



Russell Fenton receives his Bronze Star.

## Civil Engineering Grad Earns Bronze Star in Afghanistan

Army 1st Lt. Russell Fenton (B.S., Civil Engineering, 2008) received the bronze star for his work overseeing construction of combat bases in Afghanistan, the Modesto Bee reported. Fenton lives in Modesto and works as a project manager at Disneyland Resorts as a civilian. He served on the ASI Board of Directors and Poly Reps while on campus. According to the Bee, he earned his medal serving as construction section officer in charge with the Army's 578th Engineer Battalion, Joint Task Force Empire, managing the largest construction effort in theater and in Regional Command East history. The bronze star is awarded for acts of heroism, merit or meritorious service in a combat zone. □

## Alumna is First Female Commander of 49th Military Police Brigade

Col. Kelly Fisher (B.S., Home Economics, 1989; M.S., Architecture, 1996), was

named the first female commander of the California National Guard's 49th Military Police Brigade in September, the Fairfield Daily Republic reported. The brigade serves as the headquarters for FEMA Region's IX Homeland Response Force and represents the Western U.S. and territories ready to support civil authorities in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events. Fisher served in ROTC at Cal Poly and was a member of the ASI Board of Directors in 1987-88. □

## RPTA Grad Honored as State Tourism Leader

Krista Rupp (B.S., Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration, 2008) was named a "new leader" in tourism by the California Travel Association, the San Luis Obispo Tribune reported. Rupp is the sales and marketing manager for the Santa Cruz County Conference and Visitors Council. She received her honor at the association's annual California Travel Summit in Sacramento in summer 2012. □

## Aerospace Engineering Grads Profiled for Business Success

The San Luis Obispo Tribune in September highlighted grads Trevor Foster, Andrew Gibson and Benjamin Schiltgen – founders of ESAero Inc. – in a series on the county's high-tech firms. According to its website, the company provides the engineering community with cutting-edge system designs, development, testing and demonstration solutions through entrepreneurial concept development, aircraft modifications, military and commercial

conceptual air vehicle designs, sub-scale technology demonstrators, hybrid propulsion system research and development, and niche engineering support. Foster (B.S./M.S., Aerospace Engineering, 2008), Gibson (B.S., Aerospace Engineering, 2004) and Schiltgen (B.S., Aerospace Engineering, 2004) launched the company in 2003 out of a garage in Arroyo Grande, The Tribune reported. The company is now based at the Oceano Airport. □

## Ag Business Grad Elected Interior Design Society President

**Robin Wilson Carrier** (B.S., Agricultural Business, 1986) was elected president of the American Society of Interior Designers' San Diego Chapter, Examiner.com reported. Carrier is principal with Robin Wilson Interior Design in San Diego. According to the report, Carrier established her firm in 1995 and specializes in custom residences, restaurants and clubhouses. She also earned a bachelor's degree from the Design Institute of San Diego. □

## Ag Management Grad to Lead Monterey County Farm Bureau

The Salinas Californian reported that **Jeff Pereira** (B.S., Agricultural Management, 1990) has been elected president of the Monterey County Farm Bureau for a two-year term. According to the newspaper, Pereira manages the King City Nursery, serving the vegetable industry with starter plants. He is a native of King City and has served as mayor and councilman there in the past. □