

California University
JOURNAL

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3 FEB. 1, 2010

Study: Cal U Nation's No. 2 Online College

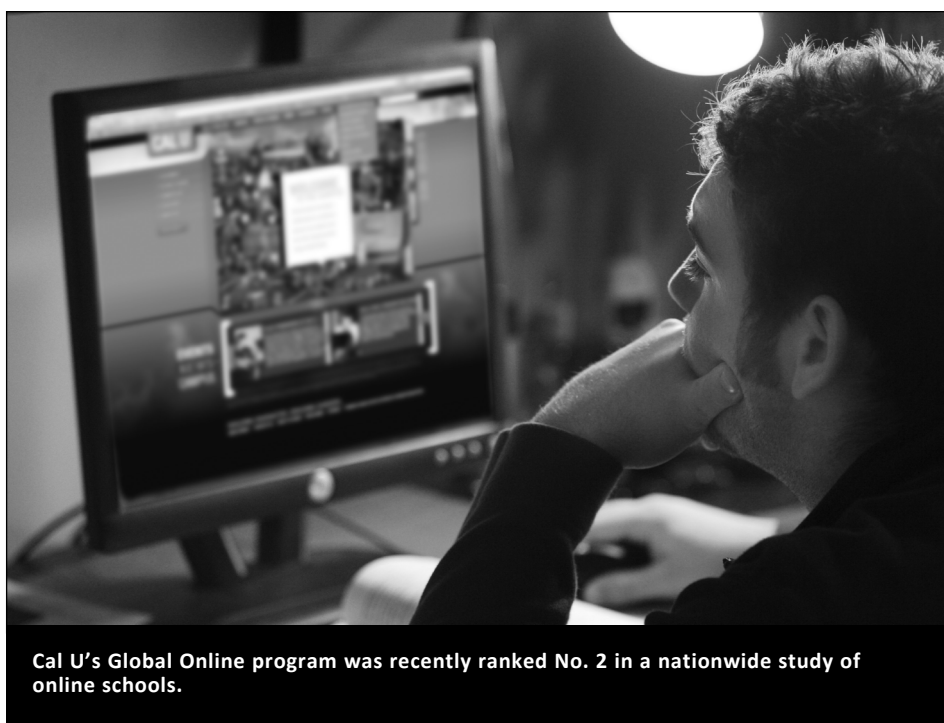
A nationwide study of online schools has ranked Cal U at No. 2 for its Internet-based degree programs.

The Top 25 Online Colleges study was conducted by SR Education Group, an educational resource provider based in Kirkland, Wash. The study appears on its flagship site, Guide to Online Schools (www.guidetoonlineschools.com).

"Online learning resources enable Cal U students to receive the same caliber of education as a traditional classroom student, but with the convenience of studying from home and with a flexible, student-directed schedule," the study says.

Rankings are based on accreditation, tuition cost, number of students and faculty, student-to-faculty ratio, graduation rate and retention rate, all derived from the latest data compiled by the National Center for Education Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Education. Guide to Online Schools also takes into account student feedback and reviews collected on its website.

Cal U's score was exceeded only by Boston University. Also in the top 10 are Abilene Christian University, Iowa Central College, Bowling Green State University and Northeastern University.



Cal U's Global Online program was recently ranked No. 2 in a nationwide study of online schools.

The full study is available at www.guidetoonlineschools.com/online-colleges.

Cal U's Global Online program has been growing rapidly. Compared to 2008-09, undergraduate enrollment increased by 11 percent this year, and graduate enrollment is 21 percent higher.

Online learning has been important to Robert Prah, director of the Office of Veterans Affairs. The Global Online program allowed him to continue his studies even while he was on active military duty overseas.

"Prior to leaving, while I was gone and since I've been back, I don't recall

having any negative comments about our Global Online program," he said. "The customer service and one-on-one assistance from the staff at the Office of Web-Based Programs, individual attention from instructors, and all the 'behind the scenes' work that is done ... is commendable."

Global Online offers bachelor's degree programs in Legal Studies and Sport Management: Wellness and Fitness. Graduate students can earn a master's degree in programs such as early childhood or secondary education, nursing administration and leadership, rehabilitation science, sports counseling, technology education, criminal justice and more.

Certification for school principals also is offered online, along with a superintendent's letter of eligibility and post-master's certificates in performance enhancement and injury prevention, wellness and fitness, and sport psychology.

Cal U is a preferred provider of online education for soldiers, who connect to Global Online through the GoArmyEd.com portal.

