There's a lot of talk about change this fall, and regardless of which side of the aisle you're on, change happens. As we approach the halfway mark of the academic year, I'll reflect on the changes we've seen in this college over the last two years and think about the good things to come.

The first change that comes to mind is the format of this newsletter. In response to requests for more frequent electronic updates, we have changed *The Harvest* into an annual magazine-style publication and added a quarterly electronic newsletter to our communication toolbox. If we have your e-mail address on file, you may have received the inaugural issue of *The Pavilion* electronic newsletter in September. If not, please e-mail Sarah DeForest at sdeforest@csuchico.edu so that you can receive the most current updates from the College of Agriculture. Please drop us a line and let us know what you think of the new format.

If you visit our Web site in the next few months, www.csuchico.edu/ag, you'll see that it is taking on a new look as well, and hopefully you will come to rely on it for up-to-the minute news and information about college happenings and events. We have also added an alumni update form to our Web site so that you can easily inform us when you move, start a new job, get married, or experience other changes in your life. We don't want to lose track of our alumni and friends!

We've seen some changes in college personnel this fall due to faculty retirements or moves to other institutions. You can learn about our new faculty in ag business, plant science, and agriscience and education on page 12. Please help us welcome these talented new additions to the college. We also have a search committee led by Dr. Cindy Daley actively recruiting for two tenure track ag business positions. With Cindy's leadership, and participation from all college academic programs, students, as well as an industry representative, you know it will be a good effort.

Additionally, we're in the process of making changes to our classrooms at the farm, which we expect to be complete before the end of this semester. I doubt there will be any tears shed when we say goodbye to the Crops Classroom and the Vet Lab. They have been replaced with a new modular building near the pavilion to optimize the use of both buildings. And we've converted several of the classrooms in Plumas Hall to "smart" classrooms, which makes teaching and learning a little easier for faculty and students alike.

Our students continue to excel in extra-curricular activities and win national, regional, and statewide competitions. As I have said before, this doesn't happen by accident but is the result of a lot of extra work on the part of our college personnel. We get a lot of bragging rights from these accomplishments, and I know that we'll continue to have great participation from faculty, staff, and students alike. One exceptional outcome of this hard work is that the college was named the “2008 Chico Agribusiness of the Year” by the Chico Economic Planning Corporation. It is unusual for a university to be recognized by local business in such a way, and I know it is the result of everyone working toward a common goal of doing what it takes to get the job done.

I'm certain that you heard about the fires in Butte County this past summer, and although the town of Chico was not directly threatened by the fires, the College of Agriculture contributed to the relief efforts by opening up the farm to evacuated livestock. You can read about the extent of our involvement in this issue, but one of the outcomes was a lesson in volunteerism for all of us, and especially for our students who pitched in immediately and took care of watering and feeding the livestock around the clock. We are very proud of their efforts, and the community really appreciated having this facility available to them. Being so close to a wildfire makes us all rethink our priorities and appreciate what we have.

As always, if you're going to be in the area, please stop by the office to let us know what you've been doing.

My best,

Jennifer Ryder Fox
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College of Agriculture Unveils New Web Site
The College of Agriculture is pleased to announce that our long-awaited Web site redesign will be online by January. The new site is at www.csuchico.edu/ag, and includes streamlined navigation options, more information for prospective students, and a revamped page for alumni and friends. The new site was funded by Superior Ag and designed by the Instructional Media Center at CSU, Chico.

Chico Hosts Organic Dairy Conference
The College of Agriculture hosted the 2008 Organic Dairy Conference at the University’s Agriculture Teaching and Research Center on March 25–26, 2008. One of the highlights was a producer panel with some of the top dairy grazers in the Western United States.

Dr. Cindy Daley, professor of Animal Science at CSU, Chico, who also served as the conference coordinator for the 2008 event, said, “There are a number of very successful dairy producers using improved pastures as a major component of their ration. It was interesting to hear about the profitable success they’ve had in reducing their feed grain inputs.” CSU, Chico will continue to host the conference every other year.

