



REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT – KEVIN TRUTNA, ED.D.
JUNE 18, 2015

1. STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS

2015 FRC graduation by the numbers:

- The number of graduates – 206 (190 in 2014)
- The number of degrees and certificates awarded - 240 Degrees, 111 Certificates (226/40 in 2014)

Number of Graduates	201	28	7	2	1	1	1	1	1
Number of Degrees or Certificates Earned	1	2	3	4	5	7	9	10	14

- Most popular degree: AA General Studies in Social & Behavioral Sciences - 76 students
- Second most popular degree: AA Liberal Arts: Fine Arts & Humanities - 33 students
- Third most popular degree: AS Licensed Vocational Nursing - 21 students
- Most popular certificate: Entrepreneurial Planning - 13 students
- Second most popular certificate: Fundamentals of Horse Training - 8 students
- Number of male graduates - 96
- Number of female graduates - 110
- Oldest graduate - 63 years
- Youngest graduate - 19 years

Jesse Segura was chosen as NIRA National Coach of the Year.

This is a national award amongst all two-year and four-year colleges combined. Of note, Jesse is the first Cal Poly graduate to be named National Rodeo Coach of the Year.

The FRC Rodeo team has been featured in several national media outlets: RFDTV, ESPN3, and Pro Rodeo Sports News. Individual student-athletes have been profiled in articles from *Plumas News* and *Nevada Appeal* (see below). Coach **Jesse Segura** and the FRC Rodeo team will be recognized at the upcoming Reno Rodeo.



Final numbers have been tabulated and the Day in the Mountains was a success this year. Almost 100 students attended Day in the Mountains in May. New this year was the first Home Field Advantage priority registration event which brought in over 20 new students from PUSD high schools to campus on Sunday before DITM. In a later meeting, one of the QHS teachers told **Carlie McCarthy** that the majority of the Quincy senior class is planning to attend FRC in the fall!

Joe Willis held a one-day leadership training for the staffs of Oakland Camp and Sierra Institute on Oakland Camp's "low ropes" course where several present and past FRC students were among the trainees. Joe's work at Oakland Camp also includes teaching an introductory workshop on Creative Nonfiction Writing for the Feather River Art Camp.

Terry Gallagher proudly writes that *Into the Woods* was very successful with full houses, sold out performances, and four standing ovations. This was an extremely difficult production in terms of music, make-up and costume. The cast and crew rose to the occasion with great bravado and the audiences appreciated their work while being entertained. A great time was had by all.

2. SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT PREVIOUS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES REPRESENTING FRCCD

- a) May 22 – meeting with Vice-Chancellor **Pam Walker** regarding bachelor degree program
- b) May 22 – FRC graduation
- c) May 26 – breakfast meeting with Trustee **Guy McNett**
- d) May 28 – Plumas County Tourism Council meeting
- e) May 29 – served as one of the judges for QHS Senior Project presentations
- f) June 1 – Quincy Rotary meeting
- g) June 3 – personal vacation
- h) June 8-11 – personal vacation
- i) June 15 – breakfast meeting with Trustee McNett
- j) June 15 – Quincy Rotary meeting
- k) June 18 – FRC Foundation meeting

3. RODEO "SISTERS" LEAD FEATHER RIVER - JUNE 11, 2015 NEVADA APPEAL

<http://www.nevadaappeal.com/sports/college/16756491-113/rodeo-sisters-lead-feather-river>



Fallon grad Kayla Norcutt finished her junior season in the rodeo arena for Feather River College (Calif.)

They're practically sisters.

They went to high school together. They rodeo together.

After **Kayla Norcutt** graduated from Fallon and enrolled at Feather River, her close friend, **Sydney Howard**, was still in Fallon with two years left in school before taking the next step in her life. Norcutt jumped into the collegiate rodeo circuit, competing at Feather River and helping the program retain its status as one of the best in the West region.

"It is so amazing," Howard said about her relationship with Norcutt. "Kayla and I have been friends for so long, and now we get to live

together and even travel together to rodeos. We push each other in the practice pen, and it's always a friendly competition."

