

California University
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Interim President Geraldine M. Jones announces several organizational changes during the Fall 2015 Faculty-Staff Convocation.

Cal U Welcomes Families Sept. 19

Cal U students will welcome their families to campus Sept. 19 with a series of special events.

Registration for the 37th annual Family Day begins at 8 a.m. at the information desk in the lobby of the Natali Student Center.

The University Choir will give a free concert at 10 a.m. outside the Convocation Center. In case of rain the performance will be moved to the Morgan Hall auditorium.

At 11 a.m. outside the Convocation Center, interim University President Geraldine M. Jones will present the Jennie Carter Award to Shanta Carmichael '08.

The annual award is named for Elizabeth "Jennie" Carter, Cal U's first African-American graduate. It is presented annually to an alumnus who personifies the spirit, resilience and leadership of Jennie Carter.

Family Fun Zone Activities will take place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Third Street in front of the Natali Student Center, or inside the building in case of rain. Students and their family members can make photo seat cushions, leather name bracelets and other arts and crafts.

Free movies will be shown in Vulcan Theater at noon, 4 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.

The student chapter of The Wildlife Society will present its 10th annual Family Field Day from 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m. at the Frish Biology Building. The event includes a live reptile and amphibian show at 2 p.m. in between Frich and Old Main halls, archery demonstration, a fishing pole casting contest, a display of animal tracks, fufubears of Pennsylvania identification, and information about bluebird box construction.

The public may attend this free event, which

— Continued on page 2

President Outlines Changes Efforts to Build Enrollment Focus of Convocation Address

Noting that "the only constant we have is change," interim University President Geraldine M. Jones announced several organizational changes Sept. 3 at the Fall 2015 Faculty-Staff Convocation.

Dr. Stan Komacek has been named associate provost for enrollment management and dean of the Graduate School, and the Office of Academic Affairs is being reorganized to reflect a renewed emphasis on recruiting and retaining students.

"We need to break down silos, coordinate efforts and use data to inform our decisions," the President said. "It is vital that we attract more students, create new enrollment opportunities and help students remain with us until they earn a degree."

The enrollment management team will consist of undergraduate, graduate and Global Online admissions,

Summer and Winter colleges, the International Programming Office, and the Office of the Registrar. In addition, a nationwide search will be conducted for an associate vice president for marketing.

Reorganization is also under way in the College of Liberal Arts, where the number of departments will be streamlined from nine to six by reassigning faculty and combining departments.

"I believe this consolidation will give us a strong foundation for continuing the scholarly, creative and artistic endeavors within the College of Liberal Arts," the President said.

Enrollment decline slowing

Although enrollment figures aren't finalized until the

— Continued on page 4

Student Center Rededication Sept. 16

All members of the campus community are invited to attend a rededication ceremony for the Natali Student Center, where a two-year renovation project has been completed.

The rededication will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 16 in the dramatic new Heritage Lounge, the rotunda that now is a signature feature of the building.

The "new" student center also includes a renovated Energy Zone, with amenities for commuter students; conference rooms for student clubs and organizations; offices for a variety of student services; and an expanded Gold

Rush dining room and retail food court. The building's infrastructure has been updated, and both traffic flow and accessibility have been improved.

The project expanded the building by more than 31,000 square feet, creating room for the amenities students requested when they authorized renovation of this auxiliary facility through a 2011 referendum.

After a brief rededication ceremony, students, faculty and staff are invited to tour the building and sample foods provided by AVI, the University's dining services provider. No RSVP is required.



All members of the campus community are invited to attend a rededication ceremony for the Natali Student Center at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 16 in the facility's new Heritage Lounge.



University Welcomes First-Year Students

Members of Alpha and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternities help move first-year students into their residence halls on Aug. 21. Nearly 150 volunteers helped new students and their families settle in on Move-in Day. Freshmen had the opportunity to return the favor, and create the first entry in their official Activities Transcript, when returning students arrived on campus Aug. 23. Move-in Day marks the start of Cal U for Life New Student Orientation, which helps new students meet their classmates and learn about Cal U traditions, services and programs.

