The Press Democrat

Alpha Omega Winery owners donate funds for Sonoma State University's Wine Business Institute

BILL SWINDELL



Robin and Michelle Baggett, owners of Alpha Omega Winery in St. Helena and Tolosa Winery in San Luis Obispo, have donated \$200,000 for a conference room in the new home for Sonoma State University's Wine Business Institute.

The funding will go to the planned Wine Spectator Learning Center, which will house the university's Wine Business Institute. It is scheduled to open in 2017.

An attorney, Robin Baggett began his career in 1988 as a grape grower, planting more than 800 acres of vineyards outside San Luis Obispo. In 1997, he founded Tolosa Winery and Courtside Cellars. The couple founded Alpha Omega in Napa Valley in 2006.

The wine industry has donated \$6.7 million so far toward construction of the new facility, said Ray Johnson, director of the Wine Business Institute.