

# THE harvest

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE • 2010



# FOOD FOR *thought*

from the Dean's Desk

My message last year was one of hope even in times of a dire budget crunch. Well, if enrollment numbers this year are any indication of reasons for optimism, I was on the right track. This year's enrollment in the College of Agriculture is up approximately 14 percent over last year's and is higher than it's ever been. It appears that our recruiting efforts have really paid off and we're becoming a college of first choice for many of our new students. We reinvigorated the Ag Ambassador program and had over 60 students enroll in that class this year (see article on pg. 5). What this means is lots of students want to spread out across the state and tell others about their "Chico Experience." Let's keep 'em coming.



The state budget remains problematic. Although the College of Agriculture budget will likely be even with last year's budget, it still represents an 11 percent cut since I arrived four years ago. Fortunately, furloughs are behind us and our faculty have returned to campus with a new enthusiasm even as we continue to tighten our belts to serve students as effectively and efficiently as we can. We have more and more students looking for hands-on experiences at the farm and continue to have thousands of community members use the farm as a resource. Our intentional efforts of informing the public about the best kept secret of the University's campus, the University Farm, is probably one of the reasons we have more people stopping by the farm office than we've ever had to buy college merchandise such as hats and shirts, meat, vegetables, cranberry and yellow beans, olive oil (limited release), walnuts, and now eggs. Our inaugural participation in last year's Sierra Oro Farm Trail, a local agri-tourism event in October, introduced even more people to what we have to offer at the farm, and we continue to get new requests to use the farm for different community events.

We are continually looking for ways to enhance the academic programs we offer to attract more students. Last year's freshmen and transfer students were the first to be able to enter into a BS of Animal Science degree program at Chico State, and we hope that in the next year or two, we'll be able to offer an online Masters of Agricultural Education through a consortium to which we belong known as AG\*IDEA. Members of this consortium are among the premier research institutions in the country, such as North Carolina State University, Kansas State University, and University of Missouri. These universities offer online courses to members of AG\*IDEA so that member institutions can increase programs they offer without having to hire additional faculty. Membership in the AG\*IDEA consortium will help us make it possible to serve agricultural education students and credentialed teachers who want to pursue a master's degree from the convenience of their home and at a pace that may fit better in their professional schedules than that of a full-time student. We are working on an aggressive timetable for approval this year through the campus, the chancellor's office, and the WASC system, respectively. We'll keep you informed of our progress on this front.

In an effort to not only enhance our academic programs but to serve the local agricultural industry better, we've embarked on two initiatives to build a farmstead creamery and retail store complex on the University Farm and to develop a "Center for Sustainable Food and Agricultural Systems" (CFAS), both under the strong leadership of Dr. Cindy Daley. As you can imagine, it will take a lot of creative effort and financial resources to build the creamery/retail store complex and a lot of academic talent to develop CFAS, but I'm betting on Cindy's energy and willpower to pull them both off! To learn more about these efforts, please contact the college's development director, Sarah DeForest at [sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu).

As always, we invite you to become engaged with the College of Agriculture, help us grow, and let us know what you're doing—better yet stop by to see us.

Until next year,

Jennifer Ryder Fox

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# WHAT'S growing on



Above: Students Samantha Aragon, Shelby West, Kelsey Maben, and Heidi Goss represented the Chico State Sheep and Goat Unit at the 2010 Reno Nugget All American Show and Sale

## Chico State Wins Food Marketing Competition

The College of Agriculture's Food Marketing team competed at the Western Collegiate Food Marketing Competition in Fresno, Calif., March 20–21, 2010. The Domestic team—consisting of Haley Hunt, Jillian Kehoe, and Elle Karno-Palcic—placed first in their division with their idea for marketing organic and locally produced premium-quality chevon (goat meat) in Northern California. The International team—consisting of Kirby Swickard, Sara Spafford, and Tiffany Gomes—placed second in their division with their concept of marketing gourmet fruit butter in London, UK. All marketing teams were judged on the market analysis, competitive analysis, financials, and presentation of their products by industry experts. In addition, the International team received second place through student votes for the Most Innovative Market Idea, and second place for the Best PowerPoint Presentation.

## Graduation Reception Honors Seniors in Agriculture

In what is sure to become a Chico State Ag tradition, the College of Agriculture hosted its first annual reception for graduating agriculture majors and their families on May 21, 2010, the evening before commencement. More than 300 people attended the reception, which was held at the University Farm Pavilion. Each of the 52 graduating seniors in attendance walked onto the stage where he or she was

(clockwise from upper left)

- Haley Hunt**  
Major: Agribusiness  
Hometown: Redmond, Ore.
- Clarissa Rowley**  
Major: Agriscience and Education  
Hometown: Turlock, Calif.
- Kevin Ryan**  
Major: Crops, Horticulture, and  
Land Resource Management  
Hometown: Salinas, Calif.
- Casey Miller**  
Double Major: Animal Science & Agribusiness  
Minor: Business Administration  
Hometown: Orland, Calif.

greeted by Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox, while Outreach Coordinator Audrey Denney read a brief biography on each student.

The event's coordinator, Susie Funk, said the reception complemented commencement the following day by providing a more intimate setting for College of Agriculture faculty and staff to personally acknowledge each graduate in front of their families and friends.

## Chico State Sheep and Goat Unit Builds Reputation for Excellence

Long known as a high-quality breeder of sheep for youth raising show animals, the Chico State Sheep and Goat Unit is building its reputation for excellence in the goat show ring as well. In early June the student team of Kelsey Maben, Heidi Goss, Shelby West, and Samantha Aragon earned champion wether kid at the 2010 Reno Nugget All American Show and Sale, and the unit sold two ewe lambs and three wether kids at the sale, averaging more than \$300 per animal. Dr. Celina Johnson, assistant professor in animal science, and sheep and goat unit advisor, said, "Numerous breeders were thankful for the students as this crew was more than willing to jump in and help anyone who needed help. They represented Chico State very well." The trip also resulted in the donation of a Suffolk ram to CSU, Chico. Everett and Meredith Byrne of Gridley, CA. donated the ram, which won the Reno show in 2008. "We are excited to incorporate those genetics into our operation," Johnson said.

Throughout the summer, goats from Chico State did very well at their county fairs. "Our animals are consistently placing first and second in their classes for the kids who bought them," Johnson said.

