

# California University JOURNAL

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## First in U.S.: Doctor of Criminal Justice

Cal U is breaking new ground nationally as it adds a second professional doctorate to its array of academic programs.

The Doctor of Criminal Justice degree is the first regionally accredited D.C.J. degree in the United States. The program, set to begin this summer, is designed to enhance the careers of mid- and senior-level criminal justice practitioners across the country.

Unlike Ph.D. programs, which typically are designed for academics or researchers, the Doctor of Criminal Justice focuses on policy implementation and the analytical skills that are crucial for agency leaders, supervisors, investigators and managers in the field.

Program director Dr. John Cencich, a professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, says the program responds to state and national calls for reform of the criminal justice system.

"Professionals in this program will make in-depth analyses of topics such as federal consent decree implementation and enforcement, police use-of-force, false confessions and wrongful convictions, and reducing recidivism," Cencich said.

"Leadership in criminal justice agencies goes to the very heart of the program."

Students enrolled in the two-year

D.C.J. program will complete nearly all of their coursework through Cal U Global Online. Two five-day summer residencies on campus will allow students to interact face to face with nationally recognized experts.

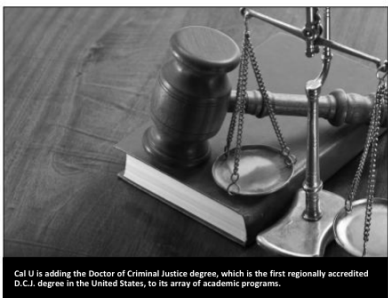
Cal U faculty in the D.C.J. program are full-time professors with extensive backgrounds in law enforcement, international and homeland security, criminal investigative analysis, forensic science, cybercrime investigations, legal science and more.

Their resumes make the program stand out, noted the program's external reviewer, Dr. Jay Albanese, a professor of criminal justice at Virginia Commonwealth University and past president of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

"The expertise and backgrounds needed for a faculty to teach in a professional criminal justice doctorate program are generally not available on current university facilities," he wrote. "Their background, experience and attitude place them in a position to socialize and mentor doctoral students effectively."

The doctoral program in criminal justice will collaborate with the Pennsylvania Center for Criminological and Forensic Science, based at Cal U.

The center provides real-time investigative consulting and professional



Cal U is adding the Doctor of Criminal Justice degree, which is the first regionally accredited D.C.J. degree in the United States, to its array of academic programs.

development training for criminal justice practitioners. It will provide additional credentials to eligible students enrolled in the D.C.J. program, such as a certificate in "Criminal Justice Instructor Development" for students who successfully complete the Criminal Justice Training (CRJ 860) course.

In addition to the new doctorate, Cal U's Department of Criminal Justice offers bachelor's degree programs and a 100% online master's degree in applied

criminology. Successful graduates from these programs, along with professionals from across the country, are expected to fill the 15 seats in the program's inaugural cohort.

Applications are being accepted now for the Doctor of Criminal Justice program at Cal U. For more information, contact Dr. John Cencich at [ccencich@calu.edu](mailto:ccencich@calu.edu) or visit [www.calu.edu/DCJ](http://www.calu.edu/DCJ) to read program details and apply online.



Summer Hill, a cross country and field standout, is one of 23 Cal U student-athletes to earn a perfect 4.0 grade-point average during the 2016 fall semester.

## Vulcans Continue Academic Success

Cal U's athletic program heads into 2017 having compiled a cumulative grade-point average of 3.10 or higher for 13 of the past 14 semesters.

During the Fall 2016 term, the Vulcans' 16 NCAA varsity athletic programs collectively achieved a 3.20 GPA, with 23 student-athletes earning a perfect 4.0.

The women's cross country team earned the highest team GPA, at 3.79. On the men's side, the cross country team posted the highest GPA at 3.4.

In all, 185 Vulcan student-athletes were named to the Fall

2016 Athletic Director Honor Roll for achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.

"These significant achievements show the commitment of our student-athletes to their academic program, as well as the hard work of our athletic academic area and the Cal U faculty," said Dr. Karen Hjerpe, Cal U's athletic director.

"We are proud of our student-athletes' work in the classroom and look forward to continued success this semester."

## WSO Audience Hears from Cal U

Audiences at the Washington Symphony Orchestra's "homegrown" themed concert Feb. 12 will be hearing a lot from Cal U.

