

AGRIcolumn

HUNTLEY COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, CAL POLY POMONA

SPRING 2022

MOVING *Ahead*

Alma Gutierrez
is a graduate
student in one
of the newer
programs offered in
the Huntley College:

**International
Apparel
Management**

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AGRIcolumn

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Cal Poly Pomona

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Martin Sancho-Madriz
Interim Dean
Huntley College of Agriculture

When I began my Cal Poly Pomona journey in 1997 to develop the food science and technology degree program, little did I know that I would eventually have the honor to serve as interim dean of the Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture. I am excited and hopeful at the opportunity to contribute to move the college forward and add to its legacy.

This is a particularly poignant moment for the history of the university. After a challenging year when our faculty and students worked mostly in remote mode while adapting classes and scholarly activities in creative and innovative ways, the campus is alive again. In October, we welcomed over 76,000 guests to Pumpkin Fest. As the largest public event for the college and the university, we sought to seize the opportunity for community outreach and promotion of our programs by adding a Don B. Huntley College booth (see back cover picture).

The pandemic reminded us of the importance of connecting with one another. With this in mind, we have launched several new initiatives including improving our student advisement outreach, redesigning and restructuring our web pages, and starting a college alumni chapter (see ad on page 20). We will be hiring two additional academic advisors to support our students and we will also be filling two tenure-line faculty positions, one in Animal Science and one in Apparel Merchandising & Management.

Also, please be on the lookout for a reimagined “farm to table” event next fall as we continue to celebrate our special community!

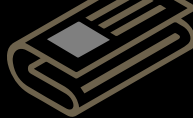
The Huntley College is a foundational aspect of the university's identity and heritage. We are fully aligned with its mission to cultivate success through a diverse culture of experiential learning, discovery, and innovation.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Sancho-Madriz". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Martin Sancho-Madriz, Ph.D.



COMMENCEMENT

The Huntley College of Agriculture celebrated the Classes of 2020 and 2021 at separate Commencement ceremonies on May 20 at the Fairplex.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the university to postpone the 2020 Commencement until this year and to change the event to a drive-in format at the Fairplex, with reduced spectator capacity.

Graduates could exit their cars, walk across the stage, and remove their masks for a photo op. In addition, guests could sit outside their cars with face coverings if they didn't mix with other groups.

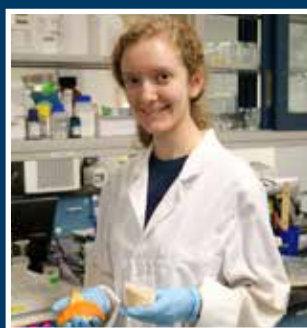
Karen Ross, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, was the guest speaker, sharing a pre-recorded video message.

STUDENT *Award* RECIPIENTS



John E. Andrews Undergraduate Student Leader of the Year

Shubham Malani, is a third-year plant science major from Ahmedabad, India. He is an aspiring plant-breeding scientist who works for the campus nursery. He handles everything from irrigation to the nursery's Instagram account.



John E. Andrews Graduate Student Leader of the Year

Sarah Caballero is a graduate student in nutrition. In addition to her studies, she worked as a teaching associate for food science and technology classes and in the Learning Resource Center, training tutors on how to be more effective.



Julian A. McPhee Scholar '21

Breanne Carey was named the valedictorian for the Class of 2021. An animal science grad, she will go on to attend the University of Edinburgh's Royal School of Veterinary Studies. She plans on working with at-risk and endangered species

Dietetic Intern Earns Honor



Stephen Degler ('20, foods and nutrition) was named Outstanding Dietetic Student by the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

A La Verne native, Degler finished Cal Poly Pomona's dietetic internship program in June. He plans to pursue a master's degree in public

health and work in the healthcare field, combining nutrition and health care.

Degler worked as a research assistant, volunteered with a local hospital's nutrition department, served as a community health coach, and interned at a local school district in their child nutrition services department.

The California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is a nonprofit association of committed to advancing the profession of dietetics through research, education, and advocacy.

AMM Online Summer Camp

A dozen teenagers participated in the Department of Apparel Merchandising and Management's first online summer camp to learn key aspects about the fashion business.

The teens learned about garment construction, fashion illustration and pattern making, fashion store and webstore design, natural fabric dyeing, and developing a fashion brand during the AMM Fashion Summer Camp, which was held from June 28 to July 2.

"We designed these courses for teens who want to learn more about the fashion industry and career possibilities," said Peter Kilduff, interim associate dean and AMM professor who spearheaded the camp's development.

No special skills or equipment were needed beyond access to a home computer and the internet.

AMM lecturers included Claudine Papillon, Amanda Becker, and Alejandra Parise. Although the program was not offered for academic credit, students received a certificate of completion from the Huntley College of Agriculture.

AMM hopes to offer both on-campus and online summer camps in 2022.



Revamping the AVS Laboratories

The Animal and Veterinary Science (AVS) Lab in the Huntley College of Agriculture got some much-needed improvements in time for the Fall 2021 semester, thanks to university grants.

The AVS lab (Building 2: Room 111) hosts classes or labs in clinical anatomy and physiology, food animal production, fundamentals of animal nutrition, biotechnology applications in animal science, and senior and graduate seminars. Every AVS student will use the lab at some point during their academic career.

The lab needed improvements: it did not have an exhaust system to support the use of preserved specimens for anatomy and physiology labs. The specimens are preserved in a chemical that - while not toxic - is pungent enough to permeate Building 2 and sometimes make students feel ill.

In addition, the AVS lab's cabinets were more than 40 years old and lacked security and enough space to store supplies for courses. Instead, faculty and staff had to store supplies and materials in other parts of Building 2 and carry them to the lab for classes.

Lighting was another issue that was updated. Scientific studies have shown that lighting in educational settings has a significant impact on learning and students' academic achievement.

Holly Greene, a lecturer and animal compliance specialist and safety coordinator for the Department of Animal and Veterinary Science, obtained two grants for \$58,092 from the university's Special Project for Improving the Classroom Experience (SPICE) program to help pay for the improvements.

Greene ('94, animal science; '98, M.S. animal science, who worked with Facilities Management to ensure completion by August 2021, said the classroom hadn't changed since her undergraduate days.

