

California University
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Michele M. Mandell '69 will receive the 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award during Cal Pride Weekend festivities.

Mandell Honored During Cal Pride Festivities

Cal U will honor alumna Michele M. Mandell '69 with its 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award during the fifth annual Cal Pride Weekend festivities.

The celebration on Friday and Saturday will feature events designed to connect alumni with current and prospective students.

On Friday, a group of accomplished alumni will discuss their careers with classes related to their particular disciplines.

Among the nearly 20 guest speakers returning to campus are David Amati '70, '72; Julie Berger '01; Adam Bujanowski '01; Nancy '66 and Tom '64 Crumrine; Bob Lippencott '66; Jim Lopez '81; Carol Mitchell '72, '75; Michele Papakie '96; Matt Pitzarella '02; Tom Rutledge '77; and Linda '64 and Harry '65 Serene.

At deans' receptions from 2:30-5 p.m., awards will be presented to distinguished alumni from Cal U's four colleges. Award winners are:

- William Polachek '71, owner of The Grand Residence of Upper St. Clair senior living community, honored by the College of Education and Human Services.

- Dr. William Dinello '81, dean for the Executive Office/President's Office at York College CUNY, honored by the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

- Thomas L. Bakaitus '83, certified public accountant and operating officer/partner at Herbein + Company Inc., honored by the

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Staff Hears Financing Message at Spring Convocation

Proposed cuts in the state appropriation for higher education were on the minds of staff members who gathered for the spring Staff Convocation March 21.

No one anticipated the magnitude of the funding cuts proposed by Gov. Tom Corbett, said President Angelo Armenti, Jr. But he pointed out that Cal U has been preparing for a future that relies less on state support — a situation the President often has described as “privatization without a plan.”

The governor's proposal would reduce appropriations to state-owned universities by half.

“We need to remember the mission of the State System of Higher Education,” the President said. “It's to provide a high quality education at the most affordable price to the students. We have to keep this mission in mind.”

Cal U's innovative and entrepreneurial activities have placed the University in a more favorable financial position than some other institutions, he added.

For instance, Cal U's No. 1 ranking among online universities nationwide could not have come at a better time.

Largely because of the Global Online program, graduate enrollment has increased 10.1 percent compared to a year ago. Over the past nine years, the University's total full-time enrollment has risen by 57 percent.

“Our top ranking for Global Online is great news, and the program's success has come at a time when we need to grow enrollments any we can,” President Armenti said. “Many of you (staff) play a significant role in creating enrollment increases, by talking with students and working with them and their families.”

Emphasizing the positive, the President also pointed out that Cal U is close to achieving “gender equity,” both in athletics and on the faculty.

The University has worked hard to add both female athletes and athletic scholarships for women, so that the male-female ratio within the athletic program mirrors that of the student population.



President Angelo Armenti, Jr. gives his State of the University update at the Staff Convocation, where he thanked staff members for their role in supporting Cal U's continued progress.

An effort also has been made to add more women to the faculty. Over the past 17 years, the number of female faculty members has nearly doubled, from less than 25 percent to more than 47 percent.

“We will soon be one of very few public schools that can truthfully say we

have achieved gender equity,” President Armenti said.

Although budget concerns top his agenda, “I'm not shutting the place down,” he said. A number of faculty searches are under way, work on the

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Rally Urges State Support for Higher Ed

Faculty and students spoke out against proposed cuts in the state appropriation for higher education at a March 22 rally in front of the Natali Student Center.

Organized by Cal U's chapter of APSCUF, the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties, the rally was part of a statewide effort on PASSHE campuses to raise awareness of the budget cuts and their consequences.

Students and faculty were asked to fill out postcards by explaining briefly how they would be affected by the 50 percent reduction in funding proposed by Gov. Tom Corbett.

Some wrote short paragraphs; one student expressed displeasure by drawing a “frownie face.”

The cards — reading “United We Stand, Underfunded We Fail” — will be sent to state legislators, union members

said. Nearly 200 cards were collected during the event.

“If we don't stand together, we will be underfunded, and that means failure for all of us in the State System,” said Dr. Michael Slavin, president of Cal U's APSCUF local. “Everyone needs to understand just how important this is.”

Cal U's rally was one of 13 held at PASSHE schools on March 22. Kutztown University held a similar event earlier in the month.

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education is spreading the word about the effect of funding reductions through a Web page that includes a “budget alert,” contact information for state legislators, and links to budget messages posted by each PASSHE university.

