

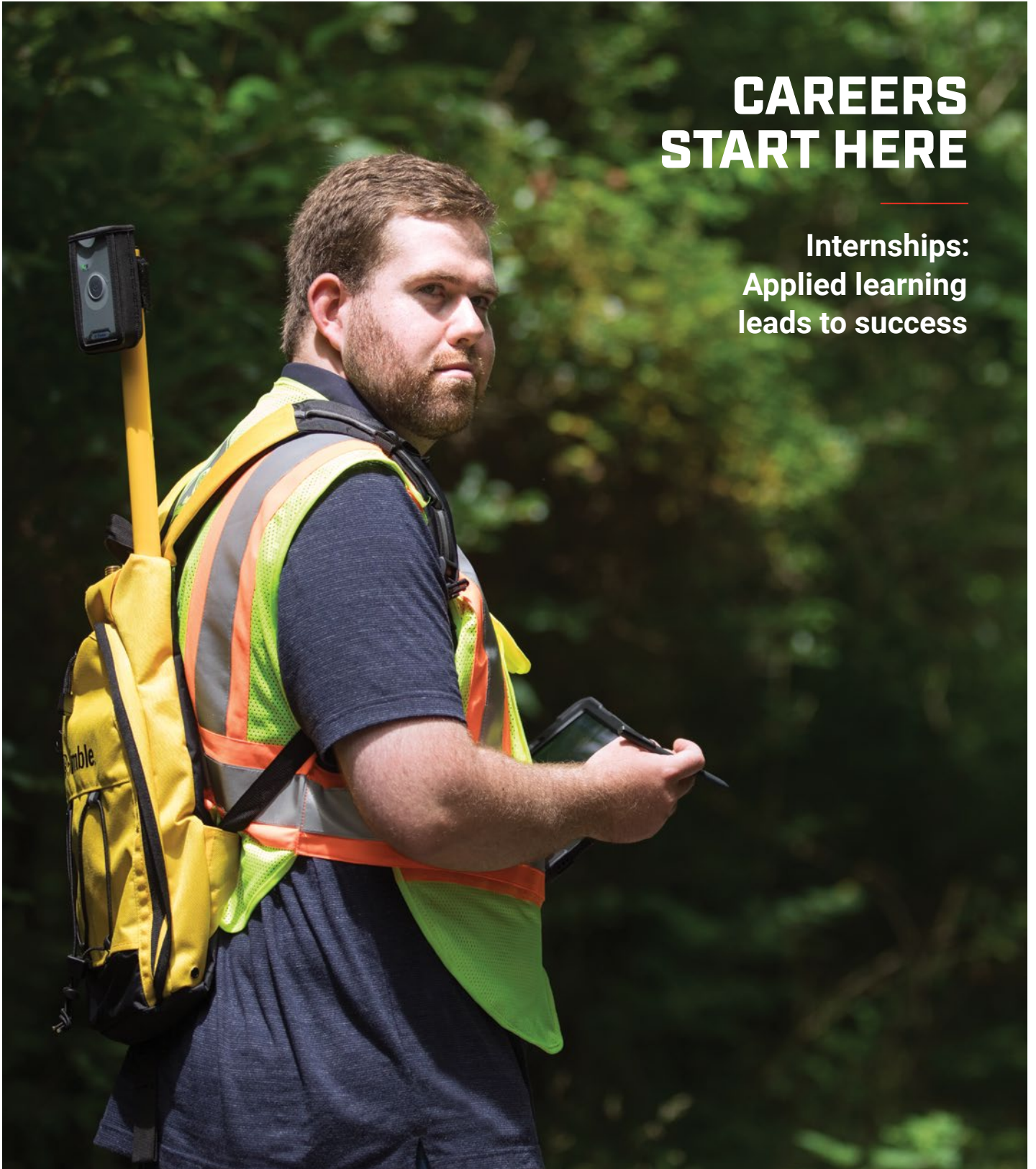
CALU

REVIEW

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S MAGAZINE • FALL 2019

CAREERS START HERE

Internships:
Applied learning
leads to success



CAL U REVIEW

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S MAGAZINE

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Learning by doing. That's a vital element of career-focused higher education – and it's the reason we encourage Cal U students to register for internships.