ADOPTING *Plant-Based* DIETS

A new Cal Poly Pomona lecture series is touting the benefits of adopting plant-based diets for human health and the global environment.

Bipin and Rekha Shah donated money to create the Plant-Based Food & Nutrition Distinguished Lecture Series and a plant-based nutrition minor within the Department of Nutrition and Food Science.

As Jains, they have practiced vegetarianism all their lives for ethical reasons. But scientific research also has shown that plant-based diets are better for human health and the environment, Bipin Shah said.

"The sooner that the world realizes that it can do without meat, the better," said Bipin Shah, CEO and chairman of Kovair Software in San Ramon, Calif.



Dr. Joan Sabaté, director of Loma Linda University's Center for Nutrition, Lifestyle, and Disease Prevention, was the speaker at the inaugural lecture on April 29.

Sabaté outlined four main reasons for advocating plant-based diets on a global level:

- **HEALTH:** scientific research shows that plant-based diets protect humans from cardiovascular disease, metabolic risk factors, and some cancers, while decreasing mortality.
- **EFFICIENCY:** converting plants to animal-based food is "an intrinsically inefficient process," as there is a progressive loss of energy going up the food chain.
- **ENVIRONMENT:** vegetarian or low-meat diets generate fewer greenhouse gas emissions.
- **ETHICS:** plant-based diets reduce food insecurity by making more food available for human consumption and ensure that natural resources will be available for future generations.

"Because 1 billion people go to bed hungry, 2 billion people have micronutrient deficiencies

or malnutrition, but in contrast, 2 billion people are overweight or obese," Sabaté said.

Nuts are an essential component of plant-based diets, Sabaté added. Loma Linda University researchers confirmed that eating meat increased heart attack risks, but they were surprised to discover that nuts provided more protection than whole grains, even though they are high in fat, he said.



Brent Kim of the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future spoke at the Nov. 4 lecture.

If the world is to meet its goal of limiting average temperature increase by 2 degrees Celsius by 2050, it must shift toward plant-based diets, he said.

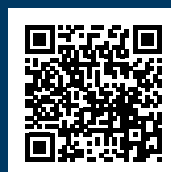
Global greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural production alone would almost push temperatures past that threshold because the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations projects meat and dairy intake to grow, Kim said. And that's not even accounting for emissions from industry, transportation, or energy production, he said.

Individually, some aren't ready to make the jump to vegan diets, which have the least environmental impact, Kim acknowledged. A gradual transition – such as going meatless on Mondays – may be more effective than quitting meat cold turkey, he said.

"We need to meet people where they're at," Kim said. "Start with something you enjoy and make one small change at a time."

Concerted effort also is required to support businesses and policymakers who act against climate change, Kim said.

View the Lectures



Dr. Joan Sabaté



Brent Kim

Virtual Remote Lab

Cal Poly Pomona will receive \$75,000 in USDA grant funding as part of a five-institution team to develop virtual and remote labs for enhanced food science and engineering education.

Lab-based courses are an essential part of universities' science and engineering curriculum, but shrinking campus resources and COVID-19 have hampered student access to lab facilities.

"Virtual and remote labs could address these problems," said Associate Professor Olive Li of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science. "It also could provide education opportunities to students with different needs and learning styles."

Li plans to use funding from the USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant to develop remote or take-home lab kits and virtual or computer-based labs for her students.

The virtual labs will use software to simulate real-world lab operations by using graphics, videos, animations, and interactive discussion forums.

The remote lab kits are fabricated using 3D printing and computer numerical control technologies.

The plan is for the students to use the virtual and remote labs. Researchers will then assess the labs' impact on student learning and then collect student feedback through surveys. The project will at least three years.

Li is collaborating on the project with faculty from Washington State, Ohio State, Rutgers, and Cornell, who will all receive USDA funding.



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www.cppfarmstore.com



Provost's Award

Joanne Sohn, an associate professor in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Services, was selected to receive the 2020-21 Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Sohn is a licensed veterinarian and director of the Animal Health Science program, which prepares students to work as veterinary technicians.

She has developed unique hands-on, learning opportunities for her students, including the semiannual pet spa day/vaccine clinic and leading academic field trips to Thailand and South Africa.

As a Provost's Award recipient, Sohn received \$5,000 and a plaque. She plans to use the money for her sabbatical, continuing education, to develop a workbook, and conduct research.



USDA Fellowship

Rosa Lamas Serratos, the college's Student Success Center coordinator, was selected to participate in the USDA's prestigious for a prestigious E. Kika De La Garza Education Fellowship from June 21-25.

The program offers faculty and staff from Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) the opportunity to work collaboratively with USDA to gain insight and understanding of the federal government. Participants learn about opportunities at USDA and other federal agencies that are available to their institutions and students.

Serratos' job includes advising students, coordinating its First Year Experience (FYE) program, and supervising the student Peer Advisors and Ag Ambassadors.

Taking on New Roles at AGRIsclapes

Staff at the AGRIsclapes Center have taken on new responsibilities with the retirements of Greenhouse Nursery Coordinator Monica Salembier and Farm Operations Director Dave Matias.



Kelsey Swayze ('16, agricultural science; '21, M.S. plant science) is managing the nursery's operations, plant production, and online store. Previously, she was the greenhouse/nursery community outreach coordinator.



AGRIsclapes Director Craig Walters ('78, plant and soil science) has taken on additional title of urban farm director, responsible for the planning and fiscal management of the university's farm operations.



Chris Van Norden, left, ('14, plant science) is the new agronomy farm coordinator, while his brother, Bryan Van Norden ('16, plant science) is the new specialty crop farm supervisor. Together, they are managing the day-to-day farm operations.

Annual *Award* Recipients



Staff of the Year

Maddi Ogburn ('19, animal science), the horse center's coordinator of horse training and farm operations, was named the 2021 recipient of the Huntley College of Agriculture's Staff of the Year Award.

Ogburn worked as a student assistant at the center then joined the staff in her current position in February 2020. A co-worker praised Ogburn's performance, noting that she only started her job just before the pandemic began and that she has done the work of three people with a great attitude.



