

California University
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Enrollment Up as New School Year Begins

For the first time since 2011, student enrollment at Cal U has grown.

University officials anticipate an increase of about 3 percent in the overall student headcount compared to fall 2016, when 7,553 undergraduate and graduate students attended.

The freshman class, which arrived at Cal U Aug. 25 for the start of Welcome Weekend activities, was the largest Cal U has seen since 2014. The incoming students represented 52 counties in Pennsylvania, plus 15 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

On the first day of classes, the number of transfer students was the highest since 2010, and graduate student enrollment was the highest in Cal U's history.

Enrollment totals will be finalized after the 16th day of instruction, the official "census date" for schools in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

"It's wonderful to see so many new students beginning their Cal U journey," said Dr. Tracey Sheetz, dean of undergraduate admissions.

"As a (freshman) class, their standardized test scores and other academic measures are strong — and they are so excited to be starting this new phase of their lives! I can't wait to see what they accomplish in the next four years."

University officials attribute the turnaround in enrollment to a variety of factors, including improvements to the campus visit experience and scholarship awarding process. New academic programs in science and technology,



University President Geraldine M. Jones speaks with incoming freshmen Aubrey Martin (left) and Timber Newhouse as they take a break from moving in to their residence hall on Aug. 25.

business, and other high-demand fields are attracting career-minded students, and Cal U's online degree and certificate programs remain popular, especially with working adults.

The "Cal U cares" philosophy was evident as the semester began. More than 150 returning students, representing 27 different campus organizations, greeted incoming students and their families on Move-In Day. The volunteers

helped the newcomers carry their belongings into the residence halls, then directed them to an information fair and lunch in the Convocation Center.

"This service project has really become a tradition that our returning students passionately look forward too," said Diane Hasbroock, director of the Center for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning.

"Many look at this as an opportunity

to recruit new students into their club or organization. But many of them also remember the help they received moving in as freshman and simply want to return the favor."

After moving in, new students began a series of Welcome Weekend activities that culminated with a New Student Convocation, a candlelighting ceremony on the Quad, fireworks and an ice cream social on the lawn in front of Old Main.

Constitution Day Sept. 18

Dr. Patrick G. Coy, director of Kent State University's School of Peace and Conflict Studies, will be the guest speaker when Cal U observes Constitution Day on Sept. 18.

Coy's presentation, "The Right to Dissent," will take place at 10 a.m. in Duda Hall, Room 103.

In addition, William Meloy and Loring Prest, faculty members in Cal U's Department of Library Services, will conduct interactive sessions on how to identify valid sources on the Internet. "[Un]truths and Consequences" will be held at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., in Manderino Library, Room 208.

A professor at Kent State University since 1996, Coy has a distinguished record of scholarship in the field of peace activism. The long-time editor of the peer-reviewed academic research series *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change*, he leads workshops in various aspects of conflict resolution, mediation and nonviolent action to community, educational and



Dr. Patrick G. Coy

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Cal U Among 'Best,' Says Princeton Review

The Princeton Review again has recognized California University of Pennsylvania as one of the best universities in the northeastern United States.

The nationally known education services company profiles California University in its "2018 Best Colleges: Region By Region" listing at www.PrincetonReview.com.

This is the 13th consecutive year that Cal U has been named among the "Best in the Northeast" schools. The 229 institutions profiled this year are "academically outstanding and well worth consideration" as part of a student's college search, the website says.

The Princeton Review recognized 658 colleges and universities in five zones — Northeastern, Southeastern, Midwestern, Western and International — in its 2018 guide. These represent about 27 percent of the four-year,



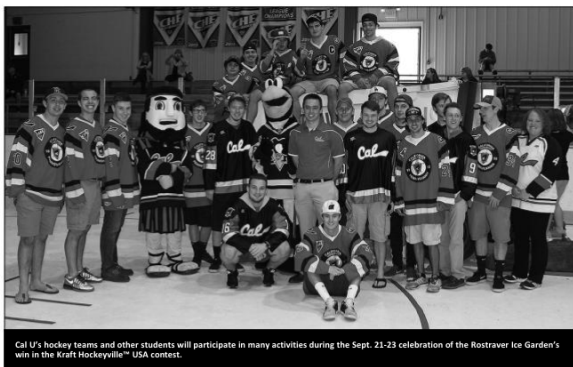
degree-granting institutions in the United States.

Schools are assessed for academic excellence based on data and information submitted by the school, as well as student surveys and other sources.

