

California University
JOURNAL

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Cal U Names Vice President for IT

President Angelo Armenti, Jr. is pleased to announce that Dr. Charles A. Mance will serve as vice president for information technology at California University of Pennsylvania. His new duties began March 17.

In this newly created position, Mance will develop and direct the execution of a strategic plan for information technology to ensure that the needs of the University's students, faculty and staff are best met.

Mance comes to Cal U with a broad background in engineering and information technology.

He was employed most recently at the Pittsburgh offices of Bayer Business and Technology Services LLC, where he was director of Security, Quality and Systems Integrity. In that position he was responsible for information security, quality assurance and regulatory compliance, as well as strategic planning for the company's North American IT operation.

Before joining Bayer, Mance held positions of increasing responsibility within the Corporate Information and Technologies Department at Respironics Inc., in Murrysville, and at Transarc Corp., in



Dr. Charles A. Mance began his role as Cal U's first vice president for information technology last week. In this new position, Mance will develop and direct the execution of a strategic plan for information technology.

Pittsburgh. He also has taught in the Information Science and Technology Department at Penn State's New Kensington campus.

A U.S. Navy veteran, Mance holds a master's degree in Telecommunications from the University of Pittsburgh and a doctorate in Information Systems and Communications from Robert Morris University. He has lived and worked in the Philippines, Spain and Great Britain and has traveled extensively in the Asia-Pacific region, Middle East and Europe.

His publications include contributions to "Voice Over IP for Dummies," published in 2005, and "Knowledge Needs and Data Security as they Apply to Network Intrusion Detection Systems," published in 2004.

"My goals in this position are to build a cohesive information technology department capable of providing a quality service to the University community," he said. "In addition to this, this team will build a scalable, sustainable, and secure technology environment that aligns with the immediate needs and strategic goals of the University."



Special Convocation Set for March 24

California University will hold a special convocation March 24 to celebrate the installation of the University's second endowed chair, The Edith L. Trees Charitable Fund Endowed Chair in Education. The convocation, set for 7 p.m. in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre, also will honor the fellowship's inaugural recipient, Dr. Katherine Mitchem, associate professor in the Department of Special Education (above right). A reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Steele Hall Lobby. Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr. encourages the entire University community to attend this special event. Cal U's first endowed chair was installed in October 2004. Dr. Kevin A. Koury received the Jeff and Beverly Berger Faculty Fellowship. For more information, contact Jodie Rooney, academic events coordinator, at 724-938-1584.

Mascara to be Honored With Lifetime Achievement Award

California University will honor former U.S. Rep. Frank R. Mascara with its 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award will be presented at 7 p.m. April 3 in the Performance Center.

The former congressman will deliver a lecture at the event, part of the third annual Cal Pride Weekend festivities.

Mascara, a native of Belle Vernon, Pa., is a 1972 graduate of California.

A former member of the University's Council of Trustees, he received an honorary Doctor of Public Service from Cal U in May 1999.

Mascara began his political career as the Washington County controller, a position he held from 1974 to 1980. He served as chairman of the Washington County Board of Commissioners



Highlighting the third annual Cal U Pride Weekend is the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award to former U.S. Rep. Frank R. Mascara.

from 1980 to 1994, when he was elected to Congress.

A Democrat, Mascara represented Pennsylvania's 20th District through 2002.

"Both as a county commissioner and as a University Trustee, Frank Mascara worked diligently on behalf of Cal U and its students," said University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. "His support of new academic programs, in particular, made an enormous difference to this institution, just as his service in Congress made a positive difference for this region and the nation."

Mascara is the third recipient of the University's Lifetime Achievement

Award. Previous winners are Lt. Gen. Paul Van Riper, the honoree in 2007, and former Nationwide Insurance executive Thomas Crumrine, who was honored in 2008.

Top IKEA Executive Promotes Women as Leaders

The former president of IKEA North America will discuss her strategies for promoting diversity and moving women into leadership roles during a daylong conference March 26 at California University of Pennsylvania.

