

# FRESNO STATE

MAGAZINE



# WE DID IT!

Donors and volunteers drive Campaign's success







# JOHN D. WELTY

## A CAREER OF DISTINCTION

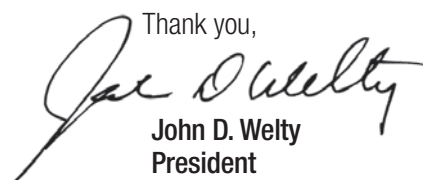
The last several months have been especially nostalgic as I prepare to say good-bye to the Fresno State community – a community that has been my focus, my inspiration and my life for the last two decades.

As I reflect on where we've been and consider what is next for this university I've come to love, I am confident that Fresno State has a rock-solid foundation and is poised for a bright future. I believe that we have the right people in place at Fresno State, as well as a community of supporters and partners, to continue to serve our students and Central California.

From the moment I first stepped on this campus, it was clear that Fresno State was a special place – a diverse landscape that provides the incredible opportunity to learn from one another every day. Not a day has gone by that I haven't learned something new myself.

It has been my privilege for almost 22 years to be part of this amazing university. The ongoing discovery, the fascinating diversity and its ever-growing distinctions are far more than this Illinois farm boy, who was the first in his family to attend college, ever could have imagined when he joined this community in 1991.

My hope is that as a new era begins with a new president, our university will grow even stronger in serving students and the community. With help from people like you, I know it can.

Thank you,  
  
John D. Welty  
President





## Spring 2013

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



Cary Edmondson



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# THE NEW NORMAL

By Lanny Larson

The university's first comprehensive fundraising campaign is history with a goal-shattering \$214,222,190.60 million booked and the foundation laid for a "new normal" of continuing private giving to an iconic institution that began as Fresno State Normal School.

## The inaugural Campaign for Fresno State leaves a sweeping legacy:

- 34,629 donors donated to the Campaign through 163,212 gifts.
- Gifts ranged in size from \$29.4 million given by the Jordan family to re-invigorate the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology to \$25 and \$50 gifts, from alumni just embarking on their careers.
- A more robust endowment fund, additional scholarships, capital improvements, new academic programs and expanded faculty and research support.
- Success despite the economic plight that impeded giving and led to California's drastic disinvestment in public higher education.
- The creation of a volunteer model that results in true collaboration between staff, alumni and the community.

R. Kent Clark, associate vice president for Development, says declining state support for public higher education means Fresno State and other California State University campuses will be increasingly dependent upon private giving.

***"That's our new normal, and we believe that the Campaign positioned us very well to meet the challenges."***

— R. Kent Clark

The gift that propelled the Campaign past its \$200 million goal came from an appreciative anonymous alumnus, a World War II veteran who named the university as a beneficiary in his will created 40 years ago. His gift came to light only last year when he established a trust to transfer assets that will endow scholarships memorializing his mother, a Fresno State Normal School student who went on to teach elementary school.

Many of Fresno State's most generous benefactors answered the Campaign's call for new investment.

# 34,629 DONORS





## CAMPAIGN TOTAL

# \$214,222,190



**163,212**  
TOTAL GIFTS



**73,898**  
GIFTS FROM ALUMNI

The Lyles College of Engineering became Fresno State's third named college/school when Fresno business entrepreneur Dr. William Lyles gave \$5 million to the College which now bears his name – and then he also pledged to match others' gifts up to an additional \$5 million. His support is helping prepare engineers and guide middle and high school students toward that discipline.

Lyles, his family and businesses also established the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, purchased the concert-quality Elizabeth Lyles pipe organ in the Music Building Concert Hall, helped build the Save Mart Center and contributed to Fresno State's athletics, business, education and arts and humanities programs.

***“I want to provide our students opportunities for upward mobility, especially in science and engineering. Fresno State offers career training, innovation and entrepreneurship and cultural programs I believe will help sustain a more robust economy.”***

– Dr. William Lyles



Cary Edmondson

## Nothing robotic about his energy

### SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

## MICHAEL ADAM

Senior Michael Adam doesn't mess around. An early interest in robotics made a future in computer engineering a clear choice; his Husband-Boeing scholarship in the Lyles College of Engineering made it possible. Besides excelling in a rigorous academic program, Adams volunteers as director of Central Valley Robotics, a local organization supporting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, and interns at Schneider Electric. He hopes to land a job and continue volunteering locally after he graduates in May. Any employers out there? Résumé and references available upon request.





JORDAN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
AND TECHNOLOGY RAISED THE MOST:



**\$51,144,958**



INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS WAS SECOND:

**\$45,870,860**

STUDENT AFFAIRS WAS THIRD:

**\$18,653,540**



Longtime Fresno State benefactors Jan and Dr. Bud Richter, the initial Campaign for Fresno State chairs, led by example with a \$3.5 million gift inspired by their own Christian-centered belief in helping others.

The Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, unique in the CSU's 23-campus system, recorded more than 1 million hours of student and employee volunteer service each of the past three years – an annual community benefit exceeding seven times the Richters' original investment.

They gave, after being inspired by President John D. Welty's vision to create a center for volunteer service. "The purpose, mission and campuswide involvement in this center enthralled us," the Richters say.

***"Part of the mission is to educate students to learn and experience the character value and personal fulfillment of volunteering to help others enjoy a better quality of life. When students graduate, they will take this character value with them in their later life, hopefully training their spouses and children to become more satisfied and fulfilled in their lives by volunteering in service to others."*** – Jan and Bud Richter



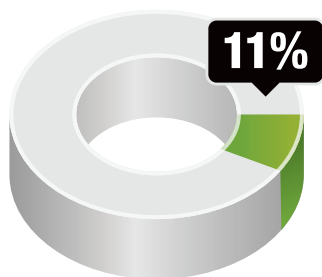
Significant gifts also came from people not directly connected to Fresno State.

Agriculture professor emeritus Bob Glim's friendship with the Jordan family in the East Bay, nurtured at recreational vehicle rallies, helped secure the largest single gift in university history. It will allow the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology to serve students and the community for decades to come and establish a multidisciplinary research center.

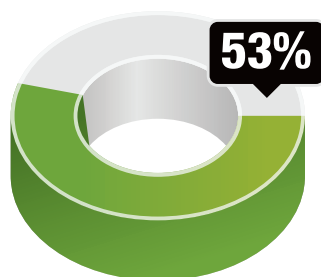
Retired architect Robert Nicol of Napa, a University of California alumnus, and retired computer engineer Joseph S. Slotnick of Northridge, a Harvard alumnus, contributed a total of \$3.5 million to the Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies program. Their friend, emeritus professor Paul Ogden, encouraged their giving to make Fresno State the West Coast center of research and education for the deaf and hard of hearing.



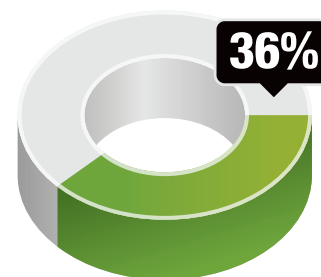
# HOW WE RAISED \$214,222,190



**\$23,623,625**  
FROM GIFTS UNDER  
\$10,000



**\$113,086,865**  
FROM GIFTS BETWEEN  
\$10,001 AND \$1 MILLION



**\$77,511,699**  
FROM GIFTS MORE THAN  
\$1 MILLION

The multi-million dollar gifts grab the headlines, donors who gave smaller amounts are a vital building block for the campaign's success. The Campaign received 140,969 gifts of \$500 or smaller worth a cumulative total of more than \$17.3 million.

"We emphasized during the Campaign that every gift is important," says Dr. Peter N. Smits, vice president for University Advancement. "Our hope is that donors – especially our alumni – will make giving back to Fresno State a habit."

The Campaign for Fresno State helped celebrate the university Centennial and an equally long tradition of community support, which Provost William Covino notes, "has enhanced Fresno State's ability to serve its students and its region."

***"The region's future depends on the imaginations, ingenuity, commitment and relentless research work of our students and award-winning faculty. The reward is a better life for all people who live in and beyond Central California."*** – Provost Covino

Helping move in that direction was a grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to establish the Keck Computational Science Center in Fresno State's College of Science and Mathematics, providing students new computer science training opportunities.

The Keck Center's on-demand and cloud-based Web services facilitate faculty-student collaborative projects, new ideas for research and novel approaches to critical global issues. At the same time, the center serves graduate and undergraduate curricula in various disciplines across the campus.

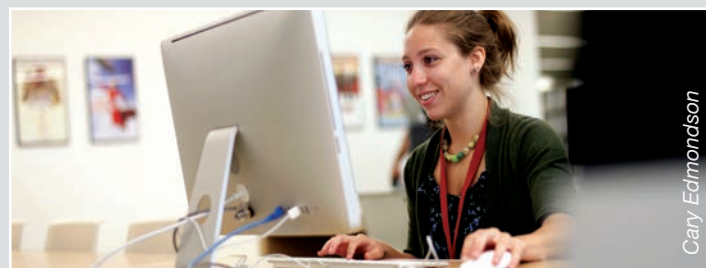
Also setting a tone for Fresno State's future is a partnership with Foster Farms of Livingston, the region's biggest poultry processor. The state-of-the-art Foster Farms Poultry Education and Research Facility allows students to perform in-depth research, participate in hands-on learning

and train for post-graduate employment. Faculty members will develop research projects in animal welfare, nutrition and environmental practices to benefit students and the industry.

To secure Fresno State's future, the Advancement Division will build on the Campaign's successes to "enhance our university's academic mission, research component and the community good," Smits says.

Covino said the college and school deans "continue to move forward with energy and enthusiasm for the value and promise of private support. They are all creating visions for the next 10 years and for appeals to the donors of the future."

Smits says the Fresno State Alumni Association has been restructured to inspire philanthropy. No longer are dues required, and membership is open to everyone with a Fresno State connection. The goal is to inspire the larger membership through improved communication, events and other opportunities to deepen members' ties with Fresno State.



Cary Edmondson

***"The Campaign for Fresno State was a huge success. It also was a challenge to us to build on what we've accomplished. We must – and we will – find additional ways to attract private support to carry our mission forward."*** – Vice President Peter Smits

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



# Campus experience inspires desire to give back

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### JOY MOMBOURQUETTE

The opportunity to be a part of the Smittcamp Family Honors College drew Joy Mombourquette (2005) to Fresno State, and this experience — being part of a close-knit group of classmates, supported and known by professors — drew her to medicine. Mombourquette is a first-year fellow in Pediatric Rheumatology at Stanford University. She credits her education to the scholarships that made it possible and says her desire is to give back: “One of the reasons I became a physician was the hope that I could use the science I loved to help people and give back to my community.”



# Richter Center taught Vang to love, serve her hometown

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### SONG VANG

Growing up in Fresno, Song Vang just knew that she would leave the Valley and find another place to call home. But her time at Fresno State, especially her experience volunteering with and being an ambassador for the Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, ignited a passion to serve. “I began to realize that if I wanted to see change, I had to be the changemaker,” she says. A PG&E Bright Minds Scholarship freed her from the necessity of full-time work, allowing her to pursue her newfound passion. Vang also has studied abroad, served on the Academic Senate and as Amerasia Club president and currently interns with Hinds Hospice. “I am more in tune with my community, its needs and how I can be the most effective here,” says Vang, who will graduate in 2014 and plans to work for a community benefit organization. Already, Fresno is thankful she’s decided to stay home.





# A legacy to be heard for generations

By Samantha Gibson

Hearing is a gift to be cherished every day. Just ask someone who lives in silence.

Joseph S. Slotnick was only 3 years old when a case of meningitis thrust him into a world of silence. It was the 1930s and such circumstances would have devastated most families. But for Slotnick and his family it was merely an obstacle to overcome. And overcome they did.

His parents, Dr. Morris M. and Esther B. Slotnick, were told that the best thing to do for their son was to send him to a specialized boarding school and sever all contact. Following doctor's orders, the Slotnicks sent their son far from their home in Houston, Texas, to one of the nation's few boarding schools for the deaf at the time in Massachusetts.

Rather than abandon her son at the new school, Esther chose to rent a room nearby so that she could watch her young son at school through a one-way mirror.

"By observing me she was able to learn how we could better interact and communicate," Slotnick said. "Her unwavering dedication and support has been fundamental to my success in life."

Slotnick continued to attend the boarding school until he graduated from the eighth grade; he then entered a private high school for hearing students and was immediately advanced to sophomore status.

It did not take Slotnick long to adjust to school in the hearing world. He graduated fourth in his class and then enrolled at Harvard University, where he became the fifth deaf person to graduate.

Slotnick went on to a long career in computer systems analysis and programming, which included working with System Development Corporation, an innovator in computer software.

One of his many projects included working on the development of the TTY telecommunications device that allows deaf or hard of hearing individuals to communicate through phone lines.

