

Post Secondary Division Meeting

Monday 6/23/25

Attendance: Refer to the post-secondary sign-in sheet

Minutes:

Called to order at 3:11

Introductions of new teachers from Delta, Reedley, Bakersfield College, Fresno State, Merced, Porterville, University of Nevada, Reno, Chico State,

-Rachelle Antinetti – Regional Director – Next Generation Ag

She is currently overseeing an Ag Workforce Development Grant, which wraps up at the end of August. There is hope for an extension, with updates expected in the next few months. If you are interested in participating in the grant by hosting an intern, please reach out to her.

-Cindy Daley - Center for Regenerative Agriculture and Resilient Systems – CSU, Chico

Started a development program in 2019 focused on carbon farming and nutrient density. Transitioning farm operations takes time, and they have identified a gap in technical support during the transition. Participants can become certified to write plans for growers as consultants. The program includes 60 acres of row crops and a regenerative dairy—from soil to cheese. Currently, five farms are involved in the program. Dr. Daley will be at the Farm Show if you'd like more information.

-Eric Dyer/Kelly Scott – Farm Robotics Team

The design contest runs throughout the academic year and centers on AI, robotics, and automation to solve problems faced by growers. Teams work by consulting with a farmer, identifying a problem, and developing a solution for any crop or plant. Awards, recognition, and cash prizes are available.

Divisions include:

- FRC Division 1: Universities
- FRC Division 2: Community Colleges
- Farm Robotics Academy: High Schools and Middle Schools

-Ryan Amaral and Corrin Armstrong – CA Farm Bureau

They presented the “Expanded Our Roots” program, which has faced challenges in building long-term relationships. Supported by USDA and CDFA grants—one focused on specialty crops (CDFA) and the other on animal agriculture (USDA).

Mentors can be from production agriculture or agricultural education. Mentors should have 10+ years of experience, and mentees 1–10 years. Compensation is available.

Upcoming events:

- Mentorship Workshop: July 10th, 10–11 AM
- Discussion Meeting: November 15 at Modesto Junior College (MJC)
- YF&R Annual Meeting: December 6–9
Stop by the Farm Bureau booth at the Farm Show to get a ticket for Happy Hour. YF&R will also be giving a presentation—let them know if you'd like to attend.

-PRE2P (Puerto Rico professional development) - Tommy

This is a professional development opportunity for agricultural educators at all levels, not just high school. It includes a 7-day immersion in tropical agriculture, music, food, and culture. Everything is planned and handled for participants.

Participants can earn 3 continuing education units through Utah State University. The 2025 cost was \$2,650 (not including airfare).

University reports

-Fresno State

Fresno State is doing really well, with application numbers up by 19%. This includes 15 applications for Agricultural Communication and 43 for Agricultural Education.

-UC Davis

UC Davis now offers a combined Agricultural Specialization and Science Credential program. They have also launched a small-batch wine label.

-Chico State

Chico State has 34 student teachers this year. At least one faculty member from each department is attending the CATA Conference. The University is also opening a Farm Store to market products from the University Farm.

Action items:

1) Motion: Approval of minutes from Midwinter Institute.

made by: Nick Deftereos second: Kevin Woodard Pass_x__ Fail____

2) Motion: Approval of Treasurers report. Currently the bank account has \$35,309.36

made by: Katy Teixeira second: Lori Marchy Pass_x__ Fail____

3) Motion: CATA By-laws moved for Post-Secondary to be in favor of adopting the changes made.

made by: Lori Marchy second: Kate Gaede Pass_x__ Fail____

4) Motion: Support of moving the banquet to an awards program.

made by: Howard Lewis second: Nick Deftereos Pass_x__ Fail____

There is a proposal to move the banquet to an awards program format. While some are concerned about losing the tradition, the change may be necessary due to current attendance numbers and feasibility.

Notes:

State Livestock Fall Show – Porterville

Participation numbers are declining, and organizers are seeking feedback on why this is happening and what changes could help increase engagement.

State Livestock Spring Show – Modesto

The Spring Show will continue to be held in Modesto.

California Agricultural Competition

To be discussed under the Student Activities section.

State Ag Ambassador Conference

This event was discussed by Sherri Freeman.

Midwinter Preview

The event is planned to be held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Modesto, hosted by MJC. Confirmation is still pending.

