

Ted Smith named TSJC Valley Campus Faculty of the Year

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Ted Smith

ALAMOSA Ted Smith has been named TSJC Valley Campus Faculty of the Year for 2009.

Smith earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1984 from Colorado State University in Fort Collins with a major in Fishery Biology with concentration in Aquaculture.

In 1996, as an aquaculture consultant, he successfully designed, wrote, and produced Phase I and II for new program approval in Agriculture, complete with standards and measures, competencies, culture of assessment, curriculum, and articulation for the Aquaculture Program for TSJC's Valley Campus. Then, Smith said he was asked if he would like to teach the program: "and well... the rest is history. I truly love teaching aquaculture and feel at the end of the day, we have made a positive difference in the human condition. I believe higher education is a human right," Smith said.

Smith currently instructs 50 credit hours in fish culture coursework, encompassing all aspects of production aquaculture ranging from 'the biology to the business' of raising finfish and other products of aquacultural significance.

Under Smith's leadership, the TSJC aquafarm is on the verge of wholesale marketing of fresh tilapia fillets. He recently received HACCP Training and Certification in seafood industry standards. HACCP is a quality seafood assurance program at the federal level.

"The plan this coming Spring 2009 semester is to serve area restaurants, grocery stores, the regional hospital and senior citizen centers with nutritious and healthy fish," said Smith. Smith has formed partnerships with federal and state entities such as the USDA, USFWS, US Forest Service, BLM, and CDOW as well as industry and community partners in order to strengthen the aquaculture program and provide the best possible training and career opportunities to his students.

The Aquaculture Program was named the 2006 Colorado Community College System Outstanding Program of the Year.

He actively serves on a variety of state, regional and national aquaculture boards and committees.

Smith and his family, wife, Lyndal, son, Jed, and daughter, Emma Grace love to travel, camp and fly-fish as a family. "During the winter we also spend time on the ice," he said: "Ice fishing!"