

THE CATCH WIRE

A Special Holiday Issue

Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
Department of Viticulture and Enology

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December 2021



FRESNO  **STATE**

Viticulture and Enology

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2021 Renovated study space in the Viticulture and Enology Library

On the Cover

Holiday Image (Photo credit: Creative Commons)

Join Our E-List

Chair and Director's Message

Dr. Anil Shrestha, Chair



I am proud to share the highlights of our accomplishments for 2021. As I reflect upon this year, a lot of exciting things have happened in the [Department of Viticulture and Enology](#). After a year's break due to the pandemic, we were finally able to welcome our students back on campus and resume in-person classes in Fall 2021. We are fully staffed in terms of faculty, and now have renewed interest in the program

as evidenced by our steady student numbers. Our new curriculum in both viticulture and enology was approved this year and will be implemented in Fall 2022. This curriculum will help serve our students better as it includes several new courses specific to the latest industry trends and needs. It will also allow our students to take some of the required and elective classes within the department. In addition, our new minors' program (in both viticulture and enology) has also been initiated, and we completed a successful review of our undergraduate program.

Our graduate curriculum has also been reinstated and revised and we currently have 13 graduate students in our department. Three graduate students completed their degrees this year and one of them received the prestigious 2021 Outstanding Thesis Award from the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. Our reputation for hands-on learning is an important aspect of our educational mission and the campus winery and vineyard operations continue to be tremendous resources for our students and faculty. We are also pleased that an overwhelming majority of our students are now taking advantage of internships within the industry, while some students choose to gain valuable research experience by working with their professors. Upon graduation, most of our graduates report that they are successful in obtaining employment relevant to their degrees.

Throughout 2021 our faculty have been very successful in obtaining research grants, publishing scientific papers, presenting at international, national, and state scientific meetings, and giving outreach talks at various grower and industry meetings. Our students also have presented their research findings at various conferences and have been recipients of national and state level scholarships.

This fall, one of our long-time faculty members, Dr. Sanliang Gu, retired as we gained a new viticulture faculty member, Dr. Cliff Yu. Ms. Cynthia Wood, after serving the program for several decades, also announced her retirement from the Viticulture and Enology Research Center. We cannot thank them enough for their contributions to the academic and outreach programs of the Department. They will be greatly missed. In closing, as I enter my last semester as Chair of the Department in 2022, I cannot thank our students, faculty, staff, alumni, industry partners, students' parents, donors, guest speakers in classes, volunteers, and friends enough for helping us successfully get through 2021. I look forward to a greater 2022.

Dr. Stephan Sommer, Director



On behalf of faculty, staff, and students in viticulture and enology, we would like to extend our holiday greetings to you. This (2021) has been an interesting year full of challenges and adaptations facing the continuous global pandemic, but also significant progress and innovative solutions that leave us in a much better place now compared to where we were a year ago.

We would like to share a few highlights with you today and point out the achievements that we are proud of when we look back on the last twelve months. Those range from hiring new faculty and staff to starting construction and renovation projects that have long been overdue. Processes on a university campus have the tendency to take a little longer and might be slightly more complicated than one would expect but with the great support from our alumni, friends, and industry partners we are getting it all done in the end.

We would like to thank all the supporters of the program and our stakeholders in the industry and our community. You are making a real difference for our students and are an essential part of our mission to shape the future of agriculture in California!

So while we are telling you the story of our major achievements here, we also reflect on the tasks ahead and the vision for the viticulture and enology program at Fresno State. We will continue working on facility updates and curriculum improvements to provide our students with the outstanding learning environment they deserve. The next year will be focused on major projects that were on hold during the pandemic and we are excited to start this next chapter. Please stay in touch with our faculty, staff, and students as we start the new year. Great things are ahead of us!

We wish you and your family a happy holiday season and a successful year 2022.



Our Viticulture and Enology Team

Faculty and Instructors

Anil Shrestha, Faculty, Department Chair
Weed science, vineyard ecology, organic farming

Sara Azevedo, Lecturer
Wine and brandy regulations

Luca Brillante, Faculty, Bronco Wine Co.
Viticulture Chair
Vineyard management, precision viticulture

