

Farmers makes students smarter about insurance careers

Farmers hosted 60 college students at an Oct. 21 Claims careers event at the Agoura Hills, Calif., campus of the University of Farmers, Claims.

The California State University, Northridge insurance majors heard a presentation led by Head of Claims Talent Acquisition [Kate Greco](#) with Liability Claims Supervisor [Todd Cereghino](#) and Claims Representative [Erin Roberts](#) that covered career paths at Farmers, a CR's typical day, and salary and benefits. Todd and Erin also connected with the students as CSUN alumni, and discussed career lessons they've learned.

Students also toured the UoF, Claims training facilities, and met one-on-one with a Talent Acquisition consultant for mock interview and resume critique sessions.

"It was very rewarding," Kate said. "There was a ton of interaction going on. The one-on-one sessions were valuable for the students and for us."

To top it off, Claims Instructional Designer [Russ Richards](#) was on hand to photograph the students for professional portraits to use with online professional networking sites like LinkedIn.

"It was the red carpet treatment," said CSUN Professor of Insurance and Finance [Dr. David Russell](#). "I think they'll realize what an incredible opportunity this was to get into a world-class training facility, and hear from people who are doing the work and welcoming them in a way I don't think they'll often see."

Farmers-CSUN connection

The students' field trip to Farmers is one part of a larger collaboration between Farmers and CSUN. Farmers sponsors an undergraduate course through the university's Department of Finance, in which the insurance operations class follows the American Institutes for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters (CPCU) 520 text and exam.

This is the third year Farmers has sponsored the course. With its headquarters just a few miles from CSUN, Farmers subject matter experts are available to teach the course. They've included Chief Claims Compliance Officer [Jim Taylor](#), Exchanges Chief Financial Officer [Ron Myhan](#), Head of Regulatory Affairs [Victoria McCarthy](#), Head of Farmers Insurance Group Underwriting [Jeff Reinig](#), Head of Business Insurance Underwriting [Bill Riedley](#), Property Field Claims Managers [Lisa Jasinski](#) and [Ryan Loker](#), Auto Field Claims Manager [Josue Estrada](#), Auto Claims Supervisor [Robin Cirar](#), Auto Claims Representative [Bryan Trowbridge](#), Director of Special Investigations Unit [Kamala Wedding](#) and Senior Special Investigator [Dan Jackson](#). These employees provide hands-on insight to the students.

"It's something completely different for them," Jim said. "It's our people coming in with real-world experience who give life to the course material."

Win for CSUN and Farmers

This year's field trip exemplified Farmers' focus on improving its contribution to the students.

"This was the best orchestrated and most elaborate tour we've experienced," Dr. Russell said.

The partnership between Farmers and CSUN benefits both sides. Dr. Russell said students benefit from instruction by industry experts and gain insurance industry insight. For Farmers, Jim explained, it's an opportunity to engage the community, promote insurance as a career choice, and present Farmers as an employer of choice.

Staff from the University of Farmers, Claims and Claims Talent Acquisition worked together to make the event a success.

"I am thrilled that so many collaborated to support this project," Kate said "It's amazing to see how we all worked together to make this happen."



CSUN students gather outside University of Farmers, Claims.



CSUN students tour University of Farmers, Claims training facility.