Slotnick's involvement in the deaf and hard of hearing community led him to his wife, Mary, whose daughter, Teri, is deaf. Although Mary is hearing, her experiences raising a deaf child provided an understanding unmatched by most.

Recently, when looking for a way to honor the life of his parents, Slotnick turned to longtime friend, Dr. Paul W. Ogden.

Ogden, a professor emeritus at Fresno State, established the Silent Garden in an effort to assist families as they meet the challenges of raising deaf and hard of hearing children. It is inspired by his book, *"The Silent Garden: Raising Your Deaf Child,"* which was published in 1982.

*"The silent world of those who are deaf or hard of hearing too often makes those individuals invisible to the hearing world. The Silent Garden helps to bring awareness and understanding in order to foster communication opportunity."*

— Dr. Paul W. Ogden

To honor the lifetime of dedication and unwavering support from his parents, Slotnick donated \$1.5 million to establish the Joseph S. Slotnick Distinguished Professorship in the Silent Garden.

The professorship will be an endowed faculty position that will bring deaf studies experts to teach in Fresno State's Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies and benefit both the university and the community as a whole.

Slotnick's bequest will leave a living legacy dedicated to his parents who never gave up on him. He hopes that it will help parents of deaf or hard of hearing children learn and understand their children better and remain as supportive as his parents were.

— Samantha Gibson, a senior agriculture communications major, is a news intern in University Communications.





# Creativity knows no bounds

By Lisa Maria Boyles



*Patrick Dougherty, environmental sculpture artist, created the outdoor sculpture (above) which will remain on campus for one-and-a-half to two years.*

Imagine a center devoted to arts and creativity unbounded by walls or borders, its reach as wide as the possibilities of the human imagination, as broad as the diversity of the community in which it is nurtured.

This is the objective of Fresno State's Center for Creativity and the Arts. A "center" without a building or a room, CCA seeks to bring together creative thinkers from different schools and disciplines on campus, foster collaboration among the larger local art community, including the Fresno Art Museum and Arte Americas and produce events accessible to students and audiences beyond the Fresno State campus.

"The center basically is a gathering of people from different disciplines," says Shane T. Moreman, CCA's interim director. Faculty coordinators make up a "broad group from social sciences, engineering, math and science, education, arts and humanities, coming together to help think about types of programming we can have on the campus."

This think tank develops an annual theme, coordinates bringing a nationally prominent artist to campus and sponsors lectures, presentations, debates and events that relate to and support their theme and draw in the community at large.





Cary Edmondson

Internationally recognized environmental sculpture artist Patrick Dougherty was the 2012-13 artist, funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Central Valley Foundation's McClatchy Fresno Art Endowment. He centered his work on this year's CCA theme, "Consumption and Sustainability." During a three-week residency in November he created the striking sculpture on campus, "The Learning Curve," located just west of the Phebe Conley Art Gallery. Crafted from willow branches – some of which were gathered locally from trees along canals – the sculpture will deteriorate naturally over time and eventually be dismantled.

"It'll stand for about a year-and-a-half to two years," Moreman said. "And eventually we'll have to bring it down. But we want it to be there as long as it can be there. The idea is that, like art, it's ephemeral."

Dr. Susan F. Schlievert of the Kremen School of Education and Human Development coordinates the involvement of K-12 students in CCA's endeavors. Students from 10 local schools participated in events in conjunction with this year's theme. Teachers attended a workshop that introduced them to CCA, and their students attend three field trips – to Fresno State, the Fresno Art Museum and Arte Americas, all at no cost to the participating schools.

## CCA's theme for 2014-15 is "Data and Technology."

"We really do believe in the promise of CCA," said Moreman. "That this is a catalyst for creativity on campus and off campus. We've had some great success thus far with it, and we're just getting stronger, wiser and more efficient. I think it's going to be something really big. We have such an active arts community around us, and the university has such a strong connection to all communities that our center has potential to impact large groups of people."

Dr. Vida Samiian, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State, wrote an op-ed for The Fresno Bee about why the arts matter, especially now, and how the CCA helps fill that need: "The arts give our community things we may need the most – hope and imagination – especially now. The arts open a window to escape, however briefly, into a world where we can experience our common humanity and be reminded that things can indeed get better. The arts help us transform our fears into creative works, and in the process find the inspiration to overcome our challenges."

– Lisa Maria Boyles is a freelance writer based in the Fresno/Clovis area.



# An open mind with global impact

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### BENJAMIN ADAMS

After he was accepted to UC Berkeley, UC Davis and UC Santa Barbara, Benjamin Adams (2009, '11) chose Fresno State's Smittcamp Family Honors College to study civil engineering because "the benefits of the program far outweighed the other options." Adams is currently completing a two-year career development program with Grundfos, the world's largest pump manufacturing company, where he's lived and worked in Denmark and Mexico, furthering corporate sustainability on a global scale. At Fresno State, Adams says, "I learned to approach ideas with an open mind, and it is these varied experiences that have all contributed to shaping who I am today." Participating as a "Smitty" made for "a more ambitious educational journey, but it also made reaching the end of that journey more attainable and more enjoyable."



# Surprising partnerships create unprecedented innovations

By Alejandra Garcia

Fresno State boasts an unparalleled faculty; scholars who are re-imagining the future of Central California are coming together in new ways to tackle the region's biggest challenges. Through the intermixing of their previously separate academic interests, they are working across disciplines and areas of expertise to enhance their strengths and multiple opportunities for the university and the region.

"I approached our deans and asked them to consider what kinds of areas would both be consistent with the mission and vision of Fresno State and would attract faculty to work together," says Dr. William A. Covino, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

And so, faculty cohorts were born. There are now five focus areas, where faculty from different disciplines come together and research more holistically: Urban and Regional Transformation, Globalization and World Cultures, Health, Multiculturalism in the U.S. and Water.

The vision is faculty collaboration that produces innovative, interdisciplinary research to benefit the disciplines, students and ultimately, our region and beyond. Faculty will also develop and teach new interdisciplinary courses.

The university mantra, "Discovery. Diversity. Distinction." captures the spirit of the faculty cohorts and their mission to produce new relationships, effectually creating fresh energy and capacity to tackle issues in the region like never before.

Covino says his goal is to make Fresno State a magnet for top faculty. He wants to recruit faculty who will not only fill a need within their discipline, but also have interest in working with their peers across campus. Covino envisions "interesting projects and the synergy that would develop out of these relationships and collaborative efforts."

To date, the Water Cohort is the most fully developed. Thanks to the generosity of local entrepreneur, Claude Laval, the university will receive \$300,000 over two years to establish the Claude Laval Water Research Fund. It will significantly expand research into the most pressing water issues facing Central California. The eight-member faculty cohort brings together expertise from engineering, science, education, geography, public health, business and journalism to tackle Central California's multifaceted water problem.

*"Water is an issue that touches nearly every aspect of our lives. This faculty cohort and research fund enables the university to take a uniquely comprehensive approach to the study of water. Fresno State is now poised to break new ground in the development of solutions for our most critical water-related issues."*

— Provost William A. Covino

The Laval fund will provide faculty with start-up funding for research projects, providing the university with an additional attraction in recruiting distinguished faculty.

The first appointments to the water cohort during the 2012-13 academic year were offered \$220,000 for research in departments such as plant science, with specialization in irrigation and water management, and earth and environmental science, with specialization in hydrogeology.

You might think that Jes Therkelsen, with a background in geology and journalism, was an unlikely addition. Therkelsen joined Fresno State in spring 2013, teaching photojournalism in the Mass Communication and Journalism Department. Therkelsen's role in the water cohort includes creating documentaries on water and environmental issues.

The Laval Water Research Fund will provide the remaining \$80,000 to support research for faculty members appointed during the 2013-14 academic year. Through their different perspectives on water issues, faculty will develop a new general education course on water literacy, which will help students explore such issues as sustainability and water quality.

Laval founded the Claude Laval Corporation and LAKOS Separators and Filtration Systems, Fresno-based companies that have provided innovative and adaptable solutions for specific filtration issues for more than 30 years. LAKOS is a world leader in the water filtration industry and many of the company's products were invented by Laval's father Claude C. Laval Jr.

Laval honored his father's legacy by establishing the Claude C. Laval Jr. Award for Innovative Technology and Research at Fresno State in 1984. The university has named the Claude Laval Water and Energy Technology Incubator (WET Center) on campus in partnership with the Central Valley Business Incubator in recognition of Laval's advice to and support for Fresno State on water and irrigation over the years.

The WET Center is a vital resource for innovative local entrepreneurs looking to establish or expand their business in water and energy technology and help stimulate the regional economy.

— Alejandra Garcia is a senior Mass Communication and Journalism major and a news intern in University Communications.

## THE OTHER COHORTS INCLUDE:

**Urban and Regional Transformation**, which concentrates on issues ranging from sustainability to urban planning to economic conditions and the discovery of new research and strategies that support urban and regional transformation in the San Joaquin Valley and elsewhere. Faculty expertise includes agricultural business, urban and regional planning, economics, computer science, entrepreneurship and communication. The mission of the cohort is to develop strategies by approaching the issues of urban and regional change from various perspectives.

**Multiculturalism in the U.S.**, which will focus on the way in which multiculturalism enriches lives and experiences. "It will be interesting to attract faculty from different disciplines to help research the importance of the fabric of the Central Valley and the U.S.," says Covino.

**Health**, which will primarily focus on addressing issues that are challenges in the region, nationally and internationally. New approaches to autism, research on the air quality changes in different environments and the importance of increasing physical activity in elementary school children are areas of interest.

**Globalization and World Cultures**, in which the faculty are focused on developing research, teaching and outreach initiatives on the emerging interconnections between diverse cultures around the world. They are working toward sponsoring an international video conference in South America on the re-emergence of tuberculosis as an international concern, and to give students access to international scholars. A long-term goal is to better incorporate global topics into courses at Fresno State.

Covino said Fresno State will continue its search for new, promising faculty to join the ever-growing efforts of the cohorts. He expects 55 new tenure-track faculty, across 39 different disciplines, to join the university in the 2013-14 school year.

# Verna Mae Brooks Scholars: The power of the relationship

By Lisa Maria Boyles

On a patch of lawn at Fresno State – south of the Thomas Building and east of the Kennel Bookstore – two dawn redwood trees stand 20 paces apart. Markers beneath each bear the names of their honorees – Verna Mae Brooks and her husband, Dr. Wayne Brooks, professor emeritus of business law in the Craig School of Business.

The Brookses' impact on campus goes deeper than the roots of those two trees will ever grow, farther than the branches will ever reach into the sky. After his wife died in November 1995, Wayne Brooks established a scholarship endowment in her name. Since then, 23 students have received Verna Mae Brooks scholarships.

The scholarship is the highest-paying nonathletic, renewable scholarship available to Fresno State students, covering full tuition in any academic field, as well as housing and a miscellaneous fund. Recipients must have a financial need, maintain a 3.0 grade point average and perform community service, much like Verna Mae did throughout her lifetime.

But what makes this scholarship truly special is the relationship between the recipients and their benefactor. Brooks scholars build a relationship with Wayne Brooks – and each other – and learn about the couple, who were childhood sweethearts.

Paul DeRuosi, director of Scholarships and Student Affairs Development Programs, describes how students get together regularly with Dr. Brooks – who now lives in a local assisted living facility – while they are Verna Mae Brooks scholars, meeting with him for luncheons or dinners, often writing heartfelt letters if they can't make it to the gatherings.

"The wonderful part about this," DeRuosi says, "is there's been a growing affection between the donor and the students. The students often refer to themselves as the Verna Mae Brooks family. There's a cohesiveness that builds among them. They get to know one another, learn from one another, inspire one another."

Scholarship recipient Mykhaylo Skitsak, a junior nursing student who transferred to Fresno State from Willow International, came to the U.S. from Ukraine with his family about six years ago.

Skitsak says getting to know Dr. Brooks on a personal level "took the whole scholarship and turned it from a formality into a personal relationship. Knowing the person who has



secured my future and cares about my educational achievements motivates me to excel in academics."

Diana Diaz started her undergraduate studies in the fall of 2006 and graduated in spring 2010 with a double major in political science and Chicano and Latin American Studies. She earned an MPA from Fresno State in December, 2012. The Brooks scholarship, "allowed me to focus on school instead of having to deal with the financial struggle that so many of my peers had to deal with," she says. "My parents and I were so completely surprised and relieved when we found out about the scholarship."

She also says the personal relationship with Dr. Brooks enabled her to appreciate the scholarship more than she would have otherwise.

"Getting to spend time with Dr. Brooks ... was very special to me because I was able to feel just how important the scholarship is to him."

The experience also has been meaningful for Dr. Brooks.

"It's been very pleasant," Dr. Brooks said. "As a teacher, I got to like students. And I've liked getting to know the ones who have been scholarship recipients."

