

## Endowment Purpose

The [mission](#) of the Robert M. Hagan Endowed Specialist in Cooperative Extension in Water Management and Policy is to:

- i) develop and apply new methods and approaches to the resolution of water problems through innovative combinations of science, policy and management,
- ii) respond to inquiries from concerned persons and groups,
- iii) facilitate access to information and to experts;
- iv) bring information needs to the attention of appropriate people and groups that may lead to expanded or modified research activities of greater value-added to the public.

The position holder will be expected to conduct significant policy-oriented outreach with the expectation that (s)he will serve in part as a public interface between water policy and university research programs.

## Overall Plan

My vision as the recipient of the Robert Hagan Endowed Chair is to **empower experts in two-way community conversations to address water challenges and leverage water outreach programs. Both of these objectives will be accomplished with a keen focus on minority groups and transdisciplinary research.** I will promote activities, events and programs that can multiply the impacts of outstanding research done in the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources (LAWR), the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), and the division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) of the University of California. **I would like to contribute my time and this endowment to the service of our water community at LAWR, CAES and UC ANR. I will lead by serving our greater water community.**

I will lead and support extension activities of Cooperative Extension (CE) specialists, professors, CE advisors, and students as well as showcase how applied research in water resources can solve water challenges in California. I plan to host new events and consolidate already successful extension and outreach programs with closer attention to the scientific and outreach needs of minority groups and transdisciplinary experts. In the following paragraphs I describe the specific activities that I will lead to fulfill the mission of the endowed chair.

## Empowering the community of water experts in two-way community conversations

### *Showcasing Applied Research (i, iv)*

As an endowed chair, I would like to showcase the outstanding research that CE specialists, professors, advisors, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students associated with LAWR, CAES and ANR are doing in their respective areas of expertise. My vision is to host a biannual meeting that will foster two-way conversations with key stakeholders, decision makers, water users and institutions to identify research needs as well as share research products that we are developing to solve California's water challenges. I realize that people associated with LAWR, CAES and ANR are doing excellent research that is already influencing policy and solving critical water challenges in the state California and beyond. I would like to further showcase these research projects, methods, and outcomes.

### *Seed Funds for Extension Events and Trainings (ii, iii, iv)*

As an endowed chair, I would dedicate funds for outreach events and trainings that professors, CE specialists, CE advisors, academics, and graduate students are organizing for their own research. I would provide human and financial support so applied research can be shared in a timely and appropriate manner through trainings and outreach events. I will put together an evaluation committee for the applications integrated by members of the ANR Water Program Team and the Strategic Initiative for Water for the selection of events to be supported and promoted.

*Developing a Forum of Water Extension Colleagues throughout the United States (a, c, b)*

As an endowed chair, I will partner with the Universities Council on Water Resources (UCROWR) to put together a network of CE specialists and advisors doing applied research and outreach in water for the United States. The objective is to crosspollinate the knowledge and experience of extension colleagues in other states as well as networking. First, I will work with UCOWR leadership to identify colleagues doing extension in water throughout the U.S. and develop a website where their profile can be found. Second, I will organize a series of workshops and roundtable events where extension colleagues from all over the U.S. can share their research interest, profiles, materials, and expertise.

**Leverage water outreach programs**

*Water Talk Podcast (iii, iv)*

As an endowed chair, I will provide financial support to the [Water Talk Podcast](#), a very successful science communication and outreach program. I would commit funds for hiring additional staff interns that can help with the pre and post production of episodes.

*Hydrology 101 and Integrated Pest Management (ii,iii, iv)*

As an endowed chair, I will provide financial support to the [Hydrology 101 program](#) that I have co-lead with Lisa Blecker, the coordinator of the Integrated Pest Management program of UC ANR. I would allocate funds for the development of educational materials (in English and Spanish) that describe basic concepts of hydrology in California, climate change impacts to California water resources, as well as how to prevent pesticides from contaminating water.

*California Naturalist and Water (ii,iii, iv)*

As an endowed chair, I will develop educational materials (in English and Spanish) for instructing trainers about how to observe, study and interpret rivers in California. I plan to approach Indigenous naturalists and scholars for collaboration and co-development of these materials.

**Expenditure accountability**

I will post biannual expenditures on my research group's [website](#) for full transparency with these funds to meet the endowment vision and purpose. Additionally, I will acknowledge Professor Hagan's biography and commitment to water resource education on the website (see below).

**Robert Mower Hagan (Biography and Interview)**

Robert "Bob" M. Hagan, Ph.D. (1917-2002), internationally renowned for his expertise in the relationships between plants, water, soil and water use efficiency as a professor of water science, an irrigationist in the California Agricultural Experiment Station and a statewide extension specialist in the California Agricultural Extension Service during a 50-year career with the University of California, Davis. Professor Hagan was a well-liked and respected teacher. His teaching included a graduate course on Irrigation and Planning and Management as well as an introductory course on Water and Society. He emphasized applications of science to real-world problems. Bob was a major contributor and founder of [International House](#) that now serves as a meeting place for students from around the world. Bob Hagan's commitment to water education, his broad smile, and firm handshake will be missed by his faculty colleagues and all who knew him.

