

**Institute for Food and Agriculture
California Agricultural Technology Institute
Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology**

Annual Report 2020-2021

Submitted 27 July 2021

By

Dr. Susan M. Pheasant, Director

With assistance from Allyson Baldus in the Dean's Office



PROGRESS TOWARDS 2020-2021 GOALS

1. Customer Service

- a. **Maintain exceptional customer service to IFA faculty and staff with regards to all post-award financial management and reporting.**
 - i. **ARI**
 - ii. **All other grants**
 - iii. **Contracts**
- b. **Provide support to tenure track faculty**
 - i. **Grants and other fund-raising opportunities**
 - ii. **Scholarship opportunities**
 - iii. **Service opportunities**

This continued to be one of the highest priority goals for IFA and achievement of Part A is largely due to the excellent work performed by ASCII Allyson Baldus in post-award financial management for ARI grants, all other public and private grants, and contracts. Allyson maintained good working relationships throughout the Fresno State family including but not limited to the Fresno State Foundation, the Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs, the JCAST Dean's Office, Purchasing, Human Relations, and JCAST faculty in the departments of Animal Science and Agriculture Education, Food Science and Nutrition, and Agribusiness.

Within the three above mentioned departments, tenure track faculty include:

Department	Faculty Member	IFA Faculty Support
Agribusiness	Dr. Serhat Asci	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant post award support • Post Doc support
	Dr. Todd Lone Tenure Earned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARI grant support
	Dr. Jiaochen (Jason) Liang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited Speaker at 2020 Ag Business Management conference
Animal Science	Dr. Katy Tarrant Tenure earned early	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARI grant post award support • Grant post award support • Grant preparation and submission support • Invited Speaker at 2020 Ag Business Management conference • Office space in FAR Building
	Dr. Kyle Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant preparation and submission support • Invited Speaker at 2020 Ag Business Management conference
Agriculture Education	Dr. Avery Culbertson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag Discovery post award support • Ag Discovery event planning and implementation support • Grant preparation and submission support
	Dr. Sherri Freeman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant post award support • ACRS21 Advisory Committee member • Grant preparation and submission

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> support • Temporary office space in FAR Building
Food Science and Nutrition	Dr. Jamie Levitt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant preparation and submission support (ARI and others) • Invited Speaker and Session Manager at 2020 Ag Business Management conference
	Dr. Carmen Licon Cano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant preparation and submission support (ARI and others) • Grant post award support
	Dr. Sara Griffin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant post award support • Lab space in FAR Building
	Dr. Shabnam Pooya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant preparation but did not submit • Lab space in FAR Building (earmarked)
Plant Science	Dr. Jacob Wenger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARI Grant post award support • Contracts support • Lab space in FAR Building (earmarked)

Congratulations to Dr. Srimi Konduru and Dr. Pei Xu for being promoted to Full Professor.

2. Volume of Research and Contracts

Expand the number of applied research projects, scholarly activities, and contracts in which IFA faculty and staff engage.

- a. 50% increase in number of projects***
- b. 50% increase in dollars involved***
- c. Oversee 3-6 service-learning student projects per semester***

In the prior reporting year of 2019-2020, IFA facilitated \$10,575,687 of grants and contracts involving 34 faculty/staff members and 55 projects/applications. IFA grant/contract activity increased by 18% over the previous year in terms of number of projects and increased by 54% over the previous year in terms of total dollars involved.

2020-2021 Academic Year - IFA Grants and Contracts			
	Total Dollars	Total Projects / Applications	# Fresno State Faculty/Staff Involved
GRAND TOTALS	\$16,321,898	65	At least 36

Service Learning Students – During the Fall 2020 semester, 4 service learning students assisted with the 39th annual Agribusiness Management Conference and during Spring 2021 semester, 2 service learning students assisted with IFA operations. Additionally, IFA is employing 2 graduate and 3 undergraduate students during the summer to prepare for and serve as Camp Directors and Camp Staff for two sessions of Ag Kids' Camp that will take place in the next fiscal year (i.e., last week of July and first week of August 2021).

