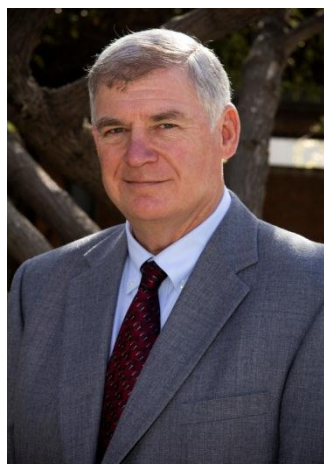




Dean's Message



Welcome to the spring 2012 College of Health and Human Services Edition of the Connections Newsletter. We are entering that part of the academic year when we recognize and celebrate the achievements of our students, faculty and friends.

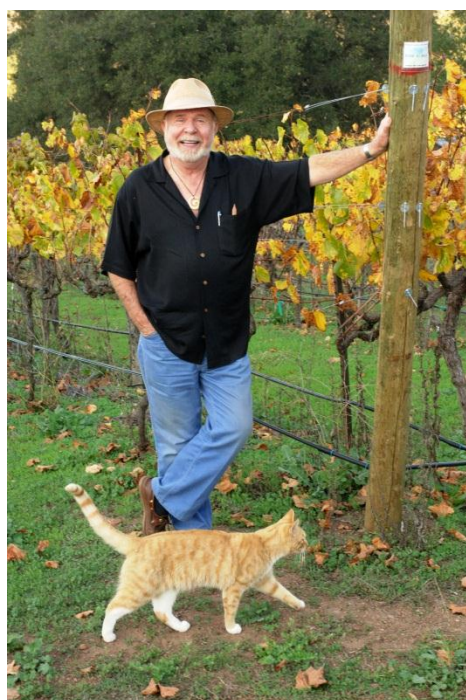
While we continue to work towards providing the best possible education for our students given the reductions in support, it is heartening to recognize that so many faculty members continue to mentor and work with their students regardless of the circumstances. They are truly dedicated to advancing the learning community.

Each of our academic programs collaborates with agencies across the region to provide our students with internships, clinical placements, laboratory sites, practicums and service learning opportunities. This represents the community-based approach that ties what our students learn in the classroom to the practice environment and we are truly grateful for the support and investment provided by our community partners.

We are fortunate that our community is made up of literally hundreds of sites and agencies where professionals, and a high percentage of alumni, work to meet the needs of children and families. At this most important time of the year, each of our academic departments nominates an individual to be recognized as a Community Hero and this issue of Connections is dedicated to them. I know you will be drawn to their stories of commitment and service, just as we were. We formally recognized each hero at a special event held on March 23, 2012 at the University House.

We are fortunate to also have the support of individuals who give generously to help our students. Most notably is a recent gift of \$2 million from retired architect and vineyard-owner Robert Duncan Nicol to the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies. Mr. Nicol's gift was the single largest gift to the College of Health and Human Services. Details of this gift can be found in the article below.

Please visit us at <http://www.csufresno.edu/CHHS> or become a FAN of the College at www.facebook.com/FresnoStateCHHS. Contact Information: Phone (559) 278-4004. Address: 2345 E. San Ramon Ave, Fresno CA 93740.



Architect Robert Nicol Pledges \$2 million to Advance Deaf Studies

Retired architect and vineyard-owner Robert Duncan Nicol has committed to helping individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing by pledging \$2 million to Fresno State's Department of Communicative Disorders & Deaf Studies in the College of Health and Human Services. His gift establishes the Robert Duncan Nicol Endowed Chair in the Silent Garden and is the largest single gift to the College of Health and Human Services.

A celebration of his generosity was held Friday, January 27, 2012 at Fresno State. University President John D. Welty formally announced the gift and Nicol spoke to members of the deaf community, hoping to improve their lives not only through his gift, but also through his personal story ([click here to view a short video](#)).

Nicol, who is deaf and didn't speak until he was ten, has been overcoming stereotypes from a young age. He attended the Army and Navy Academy of Carlsbad before graduating from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in architecture. In 1993 Nicol was named a Fellow of the American Architects, one of the most prestigious professional designations for architects in the nation. In 2005, Nicol purchased 20 acres of vineyards in Napa, where he established Robert Nicol Vineyards, growing pinot noir and chardonnay grapes for nearby wineries.