In their responses to Princeton review surveys, students noted that Cal U welcomes people from many backgrounds, including international and older adult students.

"From freshmen right out of local high schools, (to) students from Brazil, Canada and Europe, to older, nontraditional students pursuing a higher education... it is this unique blend of people that make Cal U special," one student said.

Another student noted the wide range of activities on campus, including "an on-campus free movie theater, a billiards room, and tons of clubs and sponsored activities."



Cal U Students Help with Hockeyville

Cal U hockey players and other students will continue to have a "net-front presence" as Rostraver Township and the surrounding community celebrate the Rostraver Ice Garden's win in the Kraft Hockeyville™ USA contest.

Cal U senior Chris Kostnick, Vulcan hockey's equipment manager, wrote a passionate letter nominating the Ice Garden — the hockey teams' home ice — for the contest prize of \$150,000 in repairs.

Community members and hockey fans, many with Cal U ties, voted online, via text and on Twitter to have the area named the country's most passionate hockey community.

Last April the Ice Garden was packed with local hockey fans, including Cal U players and the University's mascot, Blaze, when NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman revealed the Ice Garden as the Kraft Hockeyville USA winner.

To celebrate the win, the Local Organizing Committee for Hockeyville is hosting a series of events from Sept. 21-23; some will be held on campus. The activities lead up to a nationally televised preseason game between the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Saint Louis Blues at 8 p.m. Sept. 24 at the UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex

in Cranberry Township, Pa.

Sept. 17: In preparation for Hockeyville events, Cal U's three hockey teams beginning at 9 a.m. will hold a Rink Clean-up at the Rostraver Ice Garden, which hosts youth and community leagues as well as Cal U's two men's and one women's hockey teams.

Jamison Roth, Cal U's director of recreational services and chair of the Local Organizing Committee, said all student organizations are welcome to volunteer and earn OxySync credit.

Sept. 21: The Convocation Center will host Rise Against Food Hunger from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cal U students will join teens from 12 local school districts to pack donated food for area food banks. The signature philanthropic partner of Kraft Heinz, Rise Against Hunger aims to end global hunger as it delivers food and life-saving aid to the world's most vulnerable populations.

At the event, Cal U faculty members will give presentations combining sports and science. Vulcan hockey players will help with the event's setup and cleanup. Roth's goal is to have 900 high school and Cal U students volunteer.

Sept. 22: The nonprofit Mon Ice Project will hold a fundraising gala at 6:30 p.m. in the Convocation Center. The

gala will include refreshments and a live auction of items including hockey memorabilia and donations from Kraft Heinz and others in southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Mon Ice Project was formed to support hockey initiatives such as local learn-to-skate and learn-to-play programs, as well as scholarship opportunities.

"This is really going to be something any hockey fan will want to attend," Roth said. "There will be so many impressive hockey items available."

Cost to attend is \$75; email info@moniceproject.com or call 724-938-2429 to purchase tickets.

Sept. 23: Activities throughout the day include a 5-K race through North Belle Vernon followed by a parade on Broad Avenue. Cal U hockey teams other University organizations will be marching in the parade, along with the Planters NUTmobile, the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, and the Kraft Hockeyville Trophy.

For the latest information and times for all of the events, visit www.moniceproject.com or email rostraverhockeyville@gmail.com; or follow RostraverHockeyville on Facebook or @Rostraver2017 on Twitter.

Career Week Blazes Path for Students

The Career and Professional Development Center is fired up for a "Blaze Your Path"-themed Career Week Sept. 18-22.

Activities open Sept. 14 with a block party from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parking lot in front of the Natoli Student Center. Students can meet their career adviser and learn about the Career Advantage program, which helps students discover a suitable career path and graduate on schedule. Food, prizes and T-shirts will be given away.

Career Week events include resume reviews and tip sheets, interview advice, graduate school information, and a session on proper workplace attire.

Tables will be set up in front of the Natoli Student Center from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 18 and Sept. 21, as well as from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Convocation Center on Sept. 20, during the Cal U Health Fair.

Activities on Sept. 19 (Dress for Success) and Sept. 22 (resume reviews, interview tips) will take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Natoli student Center, Room 138.

Students can swipe their CalCards at the block party and during Career Week events to earn Career Advantage points, which can lead to Career Advantage graduation cords.

In case of rain, the block party and the Career Week tables will be relocated to an area near the Performance Center, on the second floor of the student center.