A New Era of Livestock Marketing
The University Farm Beef Unit hosted its first Internet bull and heifer sale in April. The four-day event featured 30 Angus and Red Angus yearling bulls and six halter-broke yearling heifers. The auction allowed the CSU, Chico beef program to expand their buyer pool as producers from across the country could preview pictures and videos of the cattle, study their performance data, and bid on the animal of their choice over the Internet.

“This is a unique opportunity that provides a cutting-edge experience for our students,” said Dave Daley, coordinator of the beef program at CSU, Chico. “The internet sale exposed students to the latest technology as well as provided broader exposure for the beef program at CSU, Chico.”

Based on the results of the livestock auction, Daley plans to continue utilizing the internet to market Chico State cattle. “We considered the first year a success, with the heifers selling very well. Considering the market on bulls this spring, we were pleased with the first year’s results.”

CSU, Chico Rises to the Top at Food Marketing Competition
Chico State agriculture students designed, marketed, and sold their way to the top at the Western Collegiate Food Marketing Competition at Cal Poly, Pomona on April 19, 2008. Students from the Agricultural Marketing Planning class, under the instruction of Professors Todd Lone and Baohui Song, placed first in the international division and second in the domestic division of the Food Marketing Competition.

The winning international team—consisting of Mindi Ferguson, Stephanie Horton, and Morgan Tittle—marketed Perk, a ready-to-drink coffee product, to Japan. The second place domestic team—consisting of Colleen Bartlett, Jordan Parsons, and Darren Rigg—marketed Infused, a California produced olive oil and balsamic vinegar product, on the west coast. The students were judged on the market analysis, competitive analysis, financials, and presentation of their products.

Superior Ag/Wittmeier Chevrolet Golf Classic Raises $44,000
Carriere Family Farms was the winning team, and University Farm employee Mitch Kofford won the grand prize, but the students in the College of Agriculture were the real winners at the 2008 Superior Ag/Wittmeier Chevrolet Golf Classic. The 13th annual tournament netted more than $44,000 for scholarships and academic programs in the College of Agriculture. Scholarship recipient Christy Baviere summed up the appreciation of all the Superior Ag scholarship recipients when she thanked the crowd of nearly 200 golfers and volunteers for their support. “Part of my motivation to continue and finish my schooling has been supplied by the belief of people like yourselves that I would be able to continue on until my goals and dreams became reality.”

Carriere Family Farms team consisting of Ron Mongini, Greg Miller, Jeni Carriere, Dick Carriere, Matt Doyle, and Gus Lohse won the shotgun scramble. By winning the grand prize in the raffle drawing, Mitch Kofford received a round of golf for four at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Pebble Beach with private jet transportation provided by Tri-Counties Bank and $700 in cash donated by Silgan Containers.

The College of Agriculture would like to thank all of our generous tournament sponsors, who are listed on page 15. The 14th Annual Golf Classic date has been set for June 8, 2009.
University Farm Houses Four-Legged Fire Evacuees
As fires raged throughout Butte County and surrounding areas last summer, the University Farm became a refuge for evacuated animals. Staff and students cared for more than 130 horses, sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas, chickens, and pigs during the height of the Humboldt Fire in mid-June, while donors throughout the community contributed animal feed and supplies, food for the volunteers, and cash.

Senior Ag Business major Shelby Lehore credits the organization and time management skills she has developed as a student in the College of Agriculture for helping her remain calm in the stressful situation. “It was very emotional at times,” she said. “People would show up and say, ‘here’s my horse, now I have to go home to see if my house is still there.’ As students, we had to remain calm and professional and just do the best we could to take care of their animals.”

College of Agriculture Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox expressed her pride in how the students handled the situation. “Staff would come and go throughout the day and night, but the students were out there constantly. They were really put to the test in an emergency situation, and they represented themselves and the University Farm very well,” Fox said.

College of Agriculture Wins Agribusiness Award
The Chico Economic Planning Corporation (CEPCO) honored the CSU, Chico College of Agriculture with the 2008 Excellence in Agribusiness Award at their annual dinner and awards program on June 26, 2008. The Excellence in Agribusiness Award is given each year to an agricultural entity that has demonstrated entrepreneurial spirit and contributes to the economic development of Chico and Butte County.