Britt Foster, Faculty
Viticulture and Enology Library

Miguel Pedroza, Faculty
Sensory evaluation, analytical methods

Qun (Kristy) Sun, Faculty
Wine chemistry, winery management

Kevin Smith, Winery Marketing and Lecturer
Winery business and marketing

Sonet Van Zyl, Faculty
Table and raisin grape production and marketing

William Whalen, Lecturer
Wine fermentation, wine microbiology

Cliff Yu, Faculty
Viticulture, grapevine physiology

Emeriti—In Memoriam

Kenneth Fugelsang (FERP), Professor Emeritus of Enology

Vincent E. Petrucci, Professor Emeritus of Viticulture, and former Director, Viticulture and Enology Research Center

Staff

Stephan Sommer, Director, Viticulture and Enology Research Center
Fermentation science and wine stability

Leah Groves Vineyard Manager

Eve Laroche-Pinel, Viticulture Postdoctoral Research Associate

Andrea Magdaleno, Administrative Assistant to the Department Chair

Tom Montgomery, Winemaker

Cherisse Villarreal, Library Assistant, Viticulture and Enology Library

Rebecca White, Administrative Assistant to the Director

Emily Wilkins, Instructional Support Technician

Cynthia Wood, Program Specialist, Outreach and Events



Viticulture and Enology Emeriti

Sayed Badr, Professor Emeritus of Viticulture, and former Chair, Plant Science Department

Sanliang Gu, Professor Emeritus of Viticulture, and former Ricchiuti Chair of Viticulture Research

Barry Gump, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry and former Adjunct Faculty of Enology

James Kennedy, Professor and Chair Emeritus, Department of Viticulture and Enology; and former Director, Viticulture and Enology Research Center

Carlos J. Muller, Professor Emeritus of Enology

Roy Thornton, Professor Emeritus, Enology

Robert L. Wample, Professor & Chair Emeritus of Viticulture, and former Director, Viticulture and Enology Research Center

Viticulture and Enology Industry Advisory Board

Dianne Nury, IAB Chair, Vie-Del Company

Cathy Ference, IAB Vice Chair, Constellation Brands

Sal Arriola, Bronco Wine Company

Dwayne Cardoza, Raisin Bargaining Association

Greg Coleman, E & J Gallo Winery

John Crossland, Crossland Vineyards

Jerry DiBuduo, DiBuduo Land Management Co.

Nat DiBuduo, Alliance Ag Services

Matt Frank, Trincherro Family Estates

Wayde Kirschenman, Kirschenman Enterprises

Harry Overly, Sun-Maid Growers of California

Brott Ritzel, The Wine Group

Viticulture and Enology Newsletter Editorial Staff

Andrea Magdaleno

Cynthia Wood

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<http://fresnostate.edu/jcast/ve>

FRESNO STATE
Viticulture and Enology



Remembering Friends 2021

Bill Aten (1943-2021)

William "Bill" Aten, a Fresno State graduate (1966), served as president of the Ag One board in 2002. He was always ready to share his insight and expertise and wasn't afraid of a good challenge. He and his wife Nancy enjoyed their involvement with the Department of Viticulture and Enology, especially discussing wines and winemaking with students. Remembrances in Bill's memory may be made to [Ag One](#).

Brad Coleman (1960-2021)

Brad Coleman attended Fresno State and took viticulture courses from Vincent Petrucci. He graduated from Fresno State in 1984 with a degree in ag business before beginning his career as a winegrower and farmer. He was a lifelong resident of Stanislaus county. Brad was born to Jim Coleman and Susann Gallo Coleman, and was a grandson of Julio and Aileen Gallo. He will be missed by many friends and family. [Gifts in memory of Brad](#) (to establish a scholarship to support students studying agricultural business or viticulture) may be given through Ag One.

Harry Karle (1927-2021)

Dr. Karle was Fresno State's first graduate with a viticulture-related B.S. degree in 1950 and continued to be an avid supporter of its agricultural programs and students for 75 years until his death on April 9 at the age of 94. In 1951, Dr. Karle became the university's first vineyard foreman, before pursuing his postgraduate and doctoral plant science degrees at the University of California, Davis in 1956. After returning to Fresno, he accepted a faculty position in the Plant Science Department in 1962, and served as its chair from 1969 until 1986. He assumed the position of assistant dean of the farm and mechanized agriculture in 1986 before being promoted to associate dean in 1987.

Upon retirement from Fresno State in 1991, Dr. Karle was often seen at university events. He also was a strong supporter of the Viticulture and Enology Library—a library that his mentor and friend Vincent Petrucci helped establish with support from the viticulture and enology alumni. Dr. Karle's friends will always remember his service, kindness, smile, and friendship. Remembrances may be made to the Ag One [Harry P. Karle Family Endowment](#). [Read more](#).