Last year 587 students rose to that challenge, the Internship Center reports. Guided by faculty, they put their knowledge and skills to the test in workplaces as varied as their interests.

Some interns traveled halfway across the country; others reported to job sites closer to home. Some wore business attire, while others dressed for the great outdoors. All of them strengthened their resumes and gained the kind of practical, firsthand experience that can give job-seekers a competitive edge.

The most fortunate interns found a role model or mentor along the way. In many cases, that "career coach" was a Cal U alumnus. It's heartwarming to see how our graduates, in so many career fields, are fostering a new generation of young professionals.

This year's Jennie Carter Award recipient, Jesse McLean Jr. '83, '94, is among the many Cal U graduates who are reaching out to students.

"I believe you need champions to help nurture your spirit, resilience and leadership," he says.

If you are passionate about your career, why not be a champion for up-and-coming members of your profession? An internship can launch a student's future – but it's just one way to help. Scholarship support is always welcome. And our Career and Professional Development Center has many programs, events and online tools to connect you with students and recent graduates.

In this edition of the *Review*, you'll meet students and alumni who are using internships as stepping stones to career success. I hope you are inspired by their stories.

With warmest wishes,



Geraldine M. Jones

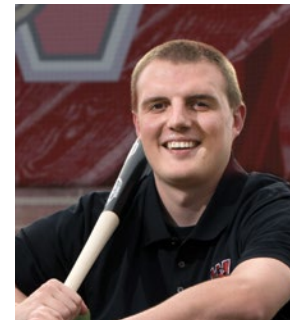
Geraldine M. Jones
PRESIDENT, CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

ON THE COVER

Using GPS technology is all in a day's work for Cal U senior Alexander Brady, an intern with the Peters Township Engineering Department.

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Alumni open doors to workplace experiences



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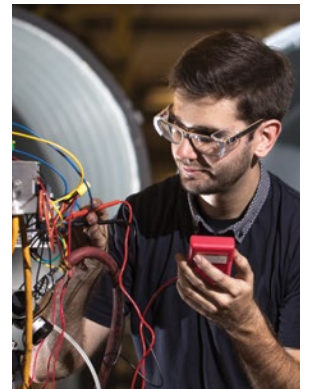
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Edwin Valentin '17 (left) and Craig Lion '18

INTERNSHIPS BUILD CAREERS

ALUMNI OPEN DOORS TO WORKPLACE EXPERIENCES

Bucky Walkush '81 graduated from Cal U with a math and computer science degree — and a bit of a revelation.

"When I started working, I quickly realized that I could out-code my co-workers," he says. "At Cal U, the equipment was great, and the program had a great reputation. That was proven with my first job."

U.S. Steel is a co-op program, says Meaghan Clister '88, '91, director of the Internship Center at Cal U. Students are paid to work full time in the summer and part time during the academic year.

"Most of the people we hire permanently at U.S. Steel come to us through the co-op," Walkush says.

Craig Lion '18 and Edwin Valentin '17 both work for the Washington Wild Things, a professional baseball team based in Washington, Pa.

Lion, who studied graphics and multimedia at Cal U, now works in creative services. Valentin, who was a sport management major, is in charge of ticket sales.

Both say being recent graduates helps them to recruit and mentor interns.

"I know what the students have learned already and how I can help them have an even better understanding of video, photography and design," Lion says.

Valentin works with Dr. Laura Miller, associate professor of sport management, to identify students who are interested in an internship with the Wild Things.

"That major is all-encompassing — sales, marketing, finance — so I make sure to give interns the opportunity to do a variety of things," he says.