This past fall, Howard reunited with her cowgirl sister and both helped Feather River win the West Coast Region and qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo, which begins Sunday in Casper, Wyo. Howard, a freshman, snuck into the goat tying field as an alternate, but Norcutt missed the cut by one.

"I felt fully prepared, and I knew that I had worked very hard but it was still a huge accomplishment to do so well," said Howard, who was fourth in goat tying with 616 points. "The girls that I have competed against this year are what I believe to be some of the best in the nation."

For Norcutt, though, it wasn't the end even though she was devastated that her regional performance in Las Vegas wasn't her best. Norcutt finished fifth in goat tying with 616 points.

She was elected president for the West Coast Region, with perks that include a paid trip to the National Finals Rodeo in December, a guaranteed trip to next year's CNFR and an extra year to compete in rodeo. Norcutt is also Feather River's student president.

"Winning president was a true honor," said Norcutt, a junior who achieved her associate's degree last year and is working on her bachelor's in business through Colorado State's online program. "There are 136 people in the region and a majority voted for me. Winning this gives me opportunities I could've never dreamed of."

Norcutt, though, will have to live through Howard at this year's CNFR.

Howard was one of the best goat tyers this season and also finished fourth in the all-around cowgirl standings. She flirted in the top five all season but only the top three qualify for nationals. Although she finished fourth, Howard was able to sneak in after Feather River won the regional. She also was named the West Coast Region Rookie of the Year.

"My goal for this year was absolutely to qualify for the CNFR," Howard said. "I don't think I ever thought it was 'very likely' to happen. I knew there was a possibility. But being in the top four, five all year long and the points being so close all year, I knew that anything could change with one rodeo, or even one run. I just did my best to stay consistent and continued to make solid runs."

Howard has spent the past couple of months working with her parents, as well as engaging in CrossFit training in Fallon. Her goal next week is to make "three fast, consistent and smooth runs" and qualify in the top 12 for the short-go-arounds. Finishing in the top 10 at the end of the CNFR is the ultimate objective.

"It is basically a full time job, preparing for the finals," Howard added.

Even though she won't be alongside her teammate in Wyoming, Norcutt is grateful that Howard came to Feather River this year.

"We grew up together," Norcutt said. "She's like a little sister to me and it's awesome that I can live with someone who came from the same little town as myself."



Feather River College (Calif.) standout Sydney Howard qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo on Sunday in Casper, Wyo.

4. FRC SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE CERTIFICATE PLANNING

Under the leadership of **Dr. Darla DeRuiter** with adjunct faculty **Elizabeth Powell** and **Cody Reed**, and in discussions with **Russell Reid** and **Jesse Segura**, a small farm sustainable agriculture certificate proposal is being developed and will make its way into the shared governance process. Look for further details next semester, as this program has not yet been presented to the Curriculum Committee, nevertheless the purpose of this article is inform the campus of the intent in the development of this new certificate.

Early drafts for the program state that the Sustainable Agriculture Program will provide students with hands-on and theoretical education in sustainable and small-scale farming. The program will focus on techniques for high-altitude, diversified crop production, the development of for-profit enterprises and resilient local food systems.

- Ecological production techniques
- Season extension
- Marketing and business management

Courses will take place on the FRC campus and at local farms. This certificate is an extension of the popular class related to farming in the High Sierra which has been offered in the past few spring semesters. Collaboration with local farms will provide participants with practical experience in the operation and marketing of a for-profit farm.

Opportunities for an on-campus, student-lead demonstration garden will be explored once the initial cohort of students is engaged in certificate courses. This site will provide students with their own space to practice growing techniques and will strengthen the on-campus visibility of the Sustainable Agriculture Certificate. A long term goal is to have a working campus small-scale farm where students can learn how to successfully run an agricultural operation in its entirety.

Draft Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate application of sustainable agriculture production techniques specific to high altitude crop production.
- Understand the complexities of managing a small farm, including product and market development, and appropriate technologies.
- Increase understanding of the food system and how small farms can be used as a tool for positive social, economic, and environmental change.