Peter Kezirian (1953-2021)

Peter was a Fresno State alum (viticulture), farmer, and friend who gave countless hours of support to our program, the Viticulture and Enology Alumni Club (member and former president), and

Viticulture Club. In addition to helping with FFA, or the alumni's "A Celebration of Wine" fundraiser for our viticulture and enology library, Pete was well-known for preparing the delicious shish kebab and rice pilaf meal for the popular Viticulture Club BBQ when it was held on campus in the old judging pavilion. His caring spirit and friendship will be remembered and missed by many.

Jean-Mari Peltier (1955-2021)

Jean Mari-Peltier graduated summa cum laude from Fresno State, majoring in agricultural communications. Throughout her career in agriculture, she held many leadership positions, including the National Grape and Wine Initiative (now NGRA) and remained a friend to our program. She was a vibrant role model and friend to many. Jean Mari-Peltier passed away peacefully on September 24, 2021 at her home.

Sandy Rocca (1935- 2021)

Sandy Rocca's first love may have been being a farmer's wife and mother, but she also will be remembered by her friends at Fresno State as an individual who made many personal contributions to our university, Jordan College, and viticulture and enology program. Her service on many committees, including the Raisin Wives (to support student scholarships) or the Viticulture and Enology Alumni fundraiser (to support the Viticulture and Enology Library) are just a few examples of her dedication and support of Fresno State and our students. Sandy was a friend to all. Her caring, joyful nature was a meaningful part of our program's history. She will be missed by those who knew and worked with her. Contributions may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church, 4636 W. Dakota Ave., Fresno, CA 93722 or [Ag One](#) in support of the Department of Viticulture and Enology.

James (Jim) Wulf (1934-2021)

Jim Wulf was one of Dr. Vincent Petrucci's first viticulture students in the mid-1950's. As a student, he served as the vice president of the Viticulture Club and as an alumnus, president of the Viticulture Alumni Club. Jim's service to the University continued through Ag One where he served as president in 1990 and on the Ag Foundation Board where he was chairman. Jim had a vast knowledge of the grape industry and enjoyed sharing his knowledge with students and interacting with faculty. Jim was featured in the November 2013 issue of "The [Catch Wire](#)," the Department of Viticulture and Enology's newsletter (pg.10-11). Jim and his wife Marjorie created the Ag One—[James P. and Marjorie N. Wulf](#) endowment in support of students pursuing a degree in the Department of Viticulture and Enology. Jim will be deeply missed.

Our sincere condolences go out to all of our friends and families who have lost loved ones this year.

2021—A Year in Review

Virtual Alumni and Friends Reunion in January

Cheers to our Fresno State alumni! In January of 2021, our annual Viticulture and Enology Alumni and Friends Reunion, normally held in Sacramento during the Unified Wine and Grape Symposium, was held virtually. Many of our alumni from all over the state joined us on Zoom for program updates, trivia, social networking, and Fresno State wine!

Extraordinary Teaching in Extraordinary Times

Dr. Kristy Sun, enology faculty, received a special Provost's Award for "Extraordinary Teaching in Extraordinary Times" for her efforts to ensure that our wine analysis methods and introduction to enology students received the education they deserve, in spite of challenging (COVID-19) times.

Contributions to Professional Organizations

In January, **Dr. Anil Shrestha**, Chair of the Department of Viticulture and Enology received kudos for assuming the role of President of the California Weed Science Society (CWSS) — a good example of how our faculty and staff are connected to our industry, giving us an opportunity to engage, contribute, and serve the agricultural community. [Read more.](#)

Groundbreaking: Viticulture Greenhouse

On January 29, Fresno State President Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval announced the groundbreaking of the new viticulture greenhouse during a [virtual live ceremony](#). The event was held on the footprint of the 30-foot by 30-foot greenhouse that will be located at the center of the campus viticulture and enology complex. Drs. Dennis Nef (Jordan College dean), **Stephan Sommer**, **Sonet Van Zyl**, and **Anil Shrestha** also participated. Fundraising for the \$250,000 project began nearly a decade ago by the Fresno State Viticulture Club, which also worked with the Fresno State Department of Viticulture and Enology, alumni, industry partners, and the Jordan College. Read [full story](#) and watch the [livestream construction](#) video on our website.

Virtual Viticulture and Enology Resume Workshop for Students

Students interested in seeking careers in the grape and wine industry attended a virtual workshop in February featuring alumni representatives from the grape and wine industry. This annual event helps students prepare for career fairs, interviews, and careers.