All three agree: An internship experience is an important step toward a student's career goals.

"An internship means you're out there, feet on the ground, helping to run the game-

day production and all the aspects needed in a sports organization," Lion says. "If you don't have that experience on a resume, you're going to get pushed to the bottom of the pile."

"Professional connections formed during an internship are also vital," Valentin adds. "This can be a 'who you know' business."

For Walkush, being an employer in a position to help Cal U students is a satisfying way to pay it forward.

"George Novak was instrumental in helping me obtain my first internship, and he's helped countless students find internships over his many years at Cal U," he says of the recently retired math professor.

"I'm glad that I'm in a position that can take advantage of the diverse computer and engineering technology programs that Cal U has to offer its students."

"It's apparently a good match for U.S. Steel, since over 35% of my team members are Cal U grads!" ■

*By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U*

OFFER AN INTERNSHIP

Is your workplace looking to fill internship or co-op positions? Contact Meaghan Clister, director of the Internship Center, at 724-938-4057 or clister@calu.edu.



"Cal U keeps expanding its programs, and those degrees fit very well in a plant environment."

Walkush should know. As process control director at U.S. Steel's Mon Valley Works, he has recruited students from the University for years to fill internship and co-op positions.

He targets students majoring in computer science, computer engineering technology, electrical engineering technology, mechatronics engineering technology, robotics engineering technology, and industrial technology management.

"They aren't just making coffee and copies," Walkush says. "When we get students, we put them right in as full members of the team."



MOSQUITO SAMPLERS

BIOLOGY STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO STUDY OF WEST NILE VIRUS

The recipe is a simple stew: grass clippings, water, black trash bag. Once the decomposed brew is added to traps, it's all over for a certain type of mosquito in the Laurel Mountains near Boswell, Pa.

They're caught, put on dry ice and shipped to a lab in Harrisburg as part of an investigation into the impact of the mosquito-borne West Nile virus on ruffed grouse populations in Pennsylvania.

This summer, Cal U seniors Nikki Williams and Kyle Lubak spent two days a week baiting traps and collecting samples as part of their internship with the Southwest Region of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

It was part of a comprehensive experience for the students, who are studying fisheries and wildlife biology.

Other hands-on learning opportunities included banding barn owls in Somerset County to learn about their flight patterns, teaching children how to build bluebird boxes, and developing a program on foxes for a community group.

Data from the students' mosquito samples will be used by Lisa Williams, Game Commission biologist for ruffed grouse

and webless migratory game birds. She's developing strategies to reverse the years-long decline in the populations of grouse, the state bird of Pennsylvania.

"We broke the story of West Nile's impact on grouse in 2015, and it has been a race since then to figure out how to manage and restore populations," Williams says.

"Using the data that the students collected, we are building a decision tool for our foresters and other land managers. We now have an idea at which elevations and habitats the disease risk is low and grouse-recovery ability is high. This allows us to focus our management efforts."

As future fisheries and wildlife biologists, Lubak and Williams relished the chance to contribute to the project.

"What I learned in class helped me understand what the biologists talked to us about," Lubak says. "It prepared me for this mosquito-collection project, to see how the data we collected from the traps at various elevations can be put together as part of a bigger picture of what's going on with the grouse population."

"The professional experience I got during this internship is going to be phenomenally

helpful in the long run," Williams says.

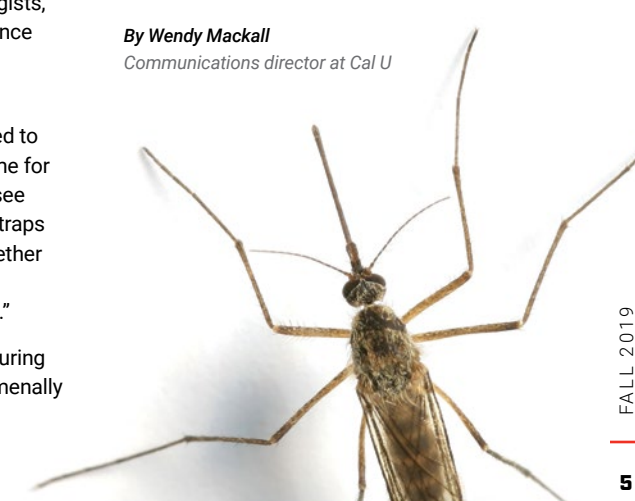
"I now have experience in how to run a project and collect data carefully and efficiently. This is definitely going to help me get a job. I also have a tremendous sense of pride to have helped with this important West Nile virus project."

