

California University JOURNAL

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 3 FEB. 19, 2018

KEEP UP WITH CAL U NEWS ONLINE: calu.edu/news

Cal U Signs Agreements With LECOM

Cal U has approved Early Acceptance Program agreements with the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), creating pathways to careers in osteopathic medicine, pharmacy or dental medicine for Cal U biology students.

Under the agreements, a Cal U undergraduate in the B.S. in Biology: Pre-professional program can be assured of provisional acceptance – in essence, a reserved seat – in LECOM's College of Osteopathic Medicine, School of Pharmacy or School of Dental Medicine, providing the student completes a successful interview and meets all academic requirements.

Students can apply for the Early Acceptance Program as soon as their senior year of high school, or until the start of their third year in the biology program at Cal U, depending on their desired program track.

Eligible osteopathic, pharmacy or dental students may choose a "4+4" program that assures them a seat in a four-year LECOM program once they successfully complete the four-year, 120-credit pre-professional biology program at California.

Highly motivated osteopathic or pharmacy students may select an accelerated "3+4" program. This option allows qualified students to enter LECOM's medical or pharmacy school after completing just three years (90

credits) at California; Cal U accepts the first 30 credits in LECOM's four-year medical/pharmacy program toward completion of the B.S. in Biology degree.

LECOM is the nation's largest medical college, with campuses in Erie, Pa.; Greensburg, Pa.; and Bradenton, Fla. U.S. News & World Report ranks LECOM among the top five medical colleges for graduating primary care physicians, and its College of Osteopathic Medicine receives more applications than any other medical school in the country.

Program director Dr. Ed Zuchelkowski, of California University's Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, says there are tangible benefits to having a reserved seat in medical, pharmacy or dental school.

"Medical schools are highly competitive," Zuchelkowski says. "Through the Early Acceptance Program, students in Cal U's pre-professional biology program take rigorous courses that prepare them to do well in their graduate-level studies. And they largely bypass the intense competition for (medical school) seats."

"LECOM's tuition is lower than many other medical, pharmacy or dental schools, and students enjoy a considerable savings because they don't have to apply to multiple schools or travel for multiple interviews. With early acceptance, they can focus totally on their studies during their senior year in



Students can be assured of provisional acceptance to Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) through Cal U's Early Acceptance Program agreements. Applications are being accepted now for Cal U's Fall 2018 classes.

college." To qualify for admission, students should have a high school grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, with an SAT score of at least 1240 or an ACT score of at least 26. The entrance exam for medical school (known as MCAT) or pharmacy school (PCAT) is not required, but the entrance exam for dental school (DAT) is required.

Applications are being accepted now for Cal U's fall 2018 classes. Students who are interested in joining the Early

Acceptance Program should notify Cal U when they apply (or as soon as possible) in order to meet program deadlines. Current Cal U biology students, as well as transfer students, will be considered for the Early Acceptance Program if they meet the requirements.

For more information, contact Dr. Ed Zuchelkowski, the Biology: Pre-professional program director, at zuchelkowsk@calu.edu, or email Cal U's Office of Articulation and Transfer at transfer@calu.edu.

Spring Open House Dates Set

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

Open House programs are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24; Saturday, March 24; and Saturday, April 28. Registration for each event begins at 8 a.m. on the third floor of the Natali Student Center.

For more information, go to calu.edu/visit, or register online at calu.edu/ip/spring-open-house.

Prospective students may contact the Office of Admissions at 724-938-4400 or email admissions@calu.edu.

Dr. Tracey Sheetz, dean of undergraduate admissions, says Cal U is committed to making its Open House events – and all campus visits – friendly and personalized. "Whether we have 350 guests or one, we treat everybody like they're our only guest, because this is completely about them," said Sheetz. "As hosts, we must be detail-oriented, accommodating, informative and anticipate a guest's needs."

Following a welcome by University President Geraldine M. Jones, visitors will learn more about



Berry Billitt, assistant director of undergraduate admissions, speaks to visitors during a previous Open House. The first of three Open Houses this semester will take place Feb. 24.

admissions and financial aid. A campus marketplace in the Natali Student Center's Heritage Lounge is the one-stop place to learn about a variety of University services, including programs of study, housing and student life, and transfer procedures.

