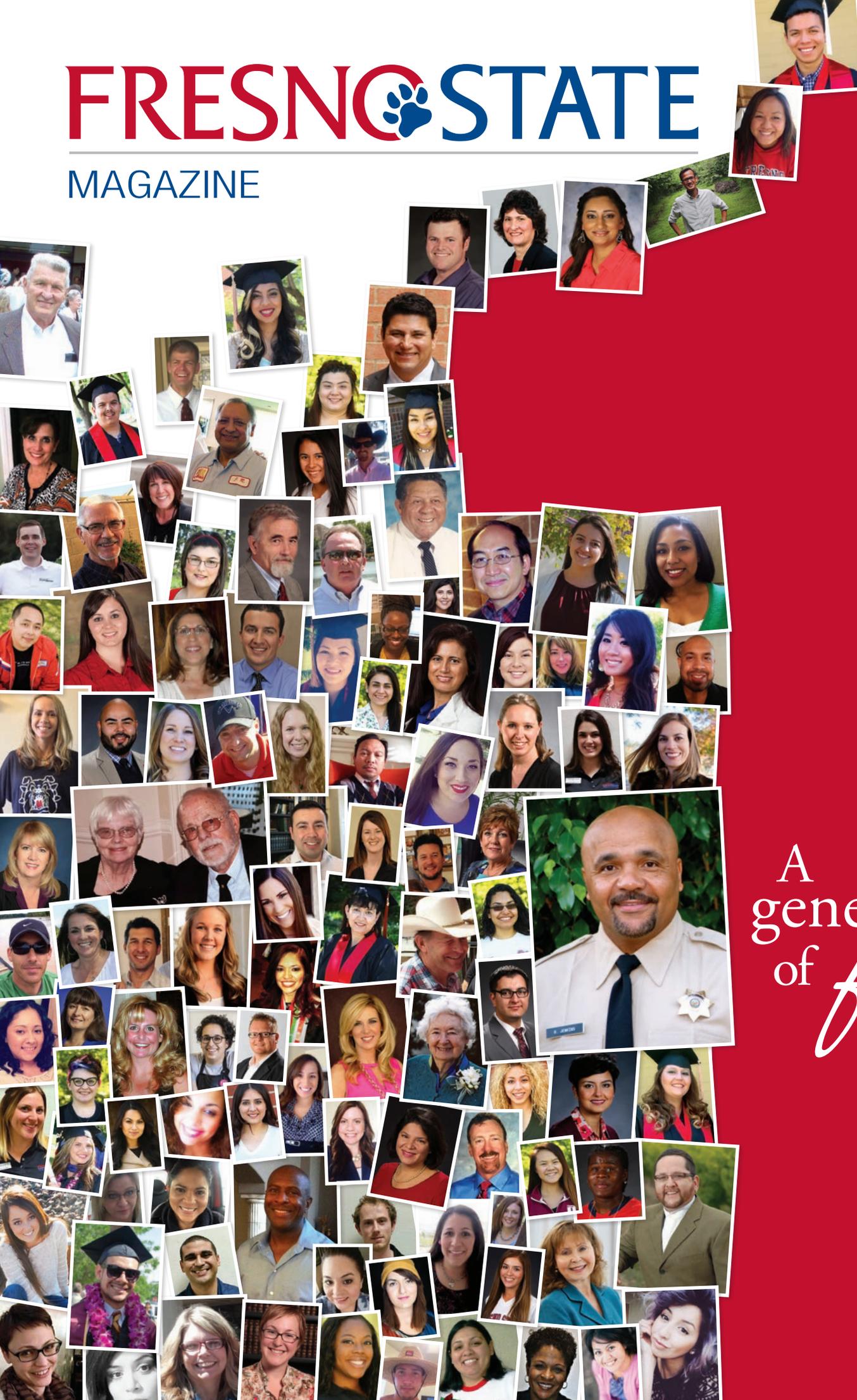


FRESNO STATE

MAGAZINE



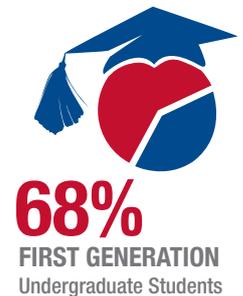
A
generation
of *firsts*



A UNIVERSITY of *Opportunity*

Every day, I see examples of Fresno State's academic excellence and opportunity for students. It is especially heartwarming to me as the first in my family to attend college to observe how we are helping first-generation students. A caring faculty and staff encourage first-generation students to overcome the uncertainty and anxiety they sometimes feel without a family background of college experience. And the tremendous support from alumni and friends throughout the Valley allows Fresno State to provide many resources and scholarships to help students succeed.

Like so many alumni from throughout our 100-plus-year history, 68 percent of Fresno State's undergraduate students – almost seven out of every 10 – are classified as first-generation. Today, our top goal for them, as well as the second- and third-generation students at Fresno State, is success. The future of our students, their families and the entire region and beyond depends on it.



You'll read many inspirational stories in this issue of FresnoState Magazine, and we encourage you to share your own success stories and engage with others who are making a difference in the Valley and beyond.

First-generation alumni like Ron Jenkins and Carissa Phelps overcame numerous challenges to earn their degrees and are now paying it forward by helping other young people. At the same time, families like the Ricchiutis and Smittcamps, who have sent multiple generations through Fresno State, are touching the community in other ways — through strong businesses, philanthropy and support.

The diversity of alumni accomplishments is a point of pride for our students, graduates and the entire region. As you read the pages of this magazine, we hope you feel proud to be a Bulldog and inspired to get involved in your own way. Together, we can all make our community a better place. Because of our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends, Fresno State's future is brighter than ever!

Jose A. Castro

President Joseph I. Castro



A Generation of Firsts:
The story of Ron Jenkins and other first-generation grads

Cary Edmondson

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FRESNO STATE Magazine is published by the Office of University Communications at California State University, Fresno.

Spring 2015

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



Cary E.mondson

New program to help prevent sexual violence

While new federal regulations require that all incoming students in 2014-15 take an online educational course designed to inform and educate them about sexual violence, Fresno State took the extra step of making the training mandatory for all 23,138 students.

"We are committed to creating and sustaining a campus community free of sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, sex discrimination and sexual harassment," says University President Joseph I. Castro.

Campus organizers say the training also will help students become part of the solution to stop sexual assault. The CSU has also developed a sexual violence prevention course for faculty and staff in the system.



www.FresnoState.edu/itsonus

Fresno State seeks enrollment impaction status to help manage growth

Demand for admission to Fresno State is almost double the California State University average, and for the first time in history, Fresno State is seeking approval from CSU Chancellor Timothy White to modify the current campus enrollment plan to include impaction starting in the 2016-17 academic year.

"The CSU designates programs as impacted when more applications from regularly eligible applicants are received than can be accommodated," says Dr. Lynnette Zelezny, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"Candidates for admission must meet all of the campus' adjusted admission criteria."



The University proposed to implement impaction for all first-time freshmen and new upper division transfers. Impaction will include a variety of tools to manage enrollment.

"We believe that with impaction we will see an improved student academic profile and improved retention and graduation rates," says Dr. Frank Lamas, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management.

The proposed changes were discussed at three public hearings — two on campus and one in Visalia.

Justice Marvin Baxter honored with honorary doctorate and Medal of Distinction

California State Supreme Court Justice Marvin R. Baxter, a Fresno State alumnus, was presented the President's Medal of Distinction in recognition of his distinguished 47-year legal career.

The President's Medal of Distinction is the highest non-degree award presented by Fresno State. It is given to citizens whose professional achievements or public service are of national or international significance.

Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro presented the honor at a November dinner in Baxter's honor. More than 800 attended the event in downtown Fresno, including former Governor George Deukmejian. This May, Fresno State will also award Baxter an honorary doctorate upon authority from the CSU Board of Trustees.



Marvin R. Baxter

Howard K. Watkins

Students help empower neighborhoods with Alternative Spring Break

During spring break at Fresno State, 32 students decided to forgo faraway beaches and nightclubs for hard hats, power tools, solar panels, playgrounds and children's games.

From March 28 to April 2, the students completed two community service projects as part of Alternative Spring Break. They conducted a youth camp, facilitated family activities and worked on park and neighborhood beautification through the Every Neighborhood Partnership. And they installed solar panels on two homes through GRID Alternatives Central Valley to help low-income families save money on energy.

The students combined for more than 1,091 hours of service through the Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning and the University Student Union. Alternative Spring Break is designed to help students develop leadership skills through team building and communication, enhance their personal and professional development and foster networking with other students and community benefit organizations.



Student honors



Gavin Baird became the first Fresno State student to be awarded the prestigious Marshall Scholarship that will enable him to study in the United Kingdom next year. A Fresno native, Baird is a senior political science major and economics minor. The highly competitive Marshall Scholarship is a British government-financed program that selects scholars from across the United States to study in England and to serve as ambassadors for relations between the two countries. Baird, who was among the 31 Marshall Scholarship winners nationwide, will study international relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He said he plans to analyze political responses to mass migration.



Bryan L.L. Wood, a fourth-year civil engineering major at Fresno State, earned the William R. Hearst/California State University Trustees Award for Outstanding Achievement. The award is the highest recognition of student achievement in the CSU system, with one student named annually

from each of the 23 campuses. It honors a student who has demonstrated financial need, experienced personal hardships and modeled exemplary academic performance, community service and personal accomplishments. Wood, who attended Glacier High School Charter in Oakhurst, not only excels scholastically, but also in service. He volunteers by handing out food to underprivileged families and tutors fellow classmates.

National honors

Fresno State received national recognition in the past year for many of its initiatives and programs. Here are some examples.

President Barack Obama's **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll** recognized Fresno State in December for its community service and education service efforts. Last year, over 14,000 students, faculty and staff provided more than 1 million hours of service. It was the fifth consecutive year that Fresno State's annual volunteer hours topped 1 million.

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities spotlighted Fresno State's teacher training and employee development programs with awards for excellence and innovation. The **Christa McAuliffe Excellence in Teacher Education Award** was presented to Fresno State's Central Valley Partnership for Exemplary Education in the Kremen School for Education and Human Development. Coordinated by Dr. Colleen Torgerson, the partnership allows future teachers to take their credential courses onsite at an elementary school in the partner districts, giving them practical experience while they learn. Fresno State also received the **Leadership Development and Diversity Award** for developing an initiative with California State University campuses in Bakersfield and Northridge that provides leadership training for employees moving into administrative positions.



The Christa McAuliffe Excellence in Teacher Education Award

A
generation
of *firsts*



Changing the educational make-up of the region one graduate at a time

by Eddie Hughes

Ron Jenkins arrived on the Fresno State campus from Los Angeles in 1986 knowing he had an opportunity to change his life. His mother died when he was 2 years old. Two of his brothers had been murdered — one stabbed and the other shot. He met his biological father at 11 years old, but the relationship never blossomed.

Jenkins spent most of his childhood in foster care and at age 13 had thoughts of ending his life.

“I look back on it today, and I had one of the toughest childhoods one could imagine,” Jenkins says. “I broke down and asked God to save me and help me get out of the situation I was living in.”

Shortly after, Jenkins threw a ball through a neighborhood man’s window. The man, Harrel Burnett, asked him to work off the damage. From there, Jenkins says, he followed Burnett’s lead and learned responsibility.

Jenkins was a talented athlete and leveraged his football ability to go from Manuel Arts High School to East Los Angeles City College. That’s when Steve Mooshagian, an assistant coach at Fresno State at the time, started recruiting Jenkins.

“I watched him, and I liked him,” says Mooshagian, who played for the Bulldogs from 1980-81 and is remembered for scoring the first-ever touchdown in Bulldog Stadium. “He was a good character guy who was not in the best situation in his life. When I heard his story, I knew I was going to get this guy to Fresno State. And he never let us down.”

Jenkins earned a scholarship to Fresno State and became the only one of four biological siblings and five adopted siblings to earn a college degree.

Like Jenkins, 68 percent of Fresno State’s undergraduate students are classified as first-generation — the first in their immediate families to earn a four-year college degree. That’s almost 16,000 of the University’s 23,000 students.

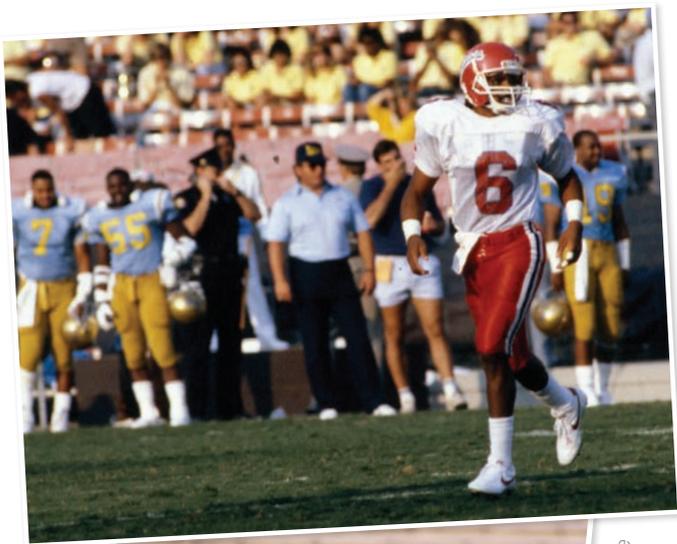
Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro, himself a first-generation college graduate, joined President Barack Obama at the White House College Opportunity Summit this past December. The summit focused on supporting colleges to work together to increase college completion, especially for first-generation, low-income and underrepresented students.

Fresno State provides resources and support for first-generation students through various programs and workshops like the CollegeNext! Bootcamp, offered in partnership with the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, to prepare high school juniors to apply for college, scholarships and financial aid.

A record \$196.2 million in financial aid was disbursed to Fresno State students in the 2014-2015 academic year.

Ron Jenkins, a first-generation Fresno State graduate, is now in his 23rd year working in corrections and rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system.

Continued



Against all *odds*

Jenkins' tale ended up a successful one. But more adversity followed when he arrived on campus. Two more of his brothers died — one fell three stories to his death after using drugs and another was shot to death. And one of his sisters went to prison.

On the football field, Jenkins, a 5-foot-10, 175-pound wide receiver, caught just four passes his junior year. Fresno State's head coach at the time, the late Jim Sweeney, called Jenkins into a year-end meeting.

"Coach Sweeney felt like I hadn't done the things I needed to do to be a Bulldogs-caliber receiver," Jenkins says. "I didn't like that he said that, but I knew he would never lie to a player and short-change Fresno State football."

Sweeney told Jenkins he wasn't good enough to be a starting receiver his senior year and that he would play on special teams instead.

Jenkins came out of the meeting with tears in his eyes. But Mooshagian, himself a former Bulldogs wide receiver, was there to boost him up.

"Ron was devastated," Mooshagian says. "I told him to focus on becoming the best player he can be, and if he does everything he's asked to do, he won't have a problem."

Jenkins was told he needed to get faster. "Coach Sweeney told me to earn the scholarship the University gave me and not settle for being just somebody on the team."

Jenkins sought the help of then-Fresno State track and field coach Bob Fraley to find drills and techniques to improve his speed and dedicated his summer to the workouts.

In 1987, Jenkins' senior season, he was all-conference and fourth in the nation with 76 catches and five touchdowns.

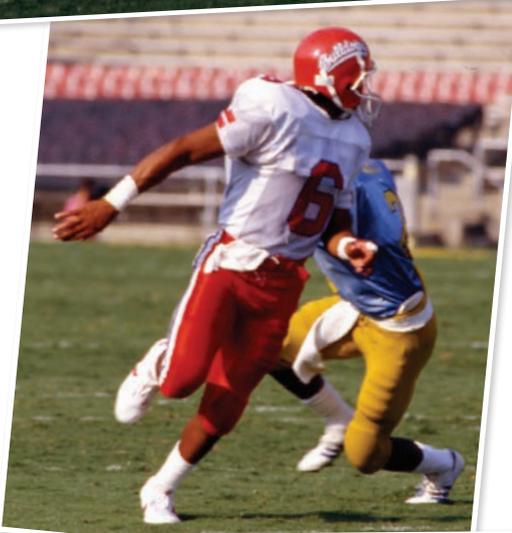
"This was the biggest accomplishment I had in terms of growing as a person," Jenkins says. "Enduring and proving myself was life-changing. It's the reason I am successful in life today."