The Verna Mae Brooks scholarship shows how even a smaller endowment can have vast, ever-widening impact.

Dr. Brooks, anticipating that Verna Mae would outlive him, carefully saved and invested during their 40 years of marriage so she would be comfortable financially after he was gone. When she died first, he decided to fund a scholarship in her name, a tribute to her lifelong love of learning. She had been a scholarship recipient herself, at the University of Iowa.

Brooks started the fund with a \$50,000 gift in 1997, and in its first year, it funded one scholarship. But over the years, he has continued to boost the endowment – today it stands at nearly \$1.4 million and provides full scholarships for six students each year.

"He decided to do something special with the money he had set aside for Verna Mae," DeRuosi says. "He ended up giving most of his retirement to fund these scholarships. He could have been taking cruises; he could have been living a much different life. But instead, he really decided to focus on building this scholarship, making a difference in the lives of these students."

***"He is my role model. I consider it my duty to give back the good I have received. I believe that I am obligated to give it back in one form or another. A good start for me is the volunteer work I plan to do at one of the local hospitals and my full service as a health-care professional in the years to come."***

– Mykhaylo Skitsak, junior



## DIANA DIAZ

It was a high school visit to campus, and the Rose Garden in particular, that made Diana Diaz (2010, '12) fall in love with Fresno State. It was a Verna Mae Brooks Scholarship that made her education a reality.

At Fresno State, Diaz says "I discovered so many things about who I am and what I like to do." But it wouldn't have been the same without her scholarship: "The financial burden was lifted, allowing me to focus all my time and energy on school," she says. "And it was so much more than receiving a check. It was a community. We meet every semester – even now, as an alumna – to catch up and spend time with Dr. Brooks."

Diaz lives in San Francisco, volunteering and looking for a full-time job where she can pursue her passion, discovered and cultivated at Fresno State: helping people.





# Bulldog for Life

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### CATIE MUELLER

A lifelong Bulldog fan, Catie Mueller (2012) always imagined herself at Fresno State. She couldn't anticipate how much effort it would take nor how much encouragement she would receive from Paul and Kathy Vincent, who endowed her Alice E. and Paul Vincent Sr. Memorial Scholarship.

Her experience was "unforgettable," including deep doubts after failed physics exams. But instead of being discouraged, Mueller gave it everything she had, aced the final and will begin Physician's Assistant School at UC Davis in the fall.

At Fresno State, Mueller had a "constant support system" in Paul and Kathy Vincent, she says, and "I have every intention of continuing their legacy." She plans to find a future Bulldog to help through school – "someone who reminds me of myself, someone deserving of generosity, someone I know will work hard and achieve greatness." The Vincents, Mueller adds, provided her "the ultimate gift – to be recognized for not only what you do, but also what you can do."



# Scholarship sharpens career focus

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### JOHN CONNOR

Senior nursing student John Connor is grateful for his Col. Edwin and Elvira Cook Endowed Scholarship, saying, "It allowed me to focus on my future career, and this, to me, was priceless." Being free of financial worry helped him excel academically, too.

Connor, who plans to be an Air Force combat rescue officer, is involved in the Air Force ROTC program and volunteers as the vice president of the National Student Nurses Association's Fresno State chapter.

Studying at Fresno State, he says, "provided a phenomenal experience," including a semester in South Korea.



Cary Edmondson



# FRESNO STATE

MAGAZINE

**JOHN D. WELTY**  
A CAREER OF DISTINCTION





# THE WELTY

## *you never knew...*

It was Christmas Eve 2009. Fresno State had already shut down for the winter break and at Selma City Hall the only person left after the Christmas party was City Manager D-B Heusser. He was there to open the city council chambers to one of Selma's senior residents, 87-year-old John Hiroshi Otomo.

A crowd of family and friends arrived and then so did Fresno State President John D. Welty, wearing the same academic regalia he wears at Commencement.

Joined by California State University trustee, Dr. Peter G. Mehas and other dignitaries, Welty was there to pay tribute to Mr. Otomo, who had studied agronomy at Fresno State. In late 1941, Mr. Otomo's studies were interrupted when he was interned with other Americans of Japanese descent after the United States entered World War II. Sent to a camp in Arizona with his family, Mr. Otomo was unable to resume college when the war ended, so he returned home to Selma.

On that Christmas Eve afternoon, Mr. Otomo was awarded an honorary bachelor's degree in a ceremony that included emotion-tinged remarks by Welty.

Welty had travel plans for that date but changed his plans to honor Mr. Otomo, who was seriously ill. Mr. Otomo died shortly after receiving his diploma.

It's a small anecdote that reflects a big piece of Welty's character, often seen only by close friends and colleagues. But no portrait of Welty would be complete without exploring what he's like beyond the public spotlight.

*“He has exemplified the importance and power of engagement by individuals who are willing to work alongside others to transform a community.”*

Deborah Nankivell,  
CEO of Fresno Business Council

*“He is a visionary who never lost sight of our most important and precious resource – the students.”*

Luz Gonzalez,  
dean of the College of Social  
Sciences and an alumna



Cary Edmondson



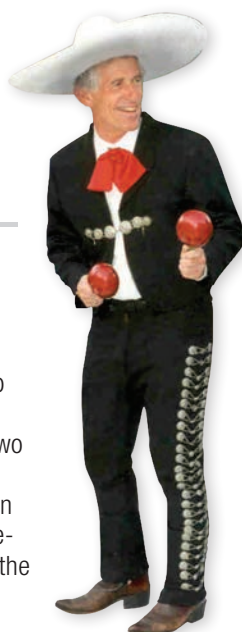


FresnoState Magazine asked people to reveal things about Welty that most of us might not know. We received these insights:



## Prankster

At a Christmas party one year, Welty activated a remote-controlled tarantula on the appetizer table, startling a university vice president (who shall remain nameless), who "squealed and jumped back two feet," according to a witness. The same VP might have been rattled by Welty's new remote-controlled diamondback had the VP not already left his office.



## Good sport

At the request of his staff, Welty has dressed up as Uncle Sam, Disco John (with his Village Chicks), Big Bad John and even King Kong for the annual Staff Awards Luncheon. And he can laugh when he is the victim of a prank, as he was on April Fool's Day when staffers bought him a whoopee cushion, linked all his paper clips together and shrink-wrapped his desk items.

## Earlybird

He usually shows up 10-15 minutes before the scheduled start of a reception and has a few bites to eat. If Welty eats more later, event planners and caterers know he likes a certain appetizer and make a note of it.

## Multifaceted

He doesn't swim and doesn't dance well. And while he plucks grapefruit and oranges from the University House trees to make his morning juice, his household skill is limited (trying to light the water heater, changing light bulbs, etc.). "For safety reasons, he has been told not to try any type of repairs," says a staffer, who won't say whether it's Welty or University House that needs protecting. "Every holiday Dr. Welty has a visit from the fire department, and last year was no exception. He managed to set off the alarm."



## Lover of Cheetos

He often eats in his office, where a closet is stocked with "his secret pleasure" — Cheetos, the orange, crunchy, cheese snack with an uncanny ability to stain everything it touches. Welty also enjoys salmon, Fresno State chardonnay, the Save Mart Center's Slick Sliders, carrot cake, Diet Pepsi and one cup of decaf coffee in the morning (but not Starbucks, thank you very much).



## Veteran host

He has hosted hundreds of events, many of them at University House, which is also the Fresno State president's residence. During the 2011-12 academic year, University House hosted 60 events. Among the 7,000 invited guests were dignitaries from Armenia, England, Mexico, the Peoples Republic of China and Russia.

He "has a good grasp on the pros and cons of entertaining" and shares with his event-planning staff anything he picks up that he believes is unique and guest-friendly. From the invitation through the menu and seating chart, Welty reviews every detail of events he hosts.



## Cook

Welty, who owns a large cookbook collection, is something of a gourmet cook, albeit "a messy cook, but the food is fabulous." He provides his event-planning staff with recipes he's clipped during his travels, tested at home and wants incorporated into upcoming menus.

## Faith and values

Welty is the first to volunteer to take up the collection or bring bread and wine to the altar during Mass. "He is a man of deep faith, and this faith is an important part of the values by which he lives his life," says one friend. During Lent, when Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays, Welty's go-to Subway sandwich order changes from turkey and cheese on whole wheat (no mayo) to tuna.



# Two decades of service and growth at Fresno State

As “top dog” at Fresno State for more than two decades, President John D. Welty had plenty to choose from when FresnoState Magazine asked him for a list of what he considers his biggest achievements. He narrowed it down to the following:



## *The Smittcamp Family Honors College*

Named for Earl Smittcamp, an alumnus and longtime Fresno State benefactor, and his family, who endowed Welty's vision for a college within the university to offer an enhanced academic program for top-performing, multit talented students. It is unique in the California State University system.



## *Independent doctoral programs*

CSU campuses originally could not award doctorates, but the Legislature changed course to allow partnerships with University of California campuses for joint doctorates. When that changed, Fresno State was first in the CSU to implement an independent doctoral program in educational leadership, later adding doctorates in physical therapy and nursing practice.



## *Henry Madden Library*

With financing from a state bond, promoted by Welty, came \$95 million to replace part of the library dating from 1956 and renovate the south addition opened in 1980. A \$10 million gift from the Table Mountain Rancheria enhanced the landmark structure with landscaping, interior furnishings and design, and amplified the university's connection to the region's Native American heritage.



## *Campus transformation*

The Save Mart Center, Science II building, Kremen Education and Human Development building, Bulldog Diamond, Downing Planetarium and Gibson Farm Market are just some of the buildings erected during Welty's tenure. Most campus construction since 1991 was financed privately.



## *Centers and Institutes*

The Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute, Gazarian Real Estate Center, Central Valley Health Policy Institute, Maddy Institute and other centers have opened under Welty's leadership. They are important “town-gown” connections helping meet some of the region's most profound challenges.



## *The Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning*

Welty was one of the nation's first university presidents to understand the importance of incorporating community service into the academic program, especially in a region with significant economic and social challenges. A \$3.5 million gift from longtime benefactors Jan and Bud Richter established the center and spurred a significant boost in community volunteerism from the campus.



## *Private philanthropy*

The Campaign for Fresno State, the university's first comprehensive fundraising exercise, overcame a tradition of private giving mostly for athletics and a weak economy to raise more than \$200 million. During the Welty era, private gifts totaling more than \$360 million were received to name four of Fresno State's eight colleges and schools, two during the Campaign. Other gifts supported innovative programs, scholarships, faculty chairs and research facilities.



## *Student retention and graduation rates*

Fresno State has undertaken numerous initiatives to help close the achievement gap, producing recent and ongoing improvements in the number of students staying enrolled and graduating within six years. Gains are among the best in the CSU.



## *Opportunities for women student-athletes*

Fresno State Athletics' commitment to women's intercollegiate sports has grown to 11 sports: basketball, softball, volleyball, track and field, aquatics, soccer, cross country, golf, tennis, equestrian and lacrosse. Bulldog student-athletes have won conference championships and the 1998 softball national title. Fresno State's facilities for women's sports are among the nation's finest.



## *Focus on Diversity*

To better reflect the population makeup of one of the nation's most diverse regions, Fresno State initiated programs to encourage students of all cultures and ethnicities to get a college education. The campus-wide commitment to diversity includes a multicultural faculty and staff, diversity-focused research and academic programs and student-support initiatives, all of which set an example of inclusion for the entire community.



## *Mountain West Conference membership*

The exposure that universities receive from athletic accomplishments attracts recognition and donor support for academic and research programs. Joining the Mountain West Conference in 2012 gave Fresno State a higher national profile while providing student-athletes a higher level of competition against which to measure their own abilities.



Send retirement wishes to President Welty at:

[www.FresnoState.edu/Welty](http://www.FresnoState.edu/Welty)



*“I can’t think of a more hard-working, focused and committed president. He understands so well the important mission of the California State University to bring a quality higher education experience to the students of our Central Valley.”*

Carol Chandler,  
alumna, farmer and former CSU trustee

*“He increased the private support for our campus for both academic programs and scholarship as well as for new facilities.”*

Deborah Adishian-Astone,  
alumna and associate vice president  
for Auxiliary Operations and Enterprise  
Development

*“His legacy is the vitality he helped to create in the Central Valley by guiding Fresno State to become such a vibrant, creativity-generating university.”*

Jennifer Reimer,  
former Associated Students Inc. president  
and CSU student trustee and currently  
a lawyer in Dubai

*“His legacy will be the programs and facilities he raised funds to develop and construct and all of the administrators that he mentored who have become university presidents.”*

Peter G. Mehas,  
alumnus, career educator and CSU trustee

*“He has led Fresno State through difficult fiscal times, all the while making it a stronger, more diverse university dedicated to excellence and the economic growth of the San Joaquin Valley.”*

Benjamin Quillian,  
CSU executive vice chancellor and CFO

# Favorite Fresno State memories

Dr. John D. Welty lists the following as his favorite moments as Fresno State’s seventh – and longest-serving – president:

## ***The gift of a college degree***

Since presiding over his first Fresno State Commencement, Welty has awarded upwards of 83,000 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. He also has presented 31 honorary doctorates to individuals who have excelled at the national or local level in careers and support for public higher education.