Tuesday Preview

The Tuesday Preview will include information on room locations and an overview of what each committee does.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:47

Inservice Committee:

Date: June 24, 2025 Time: 8:05AM Adjourned: 9:23AM

Attendance: Lindsay Ono, Heather Johnson, David Goldenberg, Audra Lopez, Desi Molyneux, Nick Deftereos, Howard Lewis, Tim Brown, Todd Conrado, Chris McKinna, Rick Whitsell, Kim Pitigliano, Jennifer Sousa, Larry Dinis

Minutes:

Mid-winter recap and planning.

- The event went well at Bakersfield College.
- We lacked participation at the Saturday luncheon. Lacking 20 participants. Which could have saved on expenses.
- Should the date be changed due to finals conflicts? All dates may have drawbacks.
- Judging Card was a problem with registration for some participants. Try to get Judging Card to create a guest log in.
- Lindsay Ono will create a Mid-winter event planning folder for detail planning.

The next Mid-Winter locations:

- 2025 Modesto Junior College (They are in the preliminary planning stages.)
- 2026 College of the Sequoias
- 2027 ~~Victor Valley College~~ (This was changed to Mt SAC. Due to uncertainty of participation from Victor Valley. Mt. SAC needs approval from their staff, before acceptance.)
- 2028 Hartnell College
- 2029 Bakersfield College
- 2030 Butte College
- Heather Johnson and David Goldenberg from UC Davis spoke about presenting a Biosecurity presentation at Mid-Winter. It was greeted with approval.
- It is recommended to create event sponsorships to keep costs down.

Roundtable Discussion to improve engagement.

This will be discussed at the Post Secondary Luncheon.

Other comments on engagement:

- Link our tours to CEU's for those getting educational credits.
- Have some tours and workshops on Wednesday. Professional Sessions on Tuesday.
- Bring in professional organizations to network with.
- Other topics: FBI Guest speaker; CDFA - USDA NIFA grant funding sources; Textbook publishers for textbook sources.

Chair elections (summer conference only):

Action items: Chair Succession

1) Motion: Nomination of Tim Brown as incoming Inservice chair and Kim Pitigliano as Inservice chair elect.

Motion made by: Howard Lewis Second: Chris McKenna

Vote: Motion Passed.

Email to Post-Secondary officer team & cata@calagteachers.org

CATA Post-Secondary Curriculum Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: 6/24/2025

Location: 3-112 CATA Conference – San Luis Obispo

Chair: Richard Chapman (Outgoing)

Secretary: Anthony M. Farao (Lemoore College)

Incoming Chair: Chris Chaney (Coalinga College)

Attendance

- Jennifer Hinostroza (Mt. SAC)
- Erin Krier (Allan Hancock College)
- Richard Chapman (Hartnell College)
- Anthony M. Farao (Lemoore College)
- Brandi Asmus (Woodland CC)
- Xochitl Hernandez (San Joaquin Delta College)
- Chris Chaney (Coalinga College)
- Shannon Cooper (College of the Sequoias)
- Kevin Woodard (Reedley College)
- Stephen Hawkins (Reedley College)
- Katy Gaede (San Joaquin Delta College)
- Kim Donaher (Merced College)
- Michelle Williams (Lassen College)

Discussion Items

1. C-ID Descriptor Review

- Brandi Asmus shared updates from **C-ID.net**.
- The committee is reviewing descriptors for Animal Science, Soils, Plant Science, and Agricultural Economics to align with **CalGETC** requirements.
- Concerns were raised about course denials and the impact of **Common Course Numbering** (CCN).
- Faculty Discipline Review Group (FDRG) is short one **community college Animal Science representative** and one **CSU partner**.

CATA Post-Secondary Curriculum Committee

- Zoom meetings will be scheduled once FDRG is complete.

2. California Course Transfer Challenges

- Members discussed **course approval barriers**, particularly for vocational/agriculture prefixes being denied transfer credit.
- Solutions include revising course descriptions and engaging proactively with articulation officers.
- Emphasis was placed on aligning courses with **UC/CSU requirements** and addressing inconsistencies in the template review process.

3. Agriculture Qualifications in Community Colleges


- Discussion on the **Minimum Qualifications Handbook** and differences between **master's and non-master's disciplines**.
- Group consensus: many Ag Tech instructors do not hold traditional Master's degrees but have industry experience.
- Identified need for a new listing for **Agriculture Technology** under **Agriculture Production**.