In the current reporting year of 2020-2021, IFA facilitated the following grants and contracts applications/awards/completions involving 37 different Principal Investigators/Directors across 66 projects:

2020-2021 IFA Grants and Contracts	Status	Total Dollars	% Total Dollars	# Projects	% Total Count	# Fresno State Faculty/ Staff Engaged
	Pending					
	• ARI	\$0	0	0	0%	0
	• Other	\$6,268,006	38%	11	38%	18
	Active					
	• ARI	\$2,336,636	14%	20	20%	14
	• Other	\$2,423,706	15%	15	15%	9
	Completed					
	• ARI	\$132,265	1%	1	1%	1
	• Other	\$63,471	0%	4	0%	3
	Not Funded					
	• ARI	\$938,054	6%	7	6%	6
	• Other	\$4,159,759	25%	7	25%	5
2020-2021	GRAND TOTALS	\$16,321,898	100%	65	100%	36
2019-2020	GRAND TOTALS	\$10,575,687	100%	55	100%	34
2018-2019	GRAND TOTAL	\$1,515,777	100%	18	100%	14
2019-2020						
	Status	Total Dollars	% Total Dollars	# Projects	% Total Count	
	Pending	\$5,014,481	47%	18	33%	
	Active	\$3,055,270	29%	24	44%	
	Completed	\$104,201	1%	8	15%	
	Not Funded	\$2,401,735	23%	7	13%	

- “active” status is counted over the life of the grant so a multi-year grant will be attributed in multiple years of center annual reports
- Note: nearly \$1m in ARI applications not funded

3. Scope of Research and Contracts

Broaden and enhance collaborative research and outreach efforts across departments, centers/institutes, and colleges/schools within Fresno State.

- 25% increase in number of unique collaborators involved***
- Work with at least one additional center/institute and one additional college/school.***
- DASH – Digital Agriculture Solutions Hub***

d. Food Family Farm Month

- **Collaborations Across Campus**
 - The number of unique collaborators within Fresno State increased by 2 and includes applications/projects involving College of Science and Math, College of Engineering, and the College of Humanities.
 - The number of unique collaborators outside of Fresno State includes faculty at Colorado State University, Ohio State University, Texas A&M Kingsville, CSU Stanislaus, and Cal Poly SLO among others
- **DASH – Digital Agriculture Solutions Hub**
 - Progress appeared to stutter with budget and staffing uncertainties. It is our hope to resume this effort in the latter half of 2021. Resumes were collected for the majority of JCAST faculty and are ready for entry into DASH upon further training of student assistants.
- **Food Family Farm Month – 2nd annual**
 - Even with no in-person events, the 2nd annual Food Family and Farm Month featured 30 JCAST events during the latter part of October and leading up to Thanksgiving. This is 5 more events than during the inaugural year. [FFF \(fresnostate.edu\)](http://FFF.fresnostate.edu)

4. Outreach

Actively pursue opportunities to participate in outreach programs and industry meetings that reflect IFA's core expertise and continue to expand the client base associated with the Institute's mission, thereby building greater awareness of IFA's capabilities in support of California agriculture.

- The Institute for Food and Agriculture once again coordinated the JCAST presence (virtual) within the educational sessions of World Ag Expo. Sessions were typically pre-recorded with live Q and A available during the days of the World Ag Expo and available thereafter. [Find Sessions - World Ag Expo 2021 \(mapyourshow.com\)](http://mapyourshow.com)
- IFA Student Assistant Morgan Henson along with support from students Cameron Standridge and Victoria Tolin prepared Ag in a Bag as a new virtual learning experience for kids: [Ag In A Bag \(fresnostate.edu\)](http://AgInABag.fresnostate.edu). A number of ag/ag science topics will be available via a virtual format featuring instruction and activities presented by Fresno State students. These are free and available to all with wifi access. There are some supplies associated with these activities. The supplies are readily available around most homes but are also being provided in an all inclusive bag for sale at the Gibson Farm Market for \$20.
 - Beef Week
 - Soil Week
 - Plant Week
 - Dairy Week
 - Water Week (done in collaboration with California Water Institute)
- Dr. Pheasant and four master's/undergraduate students visited the Fairmont School in Sanger, CA to learn about their program in which all 600 K-8 students experience at least 1 hour/week of agricultural studies.