An emeritus professor, current students and alumni all will be playing a part.

Before the concert former Music Department chair Max Gonano and Judith Sutton will present a short video and discuss the life and music of Pittsburgh legend Henry Mancini.

Each semester two students in Cal U's commercial music technology program produce a video vignette focusing on Pittsburgh jazz artists, guided by assistant professor Greg Davis.

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## Foundation Announces Officers, Honorees

The Foundation for California University elected a slate of officers Dec. 12 and presented its annual awards to four individuals.

Elected to one-year terms were William R. Flinn '88, president; Dr. Harry E. Serene '65, vice president; Dr. Donald J. Thompson, secretary; and Paul L. Kania '87, treasurer.

The board added five new members: Alan K. James '62; Zeb R. Jansante '82, '91, Kania; Robert E. Lippencott '66; John Lorenzi '15; and Deborah E. Takach '05.

The 2016 recipient of the Job Johnson Award for leadership and community service is Leonard Keller '61, who received the award posthumously.

Recipient of the Dixonians Award for service to the University is Dr. Bruce Barnhart '83, '89, '01, the University's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

The Society of 1852 Award for philanthropy was presented to Dr. Chester Chichin '63 and his wife, Yvonne Chichin.

### Awards and winners

Job Johnson was among the founders of what eventually became California University. The award named in his honor recognizes alumni who have received recognition outside the University for excellence, innovation, community service or other notable achievements.

A highly successful businessman, Keller was a retired sales consultant with Triumph Learning, the largest publisher of test preparation materials for state-mandated tests for grades K-12. The firm develops and distributes the widely used Coach



University President Geraldine M. Jones; Dr. Bruce Barnhart '83, '89, '01, University provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, recipient of the Dixonians Award; Dr. Chester Chichin '63 and his wife, Yvonne Chichin, recipients of The Society of 1852 Award; Charles Keller '92, son of Leonard Keller '61, who received the Job Johnson Award posthumously; and William R. Flinn '88, president of the Foundation for California University.

series for test programs in 25 states.

Keller was an active brother in the Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity and supported a number of scholarships for Cal U students, including the Michael Keller Memorial Scholarship and three school district scholarships. After his death last March, Keller's family renamed his scholarship the Michael and Len Keller Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The Dixonians Award is named in honor of John N. Dixon, the "Grand Old Man" among Cal U's founders, who served on the Board of Trustees for 46 years. This award honors individuals who unselfishly serve the University.

Barnhart joined the Cal U faculty in

1984 and served as director of the accredited athletic training education program from 1992-2008, when he was named an associate provost/associate vice president for Academic Affairs. In addition to teaching, he was Cal U's first football athletic trainer, from 1983-1992, and the athletic trainer for Cal U's 2004 NCAA national champion women's basketball team.

Barnhart had served as Cal U's acting provost since 2012 before being appointed the University's chief academic officer at the start of the 2016 fall semester.

The Society of 1852 Award recognizes distinguished contributions to the enhancement and excellence

of California University.

The Chichins established the Dr. Chester and Yvonne Vance Chichin Endowed Scholarship, which benefits Cal U students who are pursuing a degree in pre-K-12 education.

Chester Chichin is a retired psychologist from the Pittsburgh Public School System who worked with students in the gifted program for many years. Yvonne Chichin was an elementary school teacher for 35 years. A former PreK-4 Content Reviewer for the Pennsylvania Department of Education, she has taught part-time in Youngstown State University's Early Childhood Department for the past 12 years.



Kelly Moran will work directly with President Geraldine M. Jones.

## Chief of Staff Appointed

Kelly Moran has been appointed as chief of staff to the President, effective Jan. 3, 2017.

In that role Moran will serve as a member of Cabinet and work directly with President Geraldine M. Jones and University leadership on a wide range of strategic initiatives. As a liaison between the President and various members of the community — Trustees, faculty, staff and students — she is responsible for ensuring progress on major University-wide initiatives.

She fills the role formerly held by Dee Staley, who retired. Before joining Cal U, Moran served as senior executive assistant and chief of staff to the president and CEO of CommUnityCare Health Centers in Austin, Texas. She received her master's degree in health care administration from Louisiana State University and a bachelor's degree in communications from University of Maryland.

