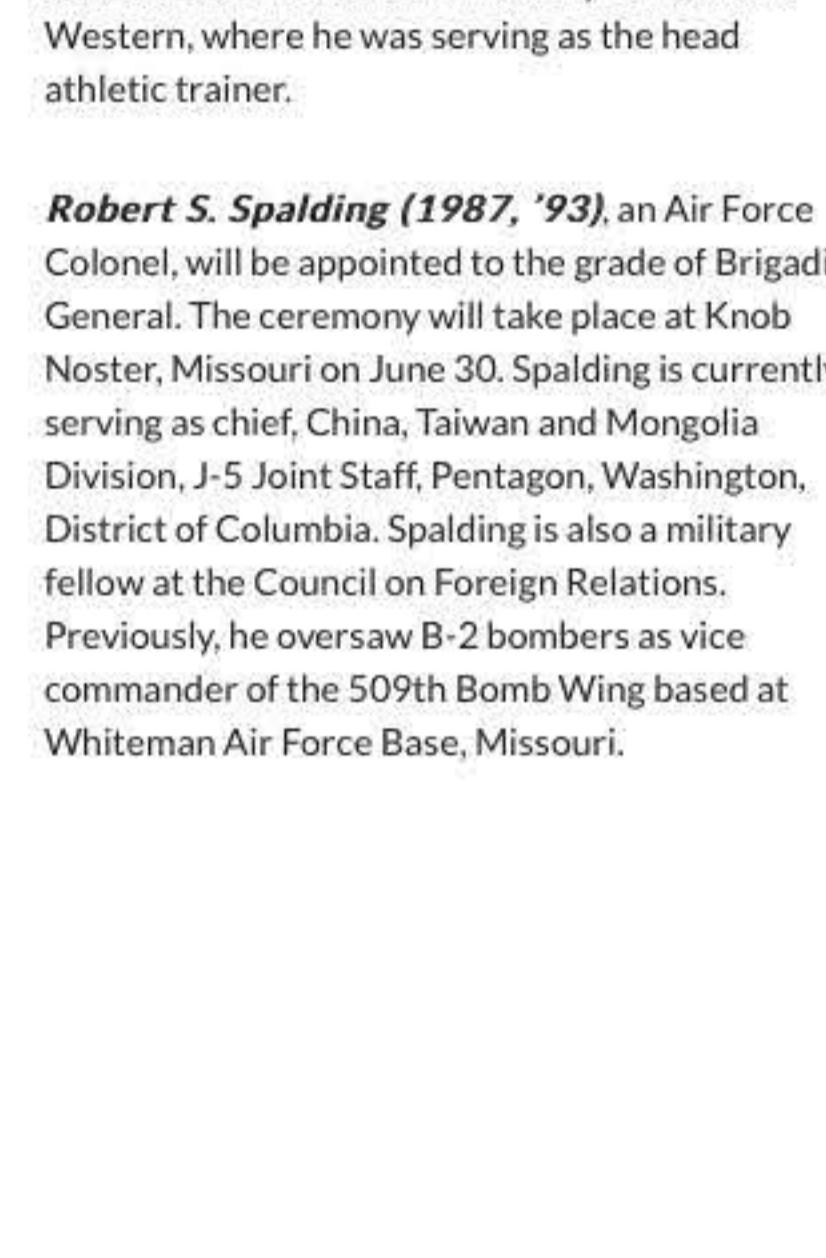
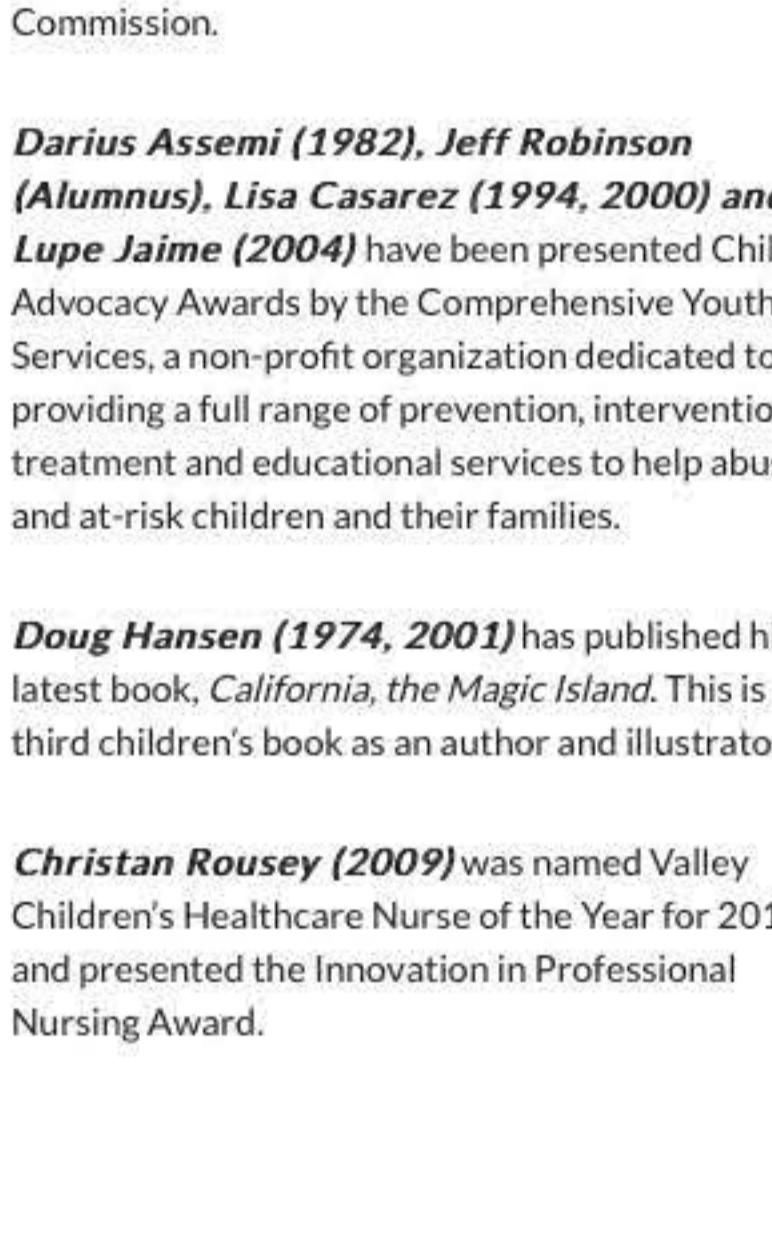
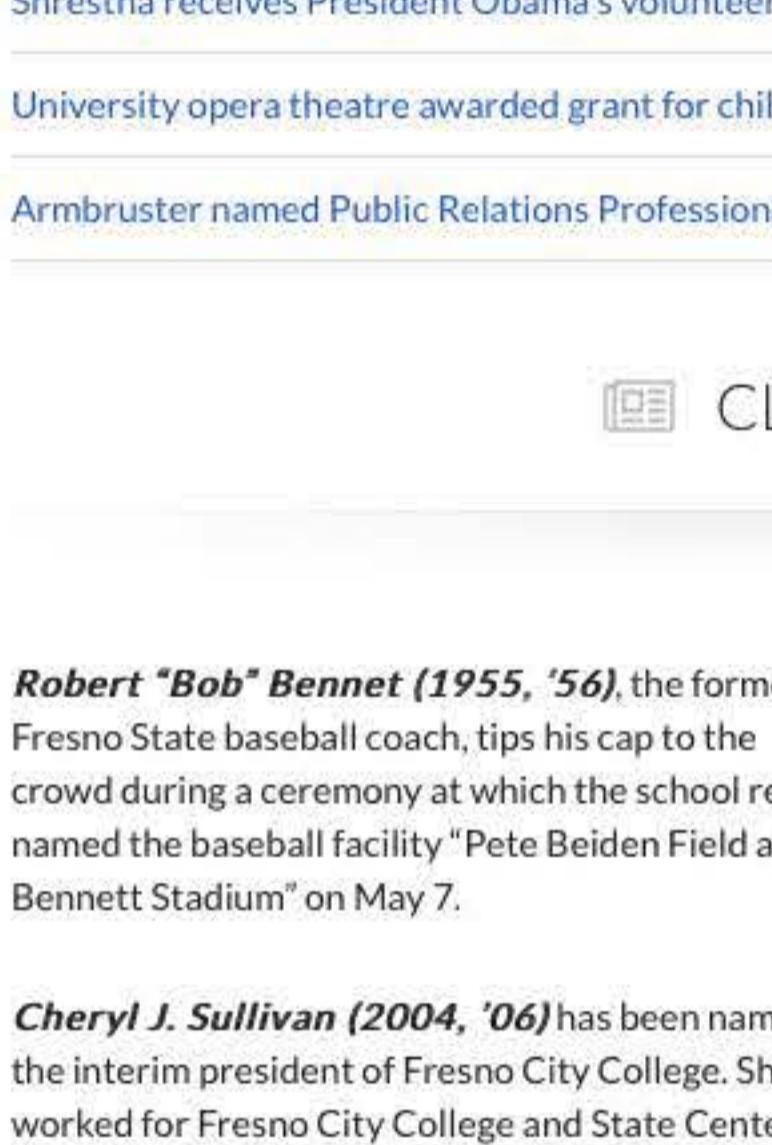
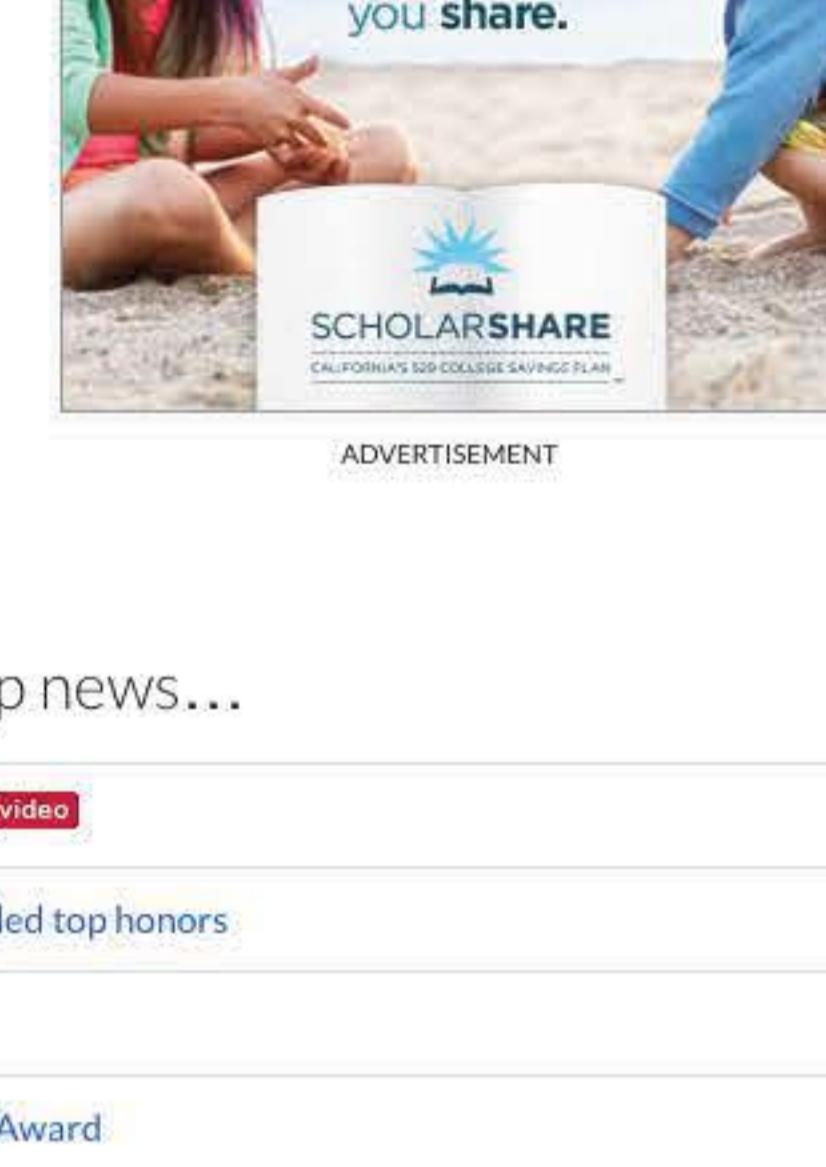
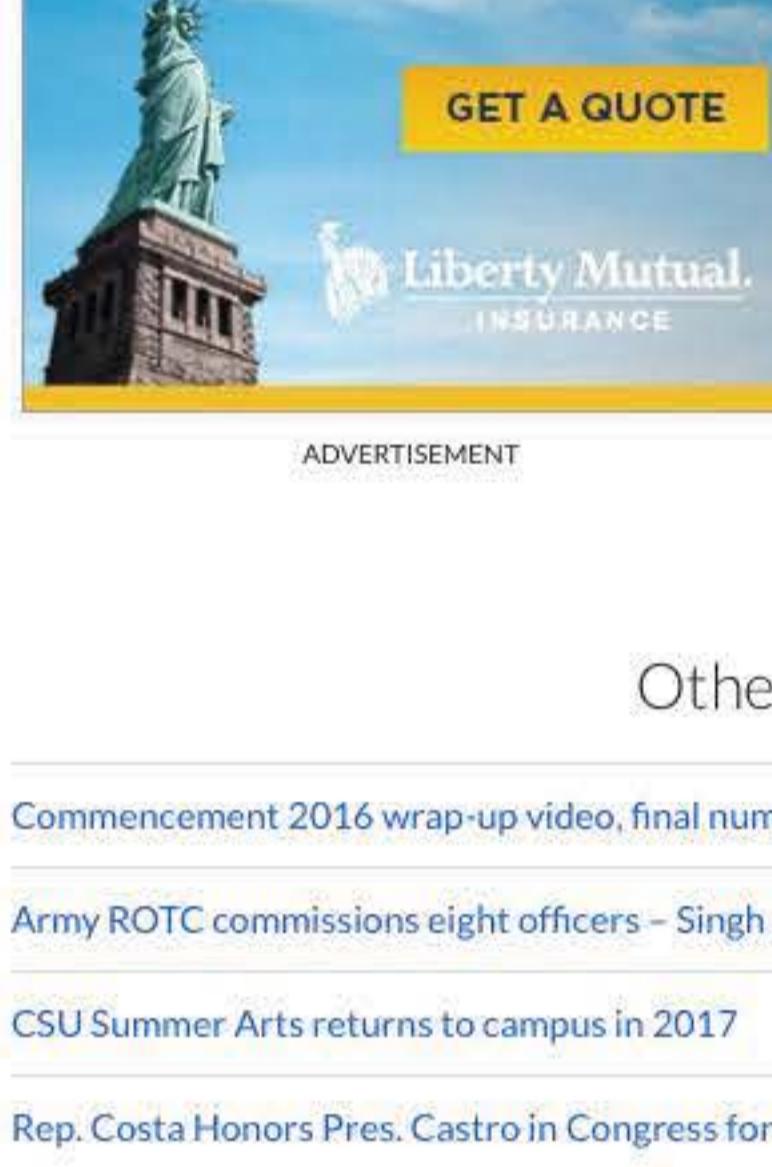


