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Stay in touch
We’d like to hear your comments about Fresno State Magazine. Please e-mail them to magazine@csufresno.edu.
If you receive more than one copy of Fresno State Magazine, please pass it along to a friend of Fresno State!
If you would like to support Fresno State, please visit www.SupportFresnoState.com to make a contribution.
The California State University, Fresno Campus Notes

College of Engineering Partnership
Spurs Oil Production, Cuts Pollution

Fresno State is working with a Newport Beach company on a revolutionary technology that could increase California’s production of heavy oil, decrease air pollution and help achieve the goal of American energy independence.

EDDS Systems developed the electric downhole steam generation technology refined at Fresno State’s College of Engineering and the university’s International Center for Water Technology. On-campus facilities certified that the steam system is ready for installation in the field.

The advanced process creates steam needed for heavy oil production from electricity rather than natural gas, which adds to air pollution. That steam is less costly, more efficient and produces no air emissions.

Heavy oil is more abundant in North and South America but more expensive to extract than lighter crude products, so a system that cuts costs would allow more production.

“The clean air approach to steam generation in heavy oil production underscores how universities and their partners can make significant contributions to improving the air quality of the San Joaquin Valley,” says Dr. Andrew Hett, interim dean of the College of Engineering.

Fresno State’s International Center for Water Technology also is trying to reduce water requirements for oil field steam production to conserve another important Valley resource.

By Lanny Larson

Marshall Exemplifies Teaching Excellence

Dr. James E. Marshall, who trains future science teachers and hones the professional skills of those already teaching our K-12th grade students, won the President’s Award of Excellence for 2006.

Marshall chairs the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, coordinates science education programs and directs the Central Valley Science Project. He joined the Fresno State faculty in 1990.

Dr. Paul Beare, dean of the Kremen School of Education and Human Development, nominated Marshall as an outstanding teacher and scholar devoted to community service. The University Advisory Board, composed of community leaders, selected the recipient.

The President’s Award of Excellence recognizes a faculty or staff member who demonstrates integrity, leadership and a commitment to the university and community as exemplified by Fresno State President John D. Weily.

“Dr. Marshall embodies the qualities that make a good teacher,” Dr. Weily said.

By Lanny Larson
Volunteers give and receive in Katrina's aftermath

By Bruce Whitworth

Hurricane Katrina

That name will forever be linked with death and a destructive force far beyond description for those who haven't seen its power first-hand. For miles after mile and home after home, Katrina left no doubt she had paid the Gulf Coast a visit that will be remembered for generations to come.

But also remembered by a few Slidell, La., families for years to come will be a group of Fresno State students and staff who earlier this year went to do what they could to help in the face of the overwhelming disaster. They cleaned out flooded, mold-infested homes, they piled rubbish head-high; they battled mold and muck, dirt and trash, and even experienced a hurricane watch.

For many of the Fresno State students, this was a first trip out of California. There was excitement, there was anticipation of seeing somewhere new, doing something different. But no one anticipated the intensity of their feelings when they actually witnessed utter chaos and destruction left in the wake of the Aug. 29, 2005, visit by Hurricane Katrina to the Gulf Coast.

“I felt truly blessed that I could pour out my heart and soul to help individuals who felt that there was no hope left,” said Leonard Smith, a sophomore mass communication student from Lemore. Thirty-nine students, three staff members and two community volunteers left California Jan. 5 for a visit that would be remembered for how the students, staff and teachers felt that there was a need to help in the face of the overwhelming disaster.

They actually witnessed utter chaos and destruction left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The Fresno State volunteer used their winter break and touched more lives than originally planned. The final tally was four homes insulated and drywalled; one home with a new roof; four homes gutted of muddy, moldy rubbish, a 28-room elementary school cleared of rubbish, destroyed furniture and computers; and countless yards cleaned.

But for all the work, all the sacrifice, the rewards were enormous. None could be photographed nor recorded, but the rewards were.

The students not only left a legacy of caring, they also brought home unexpected skills and knowledge.

“I never thought that I could do drywall, but when you see all the grief and destruction that consumes that area, you want to help, and you learn quickly,” says Lindsay Amaro, a sophomore business major from Selma and member of Delta Zeta sorority.

“It was by far one of the most inherently gratifying experiences of my life. To see the difference in Morgan Zimmerle's home from the first day, when we pulled the ceiling out and laid insulation, to the last day, when we laid the last pieces of drywall, was quite the experience. You felt like you really did accomplish the trip's mission,” says Amaro.

And the students worked harder and longer than anticipated. One team worked well after dark and another worked until just a couple of hours before it was time to leave for the airport to come home.

“Seeing the students work late into the night the last few evenings in order to complete the drywalling of a home was inspiring,” says Westbrook. “They worked together as a team to accomplish their mission – getting some of the senior citizens of Slidell back into their homes.”

The senior citizens of Slidell were thrilled to have their homes.

“The students not only left a legacy of caring, they also brought home unexpected skills and knowledge. I think the great majority of the students, staff and volunteers felt they made a difference in the lives of some of the residents in Slidell,” says Griffin. “What is somewhat discouraging is that there are so many people needing help. They have a long way to go to recover, and some sections we saw have hardly started cleaning up.”

These families needed help desperately, and Fresno State students were there to answer the call. Tiredly, selflessly and generously. In their 10 days in Louisiana, the team left a legacy of caring that will be long remembered by those whose lives they touched.

And they brought home memories and a sense of accomplishment that will be theirs forever.

Bruce Whitworth is director of publications and new media at Fresno State. He was a member of the university team that volunteered in Slidell.

Above: Troy Sherry and Kathleen Erin pause in their work installing drywall.

At right: Fresno State staff member Dan Westbrook lines a piece of lumber to complete a carpentry project.