Teacher of the Year

Tracey Takeuchi is known for her plant introduction and identification courses and serving as advisor to the Los Robles Horticulture Club. She also uses her industry connections - especially in arboriculture - to provide students with information sessions and networking opportunities with industry professionals.

Takeuchi also has handled the teaching challenges presented by the pandemic well. Although her classes are typically in the field and have hands-on learning experiences, Takeuchi devised "equally impactful virtual lessons" during the pandemic, another student nominator said.



Advisor of the Year

Eileen Cullen, plant science professor, was named the college's 2021 Mack H. Kennington Advisor of the Year.

Students credited Cullen for introducing them to people who could give them insight into possible career paths, and making herself available, being thorough and organized.



In Memoriam: Rex O. Baker

Rex O. Baker, a longtime agricultural biology professor and a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, died Nov. 27, 2020.

He taught at Cal Poly Pomona for more than 20 years before retiring in 2000. Professor Baker was an acknowledged expert on conflicts between coyotes and humans in urban areas.

He earned his bachelor's degree in agricultural biology in 1962 and his master's degree in agricultural science in 1983, both from Cal Poly Pomona. He also worked as biologist and deputy commissioner for the San Diego County Agricultural Commission.

Professor Baker was named the College of Agriculture's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient in 2001.

ARI Projects Contribute to California Agriculture

by Ondieki Gekara

The CSU Agricultural Research Institute (ARI) is a multi-campus applied agricultural and environmental research program that assists California agriculture, natural resources and food systems while investing in the development of the next generation of agricultural leaders.

It consists of the four CSU colleges of agriculture: Fresno State; Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; Cal Poly Pomona; Chico State; and two associate campuses: CSU Monterey Bay, and Humboldt State.

ARI receives funding from the state General Fund to support its activities; its annual budget is \$4.37 million. Individual campus funding is allocated through the respective colleges of agriculture on a competitive basis.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic slowed down some ARI projects on the Cal Poly Pomona campus, work is nevertheless continuing with students actively engaged in their implementation. Here are some projects covering diverse topics of interest to California agriculture.



New Faces



Feng Xie
Lecturer
Nutrition and Food Science



Yi (Fionna) Xie
Assistant Professor
Agribusiness



Karen Blakistone
Lecturer
Plant Science



Tory Simpenderfer
Lecturer
Animal & Veterinary Sciences



Briana Smith
Lecturer
Animal & Veterinary Sciences



Asamoah Larbi
Lecturer
Animal & Veterinary Sciences

Promotions

Gabriel Davidov-Pardo was promoted to associate professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science.



Aaron Fox was promoted to associate professor in the Department of Plant Science.



Hyungchul Han was promoted to associate professor in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Science.



Muditha Senanayake was named chair of the Department of Apparel Merchandising and Management.

Retirements

Lisa Kessler has entered the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP). She will work part-time as a faculty associate in the university's Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ). Kessler originally joined Cal Poly Pomona in 2007 as a faculty member in the Nutrition and Food Science Department and began serving as interim associate dean of the college in 2013. She then served as associate dean from 2016 to 2017 when she assumed the interim dean role until she retired.

Dave Matias has retired as Cal Poly Pomona's director of farm operations. He oversaw Spadra Farm, the three vineyards and specialty crops on campus, Westwind Ranch in Chino, and Pine Tree Ranch in Santa Paula, scheduling planting and harvesting at each site. Matias ('77, agricultural biology) held many jobs before returning to Cal Poly Pomona in 2012.

Nami Mendenhall retired as the college advisor. She assisted students with academic planning, course substitution and the Four-Year Pledge. Prior to joining the college in 2014, Mendenhall worked for seven years in Cal Poly Pomona's Registrar's Office.

Marie Nagano, a longtime livestock technician at the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center, has retired. Nagano ('79, animal science, pre-vet option) first came to work at Cal Poly Pomona in the sheep units.

Cindy Reich has retired as the equine specialist overseeing herd breeding at the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center. She joined the center in early 2017 and had more than 30 years' experience working with horses in farm management and reproductive programs in the public and private sectors. She has foaled more than 1,000 mares during her career.

Monica Salembier has retired as the coordinator of the greenhouse and nursery at AGRIScapes. She created and developed the nursery's Pepperzania and Tomatozania plant sales and the online sales portal. Salembier ('84, ornamental horticulture, nursery management) began working at Cal Poly Pomona in the early 1990s.

MOVING *Ahead*

Although COVID-19 created unprecedented challenges for educators, the Huntley College of Agriculture has continued introducing several new academic programs.



Alma Gutierrez:
International Apparel
Management

Alma Gutierrez became fascinated with apparel as a child when her seamstress grandmother made dresses for her for special occasions.

"I always loved watching her make the dresses and dreamt of becoming a fashion designer or buyer," Gutierrez said.

While taking some fashion courses at Long Beach City College, she learned about the new master's in International Apparel Management program at Cal Poly Pomona.

Students in the program learn about global supply chain management and discover the challenges of sourcing products internationally and managing inventory: cotton grown in India or Turkey is milled in Pakistan or Mexico, sewn into garments in El Salvador, which are then sold in Asia, Europe, or North America.

Currently, 20 students are in the program, which the College of the Extended University began in Fall 2020. A second-year student, Gutierrez wants to become a buyer or work in sustainable fashion.

"I am extremely grateful for the creation of this program, my professors, and peers," she said.

International interest may lead the program to offer more online courses, said Chitra Dabas, an associate professor of apparel merchandising and management who oversees the program.



Laura Webb: Equine Studies Minor

California leads all states in horse-related job creation and economic impact.

The Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences introduced the equine studies minor in 2019 to prepare students for equine careers. Students learn about equine management, nutrition, health, reproduction, and physiology, Lecturer Holly Greene said.

Five students have graduated with the minor to date, and 22 students are currently enrolled in the program.

"I have a passion for horses and loved having the option to learn about them in school," said Laura Webb, a senior from Shadow Hills, Calif., who owns horses and hopes to become a large-animal veterinarian. "I was interested in learning about different perspectives on equine management."

Students in the minor also can find work as horse trainers, in managerial support, sales of pharmaceutical and livestock products and other agribusiness professions.