Engineer to Receive Jennie Carter Award

Shanita Carmichael '08 is a production engineer at PPG Industries and an online instructor for Southern New Hampshire University. And with her mother and siblings, she is the co-founder of Our Youth Our Future, a nonprofit organization for children in Philadelphia.

Carmichael will return to campus Sept. 19 to receive the Jennie Carter Award, which honors an individual who exemplifies the spirit of Elizabeth "Jennie" Carter, California's first African-American graduate.

"When I first heard that I was receiving such a prestigious award I was at a loss for words and filled with mixed emotions, but most importantly, I felt honored," she said.

At Cal U Carmichael earned an associate degree in computer engineering technology and a bachelor's

degree in industrial engineering technology with a concentration in nanomanufacturing technology. She was a founding member of Sigma Alpha Pi, the National Society of Leadership and Success. She participated in the Student Government Association, Emerging Leaders, the Student Activities Board and the Engineering Technology Club. "Holding several leadership positions on campus, especially president of the Black Student Union, planted my seed into the world," she said.

Carmichael earned a certificate in nanotechnology from Penn State University and a master's degree in engineering management from Point Park University.

Before joining PPG she worked as a photolithography engineering technician with another Pittsburgh-based company, Plextronics Inc.



Shanita Carmichael

Family Day Sept. 19

—Continued from page 1

is conducted in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Families can enjoy Cal U football when the Vulcans host Shippensburg University at 1 p.m. at Adamson Stadium. Cal U students, faculty and staff with valid CalCards will be admitted free, along with children ages 12 and younger.

Family Day visitors can stop at the information desk in the Natoli Student Center to pick up free tickets, while they last, for TNA Pro Wrestling at Rostover Ice Garden in Belle Vernon. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and show time is 7:30.

A limited supply of complimentary Family Day T-shirts also will be available at the Natoli information desk.

For more information, visit the Cal U website, www.calu.edu.

Conference Examines Water in Northern Appalachia

The campus community is invited to attend "Just Around the River's Bend," a one-day conference presented by the Northern Appalachian Network.

Set for 9 a.m. - p.m. Sept. 25 in the Convocation Center, the conference focuses on water and its past, present and future impact on the region.

Dr. David Argent, of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, and emeritus professor Dr. William Kimmel will present the keynote address, "What Fish Have to Tell Us About Appalachia."

The Northern Appalachian Network is a multidisciplinary network of scholars, artists and residents of northern Appalachia. The region includes communities across Pennsylvania, southern New York, northern West Virginia, northwestern Maryland and northeastern Ohio.

NAN seeks to highlight the accomplishments and culture of the region, as well as the challenges facing this often neglected part of Appalachia.

Registration is required. For "Just Around the River's Bend." Space is limited, so participants are urged to register early. Cost is \$45 for non-students and \$20 for exhibitors; lunch is included. There is no cost for students, who may purchase a \$5 lunch ticket if they wish.

For online conference registration, visit www.calu.edu. Anyone with questions about NAN may contact network co-coordinator Dr. Pamela Twiss at twiss@calu.edu or 724-938-4053.



Dr. David Argent



Dr. William Kimmel

Annual Health Fair Sept. 16

Students and other members of the campus community can learn more about health and wellness at "Cal U Health for Life," the 28th annual health fair, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 16 in the Convocation Center.

The public is invited to attend the free event, which is coordinated by the University's Health and Wellness Education Center.

At the fair, health experts from dozens of agencies and organizations will be on hand to discuss topics such as diabetes, nutrition, orthopedics and smoking cessation. Free screenings for blood pressure, glucose, speech and hearing, blood-oxygen level, and balance also will be offered.

Representatives of Central Blood Bank will conduct a blood drive during the event.

Outside the Convocation Center, a mobile unit from the Pregnancy Resource Center of Pittsburgh will offer free tests for chlamydia and gonorrhea. Visitors also can schedule a pregnancy test/ultrasound screening at a later date.

Nearby, the mobile medical unit from Cornerstone Care of the United Way will offer free breast cancer screenings by a nurse practitioner.