5. Conference

Develop and implement in virtual format the annual Agribusiness Management Conference in collaboration with stakeholders, the agribusiness community and academic professionals to present timely, relevant topics that are relevant to the Central Valley agricultural community at large.

The 39th annual Agribusiness Management Conference ([Ag Business Conference \(fresnostate.edu\)](http://Ag Business Conference (fresnostate.edu))) was held virtually and consisted of 7 sessions over a 4-week period within Food Family and Farm Month. Faculty, student, community, and ag industry experts addressed the following topics:

- Agricultural Economic Outlook – 2020 Perspectives and 2021 Possibilities
- United Nations Sustainability – A Production Agriculture Perspective
- Crafting Leaders for the Future: Certifying Employability Skills through Experiential Learning
- Wine Sales Analytics, Economics, and Consumption Changes; Wine Industry Adaptations Due to COVID-19
- Food Security/Insecurity: United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Providing the Food Experience in 2020
- Artificial Intelligence and Big Data in Agribusiness

6. Communications

Design and implement a communications program in collaboration with college and university experts and other center directors that highlights applied research taking place within JCAST.

- a. ***Three centers website portal***
- b. ***IFA website***
- c. ***Social media formats maintained with regular content***
- d. ***Quarterly newsletter***
- e. ***Applied research and researcher features – posters, postcards, videos, etc.***

Considerable student time effort was expended on reconfiguring the IFA website. It remains a work in progress. Given the pandemic conditions, no work was conducted on social media formats or newsletter. Given the university's in-progress revamp of the website look and feel, no work was done on a three centers portal. Interviews were conducted with about one dozen faculty actively involved in grant projects/research. These interviews are serving as the basis for faculty posters and postcards disseminated at the Gibson Farm Market. The posters feature faculty backgrounds, time at Fresno State, and research/outreach projects along with identifying their favorite ice cream flavor. The postcards typically feature a faculty member on one side and a student or recipe utilizing products grown on the University Agricultural Laboratory on the other.

7. IFA Operations

a. ***Training***

i. ***Maintain required university trainings***

- Two sessions of the fall 2020 Agribusiness Management Conference were specifically devoted to UN Sustainable Development Goals. In the first, Dr. Julie Olson Buchanan announced Fresno State's status as a new member of the United Nations Global Compact. IFA student assistant Morgan Henson led the collaborative design process for an introductory video that was shown during the conference as well as at the beginning of spring semester at each college's welcome back forum as well as the all campus managers' forum. [United Nations Global Compact - YouTube](#)
 - Susan is working closely with Dr. Nancy Van Leuven, Dean Julie Olson Buchanan, Suzanne Abrams and others to prepare Fresno State's first report to the United Nations as a member university.
 - Susan also served on the JCAST committee led by Dr. Annette Levi to benchmark current efforts by the departments and the University Agricultural Laboratory attributable to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. This work served as a model for the other colleges and units.
 - **JCAST Inventory Working Group** – led by Dr. Athanasios Alexandrou, the three center directors along with technicians Stella Sommer and Geoff Devershian and Information Technology staff crafted the initial draft of an Inventory Database and the accompanying policy. Both are under review by other JCAST entities.
 - **Internal Review Board Committee** – JCAST – again led by Dr. Athanasios Alexandrou, the three center directors are working on formalizing an IRB Jordan College Committee. The effort is under review by JCAST research committee.
 - Dr. Pheasant serves as the secretary for the **Fresno Chapter of California Women in Agriculture**.
 - Dr. Pheasant serves as the advisory for the **Fresno State Chapter of Alpha Zeta** – Cal Epsilon (national agricultural honorary)
- Strategic Plan
 - No progress to date
- Documentation
 - Allyson Baldus and student assistants consistently created and updated "brain books" for all events and basic institute activities. A significant effort was invested to achieve this documentation. As new staff were onboarded at other centers, Ms. Baldus made her "brain book" available.
- Facilities
 - The building has been renamed Food and Agriculture Research but the signage has yet to be changed.
 - Security cameras and lighting updates were deemed to expensive at this time so no changes occurred.
 - Grant for the podcast/editing rooms was not awarded. Faculty/staff have since moved into those rooms. Re-applying for the grant was not deemed a priority for the next grant cycle.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Business Unit = FRSNO - CSU Fresno, Fiscal Year = 2020, Period = 12

