



**California/Nevada Section
Bimonthly Update
May, 2017
Sixty Fifth Edition**

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❖ ASABE CA/NV Section Poster Competition Winners

Congratulations to the following students who won awards and cash prize in the research poster competition held during our section meeting on February 15th, 2017 at Tulare, CA.

Graduate Winners:

First Place – Arthish Bhaskar, California State University, Fresno.

Bhaskar's project focused on a smart farm data interface that used analytics and data from field sensors. Arthish Bhaskar works in Dr. Balaji Sethuramasamyraja's lab.

Second Place – Erin Kizer, University of California, Davis

Kizer works in the lab of Dr. Shrini Upadhyaya and her winning poster was focused on Leaf Monitoring System for Continuous Measurement of Plant Water Status to Assist with Irrigation Management of Specialty Crops.

Undergraduate Winners:

First Place – Huy Le, California State University, Fresno.

Le works in Dr. Balaji Sethuramasamyraja's lab and Le's research was based on digital elevation modeling, integrating advanced geospatial technology, a real-time kinematic ground station and rover units for irrigation planning, management and conservation.

Second Place – Omar Samara, California State University, Bakersfield

Samara's work was on development of a solar powered, small unmanned aerial vehicle for long endurance flights of industrial payloads.

❖ Cal Poly- San Luis Obispo ASABE & AES Update

The ASABE chapter and Agricultural Engineering Society at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo has had many events this past quarter to help benefit its members and the community! Here are a few highlights:

Bonanza BBQ

AES is known for its barbecuing abilities and so when the Cal Poly Bonanza class reached out to us we were happy to help! This February we volunteered to barbecue for the Bonanza livestock show in Paso Robles, put on by Cal Poly students, to help out our fellow classmates.

Ag Olympics

This annual event is hosted by the College of Agriculture Student Council and is a fun way to be active and compete with students from other agricultural clubs. The competition consisted of events such as an egg toss, "barrel race" (on broomsticks), and scavenger hunt. AES was proud to take home the bronze medal.

Industry Panel General Meeting

Every month AES holds a general meeting, and the March one has been the most popular. At this meeting we hosted 10 companies from the industry to participate in a panel regarding questions about interviews, resumes, professionalism, etc. This meeting was a great success and assisted members in prepping for the AES career fair the next day. It was also a great opportunity for networking with potential employers.

AES Career Fair

Every year our club hosts a career fair for the students in our department. This year was our biggest turnout yet with over 40 companies in attendance; we even had to relocate to a bigger location to accommodate for all the companies. Put on entirely by club members, this career fair benefited many students with employment opportunities and networking.

Laser-etching Fundraiser

One fundraiser AES took on this quarter was using our department's laser etcher to custom etch ramblers for an outside organization. Not only did this raise some money for our club, but it also gave our members skills on the laser-etching machine.

Quarterly Activity

Each quarter AES likes to have at least one fun social activity for members to get to know each other and hang out. This quarter we hosted a bowling and pizza night the week before finals and provided a good study break for our members!



AES club members at the quarterly activity.

Tractor Pull

The Tulare pull in February was the first one of the season for our Cal Poly Tractor Pull Team. It was a great way to kick off the season. Students have also been hard at work constructing a new tractor to replace Mustang Fever and it is nearly finished. We are excited to debut it soon!

The annual Poly Royal Truck and Tractor Pull was unfortunately canceled due to unsafe conditions caused by the rain. Although it was tough to work so hard all year and have the pull canceled, the team was still able to pull together and throw a retirement party for our Mustang Fever tractor and have a BBQ with the food that was meant for the pull. Many BRAE alumni and tractor pull fans were served! Tractor pull also likes to help out in the community whenever they can. One recent event was the Engineering Outreach Event where the team was able to teach 5th graders about agriculture and basic horsepower concepts.



BRAE alumni and tractor pull fans got together to retire Mustang Fever and enjoy a BBQ. Event.



Tractor pull members teaching 5th graders about horsepower during the Engineering Outreach Event.

Quarter Scale Tractor Design Team

The Cal Poly 1/4 Scale Team has been hard at work finishing up their tractor for competition this June. They have been finishing up work on the CNC, welding together their new frame design, and finalizing their design report. They are sticking to a strict schedule, but if they can stick with it they'll be more than ready by June!

Thursday AES BBQ's

AES has a tradition of hosting a lunch BBQ every Thursday. It is a great way for the students to get to know each other and also a good fundraiser for the club!

Poly Royal

We recently got done with showcasing our department at Cal Poly's annual Poly Royal. Current students were able to talk to the incoming students and give tours of our labs. We also had a booth set up displaying our clubs and various projects and had many incoming students and parents stop by!