Cal U's fourth annual Audrey-Beth Fitch Women's Conference will focus on "Leadership: Women Take Charge." Check-in begins at 9 a.m. in the second-floor Chapel of historic Old Main.

'Women Take Charge' Conference Set March 26

Admission is free and the public may attend. Pre-registration is not required.

Keynote speaker is Pernille Spiers-Lopez, an IKEA executive who now is head of Global Human

Resources for the international home furnishings company. She will address her theory of "conscious" leadership and navigating work-life integration in a company recognized twice by Fortune magazine as among the "100 Best Companies to Work For."

The conference will open with The Road to Equity Tour, a collaborative effort by the Women and Girls Foundation of Pennsylvania and the Regional

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Belsterling Trains Screeners at World Winter Games

Cal U hearing specialist Dr. Ralph Belsterling recently served as an International Volunteer and health care trainer at the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho.

Belsterling, an associate professor in the Department of Communication Disorders and the Clinical Director for the Healthy Hearing program of Pennsylvania, partnered with the Healthy Athlete program, which provides free health screenings at Special Olympics competitions. He assisted in the training of volunteer health care professionals in an effort to educate them about appropriate care, abilities, and health needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities. He also assisted in the audiometric screenings of the athletes.

"It was a wonderful experience, and I enjoy being able to give back on a professional level," Belsterling said. "This is a great opportunity to experience the love and kindness of the athletes. Interacting with both the athletes and trainers was also a great experience."

About 2,200 athletes from 100 countries participated in the World Winter Games, held Feb. 7-13. Special Olympics uses sports training and competition to encourage individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive members of society.

Of the 1,000 athletes screened, approximately 20 percent were identified as having hearing loss. In addition to appropriate recommendations and referrals, many of them received free hearing aids through the Healthy Hearing program.

Belsterling uses students from Cal U and other area colleges to help administer hearing screenings at the state Special Olympics events held at State College in the summer and Villanova in the fall.

At Cal U, his classes in audiology diagnostics and his introductory and aural rehabilitation courses help students prepare for these events.

"Our students are taught the proper techniques of screenings not only for the general population but for those with intellectual disabilities," Belsterling said.

When he wasn't volunteering in Boise, Belsterling did



Dr. Ralph Belsterling, an associate professor in the Department of Communication Disorders, recently served as an International Volunteer and health care trainer at the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho.

get to enjoy some of the sights and sounds of the event. Vice President Joe Biden led a delegation to the World Winter Games, but it was thousands of blue-and-white scarves that left a lasting impression.

What started as an idea to provide a gift to all 2,500 athletes competing at the World Winter Games blossomed into a worldwide outpouring of support for the

athletes. More than 55,000 were scarves donated. The extras were distributed in return for donations to benefit Special Olympics.

"Everyone in the town of Boise was wearing a blue-and-white scarf," Belsterling said. "It was awesome to see the town's love and support for these special athletes!"

Despite Downturn, GACO Brings Jobs to Region

Despite the region's economic challenges, California University's Government Agency Coordination Office (GACO) continues to be effective at bringing jobs and revenue to southwestern Pennsylvania.

GACO is a Procurement Technical Assistance Center, or PTAC, that provides advice, assistance and support to businesses interested in selling their products or services to the government. Since it was founded in 1985, GACO has helped the region's businesses obtain nearly 24,000 government contracts and subcontracts totaling nearly \$2.2 billion.

More than 1,600 businesses are registered as GACO clients in a service area that includes Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene and Washington counties. In all, the federal government estimates that GACO has helped to create or save nearly 56,000 jobs.

GACO notifies its clients about federal, state and local government contract and subcontract opportunities; assists with bid preparation; provides specifications and standards data; obtains technical data from Internet sites; supplies past procurement information for products; educates companies about e-business processes;



Debbie Wojcik, GACO director (above right), coordinates opportunities for local businesses, which have obtained government contracts and subcontracts totaling nearly \$2.2 billion.

and provides one-on-one counseling to help companies enter into this market.