## ***Receiving national recognition for community service***

The Corporation for National and Community Service honored Fresno State in 2008 with a Special Achievement Award as part of the second annual President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Fresno State was one of two minority-serving institutions that received the special achievement award in recognition of its commitment to service.

## ***Engaged University status***

The Carnegie Foundation recognized Fresno State’s broad range of service to the community by granting Engaged University status in 2007 – one of just 76 institutions to win the honor. Fresno State engages the region through more than 1 million hours annually of volunteerism; active participation in economic and career development initiatives; research; arts and entertainment; and educational opportunity.

## ***NCAA Softball National Championship***

In 1998, the Fresno State team, coached by Margie Wright and playing home games at the recently opened Bulldog Diamond, went 52-11 and beat Arizona State in Oklahoma City to win the university’s first NCAA top-division championship.

## ***NCAA Baseball National Championship***

In 2008, underdog Fresno State established a 47-31 record under Coach Mike Batesole, won the Western Athletic Conference title and came from the brink of elimination six times before defeating Georgia at the College World Series.



## ***Centennial Celebration***

In 2011, Fresno State turned 100, and the campus and community celebrated for 14 months in 2010-11 with such events as a Centennial Homecoming (complete with a parade through campus), a fundraising gala at the Save Mart Center and the university’s 100th Commencement.

## ***Naming Gifts***

Half of Fresno State’s eight colleges and schools have been the recipients of naming gifts during Welty’s tenure: Craig School of Business, Kremen School of Education and Human Development, Lyles College of Engineering and Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

## ***1992 Freedom Bowl***

Fresno State stunned USC’s Trojans 24-7 in the Freedom Bowl football game in Anaheim after winning the Western Athletic Conference championship under Coach Jim Sweeney. Two future Super Bowl performers led the team to victory: quarterback Trent Dilfer, and running back and most valuable player, Lorenzo Neal.





# The John D. Welty Center

## for Educational Policy Development and Leadership



*A. Palmer School, Illinois  
Grades 1-8, Nov. 3, 1950*

*B. High School Graduation*

*C. President of Indiana University  
of Pennsylvania, 1984*

*D. President of Fresno State, 1991*



John D. Welty has devoted his entire adult life to education, and part of his legacy will be a center at Fresno State designed to inspire and inform more leaders who will help adapt schools to changing educational needs in Central California and beyond.

Welty's career in higher education was inspired by teachers who amplified what his parents told him: Learn to read, get a good education and you won't have to get up early to do chores, which he did growing up on his family's small dairy farm in north-central Illinois.

From the eighth-grade, one-room school where his formal education began, through high school, he says that teachers encouraged him to get involved in activities. He says, "Those experiences gave me confidence."

Although he was expected to go to college, no one in his family had done so. Welty says when he got to Western Illinois University it was bigger than he expected. He recalls encountering smarter students for the first time and receiving uncomplimentary remarks from an instructor who gave freshman Welty his lowest grade ever.

Welty worked harder, receiving a degree in social science, then enrolling at Michigan State. He earned a master's in college student personnel services and worked as an admissions counselor and assistant director of new-student orientation. He went on to earn a doctorate in administration of higher education from Indiana University.

Welty's career took him to Southwest State University (Minnesota), State University of New York at Albany and Indiana University (Pennsylvania), where he became president in 1984 before accepting the Fresno State presidency in 1991.

Founded in 1911 to train the region's classroom teachers, Fresno State was a good fit for a president whose passion was education. Welty championed the role of higher education as a catalyst for educational and economic growth. The university doubled its graduation rate and tripled the number of Latino students achieving a college diploma.

He welcomed University High School, the only charter high school on a California State University campus.

Another initiative was the Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute, founded in 2002 within the Kremen School of Education and Human Development. The institute focuses on eliminating the achievement gap for students and raising students' success by bringing together the best leadership practices for top educators in the Valley's K-12 educational system.

An effort is underway now to secure a permanent funding source for the Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute and rename the center in honor of Welty.

Organizers are working to secure an endowment for what will be known as the John D. Welty Center for Educational Policy Development and Leadership. With private support they hope to build upon the success of the institute and help it become a national model for policy, leadership training and professional development.

For more information about the Welty Center and how to contribute, visit [www.supportfresnostate.com/welty-center.htm](http://www.supportfresnostate.com/welty-center.htm).





“*He is community engaged and understands the end values of educating students, faculty and staff to become good productive citizens and volunteers, give back to their community and become significant role models by accepting leadership roles in the community’s organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life for all.*”

Jan and Bud Richter,  
longtime Fresno State and  
community benefactors

## A legacy of collaboration and community engagement

As Fresno State president, John D. Welty has developed a reputation for greenlighting innovative programs to help students and serve community needs. Highlights include:

### **Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

Founded to encourage a climate of energetic invention leading to business development that would help the Valley transition from an agriculture-based economy to a broader, sustainable base with higher-paying jobs.

### **Arnold and Dianne Gazarian Real Estate Center**

Part of the Craig School of Business and established to focus on all aspects of real estate in the San Joaquin Valley – ethical standards, education, research, trend information, etc.

### **Office of Community and Economic Development**

Established through the Fresno State Office of the President to help the campus and the community work together in tackling regional issues.

### **Kenneth L. Maddy Institute**

Established by the California Legislature and named for well-regarded state legislator Ken Maddy to promote his example of ethical political conduct, to direct students to legislative internships and to develop communications strategies to stimulate discussion of public policy issues.

### **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**

Designed to provide intellectual stimulation for adults age 50+ through lectures and other programs on campus and elsewhere.

### **Renaissance Scholars**

A program that reaches out to young adults leaving the foster care system to bring them to campus and to support their pursuit of a degree.

### **Humanics**

Works with hundreds of community benefit organizations in the region to prepare students to be leaders in careers of community service.

### **Veterans Education Program**

A new initiative providing military veterans educational, vocational and workforce development resources to help make a college degree and/or employment a reality.

### **Middle East Studies**

Provides an intellectual foundation for understanding various aspects of the region, including anthropology, art and art history, economics, history, literature, music and film, philosophy, media and language programs in Arabic, Armenian, Hebrew and Persian.

### **Claude Laval Water and Energy Technology Center**

Established in partnership with the university’s International Center for Water Technology and the Central Valley Business Incubator, to provide space for new businesses to further research and work in the energy and water fields.

“*He will be remembered for making the university a true partner in addressing the challenges and opportunities of the greater Fresno area.*”

William Covino,  
Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

“*He will be remembered for his entrepreneurial ability to lead Fresno State as a progressive university of the future integrating all members of the internal and external university community.*”

Cynthia Teniente-Matson,  
Vice President for  
Administration and CFO

“*He has taken a good, regional public university and transformed it into a world-class university recognized for its academic reputation, its athletic competitiveness and its engagement with the Central Valley region.*”

Paul Oliaro,  
Vice President for Student Affairs

“*I’ve worked closely with John Welty at two institutions for a total of 25 years, and without a doubt, there is no one who is more committed to higher education than he.*”

Peter N. Smits,  
Vice President for  
University Advancement



*“Being John’s wife and partner for the past 17 years has been an exciting adventure, and I know this next transition in our lives will lead to wonderful new experiences and memories. We will miss Fresno, but will always have Fresno State in our hearts.”*

Sharon Brown-Welty





# Campus opportunities inspire life and career of service

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### RAJ SINGH BADHESHA

Now a deputy city attorney for the city of Fresno, Raj Singh Badhesha (2005) considers his time at Fresno State his most formative (and favorite) years.

A member of the Smittcamp Family Honors College and the Craig School of Business Honors Program, Badhesha took advantage of every opportunity — educationally and socially.

He loves the Central Valley and sees himself working, living, volunteering and being “involved with the university in one form or another for a very long time.”



# CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION

By Lanny Larson



In just 22 years, the modest, cookie-cutter, post World War II local college that was Fresno State has morphed into an architecturally distinctive, diversely landscaped, community-connected 21st century regional university.

Dr. John D. Welty arrived in August 1991 as the school's seventh permanent president, long after the building boom, which established the new campus in the 1950s and '60s. East and north of buildings lining the Maple Mall was basically open land, and through the heart of campus was a row of nondescript modular buildings, installed temporarily in the 1960s and still being used in the early 1990s.

Bulldog Stadium and Beiden Field brought sports fans to campus. Basketball, though, sent them to an aging arena downtown. Many big concert tours skipped Fresno because venues were too small and miles from campus.

The Fresno State campus of 1991 didn't fit Welty's vision of an attractive, active academic setting that also directly engaged and welcomed the community. And so he set out to change it. To make it happen, Welty cultivated community supporters, sought public funds from legislative leaders in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and made sure that California State University trustees gave Fresno State its fair share of construction money.







His efforts helped raise more than \$425 million dollars for campus transformation, including special projects, many of which were CSU “firsts:”

- **The Save Mart Center**, a privately funded home for Bulldog basketball and volleyball, Commencement and top-rated entertainment, and also the region’s premier concert venue and one of the world’s best-attended arenas.
- **Campus Pointe**, a first-in-the-CSU system, privately built housing, retail, hotel and theater development.
- **Solar panel-topped parking structures**, an industry-university partnership that generates 20 percent of Fresno State’s electricity demand and generates revenue from parking fees.
- **The Smittcamp Alumni House**, the privately financed home of the Fresno State Alumni Association, the only such facility on a CSU campus.
- **University High School**, a nationally acclaimed Fresno Unified School District charter school and the only school of its kind on a CSU campus.
- **The Fresno State Winery**, the nation’s first commercial winery on a university campus.

Welty’s leadership ushered in a new era of fundraising, and as a result of the Campaign for Fresno State the campus has transformed dramatically. Highlights include:

- **Rue and Gwen Gibson Farm Market**, a new home for sales of student-produced food and farm products, a result of a gift to the Campaign for Fresno State.
- **Claude Laval Water and Energy Technology Center**, an incubator for new businesses.
- **Foster Farms Poultry Research and Education Facility**, providing hands-on poultry processing experience and research opportunities for students and faculty.
- **Animal Science Pavilion**, a multipurpose unit for meat processing and livestock competitions.
- **Student Recreation Center**, a student financed facility that also is home to the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Leon S. and Pete P. Peters Education Center.
- **Student Horse Center**, for equestrian competition and equine education.
- **California Department of Justice Crime Laboratory**, a state forensic investigation unit.
- **Downing Planetarium**, a donor-funded astronomy center and community education attraction.
- **Henry Madden Library**, a state- and donor-funded expansion and renovation resulting in an academic resource, community gather place, campus architectural landmark and link between Fresno State and the region’s Native American heritage.
- **Bulldog Diamond**, privately financed and considered one of the nation’s top college softball venues.
- **Aquatics Center**, created for swimming and diving competition and kinesiology instruction.
- **Spalding G. Wathen Tennis Center**, a privately financed state-of-the-art sports venue.
- **Soccer/Lacrosse Field**.
- **Ricchiuti Academic Center**, part of a growing complex of buildings supporting student-athletes.

*Jordan Research Center rendering*



More campus transformation is ahead, with the opening of the privately funded Meyers Family Sports Medicine Center to serve student-athletes and an office/lab building for kinesiology, nursing and physical therapy instruction and research.

Fresno State’s five-year capital improvement plan includes a multidisciplinary research center made possible by the Jordan family’s gift to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, a 1,700-seat auditorium and a parking structure adding 1,300 spaces.

“Obtaining sufficient funding continues to be the biggest challenge for Fresno State’s ongoing transformation to meet academic, research and community needs,” says Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Fresno State’s vice president for Administration. “We also have a huge backlog of infrastructure and updating projects that were put on hold during the state’s economic crunch.”

“A dynamic campus,” Matson says, “will require more private investment and adjusting our building plans to embrace changing technology that will give more students access to our classes in new ways.”



## THE RED WAVE PAYS TRIBUTE TO

# JIM SWEENEY

## 'FATHER OF BULLDOG STADIUM'

By Tom Uribes

Like many Saturday afternoons in the last 30 years at Fresno State, Bulldog Stadium was bathed in sunshine on Saturday, Feb. 16 – what gridiron fans like to call “perfect football weather.” And it didn’t go to waste. A solid contingent of the storied Red Wave assembled to celebrate the life of former Fresno State football coach, Jim Sweeney.