The 2011 Sheep and Goat Day is scheduled at the University Farm for Saturday, February 12. For more information, find the Chico State Sheep and Goat Unit on Facebook, or visit [www.clublambpage.com/chicostate](http://www.clublambpage.com/chicostate).

## Superior Ag/Tri Counties Bank Golf Classic Nets \$46,000

Beautiful weather, a sold-out player roster, and the support of dozens of sponsors and volunteers helped the 15th Annual Superior Ag/Tri Counties Bank Golf Classic raise more than \$46,000 for scholarships and academic programs in the College of Agriculture. The Musco Olive Products team of Dennis Burreson, Heath Burreson, Shane Burreson, Greg Eastman, Chad Johnson, and Steve Wolfgram won the tournament. Alex Compton with AVAG, Inc. won the grand prize raffle drawing for a trip for four on the Tri Counties Bank plane to play a round of golf at Poppy Hills, plus \$600 cash.



## Take a Look at our Star Students

Each year the CSU, Chico College of Agriculture recognizes one exemplary student within each discipline as one of our Star Students. To view the complete articles on all of our past star students, visit our website at [www.csuchico.edu/ag/about/star-students](http://www.csuchico.edu/ag/about/star-students).

# WHAT'S growing on

## Quiz Bowl

CSU, Chico sent six students to the Academic Quiz Bowl held in Denver, Colo. July 25–26, 2010. Coached by Dr. Eric Houk, associated professor of agribusiness, the team of Janice Bridwell, Michelle Coon, Elizabeth Hurd, Marcela Samaniego, Meghan Stevenson, and Elizabeth Tutt competed against schools from all over the nation in a jeopardy-style competition that tests students' knowledge and skill in agricultural business and economics. In the double-elimination tournament, the team of Samaniego, Hurd, and Stevenson made it into the top 10 but was eliminated in a very close round against Purdue.

## Chico State Helps State FFA Officers Prepare for Busy Year

From the time they are elected to represent California FFA in April until their year of service ends the following spring, the six students who make up California's State FFA Officer Team spend 300 days on the road and travel 30,000 miles representing their association. Before they embarked on more than 100 school chapter visits in September, the state officers spent a few days in Chico preparing their curriculum and training for those visits. Dr. Brad Dodson, professor of ag science and education, and his team of faculty and students spent August 4–6 training the state officers on how to create and deliver an effective lesson plan.

The 2010–2011 California FFA Officer Team consists of Vincent Pellegrini, Galt, State President; Lindsey Anderson, Escalon, State Vice President; Jacquelynne Garcia, Bakersfield-Foothill, State Secretary; Ben Granholm, Grass Valley-Nevada Union, State Treasurer; Jessica Vazquez, Cottonwood-West Valley, State Reporter; and Casey Erickson, Porterville, State Sentinel.

## Organic Vegetable Project Receives \$20,000 Grant

The Foor Foundation, a Chico-based charitable foundation that focuses on limiting population growth and the loss of agricultural lands, has awarded the Chico State Organic Vegetable Project (OVP) \$20,000. The funds will allow the OVP, now in its third year, to expand marketing, student projects, vegetable variety research, and grower outreach.

College of Agriculture Professor Lee Altier is the project director. "The Foor Foundation helped us launch the Organic Vegetable Project three years ago, and we are grateful that they continue to see the value in what we are doing to help build a local food network and assist the organic agriculture community with research and education."

## Sierra Oro Farm Trail and Hall of Honor Reception

For the second year, the College of Agriculture participated in the Sierra Oro Farm Trail and held its annual Hall of Honor reception during the Passport Weekend. More than 400 Sierra Oro Farm Trail passport holders visited the University Farm October 9–10, 2010, where they were able to tour the 800-acre living laboratory, view student projects, and sample items grown on the farm.

At a special Hall of Honor reception held the evening of October 9, Elizabeth Stolp was inducted into the College of Agriculture's Hall of Honor. Stolp, a long-time supporter of the College of Agriculture, hails from a Durham farming family and celebrated her 100th birthday in August. Stolp worked in the University's Business Affairs office for 41 years, including during the presidency of Glen Kendall (1993 Hall of Honor Inductee) when the University Farm was established. "Elizabeth Stolp dedicated her life to this University, and in doing so had a profound impact on the College of Agriculture. We are proud to induct her into our Hall of Honor," said Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox.

# WHAT'S growing on

First Row: Graduating seniors Erin Van Peer and Clarissa Rowley show off their College of Agriculture pride at commencement

Quiz Bowl Team, (left to right) Marcela Samaniego, Elizabeth Hurd, Janice Bridwell, Meghan Stevenson, Michelle Coon, and Elizabeth Tutt

Second Row: Food Marketing Teams, Left to Right: Coach Baohui Song, Kirby Swickard, Sara Spafford, Tiffany Gomes, Haley Hunt, Jillian Kehoe, Elle Karno-Palcic, and Coach Marnie Dalton.

Elizabeth Stolp, College of Agriculture's Hall of Honor inductee

Third Row: The 2010–2011 California FFA Officer Team of Ben Granholm, Jessica Vazquez, Casey Erickson, Lindsey Anderson, Vincent Pellegrini, and Jacquelynne Garcia attended training at Chico State in August.

The Musco Olive team of Dennis Burreson, Heath Burreson, Shane Burreson, Greg Eastman, Chad Johnson, and Steve Wolfgram won the 2010 Superior Ag Golf Classic



# KATE knutsen

## Kate Knutsen Elected AS Vice President of Facilities and Services

The College of Agriculture has had the honor of calling the Associated Students Government Affairs office home for the past two years with both Jesse Eller (2008–2009 AS President) and Erin Van Peer (2009–2010 AS Executive Vice President) holding positions there. For agribusiness major Kate Knutsen, it seemed only natural to continue the legacy and pursue an officer position within the Associated Students.

The 20-year-old Chico local first learned the ropes of the Associated Students as a freshman and instantly knew she wanted to be a part of student leadership on campus. “I had the privilege of getting to know some of the past vice presidents of facilities and services. I took my time learning what the position was about and found that it was a perfect fit,” said Knutsen.

The vice president of facilities and services acts as a student representative to the two campus facilities owned by the Associated Students: the Bell Memorial Union (BMU) and the new Wildcat Recreation Center (WREC). When asked why she chose to run for that particular office, Knutsen said, “I liked this position because of its hands-on role with the facilities on this campus. I personally use the BMU daily and am an avid WREC user, so naturally I wanted to be more involved with them.”