"This gift was possible because of so many wonderful individuals who inspired and motivated me throughout my life," Nicol says. "This is my way of paying it forward to inspire adults and children to grow, flourish and thrive in our community." The gift will benefit The Silent Garden, a project to cultivate communication for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community of Central California.

The Robert Duncan Nicol Endowed Chair in the Silent Garden will bring experts from across the nation to teach at Fresno State and conduct outreach with the community. A new guest lecturer



will be invited each year to teach and provide free workshops, seminars and counseling services for teachers, parents and professionals.

The Silent Garden was established by Fresno State professor emeritus Dr. Paul W. Ogden. “The Silent Garden is a community oriented program focused on sharing knowledge and training families,” Ogden says. “The deaf population can often be invisible, but The Silent Garden will help us bring awareness to the community.”

For additional information or to plant your own seeds in the Silent Garden, contact [Dana Lucka](#) at (559) 278-3603.

2012 Community Heroes Awards

The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) Community Heroes Awards celebrates significant impact and the selflessness and courage of those who put others before themselves to genuinely make a difference for the residents of our region. This is our community's opportunity to shine a regional spotlight on the unsung, whether their work impacts five people or five thousand.

In a tradition which began last year, CHHS singles out the 2012 Community Heroes for going above and beyond for the health and well-being of our community and its residents. Following are the 2012 Community Heroes for each department - they were honored at a special reception on Friday, March 23, 2012.

Department of Communicative Disorders & Deaf Studies

Gina Deaver



Gina Deaver gives hope to central San Joaquin Valley children facing significant communicative disorders.

The state of California awarded her certification to practice speech-language pathology in 1998, launching her career providing speech and language therapy throughout Fresno and Clovis.



Deaver established her exceptional professional reputation working in medical and school-based institutions. She started as a speech/language pathologist and dysphasia specialist at University Medical Center, working with clients recovering from traumatic brain injuries, learning disabilities, strokes, tracheotomies and laryngectomies.

In 2001, Deaver focused her work on children from birth to 14 years old. She's a language/speech specialist with the Clovis Infant-Toddler Intervention Program (CITI Kids) and a member of the multidisciplinary preschool assessment team for the Clovis Unified School District.

Deaver provides supervision, training and support to Fresno State graduate students in Speech/Language Pathology; conducts in-service training for doctors and nurses; and holds presentations for graduate students, preschool teachers and parents of children with communicative delays.

Deaver's commitment to serving those who otherwise would not have access to services includes volunteering to provide free speech therapy sessions to children who come from families with low income. "These children would have fallen through the cracks if not for Gina's willingness to provide these services for free," says Dr. Don Freed, chair of the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies.

Department of Kinesiology

Joe Herzog



Since graduating from Fresno State with a Bachelor of Arts in Physical Education in 1964, Joe Herzog has been a tireless advocate, educator and pioneer in kinesiology. His passion for physical education and healthy lifestyles is apparent in his career and volunteer work," says Dr. Michael Coles, the Kinesiology department chair. "He continues to make a difference in the lives of people every day."

For 35 years, Herzog taught physical education and coached track and field, cross country and basketball for the Fresno Unified School District, breaking new ground in the research and instruction of plyometrics, fly fishing, action-based learning and neurokinesiology. After retiring in 2001, Herzog has relentlessly advocated at local,



regional and state levels for health promotion, physical education and community action. He has served the California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance as a regional chair and legislative chair.

Herzog has continued his relationship with Fresno Unified, consulting with leaders at several schools about the relationship between exercise and brain function. He also is involved with Break the Barriers, the Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program, California Project Lean and the Building Healthy Neighborhoods Task Force.

Department of Nursing

Nancy Hinds



A pioneer in caring for people with terminal illness, Nancy Hinds' contributions to the hospice movement make her a nationally recognized authority on end-of-life care.

At age 23, Hinds became a medical missionary, serving as a nurse in the West Indies and Nigeria, where she met her husband, Dr. Godfrey Hinds, while working on an emergency relief team. The couple continued as medical missionaries, traveling the world and starting a family that grew to include three sons.

Shortly after settling in Northern Ireland in 1975, Hinds' husband and mother were diagnosed with terminal cancer. She nursed them until their deaths in 1977 and remained three more years caring for people with severe disabilities and those with terminal illness in her home. In 1980, she moved to Fresno to be closer to her family.

