

California University
JOURNAL

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Department of Art, Design Earns Accreditation

Cal U's Department of Art and Design has received accreditation from NASAD, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Founded in 1944, NASAD is the national accrediting agency for art and design. Its nearly 300 professional members include colleges, universities and independent schools of art, design and related disciplines.

The association announced Cal U's five-year associate membership last month at its annual conference, in Pittsburgh.

Accreditation affirms that standards of academic quality and integrity are being met, said department chair Greg Harrison, who led the accreditation team.

In addition to reviewing the department's curriculum and facilities, NASAD also examined its academic standards, ethics and code of conduct, he said.

Faculty members and Cal U administrators worked for three years to complete the comprehensive self-study required for accreditation. NASAD consultants visited the campus twice before the association conducted a two-day site visit last year.

"This effort brought the entire department together," said Harrison, who credited faculty member Scott Lloyd, in particular, for his contribution toward the development and organization of the self-study materials.

"We are all working together toward a common goal. And the process itself brought about some profound changes that every (Art and Design) student will benefit from."

Eight years ago the department had



Lisa DiAngelo, a senior majoring in art education, works on a bowl in an advanced ceramics class offered by the Department of Art and Design. The department has been awarded a five-year accreditation by NASAD, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

about 65 students enrolled in its bachelor's degree program in art, Harrison said. Today, it counts more than 200 students majoring in programs that lead to a B.A. in art, a B.S. in graphic design, a B.F.A. in fine art or a B.S.Ed. in art education.

Accommodating this rapid growth is one topic that will be addressed as the department continues to correspond with NASAD. Included in the

department's strategic plan is a unified Art and Design facility that will allow students in various art-related disciplines to interact more easily.

"Throughout the accreditation process, we had so much support from the Provost's Office and the University administration," Harrison said, "not just to meet accreditation standards but to exceed them."

Dr. Michael Hummel, dean of the

College of Liberal Arts, expressed his "sincere respect" for the department members.

"Their strong work ethic and strong sense of commitment to excellence were the primary reasons they achieved accreditation," Hummel said. "These artists are champions. They know how to make it happen. When the going got tough, they found an opportunity to excel."

Interactive Toy Makes Debut During Robotics Contest Friday

Cal U will host the worldwide launch of a next-generation robotic gaming system at noon Friday in the Natali Student Center.

Robotics teams from more than 20 western Pennsylvania high schools will join Cal U students as Robonica, a South Africa-based toy manufacturer, introduces the Roboni-i line of interactive, robotic toys.

The product launch is being held in conjunction with the Western Pennsylvania VEX Robotics Clean Sweep Competition, an annual contest that asks teams of students to design, build and operate their own agile robots.

Cal U's RC Club members, along with VEX Robotics competitors and other students, will be among the first in the world to experience Roboni-i. The robot is featured on the cover of the Hammacher Schlemmer 2009 holiday supplement catalog.

Roboni-i is a programmable, two-wheeled robot vehicle with 16 sensors. Players can program the robot or design their own games with the PC-based Command Center software. They can challenge Roboni-i alone or join an online gaming community

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Robonica, a South Africa-based toy manufacturer, will introduce the Roboni-i line of interactive, robotic toys on campus Friday at noon in conjunction with the Western Pennsylvania VEX Robotics Clean Sweep Competition.

Plans Add Parking, Alter Rail Crossings

Pedestrians and commuters are adjusting to new traffic patterns as California University moves forward with plans to improve railroad crossings and add more than 150 parking spaces on the lower campus.

To accommodate construction of the Convocation Center and relocation of utility lines, Third Street was closed to vehicular traffic Nov. 5 between Gallagher Way and a campus road near the Third Street railroad crossing. This portion of Third Street previously had been restricted to one-way traffic.

The Third Street rail crossing remains open to pedestrians. Drivers can cross from the River Lot to reach the handicapped parking spaces near Morgan Hall and the drop-off area for The Toddlers Patch daycare center and clinics.

People on foot or in wheelchairs can reach Morgan Hall by using the paved sidewalk in front of Gallagher Hall, which runs parallel to the now-closed sidewalk on Third Street. From there, another sidewalk leads directly to Morgan Hall.