The mission of the Student Government Affairs Office is to serve the students at CSU, Chico by raising their level of awareness on pertinent issues. Elected and appointed representatives serve as leaders and advocates, taking action to achieve educational, social, and political goals that are campus related.

Knutsen believes it is particularly important to increase student involvement in—and awareness of—the campus facilities, since students provide the funding for the buildings and their programs. During her campaign for office in the spring, Knutsen set out to do just that. “My biggest goal during my campaign was informing students of how much they pay in student fees each semester and where those fees go. These facilities on our campus are paid for by the students, and I believe these students need to have a strong voice in the uses of these facilities,” said Knutsen.



Campaigning proved to be one of the most stressful, challenging, and time-consuming things Knutsen had ever done, but looking back she knows the process was worth it. “I was able to learn a lot about myself. I proved to myself that I am capable of anything I set my mind to.” On April 21, 2010 Knutsen’s efforts paid off as she was elected to represent Chico State’s student body. “I wanted to scream and jump up and down,” Knutsen recalled, “but I kept my composure and called my mom to tell her the news, as she was the one behind me the entire time.”

Knutsen hadn’t planned on majoring in agriculture when she first came to Chico State. “I started as a Liberal Studies major pursuing a teaching career. After spending a year in the major and not receiving the support from the college that I needed, I knew it was time for a change,” said Knutsen. “I have always been involved in 4-H and FFA, so agribusiness was not a big stretch for me.” Having already completed a general education introduction to agribusiness course, she realized that the College of Agriculture’s family-like atmosphere was just what she needed. “Switching my major was one of the best decisions of my college career,” said Knutsen.

When Knutsen isn’t in class, she can often be found participating in events in the College of Agriculture. She is an active member of the Young Cattlemen’s Association and has helped out at the farm with FFA and 4-H events. In the event that she has free time, Knutsen enjoys riding her horse and working out at the WREC.

As for the future, Knutsen hasn’t decided what she wants to do after graduating. For now she is concentrating on the present and serving Chico State students as the vice president of facilities and services. “I am most excited about the WREC this coming year. I want to make sure that every student knows that the WREC is there for them and that they should take advantage of having such a facility. I also want to carry on the tradition of leadership within the College of Agriculture,” said Knutsen. ■



# ON THE road. again

## Ag Ambassadors Travel the State for the College of Agriculture

A new outreach team and a new structure have attracted a record number of students to the College of Agriculture’s Ag Ambassadors. More than 60 students registered to represent Chico State at various events and in high school and community college classes throughout the state this fall.

“We walked into the classroom and were completely overwhelmed by the number of faces looking back at us,” recalled College of Agriculture Outreach Coordinator Audrey Denney of the first day of school when she and lecturer Dr. Mollie Aschenbrener met with their new team.

In only its second year, the current Agriculture Ambassadors team was offered as a class in which students had the option to receive upper division elective units while gaining theoretical knowledge about facilitation and workshop development. The leadership-oriented class provided an opportunity for students to become familiar with the recruitment workshop and admissions policies as well as to share their “Chico Experience” with prospective students.

“The first and most important thing we want our ambassadors and prospective students to know about the Chico experience is that we’re a family,” said Denney. To emphasize the family atmosphere of the college, the first item on the ambassadors’ agenda was a retreat held at recent alumna Hallie Muller’s family farm, Full Belly Farm. Ambassadors focused on the basics of workshop facilitation and other skills necessary for a successful year.

The retreat allowed new and returning students the chance to mingle and bond as a group. According to sophomore agricultural education major Kim Macintosh, “At the retreat we became a family, not just acquaintances in a classroom. This is crucial to the success of our year because if we call ourselves a ‘family’ we have to have that trust.”



Suzanne Perrin, a College of Agriculture junior, left the retreat excited about the year ahead and the opportunity to be an ambassador. “Not only do I get to interact with my peers and faculty, but also prospective students,” she said. “As an agricultural education major, this is a great hands-on experience for my personal career goals.”

With more leadership opportunities per capita than any other college on campus, the College of Agriculture prides itself on developing effective leaders. Kattie Schmidig, an agricultural education sophomore, said “I am proud to be part of such a great group of people and represent such an awesome university. I think it is important to have ambassadors. We are able to connect directly with students and put Chico State on the map while promoting agriculture.”

After a busy fall semester, the Ag Ambassadors are already planning their spring schedule. During the coming semester, Ag Ambassadors will be found promoting Chico State at events such as the Red Bluff and Colusa alumni reunions, FFA Field Day, Spring Tours, Chico Admitted Student Preview Day, and California State FFA Convention. ■

# UNDERGRADUATE research award

## A TASTE OF *chico state*

### Teaching Entrepreneurship and Feeding the Community at the University Farm

#### Student Receives Funding to Research Invasive Pest

After visiting with Assistant Professor of Plant Science Betsy Boyd about her research on the destructive navel orangeworm's presence in Northern California orchards, Chico State Junior Joanna Bloese had some questions of her own. The two women decided to pursue the University's Undergraduate Research and Creativity Summer Stipend Award so Bloese could conduct her own research into the trapping system that Boyd and her research colleague Justin Nay are testing. Bloese is one of 10 undergraduate students who received \$2,000 each in the competitive summer research grant administered by the Honors Program.

Bloese's proposal was titled "Evaluating a Sustainable Tactic for Navel Orangeworm Management in California Almonds," and she sought to investigate the sex, mating status, and fecundity (egg-laying potential) of navel orangeworms captured in baited traps deployed in almond orchards throughout the Central Valley.

Her research required her to dissect the moths trapped in almond orchards in Tulare and Colusa counties to determine their sex and whether or not they had mated. Although data collection was still in progress as of this writing, all moths captured thus far have been females, and most of them carried fertilized eggs. Bloese's findings suggest that the trapping system that Boyd and Nay are testing is capturing mated female moths before they can lay their eggs on healthy nuts and damage the almond crop. If the system proves effective, it may allow growers to decrease the amount of insecticide they must spray to protect their crops.

With the conclusion of her research, Bloese hopes to present her findings at national meetings for organizations such as the Entomological Society of America and to publish her results in a professional entomology journal.