A full list of programs is available at www.calu.edu.



Eric Larmi

Larmi Retires; Thorn Interim VP

After a 35-year career that blended finance and higher education, Eric Larmi retired on Jan. 29.

Larmi, who became Cal U's first comptroller in 1991, had served as Cal U's interim vice president for Administration and Finance since Oct. 31, when longtime vice president Dr. Allan Golden retired.

Larmi's association with the State System of Higher Education began in 1976, when he was an auditor with the state Auditor General's Office. In that role, he assisted in the joint management of the first financial audit

of Clarion University with Coopers & Lybrand, now PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

He also managed joint audit engagements with audit firms KPMG Peat Marwick and Deloitte & Touche at Edinboro, Clarion, Slippery Rock and Lock Haven universities.

"It has been a pleasure serving the University as interim vice president for Administration and Finance," Larmi said before his departure. "It has been an exceptional experience to culminate my career in higher education and state service."

President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

announced that Bob Thorn will serve as interim vice president during a national search to fill the position. Thorn, who joined Cal U in 1993 as financial aid director, recently was promoted to assistant vice president for Administration and Finance.

"I am deeply appreciative of Eric Larmi's many years of service to the University," said President Armenti. "He is one of many 'behind-the-scenes' professionals whose meticulous work has helped Cal U to flourish. I wish him well as he enters this new phase of his life."

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Enrollment Up, Faculty Told

An increase in spring semester enrollment and a look at the University's new television ad were among the highlights of Faculty Convocation on Jan. 21.

The gathering is held twice a year, in fall and spring, so faculty can question President Angelo Armenti, Jr. and hear his "State of the University" report.

That report highlighted gains in first-day-of-class enrollment compared to last spring. Undergraduate FTE enrollment increased by more than 6 percent over 2009 figures, and graduate FTE is up more than 20 percent. The total FTE increase amounts to 8.3 percent for the semester start.

Noting the ties between enrollment and marketing, the President rolled out the

University's latest television ad, which uses an animation style similar to Cal U's new website. The 30-second TV spot showcases the campus and reinforces the message of "building character, building careers."

"Our image is critical to our future success," President Armenti said.

He drew the faculty's attention to the new website, noting that Azorsky and New Science halls — missing from the homepage's virtual tour — will be added soon. The design for the homepage was drawn from the model in the Grand Hall, he explained, which shows the campus as it is likely to appear a number of years from now.

President Armenti also addressed the

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Martin Luther King Day of Service

Sophomore Matt Spencer helps clean in the United Methodist Church during the seventh annual Martin Luther King Day of Service Jan. 21. See story on page 2.

MLK Speaker: Make Most of Your Time

Before students tackled their community service projects on the seventh annual Martin Luther King Day of Service, alumnus George Simmons '65 urged them to emulate the slain civil rights leader's preference for thoughtful dialogue instead of violence.

Simmons has been regional director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission for the past 35 years. The office enforces federal and local laws that prohibit discrimination.

Simmons attended Cal U during the tumultuous era when civil rights legislation was taking shape. A standout basketball player, he was one of just 14 African-American students on campus.

"Those times tried the souls of everybody in this country," he said. "The discrimination was so devastating that you wanted to rise up in anger and react. Instead, I became a part of discussions and dialogue, because just like Dr. King, I had to think things through, work it out and come up with a plan."

Simmons is the former vice president of the NAACP's Pittsburgh office and a member of many national and local civil rights groups. In addition to Cal U, he attended the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and Pitt's law school, and he graduated from the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va.

"You need to appreciate your



George Simmons '65 emphasized the importance of using knowledgeable dialogue as opposed to acts of violence in dealing with any form of adversity during his keynote address Cal U's seventh annual Day of Service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

opportunity to sit at your desks and think of the alternative to violence," he told students on Jan. 21. "Once you leave these halls, you have to put everything you've learned into practice."

Simmons recalled using his wits to counter prejudice during his student days. He described a Halloween party where three white students appeared in Ku Klux Klan robes. Simmons left the party and returned wearing a suit, with a sign on his back indicating he was James

Meredith, who in 1962 became the first black student to gain admittance to the University of Mississippi.

"It was a psychological violence that deterred your studies, and race was always on your mind," he said. "We were revolutionaries seeking change."

Simmons urged the students to help make Dr. King's dream a reality.

