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**JOURNAL**

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Skip and Co. artist Vince Cantola creates an airbrush design on Cal U student Nick Meston in the Performance Center during a recent student event. The Natali Student Center is now open until 2 a.m. to give students more options for late-night activities.

## Natali Student Center Adds Late-Night Options

**E**xtended hours at the Natali Student Center are giving Cal U students more options for late-night activities on campus.

The student center now is open until 2 a.m. every day of the week. Students can relax with friends in lounge areas or the Commuter Center, enjoy a game of billiards in the Corner Pocket recreation room, play videogames or take part in other activities suggested by students and organized by the Student Activities Board.

The Flatz convenience store, which features freshly made quesadillas — a student favorite — will remain open until 1 a.m. every Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, the Piazza Pizza shop will stay open until midnight.

Late-night services and activities were added at the request of Cal U students, said Dr. Nancy Pinardi, acting vice president for Student Affairs.

“Listening and reacting to our students’ needs is a Student Affairs priority,” she said. “Each semester, focus groups are conducted to determine how best to meet the needs of our students. Student focus groups this semester indicated a desire to extend late-night hours in our Natali Student Center.”

To provide more on-campus activities for students, a free 11 p.m. show has been added to the nightly movie lineup at the Vulcan Theater, inside the student center.

The 140-seat theater also hosts a free movie at 4 p.m. — Continued on page 3

## This Week: Mission Day, Security Conference

**T**wo important and popular annual events illustrate the broad range of ideas being explored by Cal U’s students, faculty and staff. This week the campus community is invited to attend Mission Day XIII and the fifth annual Conference on Homeland and International Security.

### Mission Day XIII

On Wednesday, Mission Day will feature Dr. Sugata Mitra and his provocative idea of “minimally invasive education.”

Mission Day begins at 8:30 a.m. in Steele Hall’s Mainstage Theatre. Daytime classes will be cancelled so all members of the campus community can discuss the notion that “education is a self-organizing system.”

Mitra is a professor of educational technology in the School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences at Newcastle University in the United Kingdom. His “hole in the wall” project demonstrates the power of curiosity to stimulate self-instruction and peer-shared knowledge.

“Mission Day is a very special event, and I believe those who participate will be intrigued by Dr. Mitra’s perspective and presentation,” said Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

“Events such as Mission Day harness the variety of ideas assembled on our campus. We never fail to come up with notions that we otherwise would never have thought of. I urge the University community to attend.”

A Cal U tradition since 1998, Mission Day allows all members of the University community to engage in dialogue, share ideas and voice recommendations as equals in order to advance the institution’s mission and goals.

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## Students Take 9/11 Donations to Shanksville

**A**fter conducting a weeklong series of events recalling the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, a small group of Cal U students delivered a commemorative flag and a \$1,200 donation to the National Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pa.

The memorial, recently dedicated as a National Park Service site, marks the location where a hijacked airliner crash-landed as its passengers and crew attempted to wrest control from terrorists believed to be steering the plane toward Washington, D.C.

The funds presented at the memorial were raised primarily through the sale of special “Armenti’s Army” T-shirts featuring an American flag design.

Students also signed “I Will Remember ...” pledge cards, which were assembled into a flag-shaped collage, and the Technology Education

Association of California (TEAC) constructed a case to hold an American flag that was dedicated to the memory of Flight 93 and flown over Adamson Stadium during the football game on Oct. 10.

Coordinating the on-campus events were Student Government, the Office of Veterans Affairs, the Office of Civic Engagement, the Inter-Residence Hall Council, STAND Campus Ministry and TEAC.

“It was an honor to represent Cal U at the Flight 93 memorial,” said student Sarah Newmeyer, an AmeriCorps Community Fellow. “(The passengers and crew) lost their lives to make mine better, and I can never thank them enough.”

Mike Mendolla, secretary of Student Government, noted that Armenti’s

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Cal U students proudly pose with custom-designed T-shirts, a flag and a check before they board a Vulcan Flyer for a trip to the National Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pa.



## 'Lasting Light' Continues Through Nov. 7

University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. applauds the work of writer and photographer Stephen Trimble, who wrote the text for 'Lasting Light: 125 Years of Grand Canyon Photography.' Trimble visited Cal U Oct. 11 to speak with middle school students about the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition based on the book, and to share images and stories about the photos at a dinner with University faculty, staff, alumni and friends. 'Lasting Light' will be on display in the Manderino Library Gallery through Nov. 7. For gallery hours, visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu).

