



# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Occasionally I run into Vulcans sports fans who still have a sweater, jersey or jacket they've worn since their student years. It comes out of the closet on game days – a symbol of longstanding pride in our University and its athletics programs.

The emblems on that clothing tell a story. Over the years, our Vulcan has evolved from a cartoon character to a muscular, hammer-wielding god of fire. Those vintage sweaters and jackets are snapshots of Cal U history.

This semester we introduced a new Vulcan. The fiery figure embodies the spirit of Cal U athletics – confident and committed, powerful and proud. Created with input from our entire University community, including coaches and student-athletes, it's making its way onto team uniforms and the apparel worn by Vulcans coaches, players and fans.

Our new Vulcan is just one piece of a University-wide rebranding initiative. Updated messaging and contemporary logos reflect Cal U's authentic personality: We are a University committed to excellence, focused on our students, grounded in tradition and inspired to achieve.

Our students have embraced the new logos, and I expect they will spark the same loyalty and pride as our legacy symbols. I'm already seeing them on campus and at our sports venues.

So treasure those well-worn jackets and T-shirts. They are part of a proud tradition. But take a look at Cal U's new logos. You might decide to update your wardrobe!

With warm wishes,



*Geraldine M. Jones*

Geraldine M. Jones  
PRESIDENT, CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## CAL U REVIEW

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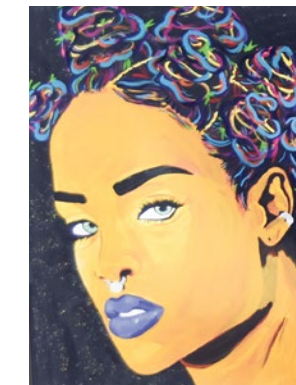
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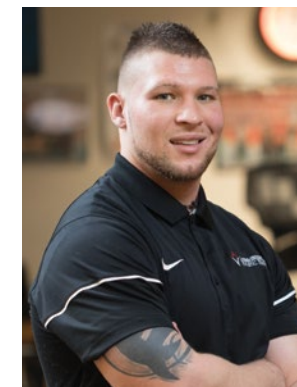
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WCAL adviser Gary Smith '98 with students Evan Peffer (left) and Dillon Gaudet

# RADIO DAYS

## WCAL marks 50 years on the air

In 1969, from the basement of student Dave Dragosin's off-campus apartment across from the World Cultures Building, an unlicensed signal went out.

As Dragosin tells the story, WBDJ (Be a DJ), all one-tenth of a watt of it, didn't last long.

"For a period of a month or so, we were on the air, having a good time," he recalls. "I was at a Jaggerz concert in Hamer Hall when we got word that the landlord was going to kick us out."

The landlord did give the station the boot – "for fear of all the wires," as the *California Times* reported in May 1973.

Happy 50th birthday, WCAL. You've come a long way.

### IN THE BEGINNING

The Vulcan Radio Club was formed in the mid-1960s, but it split within a couple of years between those interested in AM/FM broadcasting and amateur, or "ham," radio operators.

In spring 1969, students attempted to set up an unlicensed station in Vulcan Lounge, according to the *Cal Times*.

Quicker than you can flip through the presets on your car radio, the station – now called WMCL – moved first to McCloskey Hall, then to Dragosin's basement, then to a house on Beazel Street where train whistles interrupted the programs.

Finally, in fall 1971, the radio station moved to the basement of the student center, and the Student Activities Association requested a 10-watt FM license from the Federal Communications Commission.

Permission was granted in 1972. An official station – the 10-watt WVCS (Voice of Cal State) – was finally on the air, operated by the Student Broadcast Club.

In 1992, the student center was expanded to twice its size and named for respected administrator Elmo Natali. The campus radio station, TV station and student newspaper moved to a new media center there.



Obviously, there's an attachment to WVCS for alumni who worked at the radio station, considering those letters have been around for 30 years."

TOM LETURGEY '90

In March 2005, J.R. Wheeler '82, '84, then the associate dean of media services, negotiated a deal with Minnesota Public Radio to acquire the WCAL call letters.

"Obviously, there's an attachment to WVCS for alumni who worked at the radio station, considering those letters have been around for 30 years," station alumnus Tom Leturgey '90 said at the time.

"But if this helps the University better market the radio station, then I would think we are all for it."

Today, WCAL broadcasts at 3.3 kilowatts from a media suite in the Natali Student Center, and it has a brand-new tower at Roadman Park.

The station is owned and operated by SAI, the nonprofit Student Association Inc.

This spring 61 students were involved, producing 21 original shows and airing 56 hours of student programming each week. The station also broadcasts Vulcans football and men's and women's basketball games.

WCAL's signal has a 30- to 40-mile radius, reaching Pennsylvania listeners in Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland and Allegheny counties. It also streams online.

"It is still one of the most powerful college stations in Pennsylvania," says Gary Smith '98, club adviser and director of operations for CUTV, the campus television station, and adviser for WCAL.

### STUDENT-RUN STATION

Like all of Cal U's clubs and organizations, WCAL is open to all students, regardless of major.

Some join because they want a career in radio. Many want to play their favorite music. If you pass a 12-hour training course, you're allowed to take a seat behind the mic.

Mostly, it's a blast.

"The station teaches a lot of different skills," Smith says. "You have to learn to think on your feet and follow the rules of an organization, especially for members of our executive board. You manage interpersonal relationships, run a board, run a show and run a station."

An executive board composed of seven students – with staff oversight when needed – manages day-to-day operations.

"They're very entrepreneurial," says Pam DelVerne '01, '06, director of technology services for SAI. "They have very creative ideas for the shows they'd like to do, and they have a lot of responsibility."

The station is completely digital, run with CD changers, computers and DAT machines. Producers use an Avid Pro Tools editing system, the industry standard.

Beth Bershok '84 and Gary Love '74 were familiar voices in the Pittsburgh market for 18 years, working together on "Gary and Beth in the Morning" on WLTJ-FM until a format change in 2008.

"How unusual," Bershok says, "to have a show that ran for 18 years and then to have two Cal U grads as hosts after being at the same college station 10 years apart."

Bershok, now regional marketing director for Herbein + Company Inc., wanted a career in radio and chose Cal U specifically because of the student-run station.

### ON-AIR EXPERIENCE

"Actual on-air experience is critical," she says. "Cal U had the only student-run, 24-hour operation going among the schools I was considering, and you could get on the air as a freshman. Some schools wouldn't allow you on the air until you were a junior or senior."

WCAL's structure then, as now, mirrored a commercial station.

"It wasn't just college kids playing their favorite albums," Bershok says. "We had a program director, a music director, a sports director. We had a board that made financial decisions. All the students did those jobs the way you do them inside a commercial radio station."

"Except for sports, I did everything there was to do – news and live broadcasts – and that was a huge difference in the trajectory of my career."

As the station enters its sixth decade, student Evan Peffer is proof that the "do everything" spirit lives on at WCAL. She's a liberal studies major with minors in music, technical theater and graphic communications. She's also WCAL's business director, live sports engineer and radio DJ.

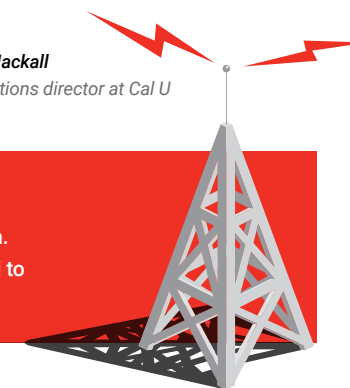
"Anytime we do ticket giveaways, I contact booking agencies to handle the arrangements," she says. "We get real-world experience at the station. I know how to write a proposal, read a budget and handle money."

"I'll be prepared for a career after Cal U." ■

By Wendy Mackall  
Communications director at Cal U

## JOIN THE PARTY

Cal U celebrates 50 years of campus radio from 2-6 p.m. July 13 in the Kara Alumni House. Visit [calu.edu/alumni](http://calu.edu/alumni) to reserve your seat or email [alumni@calu.edu](mailto:alumni@calu.edu) for details.



# VOICES OF CALU RADIO



## STEVE MAGGIO '16

Board Operator/Producer, United Stations Radio Network  
Overnight DJ/Board Operator, ALT 92.3, New York City

"I was at WCAL from 2012-2016. One of my favorite memories was our annual lock-in, a fundraiser for local charities where we'd take five or six of our DJs and lock them in the station for 48 hours. Listeners could call in and make donations to release our 'inmates' on 'bail' although 90 percent of the time, the DJs wouldn't want to leave. In fact, there would be a bunch of other staff hanging out at the station throughout the event, just enjoying each other and having fun."

## KAITLYN O'TOOLE '15

Digital Marketing Specialist  
Overnight Host, WYEP-FM, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I decided not to take a career in radio/TV, but I interned at WYEP back in 2014 and have hosted an overnight/after-hours show there since 2016. I would have loved to do radio as a career, but I also knew that college and nonprofit radio is a completely different world than commercial radio ... so that's why I kept in touch with the WYEP staff and went through the process to get a volunteer show there."

## PAUL PARR '90

Teacher, High School Football Coach,  
Heavy Metal Musician, South Florida

Parr and Natalie Cardinale '91 hosted the "Friday Night Metal Mixer" from 1986-1989. "I hated being pre-empted by high school football in the fall. Nothing made me angrier than having to wait to do the 'Friday Night Metal Mixer.' And because God has a twisted sense of humor, I am now a high school football coach. I enjoy that more than actually doing the Mixer."



## PETE POVICH '03

Program Director, Morning Show Host  
WJPA, 95.3 FM and 1450 AM, Washington, Pa.

"My biggest accomplishment at WVCS in the early 1980s was getting us to be on the air 24/7. I thought, if we were going to be a real radio station, and with all the talent that we had, then let's do real radio. I was the program manager and station manager, and we had people go out and do campus news. We had regular shows. Not that it was easy, but that was the thing I was most proud of. It stayed on 24/7 for two years straight."

## DR. MARCELLA 'MARCY' BLOUT '65

Emerita Professor

She wasn't on the air at WVCS or WCAL, but Blout influenced countless students who took her communication classes, including Voice and Articulation. "I taught them the International Phonetic Alphabet, and by the end of the course, they knew it and could reproduce Standard American Speech. They were serious about their radio careers. They were intense, and I loved that."



## BRIAN CLEARY '83

Morning show host, program director, Y102.5, Charleston, S.C.  
Program director, 103.5 WEZL, Charleston, S.C.

"We did remote broadcasts from the Hills store in Belle Vernon to raise money for Children's Hospital. We raised over \$10,000 the first time, which was a pretty big amount. ... I also remember getting locked out of the studio. I was playing 'Hold On' by Ian Gomm, which is a pretty short song, and I'm not sure why I thought I could make it back from the bathroom in time, but it went to dead air till someone could open the door."



## CRIS WINTER '84

"Cris Winter in the Morning"  
WISH 99.7-FM, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I am blessed to have a career in radio right here in my hometown. Everything I learned at WVCS I was able to apply to my radio career. What I got out of being a part of the station was teamwork - and friendships. Here it is 35 years later, and I am still friends with many of the people I met at the station. Even though there were lots of funny stories - people would work at the station overnight and fall asleep behind the controls - we ran it like a real, legitimate radio station."