GACO also provides its clients with training through seminars, workshops and its annual procurement fair.

The program has its main office on the campus of Cal U, with satellite offices in Pittsburgh and at Slippery Rock University. It is supported by grants from the Sarah Scaife Foundation and the Defense Logistics Agency.

"All types of small and mid-size companies, new businesses and

established companies, in both manufacturing and service industries, have benefited from working with GACO," said Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

"GACO brings these companies together with countless federal, state and local agencies. There is a 'multiplier effect' that comes with investment in a community. That business revenue of nearly \$2.2 billion, multiplied by the many times it is invested, becomes five to 10 times as large in its impact!"

Among GACO's clients is Pittsburgh-based Powerhouse Design, which offers a full range of architectural and engineering design services.

"Knowing how to do federal government contracting is pretty much a business in itself," said Michael Cherock, the company's founder. "It's a complex thing with many agencies and people you have to talk to, and GACO is very good at helping you navigate through the process."

Since Cherock began using GACO's services in May 2007, he has been awarded more than \$343,000 in contracts. He has moved his company into new office space and hired an employee to help expand the business.

GACO director Deborah Wojcik praised the work of Kate Glodek, manager of GACO's Pittsburgh office, for her work with Cherock. GACO's contracting coordinator is Tracy Julian, and Renee Decker manages the Slippery Rock Satellite office.

"Mike Cherock and his company are one of many success stories that we have been fortunate to help with," Wojcik said. "We're committed to helping businesses with all aspects of government contracting and subcontracting."

Modern Language Day Competition returns to Cal U Campus

High school students will test their foreign language skills during the ninth annual Modern Language Day competition.

The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 31 in the Performance Center.

Organized by Cal U's Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, this year's event asks local high school students to present dramas and develop

posters related to the 2009 theme, "Our Country: The United States of America." Students also will read poetry and prose in Spanish or French.

All presentations will be judged by professors and advanced students in the Modern Languages and Cultures Department.

"Modern Language Day helps potential students to discover our department and the different courses in

our curriculum," said Dr. Mariana Pensa, chair of the event.

In today's global society, a second or third language is important in a variety of fields, she added. "Through Modern Language Day, students can get a sense of what their future could look like."

For more information about the competition, contact Pensa at Ext. 4249 or pensa@cup.edu.

Communicators Practice Networking

Cal U's Internship Center, together with Career Services and the Communication Studies and English departments, held a Communication Studies/Journalism Networking event that helped students meet and interact with regional employers and explore job and internship opportunities.

"It was the first opportunity ever that Cal journalism, creative writing, and communication studies students have had to meet media employers in a setting like this," said Margo Wilson, professor of English. "We jumped at the chance."

Representatives from a variety of businesses offered insight, including Dymun + Co, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, FSN Pittsburgh, Froggy Radio, KDKA-TV, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Regional Internship Center, Pittsburgh Filmmakers, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Kingfish Worldwide Inc, the Observer-Reporter, the Tribune-Review and WQED Multimedia.

Karen Primm, director of the Internship Center, approached Wilson and Communication Studies professor Susan Jasko with the idea for this event.

"Students and employers get more personal interaction with each other in a

Students, Employers Discuss Job Skills



Eighteen organizations and 67 students attended the Communications/Journalism Internship/Co-op Networking Event held last month in the Performance Center.

smaller setting, rather than a larger one, because they are able to discuss and share pertinent information and establish a stronger connection," Primm said.

Craig McConnell, coordinating producer for FSN Pittsburgh, said his channel actively recruits interns from Cal U's Radio and Television program.

"We've had a great deal of success

hiring interns from Cal U," McConnell said. "The television department is one of the best in the area, and we routinely have at least one intern with CUTV experience working here year-round. Many of those interns turned into full-time employees."

Alyssa Kruse, a junior Journalism major with a Public Relations minor,

said the event was exactly what she was hoping for.

