

California University
JOURNAL

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 15 MAY 2, 2011

Alumni Will Address Graduates

Two distinguished alumni with strong local ties will share their thoughts with students when Cal U holds Commencement ceremonies this week.

Degrees will be awarded to 888 undergraduates and 294 graduate students in separate ceremonies.

Banking industry executive Daryl Zupan '77 will address master's degree candidates at 7 p.m. Friday in Hamer Hall Auditorium.

Zupan, a native of Charleroi, Pa., is the president and CEO for the AFCO and CAFO brands and Prime Rate Premium Finance Co. of BB&T Corp., one of the the largest and oldest companies financing property and casualty premiums in North America.

During the ceremony, master's degree candidates will be vested in their academic hoods.

A leader in the energy industry, Raymond Milchovich '71 will speak to undergraduates, rain or shine, at 10 a.m. Saturday in Adamson Stadium at Roadman Park.

Milchovich, originally from Roscoe, Pa., retired from Foster Wheeler AG in 2010. He currently is the non-executive chairman of the board for Foster



Daryl Zupan '77



Raymond Milchovich '71



Charles S. Pryor '73

Wheeler, a global engineering and construction firm with offices in 25 nations around the world.

An honorary doctorate will be awarded during the undergraduate ceremony to Charles S. Pryor '73, who has had a distinguished 37-year career in the construction and architectural/engineering business.

The vice president of business development for L.R. Kimball, he is responsible for business development and cross-divisional sales for the firm's architecture and engineering, civil and environmental, transportation, and communications technology divisions.

Parking will be available for the evening ceremony Friday in Lot 4 (the River Lot).

On Saturday, families may park in the Vulcan Garage (Lot 22) or in Lots 14, 15, 17 and 19 on the main campus. Free shuttles will transport guests to and from the stadium.

Gates at Adamson stadium will open at 8 a.m., and guests should be seated by 9:15. Families are reminded that early arrivals will find the most convenient parking and the best seats in the stadium's "home side" bleachers.

The outdoor ceremony will be held rain or shine.

In case of inclement weather, ponchos will be provided. To avoid obstructing the view of others, guests are asked not to open umbrellas in the bleachers.

CUTV will broadcast both ceremonies live on Armstrong Cable (Channel 61 Armstrong-Connellsville) and Atlantic Broadband Communications (Channel 17).

More information about Commencement, including links to directions and parking information, is available at www.calu.edu/events/commencement. For more information, contact Jodie Rooney, academic events coordinator, at 724-938-1584 or rooney@calu.edu.



Josh Snyder and Nicole Kemmerling build their cardboard house on the Quad during Habitat for Humanity's annual Box Out event. Bad weather on the night of April 15 forced students inside Coover Hall, but the project still raised awareness of the issue of homelessness, according to organizers. Proceeds from the Box Out will help benefit Japanese tsunami victims.

Seniors 'Leave Mark' on Hydrants

Before they graduate, members of the Class of 2011 want to leave their mark on Cal U. So seniors have painted the campus fire hydrants with distinctive designs, using school colors of red and black.

The Leave Your Mark project was organized by Cal U's "senior envoys," members of the Class of 2011 who also serve on the Senior Gift Drive fundraising committee.

The idea behind Leave Your Mark is "to create a tangible and sustainable tradition" for members of the graduating class, said Ryan Jerico, coordinator of student and young alumni programs in the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund.

"The Senior Gift Drive supports scholarships. It's a way for graduating seniors to 'pay it forward' and help other students get a Cal U education," he said.

"The Leave Your Mark project is all about fun. Participating seniors literally changed the look of the campus in one small way before they graduated."

The project opened with a Concert on the Quad, which was relocated to the Natali Student due to the threat of rain on April 25, with performances by the Cal U Jazz Ensemble, Vulcanize, Acappella Stella and Cal Singers. Students received T-shirts with the Leave Your Mark logo, along with food and other giveaways.