In an "extreme emergency," public safety officers could work with the contractor to provide access to the Third Street crossing from campus. But since nearly every emergency response scenario calls for "sheltering in place"

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Mission Day XI ... For Life

Former Pittsburgh Steelers player and four-time Super Bowl champion Mike Wagner urged Mission Day XI participants to be proud of supporting Cal U.

Wagner spoke at the conclusion of Mission Day, an annual day of dialogue within the Cal U community.

This year's topic was the Cal U for Life initiative, which seeks to forge a lifelong relationship between students and their alma mater.

Wagner, a safety who played from 1971-1980, said the Steelers organization also works to build lifelong relationships among players, coaches and other personnel.

"It's time to make the effort," he told the audience. "Stand a little taller and see what you can do today and tomorrow to find that sparkle in someone's eyes. Be thankful and proud of your efforts on behalf California University."

Ryan Jerico '09, coordinator of student and young alumni initiatives, opened Mission Day XI after individuals from all corners of the campus stepped onstage to announce, "I am Cal U."

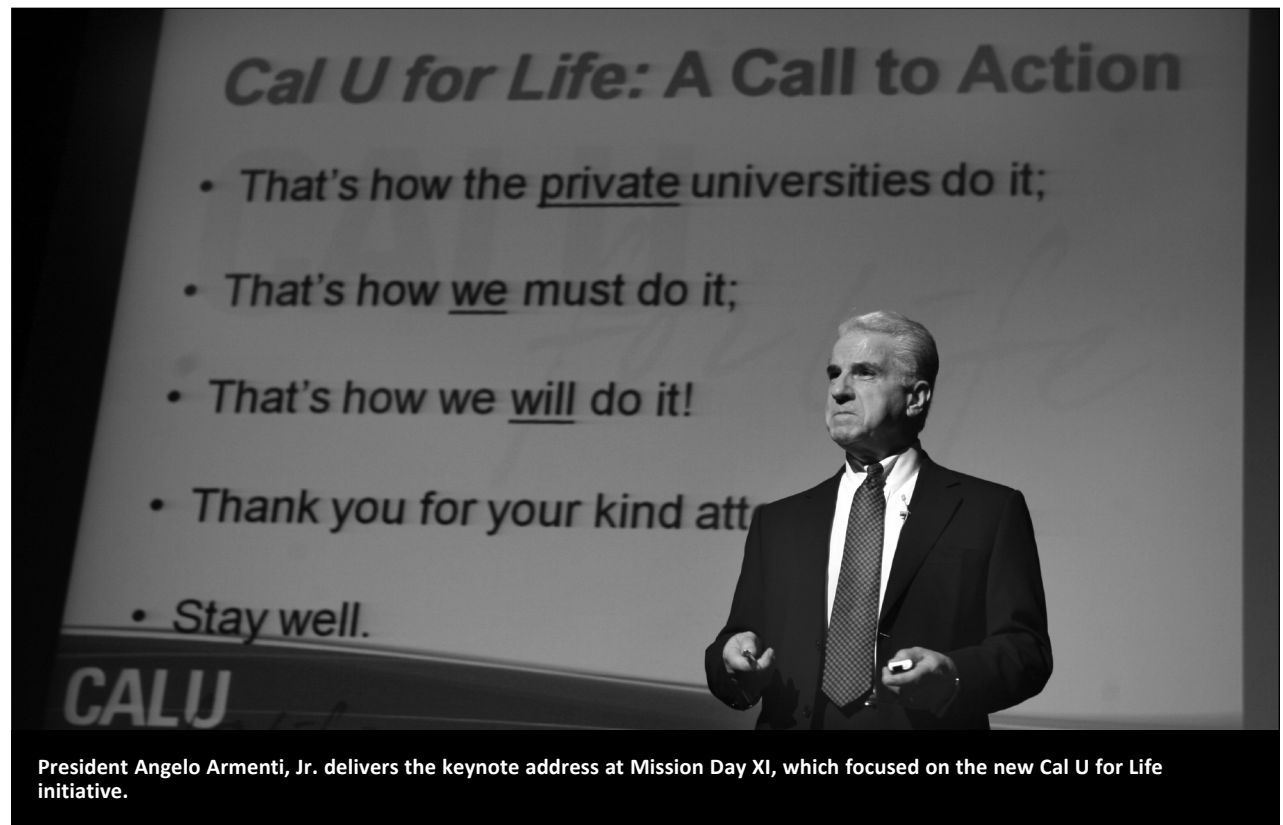
Provost Geraldine Jones introduced President Angelo Armenti, Jr., who offered the keynote address. By instilling a spirit of philanthropy among students, he explained, Cal U for Life will build the base of alumni support required to sustain the University as state funding declines.