Rhonda Gifford, director of the Career and Professional Development Center, said Career Week is intended to prepare students for the Cal U Blaze Your Path Job and Internship Fair, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 3 in the Convocation Center.

"We want students to be aware that 'hiring season' for full-time and co-op or internship positions starts now," Gifford said. "It's so important for them to know what to do, what's expected and how to dress when they are in an environment with prospective employers."

For more information about Career Week and the career fair, contact the Career and Professional Development Center at 724-938-4413 or visit careers@calu.edu. Information is also available by selecting "events" at www.calu.edu/careers.

Veterans Banners Available

For the fifth consecutive autumn, Cal U is honoring its service members and veterans by displaying colorful banners that highlight their military service.

Now through Sept. 29, the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs will be accepting applications for new banners to add to the campus-wide array.

Each red-white-and-blue 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.

Each honoree should have a direct or family tie to the campus community or Cal U Global Online. All members of the U.S. armed services are eligible, including current, former or reserve members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

The patriotic display has grown to include more than 50 banners.

"This has become an effective, visual way to show

what a wide range of veterans we have on our campus," said Capt. Robert Prah, director of Military and Veterans Affairs.

"The response from the campus community over these past several years has been encouraging. It's a really nice way to honor our veterans and further shows Cal U's commitment and respect for them."

Those who submit a veteran's name are recognized on the banner, along with the business or community sponsor, if applicable. Once the annual display is taken down, the banners are carefully cleaned and stored so they can be reused year after year. Cost of a banner is \$85.

Applications for banners are being accepted now through Sept. 29. For an order form, visit www.calu.edu and type "banners" into the search box. For details, contact the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs at veterans@calu.edu or 724-938-4076.



Health Fair Brings Back M*A*S*H Theme

Cal U's Health Education Awareness Resource Team (HEART) goes retro, bringing back a M*A*S*H theme last used in the 1990s for its 30th annual Cal U Health Fair.

The free event will be open to Cal U students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the local community, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 20 in the Convocation Center.

More than 50 healthcare industry representatives will staff booths addressing health and wellness topics such as diabetes, smoking cessation, orthopedics, healthy eating and more. The movie *M*A*S*H* will be shown continuously during the fair. Cal U's Veterans Club and ROTC will help to give the fair a M*A*S*H* feel — perfect for photos — by setting up pup-tents draped in camouflage nets and stocked with military equipment.

Attendees seeking a challenge can take part in two-minute military fitness tests consisting of pushups, sit-ups and pull-ups. Each participant will receive a certificate, and prizes will be awarded to the top male and female in each category.

Informational pamphlets and a variety of giveaways will be available, along with mini-massages and foam-roller stretches. Campus radio station WCAL will broadcast from the Convocation Center.



Students will find information on a variety of health and wellness topics at the 30th annual Cal U Health Fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 30 in the Convocation Center. The event is free, and members of the community are welcome to attend.

In conjunction with the health fair:

- Central Blood Bank will conduct a blood drive and bone marrow screening from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. in the Convocation Center's north conference wing. Walk-ins

are welcome, but appointments are recommended via the blood bank's mobile app or by contacting Cal U's Center for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning at 724-938-4794.

The blood drive is especially timely because September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, program organizers say. Each year nearly 160,000 American children are diagnosed with cancer and require transfusions of blood or platelets.

- Rite-Aid pharmacy staff will administer flu shots for a fee; insurance cards will be accepted.

- Participants can take part in a variety of screenings, including blood pressure and blood glucose tests, spinal analysis and pulse oximetry tests.

- Stop The Bleed kits will be available as part of a nationwide campaign that raises awareness about bleeding emergencies and empower bystanders to act quickly and save lives.

Event organizer Fran Fayish, a nurse practitioner at the University's Wellness Center, emphasized that campus groups, as well as health care experts, are an integral part of the health fair.

"The Cal U community has really rallied behind our event this year and been very enthusiastic and engaged," Fayish said.

"The health fair provides helpful, helpful information, and it's also very beneficial from an educational standpoint. Our faculty members do a wonderful job of getting their students involved."

For a list of health fair exhibitors, read the news item at www.cals.edu.



Strike Up the Band!

Sunlight gleams off a tuba played by freshman Bradley Mulazki, a mechatronics engineering technology major, as the Cal U Marching Band previews its 2017 field show on the quad on Aug. 24. Under the direction of Frank Setzer, the band will perform at Adamson Stadium on Sept. 23. Kickoff for the game against Seton Hill is 1 p.m.