The first 700 people to visit the health fair will receive drawstring bags; other prizes and giveaways will be available.

WCAL, the campus radio station, will broadcast from outside the Convocation Center during the event.

Fran Faysih, Cal U's nurse practitioner and event coordinator, said the participation of campus groups, as well as health care experts, is an integral part of the fair.

"Our health fair continues to grow, and we are excited to add the two mobile units this year," she said. "This event provides important information and reaches our students in a positive way."

A list of participating community health care organizations is online at www.calu.edu. For more information, contact Fran Faysih at 724-938-5922 or email faysih@calu.edu.



Sarah Forsyth of Chancey's Natural administers a mini message to Cal U student Joshua Richardson at the 2014 Cal U Health Fair.

Money, Politics on Tap for Constitution Day

The University will mark Constitution Day Sept. 17 with a panel discussion exploring money and politics.

Special guest is attorney Patrick J. Brier, who will join faculty members Dr. Sheri Boyle, Dr. Craig Smith and Dr. Pamela Twiss for the free presentation at 11 a.m. in Eberly Hall, Room 110.

Event coordinator Dr. Melanie Blumberg, a professor in the Department of History and Political Science, said the panelists will discuss the perception that democracy is for sale.

"The topic is particularly relevant this election cycle, as it is estimated more than \$5 billion dollars will be spent on the presidential contest alone," Blumberg said.

Brier has been representing some of the nation's largest healthcare organizations for more than 25 years. He works with providers, health insurance companies,

consumers and legislators to prepare for legislative and regulatory changes.

In addition, Brier specializes in Pennsylvania election law and compliance. He advises various federal and state candidates and committees on best practices and internal compliance programs. His topic is "Citizens United, Climate Change and the Future."

Boyle's talk explores "Money and Politics: What Comes First, the Chicken or the Egg?" Smith will discuss "Can Judges do That?," and Twiss will present "Dark Money, Dark Times."

Moderator will be Dr. Emily Sweitzer, of the Department of Modern Languages, Philosophy and Socio-Cultural Studies. An annual event mandated at all schools that receive federal funds, Constitution Day commemorates the signing of the U.S.



Constitution. Constitution Day programs at Cal U are open to the entire campus community, as well as the general public.

This year's 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 and Political Science.

Attorney Patrick J. Brier will join faculty members Dr. Sheri Boyle, Dr. Craig Smith and Dr. Pamela Twiss for the free Constitution Day presentation at 11 a.m. on Sept. 17 in Eberly Hall, Room 110.



Vulcan Band Ready

With rain in the forecast, the Cal U Marching Band concludes its 2015 camp Aug. 20 in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre. Under the direction of Frank Stetar, the band will take its show, rain or shine, to Adamson Stadium's Hepler-Bailey field Sept. 19 and perform during the football team's Family Day game against PSAC-East rival Shippensburg. Watch for the pre-game show before the 1 p.m. kickoff.

Lincoln Exhibition on Display

The Department of History and Political Science and the Louis L. Mandierino Library are hosting "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War." The national traveling exhibition that focuses on Abraham Lincoln's struggle to meet the constitutional challenges of the War Between the States. The material is on display through Oct. 16 in Mandierino Library.

The National Constitution Center and the American Library Association Public Programs Office organized the exhibition with a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The traveling display is based on an exhibition of the same name developed by the National Constitution Center.

Military historian Dr. Jared Peatman will discuss "Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Constitution" at 7 p.m. Sept. 28 in Room 208 of the library. The talk is preceded by a reception at 6 p.m. on Mandierino's first floor.

Peatman's first monograph, *The Long Shadow of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address*, was published in 2013. He is also the co-author, with Steven B. Wiley, of *A Transformational Journey: Leadership Lessons from Gettysburg*.

"We hope that many students and staff, as well as local community members, get a chance to see this important national exhibit," said Bill Meloy, Mandierino Library's research and electronic collections librarian.

"The current presidential candidates, and people across society, are grappling with and debating constitutional issues. This exhibit will give people a chance to step back and ponder the decisions Lincoln made regarding civil liberties ... in a time of war, when the enemy was right round the corner."

