



CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY,
FRESNO

**Department of
Mass Communication
And Journalism**

McKee Fisk, 238
2225 E. San Ramon Ave.
M/S MF10
Fresno, CA 93740-8029

559.278.2087
Fax 559.278.4995

Prof. James Tucker

Professor Emeritus James “Jim” Tucker held varying positions from assistant professor to department chair while he was at California State University, Fresno.

Before coming to Fresno, Tucker spent six years as a full-time reporter. Tucker received both his bachelor’s and master’s degree from the University of Iowa but came to Fresno before completing his doctorate. After spending his entire life in Iowa, Tucker decided to pack up and move to California upon hearing of a teaching position available in Fresno. Fresno was not the glamorized Californian land he imagined instead, “it was just like Iowa, [except] with different crops,” Tucker said.

While at Fresno State, Tucker taught reporting, editing and writing courses under the department of journalism until 1980 when he became the chair of the journalism department. He held this role for 10 years, and only had to reclaim it in 2000 when the program underwent its transitional phase and became the mass communication and journalism department. In total, Tucker served as chair of the department for 12 years.

In his free time, Tucker enjoyed activities such as producing and moderating the show “Valley Press,” in which guests such as senators, mayors, soldiers and newsworthy community individuals were interviewed. Tucker also taught high school English and journalism classes, and became an advisor for the school’s newspaper. During summers, he enjoys working as a writing consultant.

Tucker has a wife and two children. He is retired, but still enjoys coming back to the campus as a speaker.

The “Jim Tucker Award,” is presented in his honor every year at graduation to a professional person that's made a name for him or herself in the community. Tucker says it is an honor to have an award in his name.