

## Discover Your Path in Agricultural Education - A Journey of Growth and Impact

## By Mollie Aschenbrener, PhD, Program Coordinator, Chico State Online MS in Agricultural Education Program

As the morning sun gently kisses the sprawling fields, and the first rays of dawn paint the sky in hues of gold, there's a quiet yet powerful transformation underway. It's a story of growth, of passion meeting purpose, and of individuals like you shaping the future of agriculture through education.

Picture this: a classroom buzzing with energy, minds ignited with curiosity, and hearts brimming with the love for agriculture. This is where your journey begins – not just as a teacher, but as a catalyst for change in the agricultural landscape.

In the heart of this transformation lies our Online MS in Agricultural Education program, a beacon of knowledge and innovation. It's more than just a degree; it's a testament to your dedication to cultivate change. And who better to share their journey with us than one of our esteemed alumni, Mrs. Kate Moore?

Mrs. Moore's story echoes the sentiments of countless others who have walked this path. Initially unsure of her career trajectory, she found herself immersed in a world of mentorship, guidance, and profound transformation.

"I had no intention of pursuing a teaching pathway or a career in education," she reflects. "But the mentor professors I had in this program changed my life, my perspectives, and ultimately my career pathway."

Through our partnership with the AG\*IDEA consortium, we bring together the expertise of faculty from eight esteemed institutions, delivering a curriculum that blends theory with real-world application. As Mrs. Moore attests, "I constantly take the materials from my time in this program into my classroom."

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



But our program goes beyond the confines of traditional education. With customizable elective options, you can tailor your journey to align with your unique goals and aspirations. Whether you're shaping minds in the classroom, influencing policy, or driving change in extension services, the opportunities are boundless.

As Mrs. Moore reflects on her experience, she shares, "[This program] deeply impacted my teaching philosophy and methods in the classroom. However, more importantly, it created a love of learning and a desire to pursue education outside my job."

We understand the demands of your busy life – that's why our flexible online format allows you to pursue your degree without sacrificing your career or personal commitments. And with Chico State's reputation for excellence in education, you'll graduate with a credential that sets you apart in a competitive job market.

As you embark on this journey, know that you're not alone. Our community of passionate educators and mentors will be there every step of the way, cheering you on towards success.

"I feel so grateful that at the end of the program I had three mentors and friends cheering me on the finish line," Mrs. Moore shares.

So, what are you waiting for? Seize this opportunity to make a difference in global food security, environmental sustainability, and rural development. Enroll in our Online MS in Agricultural Education program today and sow the seeds of your future success. Visit <u>rce.csuchico.edu/ms-ag-education</u> for more information, and to apply.

As Mrs. Moore wisely reminds us, "Never be afraid to try something new, you may like it better than what you had planned!"

Here's to the journey ahead – may it be filled with growth, learning, and the joy of making a difference. Hope to see you at the CATA Conference this summer!