More than anything, Cal U needs private donations to support student scholarships, the President said.

"I firmly believe that Cal U For Life is the key to our being able not only to survive but to thrive. We must step up to offset the inexorable decline in state funding. There's no else who can do that."

After the keynote address, Jones sent participants off to breakout sessions where they devised plans to promote Cal U for Life. Representatives of the 12 panels reported on their activities at the afternoon session.

Full reports from each panel are available at www.calu.edu/missionday. A report card will be posted next year to highlight the "action opportunities" identified at Mission Day XI and the progress made toward achieving them.



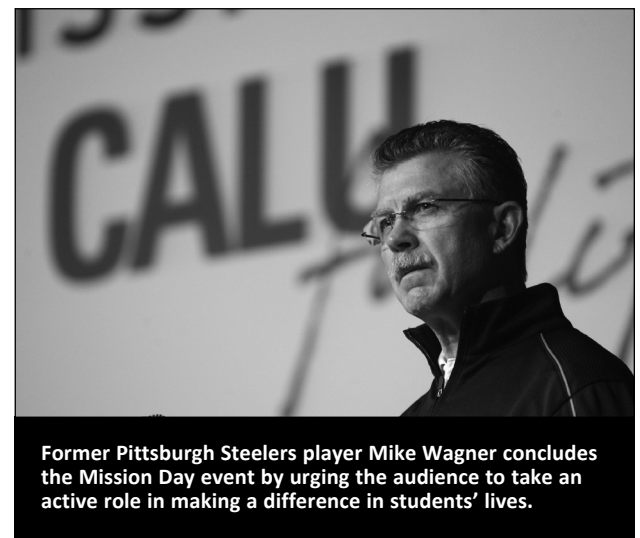
President Angelo Armenti, Jr. delivers the keynote address at Mission Day XI, which focused on the new Cal U for Life initiative.

Once the presentations were complete, winners were chosen at random for eight \$500 student scholarships, a staff membership to Herron Recreation and Fitness Center, and three footballs and a backpack autographed by Wagner.

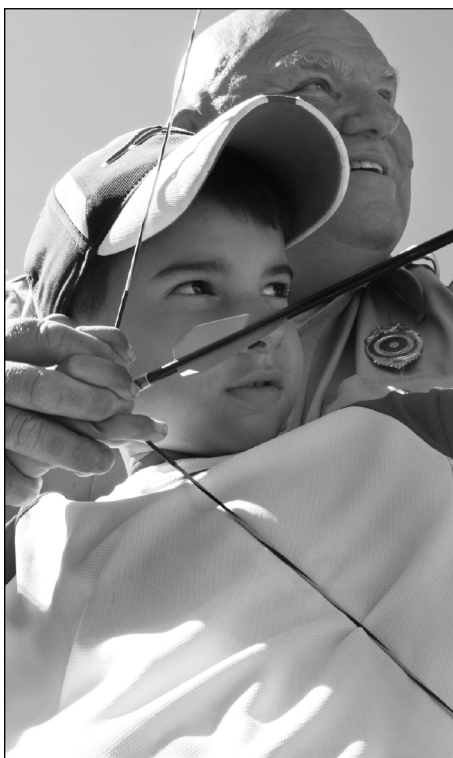
Only about 50 of the nation's 3,000 colleges and universities are actively engaged in promoting student philanthropy, President Armenti said as the program closed.

"It's going to take great leadership, and leaders such as all of you must assume a key role," he told the audience. "Every student, every member and friend of the University must give of their time, their talent and — when they are able — their treasure."

"We have to do it to preserve this magnificent, 157-year-old University, not for its own sake but for the sake of future students."



Former Pittsburgh Steelers player Mike Wagner concludes the Mission Day event by urging the audience to take an active role in making a difference in students' lives.



The Great Outdoors

Pennsylvania Game Commission Southwest Regional Wildlife Education Supervisor Joe Stefko instructs Rafael DeLao from Brownsville, Pa. on the proper techniques of archery during the Wildlife Society's Family Field Day on campus earlier this fall.