Boyd is thrilled that Bloese is so excited about her field. "As an entomologist, I am delighted to work with a student who has a passion and curiosity for entomological research. Ultimately, it pays off for both of us. I get to share some of my knowledge with Joanna, while she develops skills through this research that will make her a competitive applicant for any future endeavors."

Bloese, a Williamston, Michigan native, is pursuing a degree in agricultural science with an option in crops, horticulture, and land resource management. Along with her major, Bloese is pursuing two minors: one in art, with an emphasis in glass blowing, and a second in Italian. As a Grand Valley State University transfer, Bloese admitted, "I wanted a change of scenery, to try living somewhere new, and I had heard a lot of good things about what Chico State had to offer."

Bloese attributes much of her interest in agriculture to her father's involvement in Michigan State University's Forestry department. With her father's influence and interest in forestry, Bloese started researching exotic pests, and her interest has now branched into the pest management industry. "Agriculture is vital. We all need to eat, don't we? I think what makes pest management so intriguing is the fact that there is so little known and so much research left to find out," said Bloese.

"I am all for sustainable agriculture, and if I can use my interests in research to help reduce our industry's economic and environmental footprint, then I think that is really exciting." Bloese plans to continue her research in pest management and hopes to enter graduate school. "I think I would really enjoy conducting research at the university level or doing developmental work overseas." ■

On a Monday morning in late August, visitors were already waiting when the gate opened at 7 a.m. for the first day of U-Pick Peaches at the University Farm. "The cooler weather this year set our peaches back about three weeks in ripening, so there was a lot of pent-up demand when we finally opened," said Dr. Dave Daley, associate dean and University Farm Administrator.

In fact, sales and attendance at the U-Pick peach orchard continue to grow after 20 years, which prompted the farm staff and students to plant an adjoining patch of corn for the 2010 season.

"There is definitely a demand for locally grown produce in the Chico community, and I think the fact that we are Chico State and our crops are grown by our students makes our products even more appealing," said College of Agriculture Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox. "We have a unique opportunity to incorporate concepts of entrepreneurship, farmstead production, niche marketing, and local and regional food systems into our curriculum."

The popularity of the University Farm's Meats Lab, which is open Thursdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., has grown over the years through word-of-mouth advertising. And the University Farm has set aside a portion of its walnut crop every year for packaging and marketing under the Chico State name. But during the past two years, the University Farm has expanded its line of branded and direct-to-consumer products to help teach students about niche marketing and to capitalize on the value of the Chico State name.

One of the newest endeavors is a student-driven project to raise pasture-based, free-range chickens for egg production. The project was the vision of Eileen Whitcomb, a 2010 graduate in animal science who saw an opportunity to develop a niche market for the farm while using chickens for fly larvae control. Whitcomb presented the idea to the Associate Students' Sustainability Fund Allocation Committee

and received a grant to launch the project. The hens began laying eggs in late summer, and the eggs are available for purchase at the University Farm.

In 2010, the University Farm launched two more new products: an unfiltered "field blend" olive oil and two varieties of dry beans. The olive oil comes from a small University of California variety trial that was planted on the farm in the 1990s but had never been harvested until 2009. The olives were harvested using a prototype of a new mechanical olive harvester developed by faculty in the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management. The farm is also selling 10-pound bags of cranberry beans and yellow beans, which were grown as a rotational crop in 2009 on the ground along Hegan Lane that previously held an almond orchard. Also in the spring of 2010, the Organic Vegetable Project (OVP), which occupies a little over an acre of organically certified ground at the University Farm, became a cornerstone of a new weekly student market that takes place on campus every Wednesday in front of the Student Services Center.

"Our biggest following so far has been staff and faculty. They really like the convenience of the market, and they look forward to coming out each week and buying something for dinner that night," said OVP Student Manager Lynn Hayes, a senior majoring in agriculture with an option in crops, horticulture, and land resource management.

Currently, sales of all the University Farm products take place at various times and locations depending on the product. The college's next step will be to develop an online farm store where customers can view and purchase products from their own computers. The goal is to launch the online farm store in 2011. The long-term vision is to build a farmstead creamery and store at the University Farm where visitors can learn about agriculture, watch dairy products being made, and purchase their Chico State University Farm products on site.

People don't always associate a university with entrepreneurship, but Dean Fox said that is really one of the distinctive features about the College of Agriculture at Chico State, as evidenced by the 2008 Excellence in Agribusiness Award presented by the Chico Economic Planning Corporation. "We are always looking for opportunities and encouraging students to be creative in developing marketing channels for our products. Our hope is that many of our students will take what they learn here and be able to design value-added production systems on their own farms, ranches, and businesses that meet the needs of local and regional food networks." ■

*"As an entomologist, I am delighted to work with a student who has a passion and curiosity for entomological research."*

Betsy Boyd,  
Assistant Professor



Joanna checking a trap.  
Photo by E.A. Boyd



A. G. Kawamura, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, samples Chico State products during the 2010 Butte County Fair.





# ON THEcutting edge

## College of Agriculture Laboratories Feature Latest Scientific Technology

**ANYONE** familiar with the CSU, Chico College of Agriculture knows about the Agriculture Teaching and Research Center (University Farm) on Hegan Lane and its use as a living laboratory for agriculture courses and programs. Whether it is the site of a youth educational field day, industry meeting, U-Pick peach orchard, general education laboratory, student crop project, or faculty research study, the University Farm is the very public and multi-purpose face of the College of Agriculture.

But the University Farm is not the only laboratory facility that is critical to the educational mission of the college. Tucked away on the third floor of Plumas Hall on the main Chico State campus is a series of classrooms, labs, and closets that house some of the most advanced scientific equipment available for agricultural research. The lab



facilities serve a wide range of agricultural classes, offering faculty and students a unique learning space to expand upon classroom concepts, practice laboratory skills and techniques, and find answers to some of agriculture's most pressing research questions.

"Our students really need some kind of lab-based skill development to be competitive," said Animal Science Professor and Program Coordinator Cindy Daley. "Whether they go to work in research, quality assurance, food safety, or attend graduate school or vet school, they will need to have these skills."

Dr. Celina Johnson, assistant professor of animal science, agrees that students will need laboratory skills and experiences whether they expect to use them in their careers or not. "In my animal nutrition labs, we measure protein, fiber, energy, and minerals in basic feeds. Instead of simply reading a feed report, students are actually doing the lab work that goes into producing the reports so that when they are in livestock production they will have an appreciation of what goes into getting the information they receive when they send in a feed sample (to a commercial lab) or buy a load of hay."