Weekly Virtual Seminar Series each Semester

In February and September of 2021, the Department of Viticulture and Enology kicked off their virtual Viticulture-Enology 199 Seminar Series held weekly each semester. Organized by faculty **Dr. Luca Brillante**, this virtual class features experts and leading members of the grape and wine industry on Wednesdays at noon. Students and interested alumni and industry members attend this informative series. Check out the 2021 [Spring](#) and [Fall](#) presenters.



Find more stories on our Facebook page

2021 – A Year in Review

Jordan College Announces 7th Honors Cohort

Congratulations to two of our viticulture and enology students, Karley Curtis (Fresno) and Marnelle Salie (Oakdale) who were selected to be a part of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology's Seventh Honors Cohort. These outstanding students are taking honors courses and are each working with a faculty mentor on a research project. [Read more.](#)

Alumni Wine Project Goes to Space

On February 20, a NASA rocket was launched into space that included a grape juice fermentation experiment created by three Fresno State viticulture and enology alums who currently work for [Michael David Winery](#) in Lodi, i.e. Derek DeVries, Jeff Farthing, and Adam Mettler. The experiment was part of the Northrop Grumman CRI5-mission payload that headed to the [International Space Station](#) and returned to Earth on the SpaceX-22 in June. Way to go, Dogs!

Spring Commitment to Success Series Featuring Alumni

Dr. Kristy Sun created a new virtual alumni series designed to introduce our students to Fresno State alumni winemakers and viticulturists throughout the state and country. Stephanie Terrizzi (Giornata), Sara Fowler (Peju Wines), Rob Lacy (F. Korbel Bros.), Tian Tian (UCCE Kern County), Tara Gomez (Kita Wines), Dustin Moore (Coastal Range Vineyards), Herb Quady (Quady North) shared their advice and experiences during four virtual sessions held in March and April.

Enology Alumnus Receives Top Dog Award

In April, Marcello Monticelli, retired master winemaker and vice president of North Coast winemaking for E & J Gallo Winery was named the 2021 Top Dog Distinguished Alumni by the Fresno State Alumni Association, the highest honor bestowed upon an alumnus of Fresno State. We were honored to host Marcello during a tour of our enology facilities where he met with several students, staff, and faculty. The Top Dog ceremony was televised on ABC 30. [Watch here.](#) [Read more](#) about Monticelli and the Top Dog awards.

Education and Research Working Together

For the second year, **Dr. Sonet Van Zyl's** viticulture raisin processing class helped International Fruit Genetics gather data on how different raisins fared while being de-stemmed and processed at our campus facility.

Fresno State Winery Announces Wine Awards

Kevin Smith and the [Fresno State Winery](#) announced its first medals of the year at the San Francisco Chronicle International Wine Competition in April. The student-made wines under the direction of winemaker **Tom Montgomery** won one gold medal and three silver medals in the largest North American wine competition that evaluated nearly 5,700 wines from over 1,000 wineries.



2021—A Year in Review

Industry Partnerships Support Student Learning

This spring, viticulture students helped plant 200 grafted Grenache grapevines in the Fresno State vineyards that were generously donated by Duarte Nursery. Whether its the vineyard, winery, or labs, industry partnerships such as this help us prepare our students for the real world by giving our students hands-on learning experiences.



Ag Scholars Award to Deborah Parker Wong

In May, viticulture and enology graduate student Deborah Parker Wong was among four Jordan College students who were presented with agricultural scholar awards at a virtual ceremony hosted by 23rd District Assemblyman Jim Patterson. Wong works under the direction of **Dr. Miguel Pedroza**. [Read more.](#)

Library Renovation Increases Study Space

Donations from a successful 2020 crowdfunding campaign and funds from VERC enabled us to renovate and expand study space in our viticulture and enology library this spring. This important collection that is primarily funded by the Viticulture and Enology Alumni Association (VEAA) is used by students and faculty, and is open to the public. [Watch the students' thank you video.](#)

Graduate Students Defend Theses

Three of our graduate students virtually defended their theses this Spring. Congratulations to Kori Munk and Robert Herrell (faculty advisor **Dr. Miguel Pedroza**) and Antonios Marinos (faculty advisor **Dr. Kristy Sun**).

Celebrating our Graduates in May

The University was able to hold an in-person outdoor commencement ceremony to recognize the Classes of 2020 and 2021. Our department also celebrated our graduates during a virtual event and a special [online presentation](#).