High School Speech Contest Held

It has been decades since they competed themselves, but alumni of Pi Kappa Delta, the honors speech fraternity at California University, helped to bring high school students back to their alma mater for a public speaking contest.

The inaugural Break-Out Speech and Debate Tournament was held Saturday at Cal U, with high school speech teams from throughout the greater Pittsburgh area in attendance.

The contest was conceived by Bill Lemonovich, a 1969 Cal U graduate who is now the speech and debate coach at Trinity High School. His students compete in the National Forensic League, a nationwide organization devoted to competitive public speaking and debate.

Dr. Gregory Spicer, associate professor and chair of Cal U's Department of Communication Studies, helped to organize the event with assistance from department secretary Kathy Sheets. Members of the Vulcan Speech and Debate Union, Cal U's forensics team, also were on hand.

Lemonovich's collegiate debate partner, 1968 graduate Lou Illar, attended as both a judge and a speaker, addressing competitors during the tournament's closing awards assembly.

A former collegiate speech coach, Illar is the author of two books. His latest work, *Believe Me or Your Lying Eyes: An Entertaining History of Casinos, Corruption and Charities in America*, has attracted media attention as the General Assembly debates the role of gaming funds in the state budget.

Illar also is the writer and producer of the 1992 film *Sidekicks*, which featured Chuck Norris and Joe Piscopo.

The tournament featured Lincoln/Douglas and policy debates, plus prose and poetry reading, impromptu and extemporaneous speech, duo interpretation and original oratory. Awards were given to the top three competitors in each event and to the three highest scoring schools.

Cal U will host the state championships in February.

Author Speaks Thursday

Diane Wilson, a fourth-generation shrimp-boat captain, environmental activist and author, will describe her battles with corporate polluters when the American Democracy Project at Cal U examines issue advocacy and the health of our nation's waterways.

Wilson's keynote address will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre. A book signing will follow in the theater lobby. Admission is free and the public may attend.

Two panels earlier on Thursday will address related issues. "River Health: Exposing Environmental Truths," with moderator Dr. David Argent, will be held at 11 a.m. "Issue Advocacy: Challenging the Status Quo," with moderator Dr. Elizabeth Jones, will be presented at 12:30. Both panels will be held in rooms 206-207 of the Natali Student Center.

For more information, contact Dr. Melanie Blumberg at blumberg@calu.edu.

Toy Debuts During Robotics Contest

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to share a social experience as they play.

"Toy evangelists" from Robonica will demonstrate Roboni-i at Cal U, and students will have a chance to play with the robots.

The Robonica group also will show off the toy Saturday at Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, where Cal U is an educational partner in the *roboworld* exhibition.

"This is a terrific opportunity for our students," said Mike Amrhein, outreach coordinator for the National Center for Robotic Engineering Technology Education, based at California University.

"Whether we use them to work, to teach or to play, robots are rapidly becoming a part of our everyday lives. This gaming system demonstrates what can happen when creative people think about robots in new ways."

High school students have been preparing for Friday's VEX Robotics competition by designing and building remote-controlled robots that can lift, toss and/or roll balls of three different sizes.

The competition teaches problem solving, encourages teamwork and reinforces skills in STEM: science, technology, engineering and math.

For more information about the program, visit www.calu.edu and search for "robotics."

Vulcans Enter Football Playoffs

For the third straight year, California University's football team was selected to compete in the NCAA Division II national playoffs.

Under the guidance of eighth-year head coach John Luckhardt (65-27), the Vulcans received the third seed in the Super One Regional rankings.

Cal, two-time defending NCAA Regional champions, hosted Fayetteville (N.C.) State University on Saturday.

The Vulcans' ultimate goal is to reach the 2009 NCAA Division II National Championship Game, which will be contested Dec. 12 in Florence, Ala. That game will be broadcast nationally by ESPN2 at 1 p.m.

In their previous two national playoff appearances, the Vulcans won two games each year before bowing in the national semifinals to eventual national champions Valdosta State (2007) and Minnesota Duluth (2008).

After a 0-2 start this season, the Vulcans won eight straight games and earned a 7-0 mark in the PSAC-West.

Since 2005, the Vulcans have won or shared each of the past five PSAC-West championships by winning 30 of 32 divisional games. Cal owns a 20-game PSAC-West win streak heading into 2010, and the Vulcans have compiled a 49-11 cumulative record over the past five years.