Campus tours will include the residence halls, classrooms and academic departments, and facilities such as the Herron Recreation and Fitness Center, Vulcan Village upper-campus housing, and the Convocation Center.

Students and families can talk with Cal U students and meet faculty members.

Each campus tour group will include at least one tour guide from the Cal U Welcome Center, admission counselors and other professionals from various University offices.

"This is another way to offer more personalized service and be able to answer questions or give our visitors accurate information," added Sheetz. "This is not just a tour, it's an experience."

Black History Month Concludes

The University's Black History Month celebration concludes with three events.

• Feb. 19: The annual Soul Food Luncheon takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Gold Rush Culinary Center in the Natali Student Center. Diners enjoy a menu created from recipes and stories contributed by members of the Cal U community. Among the menu items are cherrywood smoked pork ribs with sweet mustard mop sauce, catfish and sausage gumbo over dirty rice garnished with sweet butter cornbread, green bean and grilled red onion salad, peach and smoked garlic chicken flatbread, sweet potato pie, and country banana pudding. Cost is \$8.25 for those not on a meal plan. The public is welcome.

Dinner is also available from 4-7:30 p.m., cost is \$10.60.

• Feb. 21: A Black Arts Festival and Multicultural Affairs Night will coincide with the Cal U basketball teams' home doubleheader against Seton Hill. Halftime performances at both games will include tributes to Black History Month.

—Continued on page 3



Tania Blanc (left), Lakijai Bynum, and Rosa Valenzuela take a break while preparing a tie blanket for the Red Door Program during Cal U's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and Giving.

A Spirit of Service and Giving

On a break from her job at the on-campus PSECU credit union, graduate student Lakijai Bynum '17 found time to help others.

Bynum, who is pursuing an MBA in healthcare management, was one of 100 Cal U students who participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and Giving on Feb. 5 in the Performance Center.

The students represented 25 campus organizations. In all, they volunteered 145 hours and made more than 1,000 items to benefit local nonprofit organizations such as the Washington City Mission, Center in the Woods, Residence at Hilltop Assisted Living, Home, Meals on Wheels, Saint Mary of Mercy Church's Red Door Program in Pittsburgh, and the Washington Family Center Afterschool Program.

"I'm all about giving back and community service," said Bynum, who earned a dual degree as an undergraduate in human resource management and sociology. "It's something I enjoy doing on my own time. I have been helping with this every year."

The Day of Giving and Service was coordinated by the Center for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning, with support from the Office of Diversity Education and Multicultural Affairs, and Cal ROCKS

(Reaching out for Catholic Kinship).

"That our school has this program to volunteer is a great service," said sophomore Tania Blanc, a psychology major. "It's up to us to come out and enjoy the feel of giving back to the people."

Radio station WCAL provided music in the Performance Center. It stopped periodically as Alyssa Loukota, a student worker at the Center for Volunteer Programs, shuffled groups of students among the 11 work stations.

Junior Bailey Jenkins, a criminal justice major, came to volunteer with several of his Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity brothers.

"I like being out and helping others, and even though we get credit for it, doing this gives you a rewarding feeling," he said. "We always look for these types of events on OrgSync that fit into our schedule. We do what we can."

Students collected donations of gently used children's books, toaster pastries, board games, jigsaw puzzles, new toiletry items, school supplies and non-perishable foods. Among the recipients were Ali's Books, the Good Eats Program, Cal U Cupboard and the Greater Washington County Food Bank.

"This event has truly become a day of service and a day of giving," said Diane Hasbrouck, director of the Center for Volunteer Programs.

"Although we are still on semester break (on Martin Luther King Day), our students are really cooperative and want to do their part."

Sheleta Camarda-Webb, director of Multicultural Affairs, University LGBTQIA Initiatives, and Commuter and Nontraditional Student Services, pointed out that "The Dream Legacy Service Challenge" has helped to increase student participation in the annual event.

To honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life of service, campus clubs, organizations and offices are competing in this challenge by registering through OrgSync and participating in various Black History Month activities.

The student organization and office with the most volunteer items and donations each will receive a free pizza party with University President Geraldine M. Jones.

Camarda-Webb added that she and Hasbrouck regularly communicate with students, listening to their ideas about service and volunteer opportunities.