After spending several months working as a nurse at Saint Agnes Medical Center, Hinds resumed her calling to care for people with terminal illness. With financial assistance from friends, she obtained a home that could accommodate her patients and her children. But with no license available for hospice care, the Fresno County Department of Health closed the facility in 1985.

Hinds lobbied tirelessly for legislation to license hospice care, accomplishing her objective and opening the Hinds Hospice Home in Fresno in 1987. More than 3,300 patients have received compassionate, around-the-clock, end-of-life care at this six bed facility in the years since.



The Hinds Hospice Foundation offers outpatient services in Fresno, Madera and Merced counties. Additional programs include the Center for Grief and Healing, Angel Babies prenatal hospice, pediatric hospice and education for medical professionals.

Hinds has taught at Fresno State and developed a physician education program for family-practice residents from the University of California, San Francisco and Davis Medical Centers. She remains active in the Oncology Nursing Society, the National Hospice Organization, Children's Hospice International and the Soroptimist Club.

Department of Physical Therapy

Mary Jo Jacobson



Alumna Mary Jo Jacobson is a role model in physical therapy, dedicated to patient advocacy. “There are thousands of valley patients and families who have benefited from her expert skill level and tender care,” says Dr. Peggy Trueblood, professor in the Department of Physical Therapy. “Mary Jo has devoted her life to caring for those most in need.”

Jacobson graduated from Fresno State in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy. For more than 10 years, she has been a leader at San Joaquin Valley Rehabilitation Hospital, now serving as chief clinical officer for the 62-bed facility and overseeing five outpatient therapy practices in Fresno, Clovis and Oakhurst.

A staunch supporter of Fresno State, Jacobson maintains a close relationship with the Department of Physical Therapy. She instituted scholarships at her hospital to support students in their final internships and is a familiar presence on campus, addressing new students during orientation, hosting seminars and guest lecturing. She also advocated for the Doctorate of Physical Therapy Program, securing support through the California Hospital Association for legislation to allow the California State University system to develop the degree.

Throughout her career, Jacobson has obtained advanced training and certification, becoming vestibular competent through Emory University's program in 2001 and completing surveyor training from the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in 2010.



Jacobson has balanced her professional accomplishments with a rich family life. She is married to alumnus Jim Jacobson. Their daughter Emily studies engineering in Florida and their daughter McKenzie attends Clovis West High School.

Department of Public Health

Sharon Stanley



Dr. Sharon Stanley's passion to improve refugees' quality of life led her to establish Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries (FIRM). For more than 16 years, this faith-based nonprofit organization has been an invaluable resource for refugees and immigrants. FIRM is dedicated to building communities of hope with new Americans by offering neighborhood and youth ministries, outreach to the elderly, community gardens, health services, housing, immigration assistance, family mentoring and employment projects.

FIRM has grown to engage in culturally sensitive work on such issues as health, housing, employment, child development, education, citizenship and tenant rights through partnerships with various churches and community-based organizations. "Dr. Stanley has selflessly devoted her life to serving the refugee communities in Fresno County," says Dr. Miguel Perez, chair of the Department of Public Health. "She never takes credit for her work, but focuses her praise on the communities where she works and serves."

An ordained minister, Dr. Stanley earned her Master of Divinity at San Francisco Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from the Columbia Presbyterian Seminary Gospel and Cultural Program in Atlanta. She studied Lao, graduated from the Southeast Asian Summer Institute and performs regularly with the Lao Champa Dancers.

Part of Stanley's commitment to empowering the refugee community is helping to develop Hmong and Lao community organizing resources and advocating for health justice and access to care.



Department of Recreation Administration

Shane Krogen



Shane Krogen turned his love of nature into a thriving business and a model of community service. “His passion for the outdoors and ability to motivate people has led to several landmark programs that make him a true community hero,” says Dr. Nancy Nisbett, chair for the Department of Recreation Administration.

Krogen developed California Outfitters in the 1980s, an outdoor adventure retailer connecting Valley residents to the surrounding natural world. Looking for an opportunity to preserve the natural lands he loved, Krogen became involved in the U.S. Forest Service’s Adopt-a-Trail program. In 1995 he assumed responsibility for basic maintenance of a 12.2-mile segment of trail near Huntington Lake.