"Martin Luther King made the most of his time, and that's what you have to do," he said. "What you are doing today

is helping to turn things around. It's part of a chain of success, a collaboration that is extremely effective."

Before the keynote speech, Dr. Lenora Angelone, vice president for Student Development and Services, praised the student volunteers and others who participated in the Day of Service.

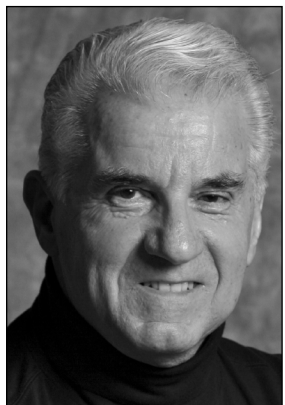
"Your efforts today set the tone for the service work the University will do in 2010 which makes the community a better place, and you leave a legacy for future students to follow," she said.

Emcee for the event was Ashley Munoz-Briggs, president of the Black Student Union. Student government President Jackie Davis introduced Simmons. LaMont Coleman, associate dean for Student Development and Services, coordinated the event.

President Armenti was unable to attend because Faculty Convocation was held during the same Common Hour.

"We are responding to the late Coretta Scott King, who asked that the day commemorating her husband be 'a day on, rather than a day off,'" Munoz-Briggs said. "As Dr. King did, we are paying it forward by creating healthy communities."

After the program, student volunteers performed service work off campus at the United Methodist Church and the Center in the Woods senior center, while others took on projects on campus at Manderino Library and Old Main.



President Angelo Armenti, Jr.



Ryan Jerico



Amy Lombard

Presentation Examines Cal U for Life

Through the Cal U for Life initiative, The University is rapidly becoming a sought-after leader in student philanthropy.

Last week, Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr. gave three presentations at the Building a Culture of Student and Young Alumni Philanthropy Institute in Atlanta, Ga. Accompanying him were Amy Lombard, executive director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, and Ryan Jerico, coordinator of student and young alumni programs.

Academic Impressions, a Colorado-based organization that provides professional development for administrative and academic leaders in higher education, offered the three-day institute.

In the event's opening session, President Armenti shared his vision and strategy for student philanthropy and discussed the atmosphere and context of higher education that makes intentional student philanthropy so important.

His second presentation emphasized that the philanthropic message drives an institution's entire program. A unique message should be tailored to each school's mission and specific student population, he said.

"Through awareness, appreciation and, ultimately, giving, we must have our students forge and maintain a lifelong relationship with Cal U," President Armenti said. "We chose 'Cal U for Life' as our brand because the name was also the goal. You must instill a culture of philanthropy immediately among students, faculty, staff and alumni."

With input from Lombard and Jerico, President Armenti then led participants through the development of Cal U's student philanthropy program, including the comprehensive student orientation program for freshmen and other first-year students.

In December, this same Cal U trio explained the Cal U for Life initiative to more than 400 higher education professionals through an online seminar hosted by Academic Impressions.

"The student philanthropy conference is excellent for any school looking to create or expand a student fundraising program," said Amy Hasquet, assistant director for Development and Alumni Relations at California Institute of Technology. "Many ideas were explored that can lead to a successful program."

Larmi Retires; Thorn Named Interim VP

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Licensed in Pennsylvania as a certified public accountant, Larmi is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

"California University has grown enormously since my arrival in 1991, and is poised for greater success," he said. "I must acknowledge my many co-workers in Administration and Finance who have aided me in my successful career here. Further, I thank President Armenti for the opportunities he has afforded me, and I wish him and the entire University community continued success."

Thorn is past president of the 700-member Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Under his leadership, the Office of Financial Aid received numerous perfect audits from PHEAA, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency.

Before coming to Cal U 17 years ago, Thorn served as associate director of financial aid and accounting at Ohio University for nearly seven years. Prior to that, he was director of financial aid at Alderson-Broaddus College in West Virginia.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve the President in this interim capacity until a new vice president is on board," Thorn said. "I also look forward to learning from many capable individuals within our division as I take this interim leadership role."

Thorn's experience and exemplary work history make him ideal to fill the interim position, President Armenti said.



Bob Thorn

"In his long tenure as director of the Office of Financial Aid, Bob Thorn helped thousands of families find workable answers to their financial questions," he said. "In this time of transition, the University as a whole will rely on his expertise and his sound advice."

To assist with the transition, Fawn Petrosky and Rosanne Pandrok will serve as interim assistant vice presidents in Administration and Finance. "These two individuals will be extremely valuable in providing leadership and insight to our division," Thorn said.