FEATURED

## Life beyond the diagnosis

### TOP STORIES



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### CLASS NOTES

**Robert "Bob" Bennet (1955, '56)**, the former Fresno State baseball coach, tips his cap to the crowd during a ceremony at which the school renamed the baseball facility "Pete Beiden Field at Bob Bennett Stadium" on May 7.

**William "Michael" Betts IV (2012)**, chairman and CEO of Betts Company, was installed as the new president of the Spring Manufacturers Institute (SMI) during the association's recent annual meeting in Dana Point, California.

**Cheryl J. Sullivan (2004, '06)** has been named the interim president of Fresno City College. She has worked for Fresno City College and State Center Community College in several different capacities since 1998. Sullivan also serves as a commissioner on the Fresno County Equal Opportunities Commission.

**Andree Soares (1989)** was named Valley Children's Healthcare Nurse of the Year for 2016 and presented the Excellence in Leadership Award.

**Russ Richardson (1984)** has been named the new athletic director of University of Montana Western, where he was serving as the head athletic trainer.

**Robert S. Spalding (1987, '93)**, an Air Force Colonel, will be appointed to the grade of Brigadier General. The ceremony will take place at Knob Noster, Missouri on June 30. Spalding is currently serving as chief, China, Taiwan and Mongolia Division, J-5 Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia. Spalding is also a military fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

Previously, he oversaw B-2 bombers as vice commander of the 509th Bomb Wing based at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri.

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Photos courtesy of Reed Rosling

## Life beyond the diagnosis

By MARISA MATA, Student Writer

*"I really liked working, and I really liked pharmacy. Then, I was falling in some of the pharmacies and we had no idea why—they clarified that I had just become symptomatic. I had to quit," Julie Rosling said.*

Julie grew up in Fresno in the 1940s into the 1950s. Her father, an intelligent man who served in World War II, encouraged Julie and her siblings to be responsible and get good grades, while her mother, an active stay-at-home mom, exposed the children to art, music and got them involved in Boy and Girl Scouts. These values and nurturing environment fostered in Julie a love for science—a love that would lead her to a career in pharmacy.

"I started the pharmacy at Fresno State's new student health center. They had an old student health center and the 'pharmacy' was in a hall closet. The new health center had an actual pharmacy as part of the facility. They had never had a pharmacy with a pharmacist before—I was the original person," Julie Rosling said.

Julie in the student health center pharmacy

To pioneer the new pharmacy, Julie had to move back to Fresno from Oregon, leaving behind her husband of three months, Reed, as he stayed to finish school at Oregon State.

Reed and Julie met at the College of Pharmacy at Oregon State University. Julie began college at Fresno State, majoring in elementary education, but ended up transferring to Oregon State to pursue her love for science.

In her physics lab, Julie and her partner were too scared to plug in their project, thinking it would blow to pieces. Sitting at the next bench was Reed, who agreed to help. After that, they started spending more time together and began dating.

"During spring break in 1968, while visiting Julie and her parents in Fresno, I decided it was time to pop the big question," Reed Rosling said. "I arranged a table for two at one of the most popular Italian restaurants in town. When it was time for dessert, the waiter brought out a LOOK bar, our favorite candy at the time, and set it in front of Julie. She looked at her 'dessert,' then me, then her dessert again. With a puzzled look on her face, I told her to do what her dessert was asking her: to look. She carefully unwrapped her dessert and there, in the middle of the candy bar, was her engagement ring! Everyone in the restaurant got a kick out of it, and we were happily engaged."

In June of 1969, Julie graduated from the Oregon State College of Pharmacy, one of 11 women in a class of 57. She received the job offer at Fresno State's health center in 1971.

Julie said, "At the time, not many people knew that the job was opening up at Fresno State. They had said something to a couple of people, and all of a sudden the guys went over and applied. The only reason they hired me was because I didn't want a lot more money than what they were offering and I was willing to work the nine-month school year. For me, it was more about doing whatever it took to get the pharmacy up and running."

While working at Fresno State's health center, Julie began taking graduate courses at the university.

In 1971 Reed graduated from Oregon State and joined Julie in Fresno. However, the couple wasn't allowed much time together as Reed was constantly travelling for work.

"Julie likes routine. It was difficult for her to get used to Reed's work schedule, but in the end it worked out okay. Julie, while a pharmacist, basically kept the house together, paid the bills, did all that stuff. When I retired and she became symptomatic, I ultimately took that over," Reed said.

In 1980 Julie graduated from Fresno State with her Masters in biology. Shortly after, her brother, Bill, began having problems—unintentional movements caused his arms to jerk around and he started having behavioral problems that made him unable to keep a job.

A doctor suspected that Bill was experiencing symptoms of Huntington's disease—an incurable genetic disorder in the brain, causing physical and mental complications. The disease is said to be similar to having Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and ALS all at once.

Having studied genetics, Julie had heard of the disease, but with no history of it, Julie's family wanted some sort of proof. When a genetic test became available, Julie, Bill, their mother and their sister decided to take it.

Both their mother and sister tested negative for the gene responsible for Huntington's. Bill tested positive—as did Julie.

After settling in, Julie began working as a pharmacist in numerous capacities—owning her own store, working with one of the largest national pharmaceutical distributors and coordinating hazardous product transportation with the legal department. Reed retired in 2000, but Julie continued to work until she became symptomatic of Huntington's in 2009.

"I can't do a lot of the things I used to do, and Reed has been by me the entire time. Neither one of us knew this was coming, it's been a surprise all the way around, and there's really no other way to deal with it—I think we're doing the best we can," Julie said.

(From left to right) President of HD-CARE, UC Irvine Frances Saldana, Julie, and Ken Serbin, PhD, HD Blogger

Reed said, "Coming to Southern California was like a blessing in disguise—we came down and had no idea about Huntington's Disease, then this happened to be the best place to be for it—We're world, at UC Irvine, Julie is close with all her doctors, she's been in a number of drug trials, she got to testify in front of the FDA at their headquarters in Maryland—she's going out of her way to do everything she can—and she recently received the first ever Patient Advocacy Award from the University of California, Irvine at their annual HD-Care symposium."

June said, "Hopefully, soon, they will find a treatment and/or cure for this disease. I do what I can, I just hope it's enough so that someday Huntington's will not exist."

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"I can't do a lot of the things I used to do, and Reed has been by me the entire time. Neither one of us knew this was coming, it's been a surprise all the way around, and there's really no other way to deal with it—I think we're doing the best we can," Julie said.

(From left to right) President of HD-CARE, UC Irvine Frances Saldana, Julie, and Ken Serbin, PhD, HD Blogger

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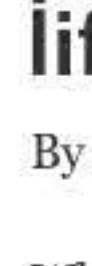
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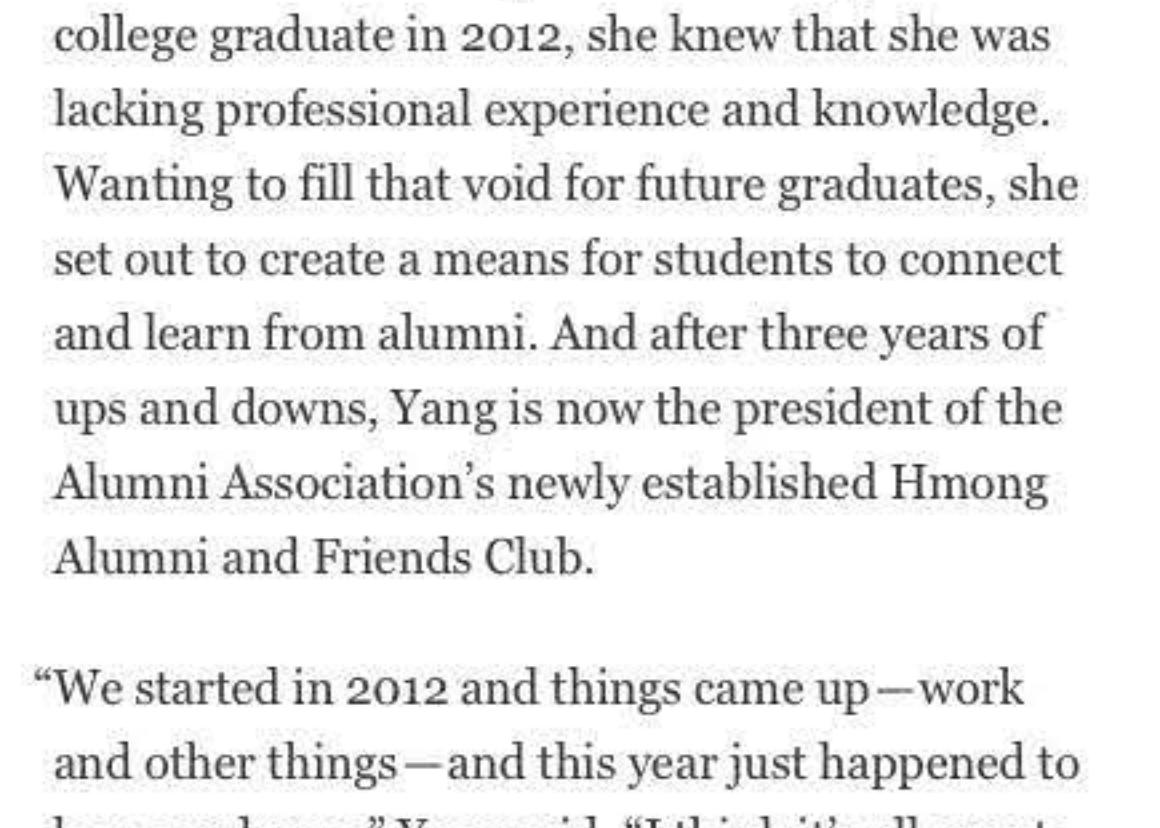