Krogen deepened his relationship with the Forest Service in 1998 when he established the High Sierra Volunteer Train Crew. Leveraging resources from his retail store and contacts in the community, Krogen assembled volunteer work parties to maintain over 400 miles of trail between Yosemite National Park and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. These teams, affectionately called “Shane Gangs,” maintain trails in some of the most scenic areas of the Sierra. His efforts have resulted in more than 25,000 hours of trail maintenance.

During his time in the wilderness, Krogen saw first-hand the destruction of natural lands from illegal marijuana plantations and organized volunteer groups to assist with marijuana eradication and clean-up, sometimes flown in on military helicopters.

Krogen’s dedication to the natural world has resulted in countless hours of volunteer work to conserve wilderness areas in Central California.



Department of Social Work Education

Carolyn Tellalian



Carolyn Tellalian has dedicated her professional and personal life to helping children and adults facing extreme life challenges.

As a medical social worker, Tellalian has provided psychotherapy, psychosocial assessments, suicide assessments and case management for clients throughout the Central San Joaquin Valley.

In her position at Children's Hospital Central California's Child Advocacy Clinic, she has treated children in the Emergency Department, dealing with medical and psychosocial issues resulting from abuse and neglect.

Tellalian's advocacy for children has led her to educate law enforcement officers and Child Protective Services workers about child abuse, Munchausen by Proxy and Shaken Baby Syndrome. She also worked with Community Medical Centers' HIV/AIDS program.

Children with special needs hold a special place in Tellalian's heart. She is a founding member of Visalia-based Parenting Network, which supports families of children with special needs and was instrumental in starting Visalia's first inclusive preschool for children with disabilities. She has served on the boards of the Community Advisory Council for Special Education and Exceptional Parents Unlimited.

Tellalian earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Fresno State. She remains active with the university as the co-developer of and adviser to the New Wayfinders Program, a residential program for young adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities.



Central California Children's Institute

Marion Karian



Marion Moranda Karian knew at an early age that she would carry on her family tradition and receive a college education. Her grandmother graduated in 1910 from the University of California and her mother from the University of Southern California in 1939. When time came for Karian to select a field of study, she was most influenced by her aunt, who joined the Army Nurse Corps during World War II. Karian enrolled in nursing at Fresno State where she graduated in 1965 in the department's fourth class of nurses.

During her time at Fresno State, Karian developed a deep interest in exploring how healthy beginnings for children could prevent medical, developmental and social problems later in life. She earned a Master of Science in Public Health Nursing Education at the University of California, Los Angeles, where her focus was maternal and child health.

In 1967 Karian returned to Fresno State as a faculty member teaching pediatric nursing. She soon met her husband Bernard Karian and put her career on pause to rear their two children.

Karian re-entered the workforce as a clinical specialist at Valley Medical Center, working with mothers and babies facing special challenges. "While I was able to give them medical and developmental information, the heart-wrenching emotions and fears they were experiencing I didn't feel I had the experience to address," Karian remembers.

To better address patients' emotional needs, Karian created a parent support group that led to creation of Exceptional Parents Unlimited, which she serves as executive director. The organization assists nearly 800 families each week with programs dedicated to strengthening and empowering children and families facing extraordinary medical, developmental and parenting challenges.



Central Valley Health Policy Institute

Tim Curley



Tim Curley has positively affected health care since the start of his professional career as a senior research associate for a Health Care Advisory Board in Washington, D.C. Curley came to Fresno in 1994 as the regional vice president for the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California.

In 2006, Curley joined Children's Hospital Central California as director of community and government relations, where he facilitates the hospital's collaboration with community stakeholders in support of children's health care.

Curley has been a consistent advocate for the Central Valley Health Policy Institute and other programs of the Central California Center for Health and Human Services, participating as a member, vice chair and chair of the Regional Advisory Council.

He is a leader for a broad range of community organizations addressing key health and well-being concerns in the region. They include the United Way of Fresno County, San Joaquin Valley Health Consortium, Fresno Healthy Community Access Partners, CalViva Health and Childhood Obesity Prevention Task Force.

Curley is strongly committed to organizational effectiveness through partnerships among hospitals in the region and quality improvements in community-oriented services. Outside of work, Curley's community service includes coaching Little League, soccer and volunteering to support regional land conservation. He lives in Coarsegold with his wife Sarah and their four children.