Dean Jennifer Ryder Fox accepted the award on behalf of the college. “I was really surprised and honored that we received this recognition,” Fox said. “People don’t usually think of the University as entrepreneurial in nature, but every project we pursue—from Sierra Nevada beef, to Chico State Walnut Oil, to Organic Valley milk, to organic vegetables—is designed with the objective of preparing students for careers in agriculture. Our ultimate product is a well-educated graduate with strong critical thinking and leadership skills.”

Chico State Takes 5th Place at Academic Quiz Bowl Competition
Graduating seniors Jennifer Williams, Annie Maddalena, and Monica Galli traveled to Orlando, Florida in July for the 2008 Academic Quiz Bowl and annual meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association. The team achieved Chico State’s highest finish ever in the competition, placing fifth among a field of the top agricultural economics students from 22 schools nationwide. “This is a tremendous accomplishment for our students,” said the team’s co-advisor Matt Chang. “All of the schools send their very best students, and most of the teams are from large land-grant institutions, so we are really proud of how well our team did.” The Quiz Bowl is a Jeopardy-style competition that tests students’ knowledge and skill in a number of areas of agricultural economics.
One objective of the project is to grow, evaluate, and identify the most promising new vegetable varieties in an effort to provide local organic growers with information to help them become more competitive. Altier plans to offer annual field days for farmers and other community members to see, hear about, and taste the tested varieties.

Community outreach is another goal of the project. CSU, Chico graduate Katie Fugnetti views her job as field manager for the organic vegetable project as a way to put her nutrition degree to good use. “I think it’s really important for children and adults to be able to come out here and see where their food comes from,” said Fugnetti. “My goal is to get people excited about their fruits and vegetables.”

The project was initiated through funding from the Earl Foor Foundation, a local philanthropy named for a deceased Vina cattleman. Dan Hunt, president of the foundation, said the organic vegetable project matched up with two of Foor’s passions. “Earl Foor believed in the preservation of agricultural land and in education. The Organic Vegetable Project proposal included both of those elements.”

Additional funding came from the CSU, Chico Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) and the CSU Agricultural Research Initiative (ARI). “We wouldn’t be where we are today without the support of the Foor Foundation, ISD, and ARI,” said Altier. “Their funding allowed us to get this project off the ground.” Altier and his team have plans to further develop the outreach element of the project. He is seeking additional grants and donations to improve greenhouses, build a lath house in which to hold workshops, and offer more community workshops and events.
Getting Political

Carnegie Fellow Brings Political Engagement to the Classroom

It’s no secret that agriculture is a politically charged industry. Agricultural professionals are keenly aware that effective public policy on issues such as land, water, and food safety is paramount to their success. But until recently, political engagement has not been a formal component of the curriculum in the College of Agriculture.

Assistant Professor Patrick Doyle set out to change that when he applied for a faculty fellowship program through the California Campus Compact and the Carnegie Foundation that focuses on service learning for political engagement. Doyle was one of two faculty from CSU, Chico selected to participate in the two-year fellowship based on his proposal to incorporate civic and political engagement into Agricultural Issues (AGRI 482), a writing proficiency capstone class that all agriculture majors are required to take.

“After teaching the Ag Issues class for several years, we wanted to take it to a different level,” Doyle explained. “We talk a lot about issues in the class, but we don’t spend much time talking about how to effect change.”

Through the Carnegie Fellowship, Doyle meets several times a year with other Fellows throughout the state to share ideas and evaluate progress on incorporating political engagement into the classroom. The meetings also give the Fellows a chance to slow down and reflect on their work. “One of the things I get to do through the fellowship that I don’t normally have time for is to focus on becoming a better teacher. The emphasis is on political engagement, but I keep getting ideas for other classes, too,” Doyle said.

The Ag Issues course format historically involved student groups researching issues that impact agriculture. Each week one group presents their findings to the class, and for most issues a guest speaker from the agricultural community is invited to discuss how the issue has impacted them. Through the Carnegie Fellowship, Doyle has developed new assignments to provide access points for students to become politically engaged.