To reach that Web page, visit the Cal U homepage, www.calu.edu, and click on the PASSHE logo.



Cal U students Kristin Ross and Sam Silva rehearse for Cal U's first-ever production of the award-winning musical 'Cabaret.' Ross portrays Sally Bowles, a performer at Berlin's seedy Kit-Kat Club, and Silva plays Cliff Bradshaw, a penniless American writer visiting Berlin just before World War II.

'Cabaret' Opens Thursday

The Department of Theatre and Dance closes its spring 2011 season with *Cabaret*, directed by Dr. Michele Pagen.

Performances of this classic musical are set for 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Set in 1930 at the Kit-Kat Club, a Berlin nightclub where anything goes, *Cabaret* introduces the audience to Sally Bowles, a young English entertainer who dreams of fame and fortune. She and Cliff Bradshaw, a penniless American writer, explore romance in a seedy rooming house as the Third Reich gathers strength.

First staged in 1966, the musical is based on John Van Druten's 1951 play, *I Am a Camera*, together with Christopher Isherwood's short stories, *Goodbye to Berlin* (1939).

Musical numbers include *It Couldn't Please Me More*, *Willkommen*, *Cabaret*, *Don't Tell Mama* and *Two Ladies*.

Ticket price for *Cabaret* is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors; students are admitted free with a Cal Card and a \$5 refundable deposit. The production is not suitable for the youngest patrons.

For ticket information, or to order tickets (with a credit card) by phone, call the Steele Box Office at 724-938-5943.

Big Band Headlines 'Jazz Experience'

A performance by the 'Burgh Big Band will wrap up the 29th annual California Jazz Experience, three days of master classes and jazz performances in Gallagher and Morgan Halls.

Dubbed CJE XXIX, the event will bring high school and middle school jazz bands to campus Tuesday through Thursday for performances and master classes with guest jazz artists. In addition, clinicians will work with students on sight-reading skills and prepared pieces.

Young musicians from the Brentwood, Charleroi, Chartiers-Houston, Kiski Area, Keystone Oaks, Montour and Ringgold school districts will attend the event.

Among the guest instructors is saxophone player Curtis Johnson, now retired from West Virginia University. A former associate professor of music, Johnson continues to perform and to promote music as a soloist, clinician, adjudicator and conductor.

Johnson has performed on numerous programs for the North American Saxophone Conference, World Saxophone Congress and National Saxophone Symposium. He has performed as a soloist with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and worked as arranger and performer with the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra. He also is a substitute performer for the

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Renowned in the field of rhythm and blues, his work can be heard on more than 80 CDs, including jazz, blues, rock and R&B recordings.

Cal U's jazz ensemble will give lunchtime concerts at noon during each day of the Jazz Experience, playing in the Morgan Hall Learning Resource Center Auditorium. A concert with a "Motown Reflections" theme is planned for 8 p.m. April 6 in the same location.

A "Pop A Cappella" concert will take place at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Morgan Hall. All music will be provided by human voices alone. Three Cal U groups are scheduled to perform: the all-male Vulcanize, all-female A Cappella Stella and the mixed group California Singers. Visiting a cappella groups also will be singing.

The Jazz Experience will close with a performance by the 'Burgh Big Band at 8 p.m. Thursday in Morgan Hall.

All concerts are free and open to the public, as well as the Cal U community. The Music Department and its chair, Professor Max Gonano, host the popular event.

For more information, contact the Cal U Music Department at 724-938-4878.



The California Jazz Experience will again bring high school and middle school students to campus for performances and master classes with guest jazz artists.

Campus BRIEFS

Philosophers' Conference Set

The Department of Philosophy will host the 24th annual conference of the PASSHE Interdisciplinary Association for Philosophy and Religious Studies on Friday and Saturday in the Eberly Science and Technology Center.

Undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty members from various PASSHE universities, will present papers on topics related to philosophy and religious studies.

Dr. Nicole Hassoun, assistant professor of philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University, will deliver the keynote address. In 2009-2010, she was the Barbara McCoy Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for Ethics in Society at Stanford University.

Hassoun's work has appeared in *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, *Environmental Ethics*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, and *Public Affairs Quarterly*, among other publications. Her book on global justice is

under contract with Cambridge University Press.

For more information, contact Dr. Joel Press, assistant professor in Cal U's Department of Philosophy, at 724-938-1522, or send e-mail to press@calu.edu.

