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The Cal U Marching Band, shown above performing at Collegiate Band Marching Festival in Allentown, is assisting with the University's recruiting efforts.

Marching Band Hosts High School Players

In addition to entertaining fans at Vulcan football games, the Cal U Marching Band is assisting with the University's recruiting efforts.

Under the guidance of Dr. Frank Stetar, who was appointed interim director of bands this summer, Cal U has revived its tradition of incorporating local high school bands into home-game activities at Adamson Stadium.

Earlier this season the marching bands from Bentworth and California Area high schools performed at Vulcan home games. Musicians from Brownsville Area High School will visit the stadium Nov. 7.

"This is something that Cal U did a long time ago under (emeritus professor and retired band director) Max Gonano. As a former local high school band director, I always enjoyed bringing my band here," said Stetar, who served as California Area High School's band director for 15 years.

"I thought it would be a great

recruitment tool to do this again."

After performing during the pregame show, the high school musicians join Cal U band members in the stands.

"They do their (high school) halftime show during our pregame and right before the National Anthem, so it gives them the opportunity to perform on our stadium field in front of all the people," Stetar said. "Then they hang out with our band students during the game, play along, and just have a good time."

He said the endeavor has succeeded through a team effort. In addition to Music Department chair Dr. Yugo Kbach, he thanked acting Provost Dr. Bruce Barnhart for his support, especially with providing food and transportation for the visitors.

After the high school musicians perform, members of the University's undergraduate admissions team meet them to provide small gifts and information packets.

"That student-to-student interaction provides a wonderful introduction to the Cal U experience," Barnhart said. "Many high school students are looking for a college where they can feel at home. Frank and our band students have done a great job of providing that warm welcome."

Members of the visiting bands are asked to fill out cards so the admissions team can follow up.

"We've received very positive feedback. A lot of students are showing interest in coming to Cal U and being part of our band as a result of this experience," Stetar said.

The experience also is rewarding for Cal U's 103-member marching band, said junior Makayla Kolat, a commercial music technology major who graduated from nearby Jefferson-Morgan High School.

"It's actually a lot of fun, and it's great that they show an interest in (the band) and Cal U," said Kolat, who plays

clarinet. "It's nice to get the word out about what we do here."

University band students also spread the word about Cal U when they return home for Friday night football, or when the marching band performs at high school band festivals. This fall the Cal U Marching Band performed at locations as near as Charleroi and North Huntingdon, and as far away as Allentown.

For the first time since the late 1980s, the Cal U Marching Band will also participate in the California Community Halloween parade at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 28.

In addition, Stetar arranged for seven high school bands to march in this year's Homecoming Parade, and the Cal U band is looking forward to hosting Brownsville Area musicians at Senior Day festivities next month.

"It's a great opportunity for everyone involved," Stetar said. "Anything we can do to help get our band and overall enrollment numbers up, we want to do."

Space Set Aside for Devotions

Campus community members of all faiths now have a space for devotions, meditation and prayer.

The University has designated two rooms in the Carter Hall Multicultural Center (G-25, rooms 18-19) as meditation rooms.

Two rooms have been set aside because some religious traditions require men and women to pray separately. The rooms are close to restrooms for the convenience of those whose faith requires ritual washing of hands and feet.

"When I was a student here, I had Muslim friends who just found a space wherever they could to pray," said Sheleta Webb '89, '94, director of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education, as well as Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Services.

"I think today's students want more privacy. Now they have a quiet place in a specific location to pray, meditate, or to do whatever they need."

Dr. John Burnett, special assistant to the President for EEO, identified the need for devotional space and developed a policy for the meditation rooms, Webb said.

She also singled out Robert Thorn, vice president for Administration and Finance, Tim Sutnick, associate

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Abdullah Alsharari, a senior English major, prays in one of the new meditation rooms inside the Carter Hall Multicultural Center.