## RON RAMSEY '83

Sales Representative  
OUTFRONT Media Inc., Western Pennsylvania

"Well, obviously one of the best things to happen was meeting my wife (Cris Winter). It's 32 years of marriage and 38 years being together. I was a business administration and management major, but we all loved music. I bet it was less than 30 percent who were radio/communication majors. It was our fraternity, and we hung out 24/7. It was people who wanted to join something or find something to occupy their time. And it let people out of their shells, made them feel like they belonged."

# REDEFINING OUR BRAND

## UPDATED LOGOS REFLECT CAL U'S PERSONALITY

**O**n the clock atop Old Main, the time is always 6:52 p.m. In military time, that's 18:52 – a reminder of the year our school was founded, and one of many ways that new brand elements tell the Cal U story.

This spring, California University introduced an updated clock tower logo, Vulcan logo and other symbols. The new designs are part of a campuswide initiative to define the University's unique character, freshen its messaging and update its brand.

"Our logos are a lens to the University; they serve as a visual image of Cal U," says Keli Henderson, Cal U's marketing director. "After more than a decade, it was time to update our logos and brand identity to more accurately represent the University's personality."

The refreshed logos are bold and contemporary, but they proudly build on the past. School colors remain unchanged, while a new energy infuses the traditional clock tower and Vulcan images. Every symbol captures the resilient, supportive and inspiring spirit of Cal U.

The University community was invited to take part in the design process, and input from hundreds of students, faculty, staff members and alumni informed the results.

Specialists at Carnegie Dartlet, a leading brand identity firm, conducted extensive research and developed the athletics logos. Building on that work, the creative services team from Cal U's Office of Communications and Marketing redesigned the University emblems.



Athletic director Dr. Karen Hjerpe and University President Geraldine Jones pause for a photo with mascot Blaze.

### FORGING A VULCAN

Scott Ochander, chief marketing officer and partner at Carnegie Dartlet, answers questions about the rebranding project:

**Q Why is it important for a university to have a recognizable brand?**

**A** A university's brand is more than a logo. It's the sum total of the school's reputation and its ability to garner awareness. A successful brand has the ability to attract strong faculty and staff, recruit prospective students, and speak positively about alumni to potential employers and graduate schools.

**Q Why is personality such an important brand concept?**

**A** The power of human connections is perhaps the most valuable asset on Earth. In fact, the greatest brands in the world are human ones. By defining and communicating the University's personality, Cal U can tap into its authentic, and relatable, human connection to stakeholders of all types.

**Q What was your favorite part of creating the new logos?**

**A** My favorite part of the process was being on campus and engaging in rich discussions with participants in the feedback sessions. It was fascinating to hear the viewpoints that were presented and the variety and depth of interpretations and opinions that were shared. I believe it made for a richer, more well-founded mark.



**Q How was the image of Vulcan created?**

**A** The new Vulcan logo was created in close partnership with students, faculty, staff and alumni. At every step of the way, we looked to gain insight and feedback on how the personality of the school would be portrayed through the Vulcan.

At the start, the design team ideated a half-dozen expressions of the word "Vulcan": Is it a male? A female? A fire sprite? Or an object? The team sketched rough ideas of each and brought them to campus.

There was lively discussion about the constructs that gave solid direction to the refinements. And so it went. Cal U participants remained engaged and enthusiastic as the Carnegie Dartlet design team refined each stage, each time bringing back concepts for consensus.

The final Vulcan emerged – a dynamic, fiery, hammer-wielding Vulcan fully supported by the Cal U community.

### TIES TO TRADITION

Greg Sofranko, Cal U's director of creative services, took on the challenge of updating the University's logos and wordmarks.

"Our goal was to reflect Cal U's personality while retaining ties to our traditions and heritage," Sofranko says. "The clock tower and the Cal U name are widely recognized – and our alumni are loyal to those symbols. We value those connections."

Sofranko and Cal U artist/illustrator Philip Haragos '10 added an extra dash of Cal U history while refreshing familiar images. For example, they built the new clock tower from 16 shapes, "because 1 + 8 + 5 + 2 = 16," they explain.

The creative team took two versions of the Cal U logo to the Natali Student Center, where hundreds of passerby voted for the one they believe best represents our school. The bold, red name replaces the retired "block" and "Cal script" logos, which are now part of Cal U's history.

The campus community got its first look at the refreshed logos and wordmarks in February, at a high-energy rally in the Performance Center. The updated emblems are emerging gradually on campus as sports teams order new uniforms, departments restock stationery and business cards, and Vulcans sports fans pick up T-shirts at the Cal U Bookstore.

Mascot Blaze even has a new "tattoo."

"I've watched our logos evolve over the years," says University President Geraldine M. Jones. "Each one tells us something about the era when they were created."

"These new images reflect the Cal U of today and tomorrow, while honoring our past. They are powerful and easy to recognize. They truly capture the pride and vitality of our University and our Vulcan athletics program." ■

By Christine Kindl  
VP for Communications and Marketing

**NEW LOOK**

See the 'reveal' video and learn more online at [calu.edu/brand](http://calu.edu/brand).



**CALIFORNIA  
UNIVERSITY**  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

# BUSINESS PROGRAMS *EARN* ACCREDITATION

Fourteen degree programs in the Department of Business and Economics have been accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), the only organization offering specialized business accreditation for all degree levels.

Cal U now offers accredited Bachelor of Science in Business Administration programs in accounting, economics, finance, human resource management, management, marketing, and interdisciplinary studies in business and commerce.

In addition, the concentrations in integrated global business and management information systems have been accredited, along with the Master of Business Administration degree and MBA programs in business analytics, entrepreneurship, healthcare management and nursing administration.

Accreditation is a quality assurance process designed to verify that a university's programs meet nationally recognized standards of academic and professional excellence.

Says Dr. Steve Parscale, chief accreditation officer for ACBSP: "This accreditation is evidence that Cal U is committed to providing the highest quality business education for its students."



## HARRISBURG INTERNSHIP STRENGTHENS NETWORK



Angel Hart Funk has added a notable line to her resume: a 15-week internship in the office of Gov. Tom Wolf.

Funk, a communications and public relations major with a minor in journalism, completed The Harrisburg Internship Semester, a program offered through Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

THIS allows student to experience state government firsthand while earning a full semester's worth of credits. In addition to her duties in the Governor's Office, Funk attended academic seminars and completed a research project as part of her internship requirements.

Funk says the "once-in-a-lifetime experience" expanded her professional network – essential for anyone who aspires to a career in government affairs. She returned from Harrisburg eager to discuss THIS with her fellow students at the 2019 Strike a Spark conference on campus.

"All of the people in the Governor's Office truly want to see you learn and grow as a young

professional," Funk says. "Every day I got to witness change-makers and people who truly care about the future of Pennsylvania.

"It inspires me to follow in their footsteps."

## EVENTS CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE

Students explored "Black History Through the Decades" during Cal U's annual celebration of African-American achievements and culture.

Black History Month events included a volunteer service challenge to honor the spirit of the Rev. Martin Luther King; giveaways during Multicultural Affairs Night at Vulcans basketball; and shaves and haircuts for men of color, sponsored by Cal U Men United.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education spiced up the annual Soul Food Luncheon with historical notes about the origin of each traditional dish. MADE also organized a team trivia contest addressing black history, sports, politics and more.

Motivational speaker Joe Webb, a native of nearby Donora, Pa., inspired students with his talk "Walking Both Sides of the Street: The Road to Academic Success."

At the BSU's "culture café," students performed spoken word pieces, music and dance. Cal U Women United and the



Department of Art and Languages presented a Black Arts Festival in Vulcan Hall. And an African drum ensemble entertained in the Natali Food Court, where members of the African Student Association joined family members to serve a traditional West African meal.

February's slate of activities was designed to have broad appeal, says Sheleta Camarda-Webb, director of Multicultural Affairs.

"As we continue to embrace diversity and inclusion here at Cal U, it's important to pause and do what we can to bring a variety of cultural experiences to our campus community."

## QUALITY REAFFIRMED FOR SEVEN PROGRAMS

Quality assurance is an ongoing process for academic programs that achieve accreditation. Accreditors re-evaluate each program at regular intervals to verify that high standards are being maintained.

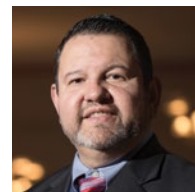
Seven Cal U programs were re-accredited recently, bringing the total number of accredited programs at the University to more than 50 in all.

Programs continuing their accreditation are the bachelors and masters degrees in social work, both recognized by the Council of Social Work Education; and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs in nursing administration and leadership and in nursing education, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Also maintaining accreditation are the Master of Science in School Psychology, recognized by the National Association of

School Psychologists; and the B.S. degrees in computer information systems and computer science, both recognized by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET.

## VICE PRESIDENT LEADS NEW ENROLLMENT DIVISION



Cal U has reorganized staff to better coordinate the full scope of its strategic enrollment and student success

efforts, and hired a vice president to lead the new Office of Enrollment Management.

After a national search, T. David Garcia joined the University community March 4.

The new vice president for Enrollment Management comes to Cal U from Kent State University, in Ohio, where he created and implemented strategic enrollment plans

resulting in 10 consecutive years of enrollment growth.

At Cal U, Garcia serves on the President's leadership team. He has been charged with steering the new division toward success with a "students first" attitude, data-based decision-making and an entrepreneurial spirit.

"I am so excited to join the Cal U family," Garcia says. "I was highly impressed with the beautiful campus and the excellent academic programs here at Cal U.

"With the leadership and vision of President Jones and the outstanding faculty and staff at Cal U, I have no doubt that we will be able to grow enrollment to higher levels in the years to come."

Cal U's new Office of Enrollment Management comprises the offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Success, and Career and Professional Development, plus the Welcome Center and Student Orientation.



## Cookies for a cause

Students, faculty, staff and guests help themselves to cookies at 'Take a Bite Out of Hate: Cookies for a Cause.' The campus community came together to taste cookies from a variety of ethnic traditions, enjoy music and conversation, and explore cultural, ethnic and religious differences in a friendly, informal setting. Faculty members Dr. Emily Sweitzer and Dr. Christina Toras organized the event to promote tolerance and inclusivity in the aftermath of the massacre at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's Fund for the Victims of Terror.



## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SUMMER CLASSES

Students who attend any college or university, including the 14 universities in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, may register for Summer College at Cal U.

More than 200 for-credit courses are available for undergraduate and graduate students. Classes are offered on campus and online, in convenient five-week, seven-week and 10-week sessions. Summer sessions begin May 20 and end Aug. 9.

Cal U students can register online through VIP or email [summer@calu.edu](mailto:summer@calu.edu).

Visiting students can download the 2019 Summer College brochure, which lists all courses, sessions and dates, or apply online; visit [calu.edu](http://calu.edu) and search for "summer college."

To learn more about Summer College, email [summer@calu.edu](mailto:summer@calu.edu) or call 724-938-5962.