Financial Summary As of Period

Time run: 7/13/2021 1:03:29 PM

Dept Fdescr	Fund Fdescr	Class	Acct Cat Fdescr	Current Budget	Actuals	Encumbrances	Balance Available	% Used Fiscal Year		
34279 - Institute for Food&Agriculture	90000 - TF-CSU Operating Fund	00000	580 - Other Financial Sources	(2,053.08)	(2,053.08)	0.00	0.00	100%		
			601 - Regular Salaries and Wages		1,890.00	0.00	(1,890.00)			
			604 - Communications		1,630.00	0.00	(1,630.00)			
			616 - Information Technology Costs		1,738.40	0.00	(1,738.40)			
			619 - Equipment Group		4,053.90	0.00	(4,053.90)			
			660 - Misc. Operating Expenses	3,575.87	5,444.61	0.00	(1,868.74)	152%		
		27505	660 - Misc. Operating Expenses		221.85	(0.00)	(221.85)			
		27721	601 - Regular Salaries and Wages	165,624.00	161,276.26	0.00	4,347.74	97%		
			603 - Benefits Group	69,717.53	69,717.53	0.00	0.00	100%		
			604 - Communications		601.44	0.00	(601.44)			
			660 - Misc. Operating Expenses	151,188.00	717.20	0.00	150,470.80	0%		
		COV19	617 - Services from Other Funds/Agencies Group			(54.36)	0.00	54.36		
			660 - Misc. Operating Expenses		387.25	0.00	(387.25)			
			90000 - TF-CSU Operating Fund Total			388,052.32	245,571.00	0.00	142,481.32	63%
		34279 - Institute for Food&Agriculture Total				388,052.32	245,571.00	0.00	142,481.32	63%
Grand Total				388,052.32	245,571.00	0.00	142,481.32	63%		

Acct Type Fdescr is equal to 50 - Revenues , 60 - Expenditures
 and Dept Fdescr is equal to 34279 - Institute for Food&Agriculture
 and Fund Fdescr is equal to 90000 - TF-CSU Operating Fund
 and Bus Unit Fdescr is equal to FRSNO - CSU Fresno
 and Fiscal Year is equal to 2020

SPACE AND EQUIPMENT UTILIZATION

1. The IFA staff are soon to resume (i.e. post working from home per pandemic) on campus operation in the newly named Food and Agriculture Research building (formerly the California Water Institute Building and formerly the Criminology Laboratory) at the NE corner of Bullard and Cedar.
 - As of 30 June, one CIT employee remains in the building and two employees of the College Readiness-Early Assessment Program are also housed in the building.
 - Dr. Sara (Shinn) Griffin and students are actively using space designated as the
 - Expected additions in the coming year include:
 - Dr. Jake Wenger
 - Dr. Shabnam Pooyah and Dr. Lisa Herzig initiating a food nutrition and analysis laboratory.
2. IFA Conference Room in the Old CATI Building (NW corner of Barstow and Chestnut)
 - IFA is looking forward to repopulation on campus and being able to utilize the space for events such as small group trainings, faculty meetings, guest speakers, etc. by both industry partners as well as JCAST faculty, staff, and students. Reservations could be made via an online calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

At this time, the Institute for Food and Agriculture does not have an active Advisory Committee. IFA is once again in a “rebuilding” mode with a) campus repopulation per the Covid19 Pandemic and b) about to start the hiring process for an Administrative Support Coordinator II position. Once IFA has reached a place where we have qualified staff and suitable physical space where we can feel comfortable opening ourselves up to the scrutiny and recommendations of industry experts, we will pursue development of an Advisory Committee.