KATRINA VOLUNTEERS

Fresno State students

Lindsay Amaro

Jeremy Arria

Johanna Blanks

Sarah Cogliati

Jeff Detlefsen

Joseph De

Katherine Erin

Camille Guettin

Kelly Gazaway

Brandon Hamilton

Clyrin Harper

Jerry Hei

Margaret Littleton

Isaac Lopez

Nicole Rule

Lori Lin

Julie Macdon

Miraya Mazquiaran

Sarah Miller

Jennifer Miller

Irene Mejia

Florida Nobl

Jennifer Palmer

Veronica Reyes

Shakila Richmond

Laura Rodriguez

Troy Sherry

Lance Simpson

Douglass Sulenta

Megan Sullivan

Rebecca Susman

Adam Tavares

David Todd

Nenoi Torres

Kimberly Trejo

Patrick Wallach

Casey John Walsh

Dan Xiong

Got Yang

Fresno State staff

Dan Griffin

Dan Westbrook

Bruce Whitworth

Community volunteers

Dan Lenden

Lisa Bowerly

www.FresnoStateNews.com

Clyrin Harper, Florida Nobl, Kelly Gazaway, Sarah Miller and Sarah Coghlan.

Participating in one of the dozens of "read-outs" the team worked on are (left to right) Clyde Harper, Florida Nobl, Kelly Gazaway, Sarah Miller and Sarah Coghlan.

Taking a break from their work to insulate and drywall a home for an 80-year-old resident are (left to right) Dan Xiong, Jennifer Miller, team leader Johanna Blanks, Clyrin Yang and Margaret Littleton.

Team leader David Todd (left), Geri Yang and Johanna Blanks re-roof a home for an elderly homeowner. The team also cleared the house and yard of debris left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Laura Rodriguez (left) and Miraya Mazquiaran battle rubbish and a wheelbarrow as they help clear a 20-room school, cafeteria and gymnasium of hurricane debris.

For the airport to come home.

"Seeing the students work late into the night the last few evenings in order to complete the drywalling of a home was inspiring."
Americans’ware collection is a hit

E-waste each year. Americans discard 2 million tons of electronic waste, says the Environmental Protection Agency. Researchers say. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that as many as 133,000 PCs each day, U.S. homes and businesses dump e-waste as it’s called, and most advanced e-waste recycling facility in southwest Fresno. Fresno State President John D. Welty said the university is proud to be at the forefront of dealing with an important environmental concern. He said the campus sought approval as an e-waste collector as part of the university’s commitment to environmental responsibility and the promotion of sustainable practices in Central California. Fresno State also is a Valley leader in promoting clean air, conserving water, and recycling traditional waste.

Electronic Recyclers of America, based in Vista near San Diego, recently opened California’s largest and most advanced e-waste recycling facility in southwest Fresno. The facility de-manufactures, recycles and crushes cathode ray tubes found in computer monitors, televisions and other video equipment.

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By Shannon Puphal

**Campaign Steering Committee boosts development effort**

The Campaign Steering Committee, convened and chaired by President John D. Welty last year, has made sound progress in its efforts. The committee’s charge is to provide guidance and advice on campaign policies and priorities, identify and solicit donors, support the university’s annual and planned giving programs and generate positive energy for the university and the campaign.

The committee’s members bring to their task a broad array of business expertise, personal experience with the university and personal relationships that provide them with a unique perspective in their campaign-related responsibilities. “The enthusiasm and support of the Campaign Steering Committee will be vital in making the campaign successful,” says Welty. “Together, these great minds and resources will help ensure the university is on the right path to achieving a highly recognized national and international academic presence.”

**Donors make a difference**

Three generous gifts to Fresno State will provide scholarships to students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology; President’s Honors Scholars and support a chair within the Department of Viticulture and Enology. The contributions are part of the effort to enhance educational and research opportunities offered at Fresno State.

**The Harvey estate**

The estate of Dr. John M. and Cora G. Harvey provided $1.3 million for scholarships for students within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. It is the largest cash bequest to the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology in Fresno State history. An endowment fund in the Harvey’s names will make available $250,000 annually to support graduate students who enroll in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. “Dr. Harveys’ names will make available an endowment fund in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology,” says Daniel Bartell, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. “Their generous estate planning will provide support for future generations of agricultural leaders.”

**The Radin Foundation**

The Radin Foundation of Fresno pledged $500,000 over the next 10 years to establish the Marc and Marjorie Radin Professor’s Honors Scholarship program. Participants are selected annually from among the highest-achieving students in the College of Arts and Humanities.

**Agricultural Research Service**

Worked for 37 years with the Agricultural Research Service’s Dr. Harvey, who earned a biology degree from California State University, Fresno. “Harveys’ research opportunities offered at Fresno State,” says Welty, “will help ensure the university is on the right path to achieving a highly recognized national and international academic presence.”

**BRONCO WINE COMPANY**

The Heritage Society at Fresno State recognizes those individuals who have included the university in their estate plans.

Planned gifts enrich the university by establishing and sustaining relevant academic programs. For more information, please contact Carol A. Widmer, CFP, at 559.278.8337.

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While receiving national attention, the university’s impact on Central California’s cultural climate is equally profound, drawing internationally acclaimed performers such as Andrea Bocelli – twice! – and the Rolling Stones to campus. Fresno State’s Save Mart Center elevates the Valley to a major destination for top-notch entertainers. The industry publication Pollstar ranked the Save Mart Center 46th in ticket sales last year among the world’s entertainment venues.

But that doesn’t entirely account for the wealth of cultural offerings, including award-winning plays, original dance and music concerts, cultural heritage festivals, innovative art shows, informative lectures and symposia, publications of poetry, short stories, novels and nonfiction, and achievements in broadcast, print journalism and graphic design.

The catalyst for the profusion of creative works and cultural activities is Fresno State’s College of Arts and Humanities.

“The college offers intellectual and artistic programs that engage our diverse students and faculty in dialogue and discovery,” says its dean, Dr. Vida Samian.

From the glamour of the Academy Awards to the prestige of Carnegie Hall, Fresno State alumni, faculty and students are leaving a distinctive mark on the arts community.

In places as far away as Armenia and Mexico and as close to home as the Fresno State campus, students and faculty create art, write books, choreograph dance, study literature and languages, produce plays and perform music.