Grad Named Employer of the Year

Briganna Riggi '10, manager of agency recruiting at Prudential, is this year's recipient of the Cal U Career Advantage Advisory Board's Employer of the Year Award.

Riggi received the award Oct. 6 during the Fall Job and Internship Fair at the Convocation Center. Sponsored by the Career and Professional Development Center, the jobs fair brought more than 60 companies and organizations to campus to recruit students and alumni for internship, co-op, job shadowing and employment opportunities.

Riggi, who was nominated by several Cal U faculty and staff members, earned her Cal U degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing.

After serving on the Career Advantage advisory board for several years, she now

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Rachel Michaels, Cal U's alcohol and other drug (AOD) education specialist, is in charge of the new Prevention Awareness Recovery Center, which is open to anyone recovering from alcohol or drug abuse or who wishes to learn more about ways to receive or offer help.

Recovery Center Open

Students should not have to choose between their recovery and their education.

That's the primary message of the University's new Prevention Awareness Recovery Center, or PARC.

Located in Suite G-45, just outside the Wellness Center on the ground floor of Carter Hall, PARC is open to students recovering from alcohol or drug abuse, and to anyone who wishes to learn more about ways to receive or offer help.

"Many respected universities have flourishing recovery centers that help recovering students maintain their recoveries, as well as work on their educational career," said Rachel Michaels, Cal U's alcohol and other drug (AOD) education specialist.

"Having a recovery center on a college campus is crucial in sustaining the health and well being of students who are, or who wish to be, in recovery from alcohol and other drugs."

PARC is also available to students who simply do not wish to partake in activities

with a "party" atmosphere.

"At the PARC, we provide a safe, worry-free atmosphere where students can relax, find support and resources, and build lasting connections and relationships with one another," Michaels said.

A 2011 graduate of Cal U, Michaels believes that the stigma of addiction too often deters people from seeking help. Having a recovery center on campus means that Cal U students who need these services will be able to access them easily.

"People who are in recovery from substance addiction are told that their recovery has to come first in their lives. But students should not have to choose between their recovery and an education, which is why the PARC exists," she said.

"Students are now able to obtain an education without jeopardizing their recovery."

PARC is open weekdays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Any member of the campus community is welcome. For more information, e-mail Michaels_rj@calu.edu or call 724-938-4775.

Theater Students 'Seussify' a Classic

The fall semester's second presentation by the Department of Theatre and Dance showcases the talents of Cal U's newest crop of aspiring actors and technicians.

First-year students will appear onstage and work behind the scenes Nov. 5-7 in Peter Bloedel's *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet*, a whimsical retelling of the familiar Shakespearean love story.

Suitable for the whole family, this tale of two star-crossed lovers is performed as if Dr. Seuss had written the script. The show is complete with rhymed couplets, creative wordplay and fantastical machines.

This is the 19th annual first-year student show at Cal U.

"The first-year student show serves as a debut for freshmen and transfer students, but more than that, the production connects students to their campus and each other shortly after they arrive," said Dr. Michele Pagen, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance.

"These shows are always fun, and the upperclassmen get excited to watch the new theater folk shine onstage and behind the scenes."

Pagen said the cast includes students from a variety of majors who are enjoying their time on "this wacky production."

The production stage manager is Paige Zalar, a communication studies



Cal U's Department of Theatre and Dance continues the Fall 2015 season with *'The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet'* at 8 p.m. Nov. 5-6 and 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. Nov. 7.

major who is focused on public relations.

Annabel Lorende designed the costumes, while Kylee Henry and Brendan Smith are coordinating the sound. All three are theatre and dance majors.

Several new faculty members are involved in the production: John Paul Staszid is directing, Sabrina Hyles-Davis designed sets and properties, and Debora Peclor handled lighting design.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. Nov. 5-6, with shows at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Nov. 7.

All performances are in the Gerald and Carolyn Blaney Theatre in Steele Hall.