In addition, the Financial Aid Office will now be under the leadership of Jeff DeRubbo, who has been promoted to interim director. He brings many years of financial aid leadership to the position, Thorn said, both as associate director at Cal U and as director of financial aid at Bethany College in West Virginia.

Enrollment, TV Ad in Spotlight at Convocation

— Continued from page 1

subject of gender equity, both in athletics and in faculty hiring and promotion.

By aggressively seeking scholarship funding for female athletes, Cal U's athletics program has nearly achieved a male-female balance comparable to the student population on campus. Mandated by federal Title IX regulations, gender equity is difficult to achieve, the President said.

To match the student population, 53 percent of varsity athletes must be women. Cal U now has 236 female and 240 male athletes on varsity rosters.

"It took us 10 years, but we are nearly there," he said.

Using a series of slides, President Armenti also looked at the male-female composition of the current faculty. Today, females comprise more than 45 percent of the faculty, compared to fewer than 25 percent when his tenure as President began.

Since 1992, more women than men have been hired, and the promotion rate has been roughly equal, he said.

In addition, the President:

— Congratulated Dr. Chadwick Hanna for earning his doctorate, and announced that Dr. Keith Hepner will serve as interim chair of the Special Education Department, while continuing to chair Secondary Education, as well.

— Praised the faculty and staff of Global Online, ranked No. 2 in the nation in a survey of online education providers. Information is available at www.guidetoonlineschools.com.

— Noted that Cal U once again received more performance funding — \$4.87 million — than any other PASSHE school. The formula for performance funding appears likely to change, President Armenti said, so that high-performing schools do not "cannibalize" those with lower performance scores. For Cal U, this could mean a significant decrease in revenue.

— Recapped his "privatization" message and listed steps the University can take in response to declining state support. They include the Cal U for Life initiative and an effort to upgrade classroom technology across the campus.

— Gave a master plan update: The River Lot improvements are complete, and emergency call-boxes are in place; construction of both the Convocation Center and the Manderino Parking Garage is on schedule; and a contract for shuttle service to and from Roadman Park is being finalized.

The Convocation began with a welcome by Provost Geraldine Jones and brief remarks from student Janet Kopusko, a senior psychology major



President Angelo Armenti, Jr. presents his 'State of the University' report at the Spring 2010 Faculty Convocation.



During the Convocation, President Armenti acknowledged the efforts of all the faculty.

who is working toward an Aging Specialist certificate. The recipient of the William O. and David W. Hambacher scholarship, Kopusko said she had clarified her goals and taken advantage of professional development opportunities since transferring to Cal U.

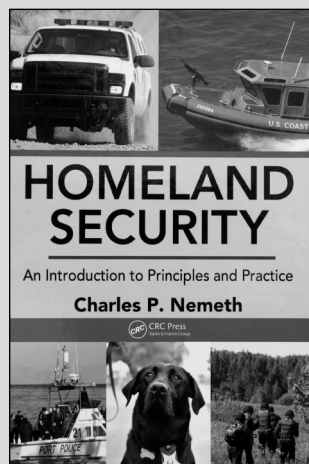
APSCUF president Linda Toth used her time at the podium to express gratitude for the faculty's scholarship, diligence, patience and concern for students.

"Warmth is the vital element ... for the soul of the student," she said. "I thank you."

Campus BRIEFS

Professor Publishes Again

Dr. Charles P. Nemeth, director of Graduate Legal Studies and Cal U's Institute for Law and Public Policy, has published an overview of organizational changes and strategic initiatives that have emerged within the federal Department of Homeland Security. *Homeland Security: An Introduction to Principles and Practices* (CRC Press, 518 pages) is available at www.crcpress.com.



Nemeth has written a number of books and articles on law and justice.

In his latest work, he attempts to give order to the very

complex and highly bureaucratic Department of Homeland Security, created in 2002. The text provides students and practitioners with the latest developments in the makeup, organization and strategic mission of the department.

"Homeland Security involves a complex network of government agencies and private organizations collaborating to ensure the safety and security of the United States, its domestic and global interests, and its citizens," said Nemeth. "Homeland Security, by any measure, is a massive enterprise that gets larger by the moment."

To reach the author, e-mail nemeth@calu.edu.

Cal U Welcomes Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

The creativity of area high school and middle school students is on display at Cal U for the 2010 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The University is hosting the event, which began in 2003, for the first time.