World-renowned tenor Andrea Bocelli has performed twice in the three-year history of the Save Mart Center at Fresno State.
“As we partner with many arts and cultural organizations, we enrich the lives of all Central Californians,” says Samiian. Within each department of the college, faculty and students create works that move the spirit, challenge the mind and inspire a desire for something beyond our daily existence.

In the English Department’s Creative Writing Program, novelists such as Steve Yarbrough write books – most recently “Prisoners of War” and his forthcoming “The End of California” – that receive national awards and attention. Poets such as newly hired professor Tim Skeen, who won the John Ciardi Prize for Poetry for his book “Kentucky Swami,” train a new generation of poets in the footsteps of Fresno State’s Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Philip Levine and others.

In the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Dr. Bruce Thornton, author of seven nonfiction books, and Dr. Honora H. Chapman prepare classics students for postgraduate work at prestigious universities such as Princeton, Duke and Brown – continuing in the tradition of Professor Emeritus Victor Davis Hanson. The program’s Phebe Conley Lecture Series also brings internationally recognized classics scholars to campus for lectures.

Music faculty members perform around the world in such venues as Carnegie Hall and share their talent in local orchestras, choruses and bands. The university plans to become the first on the West Coast to study and preserve music unique to the Americas.

In the Art Department – known for creative faculty such as feminist Judy Chicago and other outstanding artists – new avenues for expression are offered, including a graphic arts degree and a cultural exchange project that pairs young Californians and Mexicans for artist-in-residence experiences.

In the Theatre Arts Department, professors such as award-winning playwright and screenwriter Edward Emanuel motivate students to pursue creative professions. Some, such as alumnus Roy Christopher, reach the top of their fields.

Christopher is an Emmy Award-winning production designer who created the look of such popular television shows as “The Andy Williams Show” and “Frasier” and designed seven Tony Award-winning Broadway productions. But it’s his elaborate sets for the Academy Awards that have wowed millions of viewers each March for 17 years. The 2006 set with the theme “Going to the Movies” was inspired by his visits to Fresno’s Tower Theatre, and took four months to construct.

Christopher and his wife, Dorothy Joyal Christopher, met at Fresno State in the 1950s and worked together on the play, “A Clearing in the Woods.” Last fall, the Christophers returned to their alma mater to share tales of 40 years in Hollywood. The couple generously funds scholarships for promising theatre students.

A drive to push the frontiers of artistic expression led to Fresno State’s Portable Dance Troupe premiere this spring of an original work, “The Seven Deadly Sins,” written and primarily choreographed by artistic director Ruth Griffin, with assistance from fellow dance faculty Kenneth Balint. Also assisting were former students Cristal Tiscareno and Kara Bithell, now Fresno City College faculty members.

The University Dance Theatre, another group of outstanding artists under the direction of Balint, explores the nature of dance by performing pieces composed by students during the semester. Art is many things to many people. For society’s less fortunate, it can be a temporary respite from the struggles of daily life. Art and Design Department faculty member Joan Sharma wanted to offer that to residents and staff at Poverello House, which provides food, support services and shelter to the homeless.
Last year, she spearheaded a project to create a 72-foot wall mural in downtown Fresno opposite Poverello’s Village of Hope, a self-governing haven for the homeless, to illustrate the history of the Poverello House.

“Nothing prepared me for the outpouring of support that came from the people living on the streets beyond the gates of Poverello and the Village of Hope,” Sharma says. “Poverello is an amazing place of service, learning and life.”

In a unique cultural exchange, four contemporary art students from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico, were paired last fall with three young California artists – two from Fresno State – in a weeklong artist-in-residence program. The Contemporary-Contemporáneo program was established by the Fresno Art Museum in partnership with the Mexican Consulate of Fresno, Univision Television Group, the bilingual newspaper Vida en el Valle and the university.

“The project was the first of its kind for us and we’re hoping to make it an annual event,” says assistant professor Martin Valencia, who was instrumental in establishing the project and also taught a computer art class as part of it. “We want to incorporate music next year along with art.”

Moving beyond the traditional forms of expression, Fresno State students expand their knowledge of the computer-generated world of graphic arts by creating interactive Web sites, eye-catching packaging and alluring ads for magazines and newspapers.

This ever-changing field attracts art majors with a drive to shape the consumers art of our culture. And for the first time, a bachelor of fine arts degree (B.F.A.) in graphic design will be offered to students in fall 2007. “Right now our program is an option within the B.A. in art,” Valencia says. “As a degree, there will be three areas of emphasis including graphic design, illustration and interactive multimedia design, which encompasses print and Web design. A master’s degree will be our next proposal in the near future.”

Creative innovation has an impressive lineage at Fresno State. Internationally known artist and art professor Judy Chicago, for instance, started the first Feminist art program at Fresno State in 1970. “Going to Fresno afforded me the chance and the psychic space to explore a new way of making and teaching art,” Chicago says. “Out of those humble beginnings, an international Feminist art movement has developed, which will be documented in several upcoming exhibitions.”


Sometimes artistic talent is found in unexpected places. College of Engineering and Computer Sciences faculty member Henry Q. Duong paints in mixed media in a blend of technology and tradition. A Vietnamese refugee, Duong came to the United States in 1980 and graduated from Fresno State in 1984 with a degree in electrical engineering. After 14 years in the computer industry, he returned to Fresno State to teach in 2000. His work is exhibited in the Engineering East building.

During the past seven summers and again this year, artistic expression takes over the Fresno State campus and overflows into the community.
Fresno State's College of Arts and Humanities annually hosts the California State University's statewide Summer Arts Program. World-class artists in visual, performing and literary arts teach workshops on campus and perform for the community in what becomes a month-long celebration of the arts.

Internationally known guitar performers and professors participate in Summer Arts, and also come to the campus for Fresno State’s annual guitar festival and competition started by world-renowned flamenco guitarist Juan Serrano. The classroom and performance excellence at Fresno State begun by Serrano is continued by assistant professor Dr. Corey Whitehead.