Special Blend to Honor the 2021 Graduating Class

Fresno State Winery announced a special red wine blend to honor the 2021 graduating class. Made from several of the winery's classic varietals, grapes were harvested in the fall of 2019 from the campus vineyard and other fine wine regions around the state. [Full story.](#) [Watch on ABC30.](#)

2021 Outstanding Student Awards

We are proud to announce that **Dr. Miguel Pedroza's** graduate student [Robert Herrell](#) received the Outstanding Thesis award from the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology in 2021. Enology student Henry Kampen was this year's recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Student

Achiever Award presented by the Department of Viticulture and Enology.

Jordan Honors Student Spotlights on Research

Viticulture and enology honors students [Abelardo Rodriguez](#) and [Salvador Pineda](#) were featured in Jordan College student spotlights this year. Read more about Cetto's research on wine aroma, under the direction of **Dr. Stephan Sommer**, and Pineda's research project on table grapes with faculty advisor **Dr. Sonet Van Zyl**.

A Full Bodied Experience

In May, Brenna Pratt (class of 2021) was showcased in a [video](#) entitled, "A Full Bodied Experience: Life on the Farm." This video, featured on the Fresno State website, follows Brenna's experience as an enology student in our department.

Friday Night Flights

This summer, **Kevin Smith** and the Fresno State Winery were able to resume "[Friday Night Flights](#)," at the Fresno State Gibson Farm Market where community members can meet our students and sample our student-produced wines.

Well Represented at 2021 ASEV Annual Meeting

The viticulture and enology program was well represented at the virtual American Society of Viticulture and Enology (ASEV) Symposium in June. Oral presentations were given by **Drs. Luca Brillante** and **Stephan Sommer**. In addition, two faculty and four graduate students presented posters, and three students gave flash talks on their research. For details, [click here](#). Congratulations to graduate student Khuswinder Singh who was also awarded an ASEV scholarship. Khuswinder works under the direction of **Dr. Luca Brillante**.

2021—A Year in Review

The Importance of Industry Connections

Fresno State alumni Mike Tyndal and Nat Dellavalle hosted Jordan College faculty and students at their Madera vineyard to witness beneficial mite applications using drone technology, and to observe the mechanical harvest of DOV raisins. These type of opportunities are valuable and help us maintain strong connections with our industry.

Back Together Again

When in-person classes resumed this fall, our students, staff, and faculty enjoyed games, root beer floats, and getting to know one another on the lawn during the Department of Viticulture and Enology's Welcome Back event in September.

Clubs are Back in Action

After a long hiatus due to the pandemic, both of our student clubs were able to resume their meetings and activities in the fall of 2021. The Enology Society is once again hosting educational tastings in a modified capacity and the Viticulture Club is back to work planning events and travel to industry meetings. In November the Viticulture Club successfully hosted their fundraiser, the Fall Harvest BBQ.

Hard Work in the Winery Featuring Honors Student Karley Curtis

Karley Curtis is an enology student in the Jordan College Honors Cohort who isn't afraid of hard work. [Read more](#) about her role in the Fresno State Winery as a student winemaker, and her research project with **Dr. Kristy Sun**.

Crowdfunding and Day of Giving (D.O.G.) Campaigns in 2021

This October our department and research center conducted two crowdfunding campaigns to help us fund 1) student industry field trips to grape and wine regions within the state, and 2) renovations to our outdoor event space. Thanks to all of the donors who contributed to these noteworthy causes. Field trips are expected to resume in 2022, and plans to renovate the gazebo and lawn area is expected to begin next spring. In November, the university also held its annual 24-hour "Day of Giving" where donors may select the programs they wish to support. Watch our [D.O.G. student video](#).

Fulfilling Our Reputation for Hands-on Training

Faculty use our campus vineyards and winery to prepare our students for the real world. Other hands-on experiences include **William Whalen's** fermentation class where students create beer, wine, cider and mead products from start to finish.

Entrepreneurship and Faculty Fellows

Drs Luca Brillante and Kristy Sun were named faculty fellows in the [California Water Institute](#). **Sun** is also part of an elite group of faculty in the [Johanson Entrepreneurship Faculty Fellow](#) program at Fresno State.

Dissemination of Information at Professional Meetings and Events

Our faculty continue to publish their research findings, serve on several industry committees, and give presentations at various industry events throughout the year. Recent events include the Sustainable Ag Expo (**Dr. Anil Shrestha**), Winter Grape Day at UC Davis (**Dr. Cliff Yu**), and Tree and Vine Expo (**Dr. Luca Brillante**). Follow us on Facebook for details.