"The networking event gave students a great opportunity to practice interviewing skills," Kruse said. "The employers were incredibly helpful in letting me know what I have to do in order to be considered for an employment or internship position. I learned how to improve my resume and put together a portfolio that will, hopefully, help me land an internship for the summer."

Jasko served as the event's emcee but also took pride in watching her students interact effectively with employers

"It was truly wonderful to see our students dressed professionally and ready to network," she said. "The opportunity was priceless! I hope our students were inspired to spread their wings a bit and explore other opportunities to meet and interact with employers."

Marc Stempka, a junior Public Relations major and president of Cal U's chapter of the Public Relations Students Society of America, said the networking event was advantageous for students from both departments.

"I think this event really made students realize the importance of being prepared with resumes, portfolios and references for employers," he said.

Internships 'Cost-Effective,' Director Says

Karen Primm, director of the Cal U Internship Center since it was developed in 2004, was the keynote speaker at the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon on March 3. The event took place at Cal U's Kara Alumni House.

During her talk she emphasized how both the internship center and Office of Career Services' programs directly reflect the University's mission of Building Character, Building Careers.

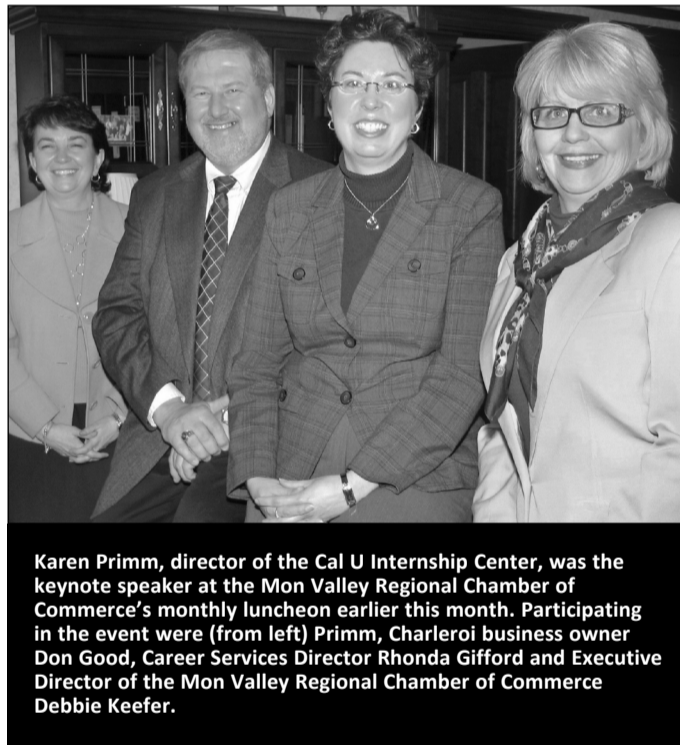
"Internships are a cost-effective method of recruitment of potential employees," Primm told the luncheon audience. "Employers have increased visibility and an enhanced image on campus and in the community."

Also offering remarks at the luncheon were Rhonda Gifford, director of Cal U's Career Services program, and Provost Geraldine Jones.

Gifford spoke about how the University works with students, alumni, faculty and staff, employers and parents to provide "mutually beneficial services." Jones pointed out the internship and career programs are "especially significant in these difficult economic times."

Don Good, plant manager at World Kitchen in Charleroi, also spoke. He praised Cal's internship center and students.

"The quality of the students from California University is phenomenal," Good said. "We had three students during the past year, two in engineering and technology and another in human resources. Each did a tremendous job, and I think that's a distinct reflection on how well the University prepares



Karen Primm, director of the Cal U Internship Center, was the keynote speaker at the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon earlier this month. Participating in the event were (from left) Primm, Charleroi business owner Don Good, Career Services Director Rhonda Gifford and Executive Director of the Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Debbie Keefer.

its students in and out of the classroom."