The university’s music professors travel worldwide to teach and perform, in addition to contributing expertise and artistic depth to local orchestras, choirs and bands. In February, Dr. Anna Hamre conducted a 283-voice choir in a performance of Gabriel Fauré’s “Requiem” in New York City. February, Dr. Anna Hamre conducted a 283-voice choir in a performance of Gabriel Fauré’s “Requiem” in New York City. February, Dr. Anna Hamre conducted a 283-voice choir in a performance of Gabriel Fauré’s “Requiem” in New York City.

The Music Department also hosts the Philip Lorenz Memorial Keyboard Concert Series and boasts outstanding jazz and symphonic bands, opera workshops and concert choirs. More than 20 Fresno State musical groups add to the area’s cultural richness.

Music is a bridge across ethnic barriers and the Music Department’s exciting new Center for Music of the Americas will study, preserve and promote music unique to cultures in North, South and Central America.

The Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute, founded in 2002, also promotes understanding through learning. The institute is designed to support diversity on campus and study cultures in our society.

In addition to the Summer Arts Program, Fresno State’s College of Arts and Humanities plans to hire two tenured faculty members for the Armenian Studies Department.

Soon, Fresno students also will be able to study in Latin America and major in Latin American Studies. The Chicano and Latin American Studies Department plans to lure two tenured faculty members for the new major.

“Of the basic components of the new degree will be for students, as a final senior project, to study for a semester in a Latin American country of their choice,” says department chair Dr. Carlos Pérez.

Arts and humanities is an umbrella that covers many fields, including technical arts and creative professions. For technological art and innovation, think digital media, streaming live video on the Internet and study cultures in our society.

It’s the Saturday of a football home game and you can hear the clear beat of the snare drums blocks away, marking out the cadence for the 240 members of the Fresno State Marching Band as they make their way to Bulldog Stadium. Dressed in red and black uniforms with black plumed hats, they march in unison onto Bulldog Lane. Heads turn and kids wave.

The drummer calls out a command and the night air fills with the spirited “Bulldog Fanfare.” The Bulldog Marching Band is in the house!

“We have the electricity and the energy of being live and there’s just something about that,” says Band Director Dr. Gary Gilroy.

Nick Estrada, a sophomore trumpet soloist who chose Fresno State for its Music Department, says band is “a blast.” But he adds that Gilroy requires hard work and enthusiasm. That’s no problem for Estrada.

“Dr. Gilroy is very disciplined,” he says. “That’s not for everybody, but it helps us a lot.”

The 2005 marching band was the biggest in the university’s history. The interest earned from a $1 million anonymous donation in 1999 enabled the band to purchase new equipment and instruments. The band also awards $100,000 in scholarships each year; Estrada is just one of the musicians who receives one.

Gilroy, an award-winning composer and arranger with 50 publications to his credit, is justly proud of the band’s reputation.

“I know there are a lot of kids who pick Fresno State over a UC or other state university campus because our marching band is superior to those schools,” he says. “I think we have a terrific band.”

Sheri Bohigian
Galleries at Fresno State showcase student and faculty work and are open to the community.

Photography will be among the classes offered during the CSU Summer Arts program, which returns to Fresno State in July for the eighth straight year.

Students bring plays to life in the university theatre complex, which consists of a 370-seat proscenium theatre, a 150-seat arena theatre and a 100-seat lab theatre. Behind the scenes, students work with state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment.

Les Danzantes de Aztlán, Fresno State’s pioneering Mexican folkloric dance troupe, is one of several ethnic groups that regularly share their culture on the campus and in the community.

Faculty-student interaction is a hallmark of arts programs at Fresno State.

Fresno State’s Theatre for Young Audiences takes “Treasure Island” to area children.

Printmaking students learn the processes of intaglio, lithography and woodblock printing.

An eye-catching wall mural welcomes visitors to the Caskey Arts Building.

Print by Mark A. Larson
And that's why mass communications alumni are working all over the country, from newspapers in Washington, D.C., to CNN in Atlanta," says Priest.

If you're hungry for inspiration, there's a cultural buffet to sample and it's all on the campus of Fresno State. No matter what your taste—from classical Bocelli to cutting-edge computer-generated graphics—you'll find something that rates four stars. ■

Sheri Bohigian is a Fresno writer specializing in education and health.

continued from page 19

convergence—the next big field in the media industry. And Fresno State’s Mass Communication and Journalism Department students already are learning those new skills.

Students write for The Collegian newspaper and hone broadcast skills reporting and producing weekly television shows aired on cable Channel 96, the educational channel. Also affiliated with the department is 90.7 KFSR, a non-commercial public radio station that reflects the diversity of the community through musical, cultural, educational and public affairs programming. And each year, Dr. Roberta Asahina’s advertising students create a multimedia campaign that regularly places in the San Joaquin Valley.

Mass Communication and Journalism Chair, Dr. Don Priest, won the 2005 Rosebud Award as the California State University’s outstanding media arts faculty member. He says the industry buzzword “convergence” refers to combining technologies such as print and the Internet to give consumers more access options.

"Instead of a traditional print newsroom where reporters get stories and type them up, reporters now have to look at the video side of the story, too," Priest says. "Newspapers are streaming video and audio. Ads for newspapers sell more online material. As a result, students need more than one set of skills."

He says faculty members take seriously their job of making sure students have the skills they need to go out and be competitive.

"And that’s why mass communications alumni are working all over the country, from newspapers in Washington, D.C., to CNN in Atlanta," says Priest.

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For additional information, please contact:

90.7 KFSR - www.kfsr.org
Armenian Studies - www.csufresno.edu/armenianstudies/
Creative Writing - www.csufresno.edu/crw/
CSU Summer Arts - www.csusummerarts.org
Judy Chicago - www.judychicago.com
Marching band - www.csufresno.edu/marchingband
Music - www.csufresno.edu/music/
Save Mart Center - www.savemartcenter.com/
Theatre Arts - www.csufresno.edu/theatre/

The President's Quintet provides music for campus functions.

The Magazine of California State University, Fresno 23
The Magazine of California State University, Fresno

**Students Drawn to Classical Studies**

by Marni Katz

When Professor Emeritus Victor Davis Hanson started the Classical Studies Program at Fresno State more than 20 years ago, his goal was to develop a curriculum in ancient Greek and Latin studies to appeal specifically to Fresno State students yet rival the universities in the country.