Before the project started, grounds

— Continued on page 2

Rain Ruins Boxes, But Not Spirits

As torrential rain and high winds ripped through campus the night of April 15, students participating in Habitat for Humanity's annual Box Out had to evacuate their cardboard box homes and move indoors for safety.

"As head of the event, I made the executive decision to move all the participants to Coover Hall for the night to keep them out of the storm," said Devin Cunningham, student president for Cal U's chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

Although the storms damaged their cardboard shelters, it did not dampen the participants' spirits.

The annual Box Out event on the Quad is intended to raise awareness of homelessness by having participants live in cardboard boxes for 24 hours.

"There are a lot of people who walk through (the Quad), and maybe it will make them realize how some people are forced to live," said senior Ryan Bucklad, an event participant and member of the Tech Ed Club of California.

Not only does the event raise awareness, it also raises donations through registration fees and student contributions. Donations usually are given to the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate, but this year's collection will help benefit Japanese tsunami victims.

"Due to the recent tragedies in Japan, we have decided it is our responsibility to help assist in the (relief) efforts," said Cunningham. "Because our mission is to eliminate poverty and homelessness, we felt the Box Out event would be the perfect fit to raise money for the cause."

Participants also had the chance to win cash for themselves.

Each team's house was designed and decorated in the style of a particular era and judged on creativity, design and overall construction. Designs ranged from a 1920s speakeasy to a colorful, disco-themed house reminiscent of the 1970s.

Winning teams were awarded a cash prize separate from funds raised during the event. First place went to the Chemistry Club. Second- and third-place prizes went to the FIJI/Theta XI team and Hispanic Student Association, respectively.

Even with the rain, Cunningham believes participants had fun and the event helped to highlight the issue of homelessness among members of the Cal U community.

"We do this event every year to help raise awareness of poverty in America," he said. "Each year we are able to get more participants to help Habitat for Humanity spread awareness, and our goal is to get all students to be educated on this subject and help make a difference in this world."



Undergraduate Research Conference a Success

Dr. Sarah Downey (left), an assistant professor in the Department of English, listens to Josh Solomon (right), Veronica Kerekes and Rich Williams present 'Latin Lexomics: Using Computational Linguistics to Identify Borrowed and Interpolated Material in Medieval History Texts.' Doug Raffle also was part of the panel. The presentation was part of the Undergraduate Research Conference, which was held April 15 in the Performance Center. The event was co-hosted by the Honors Program at Cal U and Robert Morris University.

Online Calendar Connects Facebook

Got friends? Now the Cal U website can tell you whether they plan to attend a concert, lecture, comedy show or other event on campus.

The new feature has been added to the online events calendar on the Cal U homepage.

Visitors who click to learn more about an event can log in to their Facebook account right from the calendar's "Event Details" page. If you join the event, you'll see icons showing which of your Facebook "friends" also plan to attend.

Calendar visitors can click a button to share event details through e-mail or social media.

"We wanted to make the online events calendar more interactive," said Greg Buretz, the University's social media coordinator. "Now anybody with a Facebook account not only can find out about an upcoming event but see who else is going to be there."

More people are using the calendar every month, says Bryan Engel, a member of Cal U's Web team and the events calendar manager.

In March, for example, the site registered nearly 46,500 "click-throughs" to details about campus events.

"There's always a lot of interest in the free movies at Vulcan Theatre, along with club activities, performances and even academic deadlines," Engel said. "The calendar also provides links to relevant information — a performer's own website, for instance, or maybe a YouTube video.

"There's so much going on at Cal U. The calendar raises awareness and provides information — and now it helps people make social connections, too."

To see the online events calendar, visit www.calu.edu and choose "Events" at the bottom of the homepage.

'Hip-hop Is Who You Are'

"Hip-hop is not something you do as much as who you are. It's a lifestyle," says Doug E. Fresh, the pioneering hip-hop artist who originated the "beat box" vocal percussion technique.

