

President's Message

The 2013-2014 General Catalog

This school year is full of opportunity for Fresno State and its students, as we head into a new season of leadership after 22 years of growth under President Dr. John D. Welty. I am humbled and honored to be selected as your new university president, and look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible during the coming months.

As a Valley native, I identify with Fresno State's mission and I plan to be the president for every student, faculty member, staff member and alum — to represent you to the best of my ability on the issues most important to our region.

Under Dr. Welty's leadership, Fresno State has solidified itself as one of California's premier institutions with a well-rounded, national reputation for both academics and athletics. From becoming the nation's first university to operate a commercial winery as part of our prestigious agriculture program, to our nationally ranked business and entrepreneurship programs, we are fostering discovery, diversity and distinction every day at Fresno State.

Fresno State has been a university of opportunity throughout its history. Since the university was founded in 1911, tens of thousands of Central California students — many who, like me, were the first in their families to attend college — have prospered by studying Agricultural Science and Technology, Arts and Humanities, Business, Education, Social Sciences, Engineering, Health and Human Services, and Science and Mathematics.

My wife, Mary, and I were raised in the Hanford area, only 40 miles from the Fresno State campus, and we chose to return to our Valley roots in hopes of making a difference in the region we consider home. I am so impressed that our students, faculty and staff care about making a difference by contributing more than a million volunteer hours a year to the needs of others.

Together, with our alumni and friends who continue to impact our region through innovation, entrepreneurship, community service and philanthropy, we can make the Valley a great place to live, work and play.

In today's global economy, our growing base of alumni stretches far beyond the Valley, but one thing that makes Fresno State graduates so special is they always remember where they came from — and they're often willing to give back so that today's students have greater opportunities than ever to learn and discover.

This catalog reflects Fresno State's ongoing commitment to the university's tagline — "Discovery. Diversity. Distinction." Our university offers a breadth of academic programs that include degrees at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels in selected fields. With one of the most diverse student bodies in the country, we support students of every ethnicity, culture and economic background.

By choosing Fresno State, you're choosing a university with faculty, staff and administrators dedicated to helping you achieve your lifelong goals. Welcome to Fresno State — it's a great day to be a Bulldog!



Joseph I. Castro
President
California State University, Fresno