celebrated 26 years as a teacher in Lodi Unified School District.

**George Smith-Takata** (1997), the director of marketing and communications at Reedley College, is now hosting "The Zone" on 940 ESPN radio from 4 to 6 p.m. on Fridays with Nick Anderson.

**Shelly Stokes** (1991), a former Fresno State softball standout and Olympic gold medalist, will be inducted into the Fresno County Athletic Hall of Fame on Nov. 1.

**Bruce Whitworth** (1993), former director of publications, retired after 18 years at Fresno State.

## 2000s



**Ethan C. Chatagnier** (2005), a Smittcamp Family Honors College alumnus, released his book, "Warnings from the Future," in September. The book is a collection of short stories that includes the Pushcart Prize-winning "Miracle Fruit."

**Justin Kase Conder** (2004), a photographer who has traveled to dozens of countries, had his work featured in the exhibit "Shared Humanity" at The Frontier in Research Triangle Park in North Carolina.

**Nicole Duncan** (2004), after nine years at Community Medical Centers, is now a speech-language pathologist for the Kings County Office of Education.

**Courtney Foley**, is now head of winemaking for Chalk Hill Estate Vineyards and Winery in Sonoma.

**Thomas Gaffery** (2004, '09) is now Parking Division manager for the City of Fresno. He was previously director of parking and transportation for CSU San Bernardino.

**Liliana Garcia** (2006) is now a strategic human resources business partner at Community Medical Centers in Fresno.

**Gerry Gastelo** (2008) is now senior logistics coordinator at Imperfect Produce in San Francisco.



Nike

**Paul George**, a five-time NBA all-star and Olympic gold medalist, had a Fresno State colorway of his PG 2.5 signature Nike shoe released in September. The shoe pays tribute to his alma mater, featuring the Bulldogs logo on the right tongue.

**Kaitlin Harada** (2009) is now director of student engagement and career connections for the Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California.

**Jamal Jones** (2001), a licensed marriage and family therapist and former Fresno State football player, is now a group facilitator at Correctional Medical Group Companies, Inc.

**Logan Mankins**, a former Fresno State offensive lineman and seven-time NFL Pro Bowl selection, will be inducted into the Fresno County Athletic Hall of Fame on Nov. 1.

**Christy Nance** (2002, '10) is now a pediatric nurse practitioner at Visalia Medical Clinic.

**Kurt Piland** (2005, '07), who earned his doctoral degree in leadership in higher education from Northcentral University in December, is now director of college relations and outreach for Reedley College.



**Angela (Hagobian) Steitz** (2002), who has more than seven years of experience in media buying and planning, is now assistant media buyer for JP Marketing in Fresno.

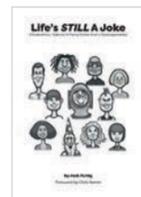
**Zach Sutton** (2000) is now an industry specialist for Chevron Finished Lubricants, focused on sales engagement.

**Brett Visintainer** (2004), a former kicker on the Fresno State football team, started a real estate brokerage company, Visintainer Group.



**Lynnette Zelezny** (2005), who served as provost at Fresno State, became president of Cal State Bakersfield in August.

## FACULTY/STAFF



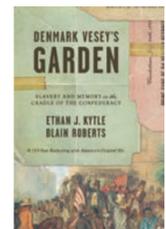
**Jack Fertig**, former director of basketball operations at Fresno State under Jerry Tarkanian, released his second book, "Life is Still a Joke," with a foreword written by former Bulldogs and NBA standout Chris Herren.



**Pat Hill**, the 15-year Fresno State football head coach and current color analyst for 940 ESPN radio, will be inducted into the Fresno County Athletic Hall of Fame on Nov. 1.



**Dr. Umit Kurt** is the 15th Henry S. Khazadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies.



**Blaine Roberts** and **Ethan J. Kyle** authored the book "Denmark Vesey's Garden: Slavery and Memory in the Cradle of the Confederacy."

## BULLDOG BORN

**A Joel Beery** (2008) and Aubriane Beery welcomed their second child, Adeline, on Sept. 8.

**B Anthony DeLuca** (2006) and Shelby DeLuca welcomed their second child, Colette, on Aug. 21.

**C Ashley (Del Testa) DeLuca** (2008) and **Peter DeLuca** (2009) welcomed their second child, Demi, on Feb. 17. She's pictured with her brother, Dean.