Cost is \$12 for patrons of all ages. Cal U students with valid CalCards pay 50 cents, plus a \$5 deposit that is refunded at the show.

For ticket information, or to charge tickets by phone, call the Steele Box Office at 724-938-5943.

Professor Enters Hall of Fame

Dr. Laura Miller, director of the sport management studies program, has been inducted into the East Boros Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Miller is one of eight individuals inducted into the hall's 2015 class.

As a scholastic athlete at Plum High School, Miller was a four-time all-section midfielder on the girls soccer team.

As an undergraduate, Miller helped Penn State-Behrend's women's soccer team win three consecutive Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference titles and in 2000 earn the program's first appearance in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

A three-time all-conference selection and the league's Most Valuable Freshman in 1998, she finished her collegiate career as the school's leading goal scorer.

Representing 21 communities in western Pennsylvania, the East Boros Chapter is one of 28 chapters of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.



Dr. Laura Miller

GRANTS AWARDED

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research reports that:

- Dr. Jennifer Wilburn and Professor Joseph Schuckel, of the Department of Applied Engineering and Technology, continue to collaborate with the Community College of Allegheny County on a three-year Advanced Technological Education project funded by the National Science Foundation. Cal U receives \$39,096 for the second year of the project, "Technicians in Energy, Advanced Manufacturing and Supply Chain Technology (TEAMS)."

Space Set Aside for Devotions

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vice president for Student Affairs; and Elizabeth Bennelck, director of International Programming, for seeing the project through.

"This core group identified this as the ideal space," said Webb, who added that a small conference room and a family room are nearby.

"The goal now is to get the word out to students, as well as faculty and staff. Each week we do a little more to help unfold it."

In a spirit of hospitality for all and out of respect for all the various spiritual and religious traditions represented on campus, the meditation rooms contain no permanent

symbols specific to any one faith.

Activities in the rooms at all times must demonstrate the level of respect appropriate to religious spaces.

No food, drink, electronic devices or open flames may be brought into the rooms, and photography is not allowed.

The meditation rooms are open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekdays; students and employees may contact Webb to reserve them for use at other times.

"Having this designated space helps our students fulfill their personal needs while their academic needs are being met," said Webb. "Hopefully, this will enhance their overall experience here and make it more enjoyable."

For more information or to reserve space, contact Webb at webb_rj@calu.edu, 724-938-4021 or 724-938-5758.

Students Design Fitness Course

Students from a variety of disciplines worked together to create a new way to stay in shape and enjoy the great outdoors.

The new Fitness Challenge Course at the SAI Farm features 13 exercise stations along a 1.25-mile trail that weaves through fields and wooded areas on Cal U's upper campus.

Exercise stations include a tire flip, balance beam, parallel bars, push-up platforms, heavy rope swings and more.

Although community fitness is the ultimate goal of the course, the project started as a collaborative student project.

"The goal of the SAI Farm is to further its development through collaborative efforts that provide hands-on learning opportunities for the students at Cal U," said Keith Skirpin, senior accountant and property development manager for the Student Association Inc.

"The Fitness Challenge Course is just one of many examples where we have fostered that here at the farm."

Athletic training students helped to determine which exercises should be included on the course. Students in the Technology Education Club build and helped to install wooden platforms to support each exercise.

Now that Cal U students and community members are using the



Cal U student Christian Amerson exercises with heavy rope swings at the SAI Farm's new Fitness Challenge Course.

stations, students in the parks and recreation management program are studying the effectiveness of the course and hoping to share that information at upcoming conferences.

"I have never seen anything like this on a school campus," said senior Michael

Reese, a parks and recreation major. "It's an alternate way to get outside and change your workout routine, and something the entire community can enjoy."

Vulcan athletic teams also embraced the project.

"We like to use the course to

challenge teams in different ways, to come together and overcome obstacles," says strength and conditioning coach Jessie Sylvester.