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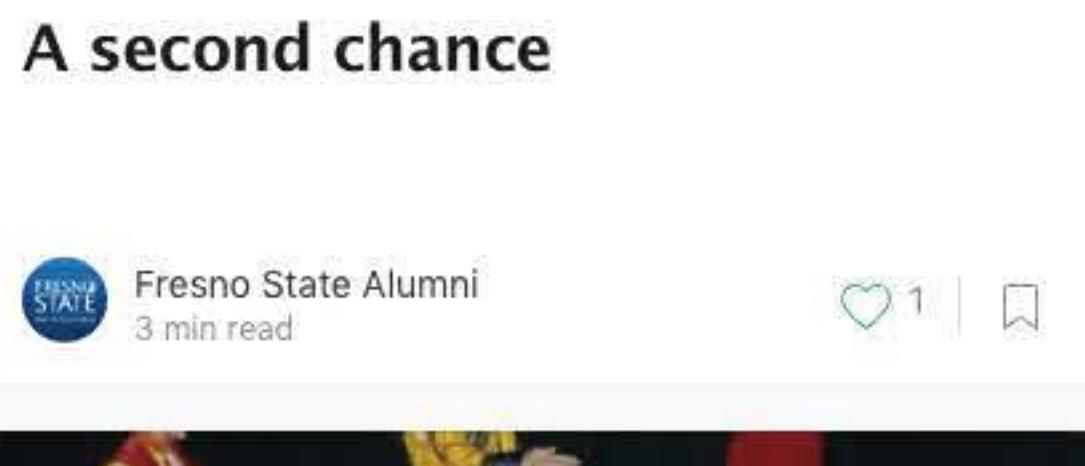
## Hmong Alumni Club, preparing students for life after graduation

By MARISA MATA, Student Writer

When Samantha Yang became a first generation college graduate in 2012, she knew that she was lacking professional experience and knowledge. Wanting to fill that void for future graduates, she set out to create a means for students to connect and learn from alumni. And after three years of ups and downs, Yang is now the president of the Alumni Association's newly established Hmong Alumni and Friends Club.

“We started in 2012 and things came up—work and other things—and this year just happened to be a good year,” Yang said. “I think it’s all a matter of finding the right people at the right time.”

Yang and the other officers of the club have known each other since their days in the Hmong Student Organization at Fresno State, and some of them are related.



*“We all know each other and that really binds us.”*

While still getting started, the club is looking for members and is in the process of planning an event to celebrate its official launch.

The officers want their club to be creative, outside of the box and inclusive of everyone involved.

Although nothing is set in stone, Yang plans for the club to host workshops and/or seminars to integrate graduating seniors and alumni. She also has plans for fundraising, to potentially establish a scholarship for current students.

*“What we’re seeking to do is provide a platform for Hmong alumni to network professionally, for seniors to have access to resources from other Hmong alumni with experience and knowledge—As a first generation college graduate, that’s what I kind of lacked, and I want to fill that void.”*

To join the Hmong Alumni and Friends Club, or any other FSAA chapter, club or network, visit <http://bit.ly/FSAAGetConnected>. You can also connect with the club on [Facebook](#).



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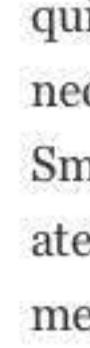
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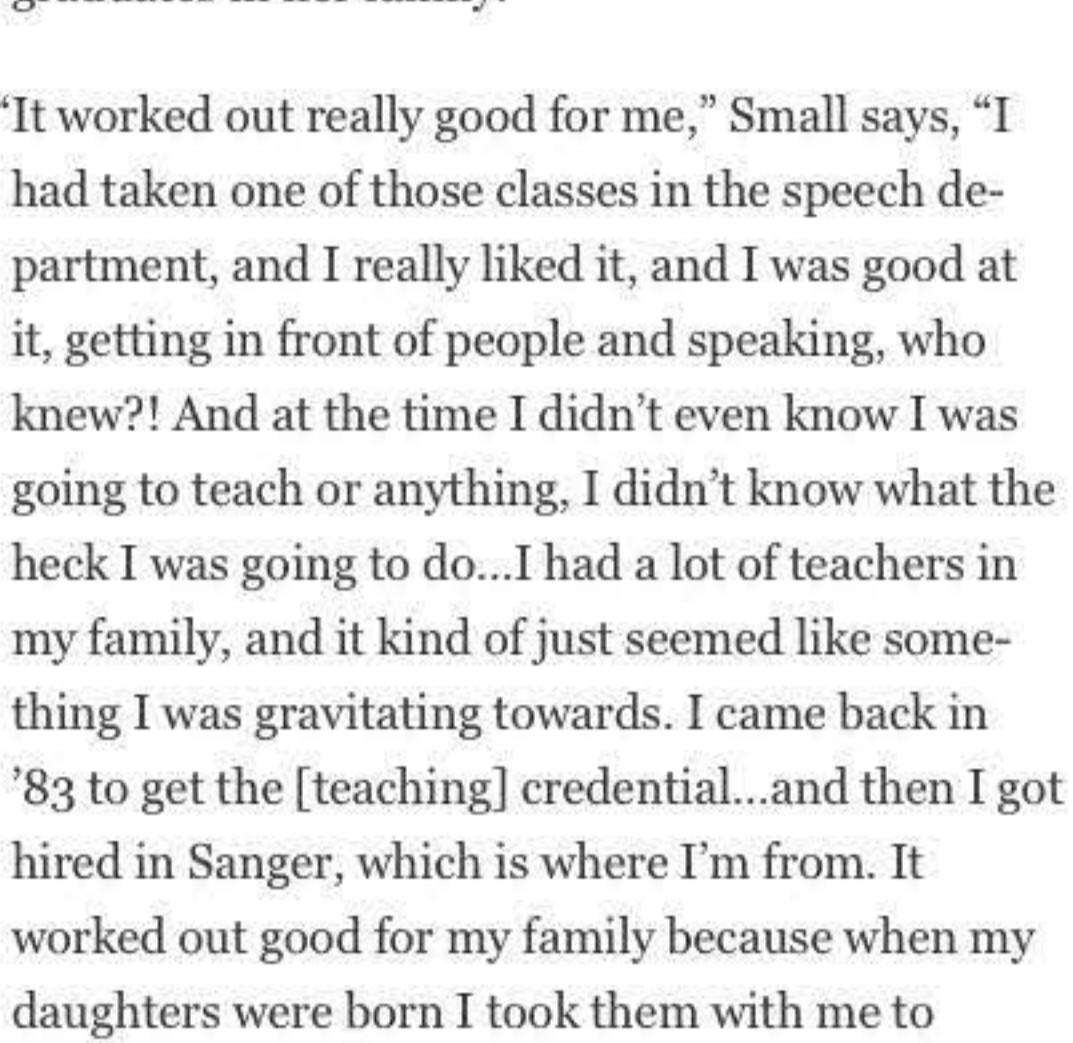
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## The Small family's robust history of Bulldog alumni

By MARISA MATA, Student Writer

When you first meet Julie Small, a current board member for the Fresno State Alumni Association, she jumps right into conversation, and within 30 seconds you're both laughing. You sit across from each other on a couch in the library and Small quickly opens up about her family's unique connection with Fresno State. You learn that in 1978, Small became one of a few in her family to graduate from Fresno State, and with this year's commencement, will be one of about 20 Fresno State graduates in her family.

"It worked out really good for me," Small says, "I had taken one of those classes in the speech department, and I really liked it, and I was good at it, getting in front of people and speaking, who knew?! And at the time I didn't even know I was going to teach or anything, I didn't know what the heck I was going to do...I had a lot of teachers in my family, and it kind of just seemed like something I was gravitating towards. I came back in '83 to get the [teaching] credential...and then I got hired in Sanger, which is where I'm from. It worked out good for my family because when my daughters were born I took them with me to Sanger and they went to the Sanger schools."

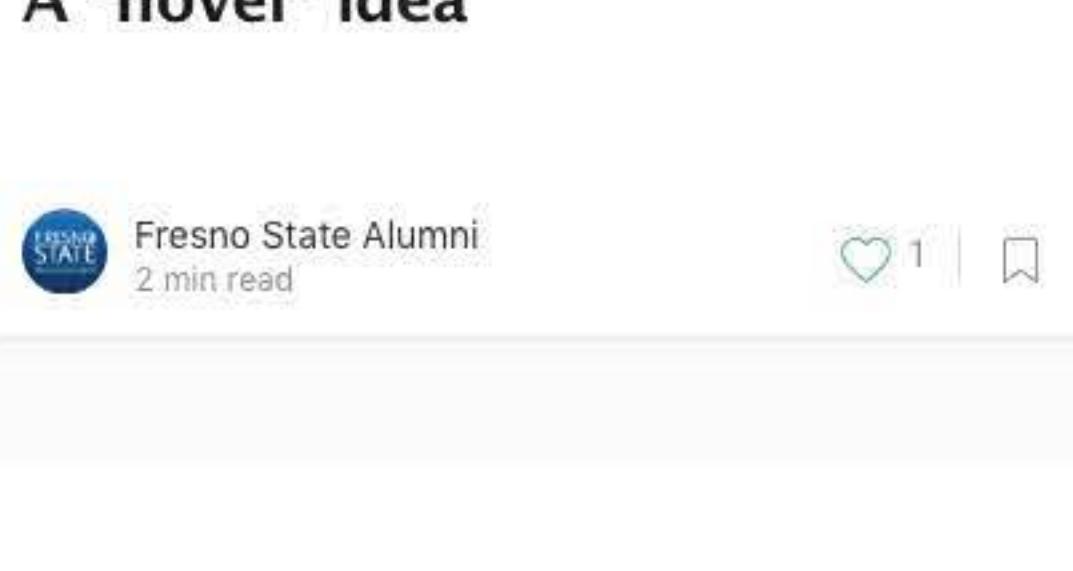
You learn that when it was time for Small's daughters to go to college they both, along with five of their cousins, chose Fresno State.



Alyson and her parents at her graduation

Later, when you meet Alyson, Small's eldest daughter, she will say, "Growing up, we would always go to the Fresno State football games and basketball games...my family was always really involved in Fresno State things, and my dad was the president of the Alumni Association when I was in elementary school. And, so, just being involved in Fresno State stuff at a young age like that was probably a big motivating factor for me to come here. Those were really good memories."

When it came to Alyson and her sister, Emily, choosing a college, Small says that she left the decision up to them—She knew it was a good school, that they'd get a good education and that they really wanted to go to Fresno State—which, you learn, is a similar approach that Small's parents took with her.



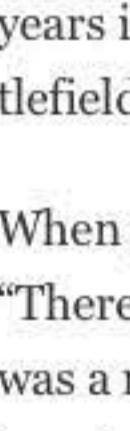
Small's mother and aunt

Small says, "My parents were very much 'do whatever you want,' they really were not interested in me, or my brothers either, applying anywhere else. There were perfectly happy for us to come here, them having gone here. I don't think my parents could have afforded to send me some place out of town—I came from a farm in Sanger, I'm a farm girl, we were middle-class..."

You learn that Danny Farnesi, Small's father, graduated in 1950 and began working on his uncle's vineyard. He later bought it from his uncle and ran it as his own.

When you talk with Farnesi later on, he will say, "There were a lot of veterans at that time, and it was a nice experience because there was a whole bunch of us that were similar. And so it wasn't anything unusual, except, maybe, we liked to have a lot of fun after three years in the Navy," he will end laughing.