The 441 submissions will be on display through Sunday in Gallagher Hall. Hours are 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday and by appointment at 724-938-4182.

Winners have been selected by judges to receive Gold Keys, American Vision and Voice recognition, Silver Keys and/or Merit Awards. Gold Key winners will head to New York City in June for a national competition.

Students will receive their awards at 2 p.m. Sunday in Steele Hall. A pre-award reception will begin at 1 p.m. Jessica Lottman, who earned a Gold Key as a high school student from Uniontown High School and is a 2008 graduate of Cal U, will be the guest speaker.

The awards are sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of English and the Department of Art and Design.

FPDC Merit Award Nominations Due Feb. 15

The deadline for the FPDC's 2010 Merit Award Nominations is quickly approaching.

Each FPDC Subcommittee (Research, Teaching and Learning, Technology, Service and Service-Learning, and Grants and Contracts) offers a \$1,000 award that can be used for professional activities (as appropriate in relation to the award).

The form to nominate a faculty member for the Merit Award can be downloaded from the Faculty Professional Development Committee's website. Self-nominations for the merit award are also acceptable.

The completed nomination form must be received in the Faculty Center, 134 Azorsky, by noon on Feb. 15.

Olympian at Sport Management Conference



Four-time Olympic gold medalist Teresa Edwards

Olympic gold medalist Teresa Edwards will be among the speakers Feb. 4-5 at the Cal U Sport Management Conference.

The conference aims to help students and alumni find jobs or internships, while building partnerships with industry personnel. It is presented by the University's Sport Management Program in collaboration with the Cal U Internship Center and Office of Career Services.

Many potential employers are expected to participate, representing professional sports teams, sports marketing firms and collegiate athletic conferences.

In addition to Edwards, who earned four Olympic gold medals in women's basketball, speakers include Steve Murray, president of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; John I. Nubani, president of Sport Management and Marketing Inc.; and Natasha Brison, a sports agent and lawyer for Georgia State University.

Edwards, a two-time All-American guard at the University of Georgia, is the first basketball player, male or female, to have played in five Olympics. She is a 2010

Women's Basketball Hall of Fame inductee who played in both the ABL and WNBA, where she also coached. In 2000, *Sports Illustrated* placed her 22nd among the "100 Greatest Female Athletes of the 20th Century."

Cal U also will welcome back alumni Patrick Sadler '07, of PONY Baseball and Softball; Paul Klein '07, of the Washington Nationals; and keynote speaker Ricci Rich '01, athletic director at Moon Area High School.

Conference registration will be held 9-10:45 a.m. Feb 4 in Hamer Hall lobby with the keynote address by Rich at 11 a.m. in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Feb. 5 in Hamer Hall lobby. Presentations on best practices, interview techniques and networking will follow.

"This event is a win-win situation for everyone," said Dr. Charles Crowley, assistant professor of Sport Management Studies. "Listening to leaders from the sport management field, combined with networking and interviewing opportunities, will be invaluable to our students, internship providers and employers."

Cal Now Third in Dixon Standings

After an exciting autumn sports season, Cal U's athletic department ranks third among 16 schools in the 2009-2010 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Dixon Trophy standings.

Led by 16 points from the women's volleyball team, which won its third consecutive PSAC championship, the Vulcans have amassed 74.5 points.

Also achieving double-digit point totals for Cal U were football (15), women's soccer (14) and men's golf (11).

The football team won a fifth straight PSAC-West title to earn an appearance in the PSAC championship while the women's soccer team won its first-ever PSAC-West division crown and reached the conference's semifinals. The men's golf team finished tied for second. The women's cross country team produced four Dixon points and the men's cross country and soccer teams combined for 14.5 points.

The women's volleyball, women's soccer and football teams also won NCAA Regional team championships, which do not figure into the Dixon

Trophy standings.