More than 1,500 people came to honor James Joseph “Jim” Sweeney, who passed away Feb. 8 at the age of 83, and his legacy of dedication and service to the university. A dedication that led to the building of the stadium on Cedar and Barstow avenues and more importantly, as multiple speakers recounted, to the building of countless young men’s lives.

He coached the ‘Dogs twice, totaling 19 years with a 143-75-3 record that included eight league titles and five bowl wins, including one over USC in the 1992 Freedom Bowl that Red Wavers still love to brag about more than 20 years later. In fact, the scoreboard on the south end of the stadium on the day of Sweeney’s service memorialized that score: Bulldogs-24, USC-7.



## *The 143 victories make Coach Sweeney Fresno State’s all-time wins leader.*

The Sweeney family, with the aid of the university, welcomed the public to a celebration that included numerous former players and coaches from across the nation in the stadium seats of the field that bears his name – Jim Sweeney Field.

Twelve speakers – including many who Coach Sweeney guided in their college days, such as son Kevin Sweeney, Super Bowl quarterback Trent Dilfer and NFL star Lorenzo Neal – took the stage to voice their respect and gratitude. Coach Sweeney, they said, was “a chance-taker” who gave young men second and third chances, a “truth-teller” and a “motivator” whose fondness for citing inspiring quotes helped turn boys into men.

They executed eulogies that equaled game-winning touchdown drives or goal-line stands that many of them pulled off on that very field so many Saturday afternoons and evenings past under Coach Sweeney’s leadership.

“It is so appropriate to celebrate Coach Sweeney’s life on this field,” said Dilfer, who led the Baltimore Ravens to the 2001 Super Bowl title and is now an ESPN analyst. He called Sweeney a truth-teller saying, “it wasn’t always fuzzy and warm” as he took “broken boys and turned them into men.”

“His quotes helped us through dark moments,” Dilfer said. “He taught us that failure was just a temporary setback.”

Jethro Franklin, former Bulldog player who is now a USC coach, hailed the occasion as “truly a day of celebration” and also cited the values Sweeney instilled in players and coaches.

“I live by his quotes every day,” Franklin said. “I raised my brothers and sisters – some older than me – on those quotes. I raised my children on those quotes. This week I used them to motivate a young man to do something he didn’t want to do.”

Neal said Sweeney will never be forgotten: “We’re here today not because of football but because he impacted our lives,” said the former running back who starred in the NFL.

Fresno State Athletic Director Thomas Boeh welcomed the Red Wave to a “distinct opportunity to honor, celebrate and enjoy the extraordinary life of Coach Jim Sweeney.”

Fresno State President John D. Welty praised Sweeney for dreaming and achieving the impossible and “making a difference, your way.”

Other speakers included Tim DeRuyter, Fresno State’s current head football coach; Jan Stenerud, former player and NFL Hall of Famer; Joe Tiller, former player and former Purdue head coach; Sam Jankovich, former coach, athletic director and NFL executive; and Bill Moos, former player and current Washington State athletics director.







James Ramirez

*“It wasn’t always fuzzy and warm as he took broken boys and turned them into men.”*

– Trent Dilfer,  
ESPN analyst and  
former Bulldog quarterback

## ***Bulldog born, Bulldog bred, gonna be a Bulldog 'til the day I'm dead.***

Sweeney's daughter, Peg, and son, Kevin, also a former Bulldogs player and NFL quarterback, recalled their earliest memories on the sidelines, including inspiring their father to pen an early Bulldog fight song and the reality of sharing their dad with hundreds of other youngsters.

Fresno Pastor Brad Bell, who played for Sweeney from 1990-93, served as master of ceremonies and closed the ceremony by citing the coach's popular Red Wave mantra, “Bulldog born, Bulldog bred, gonna be a Bulldog 'til the day I'm dead.”

Leaving the stadium, longtime Bulldog booster Elmer “Bud” Richter, who was instrumental in helping raise funds for the stadium, said: “Today's memorial showed that the Bulldog Spirit will live long in Central California and anywhere Fresno State fans, players and coaches go, thanks to Coach Sweeney.”

Sweeney coached the Bulldogs twice – first in 1976-77, when the team played its home games

at Fresno City College's Radcliffe Stadium. He left for two years for the NFL and coached with the St. Louis Cardinals and Oakland Raiders. He returned to Fresno State in 1980 as Bulldog Stadium neared completion and coached the Dogs' first game there, a 21-14 win over Montana State. He retired following the 1996 season.

Two signature wins for Sweeney were the California Bowl II on Dec. 12, 1982 – a thrilling 28-27 comeback win over Bowling Green that injected the Valley with “Red Wave Fever” that has not faltered since – and the 1992 Freedom Bowl victory over USC 10 years later that helped cement that fervor.

Sweeney started his coaching career as an assistant at the high school he attended in Butte, Montana, before also coaching at Butte Central, Montana State and Washington State.

He married his high school sweetheart, Lucille “Cile” Carollo and they raised a family of six girls,

Katherine “Peg,” Sheila, Mary Lou, Carol, Patty and Coleen; and three boys, Jim, Dan and Kevin. Coleen died at 20 months and Patty Negrete died of cancer in 2002.

Lucille Sweeney passed away in 1988. Jim married June Cross in 1989. Retirement was spent traveling, playing golf and watching grandchildren excel athletically at Clovis West High School.

Coach Sweeney is survived by his wife, June; and in addition to his children, June's three children, Kevin Morrow, Krista Starnes and Kim Klohs; 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Donations may be made in his honor to the Bulldog Foundation or Saint Agnes Hospice Care.

– Tom Uribes is a public information officer with the Office of University Communications.



# PIPELINE TO THE PROS: HONORING THE PAST, INSPIRING THE FUTURE

By Paul Loeffler

When it comes to the biggest events in the world of sports, the Fresno State connection is never too hard to locate.

We found ourselves oohing and aahing as Paul George threw down 17 points in the NBA All-Star Game. In the second game of the World Series, Doug Fister displayed his Bulldog mentality by remaining in the game even after a line drive ricocheted off of his head. Super Bowl XLVII featured a Fresno State product on each sideline, with Lonyae Miller earning a ring as a member of the Baltimore Ravens' practice squad.

A graduate of the Craig School of Business might dream of becoming a CEO. Students in the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology may envision acres of crops, or the prospect of managing a cutting-edge dairy someday. For some student-athletes, the professional ranks mark the pinnacle of success, and a new addition to the Bulldog football complex makes it clear that the pathway to the pros is alive and well at Fresno State.

"We have such a wonderful tradition here," says head coach Tim DeRuyter, "and now we have something that not only honors those Bulldogs who have gone before, but also serves a purpose that is threefold."

Visitors to Fresno State's football office in the Duncan Building can't miss the eye-catching luminescent display trumpeting "BULLDOGS IN THE NFL." The logo of each NFL team is accompanied by the names of former Bulldogs who cracked the professional ranks with that team.



Perhaps carrying an even bigger impact than the names are the accompanying photos, like the one that captures Trent Dilfer hoisting the Lombardi Trophy after Super Bowl XXXV. "Seeing a former Fresno State player holding up a Super Bowl trophy," remarks Bulldog safety Derron Smith, "it's exciting. It lets us know that we can make it. It's really motivating to see this."

That inspirational impact on current student-athletes represents the first element of the threefold purpose Coach DeRuyter mentioned.

"Second," he says, "recruiting-wise, it shows prospective student-athletes where a career as a Bulldog can take them, and it does that in a real classy way."

When heralded quarterback recruit Zach Greenlee arrives on campus in the fall, he can linger near the NFL wall's classic images to imagine his face above Dilfer's trophy-toting hands, or his name on the back of the jersey handed to David Carr as the first overall pick in the 2002 NFL Draft.

A high school offensive lineman trying to narrow down his college choices might gravitate toward the surly brow of Logan Mankins, now a five-time Pro Bowl selection for the New England Patriots. "Logan Mankins played here?" he might be inclined to ask his well-informed Bulldog host, who could then seize the opportunity to relate a classic tale of Fresno State football propelling

a meteoric rise to gridiron greatness. No other Division I school offered him a scholarship, the story would begin, and a guy who was slender and agile enough to play point guard for the Mariposa High School Grizzlies was transformed at Fresno State into a first-round draft choice who would become an All-Pro guard.

With a four-paw Bulldog logo looming seven feet off the ground in the center of the 50-foot-wide display, the scale of the project reflects the breadth and depth of the university's contributions to professional football. Beyond the high-resolution color photos bordered by attention-drawing lights (colored Bulldog red, naturally), each one of the more than 100 names represents a unique, odds-defying journey in which Fresno State played a crucial role.

Bear Pascoe came to campus as a calf-roping quarterback from Granite Hills High School in Porterville, and was cut shortly after being drafted by the 49ers as a tight end. Resurfacing with the Giants, he scored the first touchdown in the NFC Championship Game in San Francisco, and went on to help New York to victory in Super Bowl XLVI. Ask Chris Pacheco how his name ended up on the wall along with Bulldog teammates like Kevin Sweeney and Stephen Baker, and the defensive lineman will gladly recall his adventures as a replacement player with the Los Angeles Rams in the strike-plagued season of 1987.

No two paths to the pros are exactly the same, but the tales behind the names on the NFL wall all underscore a common refrain resonating with recruits: You can get there from here.

1ST OF 102 BULLDOGS SELECTED IN NFL DRAFT:

**Jack Mulkey, Chicago Bears, 1941**



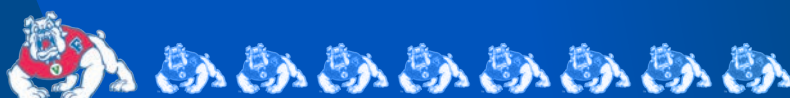
1ST OF SEVEN BULLDOGS TO PLAY IN PRO BOWL:

**Sonny Bishop, Houston Oilers, 1968**



1ST OF NINE BULLDOGS TO PLAY 10 OR MORE SEASONS IN NFL:

**Henry Ellard, 1983-1998**







Examine this elegantly orchestrated piece of pigskin-oriented art closely enough and you will also find the names of two men who never played in the NFL but proved essential to the display's construction. Michael Kelton and Randel Mathias of Inland Star Distribution Centers funded the project with a donation through the Bulldog Foundation.

"Randel and Mike bleed Bulldog red, and they help Fresno State athletics in so many ways," says Jennifer Jory, the Bulldog Foundation's director of development. "This was just another example of their generosity to our program."

That benevolence allows for reverence and reminiscence, the third prong of Coach DeRuyter's aspirations for the wall.

— Paul Loeffler is the radio voice of Bulldog Athletics.

*"Finally, it honors guys who played here and gives them something they can show their families when they come back to campus. We always welcome all former Bulldogs, and this gives them an extra incentive to visit and relive the memories."*

— Coach Tim DeRuyter

MOST RUSHING YARDS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL GAME:

**215 YARDS**, Derrick Ward

MOST RECEIVING YARDS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL GAME:

**309 YARDS**, Stephone Paige

MOST PASSING YARDS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL GAME:

**492 YARDS**, Billy Volek

MOST INTERCEPTIONS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL CAREER:

**19 INTERCEPTIONS**, Marquez Pope


MOST SACKS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL CAREER:

**24 SACKS**, Bryan Robinson

MOST TOUCHDOWNS BY A BULLDOG IN NFL CAREER:

**69 TOUCHDOWNS**, Henry Ellard





# PUTTING FRESNO STATE ON THE MAP ONE VARIETAL AT A TIME

By Lindsey Bickel Burgess



In 2009, Fred Franzia and the Bronco Wine Co.'s 10-year pledge to Fresno State's Department of Viticulture and Enology made possible the creation of an endowed chair position named for the nation's fourth largest winery.

The Bronco Wine Co. Viticulture Chair and the opportunity to work directly with the wine industry drew Dr. Kaan Kurtural to Fresno State from the University of Kentucky, where he was an adjunct assistant professor and viticulture specialist.

***“Fresno State has the correct model, where industry and academia can work on problems together applying sound scientific principles.”***

— Dr. Kaan Kurtural

Under Kurtural's leadership, the Department of Viticulture and Enology is responsible for putting into practice “one of the most important findings in viticulture in recent years.”

Previously, grapes from the San Joaquin Valley were believed to have low color and tannin. Kurtural and his team began with new research from the University of California that identifies gene coding for color in red-wine grapes and combined it with new mechanical crop load management practices.

In just one year, Kurtural's team identified the optimum pruning level and shoot density for the region, resulting in increased yield, improved color and tannins, 80 percent savings in labor operation costs and the use of less water.

The discoveries will likely resonate in wine growing regions across the country.

Kurtural received his bachelor of science degree in field crops and business management, master of science in pomology and doctorate in plant physiology with a specialization in viticulture and minor in statistics, all from Southern Illinois University.