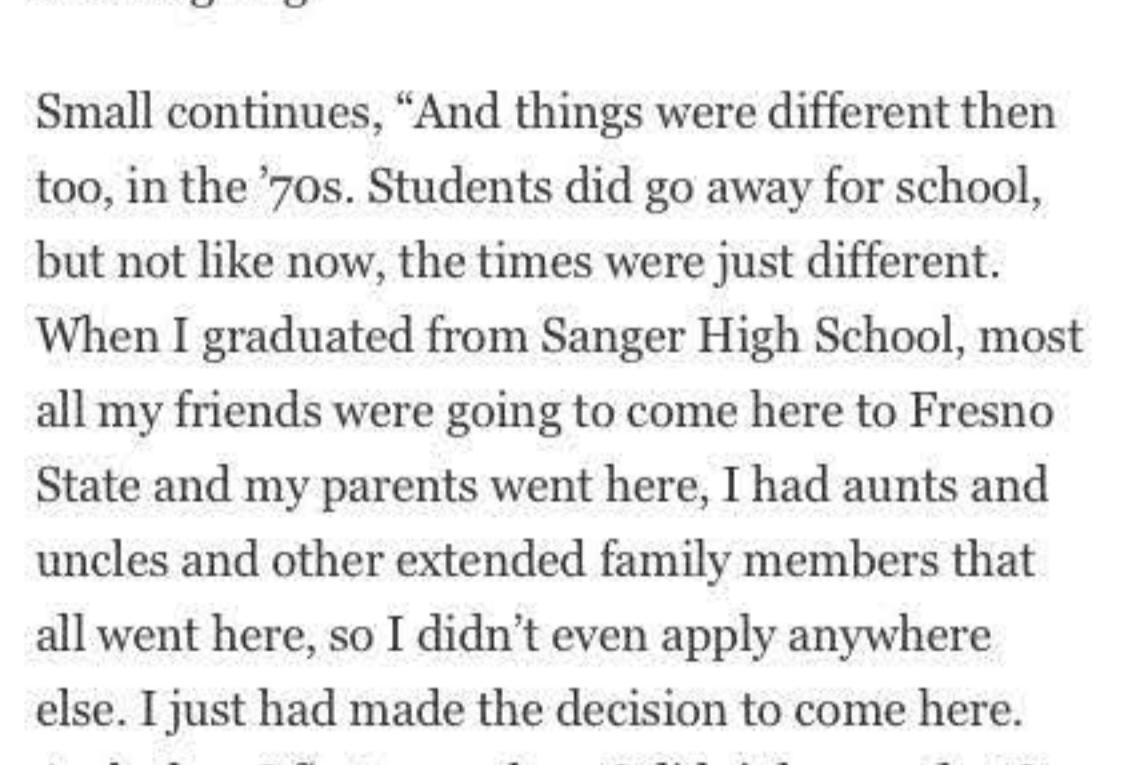
Small continues, "And things were different then too, in the '70s. Students did go away for school, but not like now, the times were just different. When I graduated from Sanger High School, most all my friends were going to come here to Fresno State and my parents went here, I had aunts and uncles and other extended family members that all went here, so I didn't even apply anywhere else. I just had made the decision to come here. And when I first came here I didn't know what I was going to major in or anything, I just knew that I was going to come to college at Fresno State."



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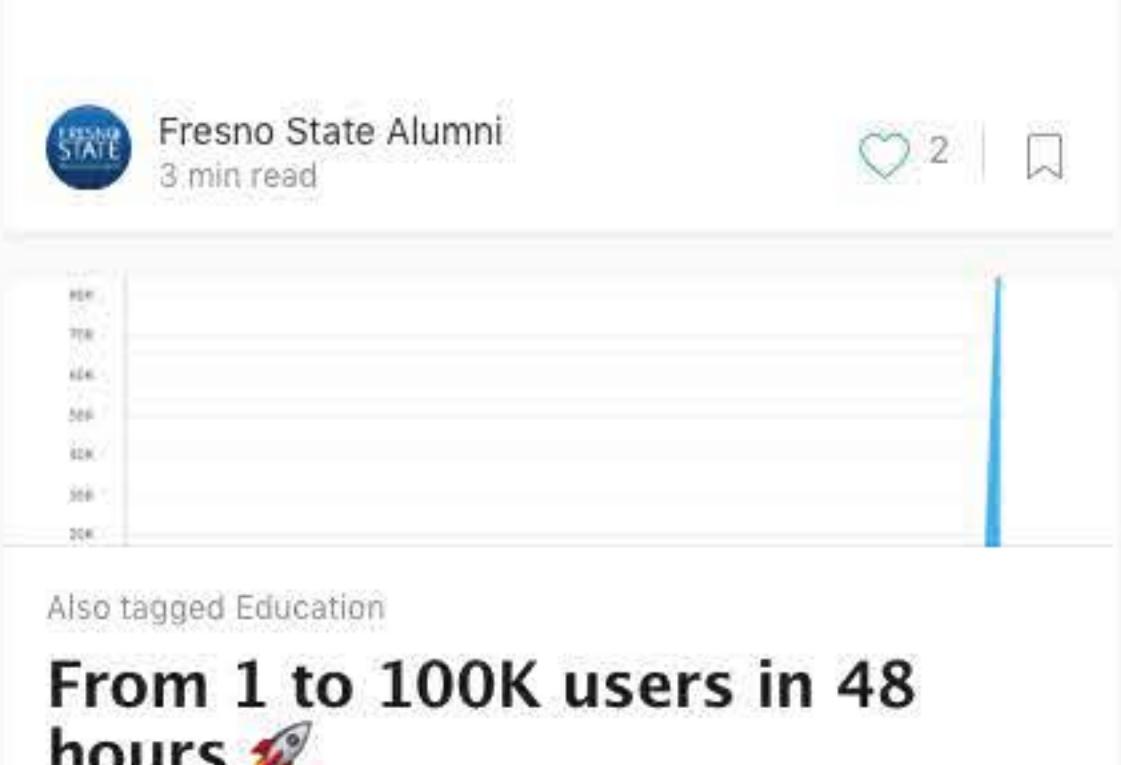
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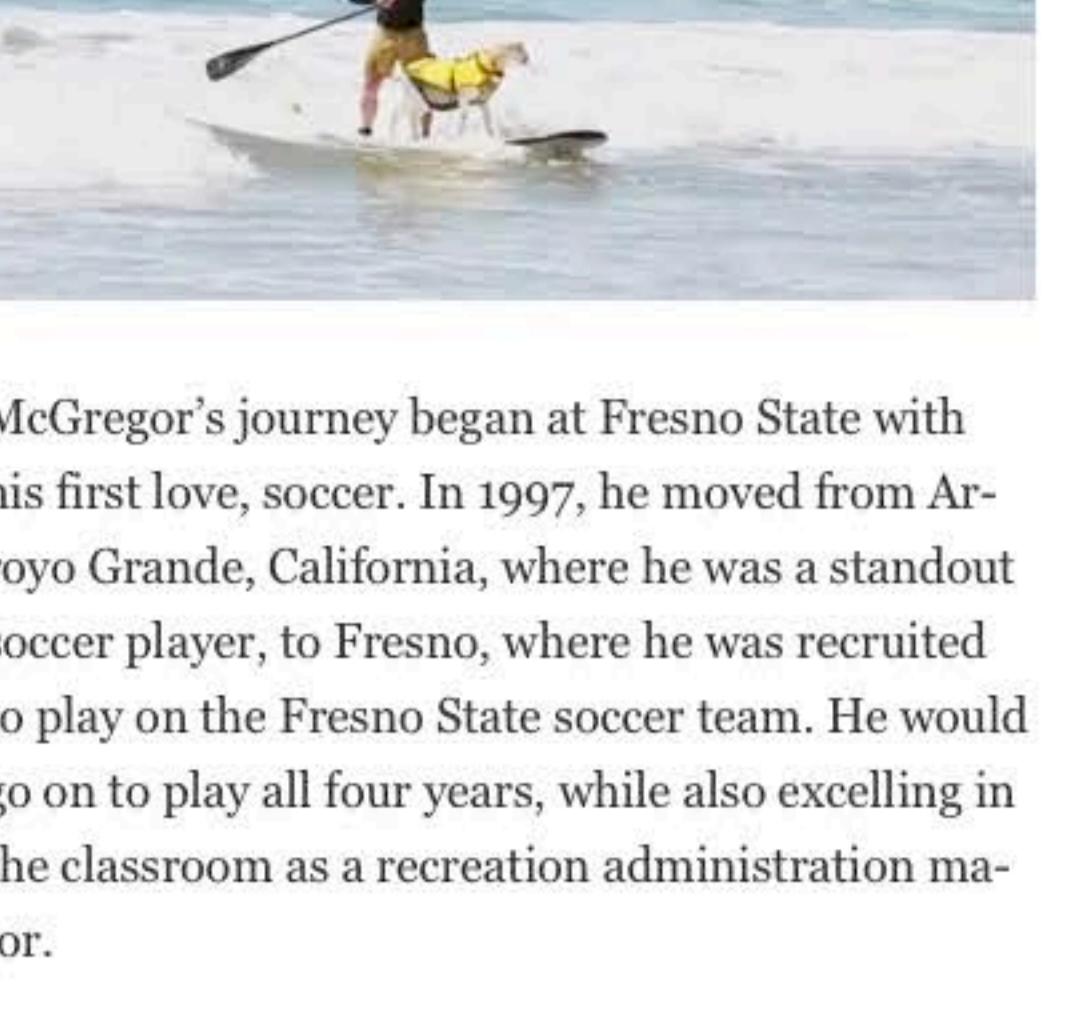
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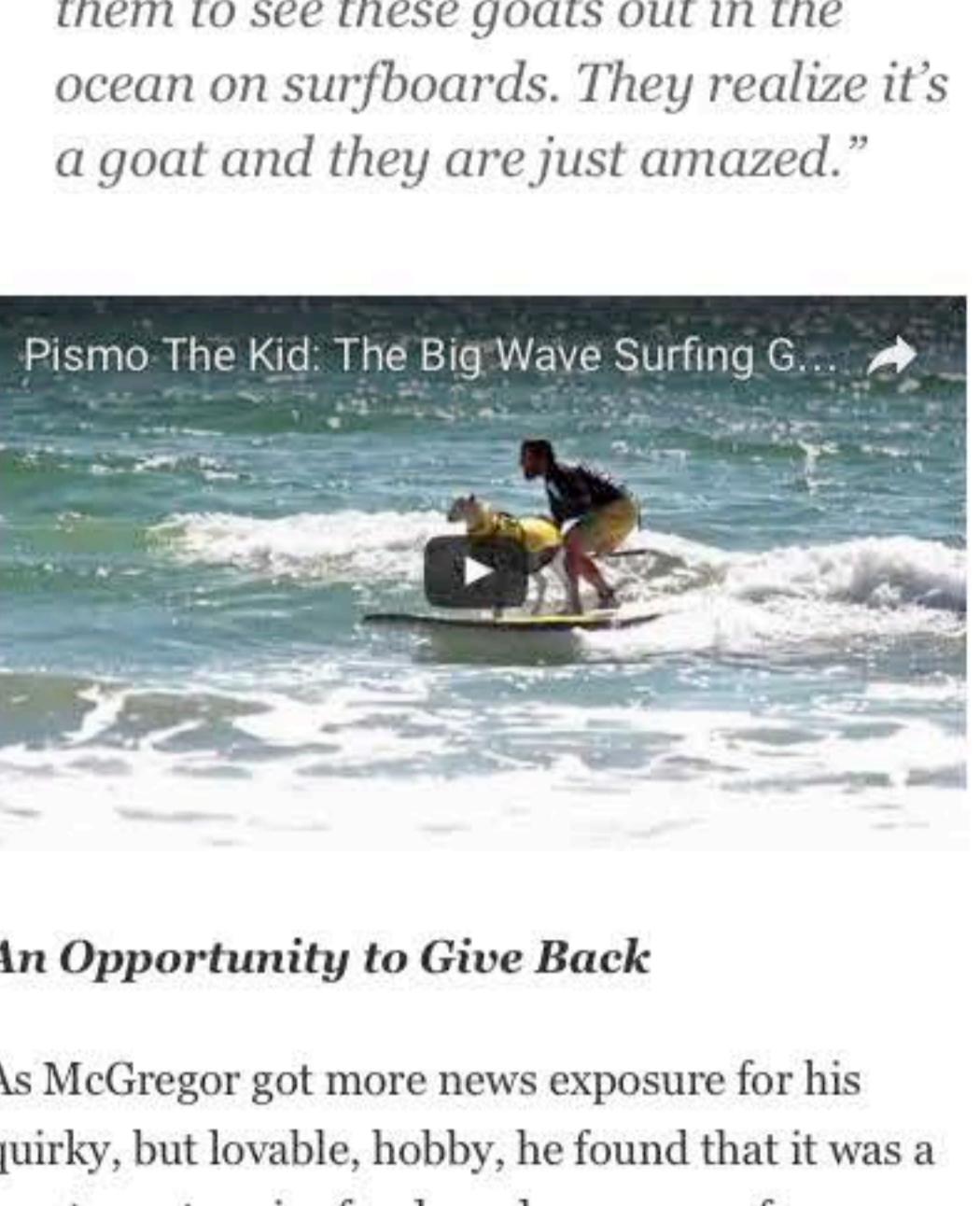
## Dana McGregor's surfing goats make a splash

By [Melissa Tav, College of Health and Human Services](#)

Man buys goat. Goat loves to surf—and together they ride the ocean waves into the sunset of Pismo Beach, California. It sounds like the plotline to a quirky movie, but it is the actual, real life story of Dana McGregor and his lovable goat, Goatee.