"People are having fun, and have no clue they are getting a complete workout. It is a great asset to the University."

Talk Marks Native American Heritage Month

The public may attend a presentation by Rick W. Hill Sr., Tuscaraora of the Beaver clan, at 7 p.m. Nov. 9 in Eberly Hall, Room 110.

The free talk, "Indigenous Magna Carta – Haudenosaunee Great Law of Peace," celebrates Native American Heritage Month.

Hill is an artist, writer, photographer and curator who is recognized as a leading authority on contemporary Native American art and Indian images depicted in mass media.

Over the years he has served as manager of the Indian Art Centre in Ottawa, Ontario, museum director at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M.; special director for public programs

at the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution; and manager of the Haudenosaunee Resource Center. Currently he is the coordinator for the Joint Stewardship Board at Six Nations, which is working to develop an environmental interpretation center, and the manager of the Six Nations Virtual Archives Project.

Hill lives at the Six Nations Community of the Grand River Territory in Ontario, Canada.

The free presentation is sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the LaDonna Harris Native American Studies Institute at Cal U.

For more information, contact Dr. Clarissa Confer at confer_c@calu.edu.



Rick W. Hill Sr.



Bookstore Hosts Graduation Fair

The Cal U Bookstore helps students prepare for 2015 Winter Commencement by hosting a Graduation Fair from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 26. Soon-to-be graduates can meet campus and vendor representatives and order graduation necessities such as caps and gowns, class rings, announcement notices, and diploma frames. Each Commencement participant must be attired in an academic robe and matching cap purchased at the bookstore. An exception is made for students who choose to wear their military uniforms. Commencement ceremonies for master's degree candidates will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 11. Bachelor's and associate degrees will be awarded at 10 a.m. Dec. 12. Both Commencement ceremonies will take place in the Convocation Center arena. The Cal U Bookstore is located in Room 125 of the Natall Student Center. For details about the Graduation Fair, contact Pam Pazzabon at 724-938-5572 or pazzabon@calu.edu.

Campus BRIEFS

LGBT History Month Concludes

Author and activist Jewelle Gomez will deliver the final LGBT History Month presentation at 11 a.m. Oct. 26 in the Vulcan Theatre.

Sponsored by the Lambda Bridges LGBTQA Programs Office, presentations this month have addressed the theme "Rights to Respect ... Inclusivity for All."

Gomez is the author of seven books including *The Gilda Stories*, a two-time winner of the Lambda Literary Award. *Bones and Ash*, a play adapted from that work, has been performed in 13 U.S. cities.

The free talk is open to the public.

One More Fall Discovery Day

To introduce prospective students to the University, Cal U will hold its final fall Discovery Days event from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 7.

Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. in Steele Hall, followed by an overview of the daily schedule at 9 a.m.

On Discovery Days, high school students who are beginning their college search can visit and learn about Cal U's academic offerings, housing, student activities and athletic programs. Guided tours are on the agenda.

For more information or to register online, visit www.calu.edu, keyword "Discovery Days."

Faculty or staff members who are interested in leading tours should contact the Welcome Center at Ext. 1626 or e-mail Carrie Partis at partis@calu.edu.

Annual Appeal Hits Homestretch

Through Oct. 30, members of the campus community can show they care by participating in the annual SECA/United Way campaign.

This year's theme, "Dream Big," encourages employees to make a big difference for those who are less fortunate. For example, \$1 per pay would provide seven days' worth of groceries for a family experiencing food insecurity.

SECA, the State Employees Combined Appeal, supports a number of local, regional, national and international charities. Contributions help families and individuals in need of shelter, medical care, food, job training and other services.

For more information, contact SECA on-campus chairs Doug Hoover and Dana Turcic at



Cal U's defending PSAC champion women's tennis team poses for a photo after volunteering at the Tennis Pairs for Free Wheelchairs event in Upper St. Clair, Pa.