In her spare time, Moran enjoys following college football, boating, hiking and spending time with her family on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

## State System Show Returns

The third season of *Infinite Opportunities* is now on the air, and Cal U faculty and programs will be featured in four episodes later this spring.

The half-hour public affairs show airs at 9:30 a.m. Sundays and repeats at 6 p.m. Saturday each week. The program features students, faculty, staff and initiatives at Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education universities, including Cal U, along with information from and about the State System.

The weekly discussions will include a variety of higher education topics, including life as a student, teacher education, opportunities and services for veterans, volunteerism, leadership, performing arts, graduate education, student research, global education, health and science, putting knowledge into practice, and giving.

Cal U's first appearance will be March 5 during an episode that explores the performing arts. Participating in a panel discussion will be Dr. Yugo Itach, co-chair of the Department of Music and Theatre, and Jacob Urbank, a graduating senior in Cal U's commercial music technology program.

The March 26 episode will include a video segment about Cal U Global Online. Dr. Jennifer Wilburn, assistant professor in Cal U's Department of Applied Engineering and Technology, will be part of a panel discussion concerning health and science during the April 2 episode.

"Putting Knowledge into Practice" will be the theme of the April 19 episode, whose panelists include Rhonda Clifford, director of Cal U's Career and Professional



Development Center. A video segment will highlight the center's work.

State System Chancellor Frank T. Brogan serves as moderator for the panel discussions.

"Every week, we delve in-depth into a specific topic, then visit the various campuses to learn even more about how they are directly serving students and meeting Commonwealth needs," Brogan said.

"It's exciting looking into what's really happening on our campuses."

The 12-episode season concludes April 16.

A link to episodes of *Infinite Opportunities* from seasons 1 and 2, as well as past episodes from season 3, can be found at [www.paske.edu](http://www.paske.edu).

## Black History Month Continues

The University's Black History Month celebration continues with two upcoming events. Both are free and open to the public.

**Feb. 8:** The Department of Social Work invites the public, as well as the campus community, to bring their lunch for a one-hour roundtable discussion, "A Dichotomous Life: A Person of Color Living in Two Worlds." The program begins at noon in the Natali Student Center, Rooms 206-207. The dialogue will explore the personal and societal expectations faced by people of color in various settings.

**Feb. 15:** A Black Arts Festival & Multicultural Affairs Night will take place from 1-5 p.m. in the Convocation Center. It showcases visual art from the Department of Art and Languages, along with spoken word performances, music, and arts-and-crafts vendors. The

festival takes place before the Vulcan basketball teams host Pitt-Johnstown, beginning at 5:30 p.m.; a halftime performance features members of Cal U's Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

"Both of these events truly represent Black History Month, because they are so inclusive," said Shleeta Webby, director of Multicultural Affairs, University LGBTQIA Initiatives, and Commuter and Nontraditional Student Services.

"The roundtable focuses on an important issue, while the arts festival recognizes our students' talent and the month's focus on black history."

Black History Month events on campus are free and open to the public. The Cal U Office of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education sponsors most events; some are co-sponsored by the Black Student Union.



Isiah Alford-Williams, a junior majoring in art and liberal studies, works on a painting for the Black Arts Festival & Multicultural Affairs night, scheduled from 1-5 p.m. Feb. 15 in the Convocation Center. The show will be followed by Vulcan basketball games beginning at 5:30 p.m.



Among the "homegrown" acts performing with the Washington Symphony Orchestra on Feb. 12 will be the Mon Valley Push Polka Band, led by Dr. Frank Sietar, Cal U's director of bands and assistant professor in the Department of Music and Theatre.

## Cal U Involved with WSO Concert

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David Kiss '15, who earned his bachelor's degree in commercial music technology, produced the 14-minute Mancini video with fellow alumnus Josh Howell '13.

Kiss is now pursuing an MBA at Cal U. He was surprised and delighted to learn that the video was being featured at the upcoming concert.

"I learned so much about Henry Mancini and myself while doing that project," he said. "It made me realize I truly enjoy doing things such as post-production, audio-visual (production) and editing."

"You have all these different art forms, such as the still photos, the moving pictures, the music, the facts about the person, and you combine it all to make an even better piece of art."

Among the "homegrown" acts performing with the WSO will be the Mon Valley Push Polka Band, led by Dr. Frank Sietar, assistant professor in Cal U's Department of Music and Theatre and director of bands.