COVID-19 prevented students from participating in the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center's foal watch in 2021, but Greene hopes that will change this spring

Priscilla Torres: Urban Agriculture Minor

Growing up in a North Hollywood apartment, Priscilla Torres, her mother, and their neighbors grew fruits, vegetables, or herbs in pots, because there wasn't room for a traditional garden.

"We grew culturally relevant plants that we couldn't find in our market. We would all share our harvest, take care one another's space, and enjoy the environment we created," Torres said. "I knew from a very young age that I wanted others to feel the same way I did about growing your own food, sharing it with others, and having the space to do it no matter how small it was."

When Torres learned that Cal Poly Pomona had an urban and community agriculture minor, she was delighted. The agricultural science major has taken courses exploring urban agriculture policies

and regulations, small and large-scale farm production systems, and developing a hypothetical urban farm business.

"They aren't like your typical lecture courses where you go in and listen to the professor the entire class," Torres said. "Students are given the chance to lead the course through active discussions, raise questions, and push for what we want to learn."

The program, which began in Fall 2018, is currently mapping urban farms across Los Angeles County to create a public resource. That has given students like Torres the opportunity to meet other urban farmers.

But the minor has also allowed Torres to share her new knowledge.



"My apartment complex has incorporated more edible plants and fruit trees in the landscape," she said. "We have created our own collective garden utilizing different sections of available space."



Natalia Martinez: Plant-Based Nutrition Minor

Since the Department of Nutrition and Food Science began offering a plant-based nutrition minor in fall 2020, students have learned about plant-based diets, meal planning, and the effect of processing on plant-based foods. About 15 to 20 students enroll in the minor every semester, department chair and Professor Harmit Singh said.

Natalia Martinez, a senior nutrition major from Livermore, Calif., who is a vegan, said she appreciates all the new knowledge she's gained.

"When I first started exploring the plant-based world, there were only a few foods available, most of which were made with soy," she said. "Nowadays, you can find almost everything for a plant-based substitute."

A \$50,000 gift from Bipin and Rekha Shah made the minor possible. Bipin Shah is the CEO and chairman of Kovair Software, a company in San Ramon, Calif., with offices in India.

The Shahs are also sponsoring a plant-based food and nutrition lecture series named after them.

Coming Soon Footwear Minor

Footwear brands are having difficulties finding employees who understand materials, product development, and production.

Few California educational institutions have footwear programs. Footwear requires specialized machines like 3D printers, denser and more rigid materials than clothing fabrics, and specialized instructors.

So, the Department of Apparel Merchandising and Management (AMM) decided to create a minor, expecting to expand it to an option later.

"We always like to look for such strategic opportunities," said Muditha Senanayake, department chair and professor.

AMM is acquiring materials and equipment – including computer-aided-design (CAD) software – and plans to offer its first course this spring.

The minor is also attracting students interested in kinesiology, sportswear, business, industrial engineering, and manufacturing. ☞



Straight from the Farm **TO OUR STUDENTS!**

A new group of consumers is discovering the fresh produce grown on the university's farm: Cal Poly Pomona students.

Spadra Farm and other growing areas on campus are now supplying fruits and vegetables to the Poly Pantry, a university program created in 2019 to assist students who may not have enough money to purchase healthy food.

The Poly Pantry buys the produce at a discounted rate from the farm operations run by the Huntley College of Agriculture and distributes the fruits and vegetables free of charge to students on campus who are in need.

"We're glad that the Cal Poly Pomona farm can help our own students," said Urban Farm Director Craig Walters. "We want them to succeed academically and not have to worry about whether they have enough to eat."

Students who use the Poly Pantry are excited to discover that the produce was grown right here at Cal Poly Pomona, said Sandra Solano, the pantry's director.

"They love that it's coming from the campus and that it's fresh—harvested the day before," Solano said. "I take pride in that and brag about it to the students."

The Poly Pantry is run by the Associated Students Inc. (ASI) of Cal Poly Pomona and is open to all current Cal Poly Pomona students who feel that they are in need—either at risk of running out of food, unable to purchase healthy food, or cutting or skipping meals even if hungry.

Students could visit the pantry in the Bronco Student Center once a week and shop for what they needed.



In addition to the fresh Cal Poly Pomona produce, the students could obtain packaged food, dry and canned goods, hygiene products, and kitchen utensils that the pantry purchases from outside vendors.

When the COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020, the pantry had to shut down in March. But ASI realized that students still needed the Poly Pantry's support, so the pantry began offering curbside pickup of preassembled bags of goods to students in November.

In July 2021, the Poly Pantry reopened its doors to student shopping by appointment.

In the future, the Cal Poly Pomona Farm will provide fruits and vegetables from a section of the farm that was recently certified for organic production.

In addition, the farm will have a partner in providing fresh produce to the Poly Pantry. University President Soraya Coley has allocated funding to the Lyle Center of Regenerative Studies to hire student fellows to grow crops at the center for the pantry.

"Our motto at ASI is 'Students serving students,'" Solano said. "And knowing that this produce is grown by students for our students goes with that motto."





OCT 2021
Cal Poly Pomona
PUMPKIN FEST

It began as a humble pumpkin patch along Temple Avenue.

Today, it's a month-long celebration of pumpkins and California agriculture.

by Craig Walters

For more than 25 years, the Huntley College of Agriculture's pumpkin festival has drawn thousands of Southern Californians to the Cal Poly Pomona campus. It's the university's largest public event and a great opportunity to introduce people to agriculture and the science and technological-related careers that are possible.

The event has grown into a full-blown festival at AGRIScapes near the Farm Store. It is now also a significant source of employment for College of Ag students with over 100 hired to prepare and operate the Festival.

In 2015 we instituted fees for admission and activities due to the overwhelming expenses to run the festival. This was an adjustment for festival-goers. Since then, we have made additional changes to improve the operation.

Numerous new activities have been added, including hayrides, live entertainment, food vendors, contests, pony rides, a sunflower patch. Ag Discovery Lane is one of the newer attractions that features cow-milking, blacksmithing, and sheep-shearing demonstrations, tractors, and other educational exhibits.