Nearly 3,100 Cal U students have participated in internships since the center's inception. Primm called the internships "an investment in human capital."

Women's Conference Set March 26

— Continued from page 1

Women's Initiative.

Dr. Allyson Lowe, director of the Pennsylvania Center for Women, Politics and Public Policy at Chatham University, will outline "Ready to Matter: The Status of Women in Pennsylvania."

Joining the discussion will be Tara Simmons, director of community initiatives, and Adriana Dobrzycka, program director, both of the Women and Girls Foundation.

After lunch, three panel discussions will focus on leadership issues and ways that women are "Still Making History."

The keynote address will be delivered at 7 p.m.

After the talk by Spiers-Lopez, three events will be held in the Vulcan Student Gallery: an art exhibition, "The Three Graces," by Rachele Bersamina, Melissa Settle and Sherrie Silvio; a poetry slam featuring local spoken-word artists; and an appearance by Cal U student Samantha Peer, who will portray women's rights activist Susan B. Anthony.

The conference is sponsored by the Women's Studies Program, the Office of the President and The Frederick Douglass Institute at Cal U, along with the University's departments of Justice Law and Society, and History and Political Science. The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education also is a sponsor.

A schedule is available at the University's website at www.cup.edu.



Pernille Spiers-Lopez will be the keynote speaker at the conference.

Attention University Community!

Call for Student Nominations to Standing Committees to the California University Forum

The California University Forum has announced a call for the nomination of students for the University Forum standing committees. The Forum is the University's shared governance system, which enhances the communication between and among all segments of the University. The University Forum consists of administrators, faculty, staff, students and alumni, all of

who have a voice in the university's future. **Alumni, faculty, staff, students, or community members may nominate any student of California University to serve. Self-nominations are permitted.** The numbers of student seats available on the committees are as follows:

- Athletic Advisory (3)
- Budget (2)
- Communication (3)
- Core Values (3)
- Planning & Priorities (3)
- Safety and Social Equity (3)
- Student Life (7)
- Technology (3)

The committees meet

periodically to tackle certain issues and make recommendations to the full Forum. For further information and details of the committees visit the Forum website at www.cup.edu/forum.

The Forum Executive Committee will make the final decision on appointees to the various standing committees. The nominees will be contacted to confirm acceptance of their appointment.

The nomination form is available via the Public Folders (Campus-Wide Resources/University

Forum) on the university's Microsoft Exchange Server. (For detailed instructions, contact the Computing Systems Helpdesk at campus extension 5911.) All nominations must be submitted to the Forum Office by **Friday, March 27, 2009.**

For more information contact Mrs. Dana Turcic, Forum Recording Secretary at 724-938-1633 or via email at CalForum@cup.edu or turcic@cup.edu. You may also write her at University Forum Office, 250 University Avenue, California, PA 15419.

Cal U Women Among Basketball's 'Elite Eight'



Cal U's women's basketball team had plenty to celebrate about last Monday after defeating Gannon University 64-40 for the program's fourth NCAA Regional Championship in seven years.

For the second consecutive season and the fourth time in the past seven years, Cal U's women's basketball team has advanced to the NCAA Division II "Elite Eight" National Championship tournament.

Under the direction of first-year head coach Heather Kearney, the Vulcan women won the NCAA II Atlantic Regional contest last weekend in Hamer Hall.

Cal chalked up dominating victories over the University of the District of Columbia (73-55), Charleston of West Virginia (87-48) and PSAC-West rival Gannon University (64-40).

Brooque Williams was named the regional tourney's most valuable player. Kayla Smith and Crystal Andrews were named to the all-tournament team.

The Vulcans (29-4), ranked sixth

nationally heading into the NCAA post-season, will journey to San Antonio, Texas, and take on East Regional champion Franklin Pierce (27-5) in a national quarterfinal game on Tuesday. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. EST. The game will be webcast on NCAA.com.

Cal U's radio station, WCAL (91.9 FM), will broadcast all of Cal U's action live at the national tournament.