During the past year a number of funding sources, including an Agricultural Research Initiative grant and lottery funds made available by Provost Sandra Flake, have allowed the College of Agriculture to purchase state-of-the-art equipment that will further expand the college's educational and research capabilities. From a simple upgrade of 12 new microscopes to some very sophisticated

purchases such as a real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) cyclers and an automated carbon/nitrogen analyzer, decisions to purchase the new equipment are aligned with the College of Agriculture's strategic goal to continually improve student-centered learning both inside and outside of the classroom.

Some students may use the equipment only during scheduled class labs in courses such as animal nutrition, genetics, and soil science, but students who choose to go deeper may do so as they carry out their own or faculty research in the laboratory. Krista Coopriider graduated with a BS in agriculture in 2007 and went on to earn her master's degree in animal biology from UC Davis. Her selection for a graduate assistantship at UC Davis was based in part on the solid laboratory skills she had developed at CSU, Chico. Coopriider gained lab experience both in her agricultural classes and as a research assistant to Dr. Patrick Doyle, associate professor in animal science, during which she tested the concentration of omega-3 fatty acids in grass-fed versus grain-fed lamb. "Not only was I familiar with the lab equipment, but the experience taught me to be meticulous, follow procedures, and take notes," Coopriider said. "I think Alison (Van Eenennaam, graduate advisor at UC Davis) picked me in part because of my lab experience."

Dr. Johnson, a CSU, Chico alumna herself (Agriculture, '96), had a similar experience when she entered graduate school at the University of Florida. "I was the only master's student who had ever run some of the equipment, so it gave me a head start. For those who do go on to graduate school, some are ahead of the curve."

Johnson is one of several faculty members using the laboratories to conduct research funded by the Agriculture Research Initiative and supported by the agriculture industry. Johnson spent much of her summer break in Plumas Hall running samples of goat meat through a gas chromatograph to analyze the fatty acid profile of two dietary treatments: goats fed only grass versus those fed grass and grain. Her research was conducted in cooperation with the Northern California Meat Goat Association and has implications for the marketing efforts of its producers.

Johnson and her colleagues are excited to start using the latest equipment and get students working with its state-of-the-art technology. The new real-time PCR cyclers, for example, has applications in a number of classes. Where previous polymerase chain reaction labs were only able to identify whether a specific gene was present (such as in a genetics laboratory where students were tasked to determine whether a corn sample contained a genetically modified gene or not), the new real-time PCR equipment can quantify gene expression, which will tell researchers how much gene product is present in a plant or animal tissue. This type of testing goes beyond simply knowing whether a gene is present. Real-time PCR will quantify a specific gene sequence as well as provide clues as to whether that gene is being actively expressed.

*"We are really on the cutting edge."*

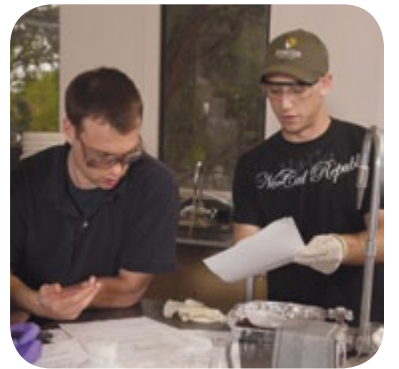
*—Cindy Daley*

"It teaches students about the latest molecular tools available in the industry to help identify specific gene sequences," Dr. Cindy Daley said. "In a diagnostic lab these techniques may be used to identify and track disease. In a food-quality lab you may be looking for *E. coli*, or you may be trying to find fungus in a batch of seed. There are lots of applications in industry. It is important that students can understand and do it."

Helping faculty and students learn how to use and develop applications for the new equipment is a team of two technicians whose job it is to master and share the scientific capabilities of the labs. Chuck Sellers, lab manager, and Kathy Berry-Garrett, instructional support technician, have each been with the College of Agriculture for more than a decade and have seen significant progress during that time.

Sellers, a 1990 graduate in agriculture, started using the labs as a student and found his niche. "I liked working with the lab equipment, but I noticed there were a lot of things that weren't being used, so I would play around with them and get things going again. That led to some equipment upgrades, and now we've probably moved all the lab equipment up 30 years."

*Continued on page 10*



Continued from page 9

While Sellers handles purchasing, paperwork, lab safety, and facilities management, Berry-Garrett helps faculty create and set up their weekly labs. Whether she is researching and writing techniques for a new research project, helping a faculty member develop a food safety course, or teaching students the safe and meticulous laboratory skills necessary to gather sound, publishable data, Berry-Garrett views her role as a facilitator. "Faculty and students truly have ownership over this lab, and Chuck and I are here to support them. If students or faculty come to us with a research idea, we'll figure out what it takes to make it work. It's really a place where anything can happen."

As technology progresses, Berry-Garrett works to keep up with the science so she can help faculty incorporate new advances into the curriculum. "I'm continually taking upper-division science classes across all fields, including plant pathology, immunology, and instrumental analysis," Berry-Garrett said. "The College of Agriculture must keep current with science and technology, so I'm constantly learning in order to help us do that."

With a tight budget and restricted resources, the College of Agriculture takes an integrated and strategic approach to keep current with laboratory and instructional needs. "We have an ongoing wish list to help us make purchasing decisions," said Sellers. "As a college we prioritize our needs based on what will benefit the entire program rather than just one person or discipline. As money comes in we have already made the decisions, so there is no delay to be able to take advantage of them."

Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox said that since the latest round of purchasing was able to secure most of the items on the lab wish list, faculty and staff are already back to the drawing board, researching the latest laboratory technology so they can be prepared the next time resources become available. "We will continue to pursue the strategic allocation of resources to serve the broadest constituencies," Fox said.

Due in large part to its facilities, equipment, and personnel, CSU, Chico is taking a leading role in advancing agricultural science. "Our students are finding jobs and getting into grad school because of their lab experience, and faculty are conducting research that answers questions for the agriculture industry," said Daley. "From both an educational and a research standpoint, we are really on the cutting edge." ■



# DOES heterosis matter anymore?

## Research in Crossbreeding Leads to Start of Hereford Program at Chico State

A three-year study of crossbreeding Hereford and Angus cattle under range conditions has led to phone calls and speaking engagements nationwide for the principal investigator and resulted in the donation of Hereford cattle and embryos to establish a Hereford program at California State University, Chico.