The Insect Fair, another Cal Poly Pomona institution that was traditionally held at the Bronco Student Center on the same weekend as the Pumpkin Festival, joined us in 2016.

Although COVID-19 forced the festival's cancellation in 2020, we still sold pumpkins that customers could order online and collect at a curbside pickup.

Despite the pandemic continuing, the festival returned this fall - but with some major changes because of COVID.

Instead of a holding the festival on a single weekend, we decided to spread it out over all five weekends in October. We capped attendance each day and required visitors to buy tickets online in advance.

In this way, we spread the crowds out, which had the added benefit of having shorter lines for activities and a smoother operation. We also renamed the event to "Pumpkin Fest" and used it to promote the college itself: who we are and what we do.

Throughout October, visitors learned more about agriculture and the college - and, of course, enjoyed picking out thousands of pumpkins grown and harvested by Cal Poly Pomona students on our own Spadra Farm.

We look forward to many more years as Cal Poly Pomona's premiere public event and telling the story of Southern California agriculture.



2021 Pumpkin Fest farm workers make the pumpkin patch come alive! Pictured above is President Coley with Oreo at the Opening Ceremonies.

RIPPLE ACROSS TIME

Drop a rock into a pool, and the ripples spread out in all directions.

by Cindy Reich

Cal Poly Pomona was that pool, and the ripples had a significant impact on my life, long before I was even born.

My mother grew up in Chicago as a horse-crazy kid riding Saddlebred horses. She spent summers at a Colorado camp where she became a counselor taking campers on overnight horse camping trips. She grew to love the Rocky Mountains and attended the University of Colorado.

At that time, local Arabian horse breeder Wayne Van Vleet put on weekly public shows of his Arabian horses. Wayne borrowed the idea from W.K. Kellogg, a contemporary whose shows he had attended. Ripples.

My mother fell in love with Arabians. Selling her grandmother's wedding ring she bought her first Arabian from Van Vleet. I wasn't even a twinkle in her eye. Ripples. By the time I was born, my mother was breeding primarily Crabbet Arabians, the same bloodlines that W.K. Kellogg imported in the 1930s. More ripples.

My family regarded the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center as a preeminent breeding program, and I wanted desperately to attend Cal Poly Pomona. But I had wanted to become a veterinarian since a child, and Colorado State was in my backyard, so that is where I went. As a student, I participated in livestock and horse judging and while competing at the US National Arabian horse show, I met Norm Dunn, the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center's director, who became an important mentor. Ripples.

After decades working around the world as an equine reproductive technician, I heard the Cal Poly Pomona program needed a breeding manager. The opportunity to work at this historic program was compelling and I was hired.

Having experienced horsemen and women on staff is critical to the success of a program like Cal Poly Pomona's.

In fact, I took the job because I greatly respected John Lambert who was the trainer at that time. Working with the students and their enthusiasm was invigorating. Seeing a foal go from birth to getting on its feet and nursing was transformative for many of them. Often students would fall in love with "their" horse and followed them for years.

John and I worked to make decisions that would honor Kellogg's legacy and maintain the quality and standards



Cindy Reich, retired breeding technician at the Arabian Horse Center, with KH Libertie.

that he established. The Arabian horse industry avidly supported us and offered their best stallions to the breeding program.

The "CP" horses are well known for their performance qualities and consistently win national honors in the show arena. This reputation resulted in high demand for the horses that were sold each year on our online auction, which, in turn, keeps our program running.

In 2017, John decided to auction off a very promising young colt, CP Helios (HA Toskcan Sun x CP Dance Card). It was risky because we hadn't offered a horse that young for sale in recent years. Trainers prefer older horses that have been started under saddle.

But CP Helios sold for a record \$56,500 as a yearling. In contrast, the previous year, 18 horses sold for a combined total of \$75,000. CP Helios won the Scottsdale Signature Stallion Championship Country and English Pleasure Maturity Class, Amateur in 2021, as well as just recently capturing the National Champion Country English Pleasure Maturity title. The quality of the "CP" horses endures.

When John returned after a few years away to become the Center's Executive Director, I knew it would be guided by a professional horseman who cared deeply about the program and would insure its quality and professionalism. My tenure fulfilled that teenage dream of being a part of the Cal Poly Pomona program and was the logical closing of a circle that started long before I was born. But it is time for new adventures.

I am still co-teaching remotely with Holly Greene and look forward to returning to visit and hug the old matriarch mares and marvel at the newest foals. The story hasn't ended, and the ripples are still rolling out to the shore.

Thank You

FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Individuals

Elise Abrego & Werner Abrego
Kelli Aguirre
Shauna Anderson '03
Lisa Andres '97 & Pablo Andres
Daniel A. Andrews '90
Anonymous
Ruben Arias & Carole Arias
Eeman At-Taras
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Katherine Kings-Beltran '86 &
Gustavo Beltran '86
David Bergman & Jill Bergman
Bernard Bernheim &
Margaret Bernheim
Rob Bick & Caralyn Schroter
Vito Blomo '70 & Carla Blomo
Lauree Bradley '82
Richard Bradley '05 &
Jennifer Bradley
Patricia Branch '75 & John Branch
William Brandenburg '73 &
Kathleen Brandenburg '75
Norris Brandt '80 & Kimberly Brandt
Terry Brooks
Ronald Brown-Otter '98 &
Carol Brown-Otter
Caroline Buchman
Cecily R. Burke
Bonny Burns-Whitmore
Kendra Butler
Alda Marie Caan
Bernice Caan
Michael Caan
John Cable '66 & Cynthia Cable
Sarah Calderon
Erica Calderon-Vargas '18
Michael Campbell '83 &
Deborah Campbell
Raymond Campbell '78 &
Carol Campbell
Maria Margarita Campos
Karen Caplan
Barbara Carlson '06 &
Thomas Carlson
Emory Carney '61
Federico Ceballos & Kan Yee
Brett Chandler & Coleen Chandler
Abraham Chavez '03
Frank Chisholm & Sara Chisholm
Bill Christoph
Pedro Cisneros '79
Karin Cohen & William Cohen
Michael Cohen & Jeanne Cohen
Elizabeth Contreras '20
Victor Contreras '65 &
Janelle Contreras
Janell Cornforth '72 & Paul Bickner
Helen Corral-Bonner '88 &
John Bonner
Elaine Coughlin & Larry Coughlin
Robert Coventry &
Yvonne Coventry
Rafael Cuadras '16
Dolores Culotti
Chitra Dabas
James Davis '71 & Carolyn Davis
Deborah Day '90 & Thomas Day '90