**D Matthew Helon** (2005, '09) and Elizabeth Helon welcomed their second child, Eleanor, on June 8. She's pictured with her brother, Samuel.

**E Sean Lieder** (2010) and Jordan Lieder welcomed their third child, Claire, on April 19.

**F Pierce Masse** (2008) and Raven Masse welcomed their third child, Mila, on Oct. 5, 2017.

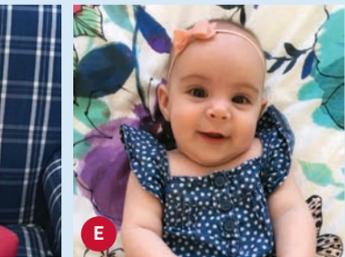
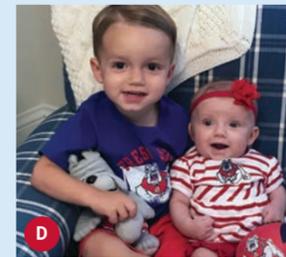
**G Vincent Ricchiuti** (2005) and Ashley Ricchiuti welcomed their third child, Rocco, on April 6.

**H Millie (Tang) Thao** (2007) and **Victor Thao** (2008, '14) welcomed their second child, Anderson, on June 21.

**I Chris Turner** (2017) and Bridget Turner welcomed their third child, Ronan, on July 21.



Taylor Davidson Photography



Marisa Araiza Photography

CLASS NOTES  
CONTINUED

2010s

**Jared Bertoni** (2016) was elected in May to serve as the 2018-19 Student Bar Association president at San Joaquin College of Law in Clovis.

**Daniel Chanthaphoung** (2016) is now a data entry technician for Advancement Services at Fresno State.

**Kali Conlon** (2017), a former Fresno State swimmer who recently broke a Pacific Masters record in the 50-meter backstroke, is now a video production assistant for the Golden State Warriors and is working for the University of California football team.

**Malik Forrester** (2018), a former defensive lineman for the Fresno State football team, is now defensive line coach for West Hills Community College in Coalinga.

**Kevin Goessling** (2011), a former kicker for the Fresno State football team, is now a commercial real estate consultant specializing in multifamily investments for the Visintainer Group, started by another former Bulldogs kicker, Brett Visintainer.

**Isaiah Green** (2011), a former Fresno State and Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback, hosted a charity basketball game in June with pro athletes at Clark Intermediate School in Clovis to raise money for scholarship recipients.

**Austin Guibor** (2017), a former Fresno State baseball standout, is now an associate with World Financial Group in San Diego.

**Patrick J. Heckroth** (2013) is now head coach for the Northern State University cross country and track and field programs in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

**Audra Iness** (2013) is now pursuing her M.D./Ph.D. at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine. She was named president of the American Physician Scientists Association.

**Patrick Kelly** (2014) is co-author of the book "Millennial Boom," released in June. Kelly, who is in his early 30s, and his co-author, who is in his mid-60s, explore why there is tension between the two generations and how they can respect each other.

**Kevin Kerston** (2017) is now a videographer for Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

**Mindy Lor** (2010), who has more than eight years of experience in design, promotion and content creation, is now account manager for JP Marketing in Fresno.

**Madchen Ly** (2015), a former Fresno State and professional golfer, is now assistant golf coach for the men's and women's teams at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington.

**Johnny Martin** (2016) is now a fourth-grade teacher at Fremont Elementary in Fresno.

**Nicole Maul** (2013) earned her Accreditation in Public Relations from the Universal Accreditation Board.

**Jackson Moore** (2015), the owner and publisher of BarkBoard.com, oversees website operations and serves as a reporter and multimedia journalist covering Fresno State sports and recruiting on the 247Sports.com network.

**Kelsey Ridley** (2017) is now pursuing her master's degree in child life from the University of Iowa.

**Leonard Serrato** (2014, '18), who was named a University Graduate Medalist in May, is now the lead campus adviser for fraternity and sorority life at Sonoma State.