Yes, Goatee really surfs alongside McGregor and it is a sight that has been wowing local Pismo residents for the past four years. It has even gained them national attention, appearing in [National Geographic](#), NBC's Today show, as well as countless YouTube videos.

The best part of this story is that McGregor has used his sudden exposure to give back and offer a philanthropic hand to others. He is involved in a number of charitable organizations that incorporate his love of surfing and his goats, of course. But to understand his adventurous life now, one must see where he has come from.



McGregor's journey began at Fresno State with his first love, soccer. In 1997, he moved from Arroyo Grande, California, where he was a standout soccer player, to Fresno, where he was recruited to play on the Fresno State soccer team. He would go on to play all four years, while also excelling in the classroom as a recreation administration major.

He graduated with an option in leisure studies, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in 2002. After that, he utilized the skills he learned in school to become a child care worker and supervisor at Valley Teen Ranch (VTR) Madera, an organization dedicated to providing therapeutic and residential care to vulnerable youth.

About two and a half years into working at VTR, McGregor was playing soccer with the kids when one of them suddenly asked, "Mr. McGregor, why aren't you playing professional soccer?"

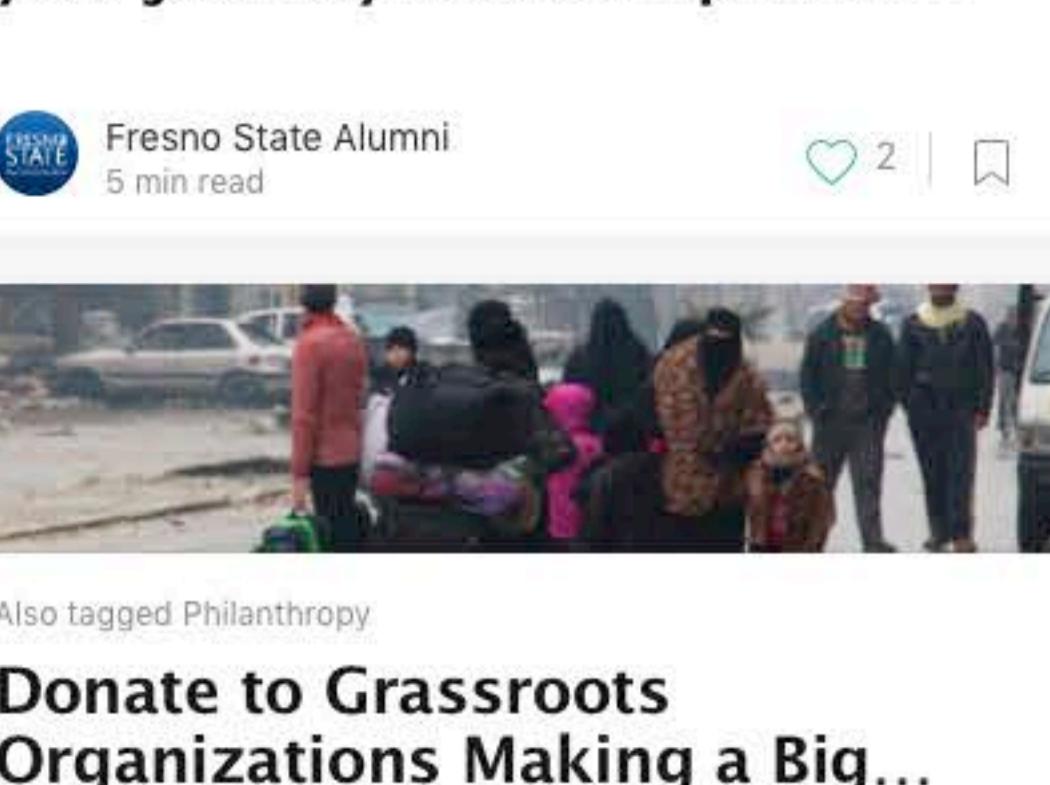
It was a simple and innocent question that took McGregor off guard, but changed the course of his life.

*"That sparked a realization in me," McGregor said. "I really had to ask myself why was I not living my dream."*

After his bout with epiphany, McGregor packed up his belongings and began a spiritual journey playing professional soccer, which took him all over the world—as far as Tajikistan, Lebanon, and even to the remote villages of Africa. Sometimes his team would play in front of thousands of people and other times it was just for a few along the desolate country side.

To McGregor, soccer was more than a sport; it was life.

*"I was able to show God's work and love through the beautiful game of soccer. It brought everyone together, transcending race, color and socio-economic status."*



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Although McGregor displays a spunky, and rather silly, personality when talking about his goats, he is serious about his philanthropic work, saying his passion for helping people aligns with his love of God.

*"We took Goatee out during slow surf at the beach, put her on the board and pushed her gently into the waves," McGregor reflected. "At first she seemed startled, but she eventually got the hang of it. Goats have amazing balance, and as it turns out, they are very good swimmers as well."*

That was four years ago. Today, McGregor is joined by Pismo the Kid and Grover—Goatee's kids (pun intended). And if you are wondering, yes, they too are surfing aficionados just like their mother!

*"People trip out. It's just a shock to them to see these goats out in the ocean on surfboards. They realize it's a goat and they are just amazed."*



Through McGregor's work, The Surfing Goats of Pismo Beach, McGregor is involved in a number of projects that incorporate his love of goats, surfing and soccer. One project he became involved with is "Give a Kid a Kid in Haiti", which raises funds to purchase a goat (or two) for families in Haiti, where they will provide much-needed nutrition via milk. For example, a donation of \$50 buys a goat. McGregor's partners with Ambassadors Football Club, Christian Veterinary Missionaries and The Ministry Project.

*"This project educates people in Haiti on how to raise goats and treat them right. It is a powerful feeling to raise an animal—and this opportunity gives them tools to succeed."*

Through McGregor's work, The Surfing Goats of Pismo Beach was able to raise money to buy 17 goats to start a goat farm in Mozambique, thanks to the generous donations of their supporters.

*"We get to experience the joy of kids raising their very own goat. Goats are just really cool. The milk they reproduce helps families financially because they can sell the milk or make cheese and sell or feed their families."*



As if that wasn't enough, McGregor wants to share the adventures of Goatee through a children's book he authored, entitled "The Surfing Goat, Goatee". It's a book filled with rhymes and fun stories, meant to share the unlikely story of friendship between man and goat.

*"Having a goat was pretty cool," he said with a laugh.*

One may wonder, how exactly did Goatee end up on a surfboard of all places? McGregor says the answer is not as far-fetched as one would imagine. For his birthday that year, his friends asked him what he wanted to do to celebrate his big day. McGregor's answer? Ride the waves with Goatee, of course. So that is exactly what happened.

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Photo by AP Photo/The Orange County Register



McGregor is also the founder of SurfSUP camp—a series of surfing and paddle boarding lessons, fun for the whole family or just an individual that wants to learn. As he states on his website, "if you can teach a goat to surf, you can teach anyone to!" Yes, his goats are right there alongside him as he teaches classes.

He hopes to add in a SurfSUP camp for special needs children in the near future. McGregor knows that animals provide great therapy for children, so he hopes that by having goats surfing with the kids, it will provide emotional and physical relief.

*"I really love children and I thought this was a great way to connect animals to children that may need healing," he said. "My goal is to live by my love of people and bring joy. There is nothing like riding the waves and I want everyone to experience that feeling. It is often said that only a surfer truly knows that feeling. It's very freeing and I want children to experience that."*

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*"The book got published in late November [and] around California and throughout the country," McGregor is quick to mention that he does not do all of this alone. He is surfing/paddle boarding instructors, soccer players or philanthropists themselves—and of course, his beloved goats. McGregor's ability to give back and bring joy to others to his love of God.*

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As if that wasn't enough, McGregor wants to share the adventures of Goatee through a children's book he authored, entitled "The Surfing Goat, Goatee". It's a book filled with rhymes and fun stories, meant to share the unlikely story of friendship between man and goat.

*"The book got published in late November [and] around California and throughout the country," McGregor is quick to mention that he does not do all of this alone. He is surfing/paddle boarding instructors, soccer players or philanthropists themselves—and of course, his beloved goats. McGregor's ability to give back and bring joy to others to his love of God.*

*"I am simply sharing God's story through my work. To learn more about alum from the College of Health and Human Services, visit the college's blog at [bit.ly/FSLiveWell](#).*

Photo by AP Photo/The Orange County Register

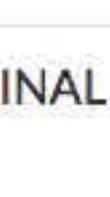


McGregor is also the founder of SurfSUP camp—a series of surfing and paddle boarding lessons, fun for the whole family or just an individual that wants to learn. As he states on his website, "if you can teach a goat to surf, you can teach anyone to!" Yes, his goats are right there alongside him as he teaches classes.

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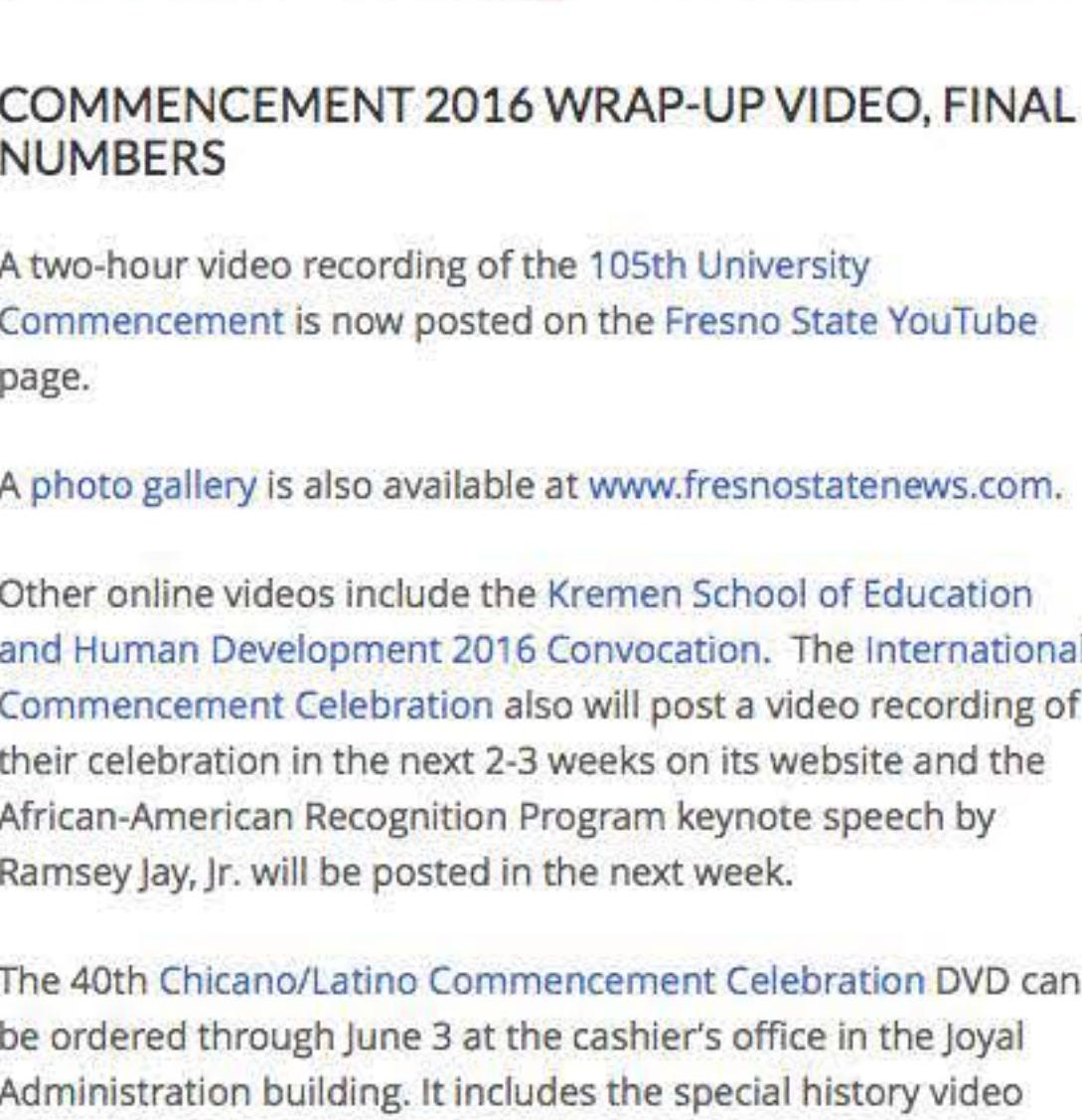
*"I really love children and I thought this was a great way to connect animals to children that may need healing," he said. "My goal is to live by my love of people and bring joy. There is nothing like riding the waves and I want everyone to experience that feeling. It is often said that only a surfer truly knows that feeling. It's very freeing and I want children to experience that."*

As if that wasn't enough, McGregor wants to share the adventures of Goatee through a children's book he authored, entitled "The Surfing Goat, Goatee". It's a book filled with rhymes and fun stories, meant to share the unlikely story of friendship between man and goat.