James Degen &
Susan Hoener-Degen
Nixsander Diaz-Espino '19
Donald Domenigoni '78 &
Sherri Domenigoni
Robert Donley '69 &
Barbara Donley '92
Gina Dorrington '99 &
Jeffrey Dorrington '98
Gregory Douglass '82 Susan Dow
Eldon Dreyer '62 & Sharon Dreyer
Kelly F. Duke '82
Kathleen Earle
Christy Edmondson '83
Sam Elias
Rose Epperson & Al Epperson
Janet Erickson '80 &
Richard Erickson
Karina Estrada '17
Martin Evanson '63 &
Carol Evanson
Katherine Heberlein Ewing '69
Sharyn Ezre
Velen Fehrs '84 & James Fehrs
Kathleen Ferguson '00
Shelby Filley '85 & Cameron Filley
Aubrey Fine & Nya Fine
Dennis Fitzpatrick
Burt Fjellstrom '75
Sally Flurer
Suzanne Franco
Lori Graham Frear '80
Richard Frencher '67
Mabel Gale '90
Danielle Garcia '16
Ondieki Gekara
Kaitlyn Gillaspoy '05
Jean Gipe
Denise Godfrey & William McGregor
Tony Godfrey '69 & Sue Godfrey '70
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Benjamin Goodwin '66 &
Bonnie Goodwin
Robert Greenspan
Ann Gregg '80
Carolyn Guajardo '01
John Guidinger '65 &
Marilyn Guidinger
Coralea Harbushka '89
Frances Harder & Helmut Harder
Mark Hargreaves '84 &
Patricia Hargreaves
Sonya Harper '06
Paige Hashimoto-Lizardo '94 &
Eric Lizardo
Leslie Hernandez '14
Richard Herrera '69 & Evie Herrera
Charles Hillman '59
Grace Ho '91
Michele Hoag '00 & Brian Hoag
Colleen Holbrook '79
Peggy Holderfield '06
Patricia Holley
Reginald Clause &
Mary Holz-Clause
Sally Hoover '88
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Teri Hunsdorfer
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Larry Jerome
Steve Jessup '77 & Bobbie Jessup
Bruce M. Jewett
Merton Johnson '57 &
Beverly Johnson
Armine Jones
Ashley Jones
Louise Jones '59 & Thomas Jones
Charbel Kabbouche '94 &
Marlow Sabanegh
Fred Kalmar '67
Mary Kanian '74
Kathleen Kellogg
Susan Kellogg-Bell
Lisa Kessler & Scott Kessler
John Kienitz '70 & Karon Kienitz
Kathleen Kilbourne
Peter Kilduff & Kam Kilduff
Robin Kim '17
Gerriann Kingslan '82 &
Robert Kingslan
Keith Knabe '83
Ray Koopman '88 &
Adrienne Koopman
Frank Korkmazian '67 &
Gayane Korkmazian
Charles Krag '86 &
Erica Lundquist
Robert Kroll '83 & Nancy Kroll
Kathryn Lacey '91 & Wayne Lacey
John Lambert
Patricia LaRue '88 &
Buraldeen LaRue
William Lenox '65
Rachel Levin
Robert Levine '78 & Suz Levine
Annette Licata '89
Tim Liu
Paul Magiera '87
Cybel Maio & Gerald Maio '72
Kevin Malone '14
Ernesto Mantilla
Renee Martinez '65 &
Ernest Martinez
Lloyd McCabe & Sheila McCabe
Ann McClure '85
Brian McColgan '95
Melissa McCormick '05
Duncan McKeel '06
Lacy McNab '05
Lyle McNeal '64 & Nancy McNeal
Neale McNutt '58 & Sue McNutt
Merijane McTalley '76 &
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Mary Milkie-Andrews '90
Catherine Miller '83
Patricia Miranda-Wagner '93 &
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Philip Moore
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Doncella Muller
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Geraldine Muntis '82 & Jeff Muntis
Naji Nassereddine '94 &
Mirna Nassereddine
Jose Navarro '10
Christopher Nichols &
Monique Nichols
Don Nishikawa '87
Terry Noriega '79
Allison Paap & Steve Paap
Olivia Palmer '89 & Darell Palmer
Michelle Panos '98
Jessica Parker
Kanti B. Patel '62
Timothy Paulitz '80 &
Nancy Ann Nydegger-Paulitz
Sherry Pawneshing &
Robert Pawneshing '81
Diane Pearl-Vieau '84 &
Michael Vieau '99
Dr. Peggy Sears Perry '69
Robert Perry '69 & Margaret Perry
Lynn Pham '15
Jeff Prilliman '82
Carol C. Proctor '78
Theodore Quay '67
Natasha Rafferty '07
Jessica Ramirez '18
Omar Alejandro Ramos
Joseph Randolph '54 &
Thelma Randolph
Michael Real & Paula Real
Yvonne Rentmeester '95 & Erich
Rentmeester
Shirley Resich '69 & John Resich
Michael Reyes '13
Marie Robb
John Robertson '80 &
Carol Robertson '78
Cheryl Robinson '72 &
Barry Robinson
Teresa Rogers-Worrall &
Michael Worrall
Carlos Rosales & Laura Finch
Carlos Ruiz '98 & Maria Ruiz '98
Marlow Sabanegh '94 &
Charbel Kabbouche
Stacy Sachen
Monika Salazar
Alexandre Salembier '79 &
Monica Salembier '84
Martin Sancho-Madriz &
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Susan Savolainen '85
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Vicki Schumacher
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Muditha Senanayake
John Sepp '80 & Nancy Sepp
Bipin & Rekha Shah
Albert Sharp '78 & Annette Sharp
Vanessa Sheirich & Paul Sheirich
Christa Shewbridge '76
Raymond Short &
Constance Short
Kathy Simas & Alexander Simas
Harmit Singh
Alfredine Slaby-Wunderli '73 &
Jerome Slaby
Robert Smith '77
Anna Soper
Timothy Sovich '86 & Alicia Sovich
Nicholas Spardy '87 &
Maria Spardy
Jacob Spence '18
Richard Spezzano
John Steiger '82 &
Cynthia Steiger
Jocelyne Stover '87 &
Russell Stover
Leslie Strickland
Julie Stryker '78 &
Jess Stryker '75
Renee Syrett
Sharon Tachibana '80 &
Steven Awakuni
Nina Tanabe '76 &
Michael Tanabe
Kelly Taylor-Dunmore '03 &
Andrew Dunmore
Debra Terry '92
Rachel Thompson '17
Marybeth Thornburgh '82 &
Brian Thornburgh
Charles Tipton '59 &
Virginia Tipton
Jack Tom & Pauline Tom
William Tracy '82 &
Michele Tracy '81
Helen Trejo
Darryl Umemoto '81
Susana Vargas '06
Renee Rose Villanueva-Akiyama '05
Dennis Vinopal '65 &
Teresa Vinopal
Riley Walter
Melissa Watkins
Craig Weber '65
Mary Ann Wertenberg-Hart '80
Claire Whang
Toni Williams '73 &
Dwight Williams
Wayne Willis '72 &
Rosemary Willis
Thomas Wolfe '66
Mon Yee
Barbara Young
Elias Zegarra '80
Ann Zemke & John Zemke