Cal U Welcomes Biologists

Cal U will host the annual meeting of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania University Biologists on April 16.



Dr. Brian Paulson (with friend)

Founded in 1973, CPUB emphasizes undergraduate student research and provides funds for that research through a competitive grant process.

Its activities have included scientific meetings, symposia and institutes for the professional development of its members and associates. The organization also provides a forum for graduate and undergraduate students to present their research.

Cal U campus director Dr. Brian Paulson, a professor in the Department of Biological and

Environmental Sciences, estimates that as many as 150 faculty and students from PASSHE universities will arrive for the meeting in the Eberly Science and Technology Center.

Dr. Sam Taylor, newly appointed director of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, will give the keynote address. The meeting will close with a banquet and recognition of winners in various research categories. An outstanding student from each school also will be honored.

Cal U's CPUB Outstanding is Bethany Stone, a senior from Susquehanna, Pa., who is majoring in fisheries and wildlife biology.

For more information, contact Paulson at 724-938-5978, send e-mail to paulson@calu.edu or visit the CPUB website at <http://academics.sru.edu/cpub>.

Read The Journal Online

The online Journal is easier to read! Just click on "News" at the top of the Cal U homepage, www.calu.edu, then choose "Cal U Journal" to see the current edition in its new format or to review archived editions from 2011.



New Look and Longer Hours

The on-campus shuttle's new bus wrap features students wearing graduation caps and gowns, with a background of stunning campus scenes. The on-campus shuttle has extended its service and will run from 6 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For a route map and additional shuttle information, visit www.calu.edu/parking.

GIS Project Earns Encore for Intern

Junior Ben Snyder will use his knowledge of geographic information systems when he returns to Pittsburgh's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) for his second summer internship.

Snyder, a geography major with a concentration in GIS, recently was awarded a 2010 Excellence in Environment, Security, Safety, and Health Award presented by the Office of Fossil Energy.

He was part of a team recognized for its work on "Incident Response Pre-Plan," an emergency response tool created as part of the NETL internship, which is funded by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education.

NETL, one of the U.S. Department of Energy's national laboratories, focuses on providing secure, reliable energy at reliable prices.

Snyder and the team created a field-use tool based on information extracted from site maps in a GIS platform. It is designed to be used for incidents involving NETL facilities.

The tool addresses the need for emergency response personnel to retrieve physical data about those facilities quickly. The application allows emergency personnel to access maps, floor plans, confined-space data and information about hazards, fire hydrants and utility shut-offs. The tool, which includes aerial photos and contact



Junior Ben Snyder will return to Pittsburgh's National Energy Technology Laboratory for his second summer internship. His work a year ago recently earned him recognition by the Office of Fossil Energy.

information for facility custodians, will speed response times in emergency situations.

Snyder is a member of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, where he is his unit's acting executive officer. He also is involved in Cal U's Army ROTC program and Sigma Alpha Pi, the National Society of Leadership and Success.

Snyder says the GIS course he took with his

internship faculty adviser, Dr. Tom Mueller, prepared him well for his summer at NETL.

"It gave me practical experience," he said. "The internship made me realize I knew more about GIS than I realized, and I was able to bring NETL some skills from what I read or did in labs at Cal."

Snyder said he felt more like an employee than an intern at NETL, and he enjoyed using GPS units or Google Earth software to get coordinates and map them.

"It was almost like we were artists commissioned to create a map," he said.

Snyder's experience shows the importance of internships and applying what students learn in class to the real world, Mueller said.

"Ben is very passionate about his learning. To go out and not only do your internship but do it so well that it is recognized by outside agencies says a lot about Ben and the students we have here at Cal U."

Snyder joined the military after graduating from Bethel Park High School in 2007. He said the internship reaffirmed his decision to attend college.

"GIS is up and coming, and there are so many ways it can help an organization," he added. "I am looking forward to going back to NETL, and I really feel like part of their team."



Alisha Carter (left), Gena Sproul and Dr. Lisa McBride listen attentively to President Armenti's presentation at Staff Convocation.

Staff Hears Financing Message

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Convocation Center is continuing and projects such as the Loop Road construction and renovations at the Phillipsburg facility and Roadman Park are also continuing.

The President reminded staff members that the state budget will not be finalized until June 30.