Action Items

Motion 1: Proposal to Add Agriculture Technology to Minimum Qualifications

Motion:

The Post-Secondary Division Curriculum Committee of CATA moves to complete and submit a proposal application on behalf of CATA Community Colleges to add *Agriculture Technology* to the *Agriculture Production* discipline area in the **Minimum Qualifications Handbook**.

- **Made by:** Kevin Woodard
- **Seconded by:** Brandi Asmus
- **Result:**  Passed

Amendments:

CATA Post-Secondary Curriculum Committee

- Referred to a **committee of four**, chaired by Kevin Woodard, with the **power to act**.
- **Internal deadline:** September 1, 2025, to review and provide feedback via email.
- **Final submission deadline:** September 30, 2025 (per ASCCC discipline list update calendar).

Committee Charge:

To write the narrative and application, gather support from professional organizations (e.g., CATA), and submit the application on behalf of CATA's community college members.

Curriculum Development Updates

- Anthony M. Farao introduced a **Canvas Shell Project** for shared course resources, starting with **Intro to Ag Business**.
 - Goal: Create a baseline of materials for **dual enrollment** and new instructors.
 - Members interested in contributing should contact Tony, especially for **Introduction to Agriculture Business** and **Environmental Horticulture** materials.
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Leadership Transition

- **Chris Chaney (Coalinga College)** elected as the new **Post-Secondary Curriculum Committee Chair**.
 - **Richard Chapman** recognized for his service as outgoing chair.
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Summary / Next Steps

1. **Kevin Woodard** will lead a four-member committee to write and submit the Agriculture Technology proposal.
2. The committee will send a draft for internal review by **September 1, 2025**, and finalize submission by **September 30, 2025**.

CATA Post-Secondary Curriculum Committee

3. **Tony Farao** will continue developing the **Canvas course shells**, beginning with **Intro to Ag Business**.
4. Interested faculty are encouraged to contribute to the **Canvas Shell Project**, especially for dual enrollment consistency.
5. **Chris Chaney** will assume committee leadership and facilitate ongoing work on C-ID and curriculum projects.

Email to Post-Secondary officer team & cata@calagteachers.org

Student Activities Committee

Summer Conference 2025

Minutes from Post -Secondary Student activities committee:

Called to order at 8:02am by Lori Marchy

Introduction of all members: Lori Marchy, Tim Truax, Rebecca Mendonza - MJC, Celia Casso - Merced College, Tina Candelo-Mize- Delta, Brian Wolf - Lassen, Michael Leishman -Porterville, Jennifer Souza and Trevor Autry, Tahler Caldera- Reedley College, Jacob Vazuez- Butte College, Natalie Schuessler- Bakersfield College.

Approval of Minutes from Mid-Winter - Minutes approved by Jennifer and 2nd by Trevor

Assign a note taker-Rebecca Mendonza took minutes

Discussion followed on Electing a President for this committee – Jennifer Souza was elected

- Old Business/New

Business CAL Conference

- Discussion of CAL being held in conjunction with the Collegiate Jackpot show
 - o Pros/ Cons
 - o Dates for 2026 Collegiate Jackpot February 27-28, 2026
 - o Contests that were offered will be mailed out and open for discussion.
 - o Discussed new contests – Ag ed (max 4), quiz bowl & new team-style contest.
 - o It was brought up to shorten the preliminary rounds of quiz to speed up the process.
 - o Information to be posted by October (tentative)
- Why are some colleges no longer coming?
 - o Barriers for entry – cost, location, etc. – Santa Rosa might be back in, Lassen said he just didn't know. Maybe set up a room block. The shavings being delivered was great. Awards are important to the kids. Shorten up Quiz bowl rounds to 6 and 6.
 - o Defining outcome for student contests - what is the purpose?

Motion made by Jennifer Souza to leave it as is and 2nd by Jacob Vasquez

Jennifer discussed that she thought it went really well. Motion Passed

Ag Ambassador Conference

- CSU Fresno to host Fall of 2025 -Dr. Freeman will give information on the event
- Incorporate impromptu contest into ag ambassador, in addition to job interview discussion on this idea – October 17-19th

CA Farm Bureau Discussion Meet -Dates and questions provided by Ryan Amaral

*November 15th hosted by MJC

Fall Livestock show comments – Porterville November 22 – Porterville college does not have livestock but they are willing to help set up. Bakersfield will see about livestock. Delta is working on a show team. Lassen is going to come.