**Hector Vargas** graduated from the Police Academy and joined the San Jose Police Department, along with his brother, Luis.

**Luis Vargas** (2017) graduated from the Police Academy and joined the San Jose Police Department, along with his brother, Hector.

**Taylor Ward**, a former all-Mountain West catcher at Fresno State and first-round Major League Baseball draft pick, made his debut for the Los Angeles Angels in August, starting at third base.

BULLDOG WED

**A Lyndsey Besser** (2008) married Jeff Roach on Sept. 2 in San Francisco.

**B Jayne Dangerfield** (2003) married Kenneth Scott Salyer on Sept. 9 in Livermore.

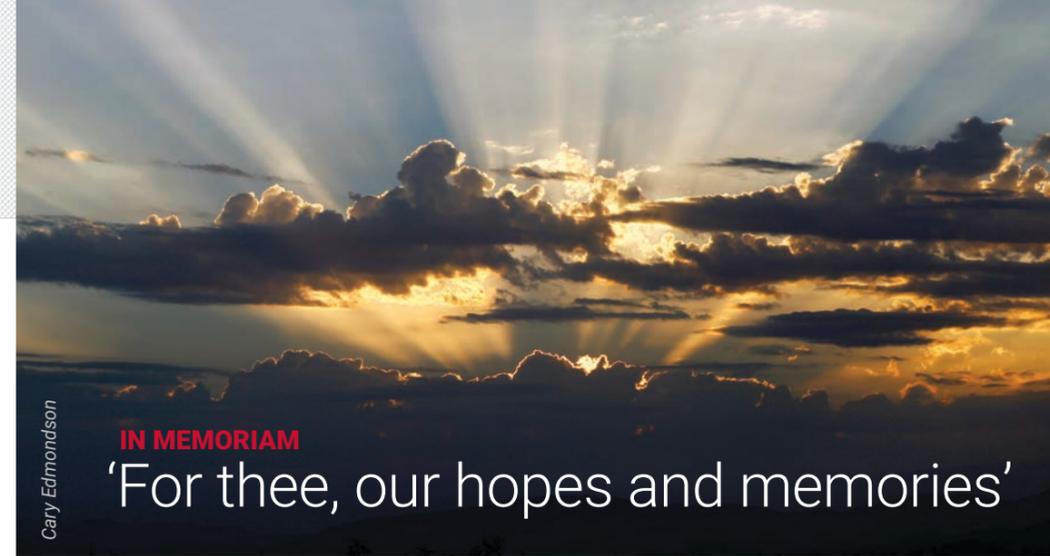
**C Jennifer Gagnon** (2007) married David Herrera on May 5 in Oakland.

**D Anna Gonzalez** (2012) married Peter David Carreon (2001) on March 2 in Costa Rica.

**E Kayla Meza** (2015) married Brian Stephens on Oct. 9 in Jamaica.

**F Lindsey Newcomb** (2008) married Zachary Distefano on May 18 in Madera.

**G Kimberlina Rocha** (2005) married Jose L. Munoz on Oct. 6 in Oxnard.



Cary Edmondson

IN MEMORIAM  
'For thee, our hopes and memories'

**Thomas S. Ashley** (1950), May in Fresno.

**Margaret E. Baxter** (1959), May 12 in Fresno.

**Helen M. Beck** (1949), June 16 in Fresno.

**Gary D. Beene** (1970, '93), July 7 in Madera.

**John E. Berecochea** (1960), April 4 in San Diego.

**Gary Birdsong** (1966), June 3 in Visalia.

**Donald H. Brockett** (1962, '68), March 31 in Camarillo.

**Arlie D. Brooks** (1964), June 30.

**Ronald P. Brumley** (1971), June 9 in Fresno.

**Shirley A. Canales** (1965), May 24 in St. Helena.

**George W. Dabney III** (1961), April 5 in Ventura.

**Betty B. Daubs** (1972), May 16 in Fresno.

**Susan D. Davis** (1994), March 14 in Marysville, Washington.

**Celia Gamber**, March in Clovis.

**Elizabeth G. Gazewood**, Aug. 19 in Surf Pines, Oregon.

**Glenda M. Gearin** (1966), March 16 in Medford, Oregon.

**Gene M. Gomes** (1969), in Fresno.

**Ernest Gotts** (1961), April 1 in Richardson, Texas.

**Dorothy Harkness** (1966), May 9 in Ukiah.

**Evelynne L. (Thayer) Hicks** (1943), May 30 in Fresno.

**Lillian L. Ivancovich**, March 2 in Visalia.

**Fred D. Iverson** (1972), Feb. 26 in Fresno.

**Marjorie Keithly** (1945), June 13 in Fresno.

**G. Loran Lewis**, July 21 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**Susana Lopez-Flud**, Aug. 21 in Bakersfield.