Fresh joined American Book Award winner Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, an ordained minister and a sociology professor at Georgetown University, for the keynote panel of Cal U's sixth annual Hip-hop Conference, held April 22 in the Performance Center.

More than 200 Cal U students joined faculty, staff, out-of-state guests and a busload of students from four Pittsburgh high schools for a freewheeling discussion of hip-hop culture, the influence of contemporary music and the power of words.

Fresh's 1985 release *La Di Da Di*, with rapper Slick Rick, is considered a hip-hop classic. The artist described practicing his groundbreaking beat box vocals — imitating drums, bass and other instruments — as he walked to and from school in Harlem.

Graffiti, fashion, break-dancing, the music on his older siblings' cassette tapes, even the poems of Langston Hughes that he learned in class — "everything collectively was hip-hop," Fresh said, performing snippets of beat box to loud applause.

"Now, in 2011, you all have your own expression of what is hip-hop to you," he told the students in the audience.

Dyson said he first heard the music as a college student in Knoxville, Tenn. "I identified with the substance of hip-hop. (The songs) began to help me understand ... the relationship between



Dr. Kelton Edmonds (right) introduces Doug E. Fresh, originator of the human beat box, at the sixth annual Hip-hop Conference.

art and social expression."

Dyson, the author of at least 16 books, is credited with establishing black American culture as a legitimate field of academic study. He has written about public figures from Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King to Bill Cosby, as well as the role of race and class in contemporary American life.

"I used the tools I had learned in the academy to study hip-hop" beginning in the 1980s, he said. "Just as jazz had been viewed as skepticism, so was hip-hop. I was a fan of hip-hop because I

loved great music, and this music had something to say."

Dyson discussed the raw language of many hip-hop songs, including a common racial epithet. Fresh pointed out that hip-hop can be used to educate, as well as entertain, citing his own "rap and read" children's book, *Think Again*, that encourages kids to look beyond racial stereotypes.

"Hip-hop is already in your school, so it should be utilized to teach," Fresh said. "Hip-hop is bigger than what you think."

Seniors 'Leave Their Mark' on Fire Hydrants

— Continued from page 1

crews gave the campus fire hydrants a fresh coat of white paint, creating a blank slate for the student artists.

Seniors who presented an acceptable design were assigned one hydrant each on a first come, first served basis. Painting began last week, and today is the last day

for them to put the finishing touches on their hydrants.

Greg Harrison, chair of the Department of Art and Design, is leading a team of Art Department faculty who are judging the finished designs. All hydrants will be photographed this week, and the three winning artists will be acknowledged in the record of the project that will be kept in the Kara Alumni House. *Cal U for Life* prize packages also will go to the winning artists.



Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

More than 130 men donned high-heeled shoes on April 21 and clumsily paraded across campus as Cal U participated for the third consecutive year in the international program known as Walk a Mile in Her Shoes. 'It is intended to serve as an outlet for men to come together as allies and partners in ending violence against women, especially Cal U women,' said Kay Dorrance, coordinator and victim advocate at the End Violence Center on campus. 'Together today in your high heels, you're a united group of men saying that sexual assault, dating violence and stalking are unacceptable.' The event was sponsored by the End Violence Center to raise awareness about sexual violence and men's role in preventing it.

After Work, These Staff Members Rock



Michael Anderson and his band, Crosstown, have rapidly developed a following, with many fans from the Cal U community.

What began as casual conversation while working on Cal U's grounds crew has become a rocking reality for Michael Anderson and Bob Houston.

Longtime Cal U employees, Anderson is an auto mechanic supervisor and Houston is a utility plant operator II. After their busy days on campus, these two — along with Bobby Houston Jr. '05 and local musicians Bill Johnson and Scott Kennedy — frequently appear at local clubs, where they entertain crowds as the band Crosstown.

Both Cal U workers performed in bands in the late '60s and early '70s. After discussing playing together for many years, Anderson, Houston and his son started turning talk into music at the Houstons' home garage in Roscoe.

