

California/Nevada Section Bimonthly Update July 8th, 2016 Sixty Third Edition

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UCD Engineering Design Showcase!

-Article by Vivian Vuong

Seniors from UC Davis' department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering showed off their projects for this year's engineering design showcase that took place June 2nd. Projects ranged everywhere from algae based nutraceuticals to remote crop water stress sensors and employed a broad range of engineering abilities and creativity. Students were judged on creativity, cohesiveness, and encouraged to work together and effectively under the guidance of Professor Ken Giles. Overall the department displayed 7 unique projects produced by 26 seniors. For pictures and more information, contact Vivian here.

❖ MJC Quarter Scale Takes Fourth Overall!

After a year of design, construction, and testing, our own student chapter from Modesto Junior College headed to Peoria to compete in the ASABE International ¼ Scale Tractor Student Design Competition. They competed in design judging, maneuverability, tractor pulling, and more, and won fourth place overall! Quite an accomplishment for the only Junior College in the competition. Congratulations students!



❖ Career Development – Networking for Employment Opportunities!

- Article by Your Career Development Chair, Josh Peppers

Many of us will be going to the ASABE International Meeting in Orlando to keep abreast of new developments in the area of agricultural and biological engineering. While the meeting is a great way to share ideas and learn new technologies, it's also a great avenue for finding your next job. Even if you are not actively looking for a job, you can still reap the benefits of networking by having contacts already in place should you need a career position in the future.

Most employment opportunities occur through conversations with potential employers. Rarely does anyone get hired by their resume alone. At the ASABE meeting, there will be Fortune 500 companies, ag and bio-based companies, and universities looking to fill positions. For employment seekers, talking to company representatives places your name with a face and increases your chances of landing a job over submitting a resume to an enormous online job bank like Monster. Don't be bashful during conversations; have a one-minute commercial about your skills, interests, and experience and how they can benefit the employer. Also, be prepared with some questions that show your genuine interest in the company and that are more thoughtful than "so, what do you guys do?". The depth of your questions show your level of interest and preparedness and reveal the kind of employee you might be. Finally, ask for business cards and add them to your own career management database. Make an organized list of industry contacts that you can solicit now or in the future as you navigate your way through job transitions.

Networking is a valuable soft skill that can aide in your job search and career success. Take advantage of technical society meetings such as the International ASABE meeting to increase your contacts. Landing your next job is never a solo endeavor; it requires inter-dependence, so go out there and flex your networking muscles at this year's ASABE meeting and beyond!

❖ 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 (September 1st, 2016), please share it! Articles/ideas/accomplishments/updates/anything can be sent to Noelle Arredondo.

For previous editions of the Update, please visit http://asabecanv.wordpress.com.

If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact: Noelle Arredondo at 661-978-9452 or nopenner@gmail.com

If you have ideas for Update items or would like to get involved in the leadership team, please let us know!