"Service learning is an integral part of education," she said. "Whether it's taking place in their hometowns, the Mon Valley or Pittsburgh, we are constantly looking for ways they can give back."

"This is a way for Dr. King and the Black History Month legacy to live year-round through our students and our entire campus."

Campus BRIEFS

Cal Musicians Help Sweeten Sunday

Four groups of Cal U student musicians will perform at the 24th annual "Sweet Sunday," a dessert festival and fundraiser benefiting City Mission of Washington Pa.

The event takes place from noon-5 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe.

Cal Singers, Acapella Stella, Isolated Incident and Vulcanize will perform from 2-3 p.m.

City Mission is a holistic ministry that serves men, women and children at their point of crisis by helping them find stability, employment and independent housing.

This family event features live and silent auctions, Kid's Korner activities, live entertainment, food and the main attraction: a ballroom filled with delectable desserts.

"It's a good time for a good cause that helps prepare our student musicians for the spring season," said Dr. Yugo Ibach, professor and co-chair of the Department of Music and Theatre.

Cost is \$5, and tickets will be sold at the door.



Website is Hub for Weather Alerts

Now that Panxustawyer Phil has seen his shadow and wintry weather remains, students and employees should register for Emergency Text Alerts and keep an eye on the Cal U website.

Weather announcements will be made only if the University's regular operation is disrupted. A red banner on top of the homepage and every page at calu.edu will direct users to the Emergency Information section, where information will be updated periodically, if needed, as conditions change.

Text alerts may be issued for the most significant announcements, such as cancellations or delays. Users must register for text alerts using a campus email address and password; registration must be renewed annually.

For details and answers to frequently asked questions about Cal U Text Alerts, visit calu.edu/inside/campus-safety. For quick links to register, look for "Text Alerts" on the resources pages for current students (calu.edu/student/) or faculty and staff (calu.edu/staff/).

Notice of cancellations or delays also may be available on local television stations and on the Cal U hotline at 724-938-4507 or 800-422-5639.

Globetrotters Perform in Vulcan Country

Chandler "Bubba" Mack teaches Kingston Depta, 7, of Uniontown, Pa., how to spin the basketball on his finger during the Harlem Globetrotters' 2018 Amazing Feats of Basketball World Tour, which stopped at the Convocation Center on Feb. 7.



Fair Highlights Clubs, Organizations

The second floor of the Natali Student Center was lined with tables showcasing trifid boards, giveaways, sign-up sheets and more on Feb. 8 at the 2018 spring semester's Club and Organization Fair.

With more than 110 clubs and organizations, Cal U offers groups that will fit many interests, including academics, faith and religion, volunteering, sports, the arts, and event planning.

Being active on a college campus is just as important for commuters and on-traditional students, according to Claire Prendergast, president of the Commuter Center.

"We are here today to get ideas on their needs and also help them know they can use any amenities, programs, and information we offer to help them be successful," said Prendergast, a senior graphics and multimedia major. "This event is another way to let them see what's available for them to do on campus."

Ivy Savage, vice president of the Anthropology Club, belongs to several other campus clubs and said collaborative events can increase participation.

"We obviously try to get our club name out there, but since we work with so many other disciplines such as biology, chemistry and art, we are trying to combine activities," said Savage, a junior forensic anthropology major.

"This way, people who join are not doing or focusing on just one thing or area," Savage said. "You don't have to be in our major to be in the club and have fun." Josh Bacon, a junior with a dual major in mechatronics and robotics, is the president of the Men's Lacrosse Club. He was encouraged by this year's turnout and said there may be nearly 40 students on the team this spring.

"We're excited about this upcoming season and have had several students stop by who seem very interested," said Bacon. "We added a few new players who stopped by our booth at last fall's fair as well."



Students had a chance to learn about more than 110 clubs and organizations at the spring 2018 Club and Organization Fair.

"This fair is definitely important."

Amanda Francis, a junior majoring in business administration, signed up for an upcoming sorority recruitment presentation and also a winter headband drawing at the Bachelor of Social Work Association (BSWA) table.

"I have a lot of friends who are here today, and the people at each table I've visited have been very interesting," said Francis, who is a member of the Cal U Choir.

Club participation benefits a student's Activities Transcript — an official University document that records student leadership roles, community service and other clubs and activities that can be shared with future employers.