Anderson invited Kennedy and former Amber Band member Johnson to stop by.

"We just started jamming and having a good time," said Anderson. "Bill said we sounded great, so we practiced with them for a couple of months and took it on the road."

Playing cover songs from classic, southern rock and country bands, Crosstown rapidly developed a following. The group plays at area clubs and every other month at the Long Branch Saloon in Oakland, Md. Crosstown is scheduled to perform at the Hard

Rock Café in Station Square, Pittsburgh, in September.

Anderson plays rhythm guitar and sings. The elder Houston is the drummer. Bobby Houston plays bass, and Johnson handles lead guitar and vocals. Kennedy plays guitar, harp and banjo.

"I thought they were awesome, and I liked them so much I got their autographs," said Sue Bittner, a Cal U custodian who saw the band at the Roscoe Slovak Club. "If people hear them, they will be hooked."

Alumna Regina Musar '01 recently checked out the new group at the Friendship Lounge in Richeyville. She learned about the band through Facebook and word of mouth.

"I was very impressed," she said. "There were a lot of Cal U people there. I would definitely go see them again."

Anderson said he has contacted the Student Activities Board in hopes of playing someday at a Cal U event. The group even has tossed around the idea of hooking up with another Cal U musical success — University police officer George Kyle and his band, Brother Jeep and the M.V. Express.

"We've always been interested in music," Anderson said, "and we want to give people a good time with it."

Campus BRIEFS

Hummel ROTC Speaker

Dr. Michael Hummel will be the guest speaker for the Cal U Department of Military Science commissioning ceremony at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre. ROTC cadets James Cooper, Zachary Drysdale, Joseph Hummel, Konrad



Dr. Michael Hummel

Kearcher, Nicholas Messina and David Schott will be commissioned as second lieutenants.

A professor and past chair of Cal U's Department of Justice, Law, and Society, Hummel served as the acting dean of the College of Liberal Arts for two years before returning to the classroom this semester. He is also a retired, decorated military law enforcement officer. Hummel commanded a law enforcement unit at Fort Campbell, Ky., and served as a Special Reaction Team commander, responsible for high-risk situations and counter-terrorism operations. Besides teaching, he also directs the newly established Linda and Harry Serene Leadership Institute.

Honor Society Adds Members

The Nu Omicron Chapter of the Kappa Omicron Nu (KON) National Honor Society inducted four new members on April 3. Sophomores Kirstie Pistner and Rebecca "Becky" Barnhart, junior Brittany Ferguson and faculty member Adam Annaccone are the newest members of KON, which is recognized by the American College of Healthcare Sciences.

At the ceremony in Old Main Chapel, this year's officers — president Kaitlyn Sippl and vice president Jason Pirl — were given gold medallions for their leadership service. Senior members received white-and-maroon honor cords to wear at Commencement.

Members learned that faculty member Mary Popovich will receive the award for outstanding leadership at the annual Health Science Awards Banquet in May. Emily Obenauf will be honored for scholarship and Katie Ramsdell for research.

KON adviser Dr. Joni Roh, a professor in the Department of Exercise Science and Sport Studies, opened the event. Associate provost Dr. Bruce Barnhart, the guest speaker, discussed the importance of honor societies, both at Cal U and nationwide.

Freshmen Join ALD

More than 100 Cal U freshmen recently were inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta, a nationally recognized academic honor society for freshmen who maintain a grade-point average of 3.5 and are in the top 20 percent of their class during their first year.

Students must maintain at least a 3.25 GPA to remain in the organization throughout the remainder of their college careers. Members also must complete one service project per semester, along with one Career Advantage Program activity.

ALD chapter president David Denne and advisers Karen Posa and Dr. Michael Amrhein led the ceremony. Also inducted were honorary members and SAI staffers Nicole Arthur, Lisa Hartley and Tonya Kirkland. Rhonda Gifford, director of Career Services, and Diane Williams, director of Cal U's new Center for Civic Engagement, were the guest speakers.