Angus cattle have been effectively marketed to the consumer for such things as marbling and tenderness. Crossbred animals, however, are generally expected to exhibit hybrid vigor resulting in advantages in traits like longevity, health, and reproductive fitness. The benefits of heterosis, or "hybrid vigor," have been well established for decades. But in the era of breed-based marketing programs when producers often received a higher price for cattle with black hides, some industry leaders decided it was time to take another look at the value of crossbreeding. They approached Dave Daley, PhD, animal science professor, associate dean, and University Farm administrator, to investigate which breeding system provided the greatest economic return to the producer.

Daley partnered with Lacey Livestock in Independence, Calif., Harris Ranch Feeding Co. in Coalinga, Calif., and Harris Ranch Beef Co. in Selma, Calif. to lead the research project, which was conducted as a "field trial" under real-world

range conditions on ranches in central and eastern California. Angus cows were mated to both Hereford and Angus bulls under typical western range conditions. The hypothesis of the study was that there would be an economic advantage to crossbreeding, especially in the finishing phase. Daley followed the purebred and crossbred calves from birth through the finishing stage and compared the longevity, health, reproductive fitness, and economic return to the producer.

The results of the study are probably no surprise to anyone who has taken genetics or beef management from Daley or his predecessors in the College of Agriculture. The researchers found improvements in feed efficiency, animal health, and net economic return in the crossbred cattle versus the straight-bred Angus cattle.

"The economics of the beef industry have changed so much in recent decades that producers need current data under real-world conditions," Daley said. "From my perspective we need to look at the economics back to the cow-calf level to see the return to the actual producers."

The study has generated significant national interest in establishing crossbreeding programs. As a result, the American Hereford Association and other breeders donated cattle and embryos to help launch a Hereford program at CSU, Chico.

"The breeding program offers one more area of field experience for students," said Daley, "and gives students the opportunity to interact with an additional segment of industry professionals."

The research was funded by the Agricultural Research Initiative, the American Hereford Association, Lacey Livestock, Harris Ranch Feeding Co., and Harris Ranch Beef Co. ■



## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The following individuals and organizations have helped launch a Hereford breeding program at CSU, Chico:

Aaron Wilbourn Cattle Co. and W6 Herefords  
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Alto Herefords  
American Hereford Association  
Graham Blagg  
Joe Brazil  
California/Nevada Hereford Association

California/Nevada Polled Hereford Association  
DeForest Livestock  
Paul and Karin DeForest  
Gagnon Herefords  
Genoa Livestock  
B.J. and Melissa Macfarlane  
Bob Macfarlane and Laura Allender

Matt and Michelle Macfarlane  
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Bobby Mickelson  
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Schohr Herefords  
Sonoma Mountain Herefords  
Marshall and Linda Walker

DISTINGUISHED

# alumnus

## Farmer-Turned-Regulator Brings New Perspective to Powerful Board

As a Chico State student in the mid-1960s, Charlie Hoppin scoffed at the school motto, 'Today Decides Tomorrow,' and lived by his own personal motto instead: 'Today is the tomorrow I decided on yesterday.' He had decided on his future long before entering college, and as far as he was concerned, he couldn't wait to get out of school and get on with his life. Now looking back on 40-plus years in the agriculture industry, the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus for the College of Agriculture has changed his opinion about the school motto. He marvels at the path his career has taken and credits Chico State for helping him develop some of the skills he needed to navigate it.

Until 2006, Charlie Hoppin was living his dream as a farmer. After a couple years working for ag-related businesses, Hoppin considers himself fortunate to have been able to start farming full time in the early 1970s. "I was able to start a farm because my wife (Kathy) worked as a school teacher, providing the income to pay the bills and weather the highs and lows of farming. I worked very hard, we didn't spend a lot of money, we lived within our means, and we were uniquely successful."

CR Hoppin Farms is a diversified farming operation in Yolo and Sutter counties. The family (Charlie, Kathy, son Casey, and daughter Kelly, who just received her secondary agriculture teaching credential from CSU, Chico) grows rice, fresh-market melons, seed sunflowers, walnuts, corn, and other crops.

Through his involvement in industry organizations during the course of his career, Hoppin began to develop another interest: politics. In 2001, Hoppin played a crucial role in getting the state legislature to enact the Tractor Tax Exemption as part of the state budget. The exemption has provided \$110–115 million per year in tax relief to California farmers, and it levels the playing field between California and other states in regards to the tractor tax.

His experiences in working with legislators and state agencies led Hoppin to the realization that ordinary people can have an impact. "I'm just a normal person, but I took an interest and became involved in political activities that made a difference in our industry."

In 2006, Hoppin turned over the day-to-day farm management to his son, Casey, and accepted Governor Schwarzenegger's appointment to the State Water Resources Control Board. The influential board sets and enforces statewide policy regulating water quality and water rights in California. The first appointee ever to have come from the board's

regulated community, Hoppin viewed the appointment as an opportunity to inject a sense of the practical implications of board regulations into the decision-making process. In 2009 the governor appointed Hoppin chair of the board, so what had previously taken most of his time now takes all of it. "If you ask me what I do today I guess I'm a regulator, but when I brush my teeth and shave in the morning, I still see a farmer," Hoppin said.

It's probably not where he saw himself headed in 1966, but Hoppin credits his experiences at Chico State for helping him get where he is today. "I think the most important thing about my college education was learning to have the discipline to do things that I didn't necessarily want to do," Hoppin said. "I had classes that I thoroughly enjoyed, and I had classes that I knew I would never need to use in my life, but I had to take it to graduate. One of those was chemistry, and I couldn't have been more wrong. Chemistry is something I really would have benefited by learning more about." Whether it's changing course when his business models and projections don't work out as expected, or learning the complex intricacies of water regulations throughout the state, Hoppin calls upon the discipline he developed at Chico State on a regular basis.

He also has fond memories of the people who supported him during his college education, such as Jack Nolan, who taught sheep husbandry and a diesel power class. "Jack wore overalls, smoked a cigar, and had a limp from an injury in World War II, and he was a role model for me. Jack would

Shasta Hall and "Blacksmith" Charlie Hoppin operated the Blacksmith Shop.



A photo from the 1966 Chico State Yearbook

come by our barbecues and parties because he really liked us and wanted to see what would become of us. It was gratifying to know that a professor really cared about me."