“We’ve hosted a number of guest speakers who help explain how students can get involved in the political process,” Doyle said. Casey Cooley with the California Farm Bureau Federation’s Farm Team discussed grassroots political engagement activities that her organization coordinates, and gave students the opportunity to volunteer for letter-writing campaigns and other forms of political engagement. Holly Foster with the California Beef Council provided a media training to teach students how to deal with the media. Tracy Schohr from the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition discussed how divergent groups can come together and build consensus around politically charged issues.

“Our goal is to give students the tools they need to get involved in the political process if they choose to be,” Doyle said. “Now instead of just giving a report on an issue, they also have to tell their classmates where to go if they want to get involved.”

He also continues to involve more guest speakers and find additional political access points for his students. “We know that many of our graduates will go on to become active in the political process. That’s the nature of our industry. By giving them experiences with civic engagement now, they’ll be better prepared to contribute thoughtfully and effectively to public policy when they are called upon to do so.”

College of Agriculture
For Agricultural Business senior Jesse Eller, the path to becoming president of the Chico State Associated Students was not an easy one. The 22-year-old Corning native struggled with reading and spelling as a child, and wasn’t even sure by his senior year of high school that he would make it to college. Fast forward four years, and that self-described “country bumpkin” is now the poised, polished CEO of the Chico State Corporation and the voice of 17,000 students.

Eller came to Chico State with a strong agricultural background as one of six children from a tight-knit family that raises cattle, prunes, and hay near Corning. In spite of the learning struggles that beleaguered him as a child, Eller credits his experiences with the Future Farmer’s of America (FFA) and his high school agriculture teacher Tina Holden (Agriculture, 98) for uncovering his leadership potential and inspiring him to seek higher education. “If it wasn’t for FFA, I probably wouldn’t have gone to college,” Eller said.

Hoping to follow in Holden’s footsteps as an agriculture teacher, Eller entered CSU, Chico in the fall of 2003. During the spring semester of his freshman year, Eller was elected sentinel of the California FFA, and his passion for civic engagement was sealed. He took the following year off school while he traveled the state representing 64,000 California FFA members. When his year of service was completed, Eller was hired as a leadership trainer for the National FFA organization, traveling throughout the country and spending summers in Washington, DC.

“Flight after flight, mile after mile, state after state, I came to understand that age-old, saying, ‘home is where the heart is,’” Eller recalled. “It was then that I knew I wanted to make an impact at Chico State and make a difference at ‘home.’” So he set his sights on the Associated Students presidency.

Eller ran on a platform of raising the level of student engagement by enhancing the visibility and awareness of opportunities such as student organizations, the Cross Cultural Leadership Center, and campus sustainability efforts. Eller demonstrated his leadership abilities through campaign debates, interaction with students, and by organizing a network of fellow students to campaign on his behalf. After a hard-fought campaign among four competitive candidates, Eller received 33 percent of the 4,800 votes to win the election. “Chico State needed a competitive election with driven candidates, and that’s what it got,” Eller said as the votes were posted.

Now more than halfway through his term, Eller still has a hard time wrapping his head around the fact that he is the president of an $11 million corporation. “I remember sitting in the University Farm pavilion as a high school senior during Opportunity Day, and the AS president, Jimmy Reed (Agribusiness, ’03), spoke. I thought it was pretty cool that an ag major was president of the entire student body, but it didn’t enter into my head that one day that would be me.”

Eller is clearly cognizant of—and humbled by—the responsibility with which he has been entrusted. “I’m just a student helping to make decisions that will shape and guide the AS for years to come. I’m going to be here one year and then leave. The decisions we make this year may impact students and employees for the next 10 to 20 years.”

When his year is up, Eller plans to graduate with a degree in Agribusiness then go on to earn a master’s degree in Agriculture Leadership with a focus in philosophy and education. His career objective is to work for a nonprofit organization such as Heifer International or the Peace Corps.