"College is so much more than what you learn in the classroom, and there are endless ways students can broaden their skills here," said Diane Hasbrouck, director of the Center for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning.



Stage managers Alex Garlopy (left) and Alyssa Freeman look over scripts while preparing for the Department of Music and Theatre's upcoming performances of 'Almost, Maine.'

'Maine' Opens March 1

The Department of Music and Theatre opens its spring season with the perfect post-Valentine's Day dose of love — John Cariani's *Almost, Maine*.

Showtimes are 7 p.m. March 1-2, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 3 in the Gerald and Carolyn Blaney Theatre in Steele Hall. Performances are open to the public.

Almost, Maine is a series of loosely connected tales about love, each with a compelling couple at its center, each with its own touch of sorcery.

On one cold and magical midwinter night, the citizens of *Almost* — not organized enough for a town, too populated for a wilderness — experience the life-altering power of the human heart. Relationships end, begin or change, as strangers become friends,

friends become lovers, and lovers turn into strangers.

Directing the show is Dr. John Paul Staszal '03, assistant professor in the Department of Music and Theatre.

"*Almost, Maine* is a very fun and exciting, yet relatively simple show," Staszal said. "*Almost* is really about almost anywhere in small-town America, and I think a lot of the narratives will resonate with almost any viewer.

"There is a lot of love, a lot of loss, a lot of missed connections, and a lot of new relationships."

Tickets are \$12. Students with valid CalCards are admitted for 50 cents; a \$5 deposit will be returned when the student attends a performance.

For more information or to order tickets by phone, call the Steele Hall Box Office at 724-938-5963.

Registration Begins for Summer College

Registration opens Feb. 19 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, have a choice of more than 200 credit courses at the undergraduate or graduate level. Both on-campus and online courses are offered during the 2018 summer term in convenient five- and 10-week sessions.

The flexibility of Summer College is designed for students to advance their education and careers.

"Our Summer College is a way to help students catch up on credits and improve their GPAs," said Kathy Gavazzi, Cal U's associate registrar and director of Summer College and Winter Session. "For others, it's an opportunity to focus on a single course, or subject

they've always wanted to learn about."

Current Cal U students do not have to apply for Summer College; they can register online through VIP or email summer@calu.edu.

Visiting students can apply and view the 2018 Summer College brochure at calu.edu/summer-college.

Important Summer College dates:

- Feb. 19: Registration begins.
- May 21: Special sessions begin and run at various times through Aug. 10.
- June 4: First five- and 10-week summer session classes begin.
- July 6: First five-week session ends.
- July 9: Second five-week sessions begin.
- Aug. 10: Second and 10-week sessions end.

To learn more, email gavazzi@calu.edu or call 724-938-5962.

Black History Month Ends

—Continued from page 1

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for visiting students. Cal U students with valid CalCards and children younger than 12 are admitted free.

• Feb. 23: Long Live Their Legacy: A Celebration of Negro League Baseball, 1 p.m.-2 p.m., Duda Hall, Room 103. Joel Gray, Pittsburgh Pirates' community outreach coordinator, presents this Black History Month initiative designed to help educate students about Negro League baseball.

Pittsburgh was a hub for Negro League baseball during the first half of the 20th century and the only city in the

country that had two black professional teams — the Homestead Grays and Pittsburgh Crawfords.

The presentation is sponsored by the Frederick Douglass Institute and has been rescheduled after being postponed due to the wintry weather on Feb. 7.

Sheleka Carmada-Webb, director of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education, urged the Cal U community to continue the spirit of Black History Month throughout the year.

"This month and every month, we walk in the shadows of greatness of the African-American leaders who came before us. They forged a path that we now walk," she said.



Three-time All-American Miki Glenn '17 will receive the Basketball Alumna of the Year award as part of the festivities during Cal U's home doubleheader against Clarion on Feb. 24 at the Convocation Center.

Seniors, Alumni Honored

The men's and women's basketball teams will honor their senior student-athletes and past players on Feb. 24 when they host the annual Cal U Basketball Alumni and Senior Day. All events will be held in the Convocation Center.

The occasion will culminate in two games against PSAC-West rival Clarion University. The Vulcan women play the Golden Eagles at 3 p.m., followed by the men's game at 5 p.m. The men's alumni game will tip off at 10 a.m.