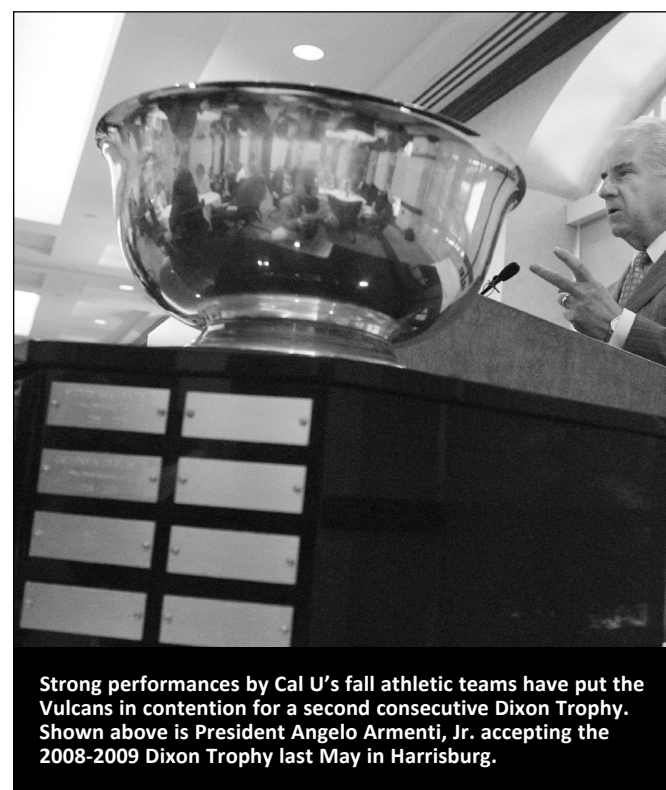
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania leads the Dixon Trophy standings with 79.5 points. Bloomsburg University is in second place with 75.

Seven different institutions have won the Dixon Trophy, including Cal U, which won the 2008-2009 award after totaling a league-record 161 points.

The PSAC has awarded the Dixon Trophy annually since the 1995-1996 academic year to a member institution whose athletic program earns the best overall finish in conference championships and/or regular-season play.

During the course of the academic year, points are awarded based on an institution's finish in 22 conference sports. Only a school's best 12 finishes, six men's and six women's, are used in the final calculation of the Dixon Trophy standings.

Seven PSAC championships will be contested in the 2009-2010 winter season: men's and women's basketball, men's and women's swimming, men's and women's indoor track and field, and wrestling.



Strong performances by Cal U's fall athletic teams have put the Vulcans in contention for a second consecutive Dixon Trophy. Shown above is President Angelo Armenti, Jr. accepting the 2008-2009 Dixon Trophy last May in Harrisburg.

Black History Month Kicks Off This Week

Two events this week mark the start of Cal U's celebration of Black History Month 2010.

At 6:30 p.m. tonight the Rev. Monte Crawford, of Pittsburgh, will lead a church service in rooms 206-207 of the Natali Student Center. The pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Rankin since 2007, Crawford's efforts have helped this church double its membership.

On Thursday, a "Talk Back" discussion forum will be held at 5:15 p.m. in the Carter Hall multi-purpose room, following the Black Student Union's weekly meeting. Tamanika Howze, director of the Kingsley-Lincoln Freedom School, will discuss the history of Freedom Schools, which provide summertime and after-school enrichment programs.

The BSU and the Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsor the annual Black History Month events.

A link to the complete list of activities is on the Cal U homepage; or visit the BSU web page at <http://sai.calu.edu/sai/clubs/bsu/bhm.html>.

Call for Faculty Nominations to the California University Forum Academic Policy Committee

The California University Forum has announced a call for the nominations of faculty members for election to the Academic Policy Committee of the University Forum.

The Forum Constitution calls for the election of six (6) regular (tenured or tenure-track) faculty members to the Academic Policy Committee, with each undergraduate college having two (2) representatives.

The Executive Committee will supervise the election and certify the results. The terms of office are for three years. Self-nominations are permitted. The nominees will be contacted to confirm acceptance of their name to be placed on the electoral ballot.

Six faculty members will be elected to the Academic Policy Committee by confidential ballot, following the nominations. All regular (i.e. tenured and tenure-track) faculty may vote. The voting will take place electronically on February 17th and 18th. Further information will

be provided via e-mail to faculty members who are eligible to vote.

The Academic Policy Committee meets periodically to tackle certain issues and make recommendations to the full Forum. For further information and details of the Academic Policy Committee visit the Forum website at www.calu.edu/forum.

Nomination forms will be sent to the campus mailboxes of all regular tenure and tenure-track faculty members. The nomination form is also available in Public Folders/Campus-Wide Resources/University Forum of the university's Microsoft Outlook Software.

All nominations must be submitted to Mrs. Dana Turcic, Forum Recording Secretary, Campus Box 99, by **Friday, February 5, 2010**. For more information contact her at 724-938-1633 or via email at CalForum@calu.edu or turcic@calu.edu. You may also write her at University Forum Office, 250 University Avenue, California, PA 15419.

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

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

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