GRANTS AWARDED

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research reports that:

- Daniel Harris, Department of Earth Sciences, has received a \$2,809,584 grant for Midland Valley MOVE Academic Software and modules. The software is used extensively as a critical component in upper level Earth Sciences courses.
- Deborah Wojcik, of the Government Agency Coordination Office (GACO), has been awarded a \$237,585 grant from the Defense Logistics Agency to be used to continue the services that help business owners to obtain government contracts.
- Susan Ryan, Department of Earth Sciences, was awarded \$7,672 from the Gettysburg Foundation for "2017 Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center Visitor Profile and Satisfaction Study."
- David Argent, of the Department of

Biological and Environmental Sciences, was awarded \$5,706 from Pennsylvania-American Water Company for his project, "Assessment of Fish and Macro-invertebrates of the Youghiogheny River." Argent was also awarded \$5,480 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to evaluate brook trout populations in southwestern Pennsylvania.

- Dr. Thomas Mueller, of the Department of Earth Sciences, has been awarded \$6,000 from NASA (through Penn State University) for a collaborative project, "The Pennsylvania Space Grant Consortium." This project will continue to build a research agenda and teaching materials on geology, meteorology and public safety applications for unmanned aerial vehicles. Along with Mueller, Dr. Jeffrey Sumey, Dr. Kyle Fredrick and Dr. Marco Majcen prepared the original proposal and continue to collaborate on the project.

Dissent, Truth Are Constitution Day Topics

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international groups.

Coy has worked as a community mediator and as a human rights observer and nonviolent accompanier in Sri Lanka during the ethnic conflict in that nation. He also has coiled or been a member of peacemaking missions and delegations to Libya, Iraq and the Soviet Union during international crises.

Coy is a former national chair of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a research fellow of the Albert Einstein Institution, the executive director of the Lentz Peace Research Laboratory, and a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Botswana.

Last month, the Peace, War and Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association (ASA) presented Coy with the Robin M. Williams Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching and Service in the areas of peace, war and social conflict.

"Patrick Coy is a world-renowned, award-winning scholar in the areas of peace and conflict studies," said Dr. Melanie Blumberg, a political science professor in the Department of History, Politics and Society, as well as the campus director of the American Democracy Project.

"His message of nonviolent direct action is reminiscent of Gandhi's and King's teachings. Dr. Coy's campus visit could not be more timely."

Fact vs. fiction

Two afternoon presentations will focus on a timely topic — how to distinguish factual information from "fake news" in a nation where a free press is considered an essential element

of democracy and is protected by the Bill of Rights.

Although the recent U.S. presidential election brought so-called "fake news" into focus, an educated citizenry has always had to differentiate fact from fiction in the news, the presenters say. Librarians Prest and Meloy will discuss the skills needed to judge the validity of online sources, including news outlets, and provide examples for participants to examine.

Meloy is chair and associate professor of the Department of Library Services and the research and electronic collections librarian. Prest, a past department chair, is a professor and electronic resources librarian.

"More than at any other time in our nation's history, people need to be sophisticated consumers of information," Blumberg said.

"If not, as Ruben Blades, the actor, said: 'I think we risk becoming the best informed society that has ever died of ignorance.'" Ruben Blades

This year's Constitution Day program is presented by the campus chapter of the American Democracy Project, the Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Department of History, Politics and Society.

Blumberg and Dr. Emily Sweitzer and Laura Tuernman, also professors in the Department of History, Politics and Society, are coordinators of the event.

Cal U's Constitution Day program is free and open to the entire campus community, as well as the general public.

All schools that receive federal funds are mandated to observe Constitution Day, which commemorates the signing of the U.S. Constitution.



Cal U faculty members Brian Eisminger and Dr. Michele Pagen present to nearly 100 voice specialists and educators at the recent Estill World Voice Symposium in Quebec, Canada.

Faculty Present at Symposium

Dr. Michele Pagen, co-chair of the Department of Music and Theatre, and Brian Eisminger, a faculty member in the department's theater program, gave presentations at the Estill World Voice Symposium last month in Quebec, Canada.

Founded by the late Jo Estill in 1988, Estill Voice Training™ is an innovative system for developing masterful control of the human voice.

Both Cal U educators are certified master teachers for Estill Voice Training, which provides vocal training for singers, actors, public speakers and others who wish to preserve vocal health and make the most of their voices.