**Leonard G. Mark** (1957), June 19 in Pleasanton.

**Joseph R. McClintic**, March 9 in Fresno.

**John A. Miller** (1971), Aug. 14 in Clovis.

**Mark A. Mitchell** (1982), May 6 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

**Maxine R. Montgomery**, March 7 in Los Gatos.

**Bruce O. Nolf**, May 8 in Cove, Oregon.

**Albert Nieto** (1954), June 11 in Fresno.

**Virginia Nissen**, May 31 in Palo Alto.

**Carl G. Pedroncelli**, Feb. 17 in Mariposa.

**Daryl E. Pernu** (1979), July 4 in Tours, Texas.

**Barbara (Finch) Power**, May 15 in Sonora.

**John Purroy** (1954), July 13 in Rohnert Park.

**Sandra M. Peterson Rhodes**, June 26 in Salem, Oregon.

**Ralph L. Ricco** (1959), June 15 in Apple Valley.

**Darryl Rogers** (1959), July 11 in Fresno.

**Richard V. Rozeboom**, June 22 in Fresno.

**Lynda M. (Alvarez) Simon** (1942), Feb. 17 in Fresno.

**Diane MacKinnon Stadler**, May 3 in Vacaville.

**Geraldine A. Tahajian** (1965), March 2 in Fresno.

**Janice G. Walker** (1975), in Fresno.

**Wallace R. Walker**, May 20 in Yuma, Arizona.

**George D. Warner** (1976), March 31 in Davis.

**Elizabeth H. Wilkerson** (1974, '91), July 29 in Park City, Utah.

**Ralph L. Zimmerman** (1961), Dec. 6, 2016 in Millersburg, Pennsylvania.

**Anthony J. Zuniga** (2003), Aug. 20 in Visalia.

FACULTY/STAFF

**Herman Doswald**, Jan. 8 in Blacksburg, Virginia.

**Brian T. Hamada**, Aug. 10 in Kingsburg.

**Dr. Charles O. Lewis III**, May 8 in Hanford.

**Peggy Ramos**, April 29 in Fresno.

**Jill Richards**, Feb. 3 in Fresno.

Alumnus, former coach  
Darryl Rogers: 1934-2018

Former Fresno State student-athlete (1955-56) and head football coach (1966-72) Darryl Rogers passed away on July 11 at age 84.

As a player, Mr. Rogers was a star end for Fresno State during the 1955 and 1956 campaigns. In his initial season, the Long Beach native was second in the nation among college pass receivers. Mr. Rogers' performance earned him first-team All-Coast recognition.

In his second season, Mr. Rogers again headed the team in pass receptions and scored two touchdowns. He also logged four interceptions and returned them for 107 yards.

He earned his bachelor's degree in 1957 and his master's degree in 1964, both in physical education from Fresno State.

While coaching for the Bulldogs, Mr. Rogers led Fresno State to a California Collegiate Athletic Association Championship in 1968 as well as bowl games in 1968 and 1971. Mr. Rogers owned a 43-32-1 career record at Fresno State, leading the 'Dogs to six winning seasons.

He went on to coach at San Jose State (1973-75), Michigan State (1976-79) and Arizona State (1980-84). He moved to the NFL ranks from 1985-88, coaching the Detroit Lions.

Mr. Rogers was named to the 2019 College Football Hall of Fame ballot on June 4. The announcement of the 2019 Class will be made on Jan. 7 in Santa Clara.

Mr. Rogers is survived by his wife, Marsha, and daughters, Stacy and Jamie.



