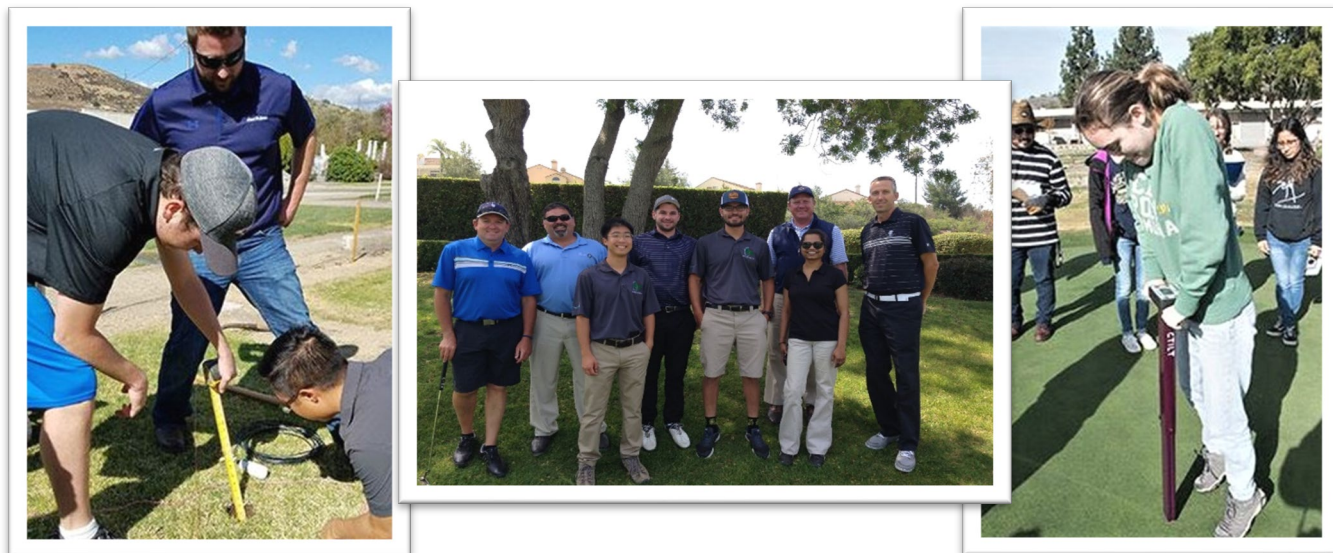




## **Center for Turf, Irrigation, and Landscape Technology (CTILT)**



### **Making an Impact in Southern California and Beyond**

The Center for Turf, Irrigation, and Landscape Technology (CTILT) is a program that is an important part of the Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona. The mission of CTILT is to enhance the quality of undergraduate and graduate education, work experiences, and applied research to make an impact in the turf and golf industry both in California and the nation.

CTILT is a living laboratory for turf and irrigation coursework and research. The center is essential in promoting professional development, enhancing research and scholarly activities, and developing internships and career opportunities for student from diverse backgrounds, including students from groups historically underrepresented at Cal Poly Pomona. The involvement and support of industry and state partners is incredibly important to the center and for student's success in careers related to water conservation, golf course and landscape turf management.

Our students receive multiple internship opportunities at golf courses across the United States including New York, Florida, Hawaii, Nevada, and California. As part of the Cal Poly Pomona commitment to student success and the CSU Graduation Initiative 2025, the CTILT job placement and/or graduate school acceptance rate is 100%. Just to name a few, CTILT alumni secure jobs at Spyglass Country Club, Pebble Beach, Disneyland, Target Specialty, and the Colosseum, just to name a few. The program is succeeding in increasing the participation of women in the turf curriculum and industry—including sports field, golf, and landscape—as well as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. For example, there has been a 30% increase in the number of women in the turfgrass program as compared to last year. Additionally, the 2019 Turf Bowl teams included more than twice the number of women than on the previous teams. In 2020, for the first time, our team won the National Collegiate Turf Competition, and it was also the first time the competition had been won by a team that included a female member or members. Of the four students on Cal Poly Pomona's first place team, three were female students.



### Investment Opportunities

As you can imagine, California state funding now covers slightly more than half of Cal Poly Pomona's operating costs, with tuition and fees expected to make up the remainder. However, due to rising costs, there is a financial "gap" that must be filled. Crucial to continuing to provide quality learning opportunities for students is to seek philanthropic donor investments. We will collaborate with you to establish the guidelines of your gift to create an impactful contribution that meets your passion and interest.

Priorities for the CTILT program include:

- Program support to enhance the student experience to support travel, educational field trips, internships, and scholarships (\$50,000 annual).
- Investment in continuing to improve our facilities and equipment. For example, sponsorship of a technician to help maintain the current facilities (\$15,000 annual) or funding for necessary tools, such as a rough mower, gas powered hedge trimmer, aerator, shovels, rakes, and lopper/pruning saws (\$10,000 annual; gift-in-kind).
- Opportunities to foster student and faculty research surrounding innovative technologies, such as remote sensing, GIS, and SMS (\$50,000 annually, with the potential for matching funds from the California state's Agricultural Research Institute or ARI).

Investment in the Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture CTILT program ensures the success of future generations of students that inspire creativity and innovation, embrace local and global challenges, and transform lives.