## Ready to serve

Faculty members flank the third class to graduate from Cal U's full-time IUP Police Academy at Cal U. Each of the 13 cadets completed more than 950 hours of training to earn Act 120 Municipal Police Officer certification, which is required for employment as a police officer in the commonwealth. Academy graduates are awarded 15 academic credits at Cal U, which they can apply toward an associate degree in applied policing and technology or a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Receiving a \$6,000 scholarship from the Washington County (Pa.) District Attorney's Office was Tierra Travis, the first African-American woman to graduate from the academy.



## CERTIFICATION DENOTES SPATIAL DATA SKILLS

It's a credential that sparks conversation and catches employers' attention.

Cal U student users now can be certified by the Afghanistan Spatial Data Center, a repository for geographic data about Afghanistan's roads, rivers, hospitals, cell phone coverage and more.

"When there's an earthquake or a flood ... spatial data can help determine how to get people to safety," explains Dr. Thomas Mueller, a professor who teaches in Cal U's geography and geographic information systems (GIS) programs.

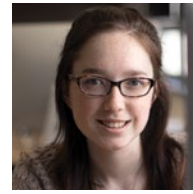
Such data also can be used to chart the risk of flooding or avalanches in a particular area.

Cal U formed a partnership with the Afghanistan Spatial Data Center in 2018, and it has become the center's most prolific educational user. Mueller utilizes the data to create coursework and hands-on projects that benefit students in a variety of majors.

A Cal U business student says it "opened me up to the possibility of one day working and living abroad." A criminal justice major sees value in GIS as she prepares for "an NCIS-type career." Emergency management students created a tabletop training exercise based on the center's data.

"It's an extra opportunity that we can provide for our students," Mueller says, "and a way for them to show a potential employer that they went above and beyond."

## PRINT TECHNOLOGY SKILLS TAKE STUDENT TO RUSSIA



Rising senior Brittany Whitestone will demonstrate her print media technology skills this summer at an international

competition in Kazan, Russia.

A digital media technology major, Whitestone qualified for the WorldSkills USA team after winning 2016 and 2017 SkillsUSA national competitions in graphic communications.

SkillsUSA is a national organization for middle school, high school and college students who are interested in technical careers. Every two years, students selected for WorldSkills teams compete with their international peers in variety of technical areas.

Whitestone, of Westminster, Md., began studying print production as a high school student at Carrol County Career and Technology Center.



## Fabulous flamingos

Todd Pinkham, associate professor in the Art and Languages Department, works with Cal U students to create painted artworks for Frostburn, a music and arts festival in Masantown, W.Va. Pinkham and Ohio sculptor Grafton Lee received a grant to create the pieces, and Pinkham involved his art students in their production.

In addition to her studies at Cal U, she has traveled to Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, in Allentown, Pa., to train on specialized equipment, and she took part in a French national contest to experience international competition firsthand.

"My professors have been very supportive of my WorldSkills journey," Whitestone says. "They work with me when I'm away for training and help me continue to work toward my degree."

Meet Brittany Whitestone on video at [calu.edu/review](http://calu.edu/review).

## FACULTY MEMBER SERVES ON FULBRIGHT COMMITTEE



Students who aspire to teach English in Holland might want to meet Dr. Kim Vanderlaan.

An associate professor of English at Cal U, Vanderlaan has joined a three-member national committee that selects participants for the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program in the Netherlands.

Fulbright's teaching assistant programs place graduates in schools overseas to supplement local English-language instruction and bring native English speakers into classrooms.

Vanderlaan traveled to Washington, D.C., to select graduates who will engage with students in primary schools, secondary schools, vocational training schools and universities in the Netherlands.

She is also the Fulbright program adviser at Cal U, and she has organized events to encourage students and faculty members to apply for Fulbright scholarships.

Vanderlaan calls the Fulbright candidates "inspirational," and says her work with the organization "gives me insights into what committees may be looking for from our students at Cal U."

"Of course," she adds, "I am hopeful that in the near future one of our own students will secure one of these prestigious and extraordinary fellowships."

## CAL U DESIGNATED 'MILITARY FRIENDLY'



Cal U has been recognized as a 2019-2020 Military Friendly School® in recognition of its ongoing

commitment to military service members, veterans and their families.

The designation is awarded by VIQORY, publisher of G.I. Jobs®, STEM Jobs® and Military Spouse magazines. Cal U has earned a spot on the list every year since 2010.

Among other services, Cal U discounts tuition costs for active-duty service members and military veterans, their spouses and eligible dependents when they enroll through Cal U Global Online, the University's online learning community.

## GRANT SUPPORTS HABITAT RESTORATION

Partners for Fish and Wildlife, a conservation collaborative based at Cal U, is restoring hundreds of acres of fish and wildlife habitat with grant support from the Richard King Mellon Foundation.

The \$800,000 grant was awarded to the Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania, which receives and manages funds on behalf of the University.

The funds support a two-year effort to fence and improve at least 35 miles of stream banks; restore more than 400 acres of upland habitat, primarily young forests and pollinator habitat; restore more than 130 acres of wetlands; and improve water flow in more than five miles of stream habitat so fish can move freely.

The conservation projects target 11 key geographic areas in western and north-central Pennsylvania. Habitat restoration is designed to support "species of concern," including the golden-winged warbler, American woodcock and Appalachian cottontail, among others.

Based at Cal U since 1999, Partners for Fish and Wildlife is a cooperative effort among many agencies. In addition to improving habitat for mammals, birds, fish and insects, it works collaboratively with landowners to restore habitat for wildlife on agricultural property and other lands.

The Richard King Mellon Foundation has been a longtime supporter of the program, which also provides internships and applied learning opportunities for Cal U students.



From left, Drs. Richard "Rick" Richey, Kaman Hung, Rosanne Woods and Melody Gardner.

# Degrees make History

## University awards first doctorates at 187th Commencement

Winter graduation ceremonies began with a historic moment, as the first doctoral degrees in California's 166-year history were awarded. They closed the next day with emotion, as the Commencement speaker embraced a longtime friend.

Before conferring degrees upon more than 1,100 students at Cal U's 187th Commencement, University President Geraldine M. Jones addressed the groundbreaking doctoral candidates – Melody Gardner '12, Kaman Hung '08, Richard "Rick" Richey '06 and Rosanne Woods '05 – at a morning event where they presented results of their research.

That evening, each was awarded a Doctor of Health Science in Health Science: Exercise Leadership.

"You have developed high-level analytical skills and have learned to form solutions

to complex, real-life issues," President Jones told the foursome.

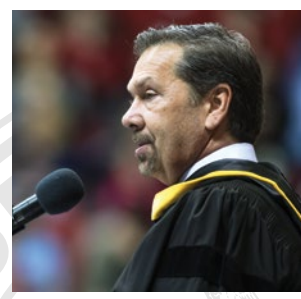
"Trust in your own abilities and talents, and use them to the fullest. You are part of a milestone moment in California's history."

### DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

Timothy P. Camus '84, who served in the U.S. Treasury Department for 32 years, addressed graduates at ceremonies Dec. 14 and 15 in the Convocation Center.

Camus retired as the deputy inspector general for investigations with the office of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, in Washington, D.C. In that role, he was responsible for leading and supervising all aspects of the agency's law enforcement mission.

During his law enforcement career, Camus investigated domestic terrorism groups, death threats made against public officials,



Your education is a foundation for your future and your professional lives. You have the keys to control your future. Now go out and be the stars of Cal U."

TIMOTHY P. CAMUS '84

bribery, extortion and other aspects of internal corruption and white-collar crime involving the IRS.

As a career member of the Senior Executive Service, he received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service. And the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service awarded him a medal for dismantling an international telephone impersonation scheme that cheated some 10,000 Americans out of more than \$54 million.

It all started at California, he told the graduates.

"The class size, the campus size and the fact that I was held accountable by my professors prepared me for a successful career – one that I guarantee would not have happened without Cal U."

Camus offered three tips to the Class of 2018: never underestimate the power of an opportunity, pay attention to detail, and have balance in your life.

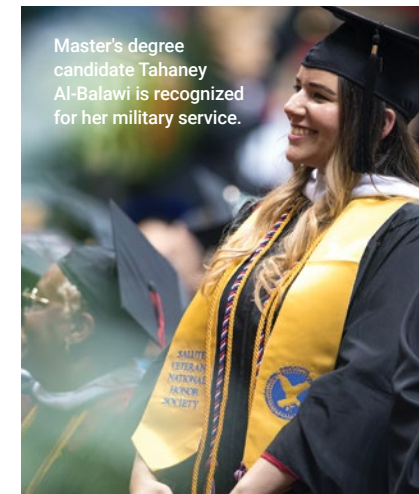
"Your education is a foundation for your future and your professional lives," he said. "You have the keys to control your future. Now go out and be the stars of Cal U."

### FRATERNITY TIES

At the undergraduate ceremony, Camus stepped forward to greet the final candidate to receive a diploma – Larry Wallach, who earned an associate degree in industrial technology.

He and Camus were Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity brothers in the 1980s.

Wallach came back to school through the Trade Adjustment Assistance program after his former employer, a coal mining equipment manufacturer, closed two years ago.



Master's degree candidate Tahaney Al-Balawi is recognized for her military service.



Commencement speaker Timothy P. Camus '84 makes his way to the stage.



Cal U President Geraldine Jones: "Every day brings new opportunities!"



Shantel Hammond, of Pittsburgh, Pa., shows off her business administration degree.

"How many times, if ever, is the Commencement speaker a personal friend of one of the graduates?" said Wallach, who intends to pursue a bachelor's degree at Cal U.

"It was a challenging semester. It was special to have Tim as the speaker and to see how far he's come."

### DETERMINED TO SUCCEED

During the undergraduate ceremony, senior class envoy Blair Madison presented President Jones with a check for more than \$15,000 contributed by graduating seniors and their families.

Two days later, he returned to work as a human resources assistant with UPMC Corporate Services, where he'd completed an internship while earning a business degree.

"My different experiences at Cal U help me interact with the customers we deal with," said Madison, a former Alumni Ambassador.

"Being on stage and then walking across to shake hands and get my degree from President Jones was so exciting, it was almost surreal."

One after another, graduates shared stories of determination and triumph. Aryn Hess, the mother of three, earned two associate and two bachelor's degrees, with honors, from the College of Science and Technology.

First Lt. Samir Jamal Glenn-Roundtree, of the U.S. Marine Corps, served as a military officer while studying applied criminology online. Before transitioning to a job with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, he traveled to campus to accept his hard-won master's degree in person.

Danielle Ruzzi couldn't stop smiling as she received her degree in communication studies, with a focus on radio and television.

"Cal U helped me prepare for the real world in so many ways," she said. "I couldn't be happier to say I finally did it!"

Before they departed, President Jones offered the graduates some heartfelt advice.

"Although you'll receive your degree today, please recognize that your education is not done. Every day brings new opportunities for learning." ■







# A place for learning

**M**organ Hall was crowded with grownups, but the 11 preschoolers knew just what to do. They stood side by side, stretching a handmade, red-and-black paper chain across the width of their brand-new classroom.

When University President Geraldine Jones gave the signal, they tore apart the paper rings and tossed the scraps in the air.

With that, the Rutledge Institute preschool was officially open.