## Campus BRIEFS

### Scholarship Dinner Thursday

The 15th annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday in Gallagher Hall.

This invitation-only event gives donors who have created privately funded scholarships through the Foundation for California University an opportunity to meet the student recipients whose lives have been changed through their generosity.

Both students and donors are reminded that the event begins promptly at 6.

For giving opportunities, call the Development office at 724-938-5775.

### Solar Observations on Campus

Members of the campus community who would like to observe sunspots or learn the basics of using a telescope may join the Society of Physics Students at 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the courtyard outside the New Science building.

Solar observation depends on weather conditions. In the event of inclement weather, the activity will be postponed to the next meeting time.

For more information, e-mail Steve Allinger at [all0395@calu.edu](mailto:all0395@calu.edu) or Dr. Kausar Yasmin at [yasmin@calu.edu](mailto:yasmin@calu.edu).

### SECA Serves Spaghetti on Halloween

As part of the 2011 SECA fundraising campaign, "I give because ...," a spaghetti-and-meatballs lunch will be offered from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Oct. 31 in the Performance Center.

Cost is \$7. The meal includes salad, dessert and beverage. All proceeds are donated to SECA, the State Employees Combined Appeal.

Tickets are available for dine-in or take-out options. Take-out tickets must be purchased in advance.

All ticket-holders will be eligible for a chance to win a door prize.

To purchase a lunch ticket and support the annual SECA campaign, contact either Dana Turcic ([turcic@calu.edu](mailto:turcic@calu.edu)) or Norm Hasbrouck ([hasbrouck@calu.edu](mailto:hasbrouck@calu.edu)).

# PASSHE Approves 2012-2013 Appropriations Request

At its October meeting, the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) approved a 2012-2013 state appropriation request of \$421.4 million, an increase of 2.1 percent, or about the expected rate of inflation.

The request for an additional \$8.6 million next year "reflects not only the recession management procedures adopted by the State System to address today's challenging economic times, but also the need to preserve academic quality and the ability to continuously respond to the changing needs of our students," said board Chair Guido M. Pichini.

"Our university presidents and their leadership teams are focused on finding the right balance in managing expenditures to preserve the core academic programs on our campuses and to invest in the new areas of study requested by our students, whether it be a single class needed to enhance their career development or an advanced degree," said Chancellor Dr. John C. Cavanaugh.

PASSHE's 2012-2013 proposed budget addresses projected rate increases in employee benefits, primarily for



health care and retirement contributions for employees enrolled in the State Employees Retirement System or the Public School Employee Retirement System.

Combined benefits costs are expected to increase on average by 8.6 percent. Utility costs are anticipated to rise by about 3 percent.

The proposed budget also reflects the settlement of agreements with the American

Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the Pennsylvania Doctors' Alliance. Negotiations are continuing with six other bargaining units, including the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF), which represents PASSHE faculty and coaches. The wage components of those agreements expired last summer.

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education is the largest provider of higher education in the Commonwealth, with nearly 120,000 students.

The 14 PASSHE universities offer degree and certificate programs in more than 120 areas of study. About 500,000 PASSHE alumni live and work in Pennsylvania.

## Mission Day, Security Conference Set

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The conversation already has begun on Twitter, the popular social media site. To take part, follow @CalUofPA and use the #calumday hashtag to share your thoughts.

Registration for Mission Day XIII on Oct. 26 is ongoing. Check the Cal U website, [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu), for a link to the registration page, or visit [www.calu.edu/events/mission-day/index.htm](http://www.calu.edu/events/mission-day/index.htm). The website includes links to videos about Mitra's work.

Those in attendance will be entered into a drawing for iPads, Penguins tickets, student scholarships and more.

### Homeland Security Conference

Cal U's fifth annual Conference on Homeland and International Security will take place from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday in the Performance Center.

This year's theme is Transnational Crimes and Security.

Delivering the keynote address



Dr. Sugata Mitra

will be Maj. Gen. Donna F. Barbisch '84, who retired after a 38-year career in the U.S. Army. She now is president of Global Deterrence Alternatives and director of the Institute for Global and Regional Readiness.

Also on the program is former special agent Mark Camillo '76, a law enforcement and security professional who specializes in emergency preparedness operations. He is senior

vice president of strategic planning for Contemporary Services Corp., the world's largest event security firm, and president of Apex Security Group, an affiliated executive security company.