Four graduates of the

"We have so much quality local talent right here in Washington County, and Cal U plays an important role."

— Dr. Yugo Ikach, co-chair, Cal U Department of Music and Theatre

University — Barry Nicolai '93, Paul Sheppick '15, Steve Ventura '12 and Nate Wright '12 — make up the rest of the band.

The WSO also will present *Journey Beyond Earth*, composed by Dominic Carrola '16.

A recording of Carrola's work will be played along with imagery from the International Space Station and the Hubble Telescope.

Local filmmaker Ron Hankinson choreographed the images to complement the score.

"I am grateful that the Washington Symphony Orchestra is again using one of my compositions," said Carrola, whose original musical, *Yet Another Fanned!*, had its premiere on campus last spring.

"This will be a fantastic concert that I highly encourage

people to come see."

Dr. Yugo Ikach, co-chair of Cal U's Department of Music and Theatre, is principal conductor and music director for the WSO. The orchestra includes several Cal U alumni, he said, and first-chair cellist Margaret "Greta" Schottman is the University's private string instructor.

"We have so much quality local talent right here in Washington County, and Cal U plays an important role," Ikach said.

"This concert will not only help showcase the many skills our students gain from the (commercial music technology) program, but also the diverse talents of our faculty, students and alumni."

The concert begins at 3 p.m. Feb. 12 at Trinity High School auditorium, 231 Park Ave., Washington, Pa.

Pre-concerting *Steel City Grooves* programming begins at 2:15 p.m.

Tickets prices start at \$17; purchase tickets online at [washsym.org](http://washsym.org), or call 888-71-TICKETS to order by phone. Cal U students who show a valid CalCard are admitted free to WSO events.

## Campus BRIEFS

### Open House Programs Begin Feb. 20

Cal U has scheduled three Academic Open House programs during the spring semester. The events introduce prospective students to Cal U or give students who already have been accepted a chance to explore the campus.

Academic Open House programs are scheduled from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20; Saturday, March 4; and Saturday, April 8. Registration for each event begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Natali Student Center's Heritage Lounge.

Students and families who attend will learn more about Cal U's programs of study, housing and student life. They can talk with Cal U students, meet faculty members, tour the main campus and visit Vulcan Village.

For more information or to register online, visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu). Prospective students may contact the Welcome Center at 724-938-1626 or email Carrie Pavtis at [pavtis@calu.edu](mailto:pavtis@calu.edu).

### Registration Begins for Summer College

Registration opens Feb. 20 for Summer College at Cal U.

Students who attend any college or university, including the 14 universities in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, may choose from among more than 200 credit courses at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

Both on-campus and online courses are offered during the 2017 summer term.

Current Cal U students do not have to apply for Summer College; they can register online through VIP or by emailing [summer@calu.edu](mailto:summer@calu.edu).

To learn more about Summer College, visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu), keyword "Summer College"; email [summer@calu.edu](mailto:summer@calu.edu); or call 724-938-4407.

### Faculty-Staff Convocation on Feb. 9

University President Geraldine M. Jones will host the 2017 Spring Faculty and Staff Convocation Feb. 9 in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

The convocation, for University employees only, will be held during the common hour, beginning at 11 a.m.

## Jones' Sacrifices Earn HOF Induction

**R**obert Jones '97 put team success ahead of individual glory during his playing days, which led to several championships for the Vulcan men's basketball team.

Two decades later, Jones' hard work and athletic prowess make him the fourth basketball player from his era to be inducted into the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame.

A three-year starting center, Jones played under former head coaches Jim Boone and Bill Brown, from 1993-1994 through 1996-1997.

A two-time first-team all-conference selection, he helped the Vulcans compile a 92-29 cumulative record and a 38-10 PSAC-West mark during his career.

During Jones' time with the team, the Vulcans made four PSAC playoff appearances, competed in three NCAA Division II Tournaments, won two PSAC championships and advanced to the program's second National Final Four.

Nevertheless, his Hall of Fame recognition took him by surprise.

"I was really shocked," he said. "With a few players from my era already in, (I thought) it would be very difficult to get inducted. ... So I was very pleasantly surprised when I got the call from Coach Brown."

The prolific post-player finished his career with 1,285 points and 713 rebounds, totals that still rank sixth and 16th in school history.