Institute Offers Programs for Police, Lawyers

Cal U's Institute for Law and Public Policy is offering two professional development programs next month, one for police and the other for lawyers.

• *Police and Media Relations: Formulating an Effective Response* is designed to make members of police agencies more comfortable, credible and effective when working with the media.

Participants will learn how to control the interview instead of being controlled, how to disarm negative reporters, when to speak and when not to speak, and how to manage body language. The course encourages police to look more objectively at the media and to view news reporters as conduits for telling the intended story.

Presenter is Diane Richard, public information officer and spokesperson for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. Contributing instructors are retired Cmdr. Ron Freeman, formerly of the Pittsburgh Police; and Ralph Iannotti of KDKA-TV News.

The course will meet from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. May 18-19 at the Cal U Southpointe Center in Canonsburg, Pa. Cost is \$150 for the two-day session.

• *Geology for Lawyers: The Marcellus Shale Phenomenon* addresses issues related to mineral rights and natural gas drilling.

Presenter is John J. Interval '86, a certified petroleum geologist. He has spent his career performing geological engineering evaluations for drilling programs, including computerized stratification models, well completion designs, production plans, frac designs and geological mapping for all types of well drilling.

With operations considerations in mind, Interval will discuss, in an open forum, logical divisions for the various rock layers that comprise Pennsylvania's geology and the proper terminology for separating these units.

The seminar is approved for continuing legal education by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board. The course will meet from 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m. May 20. Cost is \$99; lunch will follow the presentation and is included in the fee.

Both programs require advance registration. For more information or to register, call 724-597-7401 or e-mail manderino@calu.edu.

To learn more about the Institute for Public Policy and its professional development and training programs, visit <http://institutes.calu.edu/ilpp>. Or visit the Cal U homepage, www.calu.edu, look for "Information for ... Business and Community," and click on "Institute for Law and Public Policy."

Summer Camps Geared to Teens

High school students with an interest in technology can attend the Cal U Robotics or Graphic Communications and Multimedia camps offered through the Office of Lifelong Learning.

The summer sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. June 20-24.

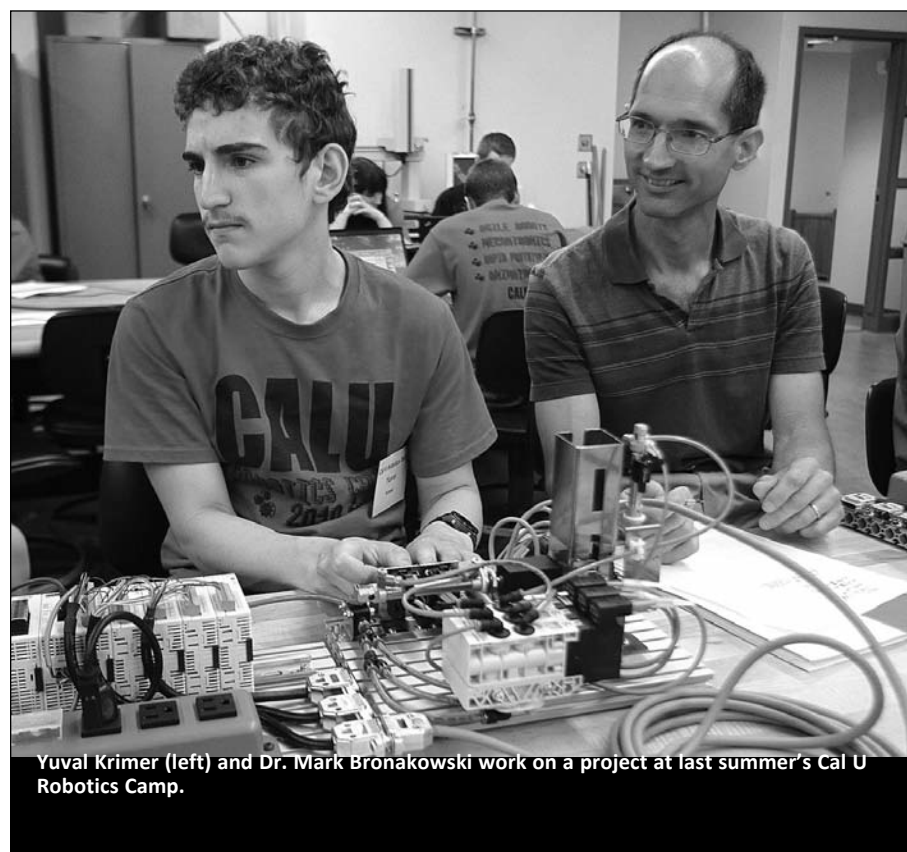
Both programs are designed for students entering grades 9-12. Robotics campers must have completed pre-algebra class and achieved a grade of C or higher.