Women's Tennis Doubles Up for Charity

The women's tennis team recently took a break from its fall season to help others get around.

The defending PSAC champions took part in the fifth annual Tennis Pairs for Free Wheelchairs, a round-robin doubles event Sept. 27 at the municipal tennis courts in Upper St. Clair, Pa. Proceeds from the event benefited the Free Wheelchair Mission, a nonprofit organization that provides wheelchairs for poor people with disabilities who live in developing nations.

Head tennis coach Pablo Montana said the Vulcans were involved with registration and warming up the players, who paid an entry fee equal to the cost of a wheelchair from FWM.

Montana and the Vulcan players coached some of the participants. Team

"My players had a wonderful experience engaging with community members. We will definitely be doing this again next year."

—Head tennis coach
Pablo Montana

members partnered with tennis players who arrived at the event singly, and they stayed to assist with cleanup.

The event raised more than \$5,000. "Giving back always involves a certain amount of giving up, and I am proud of all our players for giving up

their Sunday afternoon to support this wonderful cause," Montana said.

Throughout the year, Cal U's women's tennis team volunteers at senior centers, food banks and local charity events.

"Cal U students strive to make an impact in the community, and our team believes in doing just that," Montana said.

"My players had a wonderful experience engaging with community members. We will definitely be doing this again next year."

Alumna Employer of the Year

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chairs the panel of employers, alumni, faculty, staff, students and parents who support the program, which helps students discover a suitable career path and graduate on schedule.

Riggi also takes part in a number of career-building activities at Cal U. She has sponsored a women's networking event, shared job search tips at the career center's "Inside Scoop" event, and helped students to practice their networking and dining skills at the annual Etiquette Dinner.

Dr. Bruce Barnhart, acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, presented Riggi's award. Through her efforts, he said, Prudential has been a jobs fair sponsor for many years.

"By sharing her perspective on workforce needs with the folks in our career center, she helps us to better prepare students for the challenge of finding a job and building a rewarding career."

Riggi praised her alma mater for preparing its students and helping them to connect with employers.

"I really love hiring Cal U students, and I encourage all the



Brianna Riggi '10 (center) receives the Cal U Career Advantage Advisory Board's Employer of the Year Award from Rhonda Gifford, director of the career center, and Dr. Bruce Barnhart, acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

companies here today to get involved and keep working with Cal U," she said.

Also attending the jobs fair was Ayesha Pathak '00, '02. After working for several years in Washington, D.C., she returned for the 2014 jobs fair in search of a job in western Pennsylvania. Now she's the digital advertising manager for the Herald-Standard newspaper in Uniontown, Pa.

"I'm a big fan of the jobs fair

here," Pathak said. "It obviously worked out very well for me. Now I am back this year recruiting! This event is ideal for students and employers."

Rhonda Gifford, director of the career center, expressed her gratitude to all of the visiting employers.

"We really appreciate you selecting Cal U (as a place to recruit)," she said. "Thank you for hiring our students and graduates."

More Veterans Banners Coming

Eleven new commemorative banners saluting Cal U's service members and veterans soon will be installed on campus.

Robert Prath, director of Veterans Affairs, said the banners will remain on display through Winter Commencement.

Each banner includes a photo of the Cal U student, graduate, employee or family member being recognized, along with details about his or her military service. Those who submit a veteran's name are recognized on the banner, along with the business or community sponsor, if applicable.

All members of the U.S. armed services are eligible to be recognized on a banner, including current, former or reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

Each honoree should have a direct or family tie to the campus community or to Cal U Global Online.

Since the program was introduced in 2013, the annual patriotic display has grown to include 52 banners.

"In our third year for the banner program, we've had a lot more families take part," said Prath. "This is exactly why we initiated the banner program—to honor our Cal U family."

Applications will be accepted again next August. Anyone interested can e-mail veterans@calu.edu.



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