The preschool – two newly renovated classrooms with a central foyer, plus teacher offices and storage space – is the centerpiece of the Rutledge Institute for Early Childhood Education.

Funded through a historic \$4.2 million gift from Karen and Tom '77 Rutledge, the institute brings teachers from The Village, a nationally accredited childhood education center, to campus to provide high-quality preschool education for eligible children ages 3-5.



As the Rutledges and President Jones look on, preschool director Cherie Sears '81, '17 (at left) helps children break a paper chain.



Tom Rutledge '77 takes a seat in a tiny chair so he can chat with the Rutledge Institute children.



The first cohort of Rutledge Scholars gathers for a photo. Scholars form a living and learning community during their four years at Cal U.



Holding gifts from the preschool class, Karen and Tom '77 Rutledge talk with children and their teachers at the Rutledge Institute.



The institute also offers exceptional learning opportunities and full-tuition scholarships for future teachers enrolled at Cal U as Rutledge Institute Scholars.

With many of their family members present, the Rutledges, of Greenwich, Conn., reminisced about their days as a young married couple raising their first child in an off-campus rental while Tom went to school and worked as a cable technician.

He is now the chairman and CEO of Charter Communications, the nation's second-largest cable provider.

"California had a real impact on us," Tom said before settling into a tiny chair to meet the little learners. "This is really a continuation of a longtime relationship

of supporting education here.

"Giving something like this is a tremendous gift to ourselves, too. We are very proud of what's been built, and of the scholars."

"There's no one here today who's happier than me," added Karen. "We expect the Rutledge Institute to be a model of excellence for preschool education – and you are all going to do just great."

Preschool classes began in fall 2018, with children and teachers in temporary classroom space just a few doors away in Morgan Hall. The children peeked in occasionally during the renovations, and the entire class performed a song to thank the University workers when the project wrapped up.

By dedication day, the books and blocks and locally made furniture was all in place, and the children proudly led their parents around the rooms.

The seven Rutledge Scholars also explored the space where their teacher training soon would begin.

"We all come from different backgrounds, but ... we all have the same purpose and goals: to educate children," said first-year scholar Elijah Gilbert.

"This opportunity will open so many doors for our futures. (The institute) gives us a chance to further our knowledge, become leaders in the field and touch the lives of kids such as these adorable little ones here." ■

# HEY THERE, Alumni

We are gearing up for our busy season here at the Office of Alumni Relations, with many events on campus, around Pennsylvania and across the country.

## AFFINITY GIVING

Did you know that you can direct your philanthropic gift to the specific scholarship, College, department, organization or program of your choice? Our affinity giving opportunities allow you to support the aspects of our alma mater that are most important to you.

Contact our Annual Fund manager, Randi Minerva (minerva@calu.edu), for more information about affinity giving opportunities.

You're encouraged to update your profile at calu.edu/alumni and list the Cal U clubs, organizations, sports and other activities you were involved in as a student.

## RECOGNIZING YOUNG ALUMNI

Do you know a Cal U graduate under age 40 who is doing big things in their profession or their community? Nominate a young alumnus today for our inaugural "Under 40" awards!

Email alumni@calu.edu with your nomination before June 1, 2019; self-nominations are welcome. Our inaugural "Under 40" class will be celebrated on campus Sept. 13-14, 2019.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING 2019

Last year we raised the bar for Homecoming Weekend by adding many Vulcan Fest activities. This year is going to be better than all the rest, as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of Homecoming at Cal U!

Homecoming and Vulcan Fest 2019 is Oct. 11-13. It's your chance to enjoy a weekend filled with Cal U memories, old and new. Stay tuned to the *Cal U Review* and the *Vulcan Gazette* e-newsletter for details!

## STAY CONNECTED

From time to time, our student callers may contact you to ask for address, email and employment updates, or to see if you would like to give to Cal U. Please be kind. They are helping to ensure that our information is current, so we can keep you in the loop on everything going on at our Alumni Association and your alma mater.

We hope to see you soon, on campus or on the road. From all of us here, have a safe and happy summer!



*Ryan Barnhart*

Ryan Barnhart '08, '09  
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

## ALUMNI CALENDAR UPCOMING EVENTS

- JUN 15** **CAL U DAY AT KENNYWOOD**  
 Make your own Kennywood memories with us! Your ticket includes access to a Cal U Ice Cream Social in the pavilions at Kennywood Park. Contact the alumni office for tickets.
- JUN 25** **ATHLETIC TRAINING ALUMNI EVENT**  
 Join us in Las Vegas, Nev., at the 2019 NATA Convention. Athletic training graduates gather at the Hard Rock Hotel on Paradise Road for this annual alumni classic.
- JUN 29** **BOW TIES & PEARLS BALL**  
 Our signature fundraising event supports student scholarships and legacy projects on campus. Your presence adds sparkle to the festivities! Details and reservations: calu.edu/bowtiesball.
- AUG 10** **MEET US IN CHARLOTTE**  
 Meet up with alumni from Charlotte, N.C., and the surrounding area. We'll see you at Blackfinn Ameripub, 210 E. Trade St., Uptown Charlotte, for complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.
- AUG 31** **ANNAPOLIS ALUMNI EVENT**  
 Link up with Annapolis, Baltimore and D.C.-area alumni at Chesapeake Brewing, 114 West St., Annapolis, Md. Our Alumni Happy Hour features complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar with CB's craft brews on tap.
- SEP 6** **CAL U NIGHT AT PNC PARK**  
 Don't miss our popular Cal U Night at the home of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Last year more than 500 alumni and friends took in a great baseball night in Pittsburgh.
- SEP 27** **WHAT'S BREWING IN CLEVELAND?**  
 It's our first foray into Ohio, and you're invited! Cal U grads gather at Nano Brew, 1859 W. 25th St., Cleveland, for hearty hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar with the brewpub's signature craft beers.
-  **ALUMNI TAILGATES**  
 Don't forget our Alumni Tailgates at Roadman Park, Sept. 14, Sept. 21, Oct. 26 and Nov. 9. Come party in the park with us before every home football game!

For details about these and other upcoming events, visit calu.edu/alumni online, email us at alumni@calu.edu, or call us at 724-938-4418.

## CENTER COURT CELEBRATION HONORS ABOUND AT THE ANNUAL BASKETBALL ALUMNI DAY



Members of the 2004 women's basketball team, winners of the NCAA Division II national championship, gather in the Convocation Center arena with President Jones and graduates from multiple eras of women's basketball. The annual Basketball Alumni Day is an opportunity for former men's and women's Vulcans basketball players to reconnect and support Cal U Athletics.

On the court in the Convocation Center, University President **Geraldine Jones '72, '80** and alumni relations director **Ryan Barnhart '08, '09** congratulate **J. Patrick Hobart '68**, the Men's Basketball Alumnus of the Year. A member of Cal U's Athletic Hall of Fame, Hobart was a standout forward/center for Vulcans basketball's 1970 PSAC championship team.



President Jones and athletic director Dr. Karen Hjerpe (right) present a special award recognizing **Carolyn Tardd '78** for her contributions to Cal U Athletics. During her many years as the department's administrative assistant, Tardd was a friend, supervisor and mentor to thousands of work-study students and sport management majors. She is retiring this spring after 40 years of service to Cal U.



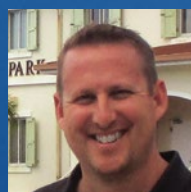
**Stephanie (Michael) Anderson '13, '15** holds son Noah as she accepts the Vulcan Women's Basketball Alumna of the Year award from President Jones and alumni director Barnhart. Anderson was honored for her contributions to the women's basketball program and her success as a collegiate coach; she is the assistant women's basketball coach at Fairmont State (W.Va.) University.



Grandsons Charlie and Will join Dr. William Biddington at center court, where athletic director Hjerpe and President Jones honored him for his service to Cal U Athletics. Biddington recently completed a 16-year tenure as Cal U's Faculty Athletic Representative; the emeritus FAR now serves as acting dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

..... **DON'T MISS IT!** .....  
**OCT. 11-13, 2019**  
**HOMECOMING**  
**AND VULCAN FEST**

# NURTURING nature



It's paradise found for Todd Sampsell. Early in 2019, he began his job as president of the Friends of Virgin

Islands National Park, on St. John, the smallest of the three Virgin Islands.

The organization works with the National Park Service to promote, preserve and protect Virgin Islands National Park, which comprises more than 7,000 acres on land and 5,500 marine acres.

"We raise support and awareness," Sampsell says. "We help the National Park Service protect natural, cultural and historical resources and connect people to the park.

"Projects range from building and maintaining trails, boardwalks and facilities to restoring trees and protecting

other natural features. Part of the park is marine, so we support coral reef protection and sea turtle nest monitoring."

The Virgin Islands are still recovering from two major hurricanes, Irma and Maria, that struck in September 2017.

"We lost a lot of our infrastructure all over the island, and staff and locals have been working hard to restore it," Sampsell says.

He graduated from Cal U in 1999 with a master's degree in biology, and worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and for nonprofit organizations such as the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy before moving to Missouri.

There, he was state director of The Nature Conservancy and then deputy director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Missouri Department of Conservation.

Sampsell's new job blends his work experience with nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies.

"I've always loved the ocean," he says. "My wife has a graduate degree in marine biology from Bloomsburg University," one of Cal U's "sister schools."

Sampsell relishes the privilege of caring for the island's resources.

"Conservation is a passion that is personal," he insists.

"Thankfully, many people are realizing the connections between the environment, human health and our economy as we experience a changing climate and other global challenges.

"There's no question that protection of nature has to be an important and relevant topic for everyone, whether you're in the field or not. It impacts everyone." ■

## FOCUSED ON STUDENTS

What makes your heart happy? It's a question that Karen Jenkins Rubican '94 helps students answer as a school counselor at Canon-McMillan High School, in Canonsburg, Pa.

"A school counselor is the person in the building who gets to focus on the whole student," she says. "Teachers have content areas, nurses have medical issues. But we look at the student as a whole person, focusing on personal, academic and career development."

For excellence in her profession, Rubican, of Venetia, Pa., was named Secondary School Counselor of the Year by the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association in 2018. Also last year, she was selected as a finalist for the Women in School Leadership Award through AASA, the School Superintendents Association.

Canon-McMillan superintendent Michael Daniels '91 nominated Rubican for the AASA award, which recognizes a counselor's

outstanding talent, creativity and vision.

"Career development is critical," she says. "I knew when I was 5 years old that I wanted to help people. And we ask children at a young age what they want to be when they grow up. We need to have those conversations, as well as opportunities to advance their development in this area.

"Making sure students are prepared for what they want in the future — that's what really drives me."

As a counselor, she also looks after a student's personal well-being.

"High school is a slice of life — what's out in the real world is in here, too, and sometimes it's challenging," Rubican says. "We want students to discover where they fit, because everyone fits. We want them to be well adjusted."

At Cal U, Rubican was a member of the University Honors Program and Theta Phi Alpha sorority, where she continues to be



involved as vice president of collegians for the national chapter. In that role, she is responsible for all chapter administration teams.

She and her husband, Rick Rubican, met at the University.