Despite Jones' impressive statistics, Brown does not believe the numbers truly reflect the 6-foot-5-inch center's body of work.

"Rob did all the dirty work. He sacrificed his scoring for rebounding and to anchor our defense," Brown said. "Often he was under-height but never under-sized, and he was always an inside presence night in and night out."

"He was our 'junkyard dog' and he always put the team first." In 1995-1996, his junior year, Jones averaged more than 16 points and nine rebounds per game and led the PSAC in field goal percentage (62.7). The Vulcans finished that season with a 27-6 overall



Powerful post-player Robert Jones will be the fourth Vulcan men's basketball player from his era to receive Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame recognition.

record, which included winning the PSAC and NCAA Division II East Regional titles and advancing to the national semifinals.

Jones was named to the 1996 East Regional All-Tournament team after averaging 21 points and 11 rebounds during victories over Edinboro and IUP. He also produced a 24-point, 12-rebound effort in Cal U's 10-point upset of third-ranked Alabama A&M in the national quarterfinals.

"When you talk about championships, you always hear there was a lot of camaraderie, and that was

certainly the case with the Final Four team," Jones said. "We were a tight-knit team. We really were a family."

Jones earned his bachelor's degree in computer-based systems management in 1997. He then received additional training at the Total Technical Institute of Cleveland, his hometown.

For the past 17 years he has worked for the city of Cleveland as the network and data center operations manager at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

"Without a doubt what I learned at Cal U, coupled with my experience at

## Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame Adds Seven

Seven individuals will comprise Cal U's 21st Athletic Hall of Fame class.

The 2017 inductees are Jennifer Doty Franz '08, softball; Tara Douglas '99, softball and volleyball; Steve Flanigan, baseball; Robert Jones '97, men's basketball; Melissa Myers '05, women's volleyball coach; Vic Shandor '92, football; and the late James Vandiermer '66, '70, men's basketball.

These former Vulcan standouts will be inducted officially at the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame dinner, set for 5 p.m. April 22 in the Performance Center inside the Natali Student Center.

*Tickets for the Hall of Fame dinner are \$30 each, or \$10 for children age 10 and younger. The public may attend. For reservations, contact Staci Tedrow, in the Office of Alumni Relations, at 724-938-4418 or tedrow@calu.edu. Proceeds from the dinner will be used to establish a Hall of Fame athletic scholarship.*

the technical school, was a very good fit for when I entered the IT field. It all has helped propel me to where I am now."

Jones frequently returns to campus to see the Vulcans play and to take part in events such as Alumni Basketball Day. He has even helped to recruit Ohio-based players, including former standout Damon Taylor '02.

"Most important to me is that Rob has always been accountable on and off the court and an excellent representative of the University," Brown said.

"He has stayed available, connected and helpful to the program."

## FPDC Merit Award Nominations Due Feb. 15

**F**eb. 15 is the deadline for nominations for this year's Faculty Professional Development Committee merit awards.

Each of the five FPDC subcommittees — Research, Teaching and Learning, Technology, Service and Service-Learning, and Grants and Contracts — offers a merit award to recognize faculty who are engaged in these areas.

At a special event, each award recipient will receive a certificate and be given honors cords to wear at spring Commencement,

where merit award recipients also are recognized.

Any Cal U employee or student may submit nominations. Self-nominations will be accepted. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Cal U website. Visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu) and use the keyword "FPDC merit awards."

Completed nomination forms must be received by noon Feb. 15 in the Faculty Center, Room 134, Azorsky Hall.

## Contracting Seminar Planned

**F**eb. 7 is the last day to register for the latest seminar sponsored by Cal U's Government Agency Coordination Office.

"Cybersecurity Requirements for DoD Contracts" will be held from 9 a.m.-noon Feb. 9 at the Regional Learning Alliance, 850 Cranberry Woods Drive, in Cranberry Township, Pa.

The free seminar focuses on cybersecurity and compliance requirements in U.S. Department of Defense contracts.

Presenting will be John Bartholomew, executive director, and Scott Zimmerman, principal cybersecurity engineer, of Johnstown, Pa.-based Corporate Governance and Compliance, of Concurrent Technologies Corp.

For more information or to register for the seminar, contact Renee Decker at 724-738-2346.

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