Alexander and Elizabeth Swantz Specialist in Cooperative Extension

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ENDOWMENT PURPOSE
The Alexander and Elizabeth Swantz Endowed Specialist in Cooperative Extension was established in 2004. And though the Swantz’s left the fund’s specific designation to the Dean of the college, they created this endowment to support research, extension education and outreach in agriculture or environmental science, with primary consideration given to water use management.

RESEARCH
The endowment funds have helped to provide support for my cooperative extension program. The Swantz Endowment also helped to support expenses associated with workshops and conferences I have hosted and it has helped support student assistance with my CE program.

TEACHING
I teach ESP 123 (Environmental Science and Policy) which is an ecological field methods and statistics course. I have also taught a graduate seminar in climate change and biological invasions.

STUDENTS
The funds have provided some support for graduate students to help with and participate in my cooperative extension program.

OUTREACH
The outreach funds have helped support workshops on topics that are part of my cooperative extension program. These included workshops for restoration practitioners involved with native oyster restoration and conferences addressing climate change in the San Francisco Bay-Delta. The funds have
also supported student work to help with the production and distribution of an oyster restoration guide.

**NEW AND UNIQUE ENDOWMENT USE**

Our native oyster restoration program has been in the news several times, including high profile articles in the SF Chronicle, TV segments on the nightly news on KGO and numerous smaller media outlets. We produced 2 million new oysters in the San Francisco Bay.

**THANKS**

I would certainly like to personally thank Alex Swantz for his very generous contributions that established this endowment. I would also like to thank his son Rick, who worked for University Development, for providing the vision for this endowment.