



**California/Nevada Section  
Bimonthly Update  
March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Sixty First Edition**

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❖ **Section Meeting a Success!**

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual ASABE CA/NV Sectional Meeting February! We had a great night of updates and learning about new robotic technology in agriculture being developed by Blue River Technology. One last thank you to Jorge Heraud from Blue River Technology for presenting and to all our sponsors who supported the student tickets! Our wonderful sponsors were:

- Ag Industrial Manufacturing
- Berendsen Fluid Power
- Irrigation Design & Construction
- Orchard Machinery Corporation
- Provost & Pritchard
- Rain For Rent
- TechnoFlo
- Toro Micro Irrigation
- Valley Irrigation Service
- The Wonderful Company

❖ **Meet Your New Officer!**

Congratulations to our newest officer, Joshua Peppers for being elected as our ASABE CA/NV Section Career Development Chair! Take a little bit to get to know him and read his short bio:

I grew up in Iowa and frequently worked on my grandfather's corn and soybean farm. My interest in science and technology combined with agriculture led me to study agricultural engineering at Iowa State University. After graduating in 2006, I volunteered with Engineering Ministries International in Guatemala as a civil engineer with focus on water supply and treatment from commercial and residential buildings. After the four month internship in Guatemala, I joined Archer Daniels Midland company as a production engineer in a corn ethanol facility in Nebraska. With ADM, I supervised a shift of operators for the front-end of the ethanol process- mainly the corn cleaning, grinding, and separation process. I also worked as a process engineer in their corn syrup refinery developing and executing process improvement projects. Working in the ethanol industry peaked my interest in renewable energy. Following ADM, I got a master's degree from UC Davis in biosystems engineering in 2013. I left academia for about three years to work in industry and consulting before returning to UC Davis in 2014 to pursue a PhD in biogas processing. My goals this year are to help others within the ASABE organization realize their career aspirations and to pass the PE exam in mechanical engineering. Outside of work, I balance my responsibilities as a husband and a father of a newborn with my passion for running and other sports.

❖ **Invitation to Judge the California FFA State Finals Agriscience - Sunday, April 24, 2016!**

You are cordially invited to attend and participate in the California Association, Future Farmers of America State Leadership Conference to be held in Fresno, California on April 23-26, 2016. The 88th Annual State Leadership Conference will feature the accomplishments of many young members who have worked hard to develop their leadership ability, knowledge and skill in agricultural education programs throughout the state.

We invite you to participate as a judge for the State Agriscience Fair on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm in the Fresno Expo Center. Contest rules and judging rubrics can be viewed [here](#) under "Agriscience Fair". The research papers will be sent to judges by April 1<sup>st</sup> (either electronic or USPS, or both). Judging of the boards will be from 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We respectfully request that you respond by March 15, 2016 on the GOOGLE FORM (click on google form).

Additionally, we invite you to attend and observe any or all of our conference activities. We will have over 5,000 FFA members in attendance who will share an enthusiasm and passion for agriculture that is truly

inspiring. We hope you have the opportunity to personally observe the accomplishments first-hand the outstanding young men and women who make up the California FFA Association.

If you have any questions please contact [Dr. Lynn Martindale](#), Agriscience Fair Supervisor at 916.606.7337

❖ **NRCS is Hiring!**

NRCS CA will be opening 13 positions next week! Jobs are only March 8<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>. Those who are interested can find more info [here](#) and should prepare their resumes on [usajobs.gov](#)!

❖ **Department Head Position Open!**

The BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Department at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo is seeking a new department head! The department head is a tenure track position and will provide academic vision and lead strategic planning for the department. The department head will also demonstrate leadership in the areas of teaching, scholarly productivity and professional development and will contribute to the overall strategic goals of the college and university. For more information, please visit the job posting [here](#).

❖ **Instructor Position Open!**

Mississippi State University is seeking an instructor in Precision Agriculture!. This position is to be housed in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences on the Starkville campus. This person will oversee the precision agriculture laboratories, teach/advise, and coordinate team instruction among the departments participating in this instructional precision agriculture effort.

If you are interested, please contact the Associate Dean, Scot Willard [here](#).

❖ **YPC Workshop Coming Up!**

The first YPC Workshop, “Providing for the Pieces for Building Success in the Future”, will be held April 8-9 at University of Kentucky in Lexington. Register now for a two-day workshop to learn more about your leadership style and ways to improve your skills, financial planning for your future, and negotiation tactics to help you close the deal. Day two will be all about networking and building relationships with other young professionals.

For more information, visit the website [here](#).

❖ **We Want to Hear From YOU!**

This is a bi-monthly update to keep our CA/NV Section informed about what is going on in our section and in the ASABE. YOU are a part of that! If you have anything for the next update (May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016), please share it! Articles/ideas/accomplishments/updates/anything can be sent to [Noelle Arredondo](#).

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- For previous editions of the Update, please visit [www.asabecanv.org](#).
- If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact Noelle at 661-978-9452 or [nopenner@gmail.com](mailto:nopenner@gmail.com)
- If you have ideas for Update items or would like to get involved in the leadership team, please let us know!