Mooshagian says that it was typical of the life lessons taught by Sweeney. "Sweeney had psychological, motivational skills that also made you tough and have thick skin. To the day he died, Sweeney said Ron Jenkins was the most improved football player he'd ever seen."

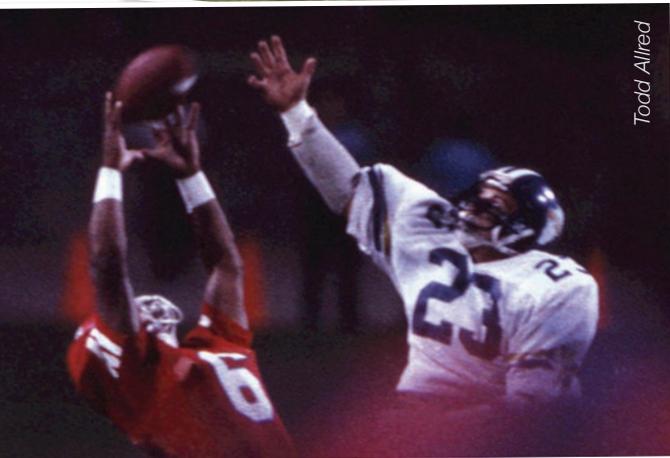
And he overcame adversity to find success in the classroom, too. Jenkins earned a bachelor's degree in social work and is now in his 23rd year working in corrections and rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system. He worked at the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Campus for three years before accepting a position in southern California. He now works at the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility.

"Our top goal at Fresno State is student success, and in our Central Valley that means providing opportunities for a large number of first-generation students," Castro says. "In turn, many of those students go on to graduate, get good jobs and transform the trajectory of their families."

And most of them directly impact the local economy by living and working in nearby communities. About 80 percent of Fresno State graduates stay and work in the Central Valley.



Stephen J. Pringle



Todd Allred



Cary Edmondson

Ron Jenkins and Steve Mooshagian (right).

One changed life leads to another

Carissa Phelps says she first ran away from an unhealthy home life at age 12. She became a victim of human trafficking and forced drug use and, at age 13, was sentenced to six months in Fresno County juvenile hall.

That's where Phelps, originally from Coalinga, met a young corrections counselor — Ron Jenkins.

"I was very quiet and had horribly low self-esteem," Phelps says. "I had been tortured and abused on the streets, and I went into juvenile hall expecting everyone to ignore all those facts, but Ron was different. He wanted to know why I was there, and he wanted to make sure I knew those things were not my fault. He asked me questions no one else had ever asked, in a really human way like, 'How'd you get here, what's your story?'"

Phelps says Jenkins encouraged her to start writing in a journal and helped her get into one-on-one therapy, counseling with her mother and group therapy with other girls with similar backgrounds. "It was life-changing," she says.

"He tried to connect me to all the people and things I needed, like a parent would do. He really cared. He told me I was smart, and that I had potential, and I believed him."

It worked. Phelps took a liking to algebra while she was in juvenile hall and ended up studying mathematics at Fresno State, where she graduated summa cum laude in 2002. She went on to earn a law degree and MBA from UCLA, and founded Runaway Girl, Inc., a business that creates a platform and employment opportunities for survivors of all forms of human trafficking.



Proud 'Dogs making a difference

What started with Mooshagian spotting a talented, young wide receiver in Los Angeles and bringing him to play for Sweeney at Fresno State has since trickled down to impact the lives of many. Jenkins encouraged Phelps to turn her life around, and now they're both touching the lives of young people in their communities daily.



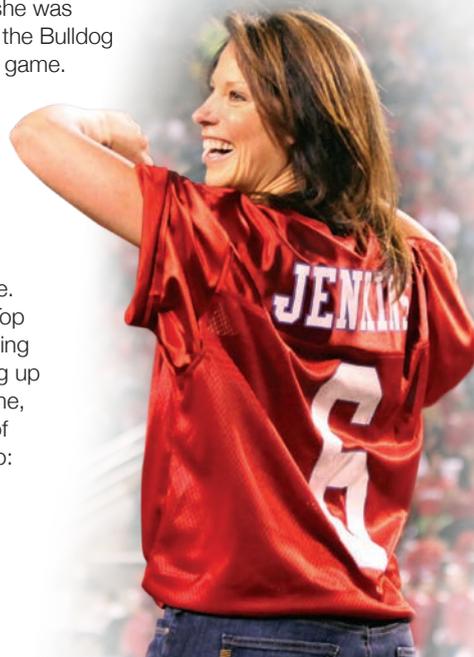
Phelps, who now lives on the Central Coast of California, wrote a book about her journey, "Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets, One Helping Hand at a Time," that was published in 2012, and she was featured in a short documentary film, "Carissa."

Through her triumphant and inspiring story, Phelps consistently shared her appreciation for Jenkins.

"His smile, his positivity, he wasn't ever negative or down on us," Phelps says. "A lot of people took a strict attitude with us, but Ron was approachable. He laughed with us, laughed at himself when he sang out of tune. He approached us all in a way that was not threatening. He was consistent like that with everybody, even his coworkers."

In 2013, when Phelps earned the Top Dog Alumni Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association, she was honored with other distinguished alumni on the Bulldog Stadium turf at halftime of the homecoming game. And there she stood, wearing Jenkins' old, Bulldog-red football jersey onto the field and pointing to the "JENKINS" name on the back for cameras.

"Being Top Dog was awesome, but I definitely feel like Ron was a top dog before me," Phelps says. "He's why I'm here. He paved the way. I expect him to get the Top Dog honor one day soon, but I know watching me receive it was the best gift for him. Living up to my potential was all he ever wanted for me, and I continue to strive for better because of that one statement he made to me long ago: 'You have potential.'"



"I believe Fresno State saved my life," Jenkins says. "Coach Sweeney talked a lot about setting the tone for others to have the self-esteem and confidence to move forward in life, and more importantly, to care enough about themselves to not get involved in negativity."

It's a similar message to the one Jenkins shared with Phelps and others in the juvenile justice system. And it's the type of lessons he preaches today as a volunteer assistant football coach at Ventura College, where Mooshagian is the head coach.

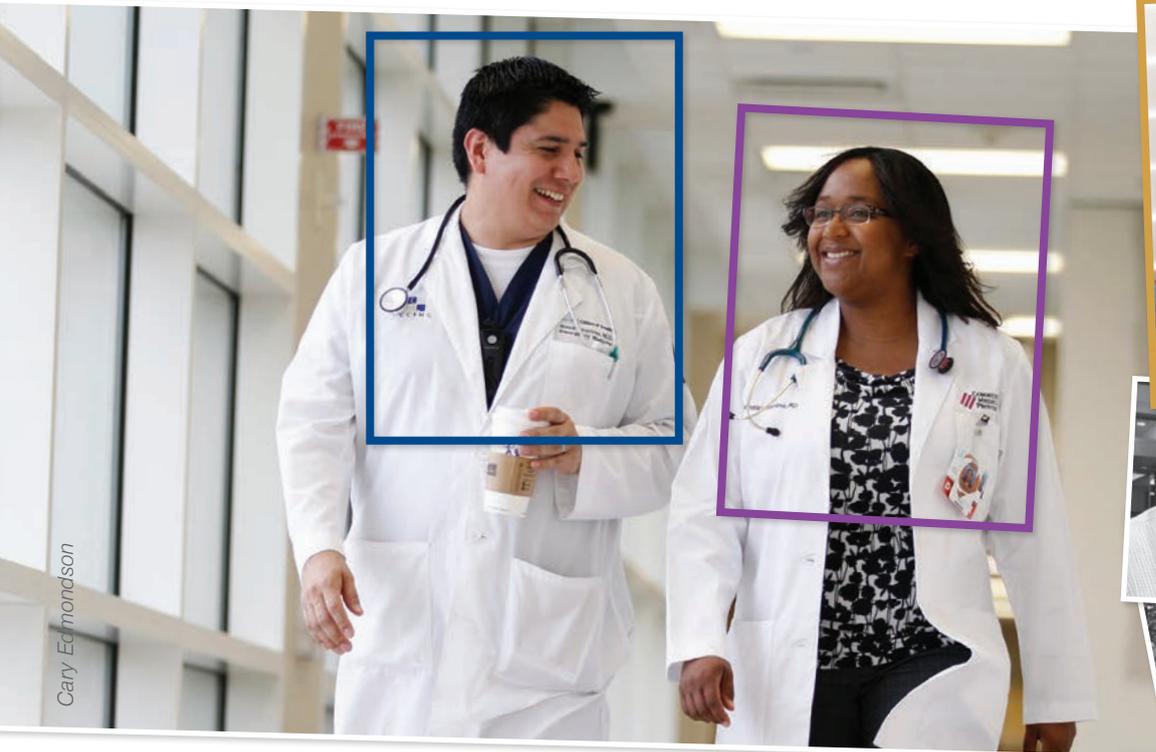
"Ron's story instantly turns heads when people hear what he had to go through," Mooshagian says. "Nobody had more of a reason to quit than he did, and he found a way to get it done. He fought through adversity numerous times in his life and never used it as an excuse. He found a way for it to motivate him."

"He made a choice to be different, and in this day and age it's hard to make that choice."

— Eddie Hughes is senior editor for FresnoState Magazine.

First-generation *Quotes and Notes*

Rene and Veronica Ramirez met in the marching band while entering their freshman year at Fresno State, and found out they had a lot in common. Both first-generation college students, both from small Central Valley towns and both with dreams to become doctors and give back to their communities. The couple graduated from Drexel Medical School and returned to the valley to practice medicine.



“The Health Careers Opportunity Program is the ideal peer mentoring network that has helped so many of us first-generation students make it into health careers. It was a place that felt like home, everyone could relate to each other and there was no judgment if you were struggling in academics. From mentoring, tutoring, advising, field trips and networking, there is no other program like it.”

Dr. Rene Ramirez

Hometown: Kerman

Degree: Molecular and cellular biology (2003)

Current job: Physician, for the UCSF Fresno Emergency Medicine Program at Community Regional Medical Center

“Coming from a small town and then entering college with a major and career goal that is extremely competitive was a tremendous challenge. My family was supportive 110 percent, but what they could tell me to guide me on how to become a doctor was limited. One significant challenge was I relied on financial aid to attend school. I found guidance through the Health Careers Opportunity Program at Fresno State.”

Dr. Veronica Araujo Ramirez

Hometown: Dinuba

Degree: Molecular and cellular biology (2003)

Current job: Physician for Community Medical Providers and fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics

“To young people who are facing obstacles, I urge you to set goals for yourself. Once you set those goals, push yourself to achieve them and don’t let anyone or anything sidetrack you. There will always be bad times, but it’s how a person responds to those bad times that will set them apart. Talk to other successful people and ask a lot of questions and listen carefully.”

Edson Barrantes

Hometown: Dos Palos

Degree: Mass communication and journalism-advertising (2007)

Current job: Local sales manager, CBS47



Felipe Barrientos teaches a welding class at Parlier High School.

"I was a child growing up in poverty from a family where girls didn't go to college or excel in school. I had a lot of odds stacked against me. I have to say, there were always people around me who cared and took special interest in making sure I was successful. Not all students got the same attention I did. I was lucky. This is why I went into education. I want to make sure no child gets left out."

Misty Her

Hometown: Fresno
Degree: Liberal studies (1998), Master's in education/administration (2003)
Current job: Instructional superintendent for Fresno Unified School District

Felipe Barrientos came to the United States from Chile with his family at 6 years old. He grew up thinking college wasn't an option, and when he earned acceptance into Fresno State, his parents' first question was, "How are you going to pay for it?" Barrientos got scholarships and loans and got creative — giving blood in exchange for a sandwich to spread over lunch and dinner and once camping outside a store to purchase a popular new video game system that he then sold on eBay for more than twice the money.

"Fresno State is the place where I changed my life around. Now it's about changing the family tree. My nephew is the next step. When he's in our home, college is the expectation. For me, it wasn't even a possibility — or so I thought."

Felipe Barrientos

Hometown: Valdivia, Chile
Degree: Agricultural education-animal science (2008)
Current job: Agricultural education teacher at Parlier High School

What's your story?



Tell us on Twitter [@FresnoState_Mag](https://twitter.com/FresnoState_Mag)



SHARING

the Bounty

by Kathleen Rhodes Schock

Fresno State tackles the growing problem of student food insecurity

Brenda Hartman is at home among the carefully stacked canned vegetables, crates of produce and loaves of bread that line the shelves of the Student Cupboard at Fresno State. She manages the operation with the efficiency of a grocer — except in her case the only payment she'll accept is a hug. "I get hugs on a daily basis," she says with a smile.

It's easy to see why. Since opening in November, the Student Cupboard has become far more than a food distribution center for students in need. Under Hartman's careful watch, students receive the food they need to sustain them, the knowledge of how to prepare it and encouragement from someone who understands firsthand the challenges they face.

Hartman has years of experience with food banks, both as a volunteer and as a recipient. After 25 years working as a veterinary technician, the single mother found herself unable to feed her three children. The support of food banks not only sustained her family, but it also inspired a new life mission. In addition to running the Student Cupboard, this 50-year-old is a full-time student at Fresno State and the first in her family to attend college. She expects to graduate next year with a bachelor's in health science and community health, but her ultimate goal is to earn a doctorate and write policy to address food insecurity.



"The faces of food-insecure people, you can't tell. You don't know who they are," she says. That is the case at Fresno State, where according to a recent study at least one in 10 students has uncertain access to safe or nutritionally adequate food.

"Students cannot reach their potential in the classroom if they are worried about where their next meal will come from," Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro said at the Student Cupboard launch in November. "That's why the issue of food security is so close to my heart."

Under Castro's leadership, the Student Cupboard is one of several initiatives that make up the Food Security Project at Fresno State. The program's coordinator, Jessica Medina, says universities across the nation have reached out to learn from Fresno State's model. "If we want to increase our graduation rates, this is one way to help. We need to give our students the resources they need."



(above and below) Student workers unpack a shipment and bag for distribution.

More than **900 students** visited the Student Cupboard in its **first three months of operation**. All students need to do is swipe an active student ID card, and they are welcome to take whatever they need, including helpful advice from Hartman. “My inspiration is to teach kids how to cook so they can take care of themselves,” she says. “I put meals together for them. For example, put these three cans together and you have soup, put everything in this bag together and you have breakfast.”

The Student Cupboard purchases food from the Community Food Bank in Fresno, but much of what fills the shelves is donated from the campus community. “We have one professor who brings us grapefruit out of her yard,” Hartman says. Interest in supporting the Student Cupboard is so strong, they stop distributions on Tuesday to give student volunteers an opportunity to help with cleaning, stocking and inventory. “We don’t allow students to volunteer during distribution because one of the biggest things we heard from food insecure students is they don’t want their peers to know they are in need,” Medina says.

It’s a feeling Hartman understands. “It’s embarrassing. It’s humiliating to voice that I can’t pay my bills. I don’t have enough gas to get to school. I have to choose between food and prescriptions. We hear it all the time, but these students aren’t alone. Not anymore.”

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

FOOD SECURITY PROJECT

Fresno State is taking a proactive approach to ensuring all students are food secure. Projects within the initiative include:

Student Cupboard:

Food and hygiene distribution center for students.

Meal Buxx:

Food vouchers that can be used at the University Dining Hall.

Catered Cupboard:

The University is developing a mobile app that will tell students when food is available at the conclusion of catered events.

Education and resources:

Workshops on money management, budget-friendly meals and other ways to educate students in need. The program also assists students who are food insecure to understand eligibility requirements for public assistance programs and other resources.

Good Samaritan Fund:

Provides one-time financial support for students who experience a misfortune or tragedy that could negatively impact their success.