Always career-focused, she adds, with a smile: "I like telling our kids (Meredith and Sarah) that we met in the library." ■

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

From two guys sharing a home office to more than 100 employees. From \$1 million in sales to \$120 million.

It's been a successful 10 years for Eric Zwigart '98, CEO of RPP Products Inc., based in San Bernardino, Calif.

The company manufactures and distributes automotive products to supermarket chains, convenience stores and automotive retailers.



RPP Products has distribution centers in Phoenix, Ariz., and Little Rock, Ark. A two-year-old location in Zelenople, Pa., services the northeastern United States.

Zwigart recently earned 2018 Spirit of the Entrepreneur Awards in two categories: General Entrepreneur and the overall Best of the Best. The awards are given by the Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship at California State University San Bernardino.

"It was a shock," he says. "I was totally unprepared for the honors, but I humbly accept them."

Zwigart graduated from Cal U with a degree in business administration. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve before moving to the state of California to work for Chalet Products, his father's company.

He stayed seven years, tripling profits, before the company was sold and he founded RPP Products.

Zwigart says his time at Cal U laid the groundwork for his success.

"A degree gets you the opportunity. You have to be ready to take advantage of it."

He joined the Acacia fraternity after his first semester and also played rugby.

"I highly recommend the Greek system, the academics and the sports programs at Cal U," Zwigart says.

He established the Eric V. Zwigart Omicron Class Leadership Scholarship, which is awarded through the Acacia Fraternity Foundation and designated for Cal U students.

"Getting involved at college gives you the people skills that you wouldn't quite get going it alone. It makes you well rounded," the entrepreneur says.

"The atmosphere at Cal U, at that little bend in the Mon, is a gem. I loved it!" ■

By Wendy Mackall  
Communications director at Cal U



Theatre major Jeshua Myers adjusts the sound in Steele Hall.

# AUDIO UPGRADE

## Sound system enhances learning, listening in Steele Hall

The curtain rose on a new era for the Department of Music and Theatre this spring, when an upgraded sound system debuted in Steele Hall's Mainstage and Blaney theaters.

It's been a hit with performers and technicians, as well as audience members who now can request assistive listening devices to help them enjoy a show.

The upgrade replaced analog equipment with digital sound boards and audio networking software. The theaters' speakers, microphones and communication systems also were overhauled.

The Intertech sound system in Steele Hall's 639-seat Mainstage Theatre was installed in time for the holiday production of *The Happy Elf*. It was first used in the 150-seat Blaney Theatre for a February production of *Edges*.

Students in Cal U's theater, design and entertainment technology, and commercial music technology programs are learning to use the new equipment.

At the box office, theater patrons can request headphones that work with the system to reduce ambient sound and provide an enhanced listening experience.

"Now we can bring the sound directly to people who have difficulty hearing," says Dr. Michele Pagen, co-chair of the Music and Theatre Department.

"It makes our venues even more attractive."

Nearly all the equipment communicates over a single digital network controlled by DANTE, Digital Audio Networking Through Ethernet, explains Greg Davis, an assistant professor in the commercial music technology program.

"With a DANTE system, it's possible to have multiple mixing consoles, microphones and other equipment communicate seamlessly with a few simple 'clicks,'" he says.

"During a live performance, for example, the pit orchestra could be miked and performing in the Blaney Theatre, and the mixing engineer in the Mainstage Theatre can receive those signals and output them to the audience in real time."

Pagen notes that "studio sound" and "live sound" are "very different beasts" and require different training. In addition to theater students and commercial music technology majors, future technology educators may want to learn the sound system so they are prepared to support high

school theater programs, for example.

Theatre major Jeshua Myers, who's studying design and entertainment technology, says professional sound technicians have told him that Steele Hall's new equipment aligns with what they encounter in venues nationwide.

"This prepares me to go into a facility and be immediately familiar with their (sound) boards, so I can begin working right away," he says. "That's an advantage."

Several hundred students and technical theater professionals experienced the new sound system when Cal U hosted a conference for the Ohio Valley Section of USITT, the U.S. Institute for Theater Technology.

It will be spotlighted again this summer, when the Music and Theatre Department hosts the annual Estill Voice Training workshop.

"We now have the latest state-of-the-art equipment that's used in prominent performing venues, so students will want to come here to work on this system," Pagen says.

"This is a big step for us." ■

By Bruce Wald '85  
Information writer at Cal U



## Paintings address issues in black women's lives

The artwork is bold. The colors pop. Icons from pop culture draw you in for a closer look.

The images highlight issues in the daily lives of black women. They make you do a double-take – and, hopefully, start a conversation.

The artist is Kamara Townes '18, of Clairton, Pa. Professionally, the 24-year-old goes by Wavy Wednesday, for the character Wednesday Addams on "The Addams Family," who "says what she needs to say."

Townes is making that name known in Pittsburgh and beyond.

"My art represents political and social justice issues – racism, cultural appropriation, gentrification. There is nothing I won't tackle," she says.

"Conversations are important just to bring awareness to the way black people are treated and to encourage female empowerment."

*Protect Black Women* was her first solo show. Townes' edgy, satirical, allegorical artwork was on display at Late Space, a gallery in the Garfield section of Pittsburgh. She's been planning a show in New York City this spring.

In January 2019, Townes was a guest on "The Confluence" on 90.5 WESA-FM in Pittsburgh, and she's popular on social media sites Afropunk and The Shade Room. She uses her Wavy Wednesday page on Instagram to share her work.

Townes cites pop art legend Andy Warhol as a major influence. He used consumer products such as Campbell's soup cans in his paintings. She sometimes uses Barbie dolls to illustrate her message.

"Barbie is a pop feminist," Townes says. "I have no problem saying things about race, but I felt Barbie would get more attention."

"I paint about things I or my friends have experienced. At first glance, my work is fun. I love what I do, and it's fun to make. If you're in a certain position, you might as well use it for good, to educate people."

Cal U art professor Laura DeFazio says Townes uses allegory to take on relevant, timely topics.

"The Barbie figures ... start conversations that could be uncomfortable," she explains. "Using a figure to broach these topics creates a level of distance between your emotions and what's on the canvas."



Conversations are important just to bring awareness to the way black people are treated and to encourage female empowerment."

KAMARA TOWNES '18

"It's hard to be a black woman in society, especially at this time, and it's exciting to see Kamara be so empowered. It takes a lot of courage and strength."

Townes returned to campus during Black History Month. Students packed a room in Vulcan Hall, where she displayed paintings in the art gallery and talked about her work.

"I always had an artistic side, but I started taking my art seriously when I got to college," she says. "It wasn't until I was almost ready to graduate that I realized it's OK to be an artist." ■

By Wendy Mackall  
Communications director at Cal U



# BOUND FOR THE BROWNS

## ATHLETIC TRAINERS LAND NFL INTERNSHIPS

Two students in Cal U's athletic training program are headed to training camp with the Cleveland Browns, and they credit faculty and alumni connections with propelling them into the National Football League.

Sean Adams and Josh Martin have accepted internships with the Browns' athletic training staff. They start July 20 and will work through pro football team's four-game exhibition season.

The pair have been "study and workout buddies" since their first year at Cal U and expect to complete their bachelor's degrees in May.

"This internship is such an important beginning," says Martin, of Hanover, Pa. "The many different experiences Cal U provided make me feel completely prepared to tackle anything that comes my way."

Adams, of East Setauket, N.Y., interned with the Browns last season. He has been accepted into Cal U's master's degree program in exercise science and health promotion, where he plans to concentrate in performance enhancement and injury prevention and earn a certificate in nutrition.

He had never been to an NFL game before working on the Browns' sideline last summer.

"I could never have had a better first experience," Adams says. "Going from a Division II school to the NFL was really something, but learning how to treat all kinds of injuries ... has really been important."

### CAL U CONNECTIONS

Adams and Martin are the most recent members of the Cal U family to star off the field on NFL teams.

Cleveland's head athletic trainer, Joe Sheehan '07, holds a Cal U master's degree in exercise science, and assistant athletic trainer Gordon Williams '06 interviewed Martin for the internship.

Adams and Williams both were athletic trainers for Cal U's baseball team and longtime head coach Mike Conte.

"It's really cool to work with a guy who has been in my shoes and to continue the pipeline through Cal U, especially now with Josh because we've been tight since our freshman year," Adams says.

The soon-to-be interns appreciate the support of faculty such as former head athletic trainer

Dr. Jamie Weary; her successor, Dr. Scott Zema; and Dr. Kayla Shinew, director of the athletic training program.

"Without the faculty and their contacts, I would never have been able to get to the next level," Adams says.

"If you have good rapport with faculty, the doors are always open."

"They have connections all over," Martin adds. "Cal U really helps to get your name out there big-time."

Professors don't recommend students for top internships unless they prove themselves, says Weary, who has taught Adams and Martin in a number of courses.

"It's been so impressive to watch them grow, develop and be the professionals they've turned into," she says.

"Educators ... can provide all the opportunities, give all the information, but it takes effort, will, motivation and drive from the students - and these two stand out and excel." ■

By Bruce Wald '85  
Information writer at Cal U

# A QUALITY QUARTET

## FOUR POISED TO ENTER CAL U ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Four Cal U graduates who left an indelible mark on Vulcans athletics will be honored with induction into the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame. These former student-athletes will accept their awards June 29 at the University's signature fundraiser, the Bow Ties & Pearls Ball:



**Dr. Les Bakos '68**

A pitcher for the Vulcans baseball team from 1965-1968.

Bakos helped the Vulcans earn NAIA District 18 playoff appearances in 1966 and 1968, and in 1967 he led the team with a 1.35 ERA and 26.1 innings pitched.

During his senior season, Bakos went 7-1 overall - a single-season school record for individual pitching victories that still ranks eighth in the Vulcans' record book. He earned all-section honors and helped the team achieve its sixth post-season appearance in nine years.

Today, Bakos is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon and a professor in West Virginia University's School of Dentistry. A resident of Morgantown, W.Va., he has three grown children: Jeffery, Ashley and Lauren.



**Kristin Heslop '02**

A four-year starter for the softball team from 1999-2002.

Heslop was a three-time all-conference outfielder and shortstop. Her 184 career RBI total remains a school record, and her 38 home runs rank third. Other career totals include a .373 batting average, 221 hits, 13 triples and 160 runs scored. Her 67 RBI total in 2000 remains a school record.

The 2002 PSAC-West Athlete of the Year and a second-team All-American, Heslop helped the Vulcans make four NCAA post-season appearances, win two PSAC championships and earn an NCAA regional crown.

Heslop lives in Oregon, Wis., with her children, Jake and Samantha. She is a math teacher and head softball coach at Stoughton High School.



**Helena Van Eysendeyk '07, '09**

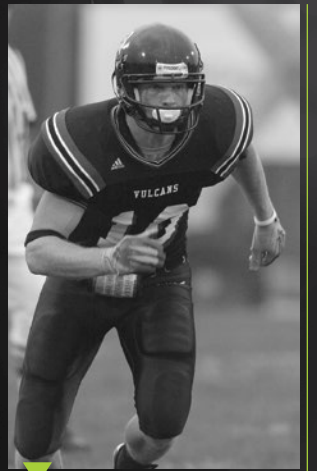
A three-year standout on the women's tennis team from 2006-2009.