Pagen and Eisminger presented to nearly 100 voice specialists and educators from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States. The title of their presentation was

"We're finally an Estill Educational Affiliate! Now What?!"

An Estill Educational Affiliate since spring 2016, Cal U is one of just four U.S. schools to own this distinction. Educational affiliates are degree-granting colleges or universities that include Estill Voice Training™ in their curriculum and have at least two faculty members who are EVT representatives.

"This unique voice training is part of our music and theater curriculum, but there is so much more we can do," said Pagen. "It's so important to make prospective students aware that this training is available here. That was the main focus of our presentation."

Other U.S.-based Estill Educational Affiliates are the University of Central Florida, Mars Hill (N.C.) University, and Carthage (Kenosha, Wis.) College. Three additional Estill affiliate schools are located outside the United States.

TKE Chapter Honored at Conclave

The Cal U chapter of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity won two awards at the organization's 59th Biennial Conclave this summer in New Orleans, La.

Cal U's chapter (Zeta-Omega) received Excellence in Involvement awards for community service and for alumni relations.

Tau Kappa Epsilon is one of the largest collegiate men's social fraternities in North America with more than 272,000 initiated members and 246 active chapters and colonies. TKE's mission is to aid men in their mental, moral and social development for life.

Josh Worstell, chapter president during the 2016-2017 academic year, nominated the Cal U chapter for the awards last spring. He explained that each fraternity member must complete 25 hours of service work each semester.

"We have several events we do as a chapter, but a good bit of what we do is each guy going out on his own, doing community service and then reporting it back to us," Worstell said.

In addition to those individual efforts, group service projects include helping out at the Washington Humane Society, distributing water at the Pittsburgh Marathon, volunteering at Cal U Move-in Day and organizing a popular Homecoming "pumpkin smash" stress-



Fraternity brothers from Cal U's TKE chapter work at the registration table at the organization's first-ever charity golf outing, which was held in August.

reliever that benefits St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Fraternity brothers also collect donations for St. Jude at local Walmart stores and last month conducted their first charity golf outing for the hospital.

Cal U's TKE chapter meets with its alumni once or twice a month at local restaurants, and they make a consistent effort to bring graduates back to campus for a variety of events.

"We make a point to stay in touch regularly with our alumni," said Worstell, a mechatronics engineering

technology major who signed a six-year contract with the U.S. Navy this past summer. "We truly enjoy hanging out and spending time with them."

Joy Hiesel, Cal U's director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, praised TKE and all of the Cal U Greek organizations.

"All of our students sincerely care about being positive members in the community and to each other," she said.

"They realize that making a helpful and constructive impact is an important part of their college experience."

CUTV to Livestream Vulcan, High School Football

California University Television's 32nd season on the gridiron will mark the first year that all Vulcan football games and nine high school games will be livestreamed on YouTube.

All games broadcast by CUTV also are shown via tape delay.

CUTV's Vulcan football broadcasts are slated for 6 p.m. Mondays and 4 p.m. Tuesdays on youtube.com/cutvsports1. Vulcan football fans can watch live on the athletic website.

For the complete Cal U football schedule, visit www.calulivcasts.com.

In addition to the livestream at youtube.com/cutvsports1, Vulcan football fans can watch live on the athletic website.

Vulcan football fans can preview and review each Cal U game with *The Gary Dunn Coaching Show*, which airs at 10:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 4:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. It's also in CUTV's YouTube archive.

High school broadcasts on the same cable affiliates air at 8:30 p.m. Sundays and 5:30 p.m. Thursdays.

The remaining CUTV High School Football Games of the Week are McGuffey at Elizabeth Forward (Sept. 22), Franklin Regional at Connelville (Sept. 29), Trinity at Belle Vernon Area (Oct. 6), Rochester at California (Oct. 13), New Castle at Ringgold (Oct. 20), and Washington at Beth Center (Oct. 27).

In addition, Cal U's popular *High School Roundup*, which complements the CUTV High School Football Game of the Week, airs at 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and at 4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays throughout the regular season on both cable systems. It too can be found in the archive at youtube.com/cutvsports1.

Hosted by Cal U students, this show received the Best Sports Program Award from the Intercollegiate Broadcasting Systems last spring.

"This is another way for CUTV to make its mark in our surrounding communities," said Gary Smith, CUTV's director of operations.

"We have developed solid working relationships with many school districts, and it's very exciting for our students and supportive viewers to bring the games live to a worldwide audience."

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