"We are perceived by students and their families to offer high-quality education," he said. "They like what they see on this campus and what we have to offer. I do not believe the budget cut will be as big as it is now proposed, and I don't think enrollments will go down."

"Whatever the budget is, it is. We will deal with it and we will be fine."

He praised the staff for supporting the University's continued progress despite the financial challenges.

"I know you give your best every day, and I thank you for your hard work and dedication. This University received success and recognition, largely because of what you do every day."

Mandell to be Honored at Cal Pride Weekend

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College of Liberal Arts.

• Clement P. Gigliotti Sr. '96, CEO of Merit Contracting Inc., honored by the Eberly College of Science and Technology.

President Angelo Armenti, Jr. will host a dinner for invited guests and present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Mandell, who will speak at 7 p.m. in the Performance Center of the Natali Student Center.

Her talk is free and open to the public.

Mandell retired in 2009 after 26 years with Talbots, a leading specialty retailer and direct marketer of women's classic clothing, shoes and accessories.

Starting as a store manager in Shadyside, Pa., she assumed steadily increasing positions of responsibility and ultimately was named executive vice president, the first woman to hold that position at Talbots.

As executive vice president, Mandell was responsible for Talbots' entire retail stores operation, including sales volume in excess of \$1 billion. Under her leadership, Talbots' U.S. retail operation more than quadrupled in size.

At California University, Mandell has received the Professional Excellence Award presented by the Cal

U Alumni Association, as well as the 2006 Distinguished Alumna Award. She addressed Cal U's graduating seniors at Commencement ceremonies in 2009.

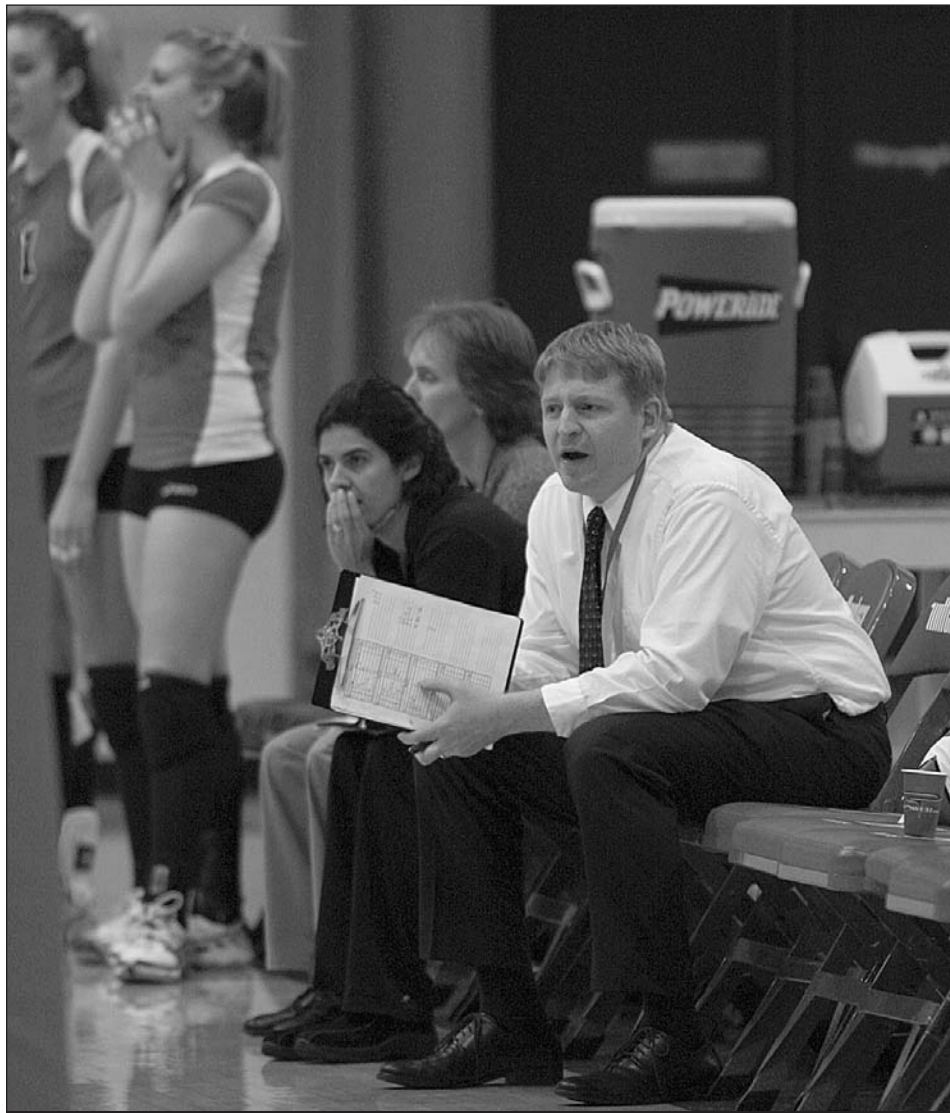
Secretary of the board of directors for the Foundation for California University, she also is a member of the Board of Presidential Advisors.