Target Market

Students of the Sustainable Agriculture Certificate will be relatively new to agriculture (0 to 3 years of prior experience), with a strong interest in food systems, small-scale farming and ecologically responsible growing practices.

Primary Target – Degree Seeking Students

- Pursuing Associates Degree in Environmental Studies or other major at FRC
- Focused on creating positive environmental and social change
- First generation food producers
- Hands-on personalities who see sustainable agriculture as an opportunity to make a positive impact with their life's work

Secondary Target – Plumas County Residents

- Beginning and intermediate home-scale growers seeking to increase their skill set
- Interested in creating community resiliency through sustainable, local food production

Job Opportunities & Labor Market

Organic and sustainable agriculture is growing. The USDA Economic Research Service reports that certified organic agriculture grew in California from 157,804 acres in 2000 to 951,356 acres in 2011, a 500% increase. Nationally, organic farm sales grew 82% from 2007-2012 and 11% in 2013 alone. Finally, 81% of U.S. families are buying organic.

Just over 73% of agricultural operations in California are very small, with annual sales less than \$100,000. Nationally, local food sales have grown from \$1 billion in 2005 to nearly \$7 billion in 2012. In 2014 there were 764 certified farmers' markets in California.

The Sustainable Agriculture Certificate program will prepare students for a variety of job opportunities, including:

- Garden or Farm Manager
- School Garden Educator
- Produce Department Manager/Buyer
- Farmer's Market Manager
- Produce Sales and Marketing
- Food Handling, Packaging, and Shipping
- Compost Production and Sales
- Organic/Sustainable Retail and Support Services (fertilizers, seeds, equipment)
- Chef/Restaurateur
- Sustainable Landscape Design
- Market Gardener or Farmer (Urban or Rural)
- Organic and Sustainable Certification Services, Organic Inspector
- Sustainable Agriculture Consultant
- Extension Agent or Farm Advisor
- Pest Control Advisor
- Distribution Chain Manager
- Agriculture and Natural Resources Communications
- Nursery Sales/Garden Center

As stated above, these concepts have not been fully developed nor have they made their way through the shared governance process yet. However, these faculty members have been in a year-long conversation about creating this new certificate to attract new students to campus and hopefully create an on-campus sustainable small-scale working farm!

5. ON THE HORIZON

Items of interest that are upcoming in the next few months.

Budget Update

California Community Colleges **Chancellor Brice Harris** issued the following statement on the budget deal struck by **Gov. Jerry Brown** and state legislative leaders this week:

“The agreement reached by legislative leaders and Gov. Brown increases the state’s investment in public higher education and will allow community colleges to continue to pursue the co-equal goals of improving access to our campuses and helping students succeed in greater numbers. Additional resources for California State University and University of California will benefit community college students and the state as a whole as it strives to produce more college-educated workers for today’s economy.”

How this will impact FRC is still to be determined as the specific numbers are developed by the Chancellor’s Office. It is important to remember that the following list was presented to the Budget Subcommittee for possible funding once a final budget is determined:

1. APR requests beyond those already funded by the IELM block grant (student worker hours were added and the minimum wage increase was included in tentative budget)
2. PERS/STRS increases, roughly 2% per year until a cap of approximately 19% per employee (partially included in tentative budget)
3. Energy upgrades – dorm boiler biomass project
4. 4-year Equine & Ranch Management degree budget (already included in tentative budget)
5. Additional faculty positions and/or increases to staff positions (agriculture position already included in tentative budget)
6. Restoration of instructional field trip account
7. Prop 30 restoration – planning for the time when this additional funding goes away in 2-3 years
8. Increases to supply and equipment budgets
9. Increases to travel/competition budgets
10. Publicity for ENVR/Hatchery
11. Early repayment of the Meadows Apartment loan to the Foundation

Mare Care Facility



Construction on the new Mare Care Facility, located in the Equine Center and funded by the FRC Foundation, is progressing. This new facility will allow indoor care for sick or injured horses as well as providing four separate isolation stalls.