The conference is sponsored by the Department of Justice, Law and Society at Cal U. Cost is \$25 per person; fee includes lunch.

To register, send a check for \$25, payable to the Foundation for California University; please include "JLS" (Justice, Law and Society) in the memo line. Mail checks to Dr. Emily Sweitzer, Security Conference Co-Chair, California University of Pennsylvania, Department of Justice, Law and Society, P.O. Box 30, California, PA 15419.

Registration information for groups and corporations is online at [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu); look for the event in the "News" or "Events" carousel on the homepage.

For more information, contact Dr. Emily Sweitzer at 724-938-4438 or [sweitzer@calu.edu](mailto:sweitzer@calu.edu).

# Advocate Urges Dialogue About LGBT Rights

The only openly gay football team captain in NCAA history told an audience of Cal U students that young, college-educated people are among the most ardent supporters of gay rights — but they need to continue speaking out.

Brian Sims, the former captain of Bloomsburg University's football team, spoke at Vulcan Theatre on Oct. 13 as part of Diversity Awareness Month.

"You are all overwhelmingly supportive of gay rights, but you think ... you're the only ones, so therefore you are quiet," he said. "Good or bad, the more people who talk about gay rights the better."

A successful policy attorney, Sims speaks regularly as an advocate for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. At Cal U he shared his life story and discussed "LGBT Advocates, Allies, Athletes and Policies."

Sims was team captain and a Regional All-American on Bloomsburg's 2000 football squad, which reached the NCAA Division II National Championship game. He came out shortly after his senior season, he said, when the quarterback simply asked him about his sexual preference.

"The team came out to me, really, more than I came out to them," Sims said. "They all wanted to apologize for any gay slurs they might have said, and I almost had to give them permission to get



LGBT advocate Brian Sims (right) enjoys a discussion with LaMont Coleman (center) and Sheleta Webb following his talk at Cal U as part of Diversity Awareness Month.

over it. I knew they did not really mean anything (derogatory), because they were just used to using stupid words."

Sims recalled that his defensive line coach made a snide comment while the Huskies' coaching staff and several players were conducting a drill during a summer football camp for 400 high school students.

Team members who knew Sims' sexual preference called him on it.

"The next morning the coach came into the dorm, stood on top of the table and said, 'Yesterday I said something really stupid. I've spent my entire career trying to teach young men what it means to be on a team and what sportsmanship is, and yesterday you had to teach me. I owe you all an apology.' Then gave me a bear hug.

"That really set the standard for the coaching staff with me," Sims added.

"He recognized really quickly that the way my team reacted to me coming out was exactly how any coach would want any of their players to treat (a teammate)."

A story about Sims that appeared on the Outsports.com website in April 2009 drew a flood of e-mail. Shortly afterward he spoke at Penn State, and since then he has talked with students at 100 different schools.

After graduation Sims attended law school. The former staff counsel for policy and planning at the Philadelphia Bar Association, he was named one of the 2010 Top 40 LGBT Attorneys Under 40 by the National LGBT Bar Association. He also serves as president of the board of directors for EqualityPA and chairman of GALLOP, the Gay and Lesbian Lawyers of Philadelphia.

"There has never been a better time in history to be gay than right now," he said. "I do not mean to minimize the struggle and the hard work left to do, but there's been so much progress."

He urged the audience to question those who say they oppose gay rights.

"They will say 'just because,' and 'just because' is a lousy answer," Sims said. "If you are among the one in five Americans who do not support gay rights, the best thing you can do to further your cause is just shut up. Because every time you talk about it, you make more people come to my side."

## Honor Society Wins National Award

First Lady Barbara Armenti was the guest speaker Oct. 6 when Cal U's chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta received the society's prestigious Order of the Torch Award.

This year just seven of 272 ALD chapters earned the honor, which is based on a scrapbook highlighting the chapter's accomplishments during the past year.

Founded in 1924, ALD is a national honor society that recognizes academic excellence among first-year students. Members must maintain a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher and rank in the top 20 percent of their class. ALD members also complete service projects, such as helping with the local food pantry and raising funds for the American Heart Association.

"You have earned this prestigious national award through your commitment to scholarship, service and professional development," said the First Lady, chair of the American Heart Association in Washington County.

"President Armenti and I are so proud that our students are so committed to helping others."

Cal U's ALD chapter, just six years old, also received the national office's Delta Award for increasing membership by more than 25 percent in a single year.

