

2012 William E. Morgan Alumni Achievement Award

Dennis Repp
B.S. '60, Agricultural Business
Newport Beach, Calif.



Dennis Repp has a lifetime record of extraordinary achievements in business and philanthropy. He grew up on a farm in Eastern Colorado (Merino), spending his elementary years in a tiny school where he was one of the two children in his grade. From that inauspicious beginning he went on to successfully launch companies and to exhibit incredible generosity using the financial fruits of his success to make a significant difference in the lives of individuals worldwide.

Repp graduated from CSU in 1960 and thereafter completed two advanced degrees. At CSU he was very involved in campus activities and was tapped as a Pacemaker, an award recognizing students for their academic achievement and campus involvement.

After serving in the Army, he joined Union Bank and progressed to be president of the bank's venture capital operations. There, he provided seed capital to launch many successful ventures, including the Storage Technology Corporation in Boulder.

In 1972, he moved to Allstate Insurance to manage its venture capital operations. Under his direction, Allstate provided nearly 50 percent of all venture capital in the U.S. during the 1970s. Seed money was provided to 85 companies, including FedEx. Recently he has built his own companies, including the invention of multi-layer circuit boards, sorting devices for copy machines, identification of DNA mutant genes, and stem cell utilization. An enormous number of new desirable jobs have been created in the process.

The financial success of his ventures has allowed Repp to build Opportunity International, which now annually impacts more than one million of the poorest of the poor. He helped build and fund a charter school, which serves more than 3,000 disadvantaged students in Los Angeles. He also funded The New Start Repp Distinguished Veterans Fund at CSU that assists wounded veterans.

2012 Distinguished Extension Award

Milan A. Rewerts
M.Ed. '74, Education
Fort Collins, Colo.



In 2005, Milan Rewerts retired from a nearly 40-year career in Extension. He began his Extension career in Glenwood Springs. After serving in Grand Junction and Greeley, he moved to Fort Collins in 1980 as a district director, and in 1988, he became a personnel director and field representative. Rewerts served as director of CSU Cooperative Extension from 1995 to 2005.

Rewerts has served on several regional and national Extension-related committees, including chair of the National Personnel and Organizational Development Committee of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy, and chair of the Western Regional Extension Directors. Rewerts has received numerous honors and recognition, which include the Colorado State University Oliver C. Pennock Distinguished Service Faculty Award, the F. A. Anderson Distinguished Service Faculty Award, and the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. He also received the Colorado State University Distinguished Administration Professional Award and the National Distinguished Service Ruby Award from Epsilon Sigma Phi, a national Extension honorary fraternity.

Completing a 29-year career in the U.S. Army Reserve, Rewerts retired at the rank of Colonel. A graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College, he has received two Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, and the Army Achievement Medal.

Rewerts served on the board of directors of the Colorado 4-H Foundation, Inc. and the steering committee of CSU's Colorado Institute of Public Policy. He also served as CSU's representative to the Colorado Rural Development Council and to the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Council. He is currently a member of the Eaton Country Club, the National Western Stock Show Association, and the Rotary Club of Fort Collins.

Rewerts' hobbies include golf, baseball, and family activities. He and his wife, Carol, have a son, Michael, and a daughter, Michelle, and two grandsons, Aaron and Isaiah.

2011 Jim and Nadine Henry Award

Recipient: **Thomas G. Field** (B.S., '80; M.S., '87; Ph.D., '90, Animal Science)

Current position: Executive Director of Producer Education, National Cattlemen's Beef Association



The Jim and Nadine Henry Award will go to Tom Field. Raised on a Western Colorado ranch, he attended Colorado State University with the help of agricultural, 4-H, and performing arts scholarships. After graduating in 1980, Field returned to the family ranch, where he managed the purebred herds of Hereford and Angus cattle. He returned to CSU to seek a master's degree and discovered a passion for teaching and mentoring students combined with an intense interest in the study of agricultural management systems. He joined the faculty in animal sciences in 1990 and spent the next 18 years championing undergraduate and graduate students, advocating for innovation in the livestock industry, and serving rural communities.

Field was a staunch supporter of school tradition, Ram pride, and building a sense of ownership among his students. He helped create international travel opportunities, case-study learning, and multidisciplinary approaches to learning and problem solving. He won the Best Teacher Award, a student-nominated award, in 2000.

His love for Ram athletics found Field on the sidelines, giving pre-game motivational talks, and offering up his hair for conference championships and wins against Wyoming. He served as president of the Ram Club and the Alumni Association during his tenure on the faculty, where he continued to work to raise enthusiasm and resources to support students.

2011 Distinguished Extension Award

Recipient: **Don Svedman** (BS '60, Animal Science)

Current position: Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture (retired), State of Colorado



The Distinguished Extension Award went to Don Svedman. Svedman has a long history with Colorado 4-H, starting as a young child, and he served as an Extension agent and leader of 4-H programs for many years. Through his leadership and interest in the education of youth, he significantly increased 4-H membership during his tenure. Svedman received the “Friend of Extension” award from the Epsilon Sigma Pi National Honorary Extension Fraternity in 2000. Through his many years of dedication and service in Extension, Svedman’s energizing passion shows in his support for Colorado’s agriculture industry, Colorado State University, and CSU Extension.

He started his career with Extension as an assistant agent in Boulder County in charge of the 4-H program, where he nearly tripled membership. While an agent in Fremont and Custer counties, Mr. Svedman started the 4-H county fair carcass contest, an intensive and expanded herd improvement program, and a “rancher-to-feeder” tour that led to many sales for involved individuals.