Cary Edmondson

For more information about the Food Security Project or to donate to the Student Cupboard, contact Jessica Medina at jemedina@csufresno.edu or 559.278.0866.



ARNOLD FOUNDATION

FUNDS NEW PROGRAM FOR **VALLEY VETERANS** *by Susan Hawksworth*

Central Valley veterans will have new opportunities to earn undergraduate degrees at Fresno State thanks to a \$100,000 gift from the Red and Nancy Arnold Foundation.

The Veterans Education Program will launch its new Veterans Onboard program in the fall to help Valley veterans and current service members transition into higher education. The Arnold Foundation gift will help pay for instruction, technology, and other resources for veterans interested in attending Fresno State.

Dr. Daniel Bernard, director of the Veterans Education Program, says the program provides support for veterans transitioning from military life to an academic setting.

“It can be difficult for those in the military to adjust upon returning from active duty,” Bernard says. “They may feel isolated or feel like they don’t fit in to the college lifestyle. This cohort-based program continues the camaraderie found in the military and provides student veterans the complete college experience in an encouraging and welcoming environment.”



Cary Edmondson

Classes in the program are designed for honorably discharged veterans, active duty military members and national guard members or reservists. The program concentrates on oral and written communication, critical thinking, quantitative reasoning and lifelong learning. Two tracks will be available: one for first-year student veterans looking for a part-time course schedule and a second for those who wish to take additional advanced coursework.

The Arnold family has a long history of supporting veterans. Red Arnold’s bother, Pat, served in the U.S. Air Force.

“The Arnold Foundation was quick to embrace the vision of the Veterans Education Program,” says Dr. Scott Moore, Fresno State’s dean of the Division of Continuing and Global Education. “They are staunch supporters of veteran initiatives and have become a major partner with the University.”

The Veterans Education Program, located in the Lab School on campus, creates a sense of belonging for veterans by providing a lounge, study area, smart classroom and academic skill sets needed for successful careers. These resources are available to current Fresno State student veterans as well as to those who are currently service-connected.

★ For more information on the Veterans Onboard Program, visit ReturningVeteransEducation.com.

— Susan Hawksworth is program and marketing specialist for the Division of Continuing and Global Education at Fresno State.

A TASTE OF WALL STREET

↑ High-tech classroom makes day trading part of the curriculum

by Ashlie Day



Fresno State students are getting a taste of Wall Street with the new stock trading room in the Craig School of Business. The students manage a \$3 million portfolio for the Fresno State Foundation as part of the Student Managed Investment Fund program.

The trading room features dedicated terminals, big screen TVs and a live stock ticker. Dr. K.C. Chen, chair of the Finance and Business Law Department and adviser of the program, says he has wanted to see this project to fruition for many years.

“The trading room gives students a real-world experience they cannot get in a simulation exercise,” Chen says. “Learning the market takes time and being able to practice in real time is extremely beneficial for our students interested in managing investments and portfolios.”

Stephen Heinrichs, chair of the Foundation Investment Committee, says the Foundation is proud of the students and the returns they’ve generated for the fund.

“This fund, as well as the new trading room, is part of a long-term plan to enable the University to both attract quality students and faculty and to bring Fresno State a nationwide, premier reputation in terms of business education,” Heinrichs says.

**WELLS
FARGO**

The trading room, funded by a \$45,000 gift from Wells Fargo, is one of only four on-campus stock training labs in California.

“I love discussing the impact that different factors have on stock prices,” says senior finance student Renan de Lima. “As a finance major, you are trained to look into a company’s

financial health and industry information, but this course has shown me the importance of also keeping up with economic trends and world events.”

Dr. Robert Harper, dean of the Craig School, says he is grateful to Wells Fargo for providing students this learning opportunity.

Chen says the class currently manages three portfolios at Fresno State — including \$45,000 and \$140,000 portfolios — along with the Foundation’s \$3 million.

De Lima says the biggest challenge this semester has been stepping into the role of an actual asset manager and taking responsibility for the work that needs to be done.

“We have a fiduciary duty to act solely in the school’s best interest,” de Lima says. “But we are very fortunate to be led by Dr. K.C. Chen, who has a lot of knowledge and experience about the relationship between risk and return and how to apply different valuation models and techniques in the decision-making process.”

Chen says he would like the class to be extended to students in other majors in the future. “A lot of students do not even know how to balance their checkbooks, so I think giving all students the opportunity to succeed in the financial world will leave our economy in a better place.”

— Ashlie Day is a student news assistant in University Communications at Fresno State.

“Wells Fargo is proud to be part of this unique opportunity that gives Fresno State students real-time, hands-on experience that will give them a competitive edge. In the trading room they’ll be able to gain skills that will help them professionally, and can also help them personally succeed financially.”

SANDY RAGO
CENTRAL VALLEY PRESIDENT
WELLS FARGO

Poetry icon **Philip Levine** inspired thousands of student writers

by Jefferson Beavers

It would be easy to pay tribute to Mr. Philip Levine by listing his many accomplishments in poetry:

A year as United States poet laureate, a Pulitzer Prize, two National Book Awards, two Guggenheim Foundation fellowships, a Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets and many others.

But for Mr. Levine — the professor emeritus of English at Fresno State who died Feb. 14 from pancreatic cancer at age 87 — the list of accomplishments can only begin to describe his work.

Mr. Levine's poems often gave voice to the lives of working-class Americans. Born in Detroit to immigrant parents, he worked in factory jobs while attending high school. He was a first-generation college student, earning bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University.

His factory work deeply influenced his plainspoken poetry. Peter Everwine, a longtime friend and classmate of Mr. Levine's in the famed Iowa Writers' Workshop, says Levine loved for a poem to speak directly to the reader.

"He was sometimes very angry, very intense, which drew him toward social injustices and disparities," says Everwine, also a professor emeritus of English at Fresno State. "He had an immense sense of focus and form in his work."

Mr. Levine taught at Fresno State from 1958 to 1992. With Everwine and Chuck Hanzlicek, the three formed the pillars of the University's creative writing program, which in its earliest days produced such distinguished writers as Lawson Fusao Inada, Sherley Anne Williams, Gary Soto, Larry Levis and Luis Omar Salinas.

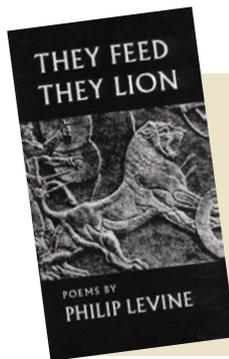
Students sought out Mr. Levine as a tough but well-respected teacher. Described by The New York Times as a "moral comedian," he loved to poke holes in authority, but he also nurtured young writers.

Kathy Fagan Grandinetti, a first-generation college student of Mr. Levine's who now teaches at The Ohio State University, says Mr. Levine was indeed tough. "He was also an incredibly inspiring and gentle teacher," she says. "As he said about his own mentor, John Berryman, he could somehow manage to devastate the student's poems without devastating the student's spirit."



Cary Edmondson

Brian Turner, another first-generation college student of Mr. Levine's who now directs the creative writing program at Sierra Nevada College, says Levine brought "great power, mystery, beauty and rage" into the language of both his poetry and his teaching. He acknowledges Mr. Levine's poem "They Feed The Lion" as a powerful influence on his own first book.



*Out of burlap sacks, out of bearing butter,
Out of black bean and wet slate bread,
Out of the acids of rage, the candor of tar,
Out of creosote, gasoline, drive shafts,
wooden dollies, **They Lion grow.***

"More than a decade [after taking Mr. Levine's class], I found myself in Iraq as an infantryman," Turner says. "At one point, I wrote the title poem of my first book, 'Here, Bullet,' back home. If you recite both poems out loud with their rhythmic drive, you'll hear the beat pulse of Phil's poem inside my own poem."

Such deep, lasting influence on the work of his students was the norm for Mr. Levine. Hanzlicek, also a professor emeritus of English at Fresno State, summed up Mr. Levine's legacy:

"It was a life well lived," Hanzlicek says. "In terms of his poetry, he accomplished everything he set out to do. And he did it with the sweat of his brow."

— Jefferson Beavers is a communication specialist for the MFA Program in Creative Writing at Fresno State.

Fresno State researcher hopes patents will lead to Alzheimer's treatment

by Eddie Hughes

Dr. Santanu Maitra first learned about Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases during his postdoctoral research in 1998. Unbeknownst to Maitra at the time, his mother Monika already was experiencing early symptoms of Alzheimer's. After earning his Ph.D. and completing postdoctoral research, he started a career in the pharmaceutical industry, and within the next couple years, Monika was diagnosed with the disease.

On Dec. 25, 2008, she died — just months after he had returned to the United States from a job in India and joined the Fresno State faculty. That same month, Maitra and his research partner, Dr. Nilay Patel of California State University, Fullerton, met in Los Angeles and initiated a research project they hoped would one day lead to a treatment to delay the onset of Alzheimer's.

Humans naturally produce a protein in their bodies known as apolipoprotein E (or apoE). It is believed that this protein, which can exist as apoE2, apoE3 and apoE4, has a close relationship with Alzheimer's. While the first two have been found to be protective, apoE4 has been widely stamped as the "bad" protein linked with the onset of Alzheimer's.

"Our original research has yielded compounds that can decrease the production of apoE in

brain cells," Maitra says. "Synthetic medicines, or drugs, are often made out of small organic compounds. Any drug discovery is a long-term, complex process; however, drug discovery can debut exactly how our research kicked off to arrive at the current findings."

The research, which yielded methods of inhibiting apoE expression by administering triaryl methyl amine compounds, was promising enough to lead to two patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with the help of Fresno State's intellectual property program.

"My collaborators and I are more than convinced that apoE regulation is the right path to follow," Maitra says. "I am absolutely certain that our research will help add many of the puzzle's pieces together to simplify or solve a major part of the mystery behind Alzheimer's disease."

Maitra is laser-focused on continuing the momentum of the research project. While he acknowledges that his mother's struggle with the disease has raised his passion for the cause, he says he's driven most by the opportunity to help alleviate general human suffering.

"I always wish the world could be a better place, with all humans getting along well, living healthy lives and caring for others," Maitra says.

Maitra says he hopes the general public becomes more aware of the research potential at Fresno State and the impact it can make in the community or the world. For his project, Maitra trained a team of graduate and undergraduate students who he says learned through repeated failures in the lab and continuous, hands-on efforts to correct problems.

"I often hear that Fresno State, or any CSU, is primarily an undergraduate student training and educational institution where research should not be given high priority. It is impossible to disconnect research from education," Maitra says. "Research exposure often inspires an otherwise unassuming student into an elevated academic path that she or he had never even considered."

Dr. Santanu Maitra meets with research students in his lab.



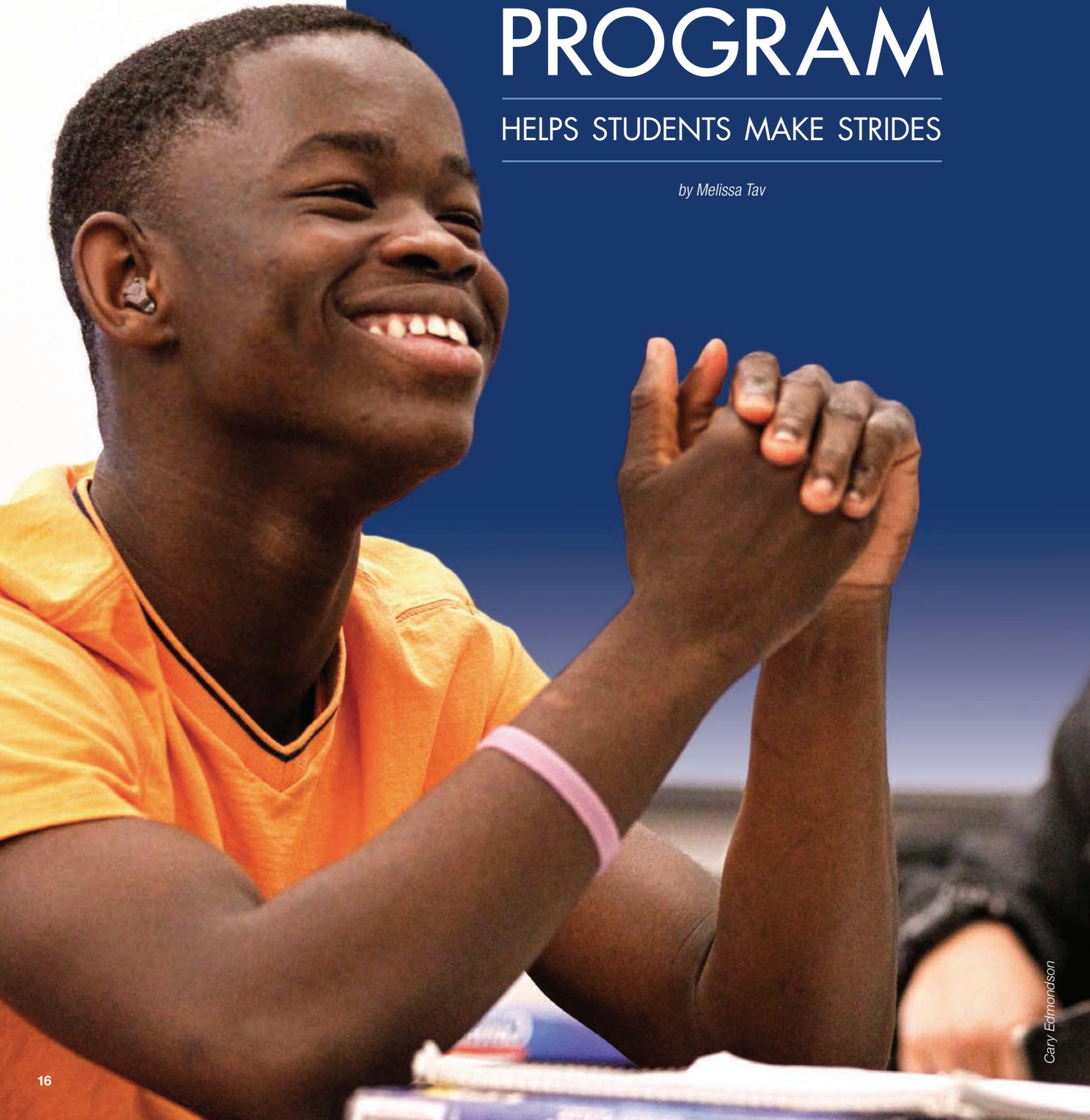
*“Having an interpreter
changed my life. Now
I am able to learn just
like everyone else.”*

EMMANUEL AKANDE

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING PROGRAM

HELPS STUDENTS MAKE STRIDES

by Melissa Tav



Cary Edmondson

A bright and inquisitive smile flashes across the face of 17-year-old Emmanuel Akande. He sits near Sophie Powell, his interpreter intern, toward the front of his classroom at Buchanan High School. Akande is hard of hearing. And on this day, he bounces with excitement as he tells Powell about his upcoming class at the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART).

The happy-go-lucky kid sitting in the classroom is a stark contrast from the student he was just seven years ago. At the time, he did not have an interpreter at his school. He felt hopeless and isolated — a victim of an educational system that lacked certified sign language interpreters.

Today is a different story. Akande is thriving and has dreams of one day working in the medical field.

“Having an interpreter changed my life,” Akande says. “Now I am able to learn just like everyone else.”

Like many hard of hearing or deaf students, Akande requires an interpreter for certain classes, such as lectures. A qualified interpreter who is able to teach the lessons and accurately interpret what the teacher is saying is paramount for students who might have difficulty understanding more complex subjects like math or science.

Up until fifth grade, Akande did not have an interpreter, but that all changed when he transferred to the Clovis Unified School District.

Powell, a senior from Fontana, chose to enroll at Fresno State because it is one of only two, four-year interpreting programs in California. The 2013 California Special Education Personnel Data Report indicates that about 118 educational interpreting support jobs are currently vacant, and about 7 percent of interpreters do not meet state qualification standards.



Sophie Powell,
Fresno State
interpreter intern



Sandra Hart, interpreting coordinator for Clovis Unified, says the Fresno State sign language interpreting program addresses a major need for qualified interpreters in the Central Valley.