## COMMENCEMENT 2016 WRAP-UP VIDEO, FINAL NUMBERS

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## COMMENCEMENT 2016 WRAP-UP VIDEO, FINAL NUMBERS

A two-hour video recording of the 105th University Commencement is now posted on the Fresno State YouTube page.

A photo gallery is also available at [www.fresnostatenews.com](http://www.fresnostatenews.com).

Other online videos include the Kremen School of Education and Human Development 2016 Convocation. The International Commencement Celebration also will post a video recording of their celebration in the next 2-3 weeks on its website and the African-American Recognition Program keynote speech by Ramsey Jay, Jr. will be posted in the next week.

The 40th Chicano/Latino Commencement DVD can be ordered through June 3 at the cashier's office in the Joyal Administration building. It includes the special history video screened that night featuring the founders of the event as well as the full text of the keynote speech by U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, who also was conferred an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the main University Commencement earlier in the day. For more information, email [clccgrad@gmail.com](mailto:clccgrad@gmail.com) or visit its website.

(The special Chicano Commencement history video segment is now available online at [bit.ly/FS-CLCC40video](http://bit.ly/FS-CLCC40video)).

### FINAL COMMENCEMENT NUMBERS:

For the 2015-2016 academic year, 4,444 students completed their baccalaureate studies and 1,031 earned post-baccalaureate degrees: 952 students earned master's and education specialist degrees and 79 students earned doctorate degrees (25 in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, 24 in the Doctor of Education program and 30 in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program).

Teacher credentials were awarded to 447 grads by the Kremen School of Education and Human Development.

**Class of 2016 total:** 5,475 students completed requirements for a degree this year.

For the University Commencement ceremony at the Save Mart Center Saturday morning, 1,200 graduates walked before a crowd of 10,253 (Note: amended by Student Affairs from the 1,345 figure provided May 21, after a more thorough review of documentation received that day from students).

The largest crowd gathered for the Chicano/Latino Commencement Celebration at Save Mart Center Saturday night with 13,640 in attendance to witness 952 participating graduates, both record numbers for the event that held its first celebration on May 20, 1977, with 57 graduates at the Fresno Fairgrounds. Founders Manuel Olgín, Tony Garduque, Frances Pena and the late Ernesto Martinez were recognized.

**Guest attendance figures** for events held in the Save Mart Center:

University Ceremony: 10,753

Craig School of Business: 3,809

College of Social Sciences: 3,755

College of Arts and Humanities: 2,935

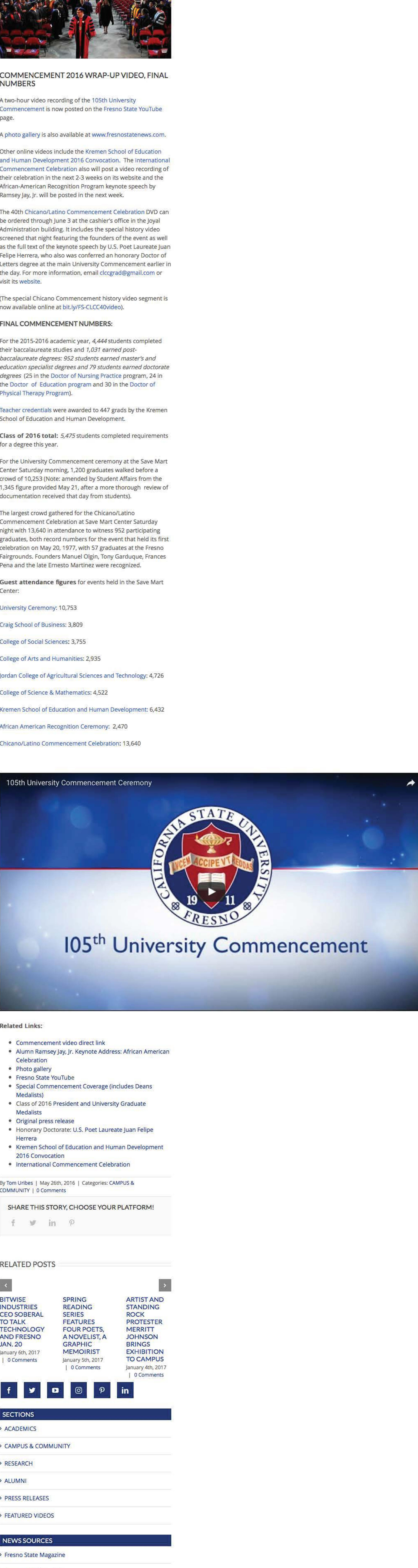
Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology: 4,726

College of Science & Mathematics: 4,522

Kremen School of Education and Human Development: 6,432

African American Recognition Ceremony: 2,470

Chicano/Latino Commencement Celebration: 13,640

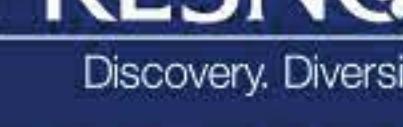


### Related Links:

- [Commencement video direct link](#)
- [Alumn Ramsey Jay, Jr. Keynote Address: African American Celebration](#)
- [Photo gallery](#)
- [Fresno State YouTube](#)
- [Special Commencement Coverage \(includes Deans Medalists\)](#)
- [Class of 2016 President and University Graduate Medalists](#)
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By Tom Uribes | May 26th, 2016 | Categories: CAMPUS & COMMUNITY | 0 Comments

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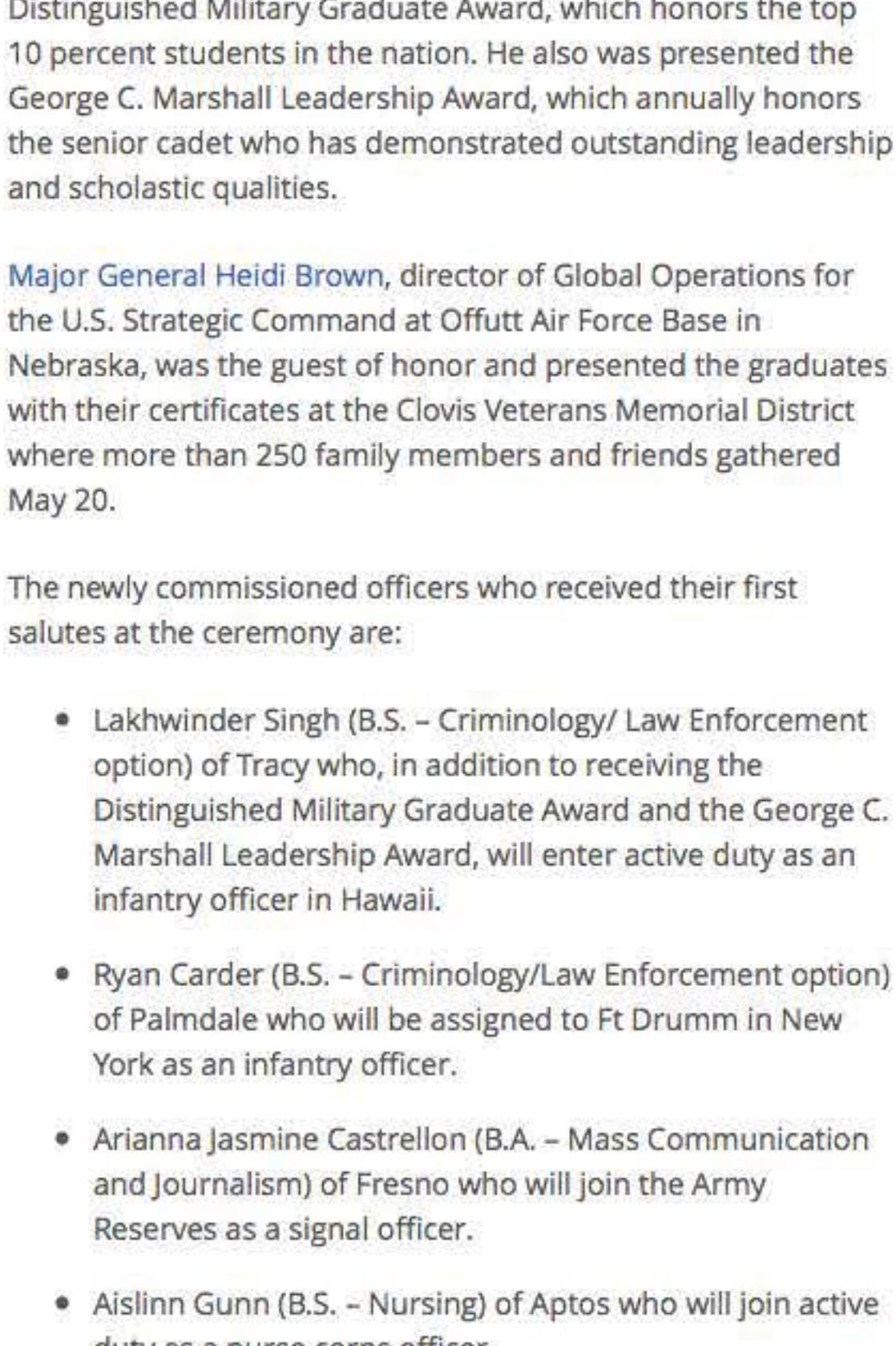
# FRESNO STATE

Fresno State News



## ARMY ROTC COMMISSIONS EIGHT OFFICERS – SINGH ACCORDED TOP HONORS

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## ARMY ROTC COMMISSIONS EIGHT OFFICERS – SINGH ACCORDED TOP HONORS

(May 28, 2016) — Fresno State's Army ROTC Bulldog Battalion commissioned eight Class of 2016 graduates as second lieutenants during a pinning ceremony last week that was part of the university's Commencement season.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Lakhwinder Singh of Tracy was presented the Distinguished Military Graduate Award, which honors the top 10 percent students in the nation. He also was presented the George C. Marshall Leadership Award, which annually honors the senior cadet who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and scholastic qualities.

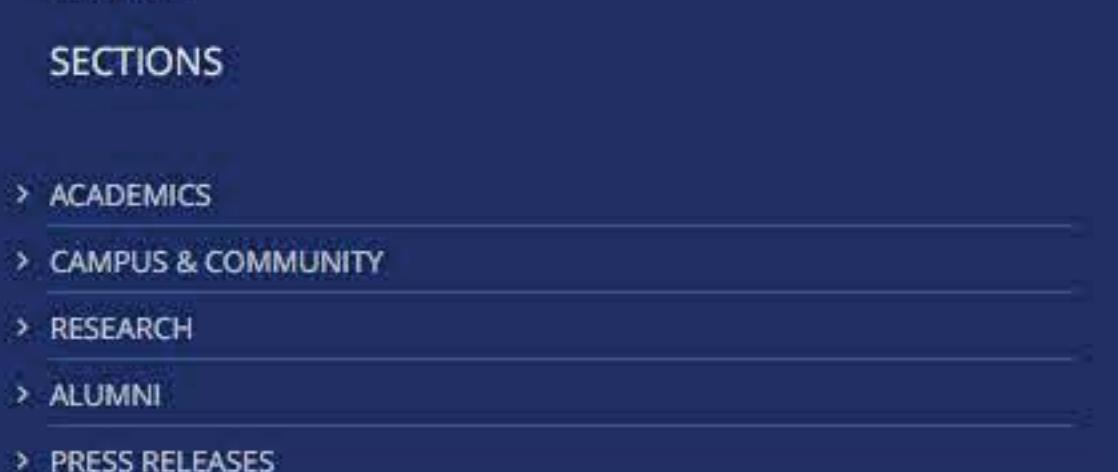
Major General Heidi Brown, director of Global Operations for the U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, was the guest of honor and presented the graduates with their certificates at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District where more than 250 family members and friends gathered May 20.