“I wanted to give students at Fresno State a competitive education with a first-rate grounding in ancient languages, literature, philosophy and history,” Hanson says.

Hanson and his colleague, classics and humanities professor Dr. Bruce Thornton, succeeded spectacularly. Today the nationally renowned program prepares graduates to compete at top-notch schools such as Princeton, Brown, Yale and Duke, where Fresno graduates currently are pursuing post-doctoral and doctoral studies.

Whether working on graduate degrees in ancient history or languages, earning a law or medical degree or attending seminary, Fresno graduates are well-grounded in classical studies. And just as importantly, says Classics Program Coordinator Dr. Honorio H. Chapman, the program prepares students of all majors to speak and write more intelligently, think more critically and learn with a deeper level of understanding.

“A minor in Classical Studies is a fantastic way for students to enhance their intellectual breadth and add value for entrance into major universities,” says Chapman, who joined the faculty in 2002. “This kind of education will make students more successful in the long run, regardless of their major. Despite its seemingly rarified nature, the study of ancient Greek and Latin cultures and languages, credits the teaching staff’s ability to give Fresno State students – who come from all races and socioeconomic backgrounds – a meaningful connection to these ancient cultures and languages. The program also maintains rigorous academic standards so students receive an education on par with top universities.

Hanson, who retired in 2014, now is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University. Despite a busy schedule as a sought-after columnist and lecturer—including invitations to the White House and Pentagon—he maintains close contact with Fresno State.

The three classics professors’ reputations and connections in academic benefit students pursuing higher education at the nation’s elite universities, and also attract world-class scholars to Fresno State. Prominent classics scholars such as Steven Miller of UC Berkeley, Donald Kagan of Yale University and Barry Strauss of Cornell University have visited and lectured as part of the Pfebe Conley Classics Lecture Series.

With support from the university’s comprehensive campaign, Thornton and Chapman hope to bring more visiting scholars to Fresno State and possibly invite Hanson to teach a limited-enrollment class one semester each year.

“Visiting scholars can come in and infuse excitement and new areas of specialty into the program while also creating connections for students to give them postgraduate opportunities at the best universities around the world,” Chapman says. ■

Marni Katz is a Fresno-based writer and communications consultant.

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**A Writing Community Thrives**

by Dorina K. Lazo

Whether you step down the fourth floor hall of the Peters Business Building at Fresno State to the offices of the creative writing faculty and you can almost hear the walls speak — the short stories, the lines of poetry, the ghosts of teachers mentoring and students creating, then joining the world of publishing.

Joining names on dust jackets — Philip Levine, Stewie Yarbrough, Peter Everwine, Lisa Wieland, Chuck Hohnhuck, Lillian Faderman, Juan Felipe Herrera — Names that are the past and present of this place.

“There are so many people who are really devoted to the art of writing,” says Connie Hales, coordinator of the English Department’s Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program.

“When there are so many around who understand writing, it’s nice,” says Hales, who after 20 years of teaching poetry, calls Fresno State her “writing home.”

The all-star cast of players Hales calls her faculty members include Yarbrough, award-winning author of seven books. His most recent, coming out in June 2006, is “The End of California.”

In 2005, Yarbrough was named the James and Coke Hallowell Professor of Creative Writing, which allows him to teach two classes and devote time to writing. He was one of five 2005 finalists for the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, a national prize awarded for American fiction.

Fellow fiction-writing professor Lisa Wieland has published two novels, two short story collections and a collection of poems called “Near Akataz” (Cherry Grove Editions, 2005). “The Valley grows writers like it grows grapes, cotton, almonds and everything else,” says Wieland.

David Borofka, a student of both Yarbrough and Wieland in the early 1990s, is a Fresno State success story. “I can’t say enough about their friendship and their help,” he says.

Borofka has published a novel and a collection short stories and teaches creative writing classes at Reedley College. His collection, “Hints of His Mortality,” won the 1996 Iowa Short Fiction Award.

Hales says one strength of the Fresno State writing community is that the students are driven and have a lot to work about. One of her students, Blas Manuel De Luna, attracted national attention for his poetry book, “Bent to the Earth” (Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2005). The book was a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award. De Luna, who teaches English at Fierbaugh High School, says his time at Fresno State was instrumental in the book’s creation. He says Fresno State faculty helped solidify his love for writing. “They cared so much about poetry and about their students that you’d kill yourself to do your best work.”

Levine, considered by many the Godfather of creative writing at Fresno State, came to Fresno in 1958. Over the next 25 years, he helped launch the careers of the Valley’s best young poets. Levine has published 17 books and received numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1995 for his book “The Simple Truth.”

Today, the Master of Fine Arts program sponsors The Philip Levine Prize in Poetry, an annual book contest open to poets across the nation. MFA students serve as readers for the contest and Levine chooses the winner.

Stephen Barke, a Fresno State alum, says Levine launched more than 60 nationally renowned poets. Barke is writing a book about the history of the Fresno poets, the majority of whom were Levine’s colleagues or students.

“We have such a rich, ripe history,” Barke says. “Most people don’t realize what we have going on here.” ■

Dorina K. Lazo, a published poet and freelance writer, lives in Fresno and is working on an M.F.A. in writing children’s books.
Wathen Center draws the world

Just beyond the tall brick wall along Cedar Avenue on the Fresno State campus is a treasure hiding in plain view: the Spalding G. Wathen Tennis Center, home to the successful Bulldog men’s and women’s tennis teams.

Katharina Winterhalter, left, and Lucia Sainz excel on the court and in the classroom.

Over the past decade, Bulldog women’s teams have won five Western Athletic Conference championships, including the past four consecutively; developed six All-Americans; and men to a program-high No. 8 in 2001. In that time, the men won two conference titles, nurtured seven All-Americans and achieved a program-best No. 6 final ranking in 1996.

The Wathen Center is one of the premier tennis facilities in the western United States, thanks to a generous donation from an individual who has solid playing reputations and healthy grades.