Van Eysendeyk compiled career records of 92-7 in singles play and 92-11 in doubles competition.

A three-time International Tennis Association All-American and Scholar Athlete and two-time PSAC-West Athlete of the Year, she was named the ITA National Senior Player of the Year in 2009.

During her three seasons with Vulcans tennis, Van Eysendeyk helped the program compile a 77-8 cumulative record, with three consecutive PSAC team championships and trips to the NCAA Division II national quarterfinals.

She lives in Poisy, France, where she is an air traffic controller for Skyguide, an air navigation service provider.



**Nate Forse '07**

A three-year all-conference wide receiver for the football team, from 2005-2007.

He finished his playing career with 148 total receptions, 2,068 yards and 15 touchdowns. His 10 touchdowns in the 2007 season ranked third in the PSAC.

After transferring to Cal U, Forse helped the Vulcans compile a 29-6 cumulative record, with three consecutive PSAC-West titles and the program's first NCAA playoff appearance.

After playing in five Arena Football League seasons, Forse now resides in Los Angeles, Calif. He owns Forse Lifestyle Coaching, which offers personal training, custom nutrition and online training to help individuals realize their health goals.

# NATIONAL IMPACT

## Student-athlete named to NCAA committee

Volleyball player Madeleine McKenna has been named to the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), where she represents the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

This is the first time that a Cal U student-athlete has been appointed to serve on the national committee, which represents student-athlete interests in NCAA Division II affairs.

Committee members monitor and discuss happenings on campuses, within regional athletic conferences and at the national level. McKenna, a sophomore, will serve until January 2022.

The Ohio native is president of SAAC at Cal U; she was the campus committee's secretary during the 2017-2018 academic year. In fall 2018 she helped Vulcans volleyball advance to the PSAC Tournament semifinals and earn an at-large berth to the NCAA Division II Tournament.

McKenna, a psychology major, is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta national honor society. She has earned a slot on the dean's list and the Cal U Athletic Director's Honor Roll in each of her first three semesters.

"Madeleine is a tremendous leader," says Dr. Karen Hjerpe, Cal U's athletic director. "She brings forth great ideas and initiatives, and I know she will just shine on National SAAC."

"We're also excited about her future work not only in the PSAC, but on our campus as well."



## SOFTBALL ALUMNA TO PLAY FOR CANADA

Former Vulcans softball standout Natalie Wideman '14 has been named to the 24-player roster of the Canadian National Team.

Beginning in late May, the team will take the field as the Canadian Wild in the National Pro Fastpitch League, playing home games in Marion, Ill.

The Canadian National Team will use the 25-game pro fastpitch schedule to prepare for the 2019 Olympic Qualifier, 2019 Pan American Games and the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

Wideman was a four-year starter for the Vulcans, playing catcher and second base from 2011-2014. As a senior, she was an NFCA and Capital One First-Team All-American, the Diamond Sports NCAA Division II Catcher of the Year, and the PSAC-West Athletic of the Year.

She helped Team Canada finish third at the 2018 World Softball Championships in Japan.

Wideman earned her bachelor's degree from Cal U in sport management, with a concentration in wellness and fitness.



## PLACEKICKER NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN

Football placekicker Brian Alsobrooks '18 was selected as a Google Cloud Second-Team Academic All-American by CoSIDA, the College Sports Information Directors of America.

To be eligible for Academic All-America consideration, student-athletes must maintain a cumulative 3.30 GPA or higher and must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at their institution.

Alsobrooks earned associate and bachelor's degrees in business administration in December, with a 3.92 cumulative GPA. With two years of athletic eligibility remaining, he is pursuing a master's degree.

On the football field, he scored 68 points after converting nine of 13 field goals and 41 of 45 extra points. He was also the team's punter, kickoff specialist and backup quarterback.

## DISTANCE RUNNER IN PSAC TOP 10

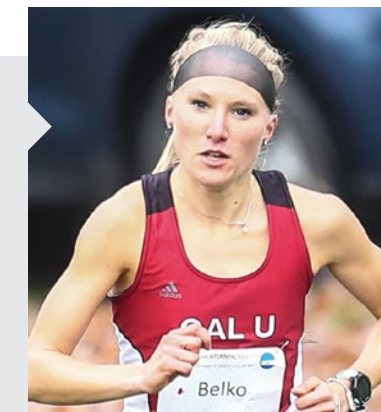
Alicia Belko '18 became the first women's cross country runner in school history to be named to the PSAC Fall Top 10.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.50 as a starter or key reserve player.

Belko earned her master's degree in exercise science and health promotion in December. She focused on performance enhancement and injury prevention, graduating with a 4.00 cumulative GPA.

She achieved NCAA Division II All-America status after placing 25th overall at the NCAA National Championships. After winning individual titles at both the conference and regional championships in 2018, Belko was named the PSAC Athlete of the Year and U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Atlantic Region Athlete of the Year.

This spring Belko was a volunteer assistant coach with Cal U's track and field teams.



"Her way of operating and her attitude is significant: Alicia fit right in from the moment she came here," says Daniel Caulfield, head coach for Cal U's women's and men's cross country and track and field teams.

"She's extremely intelligent, a talented team player and a quality person."

Belko's performance helped the Vulcans match their best-ever finish at the PSAC Championships last fall by finishing third in the team standings. Cal U also placed second at the regional championships, qualifying as a team for the NCAA National Championships for the third time in four years.

## VULCANS SCORE (GRADE)-POINTS

Cal U's athletics program headed into 2019 having compiled a cumulative grade-point average of 3.10 or higher for 17 of the past 18 semesters.

During the Fall 2018 semester, the Vulcans' 16 NCAA athletics programs collectively achieved a 3.19 GPA, with 38 student-athletes earning a perfect 4.0.

The softball team earned the highest team GPA, at 3.61. On the men's side, the baseball team posted the highest GPA, 3.21.

In all, 199 Vulcans student-athletes were named to the Fall 2018 Athletic Director's Honor Roll for achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.

## DEFENSIVE BACK IS FIVE-TIME HONOREE

After a magnificent 2018 season, junior defensive back Lamont McPhatter II earned First-Team All-America status from five organizations: the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA), the Associated Press (AP), D2CCA, D2Football.com and the Don Hansen Football Gazette.

Both D2CCA and Don Hansen Football Gazette also named him the Super Region One Defensive Player of the Year, and the PSAC-West designated him Defensive Athlete of the Year.

In addition to making 63 tackles last fall, McPhatter led NCAA Division II with 198 yards returned on interceptions. He also chalked up 3.5 sacks, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and two defensive touchdowns.



# Team Players

Faculty couple endows scholarship for student-athletes

**T**ogether, William "Bill" and Carol Biddington have devoted more than 70 years to Cal U and its students.

Starting this fall, they will support Vulcans softball through the Drs. William and Carol Biddington Scholarship. The endowed fund will award a scholarship, renewable for seven semesters, to a qualifying member of the team.

After meeting on the basketball court – she was a college player, he a student athletic trainer – the Biddingtons dedicated their careers to sports and physical fitness. Carol is a professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Sport Studies.

Bill founded Cal U's athletic training program and pioneered teaching exercise science via Cal U Global Online. Most recently, he's served as interim dean for the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Throughout their careers, the Biddingtons have given generously to various scholarship

funds. About four years ago they began taking payroll deductions with the goal of endowing a scholarship for student-athletes.

Carol remembers "all the fun" of high school and summer league softball. Bill and Vulcans softball coach Rick Bertagnolli have a friendship that stretches back decades.

"We wanted to help where it was really needed," Carol says. And unlike some other sports, there was no endowed scholarship for Vulcans softball.

Now there is. And the couple hopes that others will follow their lead.

"If a department worked as a team, and everyone chipped in, that's another great way to reach the (\$10,000) endowment," Bill says.

The Biddingtons both find satisfaction in helping students reach their potential.

"Cal U sports have been our life," Carol says. "To give back to our student-athletes makes us feel good." ■



## Become a scholarship donor!

Contact the Office of University Development and Alumni Relations at 724-938-5775 or email Vice President Tony Mauro at [mauro@calu.edu](mailto:mauro@calu.edu).

# SIGNATURESTYLE

Trademark look got its start on the sidelines



**W**hen you're an athletic trainer, a necktie can be a nuisance. Nearly 15 years ago, Dr. Bruce Barnhart '83, '89, '01 found an alternative – and it's become his signature look.

"I was covering basketball as an athletic trainer, and we were expected to dress up for games," he recalls. "I'd bend over to tape a player's ankle, and my tie would get in the way."

Athletic trainer Mike Steinagel wore a bow tie on the first day of the semester when he taught at Cal U. Barnhart liked the style.

So he took a page from Steinagel's playbook and bought himself a bow tie. And then another. And another.

"Bow ties are like tattoos," he says. "You can't have just one."

Today, Barnhart is Cal U's provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs. He's more likely to lead a meeting than care for an injured athlete, but he's still wearing bow ties. His closet holds 50 or more.

The bulk of his collection comes from a Vermont retailer that gives each handmade tie a title. Barnhart's first purchase, the caduceus-patterned Koop, is named for then-Surgeon General C. Everett Koop.

Another early acquisition was pink, for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Now he owns bow ties with stripes and spots, Christmas and Halloween patterns, footballs and baseballs. And he's always on the lookout for academic themes.

When accreditors visited campus to review the chemistry program, Barnhart's neckwear featured the Periodic Table of Elements. To mark the recent accreditation of Cal U's business programs, he bought a tie patterned with stock market bulls and bears.

He's got his eye on the Blenheim, named for the birthplace of Winston Churchill, another bow tie devotee.

"They're fun," Barnhart says, "and they start conversations. I'll often get comments, even from people I don't know."

Whether he chooses a formal black tie or a touch of Vulcan Red, Barnhart will be in his element at this summer's Bow Ties & Pearls Ball.

"My wife and I have an agreement," he says. "She'll wear the pearls. I'll wear the bow tie." ■

By Christine Kindl  
VP for Communications and Marketing



60s



**Roger McGary '60** was deployed as the planning section chief with the National Capital Region Incident Management Team

to support Jackson County, Fla.'s response and recovery efforts following Hurricane Michael. He also deployed to Ellicott City, Md., after flooding that destroyed the historical district, and then went to Pender County, N.C., following Hurricane Florence. Roger retired from the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services as an assistant fire and rescue chief and served as chief with fire departments in Takoma Park and Silver Spring, Md., and the Merck Fire Department in Rahway, N.J. At Cal U, he was the sports editor and photographer for the *Tower Times* and founding president of Phi Delta Chi, now Alpha Kappa Lambda. Roger and his wife, Nancy Cohen, live in Takoma Park.

**Chuck Gismondi '64** and Barbara Gismondi live in Elco, Pa. Chuck, an emeritus professor and former Vulcans baseball coach, was a 2003 inductee into the Cal U Athletics Hall of Fame.

**Nancy Schleicher '69** lives in Deltona, Fla. She majored in education at Cal U and was in Zeta Tau Alpha and Alpha Psi Omega.