The exhibition, reception and lecture are free and open to the public. For more information about the exhibition, including a brochure and information for teachers, visit <http://library.calu.edu/Lincoln>.

Mandierino Library is open from 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, from 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fridays, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturdays, and from noon - 8 p.m. Sundays. Visitor parking is available in the Vulcan Garage, off Third Street near the campus entrance.

Campus BRIEFS

Oil & Gas Conference Sept. 15

Siemens Industry will present a free Oil & Gas Conference from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Cal U Innovation Center at Southpointe.

The conference explores emerging trends in automation, instrumentation and controls for use in the oil and gas industry. Presentations, exhibits and hands-on workshops focus on best practices in pipeline and production applications.

There is no cost to attend the Oil & Gas Conference, but registration is required. For more information and a link to the registration form, visit www.calu.edu.

Trustees Hold Quarterly Meeting

The Cal U Council of Trustees will hold its third quarterly meeting of 2015 at 7 p.m. Sept. 16 in the Grand Hall of Old Main. The meeting is open to the public.

Panel Discusses Tattoos Sept. 15

Tattoos make a statement, but what they say has changed over the years. The campus community can learn more about this contemporary art form at "Tattoos and Society," a student-driven panel discussion hosted by the Sociology of Deviance Club.

The presentation takes place at 11 a.m. in Eberly Hall, Room 110. The program includes a discussion by a local tattoo artist who will describe his portfolio, his experiences and his changing clientele, then present a live tattoo demonstration.

For more information, e-mail club adviser Dr. Emily Sweitzer at sweitzer@calu.edu.

Dress for Success: Career Week

Career Week, sponsored by the Career and Professional Development Center, will be held Sept. 21-25.

Events will include a webinar, speed-interview panels and a discussion about proper workplace attire.

The event is meant to prepare students for the Cal U Fall Job & Internship Fair from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Oct. 6 in the Convocation Center, said Meaghan Clister, associate director of the CPDC.

"In addition, we want students to be aware that 'hiring season' for full-time and co-op or internship positions starts now," she added.

"Many employers are starting the recruiting process for May and summer positions, and we want our students to dress professionally and know what to do when they are in an environment with prospective employers."

For more information about Career Week and the career fair, contact Meaghan Clister at 724-938-4057 or clister@calu.edu. Information is also available by selecting "events" at www.calu.edu/careers.

Voter Registration Drive Sept. 22

Cal U will mark National Voter Registration Day with a voter registration drive from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sept. 22 in Mandierino Library and in the kiosks area outside the Natali Student Center. In case of inclement weather, the Natali location will be in the student center lobby.

The program is sponsored by the American Democracy Project at Cal U. Co-sponsors are the Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs, the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of History and Political Science, the Women's Studies program, and the Frederick Douglass Institute.



Upward Bound Helps Communities

Participants in an Upward Bound summer residential program at Cal U raised more than \$1,500 to benefit the Fayette County Community Action and the Greene County Corner Cupboard food banks. The funds were collected through a variety of activities, including a 5K race organized with assistance from the Cal U Police Department. Upward Bound, housed in the Department of TRIO and Academic Services (formerly Academic Development), serves 160 students through two federal grants. About 70 of those students participated in the residential program at Cal U this summer to learn more about the college experience.

Runners Learn from Olympian

Olympic distance runner Khadevis Robinson reminisced about overcoming adversity in his career when he spoke at the annual Cal U cross country summer camp hosted by Vulcan head coach Daniel Caulfield.

He also shared advice with more than 100 people, mostly young runners, Aug. 5 in Steele Hall's Blaney Theatre.

A two-time Olympian, Robinson represented the United States in the 2004 and 2012 games, and was a 1998 NCAA outdoor national champion in the 800-meter run. All told, he has won eight national championships in the 800-meter run. In 2006 he anchored the United States' 4x800-meter relay team, which turned in a world-record time of 7:02.82.

Robinson's presentation began with a video clip that showed him finishing fourth after an early lead at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials, held in Eugene, Ore. The top three runners made the team.

