

Ag One Community Connections

Benefiting, promoting and supporting the students and programs of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology since 1979



Upcoming Events

Stanislaus County Alumni & Friends Dinner

Durrer's Barn
Modesto, CA
March 18, 2015

19th Annual Common Threads Luncheon

Fresno State
University Dining Hall
Fresno, CA
March 26, 2015

44th Annual Turf Day Golf Classic

Madera Golf and Country Club
Madera, CA
May 1, 2015

Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences & Technology Convocation

Fresno State Campus
Fresno, CA
May 15, 2015

North Bay Alumni & Friends Dinner

Santa Rosa Community College
Santa Rosa, CA
July 15, 2015

Ag One and the Jordan College continually experience exciting growth and change. Some of these changes include the ongoing construction of the new Jordan Research Center, welcoming new team members, saying farewell to others and establishing new programs and scholarships that enhance the educational opportunities in our college. Throughout these changes, Ag One strives to provide students with the highest-quality teaching and learning environment possible. As a member of Ag One, your support helps to secure the future of our academic programs, student achievements and the college's success.

Exciting growth and change is taking place in the Jordan College.

Dr. Charles Boyer, has taken a position as the new Vice President and dean of Agriculture at Montana State University. After serving as dean for the Jordan College for eight and a half years, he says the excitement of his new position is tempered by his love for the college. He made incredible strides and helped transform the college into what it is today. He will be greatly missed.



Dr. Sandra Witte, associate dean of the Jordan College, has been named interim dean while the dean's search is underway. Witte was selected after the unanimous recommendation by the Jordan College staff. She has been with the College as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs since June, 2007.

Dr. Kathie Reid-Bevington has assumed the position of Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Dr. Reid-Bevington has been the Department Chair of Child, Family, and Consumer Sciences since 2011 and has been with the University since 1998.



Dr. Mechel Paggi has been appointed the new Associate Dean for Research and Collaboration in conjunction with his role the Dir. of the Center for Agricultural Business (CAB). Dr. Paggi has been the Director of CAB since 2002.



Community Engaged: Helping Hams Campaign was another success

this year as the Gibson Farm Market selected six organizations to distribute 159 hams to, for families in need during the holiday season. RCO Ag Credit was the biggest donor this year with a contribution of \$3,000. The Fresno State Student Cupboard; Fresno State Food Recovery Network; Bulldog Pantry; El Dorado Park Boys and Girls Club; Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health, Perinatal Program; and The Poverello House, received hams on Dec 19.



The Multicultural Scholars in Agriculture program, established by the Farm Credit System members American Ag Credit, CoBank, Farm Credit West, Fresno Madera Farm Credit, and Golden State Farm Credit awarded its first five scholarships for the 2015 spring semester. **Courtney Carlton** of Kerman; **David Jaime** of Winterhaven; **Lenette Gutierre** of Salinas; **Desirae Perez** of Fillmore, and **Toushulong Vang** of Fresno, will mentor high school students interested in pursuing careers in agriculture across the Valley.

Construction on the new **Jordan Research Center** is fully underway. Faculty and student researchers will



work together with industry partners to develop innovative solutions in agriculture. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.



Ag One's Inaugural Trap Shoot was a great success. More than 70 shooters and 100 dinner guests joined us on November 20 at the Kingsburg Gun Club for a fun afternoon of clay shooting, BBQ dinner, raffle & prizes.

Jordan College Alum, Rob Yraceburu was honored by the College November 7 with the Top Dog Award. Yraceburu graduated with his BS degree in Ag Business in 1984 and his MS degree in Ag Economics in 1990. Following in his father's footsteps, Rob and his wife Gayle, purchased their own grape and raisin farm in 1987.



Awards and Honors

Armando Guzman, a senior in plant science, has been in the spotlight representing the Jordan College. Along with his fellow plant science club members, he competed against 14 major U.S. universities with agriculture programs for the president's trophy at the American Agronomy Society meeting in Long Beach. Armando has also been chosen as a **Golden Scholar** recipient, along with **Nadia Juarez**. The program connects agronomy, crop and soil science students with mentors in their fields. Additionally, Armando was recognized as a Jensen Scholar through the Ag One-Rodger B. Jensen Endowment.



Alumni and Past Ag One President Ryan and Ashley Jacobsen established a \$25,000 endowment to support students and programs in the Jordan College. Ryan received Ag One scholarships to help him engage in his studies and collegiate activities while he attended Fresno State. He and his wife wanted to give back. The first recipient of this scholarship went to **Jessica Sweet**. Jessica, originally from Livermore, is majoring in Ag Education. She is an ambassador for the National FFA Association, president of the FFA Field Day Committee and secretary for the Jordan College Student Leadership Council.



Ag One Welcomes three new members to the Jordan College family. **Geoff Thurner** is the new communication specialist for the Jordan College and comes to us from the Fresno State athletics team. His breadth of experience includes athletic media relations with the University of Oregon, University of Georgia and U.S. Olympic Committee.



Mary Willis joined us in January as the Coordinator for Internships and Professional Experiences, where she will develop and administer our college-wide internship program. She is new to Fresno State, having come from Career Services at UC Merced and Fresno Pacific University. Ag One also welcomes Kristine Lor to our office as the new Accounting Technician and Administrative Professional. She has been in the accounting department at Fresno State for the past year and rounds out the Ag One team.



"I cannot express enough how much of a blessing these scholarships have been to me. I am a full time student who also works full time because I do not receive any financial aid. Therefore, these scholarships have allowed me to further my education and allowed me to build a career in agriculture. I thank Ag One for all that it does." ~Taryn Bates (Hughson, CA), senior majoring in Ag Business.

AG One

In 1979, several faculty, alumni and friends of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology had a million-dollar idea - to start a foundation that would benefit, promote and support the college and its programs. Today, Ag One has raised more than \$17 million in endowed funds and will provide over \$500,000 in student and program support during the 2015-16 academic year.

To learn more about joining Ag One, Please contact Shannon Fast. For membership information, scan the code.
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