Kurtural remains focused on production efficiency in Valley vineyards and, by helping students prepare for careers with hands-on, state-of-the-art research and training, he is poised to keep Fresno State at the cutting-edge of innovation for years to come.

— Lindsey Bickel Burgess is the senior writer/editor with the Office of University Communications.



## CLASS NOTES

## 1950s

**John E. Horstmann** (1958; **LIFE**), president of Horstmann Financial and Insurance Services, received the 2013 Leon S. Peters award. In 2007, he was presented the Outstanding Alumnus Award by the Fresno State Alumni Association on behalf of the Craig School of Business.

**Jerry Tarkanian** (1955), was selected for induction into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. He remains one of the NCAA's most winning coaches, and was Fresno State's head basketball coach from 1995 to 2002, where he compiled a 108-58 record.

## 1960s

**Frank Ramos Sr.** (1960) was inducted into the San Joaquin Memorial High School Hall of Fame.

**James R. Wilson** (1961, '76) was recognized for his support by the San Francisco Jazz Center. His name was engraved on the wall of glass for the center's recent grand opening.

## 1970s

**Armen (Derian) Bacon** (1973) and **Nancy (Weiner) Miller** (1983, '99) have co-authored "Griefland: An Intimate Portrait of Love, Loss, and Unlikely Friendship."

**James "Jim" Boren** (1972) was named the executive editor of The Fresno Bee.

**Dr. Larry B. Crowder** (1972; **LIFE**) moved from Duke University professor to Stanford where he is the Edward Ricketts Provostial Professor and Professor of Marine Ecology, Science Director for The Center for Ocean Solutions, a Stanford Institution. He and his wife, Judy, also class of '73, live in Carmel Valley.

**Karen Franz** (1974) was presented the 2012 Silver Medalist Award from the American Advertising Federation.

**Charlene Garabedian** (1972) won the 2012 Baked with Raisins recipe contest at the Big Fresno Fair.

**Edna Garabedian** (1972), who traveled the world for nearly four decades as a mezzo soprano opera singer, is profiled in "25 Things You Didn't Know About Edna Garabedian" in the March 2013 issue of Central Valley Magazine.

**Ken Hatfield** (1976) is the Financial Advisor and Director of Client Relations for Portfolio Advisors, Inc. He worked for nearly 40 years at The Fresno Bee.

**David Koehler** (1979) serves as the executive director of the San Joaquin Parkway & Conservation Trust. He was a founding board member of the Great Valley Center.

**Trude McDermott** (1978), an artist who works in oils, was highlighted in Fresno Talent Magazine's May 2012 issue.

**John A. Prandini** (1976, '78) was inducted into the San Joaquin Memorial High School's Hall of Fame, where he re-established his alma mater's track and field program after a 10-year absence.

**Melvin Ricks** (1977) published a book detailing his emotional struggles and depression recovery titled, "To Die Before You Die: The True Story of My Journey Through Life and Mental Illness."

**J. Patrick "Pat" Rogers** (1972) received the Distinguished Engineering Achievement Award from The Engineers' Council at the 56th annual Honors and Awards Banquet for "demonstrating model leadership, personal humility, commitment to the highest standards of technical integrity, and dedication to teammates." Employed by The Boeing Company for more than 35 years, he is a laboratory test engineer based in Huntington Beach.

**Gary Soto** (1974), an award-winning author and poet, was mentioned on the front page of The New York Times (Dec. 5, 2012), in the article "For Young Latino Readers, an Image is Missing." Soto has published many books that include characters of diverse ethnic backgrounds. Fresno City College recently opened the Gary Soto Literary Museum.

**Glen Teter** (1971) and **Stan Canby** (1978), owners of Teter, LLP and Canby Architectural Studio, Inc., respectively, have merged to form Teter, a full-service design and engineering shop.

**Jeffrey Webster** (1975), the general manager of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, was presented the Community Transportation Manager of the Year Award from the Community Transportation Association of America.

## 1980s

**Jacqueline Antaramian** (1985) portrayed Maria Callas in StageWorks Fresno's production of "Master Class" last spring, directed by **Joel Abels** (1996). The "Live From Lincoln Center," "Utah Shakespeare Festival" and "Metropolitan Opera" alumna has performed in more than 70 plays on-and off-Broadway; and was selected No. 5 in the "Top 20 Best in the Valley" list compiled by Fresno Bee columnist Donald Munro.

**Mark Arax** (1980), a writer who lives in Fresno and has chronicled Central California's past and present, was featured, along with a family recipe for marinated lamb, in "Heavenly Earth," published in the Oct. 14, 2012 issue of the New York Times Magazine.

**Scott R. Bell** (1982; **LIFE**) has joined Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC as first vice president of investments and senior institutional consultant.

**Todd Bridges** (1985, '88) received the 2012 Outstanding Practitioner Award from the Society for Risk Analysis. He is a senior researcher in environmental science with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss.

**Jacquie Broach** (1986) portrayed Gaynette Verdeen in the 2nd Space Theater production of "The Red Velvet Cake War" in February 2013.

**Steve Canfield** (1981) serves as chief financial officer of Fresno First Bank, after nearly 30 years working in commercial and retail banking and management.

**Anthony "Tony" Cantu** (1985) serves as the newly appointed president of Fresno City College. He has 23 years of administrative and teaching experience with State Center Community College District.

**Kellie Dyer** (1987) was named the 2012 "Friend of Nursing" by Children's Hospital Central California. She is the director of materials management at the hospital.

**Jose Elgorriaga Jr.** (1987), executive vice president at Univision, was named 2012 Professional of the Year by the Fresno Advertising Federation.

**Diana L. Gomez** (1988; **LIFE**) was named the Central Valley Regional Director for the California High-Speed Rail Authority. A certified Professional Engineer, she has nearly 25 years of experience in the field of transportation and serves on the Board of Directors' of the Fresno State Alumni Association.

**Beverly Hayden-Pugh** (1983) is vice president and chief nursing officer at Children's Hospital Central California. She began her career with Children's in 1983 as a staff RN in the pediatric/oncology unit.

**Tracy Hostmyer** (1988) is performing with the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, VA. She has various lead roles in five plays, presented in repertory – "Merchant of Venice," "Lion in Winter," "Two Gentlemen of Verona," plus "Cymbeline" and "King John."

**Gary Hunt** (1988) was promoted to the rank of lieutenant with the Sheriff's Department of Tulare County. He began his career with the department as a trainee in December of 1989 stationed at the Bob Wiley Detention Facility.

**Paul McDougal** (1983; **LIFE**) was presented the Fresno Advertising Federation's 2012 Hall of Fame Award.



## 1980s

**Marcus Nance** (1988) received rave reviews for his portrayal of Caiaphas in "Jesus Christ Superstar" on Broadway at the Neil Simon Theatre.

**Kathy Peart** (1986) has joined the United Valley Insurance Agency as an associate account manager. Peart has 20 years of experience working in the insurance industry specializing in farm and agribusiness insurance.

**Laurie Pessano** (1980) appeared as the lead in "Grace & Glorie" at Good Company Players' 2nd Space Theatre.

**S. Phillip Radics** (1985) was named vice president of sales for Berk-Teck, a fiber optic and cabling and solutions company.

**Donald Rotella** (1980), and **William "Bill" Rotella** (1977) are banquet captains and sales associates for Pardini's Catering & Banquets.

**Cheryl Schaak** (1982) is an account executive with the Clovis-based CORE Business Interiors.

**Daniel Silva** (1983) has released his 15th spy-thriller-novel, "The Fallen Angel." A previous novel, "Portrait of a Spy" was listed No. 1 on The New York Times bestseller list.

**Nanette Simonian** (1987) joined StollerUSA as a sales representative for the greater Fresno area and Southern California. Her expertise helps California growers manage plant stress and health for higher quality crops and yields.

**Barbara Van Arnham** (1984), who owns and operates her own studio in Prather, Calif., was selected to exhibit her paintings at the 10th Annual Blanche Ames National Juried Art Exhibition in North Easton, Miss.

## 1990s

**Jim Arellanes** (1997) is the football coach at Marshall Fundamental High School in Pasadena. During his time as a Bulldog, he battled former NFL quarterback Billy Volek and current USC head coach Lane Kiffin for playing time.

**Alexan Balekian** (1998), a well-known personality in the Central Valley television market, is now an on-air personality with KMJ 580 Radio.

**Scott Barnes** (1992) was one of 28 writers selected for inclusion in the latest edition of the "L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future" (Vol. XXVIII). His science-fiction story, "Insect Sculptor," was selected from more than 10,000 entries.

**Paul J. Bauer** (1995), an attorney and shareholder with Walter & Wilhelm Law Group, was named a 2012 "Rising Star Super Lawyer" by the "Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars."

**Kristen Beasley** (1990, '93) has co-authored a book, "From Privilege to PRIDE: Love is the Road."

**Laura Berg** (1998) a four-time U.S. Olympian, was named the head softball coach at Oregon State in Corvallis, OR.

**Barry Ham** (1992), a licensed marriage and family therapist in Colorado Springs, just published a book "God Understands Divorce: A Biblical Message of Grace."

**Kari Hammerstrom** (1997) was selected as one of six women to be recognized at the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation's 2013 Common Threads luncheon.

**Betsy Hays** (1991, '99; **LIFE**), and **Tori Randolph Terhune** (2009), have co-authored "Land Your Dream Career: 11 Steps to Take in College," to help college students successfully pave the way for future employment.

**Victor Hernandez** (1998) recently moved into a new senior role focusing on Technology & Strategy for CNN's worldwide reporting platforms.

**Nick Jimenez** (1997), the executive vice president of Mingle.com and president of Clumber.com, was featured on Yahoo's financial advice column titled "10 Resume Rules: Fact or Fiction?"

**Dan Kiggins** (1996) was promoted to senior vice president and chief credit officer for Fresno Madera Farm Credit.

**Amanda (Holder) Leath** (1999; **LIFE**) and **James M. Leath II** (2008) recently founded Leathal Energy Fitness in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

**Stacie Licon** (1996) was named 2012 "Nurse of the Year, Education" by Children's Hospital Central California.

**Heather McLane** (1999) is co-creator of the online magazine, "The Full Moxie," which is known as "a gathering place for women."

**Brandon Molale** (1996) appeared as Jimmy "Bockscar" Knox in Warner Brothers' "Gangster Squad" alongside Josh Brolin, Ryan Gosling, Nick Nolte, Emma Stone and Sean Penn.

**Louis Moreau** (1990), a sixth-generation winemaker in Chablis, France, had two labels recognized in Wine Spectator's recent listing of "The Top 100 Most Exciting Wines in the World."

**D. Brent Moser** (1992) and **Joel Abels** (1996) appeared as the characters Frog and Toad, respectively, in StageWorks Fresno's production of "A Year with Frog and Toad."

**Luis Patlan** (1998) was sworn in as city manager for the city of Kerman, Calif.

**Candice Pendergrass** (1999) is the membership director for Valley PBS, the Central Valley's Public Broadcasting Station affiliate.

**Jane (Olvera) Quebe** (1990) is co-owner of JP Marketing, which was named 2012 Agency of the Year by the Fresno Advertising Agency.

**Tim Rios** (1993), a senior vice president for Wells Fargo Bank, has been elected to a four-year term on the board of the James Irvine Foundation.

**Peter Robertson** (1992, '95, '05; **LEGACY**), was inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

**Michael Robustelli** (1997, '01; **LIFE**) is the head winemaker at McManis Family Vineyards, whose 2011 River Junction California Chardonnay was recently selected as wine-of-the-week by The Press Democrat in Santa Rosa, Calif.

**Greg Stach** (1992), the winemaker for Landmark Vineyards in Sonoma County, won two silver awards at the 2012 Sunset International Wine Competition for 2010 Landmark Overlook, Chardonnay and 2010 Landmark Damaris Reserve, Chardonnay.

**Johnny Stafford** (1990), a wedding photographer, was featured in Fresno Talent Magazine's May 2012 issue.

**Scott Stokes** (1990) was named by Citibank as the new Market President for the Washington, D.C. metro area and Baltimore, a role within the U.S. Consumer and Commercial Banking Business.

**Genelle Taylor Kumpe** (1995; **LIFE**) opened Blown Away – a hair salon specializing in wash, blow and style – at River Park in Fresno. She is the associate director of Fresno State's Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

**Brian Turner** (1994), a nationally-recognized and award-winning poet, had his book "Here, Bullet" highlighted in Parade magazine (Oct. 21, 2012), in an article titled "Giving Voice to the War." Turner is on the faculty of Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village, Nev.

**Alfred G. Valles** (1999) joined The Heart Group Cardiovascular Associates, Inc. as an interventional cardiologist. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Medical School, Madison, Wisc. and completed his fellowship at The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

**Michael Valles** (1998) recently opened his third Southern California location for Interior Illusions in West Hollywood. Additional locations for the highly-respected interior design studio include Santa Monica and Palm Springs.