Cal's back-to-back national semifinal appearances



An eight-game winning streak propelled the 2009 Vulcans to a fifth straight PSAC-West championship and third consecutive appearance in the NCAA Division II national playoffs.

are the furthest a PSAC-West team has advanced in the national playoffs this decade. The 2009 Vulcans will hope to become the first PSAC team ever to win the NCAA Division II National Football Championship. Divisional rival Indiana University was national runner-up in 1990 and 1993 while PSAC-East opponent

Bloomsburg reached the national title game in 2000.

Fans who are unable to attend the games can follow Cal U football's NCAA playoff run on campus radio station WCAL 91.9 FM and the B2 Network. For complete coverage of Cal U football and all of the Vulcan athletic teams, visit www.calvulcans.com.

Boosters Gear Up for Basketball; Women Play Friday

Basketball season is fast approaching, and both Vulcan teams have been hard at work since NCAA practice officially began Oct. 15.

Basketball fans also are gearing up for the season — especially members of the Sixth Man and 365 (men's) and FastBreak (women's) booster clubs. Each club offers several membership levels, with entitlements that include a discount on home season passes.

The men's first home game is at 7 p.m. Dec. 1 against Lake Erie College.

Men's head coach Bill Brown is beginning his 14th season with the Vulcans after winning a program-high 271 career games.

The women's team is led by first-year head coach Mark Swasey, who guided Franklin Pierce (N.H.) University to the NCAA national title last year.

The women's first game will be the regular season

opener against the University of Charleston (W.Va.) at 4 p.m. Friday.

For information about the men's basketball clubs, contact coach Brown at 724-938-4360 or Travis Eisentrout at 724-938-5790.

For details about the women's club, contact the women's basketball office at 724-938-4554 or e-mail club president Nancy Skobel at skobel@calu.edu or vice president Darlene Kelly at Kelly@calu.edu.

Traffic Plans Alter Rail Crossings, Add Parking

— Continued from page 1

rather than moving cars en masse from the River Lot, this is highly unlikely, campus safety officials said.

"We have carefully considered our needs, particularly in an emergency, as well as our options," said Sharon Elkettani, director of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

The road closure means that commuters now must enter the River Lot via the crossing near Hamer Hall. Bright yellow signs posted in downtown California direct traffic to the campus entrance at Beazell Street.