A key element in building a formidable program has been recruiting good student-athletes by past coaches Peter Smith, Michael Hegarty and Kevin Epley and by Thibodeau and current men’s coach Juy Udvardia.

Former Bulldogs Jana Pandzic and Fredrik Borgh made it to the NCAA singles finals. And this year’s women’s team features seniors Lucia Sainz (Spain) and Katharina Winterhalter (Germany), who have solid playing reputations and healthy grades.

“This is the main change – and it is a national trend – is the increasing influence of foreign players,” said Ken Robison, tennis writer for The Fresno Bee.

“The main change – and it is a national trend – is the increasing influence of foreign players,” said Ken Robison, tennis writer for The Fresno Bee.

Sainz and Winterhalter won the ITA Northwest Regional title – only the second Fresno State doubles team to accomplish that feat – and reached the final of the fall’s ITA All-American Tournament, one of three major championships in collegiate tennis.

Both also have been WAC Scholar Athletes during their Fresno State careers.

Robison asked Winterhalter whether tennis or her grade point average was more important. “School work,” she answered. “My parents always said school comes first. I’m a student-athlete. I like the fact that I can balance things.”

Curts Webb is a student assistant in Fresno State’s Athletics Media Relations office.

By Curtis Webb

Green V gets a new fundraising role

If Greg J. Walaitis knocks on your door pitching the Green V Society, hear him out: Green V has changed.

Walaitis, Fresno State’s associate athletics director for development, wants to tell you how the Green V Society can help Bulldog sports compete at the highest levels with the highest integrity.

He’ll also ask you to make a three-year private commitment of $10,000 to $250,000 simply because you care.

“It is true philanthropy,” says Walaitis. “It’s giving for the good of the cause.”

Hank Smith, president of the Bulldog Foundation Annual Fund Drive, says there are enough donors to go around.

Walaitis says, “Now we are giving an opportunity just to give.”

A key is personal contact, Walaitis says. “We need to go out and start relationships with people in this town. It’s face to face.”

The Green V Society taps the expertise of key Bulldog Foundation members to identify giving opportunities for area leaders. Vern Pletz is one who says he’s involved “because I have an absolute belief in this community.”

“I can’t think of a better stage for our community than our major sports accomplishments at Fresno State,” Pletz says. Green V Society membership, he adds, is “a dynamic investment in this community.”

So what words can prospective Green V Society donors expect when Walaitis and Bulldog Foundation members call or knock on the door?

Walaitis, “Now, what you’re going to get is the satisfaction of a top-notch program.”

Ron Orozco has been a newspaper reporter in Fresno for more than 30 years.

By Ron Orozco
Bulldog chatter

Fresno State shines in academics

Thirty-seven Fresno State student-athletes representing four sports were named to the 2005 Academic All-WAC teams for fall sports – the largest number of any conference school.

Seven Bulldog athletics from the cross country and volleyball programs were honored along with nine from women’s soccer and a record 14 from football.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must have completed at least one academic year, have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA and have participated in at least half of their team’s contests.

Jamie Southern receives NCAA Top VIII Award

For the first time All-American Jamie Southern became the university’s second softball player to win one of the NCAA’s coveted Top VIII Awards.

At NCAA Division I and II student-athletes are considered for the honor, which singles out the top eight who demonstrate athletic success, academic achievement and community service.

Amanda Scott was Fresno State’s first Top VIII Award winner in 2001.

Run for the Dream

World records, personal bests and a priceless opportunity to watch track and field Olympians and up-and-coming stars compete at the highest level were part of Fresno State’s inaugural Run for the Dream indoor track meet in January.

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, nearly 6,000 people watched 12 hours of competition by young and senior athletes.

“Our focus all along was to honor the fans and create a family atmosphere,” said Bob Fraley, Bulldogs director of track and field.

“Judging by the community support and excitement, and appreciation from our competitors, I believe we reached our goals.”

The event was one of the biggest indoor track meets in the world this year.

CSU policy bans alcohol at intercollegiate athletics

The California State University System issued an order that prohibits all 23 campuses from selling alcoholic beverages at any intercollegiate athletic events at university-owned or -operated facilities. It also limits advertising of beer and wine.

CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed says selling alcoholic beverages at intercollegiate athletic events “is contrary to [CSU’s] systemwide alcohol policy and its purpose of promoting a safe and healthy learning environment.”

Fresno State is among campuses with contractual agreements that include sale of alcoholic beverages. Those contracts will be honored, but cannot be renewed. The ban does not apply to Fresno State athletic events at the Save Mart Center, which is not owned or operated by the university.

Hill contract extended, football team facing big-time opponents

Football Coach Pat Hill’s success in nine seasons was rewarded with an extension of his contract through the 2010 season.

Hill has a 72-42 record, seven straight bowl appearances and a big challenge this fall in one of the toughest nonconference schedules in Bulldog history.

The schedule is topped by national powers Louisiana State University and Oregon and a rematch with the Pac-10’s Washington.

The game Oct. 21 in Baton Rouge, La., will be the first-ever meeting between the Bulldogs and Tigers and will be played before a national TV audience on ESPN.

Also on tap are a home game against Oregon on Sept. 9, a visit to Seattle to play the Huskies and a Sept. 30 contest against Colorado State in Bulldog Stadium.

Jan Winslow is assistant athletics media relations director at Fresno State.

BY JAN WINSLOW

Jan Winslow is assistant athletics media relations director at Fresno State.
1940s

Wendell Bell (1949), a professor emeritus at Yale University, received an award for Lifetime Achievement and Contributions to the Field of Futures Studies from the World Futures Studies Federation meeting in Budapest, Hungary.

Grace (Georgie) Paul (1949) and her husband, John Paul, were named 2005 Outstanding Philanthropists by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, California Valley Chapter.

1950s

Robert E. Coyle (1953), a U.S. District Court judge, dedicated the nine-story, $140 million federal courthouse in Fresno with Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy.

Kenny Gallin (1959), governor of Nevada, was named one of America’s Five Best Governors by Time magazine.