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California Coast Crop Consulting Inc	Native Fields LLC
California Community Foundation	Orange County Farm Bureau
Carney Family Trust	Pando Populus, Inc.
Champion Family Foundation	PhalFanatics, Inc.
Chase Agricultural Consulting, LLC	Protequus LLC
Coastal Vineyard Care Associates	Real Food Marketing, LLC
County of San Diego	Relation Insurance, Inc.
Craig Weber & Associates	Sempra Energy Matching Gifts
Diani Companies	Spezzano Consulting Service, Inc
Dole Food Company Inc.	State Farm Companies Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Don B. Huntley Ranch	Susan and Catherine Kellogg Foundation
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Green Hills Memorial Park	W.K. Kellogg Foundation
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Kellogg Voorhis Legacy Society

Members are recognized for including Cal Poly Pomona and the Huntley College in their estate plan.



James Degen and Susan Hoener-Degen
 Larry Emlet '62
 Martin Evanson '63 and Carol Evanson
 Ann E. Gregg '80
 Don B. Huntley '60
 Steven T. Kikuchi '77 and Jane Kikuchi '77
 W.B. Butch Lindley '67
 Cybel and Gerald Maio '72
 Shirley B. Newell
 Cheryl Robinson '72 and Barry Robinson
 Carol Nevin Rundback '69
 Arleen Segal '80 and Mickey Segal

*College donations received from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.



by Melanie Johnson

Remembering Mr. Cal Poly Pomona

Ron Simons ('63, agronomy; '69, food marketing and agribusiness management), known as "Mr. Cal Poly Pomona" for his long dedication to the university, died on Aug. 26. He was 79.

Mr. Simons came to Cal Poly Pomona as a college freshman during the Eisenhower Administration and became involved with the newly established Rose Float program.

He put his signature on several floats, including the starring role in the 1962 entry "Man on the Moon, riding on that float dressed as an astronaut, seven years before Neil Armstrong planted the American flag on the moon. He later served as co-chair of the Rose Float Club in 1963 and chair in 1964.

After graduating with an agronomy degree in 1964, Mr. Simons enlisted in the U.S. Army. He returned to Cal Poly Pomona after serving three years and earned a second degree in food marketing and agribusiness management in 1969.

Mr. Simons went to work for Cal Poly Pomona as its first director of alumni affairs. He also was key in creating the Division of University Advancement and served as its associate vice president for university advancement until his 2012 retirement.

Upon his retirement, the university bestowed an honorary doctorate on Mr. Simons at the College of Agriculture commencement. He also was one of the first recipients of the university's Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award.

In July 2021, the university completed construction on a new Rose Float lab. The structure was named The Don Miller and Ron Simons Rose Float Lab, recognizing the contributions of Miller, who started the program in 1949 and Simons, who built it up from where it began. Simons donated generously to both the Don E. Miller Rose Float Endowment and the Rose Float Building Complex fund.



In Memoriam: Scott Dunn

Scott W. Dunn '78, an alumnus and longtime supporter of the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center, died on March 22. He was 68.

Mr. Dunn ('78, agricultural business management) had served on the President's Arabian Advisory Committee since 2012. The committee was created to support the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center and consists of members who are Arabian horse experts.

As a committee member, Mr. Dunn was integral in planning the center's 75th anniversary celebration in 2013.

Mr. Dunn's father, Norman Dunn, was the center's director for the more than 20 years and was responsible for establishing the center's global reputation in the Arabian horse industry.

In addition to spending much time in the center's barns, pastures, and horse stalls, Mr. Dunn participated in his family's tradition of decorating the Cal Poly Rose Float every year.

After graduating from Cal Poly Pomona, Mr. Dunn worked at the horse center with his first wife, Sue Blackman Dunn Chrismer ('80, liberal studies), breaking, training, and showing the horses under the direction of his father and Allison Elwell ('71, history).

Mr. Dunn then started a career in the insurance industry and was actively involved in the profession. He remained involved in the Arabian horse industry, training horses, and serving as a competition judge and announcer at horse shows.



GCSAA Honors CPP Alumnus

Michael Kenna ('79, ornamental horticulture) received the 2021 Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) for his contributions to the profession.

The association honored Kenna at the 2021 Golf Course Industry show on Feb. 2.

Kenna is a 25-year GCSAA member and served as the director of U.S. Golf Association (USGA) Green Section Research, where he oversaw environmental and turfgrass research activities until his 2019 retirement. Before joining the USGA, he was an assistant professor of horticulture at Oklahoma State.

Kenna was the recipient of the College of Agriculture's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

Dressing the Olympic Track & Field Team

by Melanie Johnson

An apparel merchandising and management alumna helped to produce the uniforms U.S. track and field athletes wore at the Olympics.