In addition to his role on the water board, Hoppin also serves on the Board of Directors of Farmer's Rice Cooperative and on the Chico State Agricultural Advisory Council. His success as a farmer, his remarkable service to the agriculture industry, and his support of the College of Agriculture led to his selection as the college's 2010 Distinguished Alumnus, for which he was honored at a campuswide celebration on April 23, 2010. He also spent time that day speaking with agriculture students and encouraging them to be active in their industry. "I can look back and point to things that changed because of my involvement," Hoppin told students. "Ordinary people can have a tremendous influence."

Now that he thinks about it, the Chico State motto wasn't that far off. "When I look at what I'm doing now, the motto fits perfectly because with my work in the regulatory arena with the State Water Resources Control Board and my involvement with political activities, I know I'm having some input in shaping our tomorrow—not just tomorrow as in Saturday of this week, but the tomorrow for my children. So I've really come full circle with the motto; it means a lot more to me today than it did when I was in college." ■



Charlie Hoppin (center) accepts his Distinguished Alumni award from CSU, Chico President Paul Zingg and College of Agriculture Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox

## SPOTLIGHT ON giving

### Wes and Jane Patton Support Student Success for More Than 40 Years

From the time he returned to his alma mater as a young animal science professor in 1969 until he retired in 2004, Dr. Wes (Doc) Patton and his wife, Jane, developed a reputation for truly caring about student success. The Pattons' focus on helping students achieve their dreams is no less evident in retirement. The Wes and Jane Patton Student Advancement Award is given each year to help an undergraduate further his or her educational experience by traveling to present a paper at a scientific meeting or visit graduate schools.

The 2010 recipient of the Patton Award is Daniel Louie (in picture below with the Pattons). The Siskiyou County native and animal science major graduated in the spring and has started veterinary school at Washington State University. Louie was nominated and selected by faculty for his academic achievement at CSU, Chico, his involvement in the college, and his commitment to furthering his education and ultimately impacting agriculture.

"I feel so fortunate to have received this award," Louie said. "Although I missed out on Dr. Patton's teaching, since I started school after he retired, I know what a huge impact he had and still has at Chico State."

The Pattons established the award in 2000 when Doc received a small monetary stipend for his selection as the University's Outstanding Faculty Service Award winner. In the typical Patton fashion of giving and service, Doc and Jane used the windfall to create a flexible endowment in the University Foundation that would allow them to fund their award each year while making regular contributions to the endowment. By gradually building an endowment rather than relying solely on annual contributions, the Pattons are guaranteeing that generations of students will benefit from the legacy they have established—a legacy of lifelong learning more than 40 years in the making.



## Are you a member of The Heritage Circle?

You may already be a member of this elite group and not even know it!

The Heritage Circle is a special group of generous individuals who have named The University Foundation, California State University, Chico as a charitable beneficiary in their will, living trust, or other type of planned gift arrangement.

When you designate the College of Agriculture or University Farm as a charitable beneficiary of your estate plans, you become a valued member of The Heritage Circle. You join such notable benefactors as General John Bidwell and his wife, Annie, who began the legacy of Chico State in 1887 by donating eight acres of their cherry orchard to establish Chico Normal School. Each year we celebrate that legacy with a luncheon that recognizes all members of The Heritage Circle. We would be honored to have you join us.

For more information about The Heritage Circle, and for confidential assistance with gift planning, please contact our development office.

**Gary Salberg**  
Director of Planned Giving  
530-898-5459  
gsalberg@csuchico.edu

**Sarah DeForest**  
Director of Advancement,  
College of Agriculture  
530-898-3737  
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# IN THE NEWS



College of Agriculture Dean **Jennifer Ryder Fox** participated in the *Farm Journal's* Legacy Project by appearing on "Leave a Legacy TV," a program that airs on AgDay and U.S. Farm Report. In episode 6, which aired June 17, 2010, Fox visited with host Kevin Spafford and an Indiana farming family who is working on the succession planning they will need to keep their farm in the family. That episode and others can be found at [www.agweb.com/legacyproject](http://www.agweb.com/legacyproject).

In a study published in the *Nutrition Journal* in March, animal science faculty members **Drs. Cindy Daley** and **Patrick Doyle**, along with colleagues at UC Davis, synthesized 30 years of research on the effect of grass-finishing on the nutritional content of beef. The results of their study show that grass-fed beef has a nutritional advantage over grain-fed beef when looking at antioxidants such as omega-3 fatty acids, conjugated linoleic acid, vitamin A, vitamin E, and some key cancer fighting compounds. The study has generated significant interest, including a post on the *New York Times'* Well blog on March 11, 2010.

**Kevin O'Brien** (Agriculture, '99) was featured in the May 2010 issue of *Runner's World*, which can be found online at <http://runnersworld.coverleaf.com/runnersworld/201005#pg91>. The article titled "Work Hard, Run Hard" profiled four athletes and the impact their careers have on their running. O'Brien is an assistant manager of McArthur Farm Supply in Fall River Mills, Calif.

Two Chico State alumni are entering their second year in the **California Agricultural Leadership Program**, which will take them on a 15-day international travel seminar to Egypt, Turkey, and Tunisia in February. **Kandi Manhart**, executive officer for the Glenn County Resource Conservation District, received her agribusiness degree from CSU, Chico in 2003. **Matt Jones**, dryer manager and field representative for SunSweet Dryers in Live Oak also attended CSU, Chico, majoring in agribusiness. Manhart, Jones, and 22 other agriculture professionals from throughout California make up Class 40 of the California Agricultural Leadership Program, an intensive two-year fellowship that prepares and motivates men and women in California agriculture for more effective leadership. For more information about the fellows and the Ag Leadership program, visit [www.agleaders.org](http://www.agleaders.org).

From Top: Cindy Daley, Patrick Doyle, Kandi Manhart, and Matt Jones.



## College of Agriculture Wish List

Did you know that you can support agriculture education and possibly receive a tax deduction by donating your farm equipment to the College of Agriculture? If it is in good working condition and meets our instructional needs, the University Farm will gladly accept your new or used equipment. Here are some items we currently need:

- Front-end loader
- Fork lift
- Portable (or stationary) feed mill
- Swather/mower—pull-behind rather than self propelled.
- Small tractor (28 hp) for organic vegetable project
- Front-end loader for 28 hp tractor
- Hay squeeze
- New cultivator
- Dump trailer or set of doubles
- Pipe and cable for fencing
- Small farm implements for smaller pastures
- Gator/mule type vehicles
- Brillion seeder
- Gated aluminum pipe

For more information about making a donation to the College of Agriculture, contact Sarah DeForest at 530-898-3737 or [sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu).