Applause for Alumni Winemaker Jesse Katz

Fresno State enology alum and Healdsburg winemaker Jesse Katz's six-liter bottle of "The Setting Wines" 2019 Glass Slipper Vineyard Cabernet sold for a record \$1 million at the Emeril Lagasse Foundation's Carnivale Du Vin auction in New Orleans on Nov. 6, 2021. Jesse is the founder of Aperture Cellars. Way to Go Alumni!



Year End Giving

Annual Giving to Support Students and Research

The **Viticulture and Enology Associates** is an ongoing fundraising effort designed to support the activities within California State University, Fresno's viticulture and enology program that fall outside of university and grant funding.

Under the direction of the department chair and research director, this funding is essential for us to promote our research and teaching programs and to extend our activities to the grape and wine industry. This includes our ability to participate at professional meetings such as the annual Unified Wine and Grape Symposium and even our ability to provide and/or maintain research and teaching supplies, equipment, and facilities used by our students and faculty.

The ongoing struggle with our state budget has made this supplementary funding more important than ever.

For over six decades our faculty have successfully prepared students for careers in the grape and wine industry and have served the industry by providing practical grape and wine research. As a result, the industry has come to expect a high level of visibility and performance from our viticulture and enology academic and research programs.

We hope you will consider helping us maintain our quality programs by making an annual donation to our **Associates Fund. Every dollar makes a difference.**

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff, thank you for your continued support and generosity.

For more information, visit

<https://fresnostate.edu/jcast/ve/development>

Or contact:

ashrestha@csufresno.edu or ssommer@csufresno.edu

PLEDGE AND DONATE

Cheers to Our New Faculty and Staff



Dr. Cliff Yu joined the Department of Viticulture and Enology in the fall of 2021 as a Assistant Professor of Viticulture. He received his Ph.D. from UC Davis and his MS degree in viticulture and enology from Fresno State. Dr. Yu teaches viticulture courses and has published many research papers. For details visit fresnostate.edu/jcast/ve.



Dr. Eve Laroche-Pinel joined Dr. Luca Brillante's research team this fall as a viticulture postdoctoral research associate. Eve received her Ph.D. from Purpan Engineering School in France with a focus on vine water status monitoring using remote sensing data.



Meet **Emily Wilkens!** Emily joined our team this fall to support the research and instructional needs of the viticulture and enology faculty. She has years of industry experience in the California wine industry on the Central Coast and Central Valley specializing in wine production and laboratory techniques.

Calendar

Where You Can Find Us in 2022

- January 25-27—Unified Wine and Grape Symposium, Booth 934
- January 26—Fresno State Viticulture and Enology Alumni and Friends Reunion, Hyatt Regency Sacto
- February 3—Jordan College / USDA Harvesting Leaders of Tomorrow Career and Internship Fair, Fresno State
- February 5—FFA Vine Pruning Contest, Fresno State
- February 8-10—World Ag Expo, Tulare
- Spring TBA—Viticulture and Enology Alumni Association (VEAA) Annual Board Meeting and Membership Drive
- April 9—FFA Vine Judging Contest, Fresno State
- April 11-15—Spring Break, Fresno State
- May 20-21—Fresno State Convocation and Commencement Ceremonies
- June 19-22—ASEV Annual Meeting, San Diego
- July 30-Aug 3—ASHS Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- August 9 Tentative—Fresno State Grape Day

FRESNO STATE
Viticulture and Enology



A Toast to our Retirees



After 23 years of service to Fresno State, **Dr. Sanliang Gu** retired this fall 2021. Gu held the position of Ricchiuti Chair of Viticulture Research and also served as Professor of Viticulture for the Department of Viticulture and Enology where he conducted wine grape research and taught viticulture courses.

In 2004, Gu received the Outstanding Research and Scholarly Award from the Jordan College of Ag and in 1995 the American Society for Enology and Viticulture awarded him the Best Paper of the Year. For details about his career, visit:

<http://www.fresnostate.edu/jcast/ve/faculty-staff/s-gu.html>

After 40 years of service to the viticulture and enology program, **Cynthia Wood** will retire on December 31, 2021. During her career at Fresno State, Cynthia held administrative and outreach positions for VERC and the department and served many administrations beginning with Dr. Vincent E. Petrucci, and including Drs. Keith Striegler, Robert Wample, and James Kennedy. In 2016-2017, she received the Jordan College of Ag's Distinguished Service Award for her exceptional service and commitment to the college. For more info, visit:

<http://www.fresnostate.edu/jcast/ve/faculty-staff/c-wood.html>





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