Sarah Dumlao ('14, apparel merchandising and management) is a production planner at the Nike Global Headquarters in Beaverton, Oregon. Her inspiration to enter the apparel and fashion industry was her mom, who sewed clothes and Halloween costumes for her and her two siblings growing up.

"As the first person in my family to graduate from a four-year university, I was fully immersed into the world of apparel at Cal Poly Pomona," Dumlao said. "The apparel merchandising program fully prepared me to start my career in the highly competitive apparel industry."

She initially wanted to be an apparel buyer, which would allow her to go to fashion shows, pick the fashion trends and decide what goes into retail stores, but she realized she liked working with her hands and seeing a drawn picture turn into a real garment, and she decided to go into product development.

The Olympic track and field uniforms she helped to produce feature apparel technology and innovation, including a two-toned fabric that looks like two different colors, depending on the



angle the jersey is viewed. Dumlao was the project manager in the team, after the designers confirmed the look and feel of the jerseys. She ensured the quality, timing and delivery of the jerseys for the Olympic athletes.

Alumna Makes Bequest to College



Ann Gregg '80 was looking for a new start in life when she decided to resume her college education at Cal Poly Pomona.

But she was a newly single mother, and earning a degree wasn't going to be easy.

Cal Poly Pomona helped by providing financial aid, making it possible to commute from Corona while raising her son. Ann achieved her goal and graduated in

1980 with a bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture.

"I am proud to wear the Cal Poly Pomona insignia," she said. "I want others to have a similar positive experience."

To that end, Gregg is making a bequest to support the ongoing educational programs and activities of the Huntley College of Agriculture.

"We are most grateful to Ann for her gift. We are especially gratified that she had such a wonderful experience at

Cal Poly Pomona and that she chose to support her alma mater," Interim Dean Lisa Kessler said earlier this year.

Gregg had grown up in Virginia while her father worked at the Pentagon during the Korean War. The family later moved to Arizona, where she graduated from high school in Phoenix.

She married and attended community college in Arizona while working many part-time jobs.

Gregg and her first husband moved to California and later divorced. After enrolling at Cal Poly Pomona in 1977, she took 11 straight quarters until she completed her degree.

Despite her busy schedule as a mother and commuter student, Gregg participated in the campus Horticulture Club. She also worked at the ornamental horticulture production unit as the landscape foreman.

She got a job right out of college, working in hydroculture before remarrying and spending a career as a wife, mother, and volunteer church grounds manager at her church.

"My experience at Cal Poly Pomona was the best thing that I ever did for myself," Gregg said.



Join Now!

Your Cal Poly Pomona Alumni Association connects over 149,000 alumni from all over the world. It is a great way to engage, network, and share your Bronco pride!



For more information on how to join the Alumni Association and the *soon-to-be* **Huntley College Alumni Chapter**, contact the Alumni Office at (909) 869-2963 or alumni@copp.edu.



College Welcomes New Senior Director of Development



Pamela Jones-Tintle is the Huntley College of Agriculture's new senior development director.

Jones-Tintle comes from Pitzer College in Claremont, where she worked in various advancement roles during her ten-year tenure. Most recently serving as associate vice president for college advancement, she led a team of

talented professionals that focused on enhancing engagement and fundraising efforts. She worked closely with trustees and other leadership volunteers to further the mission of the college. She launched a number of new initiatives and collaborated across the college community to implement numerous successful giving campaigns, including Pitzer's \$50 million comprehensive campaign.

Prior to her stint at Pitzer, she served in leadership fundraising roles at Cal State Fullerton, Santa Clara University, Loyola Marymount University, University of Redlands, and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

A native of Downey, Jones-Tintle is a first-generation college graduate who earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Loyola Marymount University and master's degree in education administration from the University of Redlands.

She also holds certificates in fundraising and nonprofit management from the University of California, Irvine and is a certified fundraising executive (CFRE).

In addition, Jones-Tintle has a wealth of experience as a volunteer leader, having served on alumni boards and athletic councils for her alma maters. She currently sits on the board of directors for Angels Nest TLP, which assists former foster youth pursuing a college degree.

She replaces Melissa Watkins, who was promoted to Cal Poly Pomona's executive director of major gifts before leaving for a position at Loyola Marymount University in August.

For more information about engagement and fundraising, contact Pamela at:

pajones@cpp.edu or
(909) 869-2875

Boswell-Huntley Plant Health Lab *Soon a Reality!*

The Department of Plant Science is planning to build a new plant health lab on the Cal Poly Pomona campus, thanks to the generosity of several donors.

The new Boswell-Huntley lab will create a dedicated space for students to learn about diagnosing diseased plants. In addition, it will provide a valuable resource and service to residents and growers across Southern California who need help with ailing plants.

"There are very few labs in Southern California that can provide diagnostic services to the community," said Professor Emerita Valerie Mellano, the plant science department chair. "Most people have to go outside the region for testing, and it could take months to complete."

The new lab, expected to take a year to set up, will stand adjacent to the Fruit/Crops Unit in Building 28 on Citrus Lane, and the greenhouse that was built in 2016 for Asian citrus psyllid research.

Many plant science students graduate from Cal Poly Pomona and go into plant pathology either in graduate school or as a career. But that requires a much more commercial-level plant disease lab experience for students than is currently available in the department's facilities.

"We can only do the very rudimentary type of projects," Mellano said. "We just don't have the lab space."

Terry Noriega, founder and president of Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. donated \$15,000 for the department to do a study and draft plans for the new lab.

Don Huntley subsequently gave \$400,000 for the project, while the James G. Boswell Foundation, which supports agricultural education, also gave \$400,000.

"We're grateful for the generosity of our donors," said Martin Sancho-Madriz, interim dean of the Huntley College of Agriculture. "Their support helps create better learning opportunities for the next generation of agriculture industry leaders."

Although funding for the plant health lab is secured, Mellano is still seeking funding for a position to staff the facility. But it's a good problem to have.

"Having a plant health lab is a great opportunity for our students to learn and gain hands-on experience working to diagnose plant diseases," she said.



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Participants spin the prize wheel at the Huntley College booth at Pumpkin Fest 2021.