Adjourned at 8:44 am

Questions or concerns Regarding this committee please reach out to Lori Marchy

209-678-1265 Cell Phone Marchyl@yosemite.edu email

Affairs and Visioning Committee

Attendance: Genevieve Bishop, Kattie Sanchez, Arthur Faria , Lindsay Hefsteer

Minutes:

Action items:

1. State agriculture advisory board
 1. Recommend the Development of the board discussion Conversation included informing members of the history of the previous board, talking about benefits and challenges. Benefits are that they provide industry updates, provide resources, give support to departments with administration. Challenges: financial investment to support travel and incidentals, bylaws for terms and responsibilities. Other discussion was impact and need of a state board when each college have local boards.
 2. Motion was made to develop a state advisory board.
 1. Main - Katie Sanchez, Second - Art Faria
 1. Motion passed -3 affirmative 1 negative
 3. Also recommended was a their system of development to support transparency and limit financial challenges.
 1. Year 1: Identification of potential members
 1. Each region submits candidates from each pathway (ag bus, an sci, ag Tec, mech ag, manufacturing, env. Hort, plant science, natural resources)
 2. Vote from membership
 2. Year 2: invitation to midwinter with discussion panel session
 3. Year 3: Determine responsibilities and bylaws modifications
 4. Year 4: implementation

Post Secondary Division Meeting

Tuesday 6/24/25

Attendance: Refer to the post-secondary sign-in sheet

Minutes:

Called to order at 12:17

Community College Farm Resource Survey

- 50% of colleges have a wildlands refuge.
- 17% of farms are used solely for course-related instruction.
- 41% operate with a business model to run the farm.
- 42% reported that their district fully funds the farm.

Matt Patton Update

- CSU and UC systems experienced a 3% budget cut in the May revise (down from 8% proposed in January).
- Overall Community College (CC) funding has been reduced, though there are **no targeted cuts to agriculture programs**.
- Workforce grants remain **intact**.
- **Climate Resiliency Research Farm Grants (AB 1486)**: \$15 million allocated to build or expand climate-focused research farms.
- **SB 619** introduces **universal coding for the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)**.

Action items:

Vision Committee Report

- **Motion to approve the committee report by Nikki Madux; motion passed by implied second and voice vote.**
 - The Ag Advisory Board Committee recommends a phased approach:
 - **Year 1:** Identify participants
 - **Year 2:** Host a discussion panel (summer or winter conference)
 - **Year 3:** Determine responsibilities and establish term limits
 - **Year 4:** Implement the finalized plan
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Curriculum Committee Report

- **Cal-GETC** discussed.
 - A **Canvas shell for dual-enrolled courses** is being developed, starting with Ag Business (led by Tony Farao).
 - **Chris Chaney** elected as new chair.
 - **Richard Chapman** moved to approve the report; motion passed by implied second and voice vote.
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Vision Committee Additional Notes

- A **“How-To” guide for Midwinter** will be posted on the website.
- Upcoming Midwinter Conferences:
 - **2025** – Modesto Junior College (MJC)
 - **2026** – College of the Sequoias (COS)
 - **2027** – Victor Valley College (potentially Mount SAC)
- **Tim Brown** elected as Chair and **Kim Pitigliano** as Chair-Elect.

- **Lindsay Ono moved to accept the report; motion passed by implied second and voice vote.**
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Student Activities Committee

- **Quiz Bowl** scheduled for **February 27–28**.
- **Discussion Meet** will be held in Modesto.
- **Jennifer Sousa elected as new chair.**
- **Motion to approve report passed by implied second and voice vote.**

Round Table Discussion- Three topics were discussed:

- Innovate- What new ideas should be explored?
- Engage- How can the conference be more interactive and meaningful?
- Support- What resources or opportunities are missing?
- Lindsay Ono will compile the notes taken at all tables.

Chair elections (summer conference only):

Post Secondary- Trevor Autry nominated and Natalie Baumgartner. Natalie was elected by hand count.

Motion: Adjourned 1:49