Mandell is the fifth recipient of the University's Lifetime Achievement Award. Previous winners are longtime Cal U faculty member George Novak '55, honored last year; U.S. Rep. Frank R. Mascara '72, the 2009 honoree; former Nationwide Insurance executive Thomas Crumrine, who was honored in 2008; and Lt. Gen. Paul Van Riper, honored in 2007.

On Saturday, President Armenti will serve as moderator for an alumni panel on life at Cal U from a young alumni perspective. The discussion is planned for 9:15-10 a.m. in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

From 11 a.m. -12:30 p.m., the "Cal U For Life — Meet Our Alumni" event will be held in the Kara Alumni House's Booker Great Room.

For more information about Cal Pride Weekend and specific classroom presentation times, contact Amy Lombard, executive director of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund, at 724-938-4418 or e-mail lombard@calu.edu.



After six highly successful years at Frostburg State (Md.) University, Peter Letourneau is honored to be the new women's volleyball head coach at Cal U.

Ex-Frostburg Coach Leads Volleyball Team

Peter Letourneau has been named head coach of the women's volleyball team.

For the past six years he was the head volleyball coach at Frostburg State (Md.) University, where he compiled a 144-61 cumulative record that included 93 wins over the last three seasons.

He led the Bobcats to four consecutive conference tournament titles as a member of both the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference and Capital Athletic Conference.

Under his direction, Frostburg State reached the NCAA Division III Tournament in each of the last four years. In 2010, the team advanced to the regional championship for the first time in school history.

Letourneau previously was an assistant coach at Division I Rutgers (N.J.) University and head coach of both the men's and women's volleyball programs at Division III Stevenson University (Md.).

He replaces Stephanie Burner, who coached the Vulcans from 2008-2010.

"I'm excited and honored to accept the position," said Letourneau. "I am

impressed by the way the team has bonded together during this transition period. I also believe the team's work ethic and culture will serve us well as we move forward in preparing for the 2011 season."

The new coach will lead a Cal U team that has achieved seven consecutive 20-win seasons, six straight PSAC playoff appearances and five consecutive trips to the NCAA Division II Atlantic Regional championship match.

Letourneau, a 2003 graduate of Towson University, was a standout player before moving to the sidelines.

During his six-year stint with the U.S. Air Force, he was selected for the All-Services Volleyball Team and the All-Air Force team. He played on the Florida Pro-Beach Volleyball Tour after starting his playing career at East Stroudsburg University.

"We are very excited to have Peter as our new volleyball coach," said Cal U athletic director Dr. Tom Pucci. "He comes to us with an excellent career at the NCAA Division III level, and we look forward to him being very successful here."

Confer's Third Book Published

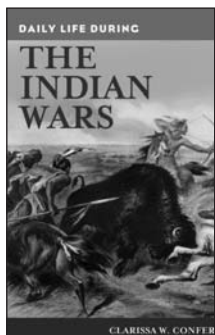
Dr. Clarissa Confer, assistant professor in the Department of History and Political Science, has published her third book.

Daily Life During the Indian Wars takes an in-depth look at every aspect

of American Indian life — food, dress, customs and more — during almost 300 years of conflict with Anglo-Americans.

The work offers a complete chronology of military and political events in American Indian history, ranging from Colonial times through the 19th century. It includes a multicultural bibliography of significant materials from the fields of history, ethnography and anthropology, pointing readers toward additional information.

This is Confer's second work published by ABC-CLIO Green Press.



Steelers' Super Trainer Visits Cal U

Ariko Iso, athletic trainer for the AFC champion Pittsburgh Steelers, discussed her work during a presentation to students and other interested members of the Cal U community on March 23 in Hamer Hall. Iso is the only female athletic trainer in the 32-team National Football League, and her visit was part of the University's Women's History Month celebration.

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