But Eller’s not worried about his future just yet. For now he is focused on doing the best he can in school while representing 17,000 other students as the Associate Students president, knowing that the experiences he is having now will help guide his future. “I strongly believe that God put me on this earth to help people in any way that I can while growing myself as an individual along the way.”
In August of 2005, 16 nervous freshmen convened at University Village in a year-long experiment to see if living together in a cluster of agriculture students would have an effect on their ability to network, bond, and adapt to life at Chico State and in the College of Agriculture. Now three years later, most of those students are seniors, and the Ag Theme Housing has doubled in size and expanded in services and popularity.

Research has long suggested—and university residence programs nationwide tout—that living on campus during the freshman year greatly benefits students’ long-term academic success, satisfaction with their first-year experience, and connection to faculty and staff. The College of Agriculture worked with University Housing and Food Service to develop a theme housing program where freshmen agriculture students could live, study, work, and play with other students who share their passion and interest in agriculture.

By all accounts, the Ag Theme Housing has had its intended effects. Senior agribusiness major Stephanie Horton was among the first group of students who moved into the Ag Theme Housing in 2005. “For that first year, when you’re a deer in the headlights, the theme housing definitely helps,” Horton said. “Living in the theme housing was a great way for me to make friendships that have lasted my entire college career.”

Located just off campus at University Village, the Ag Theme Housing features a more independent style of living than the traditional dorms. Students live in a six-person cluster of four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a kitchen. “I hesitated to do the dorm thing because I wanted my own personal space,” Horton recalls. “I really liked the idea of being off campus and having my own kitchen.”

The experience of living in the Ag Theme Housing has been so positive that many of the past residents have gone on to become resident advisors themselves. “Once you have been a resident advisor, you cannot imagine not being one,” said Sarah Hubbart, a senior agricultural communications major who has served as resident advisor for the Ag Theme Housing for the past three years. “It is rewarding to see the residents respond to you, and it is a lot of fun.”

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**AS Past Presidents from the College of Agriculture**

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<td>Sanford “Sandy” Beck</td>
<td>1958–1959</td>
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<td>Bill Thomas</td>
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<td>Charles Preusser</td>
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<td>Jason Peltier</td>
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<td>Jimmy Reed</td>
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<td>Jesse Eller</td>
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Gary Griswold (Agribusiness, ’65) was named a 2008 Alumni Advocate of the Year by the California State University system in April. One alum from each of the 23 CSU campuses was honored for their service and commitment to the university. Griswold has served on the CSU, Chico Alumni Association Board of Directors, the College of Agriculture Advisory Board, and was a founding director of Superior Ag.

Two Chico State College of Agriculture graduates were among five educators recognized statewide by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom for their outstanding work in agricultural literacy.

Alyssa Mangan (Agriscience & Education, ’02), an Agriculture teacher at Elk Grove High School, was named 2008 Vocational Agriculture Teacher of the Year for her dedication to agricultural education in her classroom as well as her community. Although relatively short, Mangan’s teaching career has had a significant impact on the students, schools, and communities where she has taught. Both at Elk Grove High School and in her previous teaching position at Delta High School in Clarksburg, Mangan has participated in numerous agriculture outreach efforts, such as Ag Day, where schools welcome local farmers and ranchers to their campus to give students a hands-on experience with agriculture through livestock, machinery, food, activities, and workshops. She also helped premiere the first ever Agriculture Career Show at Delta High, where representatives from the agriculture industry and business spoke with high school students and encouraged them to seek out career opportunities in the very important world of agriculture. Mangan is also very active in the California Agricultural Teachers’ Association.

Jennifer Limberg (Agriculture, ’90), a 3rd–4th grade teacher at Plaza School in Orland and wife of University Farm crops technician Joe Limberg, was named 2008 Teacher of Excellence for Community Outreach. Limberg has worked tirelessly to connect Plaza School students with the prevalent local agriculture industry, and finds that many of her students have a direct tie to farming or ranching. Limberg has developed and utilized methods to tie multiple classroom subjects to agriculture, and is able to meet state content standards through agriculture-related lessons and activities. She has developed a commodity reports assignment that tasks students with researching and photographing a California grown product, and requires them to interview someone affiliated with the industry. Limberg’s pursuit of spreading agricultural awareness extends beyond her classroom walls, as she routinely connects her students, fellow teachers, the Glenn County Fair, Glenn County Science Fair, California Women for Agriculture, UC Cooperative Extension, the Glenn County Farm Bureau and the greater Orland community with agriculture education efforts.