There are currently 28 students throughout Clovis Unified who require an interpreter or signing aide.



“Eight years ago, we started accepting interns from Fresno State and realized it was the perfect way to meet up-and-coming interpreters,” Hart says. “We’ve been able to hire them once they graduate because they come in with a better understanding of the educational setting, which is so important.”

Hart said out of the 18 interpreters in Clovis Unified, 13 are alumni of Fresno State.

The Fresno State interpreting program was developed in 2002 to address the growing need of providing communication access for individuals who are hard of hearing or deaf. Between 10 and 20 students per semester are placed in internships around the Central Valley, including school, religious, deaf, blind and community settings. Each student is required to complete a minimum of 150 internship hours to earn a bachelor’s degree in interpreting.

“Interpreters have an important role in educational settings, because they facilitate communication, advocate for students and serve as language models who can provide a vital contribution to the cognitive, social and emotional development of deaf youth, whose needs are often underserved,” says Dr. Peter Crume, coordinator of the Fresno State interpreting program.

Through the program, each intern is paired with a certified interpreter who serves as a mentor. In May 2014, 16 students graduated from the interpreting program and are now working in the Central Valley.

“While interpreters certainly enhance the communication access for deaf individuals, interpreters also provide Valley residents with greater access to the deaf community,” Crume says.

Across campus at Garfield Elementary, first-graders Jazlene Jimenez and Hailey Baroni (pictured above) learn about shapes in Mrs. Gutierrez’s first-grade classroom as intern Courtney Dull, of Fresno, signs to them near the front of the class. Not far from Dull is Michelle Tindall, a Clovis Unified interpreter who serves as her mentor.

Tindall has been an interpreter for the past two years and is also a product of Fresno State, having graduated in 2012. She says the program prepared her for the workforce.

“The program is really beneficial in allowing students the hands-on experience needed,” Tindall says. “Without that experience of coming into the classroom and actually getting to interpret in that setting, you would miss out on so much in terms of learning the importance of skills and interaction.”

As for Akande, when he’s not writing songs or poems, he is dreaming of his future. The senior will graduate in June and has hopes of going to college in New York. It’s a dream that would not be fathomable without the proper interpreting resources that aided his education.

“My interpreters always encouraged me to pursue my future goals,” Akande says. “Now I’m so excited to see where I will go. It feels fantastic.”

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



FRESNO STATE WINERY — JOIN THE CLUB

by Jodi Raley

With more than 22 varietals per harvest, the Fresno State Winery offers a selection of classic favorites and emerging blends — all produced by Fresno State viticulture and enology students.

Fresno State's new Art and Science wines include a blended white wine, Abstract Theory, and two blended red wines, Pythagorean's Serum and Depth Perception.

The wines were exclusively introduced to members of Fresno State's Unleashed Wine Club. Members can receive a selection of four bottles of wine, handpicked by the University winemaker, distributed three times a year, in February, May and October. Each shipment ranges from \$40 to \$50.

Along with exclusive tastes and releases of wines, **members receive a 20 percent discount on wine purchases online or at the Rue and Gwen Gibson Farm Market.** The club also hosts several events, including the bi-annual Winemakers Dinner.

"The Unleashed Wine Club is a learning-based club, as well as an exploration opportunity," says Kevin Smith, business and marketing manager of the Fresno State Winery. Smith says the wine club is an integral research tool for the University to explore single varietal wines that can do well with the heat of the San Joaquin Valley.

Rolling out in spring 2015 will be an entry-level wine club named Rootstocks. Through a single purchase of three or more Fresno State wines, customers are enrolled in the club and do not have to pay membership after the initial purchase. Members will receive a 10 percent discount on wine purchases at the Gibson Farm Market and online.

In 1997, Fresno State became the first university in the United States to have a commercially-bonded winery on campus.

Dr. Herzig shares easy tips on eating more fruits and vegetables

by Kathleen Rhodes Schock



We all know that fruits and vegetables are good for us, but it takes an expert on nutrition to explain why. To get the lowdown on healthy eating during the summer months, FresnoState Magazine sat down with Dr. Lisa Herzig, assistant professor of dietetics in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition at Fresno State.

FresnoState Magazine: Why are fruits and vegetables important?

Dr. Herzig: Along with the many different nutrients, meaning vitamins, minerals, fiber and of course calories, vegetables and fruits also provide high water content. Part of our hydration needs, which are especially important here in the Central Valley during the dry summer months, can be met through eating fruits and vegetables like cucumbers, tomatoes and cantaloupe. Fruits and vegetables also provide phytochemicals that help protect against free radical damage, which changes the structure of our cells. In the long term, this helps to protect against cancer. Vitamins found in fruits and vegetables also help to protect our skin, eyes, organs, brain function and energy production.

FSM: What percentage of our diet should be made up of fruits and vegetables?

Dr. Herzig: The Healthy Plate guidelines say that half of our plate should be fruits and vegetables. An easy way to think about the rest of the plate is a fist-size portion of starches and a fist-size portion of protein.

FSM: Do you have any tips on new ways to incorporate more fruits and vegetables into our diet?

Dr. Herzig: Add more vegetables to your soups, casseroles and pasta dishes. Add a lean protein and grain to your salad to make it a main dish. We always suggest eating within season, which is easy this time of year because such a wide variety of produce is available. If you shop at a farmers market, ask the grower for a sample. It's a great way to discover something new. Another tip is to draw inspiration from the many ethnic groups represented in the Valley. In Indian culture, they will add cucumber and tomato to yogurt. In the Hispanic culture, they serve jicama, pineapple and cucumber with lemon or lime juice and chili pepper. There's lots to explore.



APRIL WINE OF THE MONTH!

Purchase three bottles or more of the Pinot Gris for \$6 per bottle!
Only \$5 to ship your order anywhere in California.
(flat rate good for up to six bottles)

HEALTHY SPRING RECIPE

Red Wave Quinoa Salad



Cary Edmondson

INGREDIENTS

1 cup uncooked red quinoa
 1/3 cup Fresno State olive oil
 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
 1/2 cup red onion, diced
 1 teaspoon garlic, diced
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
 2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
 1/2 cup cucumber, diced
 3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano
 1 cup cooked edamame
 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese
 Lemon

DIRECTIONS

- 1** Cook quinoa according to package directions, omitting salt and fat. Drain and place in a large bowl and allow to cool up to an hour.
- 2** While quinoa cools, combine oil and next six ingredients (through pepper) in a small bowl, stirring with a whisk.
- 3** Add dressing, tomato and next five ingredients (through edamame) to quinoa; toss well. Add cheese, a squeeze of lemon juice and toss gently.

Serve with a well-chilled glass of Fresno State 2012 Pinot Gris. According to Kevin Smith, Fresno State Winery business and marketing manager, "It's light and refreshing and would swirl the flavors of the salad throughout the palate. The lemon essence in the wine nicely complements the mint and oregano."



COMING FULL CIRCLE

ALUMNI

establish scholarship fund TO SUPPORT THE NEXT GENERATION OF STUDENTS

..... by Kathleen Rhodes Schock

Walking the Fresno State campus, Jose and Clara Plascencia see a lot of themselves in today's students. Both raised in rural Central Valley communities by families without the means to fund a college education, Jose and Clara defied the odds.

Jose, a first-generation college student, says that it was work — not school — that was expected of him after graduating from Oroshi High School. Clara says her academic performance at Porterville High School limited her options to community college.

"With our backgrounds, we know the challenges that many students face," Jose says.

But the couple also knows the success that's possible by staying the course.

An MBA from Fresno State propelled Jose to his role as a general manager in the insurance and travel industry, and a bachelor's in molecular and cellular biology with a minor in chemistry from Fresno State is the foundation of Clara's work in pharmaceutical research and development focusing on life-saving oncology medications. "I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for Fresno State, so now we are giving back," Jose says.

The couple recently donated \$25,000 to establish the Jose and Clara Plascencia Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will award scholarships for graduates of Oroshi or Porterville high schools who have declared majors within the Craig School of Business or the College of Science and Mathematics.

"It feels amazing to be in a position to set something like this up," Clara says. "This is the University I had to fight to even qualify to attend. So for me to come full circle, it's a great source of pride."

Like many students, Clara transferred to Fresno State from a community college and worked full time as a cook in Yosemite while attending classes. "I would work and go to school, then during the summer make as much money as I could to save up for tuition and books. Luckily, tuition and books were much less then."

By working while going to school, both were able to graduate without debt, an achievement they admit is difficult for students today. "We know that it is a tremendous challenge for any student because of the tuition they face," Jose says. "So when the idea of an endowment came around, directed toward students with similar backgrounds as ours, we knew it was just the right thing to do."

With a young family to support (they are parents to 9-year-old Benjamin and 6-year-old Samuel), the Plascencias admit they do not fit the typical profile of a university philanthropist, but they call on more alumni in their position to find ways to support the University that helped launch their success.

"We're just giddy," Jose says of the experience of giving. "Having the ability to give back brings us an incredible amount of joy."



Honoring a home-grown

HERO

Alumnus, entrepreneur and philanthropist Dr. Earl Smittcamp dies at 96

by Kathleen Rhodes Schock

Local rancher Dr. Earl Smittcamp passed away in his sleep in October at age 96. A proud Fresno State alumnus, Dr. Smittcamp grew a 200-acre orchard into one of the region's most successful agribusiness enterprises and used his success to elevate the community while supporting generations of Fresno State students and alumni.

Born in 1918 and raised in Fresno County, Dr. Smittcamp earned a bachelor's degree from Fresno State in 1939. He often said his education at Fresno State rivaled that of any Ivy League school. While studying at Fresno State, Dr. Smittcamp met his wife, Muriel. Together they would become two of the region's most generous philanthropists.

"Earl Smittcamp was a man of great character, strength and wisdom," says Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro. "He loved his family and his community."

As owner and operator of Wawona Orchards and Wawona Frozen Foods, Dr. Smittcamp oversaw the production and processing of fresh and frozen foods through a multimillion-dollar Clovis-based business that his family carries on today.



In 1997, the Smittcamps gifted Fresno State land and cash valued at \$2 million to establish the Smittcamp Family Honors College and the Smittcamp Alumni House. At the time, it was the fourth largest gift in the University's history.

Smittcamp Family Honors College students receive full four-year scholarships for tuition and housing.

Since 1998, the Smittcamp Family Honors College has admitted 875 students.



"Earl and Muriel Smittcamp touched countless lives in the Valley and beyond, and changed them forever in the most positive way," says Dr. Saeed Attar, director of the Smittcamp Family Honors College.

When the Smittcamp Alumni House opened in March 2000, it was viewed as the finest alumni house in the CSU system. "Building the Smittcamp Alumni House was a defining moment in the Fresno State Alumni Association's 100-year history," says Jacquelyn Glasener, director of the Alumni Association. "The transformation it created for the Alumni Association has been remarkable to this day."



Earl and Muriel Smittcamp

Dr. Smittcamp received an honorary doctorate from Fresno State in 1995 in recognition of his business accomplishments and his service to the University, which included chairmanships of the Agricultural Foundation Board of Governors, the President's Advisory Board and the University Foundation Board of Governors.

Dr. Smittcamp lost his wife, Muriel, in 2009. He is survived by their four children, Robert Smittcamp, Carol Copeland, Betsy Kimball and William Smittcamp, who now serves as president and CEO of Wawona Frozen Foods.

"It would be impossible to quantify the enormity of Earl and Muriel's impact not only here at Fresno State, but also throughout the entire region," Castro says. "They and their children have left a lasting legacy that will touch countless lives in the present, as well as for generations ahead."



FRESNO STATE FOUNDATION 2013-14 ANNUAL REPORT

The mission of the Fresno State Foundation is to advance the University's strategic objectives by encouraging philanthropy, inspiring leadership and promoting fiscal accountability.

At a glance

Gift total in dollars — **\$35,880,427**
 Number of gifts — **8358**
 New endowments — **19**

Foundation Gifts

Alumni — **\$3,810,119**
 Parents — **\$51,169**
 Other individuals — **\$4,730,196**
 Foundations — **\$25,231,506**
 Corporations — **\$1,985,406**
 Other organizations — **\$72,029**

Source: Advance (University Development)

McGarry loans back student success, community service

In the face of financial challenges that can potentially keep students from graduating or plunge them into deep debt, the Mary E. McGarry Student Loan Program, managed by the California State University, Fresno Foundation, provides the means to cultivate academic achievement and community service.

Jason Oh of Fresno and Joseph Zamora of Merced serve as two examples of how the McGarry program has positively impacted students in the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and Craig School of Business. During the 2013-14 academic year, McGarry loan recipients (18 in the fall semester, 24 in the spring) performed more than 1,000 hours of service worth more than \$22,500 to community organizations.

The loan fund was established with an endowment from the estate of Mary Elizabeth McGarry, whose family farmed 100 acres at what is now the Sierra Vista Mall at Clovis and Shaw avenues in Clovis.

For decades, Mary and her sister Carmelita McGarry, both teachers who lived in Fresno, attended Clovis Planning Commission and City Council meetings. Today, Mary's legacy of educational and civic engagement lives on in the lives of Fresno State students who benefit from her generosity and in the organizations touched by the students' service work.



One McGarry student loan recipient is Joseph Zamora, whose father's death forced him out of school and into the workforce as a child. He started a family early, too. While his peers were in college,

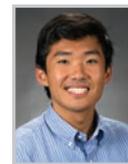
Zamora was struggling to provide for his wife, three children, his mom and an older brother who had severe health issues.

Fortunately, Zamora's work inspired a passion for electronics, information systems and computer networking. With this newfound career interest, Zamora (in his 30s), heeded the advice and encouragement of Merced College instructor Bill Walls. Says Zamora, "He said if I wanted to work in trouble shooting technology, I needed to get an AA (Associate of Arts) in electronics and computer networking."

With this directive, Zamora enrolled at Merced College as a re-entry student. He was active in community service, too, as the hands-on "tech support" for a homeless shelter. Through these experiences, Zamora discovered latent teaching skills as a counselor with Building Healthy Communities and as a youth baseball coach.

After graduating from Merced College in 2011, Zamora chose Fresno State for its industrial technology program and because of the McGarry loan program. "I didn't always have cash with me for new tires or other emergencies, but I knew my school expenses were covered," he says.

Zamora graduated in May 2014, but he is not done. With the support of the McGarry loan fund, Zamora is pursuing a credential to teach industrial technology as part of the nation's focus on science, technology, engineering and math.



Jason Oh, a junior agricultural business major set on a law or finance career, heard about the McGarry program while working at P-R Farms Inc. in Clovis.

Oh sought more work hours because he "was suffocating financially, trying to pay for school, books and personal expenses."

"With the aid of the McGarry loan, I was able to channel my energy toward other opportunities academically, personally and financially," Oh stated.

In fact, Oh added units to accelerate his graduation, maintained a 4.0 GPA and gained time to participate in student government, clubs, athletic events and community service.

"I had the pleasure to work with P-R Farms Inc. packing and distributing fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables to nonprofit food banks and distribution sites to help fight hunger," says Oh, who also tutored children and went to Fiji on a Fresno State service mission.

"The McGarry fund has given me a new perspective on the importance of service. The value that I would place on this fund is priceless," he says. "It has opened new doors and allowed me to engage and benefit from all aspects of the college experience — from academic achievement to career exploration to philanthropy."