Cal U seniors will be honored before the tipoff of each PSAC game. Shatarra Parsons is the lone senior on the women's team; the men's team includes

seniors Luka Andjusic, Terry Davis, Jr., Eric Green, Isaiah Lewis, Robel Teckle and Jay Tucker

At halftime of the PSAC games, three-time All-American Miki Glenn '17 and Tom Gransy '77 will receive the Basketball Alumna and Alumnus of the Year awards, respectively.

"California basketball has a rich tradition, and we are excited about our current team's progress and the future moving forward," said Kent McBride, Cal U's second-year head men's basketball coach.

"Our alumni are always welcome. They are important to the program, and we are proud to recognize them with our seniors."

Jess Strom, the women's team's seventh-year head coach and last season's Atlantic Region Coach of the Year, echoed McBride's enthusiasm.

"We are working hard every day to make our alumni proud of their program and alma mater," Strom said. "We hope many of them can come back for this special day, and we look forward to ending their day with victories."

All basketball alumni interested in attending should contact Staci Tolrow at 724-938-4418 or stolrow@calu.edu. The 10 a.m. men's alumni game is open to the public at no charge. Tickets for the games against Clarion are \$5 for adults, \$3 for students. Cal U students with CalCards are admitted free, as are Fastbreak and Sixth Man Club members.

GRANTS AWARDED

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research reports that:

- Nancy Skobel, of the Department of Student Affairs and the Women's Center, has been awarded a four-year, \$389,468 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Hand-in-Hand-Bringing Families to School project provides child care at the Village Early Childhood Education Center for qualifying Cal U students with young children.

- Laura Giachetti, of the Department of TRIO and Academic Services, has been awarded a \$300,629 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for student support services.

- Dr. Thomas Mavellie, of the Department of Earth Sciences, has been awarded \$86,920 from the National Science Foundation (through Jefferson Community and Technical College, Louisville, Ky.). This funding will be used to support his project, "Geospatial Technology Center Excellence: Growing the Workforce."

- Dr. Robert Whyte, of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, has been awarded a \$35,200 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to support his Lancaster Stream Restoration project.

- Dr. Daniel Harris, of the Department of Earth Sciences, has received a two-year contract for nearly \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy for a PetroThin system and a PetroVue viewer. These will be used for collaborative research with the Department of Energy and for instruction with undergraduate students.

- Rachel Michaels, of the Department of Student Affairs, has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from Transforming Youth Recovery to provide capacity building activities to assist students seeking recovery.

- Dr. Clover Wright, of the Department of Childhood Education, has been awarded a \$2,400 grant from the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh-Southwest Regional Key to conduct professional development events for early childhood educators.

Vulcans Continue Academic Success

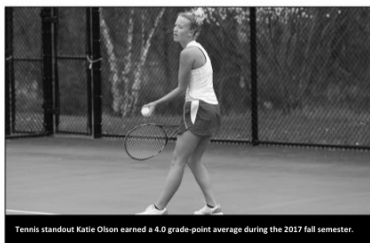
Cal U's athletic program heads into 2018 having compiled a cumulative grade-point average of 3.10 or higher for 15 of the past 16 semesters.

During the Fall 2017 term, the Vulcans' 16 NCAA athletic programs collectively achieved a 3.15 GPA, with 36 student-athletes earning a perfect 4.0. The women's team earned the highest team GPA, at 3.64. On the men's side, the baseball team posted the highest GPA at 3.21.

In all, 183 Vulcan student-athletes were named to the Fall 2017 Athletic Director Honor Roll for achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.

"We are proud of our student-athletes' consistent work in the classroom," said Dr. Karen Hjerpe, Cal U's athletic director.

"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."



Tennis standout Katie Olson earned a 4.0 grade-point average during the 2017 fall semester.

The California Journal is published by California University of Pennsylvania, a member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

Geraldine M. Jones
University President

Robert Thorn
Vice President for Administration and Finance

Wendy Mackall
Editor

Dr. Bruce Barnhart
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Nancy Pinarini
Vice President for Student Affairs

Bruce Wald
Writer

Office of Communications and Public Relations 250 University Avenue California, PA 15419 724-938-4195 wald@calu.edu

INTEGRITY · CIVILITY · RESPONSIBILITY