Presenting both awards was Dr. Herman "Butch" Hill, a professor at Ohio University and vice president of



Proudly posing in front of the Order of the Torch banner following the Oct. 6 ceremony are (from left) Rhonda Gifford, Jessica Lane, Aaron McFadden, Ashley Baird, Lauren Vitt, Herman 'Butch' Hill, Michael Amrhein, Karen Posa and First Lady Barbara Armenti.

finance and long-range planning for ALD.

"One of my secret missions is to find out exactly what you're doing," he joked. "I don't know of any other chapter that's been able to start from nothing and in five years be able to receive the Torch Award. Your scrapbook of activity clearly shows that this chapter has done some amazing things in a short period."

Rhonda Gifford, director of Career Services at Cal U, also spoke at the event. She praised ALD's participation in the Career Advantage Program, which offers a comprehensive program of personalized, career-focused activities.

"By embracing this program you are truly living out the mission of building character and building careers," she told

the students.

Senior adviser Aaron McFadden gave welcoming remarks and Jessica Lane, a founding member, described the chapter's history. Junior adviser Lauren Vitt recognized past and present officers, and Ashley Baird recognized scholarship recipients. Advisers to the chapter are Karen Posa, director of University-Wide Mentoring, and Dr. Michael Amrhein, director of the Office of Integration and Outreach for T.E.A.M.S. at Cal U.

Chapters awarded the Order of the Torch cannot apply for the next four years. To reward chapters that continue to excel, the national council presents the Maintaining the Flame award. Winners receive a patch to affix to their Order of the Torch banner.

## Students Take 9/11 Donations to Shanksville

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Army T-shirts have been used in the past to raise awareness for particular causes. This time, 150 custom-designed shirts were sold in four weeks.

Mendolla also spoke during a brief ceremony at the memorial site.

"The speech was one of the proudest moments of my life,"

he said. "During first-year student orientation we talk about giving our time, talent and treasure, and there could not be a better cause than this. I will never forget what (those aboard Flight 93) did for me."

Walter Harris, president of Student Government, said the Flight 93 passengers would always be remembered as heroes.

"The experience inspired me to consider more carefully the actions that affect the perception of my character," he said.

## Center Adds Late-Night Options

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and 8 p.m. daily. Additional feature films will be added as the box office schedule permits.

The Underground Café will continue from 9 p.m. to midnight every Thursday in the Commuter Center. The coffeehouse-style event showcases music performed by students and local musicians.

In addition, the Student Activities Board has added a 10 p.m. comedy show to the next two installments of its Funny Freaking Friday series. On Nov. 4 and Dec. 2, comedians will perform at both 7 and 10 p.m. in the student center.

Students also have requested more special Residence Life programs, such as videogame tournaments, team games, "dorm wars" and pizza-night socials, said Larry Sebek, dean for student services.

"I think it's great that the University staff members are listening to the students by adding even more on campus opportunities, especially late at night," said junior Michaela Prater, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. "I can't wait for my first late-night quesadilla."

A full schedule of campus activities is available online; check the Events calendar at the bottom of the Cal U homepage, [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu). Click "more" to see a monthly calendar or to find event details, registration information and links to videos or other resources. Visitors with Facebook accounts can log in through the calendar to see which of their Facebook "friends" plan to attend the event.

The Events calendar also is available through the free Cal Fusion app, available in the iTunes Store and the Android Marketplace.

# Softball Team Wins Academic Honor

Academic recognition continues to pour in for Cal U's athletic teams.

On Oct. 10 the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) named Cal U an All-Academic Team. Nine student-athletes received individual academic laurels from the organization.

Vulcan softball earned the team academic recognition from the NFCA after posting a cumulative grade-point average of 3.295 during the 2010-2011 academic year.

The team GPA ranked No. 27 nationally among NCAA Division II programs.

Cal U was one of only six programs from the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) to earn the all-academic honor.

In addition to the team award, the Vulcans featured nine players who achieved NFCA Scholar-Athlete status by achieving a 3.50 GPA or higher during the 2010-2011 academic year. The honorees are Maria Greco, Alyson Johnson, Melissa Lupinacci, Kristen McKenzie, Randi Miller, Kaitlin

Schilling, Tara Oravec, Hope Spancake and Natalie Wideman.

On the diamond last spring, the softball team compiled a final overall record of 29-14 and won its 14th PSAC-West title under 18th-year head coach Rick Bertagnolli. The Vulcans also competed in the NCAA Division II post-season Tournament for the 21st time in 22 years.