The national semifinal games, scheduled for 6 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, will be broadcast nationally by ESPNU.

The national championship game at 7 p.m. Friday will be aired live on ESPN2.

California advanced to the national quarterfinals a year ago and won the NCAA national championship in 2004 following a Final Four showing in 2003.

Men's, Women's Hockey Squads Win Titles



Helping Cal U's men's hockey team win a third straight College Hockey East championship was senior forward Joe Powell, whose hat trick proved to be the difference in the Vulcans' 7-4 opening victory over Penn State Behrend.

Forget March Madness — this month has been a holiday on ice for both the men's and women's hockey teams at Cal U.

The men's team recently won its third consecutive College Hockey East (CHE) championship after sweeping a three-game series with Penn State Behrend by scores of 7-4 and 9-3.

Joe Powell's three-goal "hat trick" highlighted the first game. Powell added two more goals in the final game, as did Jeremy Hill, who also recorded two assists. Matt Hoffer contributed with a goal and two assists.

Cal U's team is the first in the 38-year history of the CHE to win three consecutive titles. The men's team finished 14-7 overall.

Not to be outdone, the Cal U women's hockey team capped off its inaugural season by winning the Delaware Valley Collegiate Hockey Conference playoff championship.

The women skated away with victories over Slippery Rock (9-0) and Drexel (11-0) universities as goalkeeper Kim Montgomery registered a pair of shutouts.

Tiff Juha was awarded playoff MVP honors for her outstanding performances in both games. The team finished the season with a 13-6 overall record and perfect 12-0 divisional mark.

Both hockey teams are members of the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA). They practice and play at the Blade Runners Ice Complex in Bethel Park.

The men's team won the ACHA Division III national championship in 2008, and both teams are hoping to make the national tourneys in 2010.



Cal U's women's swim team earned a 14th place finish at the NCAA Division II championships at the University of Houston. Having a significant role in the team's impressive performance was senior Esther Bosch who picked up five All-American honors.

Women Swimmers Wrap Up Season with Honors

At both the national and state levels, Cal U's women's swimming team enjoyed an exceptional season.

Highlighting Cal's appearance at the NCAA Division II National Championships at the University of Houston was senior Esther Bosch.

She anchored the All-American 200 freestyle relay team that finished eighth overall with a time of 1:35.84 seconds and earned All-America status in the individual 200 freestyle. Her teammates were Melissa Gates, Teresa Hernandez-Verdu and Rachel Kurta.

Bosch, Gates, Hernandez-Verdu and Courtney Schneiderlochner comprised Cal's 200 medley relay team that earned All-America Honorable Mention and finished 12th overall (1:46.22). The quartet also finished 10th with All-America Honorable Mention honors in the 400 freestyle relay.

Bosch repeated as an All-American in the 200 freestyle, touching the wall in 1:51.44 to finish eighth overall in the finals. She finished seventh in the 500 freestyle.

Marianne Juhl earned All-American honors in the 1650 freestyle, finishing fifth

nationally in 16:58.48. She also earned All-America Honorable Mention in the 1000 freestyle, placing 12th in 10:18.37.

Others earning All America Honorable Mention were:

- Hernandez-Verdu, who finished 14th in the 100 butterfly.

- Gates, who set the school record in the 50 freestyle with an 11th place final finish in a time of 23.49 seconds, breaking her previous school-best mark by 0.04 second.

In the team standings, Cal U finished at No. 14 nationally. Before the national contests, the swimmers finished a strong third out of 14 teams at the PSAC championships.

Juhl won two individual titles, the 1650 freestyle and the 1,000 freestyle events.

Bosch also won two events, taking the 200 and 500 freestyle races. The 400 freestyle relay team of Bosch, Hernandez-Verdu, Gates and Kurta finished second overall.

The College Swim Coaches Association of America has honored the Vulcan swimmers under seventh-year head coach Ed Denny as an All-Academic Team for six consecutive years.

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