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Robert Mondavi Institute Wine and Food Bytes Issue #41

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A Message from the Executive Director

Another academic year has come to a close and the Robert Mondavi Institute ended on another high note—or a buzz you might say. Bees were a big focus of activity in the spring. In partnership with the Department of Entomology and Nematology, the Institute's Honey and Pollination Center hosted the first Bee Health Symposium on May 9, which attracted nearly 400 people. The Center also received an unexpected gift of \$10,000 through the generosity of Doug and Juli Muhleman, members of the Board of Executives and long-time supporters of the Institute and the Bee Biology Program on campus.



Another very generous gift of \$25,000 was received from the Penates Foundation to support the Robert Mondavi Institute endowment. The Penates Foundation, a private foundation managed by Sandra and Paul Montrone, has given \$100,000 to the endowment over the past 4 years. Mr. Montrone is a Founding Member of the Institute's Honorary Board and was the CEO of Fisher Scientific International Inc. from its initial public offering in 1991 until its merger with Thermo Electron in 2006, forming Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. During the Clinton Administration, Mr. Montrone was a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

One of the Institute's primary goals is to support graduate students. We have awarded \$160,000 in Fellowships to four outstanding graduate students through our Industry Partner over the last three years. Another way the Institute will be supporting graduate students is by providing travel grants to enable them to present their research at national or international meetings. Recently the Institute awarded \$5,000 to support six graduate students in the departments of Viticulture & Enology and Food Science & Technology. We also awarded the first Robert Mondavi Institute International Internship Award. These funds are made possible through revenue generated from our events. I hope you will attend some of our events next year and help our students in their professional development.

Clare Hasler-Lewis Ph.D., MBA

Executive Director

Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science

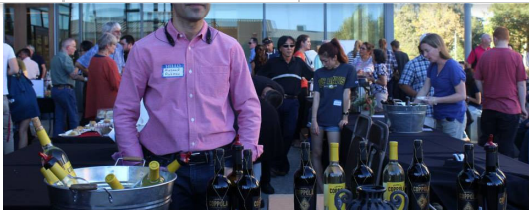
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Institute Supports Graduate Student Travel Grants

The Institute recently award \$5,000 in travel grants to 6 graduate students, three in the Department of Viticulture and Enology, and three in the Department of Food Science and Technology. These awards enable students to travel to national or international conferences to present their research. Funds for these grants were made possible through the revenue generated at our October 2014 Harvest event, which celebrated Wine, Food, Beer and the Arts.



International Internship Award Announced

The recipient of the 2015 Robert Mondavi Institute's International Internship Award is Michael Garrison, a Master's Student in the Department of Viticulture and Enology. The award will enable Garrison to complete an internship at Domaine Graménon, Cotes du Rhone in France. The Robert Mondavi Institute International Internship Award is a newly-established annual award, created to further the educational and professional prospects of UC Davis students in the Department of Viticulture and Enology.

Garrison graduated from Virginia Tech in 2003 with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering.



Soderquist Award Donated to the Honey & Pollination Center

Douglas and Juli Muhleman, alumni and longtime patrons of the university, were awarded the 2015 Charles J. Soderquist Award from the UC Davis Foundation on May 8, 2014. Bestowed annually, the award is presented to individuals who demonstrate excellence in philanthropy, volunteerism, leadership and commitment to UC Davis. The accompanying monetary prize of \$5,000 is donated to a university program or field of the recipient's choice. The Muhleman's selected the Honey and Pollination Center at the Robert Mondavi Institute as the recipient of their prize money, and matched the gift with a personal donation of \$5,000 to support graduate students whose area of research is related to bee health, pollination science or general studies of native



DEVO Hosts the 2015 Winkler Dinner

The Winkler Dinner is held annually at the Robert Mondavi Institute as a fundraiser for DEVO, the Department of Enology and Viticulture Organization of undergraduates and Graduate Students. The dinner is held in the Good Life Garden, and consists of five courses; each prepared by an individual chef and paired with a wine made by an alumni winemaker. Proceeds from the dinner support DEVO's activities throughout the year. The Robert Mondavi Institute is a strong supporter of the Winkler Dinner through the Friends of the RMI program. This year the institute contributed contributed over \$3,600 to support the Winkler Dinner.



Penates Foundation Completed \$100,000 Endowment Gift

The institute received the final \$25,000 installment of a \$100,000 gift from the Penates Foundation. The Penates Foundation is a non-profit grant-making organization managed by [Paul Montrone](#), a founding member of the institute's Honorary Board, and his wife, Sandra.



Viticulture and Enology & Food Science and Technology Research Symposium

On Saturday, April 11, 2015, the Institute hosted the inaugural research symposium for the UC Davis Departments of Viticulture and Enology, and Food Science and Technology. Faculty from the two departments presented their current research to educate institute faculty and students about their programs and identify opportunities for collaboration. [See the day's program with an agenda, speaker biographies, and information about the departments.](#)

UC DAVIS
CAL AGGIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Cal Aggie Alumni Association Hosts Vintage Aggie Event at the Institute

CAAA's "Vintage Aggies" annual spring event showcases Alumni Wine Partners with an opportunity for alumni, board members, staff and friends of UC Davis the opportunity to reconnect. A group of over 200 CAAA members visited the Robert Mondavi Institute on April 17, 2015 to participate in a tour of the LEED platinum winery, led by Dr. Roger Boulton, and to sample a variety of wines provided by alumni winemakers from the region.



Friends Attend First-ever Spring "Sense-ation"

UC Davis students led three different sensory experiences for members of the Friends of the Robert Mondavi Institute program during the inaugural Spring "Sense-ation" on March 26. Henry "Hoby" Wedler, a Ph.D. candidate in Organic Chemistry, led a blindfolded "Sightless Sipping" wine tasting in the Silverado Vineyards Sensory Theater; Shawn McIlvenna, a Senior in the Department of Viticulture and Enology, explored the effect of glass shape on the flavor and sensation of sparkling wine; and Maile Kahn, a Junior in the Department of Food Science and Technology, hosted a "spherification" demonstration in the Food Innovation Kitchen.

Thanks to the Current Friends of the RMI

\$5000 Epicurean

Doug and Juli Muhleman

\$2500 Gourmand

\$500 Vintage

Karl Gerdes and Pamela Rohrich

Bill and Linda Schmidt

James and Penelope Shackelford

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