Darryl Rogers, End



Darryl Rogers, Coach

# THIS RESEARCH IS FOR THE BIRDS

From Fresno to Antarctica, alumna studies Adelie Penguins

By Victoria Cisneros

Negative temperatures still fill the daily forecasts as summer sets in across Antarctica. A white blanket of ice stretches across the entire continent, leaving only small pockets of land where the rocks have pushed their way through. This desolate oasis is home to the Adelie Penguins — and to science educator Jean Pennycook.

Before Pennycook left triple-digit Fresno for the ice-ridden shores of Antarctica, she served the Central Valley as a high school science teacher for over 25 years. Her undergraduate degree in wildlife and fisheries biology from the University of California at Davis gave her a background in science, while her master's in science education from Fresno State (2003) gave her the ability to share that science with the world.

In the late 1990s, while working for Fresno Unified School District, Pennycook discovered an opportunity to return to fieldwork.

"There was a project through the National Science Foundation that sends teachers to Antarctica and the Arctic as the education outreach person for the science team," Pennycook says. "That was my first experience in Antarctica, and when I did that, I said this is what I'm going to do for the rest of my life."

Initially, she was hired to do educational outreach for the volcano research team, but after her first few seasons in the field, she moved to lower ground to study the Adelie Penguins. Pennycook has returned to Cape Royds every year since from October to January, just in time for the penguins' breeding season.

Though the research remains a priority, she often finds herself sitting on the ice for hours, paralyzed by the serenity.

"Sometimes I just sit there and weep at the gift of being surrounded by these birds who are just not afraid of you and

"THINGS ARE CHANGING, AND WE'D LIKE PEOPLE TO NOT ONLY REVERE PENGUINS AND THE OTHER ANIMALS THAT LIVE THERE, BUT CHOOSE TO PROTECT THEM."

JEAN PENNYCOOK



will come right to you. It's a magnificent place, Antarctica," she says. "I'm just honored to get to go and be with these animals and work with them for basically four months out of the year."

Although amenities are scarce, Pennycook is well equipped with internet access that she uses to update her website, penguinscience.com. Her posts include daily time-lapse animations and educational activities for students. Some of her most popular activities are the Postcard Project, where students can send and receive postcards directly from her, and Nest Check, a daily photo gallery that follows certain penguins through phases of breeding season.

This past August, she returned to her alma mater to speak at an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute class at Fresno State for adults age 50 and older who have a joy for learning.

"There are many, many misconceptions about our polar environments so a lot of that is trying to get people educated," Pennycook says. "Things are changing, and we'd like people to not only revere

penguins and the other animals that live there, but choose to protect them."

In her nearly 20 years of experience, Pennycook says she has seen increasing evidence of a changing environment, causing concern for the future of the Adelies.

While she has always been passionate about wildlife and sustainability, her position in Antarctica has empowered her to become a more hands-on advocate. She hopes her work will motivate the public to action and raise awareness about the impact of each person's global footprint.

"What I mean by global footprint is their total life consumption of stuff. Energy and stuff. And if we all just reduced a little bit, it would mean a lot to the penguins, whales and seals. It's all about everybody, all of us, changing our lifestyle — plain and simple." 

— Victoria Cisneros is a student communications assistant for the Fresno State Alumni Association.

# TACKLING

the start of a new school year

Photo by Cary Edmondson

Students at University Courtyard were welcomed to the new school year with several activities designed to help students meet each other and form friendships before hitting the books.

Alisha Kelly and Jacob Boele jumped right into the fun during the Water Olympics competition, part of the 2018 Color Games. Fresno State student housing staff organize more than 360 social and educational programs each year geared toward giving residents the opportunity to meet peers from all walks of life.

## Did you know?

Statistics show that student housing residents tend to have a higher GPA than students living off campus.



**FRESNO STATE**

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# DAY of GIVING

FRESNO STATE **D.O.G.**

It's time to feed the **D.O.G.!**

Mark your calendars for Nov. 1 for Fresno State's second annual online Day of Giving. Your gift on this day, no matter how large or small, will directly support student success. Every donor counts.



**11-1-18**

***[dayofgiving.fresnostate.edu](http://dayofgiving.fresnostate.edu)***

**#FresnoStateDOG**