1960s

Janice (Pfriemen) Ray (1965), retired after 38 years with the State Department, directs the Elderhostel Program of the American Foreign Service Administration.

Jean (Brace) Chaffee (1962) wrote a children’s book, “Kick the Orangeator Learns to Read,” based on 16 years as a volunteer at the Chaffee Zoological Gardens in Fresno.

1970s

John Bergman (1973) joined Valley Business Bank as vice president/senior credit specialist.

James V. Boren (1972), a editorial page editor of The Fresno Bee, won a Media Citation from the Journalism Education Association.

Paul Copeland (1976) was named executive director of the American Historical and Cultural Museum of the San Joaquin Valley.

John Cullen (1972, 1974) was appointed Cometa Costa County administrator.


Robert F. Price (1970) was appointed co-chair of the Advanced Estate Planning Institute by the California Certified Public Accountants Education Foundation.

David St. John (1972), director of the doctoral program in literature and creative writing at the University of Southern California, has published his sixth collection of poetry, “The Pisco-Nowell in Verse.”

Randall Strahan (1974) was the 2005 Entrepreneur of the Year for Fresno State’s Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Margaret Thorburn (1971) was elected president of the Kings River Conservancy.

Barbara Mathis (1971) was inducted into the U.S. Tennis Hall of Fame.

Scott Griffin (1976), chief information officer for Chicago-based Boeing, was featured in CIO today magazine.


Bill Jones (1971), a former California secretary of state, founded Fresno-based Pacific Ethanol, in which software mogul Bill Gates recently invested $44 million.

Emily Kudro (1977) has completed her fifth season portraying Mrs. Kim on the NBC TV network’s “Suddenly Glee.” She also appeared with Steve Martin in the movie “Shop Girl.”

Jean-Michel Lastiti (1978) was appointed director of development and business development for San Jose-Based Heritage Commerce Corp. in Fresno.

John Brier (1981) was promoted to director of campus information systems at Fresno State.

John Corkins (1980) was named the Porterville College of Commerce’s 2005 Man of the Year.

Jaree Skoon (1980) was appointed the one-woman show “Jawka” at the Fresno Academy of Arts. The play was written and staged by her husband, Oscar Speace (1971).

Mary Jane Papadopoulos (1987), a CPA, was named CFO for Daniel, a Fresno-based network monitoring company.

Donald M. Priest (1985), a 1990s

Gary Reed (1987) of Porterville was appointed to the governor to the California Community Colleges Board of Governors.

Lisa Rowe (1989) was hired as director of the advertising division at the Eureka Times-Standard.

Shawn (Perry) Simmons (1989) and her husband John bought Mt. Lemmon Florist in Fresno.

Gena Strange (1985), a former building software player who is assistant director of development for athletics at Fresno State, was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame.

1990s

Joel Albes (1995), founding director of Children’s Musical Theatreworks in Fresno, was honored by Union Bank of California at its Salute to Small Business Awards.


Joseph Bowershank (1996) was named director of marketing at Portelli Inc., a software-development firm in Irvine.

Daniel W. Bryan (1996) returned to his alma mater, Davis High School in Modesto, as band instructor and music teacher.

Leticia Reyna Cane (1998) was appointed director of donor and volunteer relations at Fresno State.

Alma Mater

Let us sing, our voices raise
In Cloistered Courts, to sound thy praise.
Each voice and heart that sings is true
To thee, to thee.
Oh, Alma Mater, let us raise
Our hearts and voices, let us sing.
Alma Mater, true, let us sing.

Submit CLASS NOTES online to www.fresnostatealumni.com.
1. From the 1956 yearbook: “The Student Court has jurisdiction over all cases involving the welfare of the school, interprets the college constitution, hears cases filed with it by faculty or students, and impasses possibilities when necessary.” Do you know these members?

2. In 1955 and 1956, the Theatre Department’s University Street Playhouse staged four full-scale productions: “Bell, Book and Candle,” by John Van Druten, “The Lady’s Not for Burning” by Christopher Fry, “Widows for黄金men” by Eugene Vernor, and “The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker” by Liam O’Brien. Do you recognize who’s setting the mood with the right lighting? Or portrayed the heroine Pennypacker in “The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker”?

3. The Kaypo Sigma Winter Carnival provided wholesome relaxation in a scenic wonderland, Yosemite National Park. Do you know the 1956 Snow Queen?

4. Aggie Days celebrated the university’s abundant resources of fruits and vegetables, as well as its thriving dairy industry. Do you remember the 1956 Aggie Queen?

5. The Dairy Club provided an outlet for students interested in dairy husbandry.

The dedication in the 1956 “Campus,” the Fresno State yearbook, was a fond farewell to the old campus. The inscription said that Fresno State College (1956) was “dedicated [itself] to the ideals of knowledge, understanding, tradition and progress,” and the college had “given all and asked for nothing in return. We dedicated this book to you, our alma mater, Fresno State College.”

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From left, Michala and Clyde Ford join Jacqueline Glisan, executive director of the Fresno State Alumni Association, at the fall 2005 wine tasting fundraiser held at University House by the Alumni and Friends of the Craig School of Business. Clyde Ford is president of the alumni group, which was established in 1928 to create mutually beneficial relations between the school and its alumni. The alumni group sponsors the wine tasting and a spring golf tournament to raise money for a scholarship awarded to a student each fall.

Many discounts with alumni membership

A mong the money-saving benefits of a Fresno State Alumni Association membership are discounts offered by about 85 organizations, including numerous businesses proud to support the university. Here are some places to ask about discounts: the Bulldog Alumni Wine Club, University Lecture Series, University Alumni Travel Benefits, University Theatre, Office Depot, Continuing and Global Education, Music Department presentations and the Alma Mater Pro Shop. Low-price deals also are available for auto, home, dental, health and vision insurance.

Additional opportunities to save are listed at www.fresnostatealumni.com.

The Alumni Association supports students

T he Fresno State Alumni Association allocates 10 percent of its annual membership fees to a Student Scholarship Endowment Fund. It awarded $80,000 in scholarships in 2005-06 to students based on academic achievement and financial need.