70s

**Rick Brown '73** is the varsity girls and boys tennis coach at Moravian Academy, in Bethlehem, Pa. Rick majored in elementary education at Cal U and was a four-year starter on the men's tennis team. He and Bonnie Brown live in Easton, Pa.

**Karen Kirsch Mihal '75** is a registered nurse at UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital, in Pittsburgh, Pa. She majored in special education at Cal U. She and John Mihal live in West Mifflin, Pa.

**Dr. Nicholas Tsambassis '79**, of Columbia, Tenn., works for ProHealth Rural Health Services, in Franklin, Tenn. He is authorized to provide medication assisted therapy and works at the Addiction Centers of Nashville (Ruth Clinic) in Columbia. He is an adjunct clinical faculty member at DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine of Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn.

**Jan Bialous '79** was a candidate for Meadville (Pa.) City Council. He previously served as president of the Monessen (Pa.) Community Development Corp. and as a board member of the Mon Valley Initiative.

**Thomas M. "Tom" Nemchik '79** is a permanent deacon in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Ga. He majored in industrial arts education at Cal U. His work experience includes being a support specialist for the archdiocese in the office of information technology. Previously, he worked as a program manager for AT&T in logistics, transportation and warehousing.

80s

**Denise Brna-Kusky '87**, of Canton Township, Pa., was selected as a recipient of the *Observer-Reporter's* ExtraORDinary People. She was selected for her efforts to provide supplies to no-kill animal shelters.

**Wendy Roney Greager '89** lives in White Oak, Pa. She majored in education at Cal U and was in the Cal U Band.

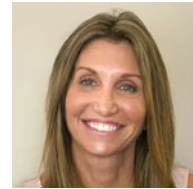
90s

**Frank Pelesky '90** was seeking the Democratic nomination for Somerset County (Pa.) commissioner.

**Jeffrey Nedley '90** is senior vice president and wealth adviser for Hilliard Lyons, Nedley-Marshall Wealth Advisors. He majored in business administration at Cal U and was in the band. Jeffrey and **Laura Nedley '88** live in Washington, Pa.

**Jonathan Klukan '93** is an educator in the Armstrong School District, in Kittanning, Pa. He majored in secondary education: social studies and played baseball at Cal U. Jonathan and Craig Klukan live in Ford City, Pa.

**Robert McGuire '94** is a Realtor for Keller Williams Realty in St. Petersburg, Fla. He studied communications and secondary education at Cal U.



**Kimberly Sonafelt '89, '92** is chief executive officer at Mainstay Life Services, a nonprofit organization that

provides lifelong, high-quality support services to people with developmental disabilities. She most recently served Merakey – also a provider of integrated services to individuals and communities – as its regional executive director of intellectual and developmental disabilities services. Kimberly, who is also a licensed professional counselor and certified alcohol and drug counselor in Pennsylvania, studied psychology at Cal U.

**Ken Cahoon '95** is president and chief executive officer for Democracy Federal Credit Union, based in Alexandria, Va. Ken has more than 23 years of experience in the financial services industry, and held the position of vice president of retail delivery with the National Institute of Health Federal Credit Union.

**David Borodaty '95** was a candidate for Washington County (Pa.) treasurer.

**Mike Yurcich '99** has joined the football coaching staff at Ohio State University. Mike played quarterback at Cal U.

00s

**Gregory Buccì '00** is an RC Scholarship Program Manager for the U.S. Army Cadet Command, Fort Knox, Ky. He majored in Earth science at Cal U. Gregory and his wife, Jennifer Dolan, live at Fort Knox.

**Megan Young '00** is a social service coordinator at Hanover Hall Nursing Home. She majored in gerontology at Cal U. Megan and Russell Young III live in New Oxford, Pa.

**Stacie Doman '01** is a teacher in the Canon-McMillan School District, in Washington County, Pa. She studied elementary education and social science at Cal U. She and Robert Doman live in Bethel Park, Pa.

**Chad Bogdewic '02** is a pastor at Sharpville First United Methodist Church. He studied business at Cal U. Chad and Patricia Bogdewic live in Hermitage, Pa.

**Jared Show '02** is working on a sequel to the film *Big Foot: The Movie*, which was released in 2015.

**Don Farley '03**, chief operating officer and a 35-year veteran of Times-Shamrock Communications, is now also the president, overseeing media operations across the United States.

**Larry Pickett '03**, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been reappointed to the Council of Trustees at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. He is a project manager in the finance division at Carnegie Mellon University. He earned his master's degree in business at Cal U.

**Elizabeth "Betsy" Rohanna McClure '03** was a candidate for Greene County (Pa.) commissioner. She earned her master's degree in education and was a case manager for Albert Gallatin Hospice and Washington Hospital. She also taught vocational technical nursing classes.

**Jerod Kingston '05** is a management support specialist for the Social Security Administration. He majored in criminal justice and political science at Cal U. He was president of the Criminal Justice Club and a member of Phi Sigma Pi. Jerod and Temekia Kingston live in Owings Mills, Md.



**Anthony McCall '05** is a doctor of physical therapy living in Arizona. He was diagnosed with brain cancer and given one year

to live – in 2006. Anthony studied exercise science and health promotion at Cal U.

**Makayla Kolat '07**, of Chalk Hill, Pa., is a mental health specialist for WVU Medicine, Morgantown, W.Va. She studied psychology at Cal U and was a peer mentor. Makayla was also in the choir, marching band, concert band and Sigma Kappa.

**Marcus Curcija '04** is community impact manager for Queensland, Australia. He studied travel and tourism at Cal U.

**Josh Cramer '05, '09** is the education and workforce director at America Makes. Previously, he served as the director of educational programs at the SME Education Foundation and also served as the interim executive director of the foundation. He earned his degrees in education.



FOUNDATION HONORS

University President **Geraldine M. Jones '72, '80** (left) joins **Dr. Harry Serene '65**, president of the Foundation for California University (right), to honor the foundation's 2018 award recipients. They are (from left) **Renette Oklewicz '69**, Job Johnson Award for leadership; **Richard Nemec**, Dixonians Award for service; and **Cmdr. Frank Paterra**, representing American Legion Post 22, in Charleroi, which received the Society of 1852 Award for philanthropy.

**Phil Pavilionis '07**, who earned his master's degree in exercise science, is a lecturer at the University of Nevada, Reno. He and Kelly Pavilionis live in Reno, Nev.

**Robert J. "R.J." Thompson '07**, an assistant professor of graphics and interactive design at Youngstown State University, received an Ohio Governor's Award for the Arts for a community development project.

**Danielle Vincenti '08** is the destination sales manager for the Cumberland (Pa.) Area Economic Development Corp. Her degree is in geography, with a concentration in tourism studies.

**MaryAnn Rush Wallace '09** is coordinator of athletic programs at Penn State Lehigh Valley. She earned her master's degree in exercise science and health promotion.

**Kerri Avenengo '09**, of Portland, Ore., is an operations lead/veterinary technician for Alberta Veterinary Care. She majored in anthropology and was in the marching and concert bands and Anthropology Club.

**Todd Crissman '09** is a technology education teacher at Trinity Area High School, Washington, Pa. He majored in technology education at Cal U.

**Sean Kertes '09** is chief of staff for Westmoreland County (Pa.) Commissioner Charles Anderson. He is a candidate to replace Anderson, who is retiring.

10s

**Elizabeth Evans Simmons '10** lives in Columbus, Ohio. She majored in business administration at Cal U.

**Jessica Bettilyon Merolillo '11** is director of marketing for SSB Bank. She earned her degree in elementary/special education at Cal U, where she was a Community Assistant and was involved with Habitat for Humanity and Kappa Delta Pi. Jessica and Timothy Merolillo live in Wexford, Pa.

**Rafael Horton '10** is the assistant head coach for football strength and conditioning at West Virginia University.

**Caroline Kavanagh Beetz '09, '11** is a senior paralegal who is in her second year of law school after earning her paralegal certificate at Villanova University. She is married and lives in Exton, Pa., with four dogs.

**Jerad Cypher '12** was a candidate for Washington County (Pa.) register of wills. Jerad, an East Washington Borough Council member and former council president, studied business administration and communication at Cal U.

**Lauren Mireles '12** works in client relationship management for Yeske Buie, a registered investment adviser with offices in San Francisco, Calif., and Vienna, Va. She majored in business administration at Cal U.



SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

**Bruce Dal Canton '63** was posthumously inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. An incorrect photo was published in the Fall 2018 edition of the *Review*.



**Marylloyd Claytor** '07, '10 completed a doctorate in education, majoring in e-learning and educational technology at Northcentral University. She develops, implements and maintains lifestyle fitness programs for Allegheny County (Pa.) community centers. She also produces a weekly cable series, *Claytor Studio & Gallery*. Marylloyd is an adjunct lecturer at Community College of Allegheny County and was on the marketing team for the Mount Holyoke College Black Alumnae Conference. She also is a board member of the Alumnae Association at Chatham University.

**Karyn Dobda** '13 is the director of innovation and strategic initiatives for the Quaker Valley School District, Allegheny County, Pa. She earned her master's degree in administrative leadership from Cal U.

**Conor Wohlfarth** '14 is a police officer in Peters Township, Pa. He majored in criminal justice and played soccer at Cal U.

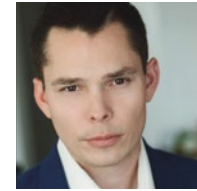
**Stephanie Maloney** '13, of Carnegie, Pa., is a legal secretary for Bowles Rice LLP. She majored in sport management at Cal U and was in the Sport Management Club. She and Tyler Holt are engaged to be married.

**Casey Flores** '13 is an account executive for Key Media and Research, the parent company of *USGlass Magazine*. He majored in communication studies at Cal U.

**Jon Wian** '14 is a candidate for recorder of deeds in Westmoreland County, Pa. He majored in legal studies and business management at Cal U.

**Lacie Ring** '14 is an elementary math specialist for Madison City Schools in Alabama. She earned her master's degree in English as a Second Language from Cal U.

**Brendan Demmy** '14, of Enola, Pa., is a development manager for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. He majored in communication studies at Cal U and was a member of Student Government and the SAI Board of Directors. He also was a member of Alpha Phi Omega and Colleges Against Cancer.



**KirkRyan McFarland** '13, '14 is writing and producing two feature films and serving as executive producer for one short film. *United*

is a faith-based project from Invictus films; *KULECTR* is a dramedy with a twist on modern-day organized crime; and *Crybaby* is a horror short that premiered at the New York City Horror Film Festival in November 2018. KirkRyan is filming *The Judas Kiss* in Philadelphia and is attached as principal roles to *RENDEZVOUS*, *The Wendigo*, *Retribution*, *The Pitchfork*, and *The Sin Eaters* for 2019. He plans to launch 9 Junctions production company with business partners Peter Barkours and Tom Scorzone.

**William Naumoff** '15 is a development specialist for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He majored in anthropology at Cal U and was in the Anthropology Club. He and **Nicole Naumoff** '13 live in Sturgeon, Pa.

**Chris Haught-Thompson** '15 is head coach of the women's soccer team at Virginia Military Institute. Chris earned his master's degree in sport management from Cal U.