## Where Are THEY NOW?

### 2000s

**Dane Nissen (Agribusiness, '00)**  
Warehouse Manager—Strain Ranches, Inc., Arbutle, CA

**Kevin Reed (Agribusiness, '01)**  
Sales/Production Manager—Christopher Ranch, Hollister, CA  
[clipcal@hotmail.com](mailto:clipcal@hotmail.com)

**Sarah (Cumber) Lose (Animal Science, '02)**  
Environmental Scientist—California State Parks, Rancho Cordova, CA  
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**Leah Taylor-Boyd (Agriculture '03)**  
Production Manager—Nestle Prepared Foods USA, Gaffney, SC  
[Leah.boyd@us.nestle.com](mailto:Leah.boyd@us.nestle.com)

**Tim Misner (Agribusiness, '04)**  
Special Projects—Ag Seeds Unlimited, Woodland, CA  
[tim@agseeds.com](mailto:tim@agseeds.com)

**Chris Van Egmond (Agribusiness, '04)**  
Aftermarket Development Manager—DeLaval Inc., Turlock, CA  
[Chris.vanegmond@delaval.com](mailto:Chris.vanegmond@delaval.com)

**Casey Stafford (Plant Science, '04) and Regina Zapponi Stafford (Animal Science, '04)**  
Casey and Regina manage CICC Outdoor Adventures for the Colusa Indian Community Council. Part of their wildlife habitat efforts include planting safflower fields to feed wildlife and fuel hunting vehicles (photo on page 1). The Staffords live in Sutter with their son, Cade (5), and daughter, Quinn (3).  
[outdooradventures@colusa-nsn.gov](http://outdooradventures@colusa-nsn.gov)

**Elena Hernandez (Agribusiness, '05)**  
Marketing Manager—Mann Packing Co., Inc., Salinas, CA  
[elena.hernandez@mannpacking.com](mailto:elena.hernandez@mannpacking.com)

**Dave Daly (Land Stewardship, '07)**  
Children's Garden Coordinator—Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY  
[DavidDaly@bbg.org](mailto:DavidDaly@bbg.org)

**Chelsea Bauman (Agribusiness, '08)**  
Production Manager—NursTech, Inc., Gridley, CA  
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**Theodora Dowling (Ag Communications; French, '08)**  
Manager of Legislative Affairs—Public Lands Council, Washington, DC  
Theo works out of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association Government Affairs office, where she also works on federal lands issues for NCBA.  
[tdowling@beef.org](mailto:tdowling@beef.org)

**Melissa Green (Animal Science, '08)**  
Program Manager—Harris Ranch Beef Co., Selma, CA  
Melissa earned her master's degree in Animal Science with an emphasis in Meat Science from Colorado State University in 2010.  
[Melissa.Green@harrisranch.com](mailto:Melissa.Green@harrisranch.com)

**Ritta (Millsaps) Martin (Agribusiness, '08)**  
Associate Analyst, Finance—E. & J. Gallo Winery, Modesto, CA  
[Ritta.martin@ejgallo.com](mailto:Ritta.martin@ejgallo.com)

**Casey Rose (Agribusiness, '08)**  
Business Development Manager, Strawberries—Colorful Harvest, Salinas, CA  
[crose@colorfulharvest.com](mailto:crose@colorfulharvest.com)

**Elizabeth Barbosa (Agribusiness, '09)**  
Warehouse Assistant Manager—Progressive Farms, Edison, CA  
[Ebarbosa3@yahoo.com](mailto:Ebarbosa3@yahoo.com)

**Megan (Dunn) Kroon (Agribusiness, '09)**  
Accounting Analyst—Yosemite Farm Credit, Turlock, CA  
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### 1970s

**Greg Brandt (Animal Science, '75)**  
President—Agora Sales LLC, Fort Wayne, IN  
[brandt9925@verizon.net](mailto:brandt9925@verizon.net)

### 1980s

**Stephen Jones, PhD (Agriculture, '80)**  
Director, Washington State University Research and Extension Center at Mt. Vernon, WA  
Professor and Scientist, Department of Crop Sciences  
[jones@cahnrs.wsu.edu](mailto:jones@cahnrs.wsu.edu)

**Chuck Mouwen (Agronomy, '80)**  
Global Seed Quality Lead—Monsanto, Creve Coeur, MO  
[Chuck.mouwen@monsanto.com](mailto:Chuck.mouwen@monsanto.com)

**John Pearson (Agriculture, '81)**  
Agriculture Teacher—Socorro High School, Socorro, NM  
Owner—JP's Hogs, Bernardo, NM  
[piphogs@aol.com](mailto:piphogs@aol.com)

### 1990s

**Olivio Arios (MS Agriculture, '93)**  
Associate Scientist—Syngenta Seeds Hawaii, LLC, Kunia, HI  
[olivio.arios@gmail.com](mailto:olivio.arios@gmail.com)

**Daniel Beck (Agriculture, '97)**  
Game Warden—California Department of Fish and Game, Yreka, CA  
Beck and his wife Amy have three kids: sons Daniel (10) and Garrett (8) and daughter Kaitlynn (6).  
[dbeck@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:dbeck@dfg.ca.gov)

**Kristine (Tompkins) Raimer (Animal Science, '99)**  
Benefits Administrator—Rolling Hills Casino, Corning, CA  
[Kristiney54@hotmail.com](mailto:Kristiney54@hotmail.com)

## Where Are You Now?

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Company \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### THE harvest

Send to:  
Sarah DeForest  
Director of Advancement  
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California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929-0440  
[sdeforest@csuchico.edu](mailto:sdeforest@csuchico.edu)

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Private giving means the difference between the maintenance of a great educational program and the evolution of an exceptional one. Thank you to the following donors who have helped us create an exceptional College of Agriculture here at California State University, Chico.

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- 29 Swine Day
- February** 2 Colusa Alumni Reunion
- 12 Sheep Day
- 16 Career & Internship Fair
- March** 17-18 Grazing Academy
- April** 23-24 Circle of Champions Jackpot Show
- May** 22 Commencement
- June** 13 Superior Ag Golf Tournament

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