In the past decade, more than $500,000 has benefited students. The Fresno State Alumni Association is No. 1 in scholarship among all such organizations in the 23-campus California State University system. Fresno resident Jodi Miysaki is a sophomore majoring in mass communication and journalism. She is a member of the Student Alumni Association. Jodi’s parents, Rick and Marilyn Miysaki, also attended Fresno State. “This FSA scholarship helps me greatly,” she says. “Thank you for the support.”

Jonathan Good, a native of Provo, Utah, recently graduated from Fresno State with a bachelor of science degree in nursing while serving as a member of the campus ROTC. Good plans to begin his career as an Army nurse. “Thank you for this scholarship,” he says. “It will always remember what Fresno State has done for me.”

Alumni news

Many discounts with alumni membership

A mong the money-saving benefits of a Fresno State Alumni Association membership are discounts offered by about 85 organizations, including numerous businesses proud to support the university. Here are some places to ask about discounts: the Bulldog Alumni Wine Club, University Lecture Series, University Alumni Travel Benefits, University Theatre, Office Depot, Continuing and Global Education, Music Department presentations and the Alma Mater Pro Shop. Low-price deals also are available for auto, home, dental, health and vision insurance.

Additional opportunities to save are listed at www.fresnostatealumni.com.

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A Message from the Executive Director of the Fresno State Alumni Association

Dear Fresno State Bulldog:

We are very excited to share with you information about the Fresno State Alumni Association and the recent passing of affinity program bill legislation, Senate Bill 569.

An affinity program is an agreement between the Fresno State Alumni Association and a partner to offer discounted services to alumni in areas such as travel, insurance programs, student loan consolidation or credit cards. In addition to discounts for alumni, these affinity opportunities give a portion of their business back to your Fresno State Alumni Association in support of its mission, while also providing sponsorship opportunities for other events and programs, such as student scholarships.

In order to make you aware of these affinity opportunities, we are sharing information with only the contracted, selected partners of the utmost quality and integrity.

A contract is signed and they are not allowed to share your data with any other entity.

SB 569 was passed to allow the continuation of programs that provide beneficial services that greatly support the Fresno State Alumni Association to help provide you the activities, communications and services expected.

Per the SB 569 legislation, we are required to inform you of important privacy information. Encourage you to take a moment to read the information provided.

With Bulldog Pride,

Maurice D. Klaassen, President
Spline team garners rave reviews

Dan Hoang and Miles Wilhelm met at Fresno State in computer and art classes. Now the two alumni own Spline Motion Studios with three music videos, a short film, “Dust” (which combines live action and 3-D) and a national TV commercial to their credit. You would think that with such an impressive work résumé they’d have been in business for quite a while. Nope. Spline was founded less than three years ago and the partners are in their mid-20s. Wow.

“When Doan and I met, our work ethic brought us together,” Wilhelm says. “We put in long hours to get the job done right. Kengi does the same thing.”

That would be Kengi Her, who was in high school (high school!) when he met Wilhelm and Hoang. They shared creative ambitions and are now partners in Spline. Even though Her was younger, Wilhelm says, “Kengi blew the college guys out of the water and we realized we had a lot to learn.”

“What do the guys consider long hours? Well, as part of the production team on a Chrysler commercial, Spline accomplished in four days what normally would take up to six weeks. The commercial received rave from Chrysler executives.

From their beautiful rededicated brick office in downtown Fresno, near the Santa Fe train station (“I took six months to renovate this office,” says Wilhelm), Spline works with many architects, including prominent Fresno architect Arthur Dyson, who is designing the new University High School building at Fresno State and the Fresno County Library downtown branch.

The team takes the plans of an architect and turns the drawings into 3-D – front, back, inside and out. Wilhelm describes what they do as “architectural visualization.”

Hoang graduated in 2004 in the pioneering major of multi-media. Wilhelm graduated in 2005 with another groundbreaking major, digital media. “That’s one of the coolest things about Fresno State – it allows a special major,” says Hoang.

The Spline team still is connected with Fresno State, working on a proposal for a master’s degree in digital art. They hope to present it to administrators in May.

The word “spline” has several meanings. Wilhelm prefers the artistic definition of a bendable line used to begin creating anything. But if these alumni have their way, in the future when you hear “spline” you’ll think of Spline Motion Studios.

To see examples of architectural visualization, visit www.splinemotion.com. "I went to Fresno State and majored in drama,” says Kuroda. “One of my favorite teachers was professor Janet Loring, who taught theatre history. She was a no-nonsense person and believed in me in a realistic way. Professor Loring is one on the reasons I had the guts to pursue acting.”

While Kuroda is known these days for her portrayal of Mrs. Kim, she has an acting résumé that goes back more than 25 years. She appeared in TV shows such as “Six Feet Under,” “King of Queens” and “E.R.” and has performed with acting heavyweights Kevin Spacey, Olympia Dukakis and Steve Martin. In 1989, Kuroda was the movie “Bad” with the legendary Jack Lemmon and Ted Danson of “Cheers” fame.

Kuroda garnered many awards over the years, including most recently, the East West Players’ Rae Creevey Award for contribution to Asian American Theater. Her love of the stage began at Central High School in Fresno and continued through college. “While I was at Fresno State, a visiting Asian theater group, the East West Players, performed,” Kuroda recalls. “I was finally watching people like me doing what I wanted to do. East West Players gave me a face to identify with.”

The East West Players encouraged Kuroda to go to Los Angeles and train in their acting school. With a push from Loring and a pull from the East West Players, a career began that has lasted a quarter of a century and has given birth to dozens of characters, including the unforgettable Mrs. Kim.

Leslie Cunning is a freelance writer in Fresno.
CreATiViTy ABOUNdS

Using techniques from traditional to innovative, art students at Fresno State express their creativity.

Page 12

GIVING AND RECEIVING

Student volunteers Lindsay Amaro, Jeremy Avila and David Todd share a light moment during their work in Slidell, La., to help homeowners devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Page 6

SMASH HIT

Katharina Winterhalter and Lucia Sainz excel on the tennis court and in the classroom. Page 26