Three of the five educators inducted into the California Ag Teacher’s Hall of Fame in 2008 have Chico State roots. Dr. Wes Patton, Mr. Sandy Beck, and the late Dr. Ron “Hutch” Hutchings were all honored for their contributions to agricultural education at the California Ag Teachers’ Association conference in San Luis Obispo in June.

Patton received his bachelor’s degree in Agriculture at Chico State in 1965. After earning his PhD at Oregon State University, Patton returned to Chico where he taught animal science for 35 years before retiring in 2004. Beck graduated from Chico State in 1960. During his career he worked as an agriculture teacher, high school administrator, and in various administrative capacities with the State Department of Education in the area of vocational education. Hutchings was a renowned livestock judging team coach and professor in the College of Agriculture for 25 years.
Where Are They Now?

1970s

Gary Enos (Agribusiness ’79)
Partner—Carriere Family Farms
Glenn, CA
genos@carrierefarms.com

1980s

Brian Heinze (Animal Science ’82)
Roseville, OR
Brian owns and operates Lookingglass Red Angus. Their purebred cow herd consists of 150 mother cows. Their primary outlet is bull sales to commercial producers in Eastern Oregon.
brianheinze@aol.com

John Rayl (Agriculture ’86)
Commercial Lender—Umpqua Bank
Red Bluff, CA
johnrayl@umpquabank.com

Gus Lohse (Agribusiness ’87)
Partner—Carriere Family Farms
Glenn, CA
glohse@carrierefarms.com

1990s

Carol (Cabral) Bertagna (Agriculture ’96)
Owner—Bertagna Son Kissed Vineyard
(www.bertagnawine.com), Chico
Carol and her husband, Berton, have two sons, Barron (7) and Colton (6).
carolbertagna@hotmail.com

Michelle (Knight) Macfarlane (Animal Science ’96)
Agriculture Department Chair—Sierra College,
Rocklin, CA
Michelle and her husband, Matt (Agriculture ’95), live in Sheridan, CA with their daughters, Mazie and Makenzie.
macfarlane.m@mac.com

Andree’ (Yerkes) Earley (Animal Science ’99)
Agriculture Teacher—Las Plumas High School,
Oroville, CA
In addition to teaching, Andree’ and her husband, Sean (Animal Science ’99), raise cattle near Oroville. Their son, Blake, was born on May 25, 2008.
aearley@ouhsd.org

Holly Foster (Animal Science ’98)
Associate Editor—Drovers
Oroville, CA
hfoster@food360.com

2000s

Marc Breckenridge (Agribusiness ’01)
Farm Manager—Wehah-Lundberg, Inc.
Richvale, CA
mbreckenridge@lundberg.com

Casey Cooley (Animal Science ’01)
Grassroots Coordinator—Political Affairs, California Farm Bureau Federation, Sacramento
ccooley@cfbf.com

Billy Fallon (Agribusiness ’01)
Drillsite Operator—BP Exploration Alaska.
Billy works at Flow Station 3 in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.
He lives in Soldotna, Alaska with his wife, Jenny, and daughters Maddy and Hadley.
billybear@acsalaska.net

Nick Nelson (Agriscience & Education ’01)
Animal Science Instructor—Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton, OR
nick.nelson@bluecc.edu

Luke Smith (Wildland Range Management ’02)
Environmental Consulting—Hanover Environmental Services, Chico
lsmith@hanoverinc.com

Daniel Abruzzini (Agriculture ’05)
Sales Representative, Western District, US Coastal Crops—Dow AgroSciences, Modesto
dlabruzzini@dow.com

Eric Benzel (Plant Science ’06)
Research Agronomist—Monsanto Company,
Davis, CA
eric.d.benzel@monsanto.com

Adam Mendonza (Agriscience & Education ’06)
Swine Feed Specialist and Sunglo Representative—Bar Ale Inc., Williams, CA
amendonza@baraleinc.com

Teri Silva (Animal Science ’06)
Northern California Territory Manager—Vetoquinol and Vet Solutions
tsilva@vetoquinolusa.com

Where Are You Now?