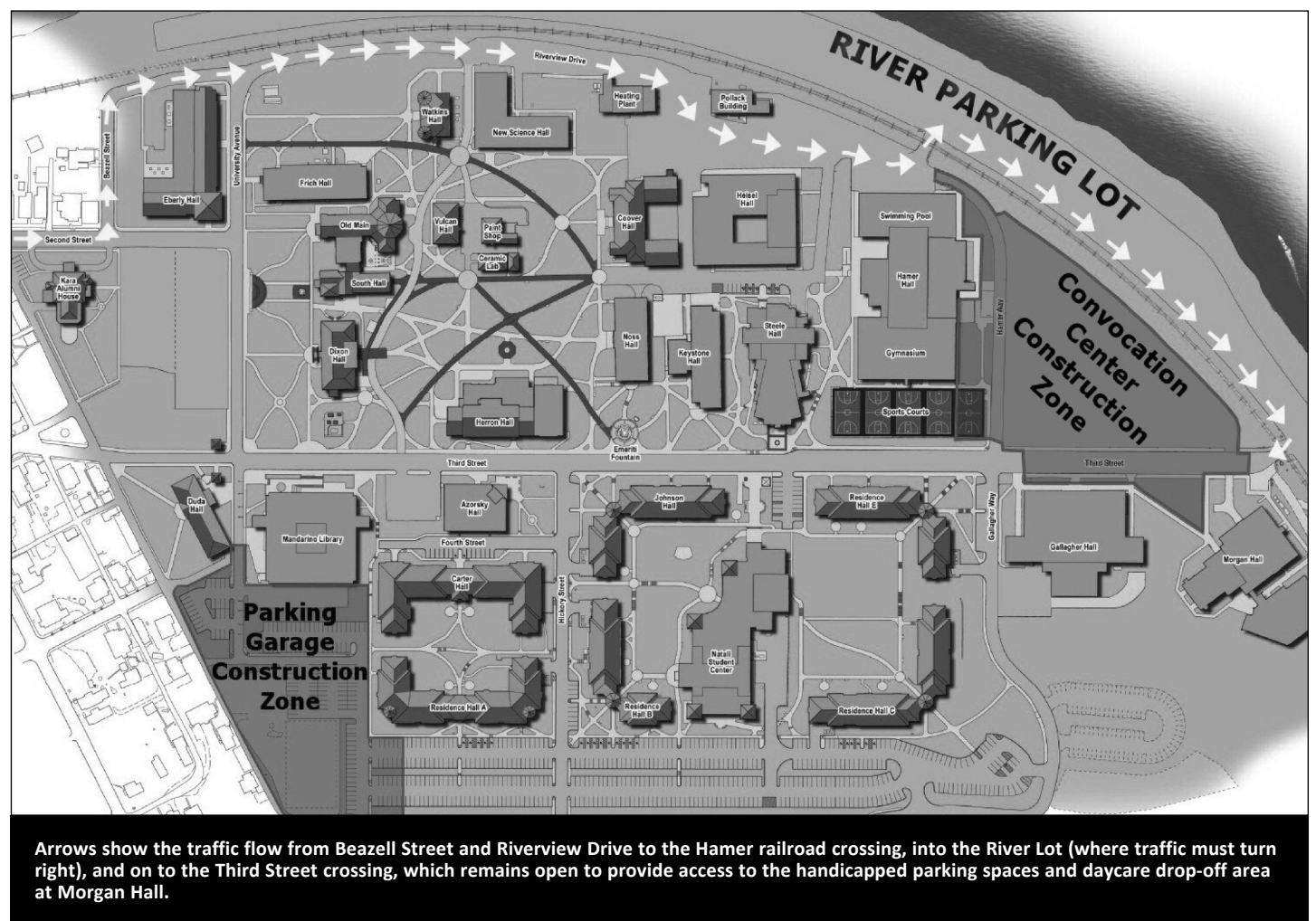
To keep traffic moving, all drivers must turn right after entering the River Lot at the Hamer crossing. They can then double back to access the parking at the Eberly Hall end of the River Lot.

"During this period of transition, it's especially important that drivers continue to be careful," said Tom Taylor, interim director of parking and transportation. "Everyone is adjusting to these new circumstances."

In the meantime, crews are working on the River Lot near the future Beazell Street railroad crossing. After more than a year of talks with Norfolk Southern, which owns the rail line, all agreements are in place for a gated, at-grade crossing near Eberly Hall.

The University now must wait for Norfolk Southern to complete the design and engineering for the new crossing. The railroad has not announced a timetable, but construction is anticipated during the spring semester.

For the safety of both drivers and pedestrians, gates also will be installed at the Hamer rail crossing.



Arrows show the traffic flow from Beazell Street and Riverview Drive to the Hamer railroad crossing, into the River Lot (where traffic must turn right), and on to the Third Street crossing, which remains open to provide access to the handicapped parking spaces and daycare drop-off area at Morgan Hall.

Once both the Beazell Street and Hamer crossings are fully operational, the Third Street rail crossing will be closed permanently.

At-grade crossings are liabilities for railroads, campus safety officials explained. Federal and state policies discourage the creation of grade crossings, and Norfolk Southern is opposed to the establishment of new grade crossings.

"Norfolk Southern never allowed us to consider a third crossing," Taylor said.

To improve the parking situation, the River Lot is currently being extended to add about 80 parking spaces in the Beazell Street area. Weather permitting, those spaces should be completed within the next two or three weeks.

In addition, a new 90-space parking lot along Riverview Drive, on the site of

the former Binns Hall, is in the preliminary design phase.

That work is scheduled for completion in time for the fall 2010 semester.

Construction is under way behind Manderino Library, where a 650-space parking garage also is expected to open for the fall semester.

Traffic/parking updates are posted on the Cal U homepage, www.calu.edu.

Attention University Community! Call for Nominations for Election to Cal U Forum

In accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the California University Forum, a timetable for faculty and student representatives' elections has been established.

The goal is to have all representatives in place for the first meeting of the Forum on Tuesday, September 7, 2010.

All tenure and tenure-track faculty who were hired to begin work prior to or in Spring 2008 and who have the rank of assistant professor or higher are eligible for nomination. (See the list of eligible faculty on this page.)

Eligible faculty members can self-nominate or offer a colleague's name into nomination. Any member of the University community (staff, students, managers) may nominate a faculty member.