GOVERNING POLICIES

At this time, the Institute for Food and Agriculture currently does not have written governing policies. Hence, during the past academic year, there were no changes.

2021-2022 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Customer Service

- a. Maintain exceptional customer service to IFA faculty and staff with regards to all post-award financial management and reporting.
 - i. ARI
 - ii. All other grants
 - iii. Contracts
 - iv. Projects
- b. Provide support to tenure track faculty
 - i. Grants and other fund-raising opportunities
 - ii. Scholarship opportunities
 - iii. Service opportunities

2. Volume of Research and Contracts

Expand the number of applied research projects, scholarly activities, and contracts in which IFA faculty and staff engage.

- a. 20% increase in number of projects
- b. 20% increase in dollars involved
- c. 10% increase in number of unique collaborators involved

3. Special Projects and Committees

Broaden and enhance collaborative research and outreach efforts across departments, centers/institutes, and colleges/schools within Fresno State.

- a. DASH – Digital Agriculture Solutions Hub
- b. Food Family Farm Month
- c. United Nations Global Compact – contribute to initial member report
- d. UAL Committee
- e. UAL Spreadsheets and Graphical Data Presentations
- f. Oversee 2-4 service-learning students/projects and/or student assistants

4. Outreach and Communications

- a. Actively pursue opportunities to participate in outreach programs and industry meetings that reflect IFA's core expertise and continue to expand the client base associated with the Institute's mission, thereby building greater awareness of IFA's capabilities in support of California agriculture.
- b. IFA website up to date with new university look and feel
- c. Applied research and researcher features – posters, postcards, videos, etc.

5. IFA Operations

- a. Training
 - i. Rebuild staffing expertise with approval to hire a new ASC II
 - ii. Committee Work – ASCII and Director each serve on at least one college or university committee (preferably a hiring committee)
- b. Strategic Plan
 - i. Develop 3-year strategic plan
 - ii. Based on draft strategic plan, recruit advisory team members to finalize

ANCILLARY UNIT STATUS FORM

Name of Ancillary Unit: Institute for Food and Agriculture (IFA)

Director of Ancillary Unit: Susan Pheasant

Department & College / School / Division: Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

<input type="checkbox"/> New Application Applying for Initial Approval <small>(See APM 110)</small> http://www.csufresno.edu/aps/apm/110.pdf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renewal Application Status of Ancillary Unit: <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Continued Developmental Year, ___ of 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Inactive & Applying for Renewal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Report Enclosed
---	---	---

ASSIGNED TIME: Is assigned time involved for faculty in your department or program? Yes No

Name of Faculty Member	Semester Assigned	Number of WTUs
<input type="checkbox"/> Assigned Time Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Assigned Time Not Approved	X _____	_____
	Signature of Department Chair / Program Coordinator	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Assigned Time Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Assigned Time Not Approved	X _____	_____
	Signature of Dean	Date

ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES:
 If assigned time is given to faculty and/or staff outside the Ancillary Unit's home department, please list the individual's name below, the amount of assigned time granted, and obtain the signatures of the individual's Department Chair and Dean. **Please attach additional signatures if necessary.**

Name: _____	Semester & WTUs: _____
Home Dept: _____	Home College/School: _____
Dept Chair: _____	Dean: _____
X _____ <i>Dept. Chair's Signature & Date</i>	X _____ <i>Dean's Signature and Date</i>

WORKSHOPS / NON-CREDIT COURSES / CERTIFICATES:
Centers/ Institutes cannot offer courses for university credit. Please identify all non-credit courses and any certificates offered by the unit. Attach additional pages if necessary. _____

APPROVALS:

Chair, Recommend Approval? Yes No

X _____
Dept. Chair's Signature & Date

Dean, Recommend Approval? Yes No

DocuSigned by: _____ 8/5/2021

X Dr. Dennis Ng _____
Dean's Signature and Date

2449F964D4B0406

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Recommend approval? Yes No

X _____
Provost's Signature _____
Date

President: Approved, 1Year Approve Continued Developmental Period Not Approved

X _____
President's Signature _____
Date

Other _____

Please submit additional documentation called for in APM 110 with this form to the Office of the Provost, M/S ML 54.