The newly commissioned officers who received their first salutes at the ceremony are:

- Lakhwinder Singh (B.S. – Criminology/ Law Enforcement option) of Tracy who, in addition to receiving the Distinguished Military Graduate Award and the George C. Marshall Leadership Award, will enter active duty as an infantry officer in Hawaii.
- Ryan Carder (B.S. – Criminology/Law Enforcement option) of Palmdale who will be assigned to Ft Drum in New York as an infantry officer.
- Arianna Jasmine Castrellon (B.A. – Mass Communication and Journalism) of Fresno who will join the Army Reserves as a signal officer.
- Aislinn Gunn (B.S. – Nursing) of Aptos who will join active duty as a nurse corps officer.
- Sean Koerner (B.A. – Political Science) of Bakersfield who will enter active duty as an air defense artillery officer.
- Anthony Mosqueda (B.S. – Criminology/ Law Enforcement option) of Little Rock, CA who will enter active duty as an infantry officer.
- Kenneth NeSmith (B.S. – Agricultural Business) of Kerman who will be assigned to Bakersfield as a transportation officer in the National Guard.
- Brandon Silva (B.S. – Kinesiology/Exercise Science option) of Fresno who will enter the National Guard as a transportation officer.

A [photo gallery](#) of the ceremony with each new officer is available at [bit.ly/FS-ArmyROTCfacebook](http://bit.ly/FS-ArmyROTCfacebook).

For more information, contact Major Boyce R. Buckner, professor and chair of the Department of Military Science, or Nancy Kobata at 559.278.1664.



2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Lakhwinder Singh, who was presented the Distinguished Military Graduate Award and the George C. Marshall Leadership Award, is pinned by his parents, Ballinger and Jagdey Singh.

By Tom Uribes | May 28, 2016 | Categories: ACADEMICS | 0 Comments

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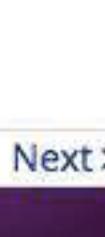
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# FRESNO STATE

Fresno State News



## CSU SUMMER ARTS RETURNS TO CAMPUS IN 2017

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## CSU SUMMER ARTS RETURNS TO CAMPUS IN 2017

Fresno State will reprise its role as host campus for [CSU Summer Arts](#), starting in summer 2017 and continuing through 2021.

Summer Arts is currently hosted at California State University, Monterey Bay, where the program has been housed since 2012. Fresno State hosted the program from 1999 to 2011.

Since 1985, the CSU has been offering Summer Arts to students systemwide. Students are provided on-campus housing as they work side-by-side with arts professionals for two to four weeks during the summer. At the end of the course, local communities surrounding the campus are invited to a public arts festival, where Summer Arts students proudly showcase their talents in music, theatre, dance, media, creative writing and visual art and design.

"The arts are thriving at Fresno State and throughout the Central Valley," said Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro. "The return of the Summer Arts Program is part of our bold strategy to further enhance the vibrancy of the arts at Fresno State and in our region."

CSU officials said the move to Fresno State will provide opportunities for the campus to gain support from Fresno County and the greater Central Valley. With chamber music halls, a professional-quality theatre and a costume shop, Fresno State's facilities are well-equipped to support Summer Arts' highly intensive program.

"Summer Arts will bring the best of the world to the Valley, and the programming will enrich our thriving arts and unite us as a community in celebrating our diversity, creativity and shared humanity," said Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State, which will coordinate the program.

CSU Summer Arts 2016 is currently accepting applications through June 24. The program will run from June 27 to Aug. 3 at CSU Monterey Bay. For more information, visit <http://blogs.calstate.edu/summerarts>.

By Kathleen Schock | May 25th, 2016 | Categories: [CAMPUS & COMMUNITY](#) | Tags: [culture](#), [music](#), [performance](#), [summer arts](#), [Theater](#), [Workshops](#), [writing](#) | 0 Comments

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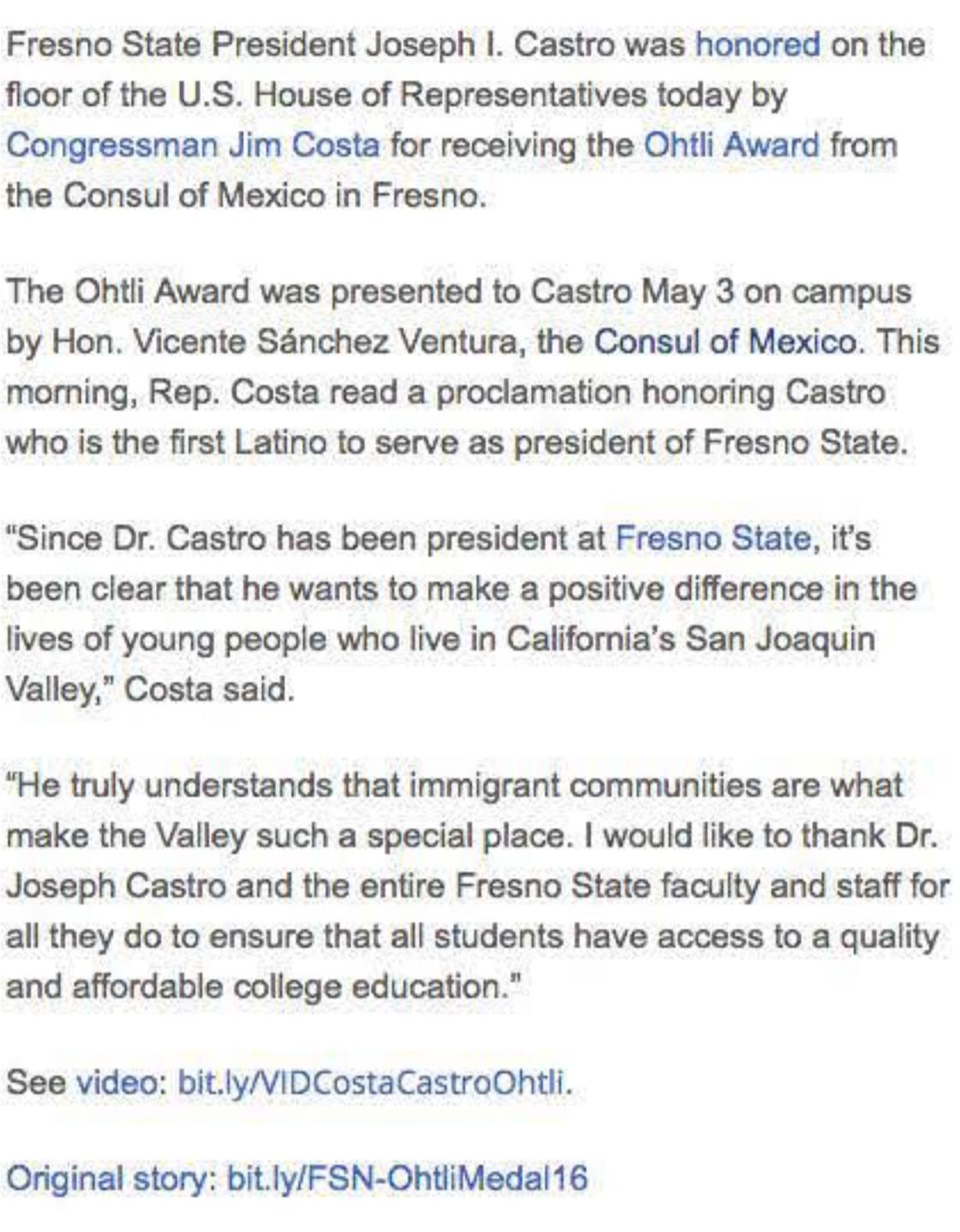


# FRESNO STATE

Fresno State News



## REP. COSTA HONORS PRES. CASTRO IN CONGRESS FOR OHTLI AWARD

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## REP. COSTA HONORS PRES. CASTRO IN CONGRESS FOR OHTLI AWARD

Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro was honored on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives today by Congressman Jim Costa for receiving the Ohtli Award from the Consul of Mexico in Fresno.

The Ohtli Award was presented to Castro May 3 on campus by Hon. Vicente Sánchez Ventura, the Consul of Mexico. This morning, Rep. Costa read a proclamation honoring Castro who is the first Latino to serve as president of Fresno State.

"Since Dr. Castro has been president at Fresno State, it's been clear that he wants to make a positive difference in the lives of young people who live in California's San Joaquin Valley," Costa said.

"He truly understands that immigrant communities are what make the Valley such a special place. I would like to thank Dr. Joseph Castro and the entire Fresno State faculty and staff for all they do to ensure that all students have access to a quality and affordable college education."

See video: [bit.ly/VIDCostaCastroOhtli](http://bit.ly/VIDCostaCastroOhtli).

Original story: [bit.ly/FSN-OhtliMedal16](http://bit.ly/FSN-OhtliMedal16)

By Tom Uribe | May 11th, 2016 | Categories: CAMPUS & COMMUNITY, PRESS RELEASES | Tags: Congressman Jim Costa, Consul of Mexico, Ohtli Award, proclamation, U.S. House of Representatives | 0 Comments

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Fresno State News



## UN TO DISCUSS FRESNO STATE CO-AUTHORED CASE STUDY OF SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY DROUGHT

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## UN TO DISCUSS FRESNO STATE CO-AUTHORED CASE STUDY OF SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY DROUGHT

The United Nations will be discussing recommendations from a new report about climate change-related loss and damage, including a case study of how the San Joaquin Valley is coping with drought, during the second UN Environment Assembly (UNEA2), May 23 to 27 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The policy recommendations developed by Dr. Gil Harootunian, Fresno State director of University initiatives, focus on how the Valley can best cope with drought. They are featured in "Preventing the Avoidable, Dealing with the Unavoidable," published May 19 during the Science-Policy Forum at the UNEA2. The San Joaquin Valley is the only U.S. case study in the report.

*"This is a step forward in Fresno State realizing its goal to become the 'Water University,' not only at the national level but even at the international level," said Fresno State Provost Lynnette Zelezny.*

"Preventing the Avoidable, Dealing with the Unavoidable" analyzes five case studies around the world: extreme floods in India and Pakistan, the Drylands of East and West Africa, typhoons in the Philippines, a severe heat wave in France, and the four-year drought in the San Joaquin Valley.

"Telling the story of the San Joaquin Valley in its own right makes clear the need for deliberate democratic management of water resources," said Harootunian. She is one of the lead authors of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) report.

*The UNEP report indicates that climate change has influenced broad climatic patterns. "Very wise adaptations will be critical to have a thriving future for the San Joaquin Valley," Harootunian said. "With education and commitment, the bounty of farming and the spectacular environment can remain the renewable gold of California."*

Harootunian also co-authored "Timeline: California Water Rights History: From the Feudal Age to 21st Century California" with Kees van der Geest, a colleague from the United Nations University, a global think tank dedicated to collaborative research and education to resolve the global problems of human survival, development and welfare. This report was developed to deepen understanding and awareness of water issues in the San Joaquin Valley.

For more information, contact Harootunian at 559.278.4850 or [gharootunian@csufresno.edu](mailto:gharootunian@csufresno.edu).

### Related links:

- [UNEP report](#)
- ["Timeline" report](#)

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By Kathleen Schock | May 23rd, 2016 | Categories: [RESEARCH](#) | Tags: [Climate Change](#), [drought](#), [research](#), [United Nations](#), [water](#) | 0 Comments

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## UNIVERSITY RECEIVES \$5 MILLION GRANT TO PROMOTE WATER AND ENERGY INNOVATION

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## UNIVERSITY RECEIVES \$5 MILLION GRANT TO PROMOTE WATER AND ENERGY INNOVATION

Spearheaded by the International Center for Water Technology, Fresno State has been awarded a \$5 million grant from the California Energy Commission to establish the Central Valley Energy Innovation Cluster.

The award will be used to provide key services, infrastructure and resources for energy entrepreneurs with the goal of successfully deploying and commercializing technologies and innovations in water and energy, said Dr. David Zoldoske, executive director of water initiatives at Fresno State.

*"We will identify innovative entrepreneurs who are developing solutions to address the region's needs in the water-energy and food space and provide them with tools and direction to bring the technology to market," Zoldoske said.*

The entrepreneurs will be offered a variety of services, including technology evaluation, proof-of-concept validation, advisory support, training, education and incubator services, as well as opportunities to connect with investors, industry leaders and potential customers.

The Energy Commission's competitive grant establishes four innovation cluster regions: Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco Bay Area and the Central Valley — each connecting emerging technologies to region-specific needs and opportunities. The Central Valley Energy Innovation Cluster's primary focus is on water and ag technologies.

The Valley provides water to over 20 million people and 7 million acres of farmland and produces over 80 percent of the state's agricultural products. The region is challenged by acute needs to find solutions to its current energy and water demands.

To effectively engage with entrepreneurs in the 39 counties included in the Central Valley Energy Innovation Cluster, a network of regional hubs has been established. The regional cluster hubs are located at California State University campuses in Bakersfield, Chico, Humboldt, Monterey Bay and Sacramento, and at the Sierra Business Council's Small Business Development Center in Truckee.