## MARRIAGES

**Allison Frost** (1992) and **Scott Trahan** were married on May 27, 2012 in Portland, Ore., where they make their home.

## 2000s

**Taylor Abels** (2012) was selected No. 2 in the “Top 20 Best in the Valley” list compiled by The Fresno Bee columnist Donald Munro. She was a “standout” in “Urinetown,” as well as “impressive” in productions of “Next to Normal,” “Ordinary Days,” and “A Little Night Music.”

**Brooke Aiello** (2003) portrayed the lead character in “Hamlet” produced by the New Ensemble. She was selected No. 3 in the “Top 20 Best in the Valley” list compiled by The Fresno Bee columnist Donald Munro.

**Laurie A. Avedisian** (2001) was promoted to partner at Lozano Smith and also commenced her role as president of the Fresno County Bar Association.

**Andrea Benson** (2005) is the director of operations at CORE Business Interiors located in Clovis.

**Daniel R. Bernard** (2003, '05) was named the program coordinator of the newly launched Veterans Educational Program at Fresno State.

**Leah Bigham** (2010) published her first book for children titled, “Solitaire’s First Fall.” It is the story of a maple tree who learns about the changes he must undergo each season.

**Michael Borboa** (2006), a songwriter and winemaker at Bear Creek Winery, has named a new grape varietal – Aromella. His name suggestion was selected by Cornell University from more than 1,100 entries. Aromella is an aromatic, muscat white wine grape.

**Natali Carrera** (2004) is co-creator of the online magazine, The Full Moxie, which is known as “a gathering place for women.”

**Hank Charles** (2009), the assistant director of business development at the Fresno State Alumni Association, was recently honored in Business Street Online’s “40 under 40.”

**Tracy Chin** (2006; *LIFE*) was named 2012 “Nurse of the Year, Advanced Practice” by Children’s Hospital Central California.

**Alisse Christensen** (2003) and **Josh Smith** (2010) were ensemble cast members in the California Public Theatre’s sold-out performances of “Rent” at the Tower Theatre. The musical was directed by **S. Eric Day** (2003).

**Upkar Kaur** (2011) and **Raj Singh Badhesha** (2005) were married on Nov. 10, 2012 in Fresno.

**Kevin S. Cooper** (2006, '07) is an attorney with the Corporate Department at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. As a Fresno State student, he was a member of the Bulldogs’ Football team and was named the President’s Medalist at commencement in 2006.

**Joey Fernandez** (2010) was hired as the assistant director of business services for the Better Business Bureau of Central California.

**Sara Fraenheim** (2009; *LIFE*) has been named the associate director of the California Grape & Tree Fruit League, a public policy organization that advocates on behalf of California’s fresh grape, tree fruit and berry growers, packers and shippers.

**Matthew Freitas** (2012) portrayed the role of Moritz Stieffel in the Underground @ CMT production of “Spring Awakening.”

**Rhiannon Gardenhire** (2011) had her thesis and findings published in the California State University San Bernardino, Department of Psychology’s “Psychology Student Journal,” Vol. 2, 2012.

**Anna M. Gonzalez** (2012) has joined JP Marketing as a copywriter.

**Guy Haberman** (2007) has joined San Francisco’s KGMZ (95.7 FM), taking over the weeknight time slot, and will host the weekday Oakland Athletics “Pre-Game Dugout Show” and “Post-Game A’s Talk” programs during baseball season.

**Dawn Hart** (2010), an artist who works with porcelain, is featured in Fresno Talent Magazine’s May 2012 issue.

**Teresa Havens** (2002) is a designer and account manager with CORE Business Interiors based in Clovis.

**Theresa Kurtz** (2012) was hired as assistant director of Athletics Communications at Fresno State’s Department of Athletics Communications.

**Durbin Lloren** (2009) opened Bad Donkey Wrestling Club in Clovis, Calif. The former Bulldogs wrestler was among Fresno State’s top 10 in most wins.

**Dawn-Marie Luna** (2007, '11) was named the Central Valley Program Coordinator for the GSA Network, a national youth leadership organization that connects school-based gay-straight alliances to each other and community resources through peer support, leadership development and training.

**Chris Marklund** (2007) was named legislative director for U.S. Representative David Valadao (Calif. - 21st District).

**Matthew McGee** (2010) scored a nomination for outstanding supporting actor in a play for the 29th Helen Hayes Awards, which represent excellence in Washington, D.C.-area professional theater. He also parlayed a nine-month acting internship with the Shakespeare Theatre Company into a professional role with the Constellation Theatre Company in the play “Taking Steps.”

**Casey McGehee** (2004) was signed with the New York Yankees. The Major League Baseball third baseman has previously played for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee Brewers.

**Kate McKnight** (2003) was featured in The Fresno Bee as a highlight of the annual Mardi Gras Parade in Fresno’s Tower District. She chairs the nonprofit Fresno Downtown Coalition.

**Johnny Mendez Jr.** (2012) is a sales consultant with the Arizona State University Athletic Department. He still considers himself a proud “Bulldog Forever!” and cut his teeth at Fresno State with Bulldog Sports Properties.

**Tina Mistry** (2007) was promoted to financial advisor at Portfolio Advisors, Inc. She also received the Certified Financial Planner™ certification by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.

**Jaime Moncayo** (2012) was hired as a political research assistant for StudentsFirst – a movement to transform public education – in Sacramento.

**Juan Pablo Moncayo** (2008) was named an associate with Highstar Capital in New York City and is involved in analyzing investments in various infrastructure sectors.

**Joseph Morel** (2011) was highlighted in the article “Sand, Skill and Fire: The Art of Glassblowing” published in The Collegian on Nov. 2, 2012.

**Joel Pickford** (2009) was named No. 15 on the “Top 20: Best in the Valley” list compiled by Donald Munro, a columnist with The Fresno Bee.

**Jeff Pisoni** (2002), the winemaker at Pisoni Vineyards & Winery in Gonzales, Calif., has released Lucy Wines. Featured in Oprah Winfrey Magazine and Wine Spectator. Proceeds from sales benefit breast cancer nonprofit organizations.

**William Price** (2008) is a brand manager for Shark Branding, owned and operated by Daymond John of ABC’s “Shark Tank,” based in Costa Mesa, Calif.

**Amanda Rodriguez** (2010) is a social worker for Valley Teen Ranch.



## CLASS NOTES

### 2000s

**Christopher M. Rusca** (2006) joined his parents, **Rodney L. Rusca** (1973) and Rosemarie Rusca, at their law practice.

**Amelia Ryan** (2000\*) appeared in the role of Mistress Page in "The Merry Wives of Windsor" with the Woodward Shakespeare Festival.

**Shae Sarraf** (2012) created the wine label for "Picaresque," a new Fresno State wine that honors Philip Levine, who was appointed the Poet Laureate of the United States for 2011-12 and taught for 34 years in Fresno State's English department.

**Julia Woli Scott** (2010) showcased artwork at Gallery 25 and Iron Bird Café. Scott is a graduate student and recently self-published her first book featuring her paintings, "Cotton: A Study in Intimacy."

**Faith Sidlow** (2008) was inducted in the Silver Circle Class of 2012 by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences San Francisco/Northern California.

**Courtney Sorenson** (2009) is the operations manager for the Fresno County Farm Bureau and a member of the Human Resources Association of Central California.

**Russel Statham** (2009, '11) was recently selected as chair of the board of directors of Study California, Inc., a new nonprofit that represents educational institutions in California.

**Adam B. Stirrup** (2003, '05; **LIFE**) is an attorney, specializing in business litigation, at Baradat & Paboojian and was named a "Rising Star" by Super Lawyers.

**Ashley Taylor** (2005), a producer for "Great Day" with KMPH FOX 26, appeared in the Organic Theatre Company's production of "Ordinary Days." The Fresno Bee columnist Donald Munro included her as No. 20 on his "Top 20 Best in the Valley" list.

**Katrina Tonkogolosuk** (2006) is an account executive with Marketing Plus.

**Gabriel Trevino** (2001) competed in the 2013 Dorito's Crash the Super Bowl commercial contest. His commercial was voted into the top three and aired during the Super Bowl.

**Lina Valenzuela** (2008) is the project manager for the San Joaquin River Parkway & Conservation Trust.

**Nick Watney** (Alumnus) was selected as one of Nike's newest athletes. Watney received the 2012 Top Dog Alumnus Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association on behalf of Athletics.

**Kasie West** (2000) recently released a novel, "Pivot Point," with HarperTeen. It is the story of Addie, a not-so-typical 16-year-old girl with the paranormal ability to look into the future.

**Jill Wyman** (2001) is the director of government affairs operations at the Independent Insurance Agents of Brokers of America, Inc.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Gloria Anderson** (1938; **LIFE**) Jan. 2, in Fresno