Nominations must be postmarked or received on or before **November 20th** and forwarded to Dana Turcic, Recording Secretary of the Forum, sent internally to campus box 99, or emailed to her at CalForum@calu.edu.

Four faculty members will be elected to the Forum by secret ballot, following the written nominations. All regular (i.e. tenured and tenure-track) faculty may vote. The voting will take place electronically and will be ready for voting on **December 2 and 3**. Further information will be provided to faculty members who are eligible to vote.

According to the constitution and bylaws of the Forum, of the four faculty being elected: two (2) must come from the College of Education and Human Services; and one (1) must come from the College of Liberal Arts and one (1) must be elected at-large (from College of Education and Human Services, College of Liberal Arts, Eberly College of Science and Technology or No College Affiliation.) Faculty members who are

currently serving as faculty senators on the Forum are eligible to serve consecutive terms.

The term of these four faculty representatives will be two years.

A plurality of votes cast will be necessary to win election.

Details of the student nomination and election process will be available in future issues of the California Times.

College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Amanda Allen
Dr. Connie J. Armitage
Dr. Sylvia J. Barksdale
Mr. Ralph Belsterling
Dr. Carol Biddington
Ms. Jane Bonari
Dr. Barbara H. Bonfanti
Dr. Silvia Braidic
Mr. Edward Brown
Dr. Gloria Brusoski
Dr. Erica Bumpers
Dr. James Burton
Ms. Nancy Carlino
Dr. Margaret Christopher
Dr. Joni L. Cramer-Roh
Ms. Christine Crawford
Dr. Holly L. Diehl
Ms. Lisa Driscoll
Ms. Jodi L. Dusi
Dr. Dilawar M. Edwards
Dr. Grafton Eliason
Dr. Alan F. Fager
Dr. Deborah A. Farrer
Mr. Marc S. Federico
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Ms. Elizabeth Gruber
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Dr. Chris T. Harman
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Dr. Marcia Hoover
Dr. J. William Hug
Ms. Patricia A. Johnson
Dr. Denise M. Joseph
Dr. Robert H. Kane
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Dr. Mary Kreis
Mr. Regis Lazor
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Dr. Barry E. McGlumphy
Dr. Beverly J. Melenzyer

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Mr. Michael Meyer
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Dr. Katherine J. Mitchem
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Dr. Diane H. Nettles
Dr. John Patrick
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Dr. Christine Peterson
Dr. Thomas Pucci
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Ms. Christine Romani-Ruby
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Dr. Rosalie Smiley
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Dr. Robert G. Taylor
Dr. Norma Thomas
Dr. Taunya Tinsley
Dr. Pamela C. Twiss
Mr. John R. Vargo
Dr. Ronald W. Wagner
Dr. Jacqueline Walsh
Dr. Jamie Weary
Ms. Ellen J. West
Dr. Thomas West
Dr. Brian D. Wood
Dr. Richard Wyman
Dr. Roy Yarbrough
Dr. Joseph F. Zisk

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Dr. Aref Al-Khattar
Ms. Maggy D. Aston
Dr. Mark Aune
Mr. Dencil K. Backus
Dr. Melanie J. Blumberg
Mr. James B. Bove
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Dr. George Yochum

Eberly College of Science and Technology

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Dr. Mohamed Benbourenane
Mr. William F. Blosel
Dr. Carol Bocetti
Dr. David F. Boehm
Dr. Gina Boff
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Dr. Mark E. Bronakowski
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No College Affiliation

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Mr. William T. Denny
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Ms. Julia McGinnis
Mr. William Meloy
Dr. Dawn M. Moeller
Mr. Albert R. Pokol
Mr. Loring Prest
Dr. Mary A. Salotti
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Safety Training Offered for Travelers Heading Abroad

Safety and security training for anyone planning on traveling, studying or interning abroad in 2010 will be offered by law enforcement specialist Dr. John Cencich, interim dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, from 11 a.m. to 12:30

p.m. Thursday in Room 202, Duda Hall.

Sponsored by Cal U's Internship Center, this program is open to all students, faculty and staff. Cencich, a retired Special Agent for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, has provided the same

training for government employees.

To register, click on "safety and security" link at www.calu.edu/internship.

Questions may be e-mailed to internship director Karen Primm at primm@calu.edu.

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