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE

Name: __________________________
Graduation Year ______________________
Occupation __________________________
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City _________________________________
Email ________________________________

Send to:
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Chico, CA 95929-0440
sdeforest@csuchico.edu

THE harvest
**Lau Ackerman**

University Farm Crops Coordinator Lau Ackerman has resigned after 12 years of employment with the College of Agriculture. Ackerman started working for the farm as a student, then came on board full time in 1996 as a farm laborer before moving to an instructional support position and finally crops coordinator. He also taught PSSC 309, Directed Work in Field and Row Crops. As the crops coordinator, Ackerman managed all aspects of field crop production at the University Farm, including student projects. “Lau worked extremely hard to make the farm succeed,” said Dave Daley, farm administrator. “His dedication, particularly in the student projects, has played a large role in our ability to offer students individualized, hands-on opportunities at the University Farm.” Lau left the College of Agriculture in August to become Director of Operations for Research and Development for Helena Chemical Company in Chico.

**Chris Gibson**

Chris Gibson, Administrative Support Assistant at the University Farm, retired from Chico State after eight years on campus, six of those with the University Farm. Chris provided clerical support to the farm, processed payroll, tracked budget information, and coordinated farm events and tours. Farm Administrator Dave Daley said, “We’re going to really miss Chris. She cares deeply about the farm and the students we serve, and that is evident in the time and energy she put into her work. We wish her the best in retirement.” Chris and her husband, Steve, farm almonds and walnuts near Chico.

**Dr. Mollie Aschenbrener**

Mollie Aschenbrener joined the College of Agriculture faculty this fall as a full-time lecturer in agriscience and education. A native of Oregon, Aschenbrener earned her bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and teaching credential at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, then taught high school agriculture for 11 years in Paso Robles. In 2005, Aschenbrener decided to go back to school. She and her family moved to Missouri where she earned her PhD in teacher education from the University of Missouri. This fall semester Aschenbrener is teaching Fair Management and Ag Leadership, Agricultural Issues, and two online general education courses, Food Forever and World Food and Fiber. She is also helping Dr. Brad Dodson coordinate the teacher education program in the College of Agriculture.

**Drs. Annette Levi and Todd Lone**

After nearly 30 combined years in the College of Agriculture, Drs. Annette Levi and Todd Lone have moved on to the next step in their careers. Levi accepted a position as Department Chair in Agricultural Business at Fresno State, where Lone will also become a senior lecturer.

Levi was hired into a tenure-track faculty position at CSU, Chico in 1991 and has taught everything from introductory agricultural business courses to senior-level classes in food marketing, price theory, and international development. Lone began teaching courses such as marketing, finance, and information systems at CSU, Chico in 1995. He was hired in a full-time tenure-track position in 2006.

Although they are looking forward to new opportunities in their careers, it is hard for the couple to leave Chico. “There is nothing like the heart and spirit of Chico students,” Levi said. “The camaraderie and strong sense of community among the students will be my most cherished memories.” Lone agreed, saying, “Our students are always a pleasure to be around. Getting out of the classroom and advising students in clubs and traveling teams was a wonderful experience for me.”

**Dr. Dave Long**

Although the College of Agriculture is losing two talented teachers with the departure of Dr. Levi and Dr. Lone, the college has hired Dr. Dave Long as a lecturer in agricultural business while we conduct a search to fill the two vacant tenure track positions. Dr. Long obtained his bachelor’s in agricultural economics from Cornell University and his PhD from The Ohio State University. He has been either a CEO or on the executive team for organizations such as Signature Fruit Co., Snokist Growers, California Pear Growers Association, Rice Growers Association, and Anheuser Busch, Co. Long brings his many years of practical experience into the classroom as he teaches upper-division agricultural business courses.