The robotics program includes hands-on experience in computer-aided drafting (CAD) and prototyping, analog and computer-aided machining (CAM), electronics and circuits, microcontrollers and programming, and assembly and testing.

Participants will build a robot from start to finish, which they will be able to keep.

The graphic communication and multimedia program will provide hands-on experiences utilizing your digital camera, developing a story board, creating motion graphics and more. Participants will leave with a physical book and a digital book after working extensively with digital video and photography, motion graphics, screen printing and offset programming.

Registration can be completed in person or by mail. Forms are available by calling 724-938-5840 or online — visit www.calu.edu/academics, then



Yuval Krimer (left) and Dr. Mark Bronakowski work on a project at last summer's Cal U Robotics Camp.

click "Lifelong Learning Programs" and look for "High School Camps."

The fee is \$199 for each camp, payable by check, cash, money order, Master Card, Visa or Discover. Payment must accompany the registration form. Checks should be made payable to "California University of Pennsylvania."

Completed registration forms should be mailed to: California

University Office of Lifelong Learning, 250 University Avenue, Box 12, California, PA 15419.

For students too young to attend these camps, the University offers SEEK, the popular Summer Educational Enrichment for Kids program. Open to students in grades 1-8, SEEK's two sessions will take place June 20-24 and July 18-22 on the Cal U campus.

T-shirt Sales Boost Scholarship Fund

The Student Government Association recently presented a \$2,000 check to President Angelo Armenti, Jr. to support the Ryan Jerico Student Leadership Scholarship.

The funds were generated through the sale of "Armenti's Army" T-shirts, a project begun by Ryan Jerico '09 during his student days.

The fund was formed in 2008 as the student fan group," Jerico told the *Cal U Review* last year.

Jerico now is coordinator of student and young alumni events in the Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund.

This is the SGA's third contribution to the scholarship. Members expect it to reach endowed status next spring.



Pottery Sale Begins Today

Ben Eisaman sets up pottery pieces for the annual Cal U spring Student Pottery Sale, to be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. tomorrow and Wednesday in the Ceramics Studio, near Vulcan Hall. The sale gives members of the Cal U and local communities a chance to shop for unique, reasonably priced, handcrafted gifts ideal for Mother's Day on Sunday. Handmade items for sale include mugs, bowls, pitchers, jars and vases of all sizes. For more information, contact Professor Richard Miecznikowski at 724-938-4083 or Cal U's Department of Art and Design at 724-938-4182.

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

Dr. Angelo Armenti, Jr.
University President

Dr. Charles Mance
Vice President for University Technology Services

Craig Butzine
Interim Vice President for Marketing and University Relations

Geraldine M. Jones
Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Ron Huiatt
Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

Christine Kindl
Editor

Dr. Lenora Angelone
Vice President for Student Affairs

Robert Thorn
Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance

Bruce Wald, Wendy Mackall, Jeff Bender
Writers

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

The Journal is printed on paper made from trees harvested under the principles of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (www.SFIprogram.org).

I N T E G R I T Y · C I V I L I T Y · R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y