Condensed Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

	6/30/2014	6/30/2013
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$51,197,825	\$45,999,452
Grants and Contracts Receivable	\$5,166,397	\$6,547,788
Pledges Receivable	\$5,784,740	\$7,340,144
Other Receivables and Prepaids	\$7,882,046	\$6,611,877
Long-term Investments, at market	\$142,636,694	\$126,409,700
Land and Improvements	\$520,563	\$520,563
Fixed Assets less accumulated depreciation	\$145,022	\$142,388
TOTAL ASSETS	\$213,333,287	\$193,571,912

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	\$7,105,601	\$7,929,487
Long-term Liabilities	\$4,786,574	\$4,262,662
Net Assets	\$201,441,112	\$181,379,763
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$213,333,287	\$193,571,912

REVENUE

Gifts	\$12,560,782	\$10,259,862
Net Investment Return	\$20,660,413	\$14,922,496
Indirect Cost Recovery	\$2,306,432	\$2,474,659
Endowment Administrative Fee	\$1,561,000	\$1,423,000
Gift Assessment Fees	\$327,029	\$567,642
Trust Account Handling Fees	\$365,919	\$313,839
Other	\$11,665	\$70,021
TOTAL REVENUE	\$37,793,240	\$30,031,519

EXPENSES

Distributions to Fresno State	\$8,450,748	\$7,565,146
Other University Support	\$6,919,551	\$8,318,438
Management and General	\$2,360,375	\$2,481,531
Other	\$1,217	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,731,891	\$18,365,115

Change in Net Assets	\$20,061,349	\$11,666,404
Beginning Net Assets	\$181,379,763	\$169,713,359
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$201,441,112	\$181,379,763

Note: The Foundation's Form 990 and Audited Financial Statements are available at:
www.auxiliary.com/foundation/Foundation-publicdocs.html

Foundation Stewardship Enhances University's Mission

The California State University, Fresno Foundation distributed a record \$8.45 million to the University in 2014-15, an increase of \$886,000 over the previous year. This included an allocation of \$600,000 to help fund student grants for the launch of Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro's tablet initiative, DISCOVERe, at the start of the academic year.



Endowment Growth (In Millions)



Foundation Support to Fresno State



Philanthropy Transforms the University for the Future

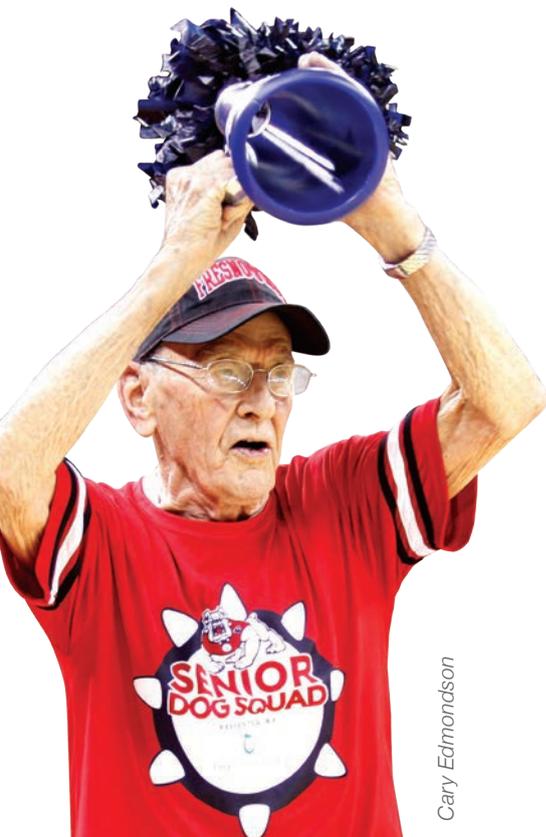
Thank you to all donors who have given generously to Fresno State.
 For the 2013-14 Donor Honor Roll, please visit www.FresnoState.edu/advancement/giving/whygive.

Moving and grooving with the Senior Dog Squad

by Ashlie Day



It's just before halftime at the Fresno State men's basketball game against Wyoming. There are more than 8,000 fans in attendance as the Senior Dog Squad prepares for its first performance in the Save Mart Center, and anxiety is high — sweaty palms, racing hearts and tingling legs.



Cary Edmondson

The Senior Dog Squad includes senior citizens ages 80 to 91 who reside at the Terraces at San Joaquin Gardens, a continuing care retirement community in Fresno. Taught by members of the Fresno State spirit squad and coached by Susan Bethel, director of resident services at The Terraces, this team of 16 is reinventing the meaning of senior.

"When you are a senior, it doesn't mean you need to be in a rocking chair on the front porch or lying in a hospital bed watching TV," Bethel says.

The squad has performed routines to songs by the Beach Boys, Taylor Swift and Pharrell Williams.

The idea for the Senior Dog Squad came in June when Mike Maiorana, senior account executive for Bulldog Sports Properties, saw a YouTube video of a similar group, Swingin' Seniors, performing at a Chicago Bulls game. Maiorana then approached The Terraces and proposed a partnership to engage the community.

"I thought, what better way to show the Fresno community what successful aging looks like than to have our seniors get out there and dance right alongside these college students?" says Jessica Lopez, director at The Terraces. "That has really been our goal behind our partnership with Fresno State."

The squad's confidence has grown with each performance. The seniors first performed at a Fresno State football game against San Jose State in October and again at a football game against Hawaii in November — in front of crowds of 36,000 and 32,000 — before January and February performances at the Save Mart Center.



The Senior Dog Squad practiced weekly for its performances with the Fresno State cheer team.

"The progression I have seen from the first performance in October to now has just been phenomenal and a joy to watch," Bethel says. "At first the residents felt like these were just cute, young girls who could move and they couldn't. But now they give them a run for their money, and I have a bunch of hams."

Practicing for at least one hour per week on their own, members of the Senior Dog Squad learned two different routines.

"Being president of our resident council, I felt like I was kind of obligated to model the importance of getting involved, even though I wasn't sure if I could physically do it," says 84-year-old squad member Jean Parret. "But it has just been so exciting, and I just do what I can, but it is all about having fun."

Morgan Sumner, a sophomore and first-year dancer on the Fresno State spirit squad, volunteered to teach the Senior Dog Squad because she thought it was a great opportunity to work with a different age group.



"We usually target young kids when we teach, but this was really cool because they all sort of became like our grandparents and would give us hugs when we came and asked us how school was going," Sumner says.

A few of the newer residents at The Terraces joined the Senior Dog Squad to try something new and meet people. Now, Bethel says, "you see them eating dinner together and socializing. It is just so rewarding to watch the camaraderie that has developed."

Lopez sees this partnership and the Senior Dog Squad continuing in the future. "I think once you're a Bulldog, you're a Bulldog for life, and a lot of our residents are alumni, former faculty or they just have a heart for Fresno State," she says. "So, for me, this is family and this is them showing their pride and their enthusiasm for Fresno."

Parret says, "The best part for me and a lot of residents was getting acquainted with the spirit squad girls, because I'm a hugger and just can't wait to see them every time. And I know maybe some of them haven't had a grandparent in their lives, so it has just been fun making them feel welcome. I guess you can still teach some old 'Dogs new tricks."



VIDEO

For more of the Senior Dog Squad interview, visit www.youtube.com/fresnostate

HERREN

RETURNS TO **FRESNO**, REFLECTS

MESSAGE OF HOPE



by Eddie Hughes

Chris Herren walked into the Save Mart Center for the first time, marveling at its size, but mentally traveling back to his Fresno State playing days at Selland Arena. He drifted off by himself and roamed around the court — silently — in a clockwise motion. For a moment, it appeared as if he forgot anyone was watching. He looked at some of the familiar names on the backs of the courtside seats. He spun and took a cell phone photo of the massive Bulldogs logo at midcourt. And then he smiled.

“Fresno is a home to me,” Herren says with his thick, Bostonian accent. “It’s hard to put into words the emotional connection that I have. When I walked in here, I envisioned the human tunnel, running around the court, the two ladies that used to sit right behind the bench and all the people who came out to Selland Arena every night we played and cheered. But I also remember coming back from treatment. I remember everybody standing up for me and supporting me.”

Herren has been through a lot since he played his final game for Fresno State in 1999. He was drafted in the second round by the Denver Nuggets, traded to the Boston Celtics and played professionally in numerous countries overseas — all while battling a substance abuse problem that nearly killed him and tore his family apart.

His story is well documented. His recovery generated an avalanche of momentum after a 2011 ESPN “30 for 30” documentary titled “Unguarded” and a book titled “Basketball Junkie” chronicled Herren’s darkest battles and biggest triumphs.

Herren now makes about 250 public speaking appearances a year to talk to children about prevention and to adults about redemption and recovery. And in 2011 he started the nonprofit Herren Project and Project Purple to help families in need find affordable treatment and to educate children on standing up against substance abuse.

Herren returned to the Fresno State campus in February, on his way to a sold-out speaking engagement at Buchanan High School in Clovis, to share his experiences with FresnoState Magazine readers.

“I’m a recovering heroin addict,” Herren says. “I’m 6 1/2 years sober. I’m a father, a husband. I’m a proud Fresno State Bulldog. And I live one day at a time, so I can’t tell you where I’m going.”

But he can talk about where he’s been. Herren isn’t bashful about sharing each jarring detail of his path to recovery, being open and honest to relate to his audience, which included the current Fresno State team. For college and high school students in particular, he says there’s a fine line between partying and taking it too far.

“I ask every kid to just ask themselves, ‘Why?’ Why on Friday and Saturday nights do you have to change yourself? I always admired the people who didn’t.”

Herren has lived life under a spotlight since age 17, when a book, “Fall River Dreams,” profiled the highly-recruited high school All-American from Durfee High School in Massachusetts.

Herren signed with nearby Boston College and was featured in Sports Illustrated before getting injured his first game and eventually being dismissed after failing a drug test. He rebounded at Fresno State after being offered a second chance from then-coach Jerry Tarkanian — and he instantly led the team in passion, flair and charisma. A spread in Rolling Stone soon followed.

Herren’s junior year, he held a tear-filled press conference that aired on national TV to announce he had “slipped up” and was entering a rehab facility in the middle of the 1997-98 season.

“It’s emotional for me, it really is,” Herren says about visiting campus. “A lot of people gave me all they could at a very difficult moment in my life here. When I think of Fresno, I think of the families that never left my side. It’s a very forgiving place.”

Herren’s Bulldogs, under Tarkanian, were talented enough to beat anyone in the country on a given night. Though, with off-the-court distractions, they never reached their full potential.

“It’s one thing to say sorry,” Herren says. “It’s another thing to show people that you’re sorry. And coming back here 6 1/2 years later, it’s an amends for me. It’s a way to say how grateful I am for this community and for Fresno State, for the basketball program.

“I let the community down in critical moments. Albeit that I had an illness that I was really struggling with, it was a letdown, and I should have, or wish I could have, been there.”

Herren is there now, determined to share his story with anyone who will listen in hopes his message will resonate with at least one person each time he tells it.

“I’m here to help people who are struggling, families who are struggling,” Herren says.

“What’s sad about addiction is that we often look down on the addict, and we forget the family that’s trying to pick him up. We step over them on the street, and we forget about the family who has to drive by and watch him laying there. It’s a family illness, and that’s why if you can help one, you’ve helped so many. That’s why I do what I do today.”



VIDEO

For more of Herren’s interview, visit www.youtube.com/fresnostate

For more information on treatment options, or to find out how you can help, visit theherrenproject.org or thprojectpurple.org.

“His message, having played here and with some of the experiences he’s had, we can talk a lot about it as coaches but to have a guy come in and reinforce that who had a chance to live it, you can’t put a price tag on the value of that.”

RODNEY TERRY

Fresno State
basketball coach

FRESNO STATE MOURNS PASSING OF HALL OF FAME COACH, ALUMNUS TARKANIAN

by Eddie Hughes

“Coach Tark made such an impact on me and the city of Fresno. He gave all of us who grew up on the West side of Fresno hope that we can make it out of our situation. He taught me how to bring the best out of those around me and how to make them feel good about themselves through difficult situations. I believe his biggest gift was simplifying whatever he was trying to communicate. My favorite saying of his was, ‘Why do a bunch of things good when you can do a few things great?’”

DEMETRIUS PORTER
former Fresno State guard

Hall of Fame basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian, a Fresno State alumnus, passed away Feb. 11 at a Las Vegas-area hospital with his family by his side. He was 84.

“Coach Tark, my father, the greatest man I have ever known, passed today to take his place in heaven. I will miss him every day of my life,” son Danny Tarkanian wrote on Twitter that morning. Danny played for his father at UNLV and coached under him for seven seasons at Fresno State.

Mr. Tarkanian is survived by his wife, Lois (*also a Fresno State graduate*), four children and seven grandchildren. The family attended a public memorial for Mr. Tarkanian at the Save Mart Center on Feb. 27.

Mr. Tarkanian earned national acclaim coaching UNLV to four appearances in the NCAA Final Four, including a national championship in 1990.

He played at Fresno State in 1954-55 and coached for the Bulldogs from 1995-2002 before retiring. He led the Bulldogs to six consecutive 20-win seasons and seven postseason appearances, including two straight NCAA tournament berths in 1999-2000 and 2000-01.

“Coach Tark, I often say, transcended basketball with me,” says Chris Herren, who played for Mr. Tarkanian at Fresno State from 1996-1999. “Yes, I played for this legend, but I also played for a very caring, emotional man who was always willing to be there.”

The Tarkanians donated \$100,000 in 1998 to establish the Tarkanian Book Fund at Fresno State’s Henry Madden Library. Mr. Tarkanian’s jersey became the first ever retired at Fresno State in 2014. “He whole-heartedly cared about this community. This was his home, and he wanted to make it right and special,” Herren says. “So to see the community give back to him means the world to me.”

Mr. Tarkanian’s .803 career winning percentage at Fresno State, UNLV and Long Beach State ranks as the fourth-best in NCAA history. In 31 years coaching, he was 38-18 in 18 NCAA tournament appearances. He posted 778 career victories and was 104-79 at Fresno State — the third-most wins in school history.



VIDEO

See video tribute at

www.youtube.com/fresnostate

TARK METER

“Despite the massive successes he accomplished, Jerry Tarkanian was the most non-judgmental person I’ve ever met. He positively affected the lives of so many. There will never be another like him, and that is truly a shame.”

JACK FERTIG

former Fresno State director of basketball operations.

“Jerry Tarkanian is one of the true legends in the coaching profession. Coach Tarkanian welcomed me in from the first day I arrived in Fresno. He loved the Bulldogs and stayed connected with our program throughout the years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Lois, and family during this extremely difficult time.”

RODNEY TERRY

Fresno State basketball coach



Otto Greule

'DOG BYTES

by Eddie Hughes

51 Bulldogs named to Academic All-Mountain West team

The fall 2014 Academic All-Mountain West team included 51 Fresno State student-athletes. The Bulldogs student-athletes from all sports held a 3.13 cumulative fall GPA, the highest ever on record. Fresno State had 283 student-athletes overall post GPAs of 3.0 or higher in the fall.

To be eligible for selection, student-athletes must have completed at least one academic term at the member institution while maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, and be a starter or significant contributor on his or her team. Fresno State's 51 honorees were the third-most in the conference, trailing New Mexico and Utah State with 61 each.

The volleyball team's 12 honorees were the most by any team in the conference for that sport. Fresno State also had 18 football players, 12 women's soccer players and five women and four men cross country runners selected.

Fresno State gets \$500,000 gift for facility upgrades and more

Fresno State received a \$500,000 anonymous gift to kick start several projects that will be completed in 2015. The gift will help support:

- Replacement and renovation of the North Gym court/floor
- Removal of crow's nest in the North Gym that was used for announcers and press during games
- New scoreboards and padding added to the North Gym
- New softball backstop netting system to protect fans from first base to third base and eliminate poles that block sight lines
- Updated speaker system at Margie Wright Diamond
- Carpet replacement in all six locker rooms and hallways in the North Gym Annex
- Addition of a student-athlete lounge in the North Gym Annex
- Graphics and logos added to all locker rooms and hallways
- Sending the men's basketball team on European tour in summer 2015

"We have very special donors here at Fresno State who understand and want to enhance many different student-athlete priorities," says Jim Bartko, director of athletics. "Gifts like this have the ability to transform not only the physical presence of our facilities, but enhance the full student-athlete experience and the opportunity to excel at the highest level."

Alumnus helps Patriots to Super Bowl win

Starting offensive lineman Ryan Wendell helped the New England Patriots to a 28-24 win over the Seattle Seahawks in Super Bowl XLIX. During his Fresno State career from 2004-2007, Wendell earned All-Western Athletic Conference, Academic All-WAC and 2004 WAC Freshman of the Year honors.