**Dr. Betsy Boyd**

The College of Agriculture welcomed Dr. Betsy Boyd onto its faculty this fall in a tenure-track position in plant protection. Boyd obtained her bachelor’s degree in integrated pest management of weeds and insects from Washington State University in 2000. She went on to earn both her MS and PhD in entomology: biological control from UC Riverside. Boyd has a practical background in agriculture, having come from a Washington farm family. She will teach annual crops, weed sciences, entomology, and agrichemicals.
Comings and Goings

Upon Jack’s death in 2006, the University learned of two major gifts that Jack had made to benefit the College of Agriculture as well as the journalism department. The $50,000 scholarship endowment to the College of Agriculture will allow for a $2,000 annual scholarship to be given to a student employee of the beef unit, or to a student who has been active in the beef industry.

In recognition and appreciation of his many contributions to student learning, the College of Agriculture inducted Jack Henning into the Hall of Honor during Fall Festival on October 11, 2008. The Hall of Honor was initiated in 1991 to recognize outstanding individuals and organizations who have impacted the College of Agriculture and the agriculture industry with their service and generosity.

Former Sunset Magazine president and rancher Jack Henning was selected by the College of Agriculture as the 2008 inductee into the Agriculture Hall of Honor. A long-time partner of the University Farm Beef Unit, and a scholarship donor upon his death, Henning cared deeply about education and helping students succeed.

Henning grew up in Chico on an almond operation and attended Chico State College before completing his degree in journalism at Stanford University. He spent his career at Sunset Magazine in Menlo Park, where he started in the sales department and worked his way up to president. Henning became connected to the College of Agriculture in the early 1990s when he purchased a registered Red Angus bull from the University Farm. Over the years, his relationship with Drs. Dave and Cindy Daley led to a partnership in which Chico State students managed the Hennings’ cattle on their ranch west of Chico in the Big Chico Creek Canyon.

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“Jack loved working with students,” recalled Mrs. Henning. “We were both very fond of the University and enjoyed being a part of it.”
Private giving means the difference between the maintenance of a great College of Agriculture and its closure. The following donors have helped us create an exceptional College of Agriculture here at California State University, Chico.
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Fred and Elizabeth “Betty” Nottelmann
Fred and Betty Nottelmann are remembered for their tireless service to the community. Fred served on the Federal Land Bank for 20 years and was a director on the California Almond Board. He was also on both the Butte County Planning Commission and the Chico Planning Commission. Betty was a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Reach to Recovery Program and a charter member of the Enloe Hospital Guild.

Part of the Nottelmans’ legacy of generosity was a bequest in their estate plans of $10,000 to the University Farm, where they attended numerous events over the years, and where their daughter Chris Gibson worked. The College of Agriculture has decided to use their gift in a way that will benefit all the community organizations that use the farm pavilion by renovating the pavilion kitchen. During the next several months, farm staff plan to replace some of the kitchen appliances and improve the workspace.

If you would like to contribute to the renovation, you may contact Sarah DeForest at 530-898-3737 or send a check payable to “University Farm” with a note indicating “Pavilion Kitchen” to the College of Agriculture Development Office, CSU, Chico, Chico CA 95929-0440.

CSU, Chico Superior Ag/Wittmeier Chevrolet 13th Annual Golf Classic 2008 Sponsors

The following people and businesses sponsored this annual event, which provides scholarships to promising agriculture students at CSU, Chico. Thank you to all the sponsors and participants of the Superior Ag/Wittmeier Chevrolet Golf Classic at Butte Creek Country Club.
Upcoming Events

January
30  Red Bluff Alumni Reunion

February
4   Colusa Alumni Reunion
7   Swine Day
18  Career & Internship Fair
21  Beef Day
28  Sheep Day

April
25–26 Circle of Champions Jackpot Show

May
8   Student Recognition Banquet
24  Commencement

June
8   Superior Ag Golf Classic

Contributors

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