**Matthew Murano** '16 is the police chief in Wilmington, Vt. He majored in legal studies at Cal U.

**Jacob Ely** '16 was a candidate for Fayette County (Pa.) commissioner. He majored in criminal justice at Cal U.

**Danielle Brightshue** '17 is a senior professional staff nurse at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center. She majored in nursing at Cal U and lives in Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Ashton Taylor** '17, who earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Cal U, is a labor and delivery nurse. She and Adam Taylor welcomed a second child, Isabelle Mae Taylor, in November 2018.

**Blair Madison** '18, of Monessen, Pa., is a human resources assistant for UPMC. She majored in business administration and was an alumni ambassador at Cal U.

**Kileigh Hess** '16, '17 is a certified athletic trainer for the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. She majored in athletic training at Cal U, where she was a peer mentor and member of the Athletic Training Club and Alpha Sigma Alpha. Kileigh and **Ryan Hess** '17 live in Hershey, Pa.

**Bebers "Bieber" Ishak** '18 teaches Arabic and psychology at Manchester Regional High School, in New Jersey. He studied Arabic language and linguistics at Cal U. He and Sue Greet Ishak live in Wayne, N.J.



## SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Dr. Diane Nettles (left), chair of the Department of Childhood Education, accepts a gift from **Virginia Monaghan** '68 on behalf of the Edward V. Monaghan Charitable Youth Foundation, to be used to benefit education majors at Cal U. The late **Edward Monaghan** '67 was a guidance counselor and teacher in the Albert Gallatin School District, and Virginia was a teacher in the Monessen School District. Friends and family established the foundation upon Edward's passing; its mission is to provide educational and recreational opportunities to enhance the lives of disadvantaged youths.

## WOMEN OF THE YEAR



**Lakijai Bynum** '17, '18 (left) and **Carrie Kromer** '18 are recognized as the fall 2018 graduate and nontraditional undergraduate students of the year. Bynum earned her bachelor's degree in business administration and sociology and associate degrees in liberal studies and technical studies. Her MBA concentration is in health care management. Kromer majored in business administration with a concentration in management and a minor in finance. The President's Commission for the Status of Women presents the awards to honor successful individuals who have supported women on campus.

**Shayna Texter** '18 participates in the sport of flat-track motorcycle racing. She earned her Cal U bachelor's degree in exercise science.

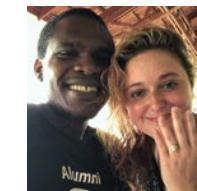
**James Lucas** '18 works for Uchiyama MFG America LLC in Goldsboro, N.C. He majored in computer information systems and multidisciplinary studies in science and technology. He and Fabi Lucas live in Goldsboro.

**Eric Porter** '18, chief of the Charleroi (Pa.) Regional Police Force, was a candidate for district justice in Washington County, Pa.

**Robert Luckasevic** '16, '18, of Washington, Pa., is an account manager for Rainmaker Polymers LLC. He studied commercial music technology and earned his master's degree in business from Cal U, where he also was a member the Cal U Band.

**Shayna Texter** '18 participates in the sport of flat-track motorcycle racing. She earned her Cal U bachelor's degree in exercise science.

**Ashley Edwards** '17 and Corey Schaeffer announced their engagement. Ashley earned her BSN at Cal U and works at UPMC as a nurse in the operating room.



**Sam Adeshina** '10, '11 and Ashley Shanahan were engaged in Costa Rica. Sam is a client service delivery specialist

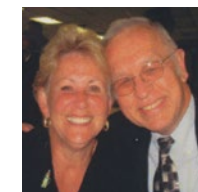
at NASDAQ. Sam and Ashley live with their two dogs in Pittsburgh, Pa., and plan a 2020 wedding.

**Allison Mimna** '17 and **Sean Ibinson II** '17 are engaged. Allison works for Sheetz Inc., and Sean works for the Somerset County (Pa.) Jail. Their wedding is planned for September 2019.



**Theresa Kulasa** '17 and Robert "Bobby" Lea IV are engaged. Theresa majored in biology with a minor in chemistry, and she is pursuing a master's degree in teaching with a concentration in secondary biology at Cal U. Bobby is studying for his master's degree in exercise science with a concentration in rehabilitation science at the University. Their wedding is set for September 2019.

## ANNIVERSARY



**Thomas Korba** '69 and **Charlotte Foster Korba** '69 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in January 2019. The

retired educators have three children and five grandsons. Their 50-plus years of golden memories began at California State Teachers College.

## ENGAGEMENTS

**Jeanne DiNovis** '10 and Andres Montero are engaged. She is the Southern California community response manager for the school safety division of Joffe Emergency Services. Their wedding is set for July 2019.

**Mark Novak** '10 and Melissa Wilson are engaged. Mark majored in environmental science at Cal U and now works for the

## UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES

**Stephen M. DeFrank** '92 (top) and **Anthony H. Amadio** '73 have begun six-year terms as members of the University's Council of Trustees. Trustee DeFrank, of Harrisburg, is a senior adviser in the state government relations group at Buchanan Ingersoll and Rooney PC. The Uniontown native joined the law firm after spending 23 years in Pennsylvania state government. Trustee Amadio, of Center Township, serves on the Beaver County Board of Commissioners. A lifelong Beaver County resident, he taught secondary students in the former Center Area School District for 33 years. By law, each university in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education has an 11-member council that serves as a policy-setting board. Trustees are appointed by the governor with the approval of the state Senate.



WEDDINGS



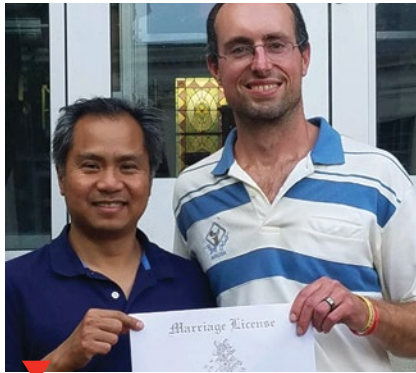
**KirkRyan McFarland '13, '14** and Valerie Bauer were married in July 2018 at Whitewoods in Wapwallopen, Pa. KirkRyan majored in exercise science and works as an elite trainer, union actor and print model in New York City. Valerie is the office manager at Serenity Advanced Dentistry.

**Russell Baird Jr. '15** and Danielle Browning, of Uniontown, Pa., were married in November 2018. Russell majored in psychology and works at U.S. Steel in Clairton, Pa.



**Brittany (Kusniar) Jellison '15** and **D.J. Jellison '12, '15** of Winston-Salem, N.C., were married in June 2018 in Uniontown, Pa. Brittany studied meteorology at Cal U and earned a master's degree in student affairs from Slippery Rock University. She works in the Career Services Center at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. D.J., who studied meteorology and education at Cal U, is a seventh-grade teacher at Millennium Charter Academy in Mt. Airy, N.C. The couple honeymooned in Punta Cana, in the Dominican Republic.

**Samantha Rahe '14, '16** and **Matthew Stonebrook '15** were married in December 2018. The couple met at Cal U, and many guests and members of the wedding party were fraternity brothers and sorority sisters of the bride and groom.



**Chad Merrill '02** and **Toan Vu** were married in August 2018. Chad is a senior meteorologist for Earth Networks in Germantown, Md.

**Krista Winzek '13** and **Tyler Smotherman '13** were married in September 2018 at Christ United Methodist Church of North Huntingdon. Krista majored in criminal justice; Tyler majored in sport management. They live and work in Harrisburg, Pa.



**Dr. Joshua Eachus '09, '10** and **Jaimee McGarvey '09** were married in January 2019 in St. Gabriel, La. Josh is the chief meteorologist at WBRZ in Baton Rouge, La.

IN MEMORIAM

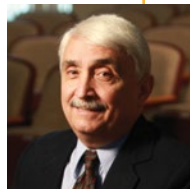
- Thelma Bednar '71
- Christine "Chris" Kavolak Beros '10
- Eileen Magerko Bierer '63
- Janet L. Mayernik Booker,\* Office of Academic Records at Cal U
- John Charles Bosser '84
- Aaron M. Brest '10
- Richard G. Chacko '61
- Roger A. Chambers Sr. '72
- Dr. Muhammad Arshad Chawdhry,\* faculty member in the Business and Economics Department
- William Albert Colantoni '70
- Dorothy Mae Lowman Crawford '43
- Gerry Moore Cunningham '63
- Marcia Sue Roderick Dillow '90
- Sandra L. Dunn '61
- Nancy L. Eddy '63
- Margaret A. Metzger Emelson '81
- Gladys Sue Bailes Farmer '73
- Robert Denton Good '68
- David Patrick Harris Sr. '63

- Lance H. Heiner '69
- Ret. Col. Robert F. Henderson '74
- Katherine "Kay" Konecheck Holland '63
- Rebecca Sonia Pasko Horan '72
- Ron Hughes '66
- Dr. Laura Johnson Hummell '14, former technology education faculty at Cal U
- Beatrice "Bea" Brown Imbrogo '61
- Janice Noreen Williams Jackson '05
- Alan "Dean" Johnston '68
- Lillian Grace Kennedy '69
- Dr. Robert A. Korcheck,\* professor emeritus of English
- Stephen Douglas "Doug" Kovach '90
- Frank Lario '64
- JoAnn Lutes '70
- Candace Marleau '12
- Janice L. McConnell,\* professor emerita, first female athletic director, member of the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame
- Charles Michael Metal '78
- Lewis C. Midlam '72
- Stanley "Nunnie" Milchovich '91
- Joseph Paul Morgovich Jr. '81
- John "Norby" Napovanic '70
- Evelyn F. Newman '70
- John C. Rager '70
- Peter D. Ramsey '67
- Sylvia Jane Wright Sealy,\* AVI Foodsystems at Cal U
- Samuel L. Sellaro '52
- Irene E. Mihalic Snyder '65
- Joseph John Sopcak '62
- John C. "Jack" Stech '56
- Patricia L. Stimmell '53
- David Vrana '94
- Philip C. Wheeler '70
- Patricia Louise Yanachik Wood\*
- Margaret M. Wyatt '65
- Margaret Elizabeth Young '57
- Martha Kridle Young '58
- Richard J. Zibrida '62
- Randy W. Zirkle '00

\*No graduation year available or on file

REMEMBRANCE

Dr. Anthony Saludis, a professor emeritus of elementary education from 1969-2001, died Nov. 17, 2018. He was 82. He received the Presidential Emeriti Faculty Award in 2010 and established two scholarships at Cal U: The Saludis Family Endowment and the Harriet Saludis Memorial Scholarship. He also was a member of the Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania.



AIMING HIGH

Cal U students are determined to reach new heights — and Juliette Moffet won't quit until she scales Vulcan's Peak, the climbing wall inside Herron Recreation and Fitness Center.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Information is published as space and deadlines allow. Please indicate on another sheet what activities or sports you participated in while you were a student. We welcome high-resolution electronic photographs. Please email images to [revieweditor@calu.edu](mailto:revieweditor@calu.edu); put the words "Milestones photo" on the subject line of your email, and be sure to tell us your name, year of graduation and the identity of everyone in the picture. Please do not send computer printouts or low-resolution digital photos, as they will not reproduce well in this magazine.

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