*"This award is a big step to expanding the number of innovative new products and technologies that can improve our water, air, energy and food production practices," Zoldoske said. "The Central Valley is already well known throughout the world for water and energy and with the region already being home to a robust ecosystem of entrepreneurs, industry, research and end-users. This award will further spur innovation and commercialization. It will also serve as a vital educational tool for disadvantaged communities, as well as CSU faculty, staff and a workforce of 64 student interns that will be directly involved in this program."*

Providing quantifiable energy use benefits to disadvantaged communities is a key component to supporting economic development and innovation. Through outreach and educational programs, the cluster hubs will study energy use in disadvantaged communities and work to ensure a robust pool of innovators to address their energy challenges.

By Shirley Armbruster | May 31st, 2016 | Categories: PRESS RELEASES, RESEARCH | Tags: California Energy Commission, Central Valley, Central Valley Energy Innovation Cluster, Energy, Fresno State, research, Technology, water | 0 Comments

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# FRESNO STATE

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## SHRESTHA RECEIVES PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

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## SHRESTHA RECEIVES PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Fresno State plant science professor Dr. Anil Shrestha received President Barack Obama's Volunteer Service Silver Award in recognition for his community service.

The award is the nation's premier volunteer award and recognizes Americans making a positive impact.

This week Shrestha will return to Nepal to volunteer in his academic specialty for the third consecutive summer and will help scientists, faculty and students in Nepal develop skills in experimental designs and data analysis.

"I consider myself very fortunate to be able to share my skills, knowledge and experience in a developing part of the world that is fending off a looming crisis of uncertainties in agriculture and food security," Shrestha said.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation started the awards program in 2003. It is managed by the Corporation for National and Community Service and Points of Light, an international nonprofit agency that inspires, equips and mobilizes people to take action to change the world.

Shrestha teaches classes at Fresno State in plant health, plant science, biometrics, weed science, pest management and crop productivity. His primary research is in integrated vegetation management in agricultural and non-agricultural systems.

He was also recently honored with Winrock's annual Volunteer Spirit Award for his dedication and contributions in creating the first weed science graduate program in Nepal with the Agriculture and Forestry University. On that same trip last summer, Shrestha hosted faculty biometric training sessions and gave guidance in grant writing, experimental design and data analysis to faculty and students in Nepal at the Uttarpani Technical School and Central Campus of Technology, Dharan.

Shrestha's 2015 trip was sponsored by Winrock International, the U.S. Agency for International Development's Farmer-to-Farmer program. In 2014, he hosted faculty biometric training sessions at three Tribhuvan University campuses in Nepal.

"It is important for agricultural scientists to work globally," Shrestha said. "Invasive weeds further challenge the sustainability of agriculture and the environment in Nepal. I am honored to represent Fresno State in the noble cause of sustaining global food security to an area that's also recovering economically from a massive earthquake in 2015."

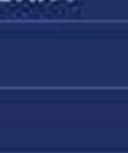
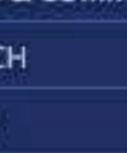
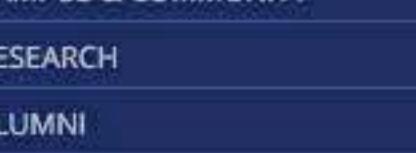
For the next two months in Nepal, Shrestha will help teach a graduate course on herbicides and the environment and direct graduate students' thesis research at the Agriculture and Forestry University. He will also collaborate with scientists from the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center based in Nepal, Bangladesh and India and the International Rice Research Institute based in the Philippines. He will also help develop a training module to sustain cereal cropping systems in South Asia.

### Related Links:

- [Presidential Service Awards](#)
- [August Volunteer of the month](#)

By Geoffrey Thurner | May 24th, 2016 | Categories: ACADEMICS, PRESS RELEASES | Tags: Ag, Agriculture, Anil Shrestha, Barack Obama, Community Service, Fresno State, Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, plants, President's Volunteer Award | 0 Comments

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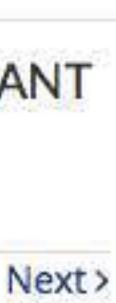
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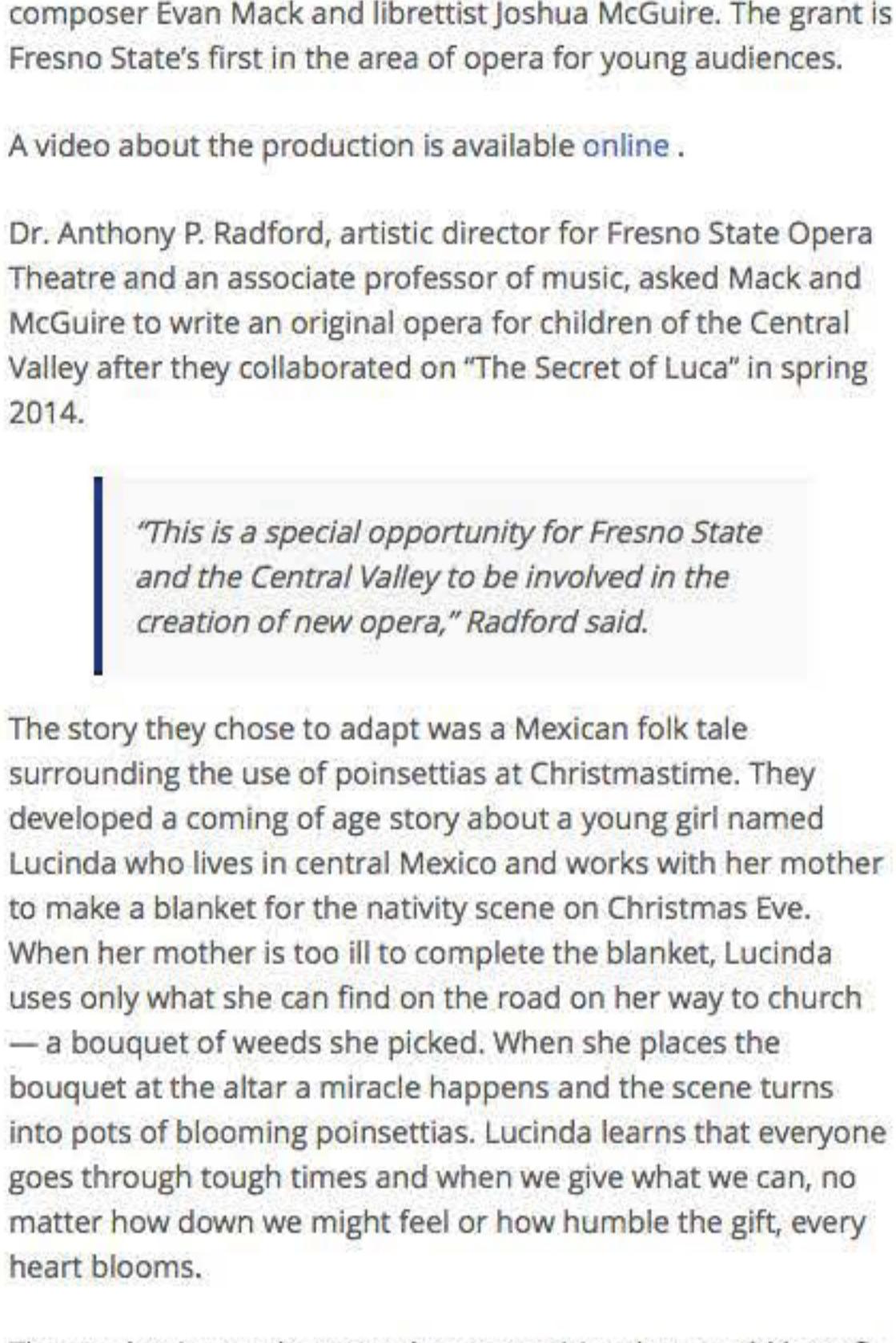


# FRESNO STATE

Fresno State News

## UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE AWARDED GRANT FOR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTION

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## UNIVERSITY OPERA THEATRE AWARDED GRANT FOR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTION

The Fresno State Opera Theatre was awarded \$10,000 by the Central Valley Community Foundation to commission and produce a newly composed children's opera.

The production is "Lucinda y las Flores de la Nochebuena" by composer Evan Mack and librettist Joshua McGuire. The grant is Fresno State's first in the area of opera for young audiences.

A video about the production is available [online](#).

Dr. Anthony P. Radford, artistic director for Fresno State Opera Theatre and an associate professor of music, asked Mack and McGuire to write an original opera for children of the Central Valley after they collaborated on "The Secret of Luca" in spring 2014.

*"This is a special opportunity for Fresno State and the Central Valley to be involved in the creation of new opera," Radford said.*

The story they chose to adapt was a Mexican folk tale surrounding the use of poinsettias at Christmastime. They developed a coming of age story about a young girl named Lucinda who lives in central Mexico and works with her mother to make a blanket for the nativity scene on Christmas Eve. When her mother is too ill to complete the blanket, Lucinda uses only what she can find on the road on her way to church — a bouquet of weeds she picked. When she places the bouquet at the altar a miracle happens and the scene turns into pots of blooming poinsettias. Lucinda learns that everyone goes through tough times and when we give what we can, no matter how down we might feel or how humble the gift, every heart blooms.

The production seeks to reach communities that would benefit from seeing original live opera theatre and will be preceded by learning tools and craft activities for children in grades K-6 that will aid teachers as they prepare their classes for the performances. The opera is interactive with audience members (children, teachers and possibly parents) participating in the acting and singing. The opera combines Mexican folk melodies with traditional Christmas carols and is mostly sung in English, but also incorporates Spanish.

The Fresno State Opera Theatre will perform the 45-minute opera at schools around Fresno County, opening at the Selma Arts Center in November. The opera will be seen by over 2,000 children in the fall and will hold outdoor performances along with school site performances.

Fresno State graduate voice and opera student Alejandra Tejeda will sing the lead role of Lucinda and senior voice student Chrysanthe Pappas will appear as her mother.

Graduate voice student Ed Olivarez will appear as optimist "Nobody" and junior voice student Christopher Rodriguez will appear as the pessimist "Everybody." The opera will be directed by Radford.

Mack (Skidmore College) and McGuire (Vanderbilt University) visited Fresno State in late March to workshop and revise the opera with students, and they will be involved in the continual development of the opera.

By Eddie Hughes | May 16th, 2016 | Categories: ACADEMICS, PRESS RELEASES | Tags: Anthony P. Radford, Central Valley Community Foundation, children's opera, Evan Mack, Fresno State Opera Theatre, Joshua McGuire, Lucinda y las Flores de la Nochebuena | 0 Comments

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# FRESNO STATE

Fresno State News



## ARMBRUSTER NAMED PUBLIC RELATIONS PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

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## ARMBRUSTER NAMED PUBLIC RELATIONS PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Shirley Melikian Armbruster, associate vice president for University Communications at Fresno State, was honored as Professional of the Year by the Central California chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

During its Image Awards luncheon on May 12, the chapter also presented two other awards to Fresno State's Office of University Communications for work done in 2015.

Armbruster was cited for her role in leading one of the largest and most award-winning teams of public relations practitioners in the Central Valley, as well as her work on national boards and councils responsible for advancing public relations and communications practices.

She has been at Fresno State for 15 years and formerly worked in the news industry as a reporter and editor at The Fresno Bee and the Visalia-Times Delta. She has won numerous writing awards and twice was awarded fellowships from the National Press Foundation.

PRSA Awards of Merit were presented to Fresno State for:

- Magazine Article – "A Generation of Firsts: Changing the Educational Make-up of the Region," written by Eddie Hughes in the spring 2015 issue of Fresno State Magazine.
- Video – "Fresno State Top Dog Alumni 2015 Awards" produced by Randy Haar, Domenick Satterberg and Kathleen Schock.

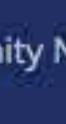
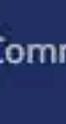
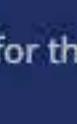
The Image Awards are sponsored annually by the Central California Chapter of the Public Relations Society of American and recognize works of distinction by public relations professionals in the Central Valley.

The Image Awards program takes entries from throughout the chapter's service area in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Tulare and San Luis Obispo counties. They were judged by members of a PRSA chapter in Raleigh, North Carolina.

For more information contact Angel Langridge at 559.278.2795 or [angel@csufresno.edu](mailto:angel@csufresno.edu).

By Angel Langridge | May 16th, 2016 | Categories: CAMPUS & COMMUNITY | Tags: Armbruster, award, Honor, PRSA, Public relations, video, writing | 0 Comments

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