The Quarter Scale team at the department's display booth for Cal Poly's Poly Royal

❖ Kinetic sculpture competition at CSUB

The kinetic sculpture competition at CSUB was a far greater success than any of us had come close to dreaming of. After receiving donations worth roughly \$5000, we got to work on the most ambitious project in recent CSUB history, requiring us to work not just with the engineering department, but also the art department and all the major administrative departments. Just as a recap, the ASABE chapter at CSUB assisted 110 freshmen engineering students construct 2.4 person tricycles for a competition to both set the stage for their development as engineering students and to gather interest of the community in CSUB's engineering programs. We expected 17 teams to compete, but 20 actually showed up, which was incredible considering each of these sculptures requires 40-80 man hours to construct. The community loved it, we had all sorts of fun. We also had a panel of judges, who dressed like judges, with black robes, white wigs, and gavels. The judges handed out various awards like the Al Capone Award of Excellence for the most bribes, the Ugly Duckling Award for the ugliest kinetic sculpture, and the "This is the Award NASA would Give if NASA were Giving Awards, Award" for the most technologically advanced kinetic sculpture, among other awards which can be found here: <http://www.csub.edu/fabfest/files/KSC%20AwardsV2.pdf#awards>





Kinetic Sculpture competition at CSUB

❖ **California State FFA Leadership Conference/ FFA State Finals and Field day at Fresno state**

More than 6,000 high school students attended the 89th California State FFA Leadership Conference in Fresno on April 23rd. The event was co-hosted by Fresno State's Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. Also, the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology hosted the State FFA finals and field day for high school students on April 22nd.

❖ **UC Davis update**

UC Davis Annual Picnic Day (Sat. April 22nd 2017)



(From top to bottom in clockwise order) BAE Department 1st place float at UC Davis' 2017 Picnic Day, members of the public interacting with the BAE Department at Picnic Day, and a photo of 1330 Bainer Hall and the UCD BAE Department's picnic day exhibits.

On Saturday, April 22nd the Biological and Agricultural Engineering (BAE) Department at UC Davis opened its doors to members of the public for the 103rd annual Picnic Day Event, an open house typically attracting over 100,000 people to Davis that features events such as the Doxie Derby, Battle of the Bands, and the Picnic Day Parade. Picnic day is a chance for members of the public to visit different departments, see exciting new research, and interact with as well as explore the campus. In preparation for this event BAE faculty, students, and staff worked diligently to construct a float that won the "Best

Theme Representation” award depicting members of our diverse department, from over 15 countries, “growing together,” towards a more sustainable future. Also represented were an Anaerobic Digester powering residential homes, a cow, a corn field, and an assortment of consumer fruits and vegetables. Back in 1330 Bainer Hall, the BAE Department hosted the public with an array of research posters and fun activities designed to introduce them to Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

Society of Biological Engineers (SOBE)



Currently, the undergraduate professional society, the Society of Biological Engineers (SOBE) at UC Davis are preparing to elect new officers for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year, since most of the current officers are graduating seniors. In the past school year SOBE planned a departmental welcome barbecue for the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering in the beginning of the school year, hosted many guest speakers, had many social events with faculty and graduate students, and began to prepare for the robotics competition at the upcoming ASABE conference. The graduating seniors in SOBE are also preparing for their senior capstone projects.

BAE Graduate Student Association



(From top to bottom in clockwise order) BAE grad students making jack-o-lanterns for Halloween while also celebrating Day of the Dead, BAE grad student posing for a picture at Apple Hill, and BAE students socializing during the biweekly Happy Hour at 3rd and U

The BAE Graduate Student Association (BAE-GSA) is concluding its first full year of activities after being inactive for many years. Its mission is to build a cohesive graduate student community in BAE through group activities, to aid in the recruitment of prospective students, to help in graduate student professional development, and to increase graduate student voice in the department as well as campus wide. The BAE GSA has successfully organized 15 different activities this year and is currently planning a trip to the Sierra Nevada Brewery, organizing a BAE Shop workshop to get students more acquainted working in our machine shop, and planning for a new Grad Innovation Space.

Remembering Professor Emeritus William Chancellor



Photo of Professor Emeritus William Chancellor

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that we must inform you of the passing of Professor Emeritus William Chancellor on the morning of Thursday, February 16th, 2017. His family was with him when he died peacefully at the age of 85. Dr. Chancellor joined the department in 1957 and he worked and taught topics in the areas of soil mechanics, soil-machine relations, vehicle stability and traction, forage harvesting and handling, rice production and processing, economic optimization of farm equipment use, agricultural technology for developing nations, energy relations in agricultural production, and many others. Dr. Chancellor retired from the department in 1994, but remained a strong and active presence in the year since. In his honor, the department will be hosting the William J. Chancellor Memorial Symposium on Friday, July 21st, 2017 at UC Davis. Program details will follow.

❖ Upcoming events to watch out for!

California Agricultural Teacher's Association Summer conference at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo from June 25-29.

The conference officially begins on Monday, June 26, 2017, with pre-conference activity beginning on Sunday, June 25, 2017.

ASABE 2017 Annual International Meeting in Spokane, WA

The ASABE Annual International meeting will be held in Spokane, WA from July 16-19, 2017. Meeting highlights include networking opportunities, poster presentations, professional development sessions guest speakers, technical and cultural tours, and more! Visit www.asabemeetings.org for more information!

❖ Do You Feel A Calling?

Do you have a desire to get more involved with ASABE? Do you have ideas for Agricultural Engineering Activities? Do you like sharing about the ASABE? If you answered yes to any of the questions, NOW is the time to become an ASABE officer! Call or E-mail Balaji Seth at (559) 321-6826 or balajis@csufresno.edu

- For previous editions of the Update, please visit www.asabecanv.org.
- If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact Balaji (559 321 6826 or balajis@csufresno.edu)
- If you have ideas for Update items or would like to get involved in the leadership team, please let us know!