"Obviously, I am very proud of the team's accomplishments academically and athletically," Bertagnolli said. "When you look at the many teams here that are getting recognized for academics, it clearly reflects the support and cooperation of the faculty, who are committed to our students succeeding."

Earlier this fall, the women's swimming, women's tennis, and men's and women's track and field teams also received Academic All-American honors from the College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA), the International Tennis Association (ITA) and the U.S. Track & Field & Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA), respectively.



Senior pitcher Maria Greco was one of nine Cal U softball players who achieved NFCA Scholar-Athlete status by earning a 3.50 grade-point average or higher during the 2010-2011 academic year.

# Nominees Sought for President's Faculty Awards

Nominations are being accepted for the 2012 President's Faculty Awards. Tenured faculty members who have demonstrated excellence in teaching, research or service are eligible to receive one of these prestigious awards, which are presented at the annual President's Gala.

Any member of the Cal U community — students, faculty, staff or alumni — may make a nomination. Self-nominations are permitted.

Nominations close at 4 p.m. Friday.

Although a faculty member may be nominated in multiple categories, he or she may compete for only one award.

The nominee may select the category. For example, if a faculty member is nominated in both the teaching and service categories, he or she may submit support materials for one or the other, but not both awards.

Support materials are due by 4 p.m. Nov. 14.

University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. established the awards to recognize deserving faculty for their outstanding work. Each 2012 award recipient will be honored at the President's Gala in June and presented with a medallion, an engraved paperweight and a \$2,000 check.

The 2011 President's Faculty Award winners were Dr. Christine Patti, honored for teaching; Dr. Robert S. Whyte, for research; and Dr. Ralph Belsterling, for service.

President's Faculty Awards are separate from the awards given by the Faculty Professional Development Committee, which recognizes recipients at Commencement.

Nominations will be accepted by e-mail or paper copy. Please submit e-mail nominations to the President's Faculty Awards Committee chair, Dr. Joseph Heim, at heim@calu.edu.

Send hard copies to Heim at the Department of History and Political Science, Box 6.

Each nomination must include the name of the nominee, category of nomination (teaching, research or service), and the name of the nominator.

# Cal Seeks Annual Coal Bowl Victory

A third consecutive Coal Bowl trophy will be on the line for the Cal U football team Saturday when the Vulcans travel to play rival IUP.

Kickoff at George P. Miller stadium in Indiana is set for 1 p.m. This year's Coal Bowl will be broadcast live by WPCW.

The Coal Bowl trophy, which resembles a coal miner's lunch pail, recognizes a football rivalry that dates to 1918. The winner of Saturday's game will keep the trophy on display until the teams meet again.

The Coal Bowl was conceived by Bob Lippencott '66, a 2002 inductee in the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame, and his brother Barry, an Indiana University of Pennsylvania graduate. Bob Lippencott played linebacker for the Vulcans, and his brother was a standout end for the Crimson Hawks.

Both have established endowed football scholarships.

The Lippencott family, which has a long history of working in the coal industry, felt the game would be an excellent platform to honor their families and the region's coal miners.

Once again the Pennsylvania Coal Association is the presenting sponsor of this event. Proceeds from the sponsorship will be split evenly between the two



Preparing to present the Coal Bowl Trophy to California following last year's 18-15 overtime victory at Adamson Stadium are (from left) Bob Lippencott, Cooper Lippencott, Barry Lippencott, and George Ellis, president of the Pennsylvania Coal Association.

universities to support scholarships for student-athletes.

As part of the pre-game festivities, the Cal U and IUP alumni associations are co-hosting a "Coal Bowl Watch Party" at noon at McFadden's, on Pittsburgh's North Side. Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided, and a cash bar

will be available.

Deadline to register for the alumni event is Friday at 3 p.m.

For more information about the alumni gathering, contact Ryan Jerico at 724-938-4620 or jerico@calu.edu, or Staci Tedro at 724-938-4486. To register online, visit the alumni section of the Cal U website at www.calu.edu.

# 'Explorers' Welcome on Discovery Days

The University introduces itself to prospective students and their families when Cal U holds its final fall Discovery Day on Nov. 5.

On Discovery Days, high school

students who are beginning their college search are invited to visit the campus and learn about the University's academic offerings, housing, student activities, athletic programs and more. Students

may sit in on a class and take a tour. The event runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call Jennifer Sigado at 724-938-1626 or e-mail sigado@calu.edu.

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