"In actuality, that disappointment was one of best things that happened to me," he said. "I could not get away from that race. It followed me everywhere I went."

Four years later, in 2012, Robinson found himself back at the same location, once again competing for an Olympic slot. There was no escaping the past — even his hotel keycard had a picture of Oregon University's Nick Symmonds winning that 2008 race.

Robinson started slowly. With 300 meters left to run, he was next to last. But he put on a burst of speed and finished in second place, securing a return trip to the Olympic Games.

"I learned to adapt and adjust," he said. "Sometimes you lose but actually win. That happened to me, because I accomplished my goal and overcame that fear from 2008."

Robinson, who now coaches cross country and track and field at Louisiana State University, advised the campers to pick a school and a mentor that fits them best. But he cautioned them to make their own choices when it comes to training — and to life.



Olympic distance runner Khadevis Robinson shares a moment with Cal U cross country/track and field head coach Daniel Caulfield before addressing more than 100 young runners at this summer's annual Cal U cross country summer camp.

"Many times you hear ... that a person gets involved with alcohol and drugs through their friends," Robinson said.

"Never let someone else's opinions become your reality. You need to make your own decisions."

Among those in the audience was Donald Zimmerman, a senior cross country runner at River Hill High School in Howard County, Md.

"(Robinson has) competed at all levels and really gives valuable insight on how to improve as a runner and a person," said Zimmerman, who also attended the camp last summer.

Suicide Awareness Run/Walk Sept. 22

Members of the campus community are encouraged to get moving as they raise awareness about suicide by military veterans.

The Office of Veterans Affairs and the Cal U Veterans Club have organized a 2.2-mile run/walk to highlight this public health crisis,

which claims the lives of 22 veterans each day.

Runners and walkers will begin at 11:22 a.m. Sept. 22. They will follow a 2.2-mile route that begins on Third Street in front of Manderoino Library and ends at the Convocation Center Courtyard, where water and refreshments will be available.

In true military fashion, the event will be held rain or shine.

This free event is open to the entire campus community, as well as the general public. In particular, student veterans, military members and their dependents are encouraged to attend.

For more information e-mail VeteransAffairs@calu.edu.

President Outlines Changes

—Continued from page 1

16th day of instruction, President Jones reported preliminary figures in her biannual "state of the University" address. As of Sept. 2, the fall headcount was down by 1.2 percent, she said — a smaller decline than the University experienced in the past two years.

However, Full Time Equivalency (FTE) enrollment is 2.9 percent less than last year's total. "This is important because our budget allocation from the State System hinges on our FTE," the President explained.

Many factors influence FTE enrollment, including the growing number of undergraduates who are attending Cal U part time, and the increasing number of graduate and nontraditional students who fit part-time studies around career and family obligations.

"We are taking a hard look at our enrollment figures to determine how best to respond to these changes," she reported.

Because the state Legislature has not yet finalized a budget, the University's financial planning includes "some pretty big question marks," the President said.

The Office of Administration and Finance is working with two budget models, one projecting no change in state appropriations and the other assuming a modest increase.

In either case, the University is projecting a deficit of \$4.5 million to \$5.5 million for the current fiscal year — a shortfall that will be addressed through strategic spending cuts and the University's diminishing fund balance.

"We can only spend the money we have," President Jones noted.

Cost-saving measures include further reductions in travel, declining to fill some positions left vacant by retirements or resignations, and acquisition of the six main-campus residence halls from the Student Association Inc., a move projected to cut operational expenses by \$500,000 annually and save about \$34 million in annual debt service payments over the next 25 years.

Progress report

The President also reported on:

- A new degree completion program, tentatively called "The Finish Line," targeting the 13,000 former Cal U students who have some college credits but haven't completed a degree.

• The progress of new academic programs, including Cal U's first doctorate, which is set to debut this spring.

• Improvements in international enrollment, persistence and graduation rates, and campus technology.

"At its heart, our campus community is knowledgeable, dedicated, innovative and entrepreneurial," President Jones said.

"I ask you to join me in meeting our challenges head-on, so that together we can take action and keep our University moving in the right direction."

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