

BOARD REPORT

NEW AG TECH DIRECTOR



Dr. Kaomine Vang brings his 16 years of experience in leadership, program development and research to Reedley College to serve as the first Agrifood Technology & Engineering Collaborative (AgTEC) Innovation Center Director. The AgTEC Innovation Center will house agriculture technology startups businesses, which will provide students throughout the region with hands on work experience. The

Center will also be a conduit to educated and train skilled personnel focusing on addressing critical issues in agriculture and assist in the research and development of new essential technologies in agriculture production systems. "We are in an exciting time where technology touches everything," Dr. Vang said. "Agriculture is a frontier where we will see growth in the use of different technologies such as automation and robotics. I am excited to have this opportunity to be part of a program and center which provides opportunities for our agriculture students in learning new innovative technologies and practices." Previously, Dr. Vang was the Program Director for the Advanced Pumping Efficiency Program (APEP) for the Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) at Fresno State. He graduated in May 2016 with a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Fresno State, and has a Bachelors and Master of Science Degree in Industrial Technology.

NEW CELEBRATIONS

Two new ways to celebrate student success will take place this month on campus. The RC Latino Faculty and Staff Association will host the very first LFSA Graduation Celebration in campus history Saturday, May 6th in the gym. The event starts at 3:30pm.

VIDEO LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmlLhznjr5c>

Our inaugural Tiger Transfer Tribute will be held on Tuesday, May 2nd from Noon-2pm on the South Library Lawn. This is a fun event in recognition of our transfer students and their efforts and is open to all transfer students regardless of their pathway, major or transfer institution. We will have a brief recognition ceremony at noon, in which students will be announced and will receive commemorative Transfer Scholar pins. The event will conclude with a light lunch, photo station and university representative booths.

VIDEO LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ck1GZ7TEtVg>

TORCH OF EXCELLENCE

The 27th Annual Torch of Excellence Awards, recognizing student-athlete success in the classroom, was held April 24 at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District. RC had 126 of its student-athletes recognized, with Drew Steinhardt (Baseball) and Agustin Villarreal -Sanchez (Men's Basketball) earning the Chancellor's Award of Distinction with a 4.0 grade point average during both the Spring 2022 and Fall 2022 semesters. Steinhardt and Kasey Reis (Women's Tennis) were named Athletes of the Year for the Tigers. 74 student-athletes earned President's Scholar Award honors (3.51 to 4.0 GPA), and 50 were named to the Dean's Recognition List (3.2 to 3.5 GPA).



Our Student Athletes of the Year: Drew Steinhardt (Baseball) and Kasey Reis (Women's Tennis).

REMEMBERING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE



Interim VP of Student Services Dr. Natalie Culver-Dockins with Guest Speaker Varoujan Der Simonian (middle) and Political Science Instructor Dr. Bryan Tellalian.

The Political Science Department commemorated the 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide April 20 with Guest Speaker Varoujan Der Simonian. He is President of the Board of Trustees for the Armenian Museum of Fresno. Mr. Der Simonian discussed the impact of the Genocide on Armenian culture in regards to art, music, etc. The event was free and open to the public.

FESTIVAL DE LOS NINOS

RC returned to Fresno's Chaffee Zoo for the annual Festival de los Ninos event April 16, hosted by Univision. Staff handed out informational flyers about our ESL and TRIO programs, and kids took their turns on our flight simulator with the help of Flight Science Instructor Jaime Luque. Thanks to Jaime, ESL Instructor Rebecca Al Haider, EOC Counselor Mario Alvarado, and Counselor Angelica Lopez-Cibrian for representing the college. This event is one of the highest attended days of the year for the zoo.



Rebecca Al Haider, Angelica Lopez-Cibrian, Jaime Luque, and Mario Alvarado in front of the RC booth at the Chaffee Zoo.



SAFARI DAYS

Our three day spring extravaganza, better known as Safari Days, was another huge hit with students. A health fair kicked off the festivities, followed by a job fair with 75 companies in attendance promoting their businesses and organizations. The event concluded with a pathway fair, club signups, food trucks and vendors in the quad.



The Veterans Club sold t-shirts at Safari Days.



TIGER PAGEANT RETURNS

RC presented the 4th Annual Tiger Pageant, our all-school talent show, April 14. This event first began in Spring of 2018. This was the first show back on campus since COVID. The event MC's included Gerardo 'Jerry' Reyes, RC ICCC President and SCCC Student Trustee elect, and Dr. Deb Borofka, Safe Space Club Advisor. Judges included Dale van Dam, Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Eve Castellanos, Coordinator Cal Works Program, Dr. John Heathcote, Faculty Engineering & Math, Tracy Carrera, Faculty Art Instructor, David Santesteban, RC Athletic Director, Jamie Buettner, Faculty Art History, and David Borofka, Emeritus Faculty English. The contestants completed interviews with the panel of judges a month prior to the performance, and participated in a Congeniality Dinner hosted by Reedley's Main Street Cafe. Winners were: 2023 RC Tiger Glenda Stewart (contemporary dance) 1st Runner-up, Preston T. Ward (vocals), 2nd Runner-up Florence Molano (vocals) and 3rd Runner-up Alexis Gomez (vocals). The event was hosted by Reedley College Safe Space and Theater Clubs, with support from the RC ASG and Residence Hall teams. Generous donations from faculty, staff and community members helped make this event possible, and we are already looking forward to next year!

CHOIR ON TOUR

Our choir students hit the road for a Northern California tour in April. They visited Stanislaus State and performed at Sonoma State. The students stayed at a beautiful hostel at Fort Mason in San Francisco and enjoyed cultural experiences at the San Francisco Ballet and Chinatown. "It was a wonderful trip for all," said Vocal Music Instructor Kirstina Collins. "We're glad to be home, but I'm very happy we were able to give our students this experience."



The RC Choir students visiting Chinatown in San Francisco.

FARMERS MARKET FUN



The first couple of weeks of our Spring Farmer's Market series has been a huge success. They are scheduled for every Thursday from 4pm-8pm in Lot 'B' through June 15. We have fresh local produce, food trucks, information about the college through clubs and organizations, product vendors, entertainment and more. All local, all the time. We hope you'll join us soon! The event is sponsored by Fresno Street Eats, Sierra Kings Health Care District and The Greater Reedley Chamber of Commerce.



Mia Garcia



Jiselle Batres

SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE

Congratulations to two of our student athletes who signed National Letters of Intent to continue their playing careers elsewhere: Jiselle Batres (Soccer, Alcorn State) and Mia Garcia (Basketball, Life Pacific). Jiselle is the first women's soccer player in program history to sign with a D1 university.