**John Charles "Junior" Avakian Jr.**, May 2012, in Fresno.

**Janice Leigh (Pettitt) Baird** (1971), Jan. 6, in Cambria.

**Mary Thomas Babyer**, Dec. 1, in Bakersfield.

**Charles Reid Bell** (1962; **LIFE**) Nov. 7, in Fresno.

**Donnie Blanton** (1990), Dec. 2, in Hollister.

**Charles Boornazian** (1974), May 25, in Fresno.

**William Booth** (1962), Dec. 3, in Fresno.

**Richard Lee Buckles**, Jan. 23, in Bakersfield.

**Peggy Ruth (Elzarion) Burr**, April 19, in Fresno.

**Byron Carlson** (1952), Oct. 26, in Kingsburg.

**Sharon Kay (Miller) Carlson** (1960), June 23, in Fresno.

**Kathleen Christine** (1989), Nov. 28, in Sonora.

**Meredith Craven** (1942), Dec., in Fresno.

**Steven Dennis Day**, Oct. 15, in Fresno.

**Kenneth "Ken" DeVaney** (1954), Jan. 30, in Fresno.

**Leland Edman** (1947), Jan. 7, in Fresno.

**Ronald Eskender** (1960), Dec. 22, in Fresno.

**Stephen Carter File** (1965), Aug. 18, in Fresno.

**Troy Dean Fox** (1973), Oct. 21, in Merced.

**Lola Franchini** (1939), in Fresno.

**Ellen Gibson** (1989), Dec. 23, in Fresno.

**Frances Burkholder "Francie" Griffin** (1962), Jan. 28, in Fresno.

**Richard Herboldshimer** (1950), in Fresno.

**John Hopkins** (2003), Dec. 21, in Fresno.

**Edward H. Janzen**, Feb. 8, in Reedley.

**Melba Johnson** (1944), Nov. 19, in Fresno.

**Melvin Cecil Johnson** (1948), Jan. 11, in Bend OR.

**Neal Anderson Johnson** (1996), Jan. 27, in Ventura.

**Phillip H. Johnson** (2012), July 15, in Fresno.

**Regan Joanne Johnson** (2012), July 11, in Fresno.

**Lorraine Jones** (1940), Oct. 16, in Fresno.

**Harry Kachadoorian** (1951), Jan. 5, in Fresno.

**Thelma Kastner** (1940; **LIFE**) Dec. 5, in Fresno

**Bernard Edwin Kellogg** (2003), Dec. 12, in Visalia.

**Richard F. Kennedy** (1940), Feb. 6 in Fresno.

**Ellinor Kephart** (1938), Oct. 18, in Fresno.

**Nicholas Andrew Marquart Jr.** (1969), Jan. 15, in San Luis Obispo.

**Jay Edwin Marsella** (1957), Jan. 2, in Fresno

**Jose "Pepe" Manuel Martinez** (1995), Aug. 10 in San Jose.

**Kristi McCarthy** (1971), Feb. 14, in Fresno

**Pauline "Polly" Metzler** (1950), Feb. 16, in Fresno.

**Elizabeth Meux** (1970), Dec. 23, in Fresno.

**Frank Nishio** (1942), Nov. 28, in Fresno.

**Basil O'Neill** (1956; **LIFE**) June 4, in Ontarioanada.

**Cornelius Kenny O'Neill** (2007), Nov. 17, in Fresno.

**Bettie Lou Basye (Hutchinson) Ott** (1945), May 12, in San Rafael.

**Phillip Patiño** (1949; **LIFE**) April 28, in Fresno.

**Lucille Paul** (1987), Dec. 27, in Fresno.

**Greg Peters** (1990), Nov. 28, in Fresno.

**Clarian Pintacura** (1968), Oct. 21, in San Jose.

**Maxine T. Quinlisk**, Dec. 9, in Fresno.

**Betty Ramacher** (1965), Oct. 23, in Fresno.

**Virgil E. Rasmussen** (1940), Nov. 1, in Sanger.

**Joanne Vaughn (Wilma) Reckas** (1931) Nov. 18, in Shaver Lake.

**Thomas Rodriguez** (1951), Jan. 8, in Fresno.

**Norman John Roth** (1955), Aug. 2, in Fresno.

**Fryne Hope Willems Rudolf** (1946), Jan. 23, in Sonoma.

**Captain Angelo Scalzo** (1958), April 5, in Tilton, New Hampshire.

**Gordon Scott** (1948; **LIFE**) Nov. 8, in Fresno.

**George Shamshoian** (1949), Jan. 4, in Visalia

**James Patrick Sheely**, Sept. 19, in Fresno.

**Haig Shekerjian** (1950), Nov. 30, in Fresno.

**Harold Silvani** (1956), Nov. 23, in Visalia.

**Sonja L. Sizemore** (1956), Nov. 10, in Kingsburg.

**Cade Stewart** (1950), Jan. 19, in Fresno.

**Kirk Randall Stewart**, July, in Fresno.

**Aileene Stout** (1959; **LIFE**) Feb. 2, in Fresno.

**Ronald L. Surgener** (1972), Feb. 15, in Bakersfield.

**James D. Swartz** (1969), Nov. 6, in Fresno.

**Shizuo Takayama** (1940), Dec. 27, in Fresno.

**Morva Taylor** (1937; **LIFE**) Jan. 12, in Fresno.

**Esther Tootelian** (1942), October, in Fresno.

**Benjamin Turner**, Dec. 23, in Pacific Grove.

**John Richard Verboon** (1971; **LIFE**) Nov. 24, in Fresno.

**Robert Warkentin** (1978), April 3, in Fresno.

**Robert T. Waterman** (1950), Jan. 2, in Shell Beach.

**George Wilson** (1959), Nov. 29, in Fresno.

**Betty Pendergrass Wipf** (1948), Dec., 27 in Fresno.

**Juliette Zophres** (1954), Aug. 18, in Plantation.

### FACULTY/STAFF

**Julia B. Balderas**, (1971), Sept. 28, in Fresno.

**Dr. Bob Lorenzo Bennett**, Dec. 5, in Fresno.

**Jane Felder**, April 28, in Fresno.

**Joe W. Heuston Jr.**, Dec. 12, in Fresno.

**Anna St. John**, January, in Fresno.

**Jean Lundstrom**, Jan. 10, in Fresno.

**Thomas McDougall**, Jan. 26, in Fresno.

**Dr. P.J. Mistry**, Nov. 12, in Fresno.

**Arlene Pipes** (1944), Dec. 29, in Arroyo Grande.

**Dr. Joseph Satin**, Jan. 7, in Fresno.

**Rose Kloian Smithson**, Dec. 2, in Santa Rosa.

**James Joseph 'Jim' Sweeney**, Feb. 8, in Fresno.

# Pursuing his outdoor passion

## SCHOLARSHIP PROFILE

### DANIEL SUVANTO

A Patagonia Scholarship made it possible for sophomore Daniel Suvanto to attend Fresno State – but discovering a career path and unearthing new passions are the result of hard work, focus and persistence. Suvanto, an environmental science major, is energized by the outdoors and motivated to work for a company committed to preserving it. His future in corporate social responsibility was cemented during a summer internship in Ventura at outdoor gear leader Patagonia. It was a dream job, a huge résumé boost, and it didn't hurt that he got to surf every day.



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### Your choice

#### ***Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:***

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

### Time-sensitive reply

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

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2. Fill out, sign and fax the form to 559.278.6790.

3. Call 559. 278.ALUM or call toll-free 866.378.DOGS.

4. Fill out, sign and send back this form to us at the following address (you may want to make a copy for your records).

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Current email address

Daytime telephone

Signature

Date





## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Clyde Ford (1980, '84; **LIFE**) President  
 Brad Fischer (1981; **LIFE**) Past President  
 Russel Statham (2009, '11), Vice President,  
 Finance (staff director)  
 Diana Gomez (1988; **LIFE**) Vice President, Alliances  
 & Leadership Development  
 Julie (Farnesi) Small (1978; **LIFE**) Vice President,  
 Alumni House  
 Adam Stirrup (2003, '05; **LIFE**) Vice President,  
 Membership and Marketing/President-elect  
 Valerie Vuicich (1979; **LIFE**) Vice President,  
 Special Events

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Russell A. Bader (1972)  
 Raj Singh Badhesha (2005)  
 Doug Broten (1971; **LIFE**)  
 Mel Dias (1971; **LIFE**)  
 Brian Domingos Jr. (2005; **LIFE**)  
 John Gomes (1978, '94; **LIFE**)  
 Brent Hansen (2006; **LIFE**)  
 Amanda (Leath) Holder (1999; **LIFE**)  
 Kathleen (McFall) Hushek (1975)  
 Ruth (Peckham) Khan (1975)  
 Regina A. (Kirk) Leathers (1995)  
 Mitzi Lowe (1981, '89) (faculty director)  
 Carol (Lombardi) Machado (1970; **LIFE**)  
 Nathan Magsig (1999, '03)  
 Frank Oviedo (1994)  
 Rosendo Peña (1977; **LIFE**)  
 Antonio Petrosino (1953; **LEGACY**)  
 John Savage (student director)  
 Doug Yavanian (1967; **LIFE**)  
 Chris Williams (2001)

## LIAISONS

- John D. Welty, University President  
 Peter N. Smits, Vice President,  
 University Advancement  
 Arthur Montajano (2011), President,  
 Associated Students Inc.

## ASSOCIATION STAFF

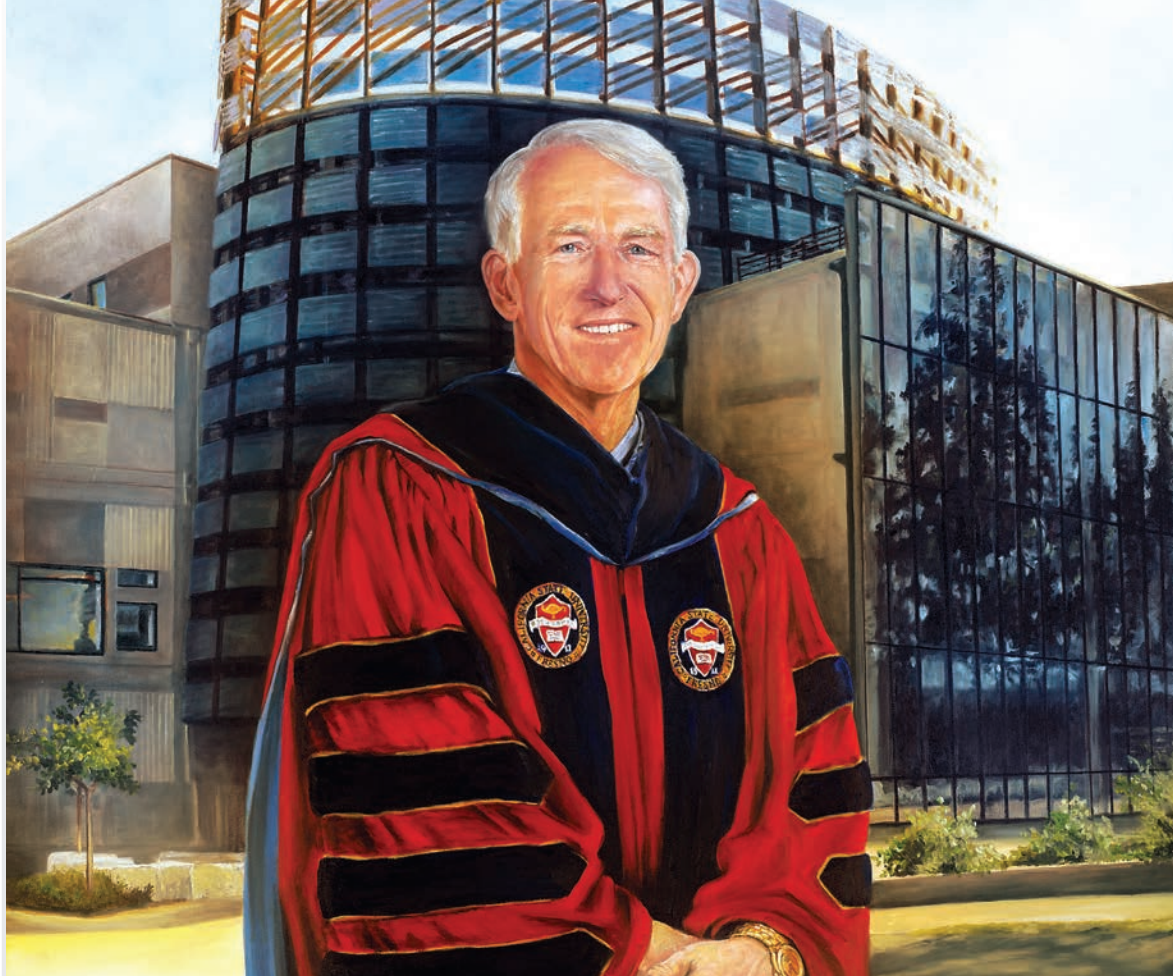
- Jacquelyn Glasener (2002; **LIFE**) Executive Director  
 Peter Robertson (1992, '95, '05; **LEGACY**)  
 Director of Alumni Marketing and Engagement  
 Hank Charles (2009), Assistant Director  
 of Business Development  
 Blair Smittcamp (Alumna), Assistant Director  
 of Alumni Engagement  
 Joanne Deaver, Office Manager  
 Jennifer Burgess, Smittcamp Alumni House Manager  
 Peggy Ramos, Outreach and Program Coordinator

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# KEEPING IT ALL IN THE (FRESNO STATE) FAMILY

By Lindsey Bickel Burgess



Joel Beery (2008) attended Fresno State and majored in graphic design because he knew someday he would have to get a "real job," and the outlook for drawing didn't seem promising.

After graduating, he quickly secured a graphic-design job with his alma mater and now is a designer in Fresno State's Printing Services office. His traditional path to that "real job" worked out perfectly and also unearthed unexpected opportunities to explore his real passion – painting.

Through contacts at Fresno State, Beery was commissioned to paint a portrait of John D. Welty, which will hang in the library alongside paintings of the university's past presidents.

Interested in art and drawing for as long as he can remember, it wasn't until a painting class his sophomore year at Fresno State, under professor Nick Potter, that Beery discovered a love – and natural gift – for painting.

Still very new to the medium, Beery is experimenting. His first work, a horse, which he painted "just to see if he could," won second place at the Clovis Art Guild's open art call for the 2012 Clovis Rodeo.

That painting, and a second – an abstract football scene – are displayed and for sale at KuppaJoy, a coffee shop in downtown Clovis.

The Welty painting took five to six weeks, Beery says, working several hours each night after work. Then it went to Welty and his wife, Dr. Sharon Brown-Welty, for approval.

"When it was almost dry, I took it over to the Welty's house," said Beery. "He looked at it and he said, 'Yep. That's me.'"

Beery then focused on getting Welty's portrait framed and out of his spare bedroom so he could take on new projects. Beery just started a painting of San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, and next he'd like to tackle a series.

Beery loves sports and cars and testing his limits. So far, though, in terms of painting, he hasn't found any limits.



# TREE PORTRAIT

Cary Edmondson

## California Sycamore

Located near Shaw Avenue – directly south of the Lab School.

This painting marks the conclusion of my Tree Portraits feature that began in the winter of 2004 with a painting of a ginkgo tree. I was inspired to begin the series by the discovery of *Treewalks: A Guidebook to The Arboretum* at California State University, Fresno and by the Plant Portraits art of A.R. Valentien. I emulated Valentien's technique – opaque water color (gouache) on colored illustration board.

The series has continued biannually, and I have collaborated with a score of memorable staff, faculty and friends of Fresno State who – through their writing and reflections – have generously shared their affection for the trees that surround us.

You may recall that my collaborators always chose the trees that I illustrated – but for the finale I was privileged to choose my own subject, and I have painted the California sycamore.

This was the iconic tree of my childhood. I knew it intimately from clambering high up the giant's staircase of branches that reached beyond the rooftops – and I often had the rash on my bare belly as proof. As many as four Hansen boys at a time might cling to the distinctively contorted trunks and limbs of our "family tree." Our cat, Sycamore, was named for his resemblance to the orange balls of fluff that garland the branches.

Seen up close, the bark exhibits a camouflage-like mosaic of puzzle pieces that are agreeably fun to pick at. But from a distance, the bark appears smooth and glows white against the surrounding growth.

*Platanus recemosa* resembles the European sycamore but is distinguished by those one-inch seed balls and would more aptly be called a plane tree. Leaves with three or five lobes grow as big as dinner plates, and in autumn we'd fling ourselves heedlessly into the crackling heaps raked up by grandpa.

### Doug Hansen

Hansen is a professor of illustration in the Department of Art and Design. He received his BA and MA in art at Fresno State and began teaching in 2002.



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Cary Edmondson