This was his second Super Bowl with the Patriots after losing to the New York Giants in 2012. Wendell is the fourth Bulldog to appear in multiple Super Bowls, joining offensive lineman Logan Mankins (twice with New England), tight end Stephen Spach (Arizona Cardinals and New England) and J.D. Williams (four times with the Buffalo Bills). In all, 21 former Bulldogs have reached the Super Bowl.

Courtesy of the New England Patriots



51

ACADEMIC
ALL-MOUNTAIN WEST TEAM



New athletics director unveils vision

to renovate Bulldog Stadium, add two new sports

by Eddie Hughes



Cary Edmondson

Jim Bartko started his new job as Fresno State athletics director in January, developed a five-point vision for the rise of the Bulldogs' 19 current sports, met with architects to explore the future of Bulldog Stadium, announced a desire to reinstate wrestling and add women's water polo and met hundreds of excited fans — all while living out of a hotel and waiting for his family to arrive this summer from Eugene, Oregon.

To say Bartko has hit the ground running is cliché. So let's say his hands have hit the Valley shaking — shaking the hands of Red Wave faithful past and present, making connections and working to engage the community.

Part of that includes providing insight for FresnoState Magazine readers, and Bartko sat down to discuss his road map for empowering excellence in Fresno State athletics.

You developed a five-year-plan for the department. What priorities are being addressed?

We want to make sure we take care of the programs we have. The tennis, track and field and lacrosse locker rooms need to be up to speed. If we're going to have a sport and honor our student-athletes, they've got to be taken care of at the top level. Then we've got to take a hard look at Bulldog Stadium. We had architects visit, and they're going to give us a vision of what that stadium needs to look like. It needs some work. Revenue from football helps everybody. And that place is falling apart a little bit. We've got to look at the long-term budget, staffing issues, reengagement of fans, and then we'll look at sport expansion. That's our vision. We've got to go step by step and, hopefully, in the next five years, we can achieve everything. We need to lay out a plan that our donors can look at, our fans can look at and our coaches can look at.

Fresno State has done a lot of work in regard to Title IX, as I'm sure you're familiar. What's next? What's the key to achieving gender equity in our athletics programs?

There has been a lot of work by a lot of people here the last 10 years. We need to show a commitment to all of our programs to fund them in comparable levels within our conference. Every coach I've spoken to is a team player and wants to do well, and we're going to take care of them.

How does athletics fit into the University on a larger scale?

We're a small part of the University, but we've got to do our share. Athletics isn't the most important part of the University, but it's the first thing you see, whether it's on TV or in a stadium or arena — it's the front porch. We've got to make sure we represent the University well and bring the fans in on game days.



How important is the academic component of that with student-athletes?

They're student-athletes first. And we've got to make sure they graduate and earn degrees. Very few are going to go pro, 1 or 2 percent. The other 98 percent are going to have a career somewhere. Our student-athletes had a record-high 3.13 GPA in fall 2014. We've got to keep that up and keep up the tutoring, medical services, training and nutrition. They're great ambassadors, and we'll keep them involved in the community.

What's the timeline on reinstating wrestling, which was cut in 2006, and adding women's water polo at Fresno State?

Sport additions were a big topic well before I got here. It's about a yearlong process to fundraise, find a conference and practice facilities, evaluate and hire coaches and then start recruiting. The annual budget for wrestling will be about \$689,000 and women's water polo will be about \$456,000. We're going to need some help with funding. Our goal is for these sports to start competing within the next three years.

5-POINT PLAN

- 1.0 Achieve highest standards
- 2.0 Strengthen the pack
- 3.0 Build our home field advantage
- 4.0 Expand competitive opportunity
- 5.0 Swell the RED WAVE



Wrestling and women's water polo timeline

Source: gobulldogs.com

PHASE 1

Feb. 26 - June 1

- Fundraising
- Budget

PHASE 2

June 1 - Dec. 1

- Conference Evaluation
- Practice Facilities and Offices
- Evaluating Coaching Prospects

PHASE 3

Dec. 1 - Feb. 28

- Hire Coaches
- Recruiting

It's a critical time for Fresno State to remain relevant in a changing NCAA landscape. What's your vision for what Fresno State athletics can become?

New legislation on providing full cost of attendance for all student-athletes on scholarship is going to be about \$1.25 million a year, and we're going to fund it at the upper level of our conference. If we don't we're going to be hurting long term. It's going to differentiate the top 60 or 70 programs in the country from the rest. Some people are going to drop football, some people are going to drop other sports, some people won't pay it, some people can't afford to pay it. We've got to prove we can do it and put ourselves in position to be in the top 60 in the country, and let's see where everything falls out. The Mountain West is a great conference — we're happy here — but you never know in the next three to five years what the landscape is, and we've got to position ourselves not for tomorrow but for the next three to five years. We either have to say, "We're all in and we're going to go for it," or be content and see what happens.

How do we say we're all in? What does that mean?

Commitment to our facilities, student-athletes and donors. We have good attendance for our conference, but we can grow. Our donor base is in the middle of annual giving and fundraising. Bulldog Stadium would have to be updated. We have no chance without that stadium being updated to be part of that top 60. We've got to be prepared.



It sounds like you're saying it's not just people on campus changing that mindset, it's also the community at large?

Exactly. We have to ask the community. And we have to be out there seeing people. There's been a generation of fans that we have not fully engaged the way that we should, and we've got to go out and shake hands, thank people, get the young families involved, the \$100 donors who are season ticket holders.

Oregon experienced a meteoric rise during your tenure. Is Fresno State a place where something similar can happen?

You've got to have a vision, you've got to have some donor backing, you've got to have some great coaches and you've got to get lucky. I learned this at Oregon — don't accept mediocrity. Nobody wants to be average. If you're content to be sixth place, anybody can do that. You want to strive to be the best. You may not get there every year, but people will support you and understand that they can invest in something they can be proud of.

Continued

I think you used that word “dominate” in your introductory press conference. Talk about that.

I don't think you go into it saying we'll be happy to be sixth in the league. We want to compete for conference championships in all 19 of our sports. It takes our department and our University to commit to giving all the resources that we can to be competitive. It takes our coaches to have the vision to be competitive. And our athletes need to take pride in winning.

Looking at what has to happen at Bulldog Stadium in the coming years, what renovations are needed?

I think our number of seats is fine. Most schools are going backwards on numbers to make it intense and intimate and make it a hard ticket. I think intimacy and scarcity is a good thing. The consultants visited, and they're putting together a plan to show me the options, the costs, how to fund it and some designs. There are probably three phases of it. There's accessibility, a foundation, restrooms, concessions. There is probably a suite level and a club room. There are probably some better seating opportunities, better signage on the scoreboards.

What can the community do to help? How can the community get involved?

Have faith, keep passionate, trust and be patient. If you've been disengaged, I want to hear from you. I want to prove that we're here to be a big part of this community, and let's build this together because it can't be done alone.

Looking at it from the flip side, what is it that Fresno State athletics provides to the community?

Oh gosh, I'll give Oregon as an example. If it wasn't for the University of Oregon in Eugene, the community would be kind of empty. Fresno State is this community in a lot of ways. It's the only show in town athletically. We can help the community by bringing in big games and fans that help restaurants and tourism. We need to be owned by this community.

Bulldog Stadium proposed project timeline

PHASE 1

- Scoreboards
- Graphics
- Circulation
- Fencing
- Parking/Tailgating

PHASE 2

- Sound System
- Signage
- Clubs
- Sky Boxes

PHASE 3

- Press Box
- Training Center



How important is it for the Red Wave to be good ambassadors for visiting fans?

We need to make sure it's a good experience because you won't get big schools coming in here if it's a bad experience. We want it to be a bad experience for them because we played hard and won, not because of the way they were treated by fans. We've got to win with class and lose with class.



There was a lot of buzz about your relationship with Nike's Phil Knight when your hiring was announced. Is there some room to leverage that?

Yeah, I think so. Nike has always been very supportive of our program. We've got to show them our vision, and I'll use the resources and friendships that I have to get some advice and do some tweaking with uniforms and things.

Are we going to be looking at naming rights deals to accomplish some of the things we need to?

We haven't gotten that far yet. It depends on the cost. I need to get a design first and then look at the cost and figure out the financing. A massive donor helps, but you need to have 20 or 30 donors who step up and provide lead gifts.

The Bulldog Foundation fundraising model has undergone a lot of changes in the past decade or so. Are there new engagement strategies that you want to bring?

You've got to make change sometimes, but there are people who have to have ownership in your change. We've got people in this community with a lot of good ideas, opinions and history, and we need to understand that. And we also need to move forward and work together with our community.



You've got a tough job. A lot of eyeballs watching and fans hoping for great things. You have to create a vision, but how do you jump in and attack it? Where do you start?

Small steps at a time. If you look at everything we have to do, it can be a daunting list. We just need to choose a few things short term that can make an impact and then look long term. You can't do it all at one time. We're already winning. Two years ago we were on the verge of a top 10 finish. We've got to keep our programs strong, and we've got to get the football stadium up to par to generate revenue for everybody. No question.





Cary Edmondson

A NATIONAL OLIVE OIL BRAND

sprouts from Valley soil

by Jodi Raley

James Collier



From Madera County orchards to store shelves in New York, Vincent Ricchiuti has delivered the product of Italian heritage and California soil to consumers nationwide.

With 98 percent of olive oil consumed in the United States imported from other nations, Ricchiuti recognized an opportunity and created Enzo Olive Oil — named after his great grandfather, Vincenzo. The locally grown, organic, extra virgin olive oil is available in every Williams-Sonoma store in the U.S., regionally in Whole Foods and other retailers, and at Enzo's Table, the family's farm market in Clovis.

As a board member on the Olive Oil Commission of California and the California Olive Oil Council, Ricchiuti has been at the forefront of establishing standards and regulations for extra virgin olive oil certification.

"It's one of the biggest problems with imported oils," Ricchiuti says. "They will say they are extra virgin when, in truth, the oil is blended rancid or not to the quality it's advertising to be."

California olive oil producers have mandated that any extra virgin product must go through a series of chemical and sensory evaluations to certify the quality. Ricchiuti says the next step will be to pursue these standards nationwide.

Ricchiuti Family Farms started more than 100 years ago when Vincenzo Ricchiuti planted the seeds for a family business that has spanned four generations in the Central Valley. Vincenzo's first harvested crop included grapes and figs before decades later expanding to stone fruit, almonds and eventually olives.

The family has a long tradition of supporting Fresno State. Vincent's parents, Patrick V. (class of 1970) and Vinci Ricchiuti (1981), earned the Arthur Safstrom Service Award in 1992 for outstanding service to the University. In 2001, Patrick V. earned the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Fresno State Alumni Association. And in 2005, the on-campus Ricchiuti Academic Center opened with 6,000 square feet of study tables, computer labs and offices to support student-athletes.

Vincent's role in the family business expanded after he graduated from Fresno State in 2005, after years of working the night shift at the almond hulling facility.

The Ricchiuti family transitioned out of the stone fruit business in 2008 to pursue almond growing. At the same time, Vincent planted high density olive trees with inspiration from his father, Pat Ricchiuti, who was involved in studies conducted on high-density trees at Fresno State.



To date, Enzo Olive Oil has won 39 awards, including Best in Class at the New York International Olive Oil competition. Enzo Olive Oil and Ricchiuti Family Farms were also featured in prestigious food writer Florence Fabricant's article "Dock to Dish, a Cookbook That Celebrates the Greenmarket and More," published in The New York Times in 2014.

— Jodi Raley is a student news assistant in University Communications at Fresno State.

PRIME MINISTER PEREIRA

GOES FROM FRESNO STATE TO LEADING

WEST AFRICAN NATION

by Akyia Westley

In May 1994, Domingos Simões Pereira walked across the stage at Fresno State's commencement ceremony and received his master's degree in civil engineering. Fast forward 20 years, and Pereira walked a much bigger stage as he was elected prime minister of the West African nation Guinea-Bissau.

It's a challenge he has long dreamed of accomplishing — to help his country rebound from years of political instability and repeated economic shock by instilling a future of peace, human security and openness.

As Fresno State's first alumnus to become a prime minister or president, Pereira is now in a position to make a difference in his home country.

"I remember taking a class on city planning and annoying everyone with my plans on how to transform my city back home," Pereira says in a video message to the Central Valley.



Guinea-Bissau Prime Minister Domingos Simões Pereira



VIDEO

www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdAGRbrFXno

"The first two years were tough, because of English, but also because the system was very much different from what I had learned before."

Born in Farim, Guinea-Bissau, in 1963, the year power struggles began against Portuguese colonization, Pereira grew up in a humble family with his father (a teacher), his mother (a housewife) and his four brothers. After completing high school, he moved to the former Soviet Union, where he earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1988.

Two years later, Pereira came to Fresno State to pursue a master's thanks to a scholarship provided by the United States Agency for International Development and The Africa-America Institute.

After earning his master's, Pereira returned to his home, where he served in such roles as minister of public works and the Portuguese-speaking secretary executive.

During this period, unrest and instability continued in Guinea-Bissau, and Pereira was eager to make a change. He called on his friends and colleagues to act, which eventually led to his victory in the 2014 election as prime minister, the highest-ranking government position in the country.

Pereira's job as prime minister has been a busy one. As the Ebola virus epidemic spread throughout Africa and other regions in August 2014, Pereira decided to close his country's borders in an effort to protect his people. Determined to transform Guinea-Bissau, Pereira continues to seek international support by meeting with different countries and bodies of the Economic Community of West African States, the United Nations, the Community of Portuguese Language Countries and other countries and international institutions, including those in Fresno.

Pereira maintains his connection through Guinea-Bissau's partnership with the West African Vocational Schools based in Fresno and Seattle. The nonprofit organization is dedicated to transforming the small country by providing post-secondary education in computer basics, auto mechanics, sewing and English, and offering job training that gives students skills that translate into jobs.

Chris Collins, director of West African Vocational Schools, met the prime minister in 2013.

"He is someone who is intelligent and stands out but also very calm with a quiet confidence," Collins said. "He really knows his stuff."

— Akyia Westley is a student news assistant for University Communications at Fresno State.



GUINEA-BISSAU

It covers 36,125 km² (nearly 14,000 square miles) with an estimated population of 1,704,000.

CLASS NOTES

1950s

Edward Marouk (1951) had bronze artwork on display in the group exhibit "1915-2015: Tradition, Legacy, Culture" at the Fresno Art Museum.

Helen Ramirez (1954) was inducted into the California Social Work Hall of Distinction in October.

1960s

Bob Fraley - 1 (1961), former Fresno State track and field coach, co-authored the student-athlete journal "Searching for Victory" with his grandson, Trevor Groom. Fraley was inducted to the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008, the year he retired.

Dal Henderson (1966) exhibited his artworks titled "Serious Stuff" at the Kings Art Center at the Marcellus Gallery in Hanford.

Gary J. Hill (1967) was recognized by the State Bar of California for 20 years as a specialist in workers' compensation law.

Roy J. Kendall (1969) had several autumn photos published on The Fresno Bee website.

J. Sean McCleneghan (1964) retired after a 32-year career as a journalism professor at New Mexico State University. He is a former sports editor for The Collegian at Fresno State.

Louise H. McGrew (1969, '98) was recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Pinnacle Professional in education.

Janice Noga - 2 (1968) reads for her one-woman show, "Janka," a play written by her husband, **Oscar Speace** (1971), about his mother's Holocaust tragedy. The play will be an off-Broadway production in New York.

Robert H. Oliver - 3 (1966) was recognized by the State Bar of California for 20 years as a specialist in estate, probate and estate planning law.



Ray Steele Jr. (1968)

was recognized by the Fresno Chamber of Commerce as the 2015 Leon S. Peters Award winner in March.

A Fowler native, Steele worked more than four decades for the McClatchy Company, including serving as publisher of The Fresno Bee from 2001-2008. Steele was the 2005 recipient of the Fresno State Alumni Association's Outstanding Alumnus Award, presented on behalf of the College of Arts and Humanities.

