

Dr. John W. Hagen

Department of Agricultural Business, California State University, Fresno



Dr. John Hagen is completing his 45th year of exemplary teaching and service to California State University, Fresno. Originally hailing from North Dakota, after earning his B.S. at North Dakota State University he joined the U.S. Army and was Honorably Discharged as a Company Grade Infantry Officer. He went back home, earned his Masters and then worked as a County Extension Agent and as a Retail Food Marketing Specialist. After several years Dr. Hagen returned to school and earned a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Washington State University. Initially he worked for the U.S.D.A. for four years in the area of Packaging and Transportation Research. In 1969 Dr. Hagen began his first year at Fresno State.

Dr. Hagen's initial appointment at Fresno State was as a faculty member in the School of Business. In 1971, Dr. Hagen moved to the School of Agriculture where he became a "founding father" of the Department of Agricultural Economics (now the Department of Agricultural Business). Since that time he helped develop the undergraduate business program which was recognized by the National Agribusiness Education Program of the U.S.D.A. as a national model program in 1984. The growth and success of the program was, in large part, due to Dr. Hagen's accomplishments as a teacher and mentor.



Dr. Hagen's philosophy of serving the student and meeting their needs permeates the department. He has touched the lives of thousands of students. His ability to motivate and inspire them has made his courses legendary and he is a highly sought out instructor. Dr. Hagen has a unique way of connecting with students and his classes are often referred to as "Hagen-omics".

His commitment to the students extends after their time at Fresno State where he is famous for helping students find jobs after graduation. (At the recent World Ag Expo, we had more inquiries about Dr. Hagen than all other Agricultural faculty combined.) Even with emeritus status, his efforts to serve the department and Fresno State students continue. His seemingly tireless commitment to undergraduate education, his willingness to give unselfishly of his time, and commitment to excellence in the classroom have earned him a reputation as a distinguished undergraduate teacher at an institution which specializes in undergraduate education. His reputation and representation of our department and Fresno State cannot be underestimated.



To honor Dr. Hagen, the Department of Agricultural Business has developed a fund through Ag One, recognizing his long-lasting commitment to education. With this fund, his influence will live on with each student who is helped along the way—for generations to come. Those who know Dr. Hagen can always count on him for help in identifying promising students. Through this endowment, identifying such promise will continue. To learn more about supporting the **Ag One – Dr. John Hagen Endowment**, contact Ag One at 559.278.4266.