The Peters Award, established in 1984, recognizes business success and leadership, public service, contributions and investments in the Fresno area.

"I'm honored to be in the same group as many of the people who are on this stage today and have received the Leon S. Peters Award," Steele said in a Fresno Chamber of Commerce video. "These are people, one, with a passion for their community. They want to do something that improves their community. Two, they've been very successful in whatever business venture they've been involved in. But I think people who have passion and vision, and then can have some leadership qualities to bring people together to identify problems and solve problems, make for good community leaders."



1970s

Andrea Abbate (1978) had an adaptation of her play, "Random Acts," scripted into a comedy by AMC.

Steve Adams (1974) is now director of growing operations and grower relations at Boskovich Farms.

Robert Dugan Aguilar (1972) is a photographer whose published works and exhibitions have documented Native American life.

Pandora Grewe Carlucci (1972) received the Donald A. Gatzke Outstanding Dissertation Award from the American Association of University Administrators for her authorship of "Understanding the Full-Time, Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Appointment."

Christine (Vartanian) Datian (1974, '77) was highlighted in the December issue of The Armenian Mirror-Spectator. Datian's Armenian rice pilaf with raisins and almonds was featured in The New York Times online food blog, "Cooking."

Jean Fuller (1972), senator, was chosen by Republicans in the California Senate as their new leader. She is the first woman to hold a top Senate post.

Randy George (1977) is the new marketing manager for Betts Company in Fresno.

Roger George - 4 (1975), a three-time All-American in track and field at Fresno State and an alternate member of the 1976 Olympic decathlon team, owns and operates Roger's Guide Service, specializing in striped bass fishing trips to the San Luis Reservoir. He's also the fishing column editor for The Fresno Bee.

Bill Jones (1971) is board chairman for Pacific Ethanol, a company he co-founded in 2006, which has production facilities in Madera; Stockton; Boardman, Oregon; and Burley, Idaho.

David Koehler (1970) will step down in June as director of the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust.

Jimmy Maxey (1973) is now chairman of the Cattlemen's Beef Board.

James "Mac" Mechem (1971) showcased his artwork at Fig Tree Gallery in Fresno.

Community Heroes

The College of Health and Human Services at Fresno State honored its 2015 Community Heroes in April for their impactful and dedicated work within their fields. Five of the 11 honorees were Fresno State alumni, including:



Kathy Yoshida (1981), director of interpreting at the Deaf and Hard of hearing Service Center of Fresno.



Paul Smith (1995), a physical therapist at Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno and the vice president of the California Physical Therapy Association.



Victor Hugo Manriquez (2000, '10), a physical education teacher who formed the Trucha Camp Physical Education Program implemented in Sanger Unified School District.



Brenna Hughes (2006), team lead in acute speech-language pathology at Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno, who organized the first Central Valley Concussion Consortium.



Debbie Tuttle (2014), a nurse practitioner at California Oncology, who graduated with the first class in Fresno State's Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Mike Mendoza (1974) is principal at St. Rose McCarthy Catholic School in Hanford.

Diane Milutinovich - 5 (1970), a nationally recognized advocate for women's athletics during her 27 years at Fresno State, was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in November.

Eliot Nahigian (1973) was recognized by the State Bar of California for 20 years as a specialist in estate, probate and estate planning law.

Ronald H. Nishinaka (1973) was elected board president of the State Center Community College District. He was previously an instructor at Reedley College.

Linda Penner (1978) was profiled in the November/December issue of Central Valley Luxury magazine. She chairs the board of state and community corrections for the state of California.

Rebecca L. (Foster) Prentice (1976), senior vice president/general counsel for Paramount Pictures Corp. in Los Angeles, was named to The Hollywood Reporter's Women in Entertainment Power 100 list.

Ken Vogel (1970) was inducted into the Lodi Community Hall of Fame for his government service.

David J. Weiland (1972) joined Coleman & Horowitz, LLP, as a partner and chairman for the litigation department.

FORMER NAVY NURSE EARNS DOCTORATE; NOW EDUCATING NEXT GENERATION

by Melissa Tav

When Dr. Janice Sanders was 10, her grandmother, who was diabetic, suffered a stroke and needed home care assistance. Every day, Sanders watched as her older sister injected insulin shots for her grandmother while their mother provided around-the-clock care.

Those moments inspired Sanders and her sister, Jacqueline, to become nurses. Sanders earned her bachelor's in nursing from Clemson University, near her hometown of Sumter, South Carolina, in 1988.

"The tender way my mother cared for others is a trait she passed on to her kids," Sanders says. "She always encouraged us to take care of those who needed help. She was my inspiration to become a nurse."

Sanders combined that drive with the influence of her father, a Korean War veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He passed away from a car accident when she was just 5 years old, but his legacy of service led to six of 10 children enlisting in the military, including Sanders.

She joined the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps, where she remained on active duty from 1988 to 1999. Her service took her as far as Japan and eventually to the Central Valley — where she was based at Naval Air Station Lemoore.

Sanders returned to school while serving in the reserves and earned her master's from Fresno State in 2004. Ten years later, after retiring from the reserves, she returned to Fresno State and earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in 2014, making her part of the first class to graduate from the program.

Sanders, the youngest sibling, is the first to receive a doctoral degree.

She is now an assistant professor in the School of Nursing at Fresno State, specializing in psychosocial and mental health.

"I thought the best way to influence nursing was to go into education," Sanders says.

From her military roots to sharing her passion as an educator, Sanders feels destined for a life of service.



Dr. Janice Sanders (2010)



Cary Edmondson

CLASS NOTES

1980s

Jeff Bortolussi (1980), a raisin farmer, was featured on PBS cooking show "Moveable Feast with Fine Cooking" in January.

Brock Dale Buche - 6 (1985, '95) is now a principal engineer for Provost & Pritchard Consulting Groups in Fresno.

Cal Cain (1988), a former Fresno State baseball player and member of the Cincinnati Reds organization, is now senior vice president and loan officer for Cen Cal Business Finance Group.

Daniel Chacon (1989, '96), associate professor at University of Texas, is the creator of a radio show at KTEP-FM that showcases creative writing.

Brian Decker (1980) was named a 2014 top performer by Colliers International.

Henry Ellard (1985), former Fresno State and NFL wide receiver, won the triple jump in the men's 50-59 division at the USA Track and Field National Masters Championship in July.

Lisa Gamoian (1981) was elected Fresno County Superior Court judge.

Steven Jolly (1988), managing director of investments for the Fresno office of Wells Fargo Advisors, was named one of the firm's President's Premier Advisors for the 20th straight year.

Pat LaRocca (1983) was profiled in the January/February issue of Central Valley Luxury magazine. He and his wife, **Marina (Mattucci) LaRocca** (1992), own and operate FIVE restaurant in Fresno.

Evie (De Boer) Locke (1986) and her husband, Ron, received first- and second-place awards for their Top O' the Morn Farms milk products at the National Dairy Products Contest in Madison, Wisconsin.

Francine Oputa - 7 (1985, 2012, '13), Ph.D., director of the Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute, spoke at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Fresno State.

Peter Orlando (1986), senior vice president of the retail division, was named a top producer of 2014 by Newmark Grubb Pearson Commercial and Retail California, a division of Pearson Realty.

Warren Paboojian (1980) was inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers on March 20 in Santa Barbara. The academy's membership is limited to 500 active U.S. trial lawyers under age 70. He is a partner in Baradat & Paboojian Inc. in Fresno.

Stephone Paige (1982), a former Fresno State football player who once appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated with the Kansas City Chiefs, is now spokesperson and public relations adviser for the Central Valley Sports Report website.

Walt Plachta (1986) is now chairman of the Economic Development Board serving Fresno County. He is branch manager for the Fresno office of CEI Engineering Associates, Inc.

Claire Tamo (1986) is now chief financial officer for The Permanente Federation.

Jeff Tedford (1982), former Fresno State quarterback and Cal head coach, was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in November. He is now head coach for the BC Lions in the Canadian Football League.

Tom Warnert (1984) is now vice president for industrial and heat transistor sales with LAKOS Separators and Filtration Solutions.

Elizabeth Wilson (1985) is now chief business officer for Parlier Unified School District. She previously worked at Paso Robles Joint Unified School District.



1990s

Oghenekome "Kome" Joseph Ajise (1993) was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown as chief deputy director for the California Department of Transportation.

Carlos Ambris (1997) is now senior litigation attorney for Stockton law firm Herum Crabtree Suntag.

Nicholas Audino (1997) was named a top producer of 2014 by Newmark Grubb Pearson Commercial and Retail California, a division of Pearson Realty.

Peter Beck (1997) now teaches ethnic studies at Rutherford B. Gaston Middle School in Fresno. He previously taught at Hoover High School.

Laura Berg - 8 (1998), a four-time softball Olympian, had her No. 44 jersey retired before the Bulldogs hosted Oregon State, the team she's now coaching.

Stephanie Callison (1999) is now media buyer at JP Marketing in Fresno.

Jose Cañas (1995) joined MaloneBailey, LLP as senior audit manager.

Jonathan Daggett (1999) was named a top producer for 2014 by Pearson Realty. He is a senior vice president with the firm.

Danny (1994), **David** (1993) and **Damacio Diaz** (1996) were portrayed in the Disney movie "McFarland, USA," the story of a high school cross country state championship in a small Central Valley town.

Marcus DiBuduo (1999), a patent attorney, joined Dowling Aaron, Inc. as a preferred shareholder.

Ernesto R. Escoto (1996, '98) is now director of counseling and wellness at the University of Florida.

Jethro Franklin (1990) is now defensive line coach for the Oakland Raiders. He was previously an assistant at the University of Miami.

Sonja Monique Brown Givens - 9 (1996, '98) is now associate vice president for academic affairs at Medaille College in Buffalo, New York.

Henry "Hank" Gutierrez (1993, 2001), principal at Fowler High School, was named Administrator of the Year by the Fresno County Office of Education.

Daryl Jordan (1994) is now director of engineering services/city engineer for the city of Ceres.

Karen S. Kirk (1992) is now vice president of business development at Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, which provides a range of engineering & consulting services throughout California.

Stanley Kjar Jr. (1999), senior vice president, was named a top producer for 2014 by Pearson Realty.

Keith Kramer (1993) and **Rob Krider** (2006) were featured on BBC America show "Mud, Sweat and Gears" for their endurance racing success.

Shawn Luna (1995, 2006) is now family medicine physician assistant at Adventist Health/Community Care in Kerman.

Mark Mathis (1993) is now general manager for agent/broker sales for Homes.com.

David Morrison (1993) is now planning director for Napa County.

Joanna Odabashian (1997) is now president of the local chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors.

Lou Pecora - 10 (1994) was nominated for an Oscar for his work as the visual effects supervisor on "X-Men: Days of Future Past."

Karen Philbrick (1996) is now director for the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University.

Alicia Rios (1999) is director of California Centers for International Trade Development for the State Center Community College District.

Peter Robertson (1992, '95, 2005) is now festival director emeritus for Fresno Reel Pride. He co-founded the annual film festival as a student in 1990.

Lou O. Saephan (1999) is now assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction for the Parlier Unified School District.

David Santesteban, (1995), Ph.D., is now head soccer coach for the University of the Virgin Islands.

Steve Sobonya (1992) is now health and fitness adviser for the Central Valley Sports Report, which helps athletes with resources to obtain scholarships and grants through athletics.

Arto Soebiantoro (1995) founded the Gambaranbrand Network, a branding company in Indonesia.

Geraud Smith (1997) is now regional vice president for Wells Fargo's Bakersfield Regional Commercial Banking Office.

Lewis Smith (1996), senior vice president of the retail division, was named a top producer of 2014 by Newmark Grubb Pearson Commercial and Retail California, a division of Pearson Realty.

Jenny Q Ta (1992) is founder and CEO of Squeeque.com, a social e-commerce platform, which combines features of social networking, e-commerce and entertainment in one site. She was founder and CEO of Titan Securities and was a driving force behind Vantage Investments.

Art Trask (1993) was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in November. He won four Professional Bowlers Association titles.

Brian Turner (1994), director of creative writing at Sierra Nevada College and a prize-winning poet, authored "My Life as a Foreign Country."

Chris Williams (1994) is now superintendent for Paso Robles Joint Unified School District.

2000s

Miguel Angel Arias (2008) is now a trustee for the State Center Community College District.

Marc Barrie (2006, '08, '13) is now chief of the Central Valley Regional Office for the High Speed Rail Authority.

Benjamin Bergquam (2007) is now communications and marketing director for California Turf Warehouse, a synthetic grass showroom.

Alphonse Savator DeRose (2003) is head winemaker for family-owned DeRose Vineyards in Hollister.

Friderica Widayarsi Dewi (2004), former model and actress, is now director of development for the Indonesia Stock Exchange.

Brian Domingos Jr. (2005) opened a new Premier Valley Realty office near Fashion Fair Mall. He is president-elect of the Fresno State Alumni Association.

Juan J. Gonzales (2004) and Brian M. Law, California Highway Patrol officers, were memorialized on a stretch of Highway 99. Both died in the line of duty in February 2014 when their cruiser crashed near Kingsburg.

Brad Harper (2003), a former Fresno State baseball player, finished No. 1 in new customer sales for Curtis 1000.

Ryan (2002) and wife **Ashley Jacobsen** (2003) established a \$25,000 endowment to benefit agricultural students.

Ryan Kapsimallis (2007) joined the Fitzgerald Schorr Firm in Omaha, Nebraska.

Jessica Lawrence (2008) was named to Fresno State's University Advisory Board.

Cody Lyman (2001) is now assistant vice president, commercial loan officer for Central Valley Community Bank.

Ruem Malasarn (2000) is head athletic trainer for Cal Poly Pomona.

Chris Marklund (2007) is now associate legislative director for public lands at the National Association of Counties, based in Washington, D.C.

Kevin McPhail (2000) is now president and CEO of Sierra Bancorp and Bank of the Sierra.

Gregory J. Norys (2003) is now an associate in the litigation department for Coleman & Horowitz, LLP.

Henry T. Perea (2001), of the California State Assembly, was presented the 2014 Internet Champion Award from the Internet Association.

Crystal (Cortez) Rodriguez (2009), speech-language pathologist for the California Cancer Center in Fresno, won the California Speech Language and Hearing Association District 5 Outstanding Achievement award.

Ernesto Saavedra (2008) is now editor of the Community Alliance newspaper.

Pedro Santana (2004), director of Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Central Valley, Inc., was featured in The Business Journal on Feb. 14.

Jeffrey Schultz (2001) spoke at Fresno State's Spring Reading Series on March 6. He is director of creative writing at Pepperdine University and has a collection, "What Ridiculous Things We Can Ask of Each Other."

Joshua D. Scroggin (2004) is now social media officer at CoastHills Credit Union. He previously worked for the San Luis Obispo Tribune for nine years.

Jennifer (Matzen) Stemwedel (2002, '08) is now director of student affairs at California Health Sciences University.

Veronyca M. Tiscareno (2002) is now professor of early childhood education at Sierra College in Tahoe-Truckee.

Angela Vega (2006) is now Comcast director of government affairs for the Central Valley.

Philip Vieira (2009), a Ph.D. student at UC Riverside, is head brewer at Seven Brethren Brewery, which is part of Brew Crew Inc.

Debra Bradley Walker (2004) is now small business development officer for the Fresno River Park Commercial Team of Central Valley Community Bank.

Mark A. Weaver (2009) was awarded the 2014 American Society of Civil Engineers Younger Member Forum Officer Award.

2010s

Anthony Dakuras (2014) is head instructor and founder of Santa Maria All-American Wrestling.

Nadine Dubina (2013) is now an intern with the U.S. Olympic Committee, working with the Coaching Education Department at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Gilbert Felix (2012) serves as council assistant for Fresno City Council member Esmeralda Soria (District 1).

Joseph Geller (2012) is now viticulture instructor at Surry Community College.

Shayne Jay Jetter (2014) is now winemaker at Toca Madera Winery.

Megan Lerma (2013) is now outreach and new media assistant at JP Marketing.

Devon Mathis (2013) is now assembly member for the 26th district.

Lauryn Moles (2014) is the costume intern at Midland Community Theatre.

Scott Morehead (2010), of Agrian, Inc., was named a Rising Star by the Agriculture Retailers Association.

Paul Mortanian (2011) is now at the Gourmet Trading Co. in Los Angeles.

Mussie Petros (2014) joined Cornerstone Structural Engineering Group in Fresno as an engineer in training.

Allison Pierce (2012) was appointed by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors as the new Step-up Program administrator.

Laura Quiroz (2012) is a volleyball coach and teaches advanced placement English at Parlier High School.

Angela Sasaki (2014) is now an account executive for One Putt Broadcasting.

Jenna Smith (2013) was selected for a Peace Corps assignment in Madagascar.

Veronica Stumpf (2011) received Fresno's Leading Young Professionals FLYPer of the Year award for her work on "That Fresno Blog."

Cynthia Teniente-Matson (2013), Ph.D., is now president for Texas A&M-San Antonio.

Meghan Thomason (2010) is now women's golf coach at California State University, Bakersfield.

Ryan Stiner (2011) raised \$12,000 for the Autism Center at Fresno State by running from San Francisco to Fresno.

Jeremy Walrack (2011) co-founded Golfmoose.com, a new website for discount-minded golfers with promotions at more than 20 courses in California.

Brendan Wilson (2011) is now a physical therapist for Biosports Physical Therapy in Wenatchee, Washington.

Yer Yang (2014) started the Hmong Cultural Heritage Center along with her husband.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Cooper (2006, '07) and Rosemary Abdelshahid got engaged Dec. 20 in New York City.

David W. D'Morias married Saraah McConahey in June in Lockeford.

Leonardo Flores (2012) announced his engagement to Lynne Modzelesky.

Eddie (2005) and **Brenna (Wylie) Hughes** (2006) welcomed their son, Wylie - 11, in November.

Shoua Lee (2008) married Blake Lyon on June 7.

Katie Johnson (2003, '11) married Seth Schall on Aug. 6 in Paso Robles.

Katlyn O'Dell (2010) and Isaac Martinez announced their engagement.

Casey Olson (2010) married Kara Marchese on Oct. 4 in Nevada.

Levy Randolph (2014), now engaged to **Tiffany Rogers** (2007), was named the national champion of the American Farm Bureau Federation and Young Farmers and Ranchers Collegiate Discussion.

Sylas Wright (2004) married Becky Regan on Sept. 6.

FACULTY/STAFF

Jefferson Beavers (1996, 2007) is now communication specialist for the MFA Program in Creative Writing.

Gena (Strang) Behrens (1988), a three-time All-America softball player at Fresno State, is now executive assistant for the vice president of University advancement.

Steven Church, national award-winning author, published "Ultrasonic," a book of nonfiction essays.

Cary Edmondson (2002) received the District Case VII bronze circle of excellence award in photography.

Chris Fiorentino (1987, '93) received the Fresno's Leading Young Professionals Service Award.

Todd Graves (2003) received the District Case VII bronze circle of excellence award in design, invitations category.

David Hembree is now director of development for student affairs at Fresno State, managing fundraising efforts. He previously served as director at YMCA.

Javier Morales (1997) is now assistant director of business development for the Fresno State Alumni Association.

Mike Pronovost (2014), project manager of Fresno State's DISCOVERe tablet program, was recognized by the United Nations as one of the world's top entrepreneurs under age 35.

Frank Puccio (2005) is now manager of finance and administration for the Division of Continuing and Global Education.

IN MEMORIAM

Edward Albert Aaron (1968),
Oct. 8 in Seattle.

Sally Anne Salva Alvid (1962),
Aug. 29 in Fresno.

Abdullahi Ali Anshoor (1986),
Nov. 17 in Somalia.

Leland T. Atkins (1943),
Oct. 27 in Chico.

Rodney Ellsworth Barnett (1925),
Sept. 24 in Fresno.

Leland Edwin Bergstrom (1954,
'72), Sept. 13 in Kingsburg.

Stephen Henry Bonesteel (1972),
Oct. 1 in Fresno.

Margaret Peggy Archibald Boydston
(1925), Jan. 27 in Bakersfield.

Barry Bernard Buckey (1971),
Sept. 6 in Bakersfield.

Marion Case (1952),
Dec. 26 in Fresno.

Rebecca Christensen (1983, '93),
Feb. 26 in Auberry.

Myron Collins (1963),
Dec. 3 in Napa.

Olive Rhue (Taylor) Conway
(1943), Oct. 9 in Fresno.

Barbara Anne (Killion) Cooper,
Oct. 11 in Fresno.

Isaac H. Cota (1974),
Sept. 18 in Tulare.

Nadine (Stokes) Dahlstrom
(1941), Dec. 22 in Fresno.

**Dorothy Carol Rosemary Johnson
Dawson** (1984), September in
Fresno.

Clyvene Martha Deppe (1948),
Aug. 26 in Fresno.

Audrey Linne Diaz (1987),
Jan. 20 in Las Vegas.

Neale Durgarian Jr. (1952),
Feb. 26 in Fresno.

Bennie Edwards,
Sept. 25 in Fresno.

Richard J. Eklund (1943),
Nov. 17 in Fresno.

Maureen Catherine Etcheverry
(1980), Nov. 1 in Bakersfield.

Kay Evans (1998),
Feb. 8 in Reedley.

**Gayle Katherine Fan Meyers
Weerasekera** (1991),
Nov. 18 in Fresno.

Ledio "Lee" Fanucchi (1954),
Nov. 27 in Fresno.

Mary Ellen Finch (1982),
Nov. 24 in Fresno.

Florencio Flores Jr. (1972),
Feb. 12 in Stockton.

Elisabeth "Liz" Foin (2007)
Nov. 29 in Fresno.

Raymond Foth (1977),
Dec. 10 in Fresno.

Senaida Garcia, Jan. 23 in Visalia.

Gordon R. Graves (1964),
Nov. 28 in Fresno.

Molly Griffin (2014),
Feb. 21 in Fresno.

Preston D. Hamada,
Dec. 26 in Kingsburg.

John E. Hanoian (1954),
Oct. 10 in Fresno.

Jeanette Harautuneian (1954),
Nov. 23 in Fresno.

Kathleen Green "Cathy" Hawk
(1984), Aug. 23 in Fresno.

Alfonso Hernandez (1973),
Jan. 6 in Fresno.

Andrew Louis Hernandez (1986),
Dec. 31 in Fresno.

Setsuko Saiki Hirasuna (1932),
Aug. 26 in Fresno.

Kenneth Hogue, Dec. 8 in Fresno.

Joyce Kathleen (Seher) Jackson
(1957), Dec. 7 in Fresno.

Benjamin C. Jameson,
Aug. 23 in Fresno.

Charles Jue (1953),
Oct. 13 in Clovis.

Alexander Julian,
Dec. 16 in Clovis.

Elisabeth T. "Betty" Kastner
(1942), Oct. 8 in Fresno.

Lilly Yuriko Kato, Nov. 27 in Fowler.

Joan McKenry Klepper (1962),
Nov. 22 in Carmel.

Delores Evelyn (Carvalho) Koop,
(1960), Feb. 25 in Lompoc.

Donald O. La Mont (1983),
Dec. 1 in Fresno.

Mildred E. Lanford (1942),
Dec. 29 in Clovis.

Susanne Burtschi Leslie (1978),
Jan. 1 in Oakland.

Donald John Long,
Dec. 31 in Fresno.

Jacqueline M. Love,
Dec. 9 in Victorville.

John "Rusty" Madden (1952),
Dec. 16 in Fresno.

Ronald C. Massey (1961),
Jan. 5 in Bakersfield.

Dee Marlin (1955, '64),
Oct. 14 in Selma.

James Paul "Jim" Mathias
(1960), Dec. 6 in Visalia.

Elisa Nieto Mendoza (1989),
Feb. 15 in Fresno.

Earl R. Meyers, Oct. 1 in Fresno.

Leo P. Michaelides,
Sept. 27 in Fresno.

Robert Eugene Montgomery,
(1957), Dec. 7 in Fresno.

John Archie Morse (1951),
Dec. 21 in Fresno.

Gary L. Motsenbocker (1965),
Jan. 24 in Fresno.

Dorothy Motta (1966),
Jan. 24 in Fresno.

Kenneth O'Brien, Oct. 11 in Fresno.

Joanne Crane Olson,
Dec. 23 in Reedley.

**Muriel Elizabeth (Carlson)
Pedersen**, Sept. 6 in Fresno.

Adelbert A. "Del" Pierce,
Nov. 2 in Reno, Nevada.

John Peter Rasmussen (1955),
Nov. 2 in Turlock.

Mariel Faye Reinhardt (1957),
Dec. 26 in Clovis.

Michael Scelzi (1951),
Sept. 4 in Fresno.

Robin Lynne Scott (1988),
Nov. 6 in Fresno.

Karen Lynne Smiley (2000),
Feb. 6 in Fresno.

Earl Smith (1951),
Sept. 2 in Fresno.

Dr. Earl Smittcamp (1939),
Oct. 20 in Clovis.

Richard Norman Soares (1956),
Nov. 12 in Fresno.

Chandler Caroline Souza,
Nov. 26 in Tulare.

Ana G. Tapia (2014),
Nov. 7 in Fresno.

Jerry Tarkanian (1955),
Feb. 11 in Las Vegas.

Mary Trevino Tamez (1991, '93),
Feb. 8 in Lindsay.

Eleanor Vahlstrom (1949),
Feb. 15 in Fresno.

Jim Vogt, Dec. 27 in Reedley.

Herbert Alden Watkins Sr. (1994),
Dec. 7 in Shafter.

Jerry Dean Wilson (1952),
Sept. 8 in Madera.

Raymond Joe Zuniga (1956),
Sept. 15 in Bakersfield.

FRIENDS

Darrell I. "Mac" MacDonald,
Sept. 12 in Fresno.

Charles L. Tingey, Feb. 2 in Fresno.

Michael Wilson Gallaher,
Aug. 29 in Madera.

FACULTY/STAFF/EMERITI

Frank Lee Hull, Sept. 1 in Fresno.

W. Hudson Kensel, Jan. 16, 2014
in Edmonds, Washington.

Betty Marilyn Clark, Feb. 6 in Fresno.

John Parry Dodds, Aug. 29 in Fresno.

Shirley Haw, Feb. 3 in Fresno.

Philip Levine, Feb. 14 in Fresno.

Dr. Jesus Luna, Jan. 5 in Houston.

Dr. James Snider, Nov. 17 in Los Osos.

Affinity Partners privacy notice

Important privacy choice

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

Your rights

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

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

Your choice

Restrict Information Sharing With Affinity Partners:

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

Time-sensitive reply

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

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

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

3. Call 559. 278.4036 or call toll-free 866.414.8136.
4. Fill out, sign and send back this form to us at the following address (you may want to make a copy for your records).

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

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

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

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

Current email address _____

Daytime telephone _____

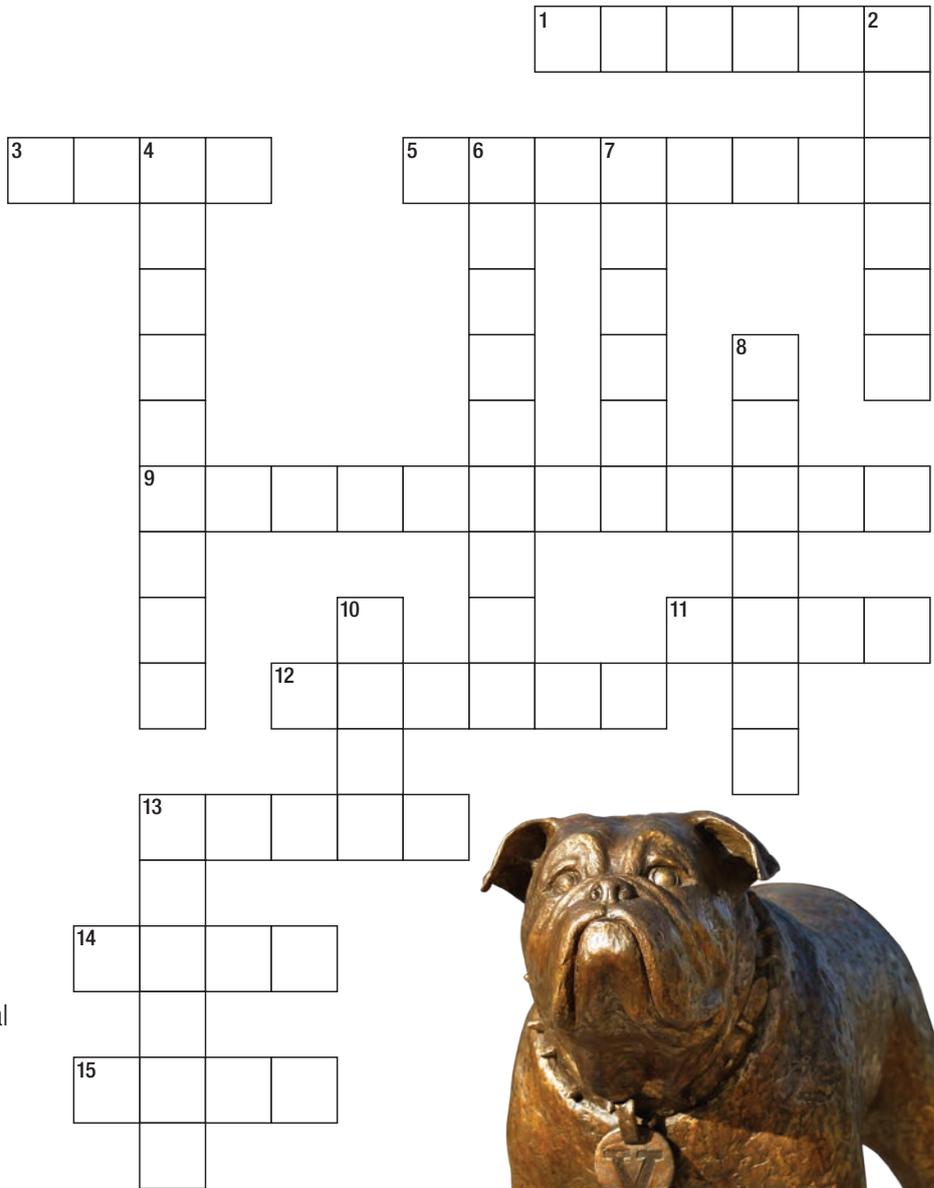
Signature _____

Date _____



FRESNO STATE CROSSWORD

- 1 Alumnus Ryan Stiner ran to raise money for this center on campus.
- 2 Henry's library.
- 3 Campus radio station.
- 4 2014 Top Dog Distinguished Alumnus.
- 5 Student _____ Addressing food security.
- 6 Fresno State wine club.
- 7 New athletics director.
- 8 Alumnus who played in this year's Super Bowl.
- 9 New public-private partnership on campus.
- 10 President Castro's catch phrase.
- 11 Four-time Olympian, alumna.
- 12 Namesake of the new research center under construction.
- 13 Institute to inspire citizen participation.
- 13 (down) An on-campus drive registered 672 potential donors for this.
- 14 Bulldog Born, Bulldog _____.
- 15 The sweetest thing about Fresno State.



ANSWERS

1- Autism 2- Madden 3- KFSR 4- Smittcamp 5- Cupboard 6- Unleashed 7- Bartko 8- Wendell 9- CampusPointe 10- Bold 11- Berg 12- Jordan 13- Maddy 13 (down)- Marrow 14- Bred 15- Corn

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ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MONUMENT

Fresno State will dedicate its newly constructed monument on April 23 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was designed by Fresno architect Paul Halajian, and constructed with private donations. The monument will embody symbols of cultural meaning to the Armenian people. The nine pillars represent the six provinces of historic Armenia, Cilicia, the Diaspora and the Republic of Armenia. An incomplete halo above the pillars symbolizes the unity of the people and the fracture left by the killing of as many as 1.5 million from 1915-1923.

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



Joel Beery

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