Williams appreciates the help.

"These students were involved in cutting-edge research," she says. "We don't have a lot of data from remote woodland systems."

"It was wonderful to have competent students we could train to work independently at a young age. It's a testament to them and to Cal U." ■

*By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U*



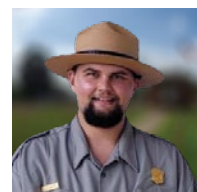
BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE



PARK RANGER BUILDS SKILLS WHILE INTERPRETING THE PAST

Texting and Twitter: 1840s Style." It's a bit like a game of "one of these things is not like the others," but there it was on the schedule of summer events at Fort Scott National Historic Site, in Kansas.

The program about mid-19th-century methods of communication – letter-writing with quill pens and deciphering Morse code – was designed by Cal U's Alex Arnold.



He's the student member of Cal U's Council of Trustees, and a senior with a double major in history and parks and recreation

management, along with minors in tourism and event planning and management.

This summer he spent four months as a seasonal interpretive park ranger with the National Park Service.

Interpretive rangers provide information at visitor centers, address educational tour groups and present illustrated programs, among other tasks.

At Fort Scott, Arnold also supervised four teenagers from the Youth Conservation Corps, a summer employment program that provides opportunities at national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries.

His charges presented historical interpretations, worked in the visitor center, planned community engagement activities, spruced up park benches and worked in Fort Scott's historical gardens.

"My supervisor gave me free rein over this program ... so I ran it how I wanted," Arnold says. "It gave me the chance to excel and experience so many things in the Park Service."

It was the perfect summer experience for Arnold, who aspires to a career as a National Park Service superintendent.

Each national park has a top executive, he explains. "They make planning decisions and are responsible for leading the park in the direction it wants to go, in line with Park Service goals."

Arnold donned period costumes a few times over the summer to present historical facts to visitors.

"We don't just spill out a bunch of information," he explains. "You have to meaningfully connect with the visitors. We ask them questions about universal concepts – life, death, survival, love – and connect those feelings with historical facts so they will remember them."

"If we're at a hospital station, we might ask the visitors what makes them feel uncomfortable or what places they hate



It gave me the chance to excel and experience so many things in the Park Service.

ALEX ARNOLD

to go. You want them to think of what's personal to them, so they can get the same feeling as a soldier might have had."

Arnold's Youth Conservation Corps responsibilities allowed him to learn managerial skills, such as conducting performance evaluations for his four workers and compiling financial reports for his programs at the end of the summer.

"We are all about the history in the interpretive division of the Park Service," Arnold says.

"We need to know how to do research. We need to know how to tell it in a way the public can understand, in an even-handed way. And as a park ranger, you have to be cognizant of operational issues, safety and leadership."

"Those are skills that parks and recreation management teaches well. Having both of those things mixed together has really helped me out so much." ■

By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U

FOCUS: ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Stephen Gerba landed a job with Ductmate Industries Inc. the summer before he started at Cal U as a mechatronics engineering technology major.

Four years later, he's helping the Charleroi, Pa., manufacturer of heating, ventilation and air conditioning components incorporate advanced manufacturing into its processes.

"Your machine is only as smart as its sensors," Gerba says. "That's where we come in, to troubleshoot and repair and then do maintenance."

Workforce development is an important strategy for Ductmate.

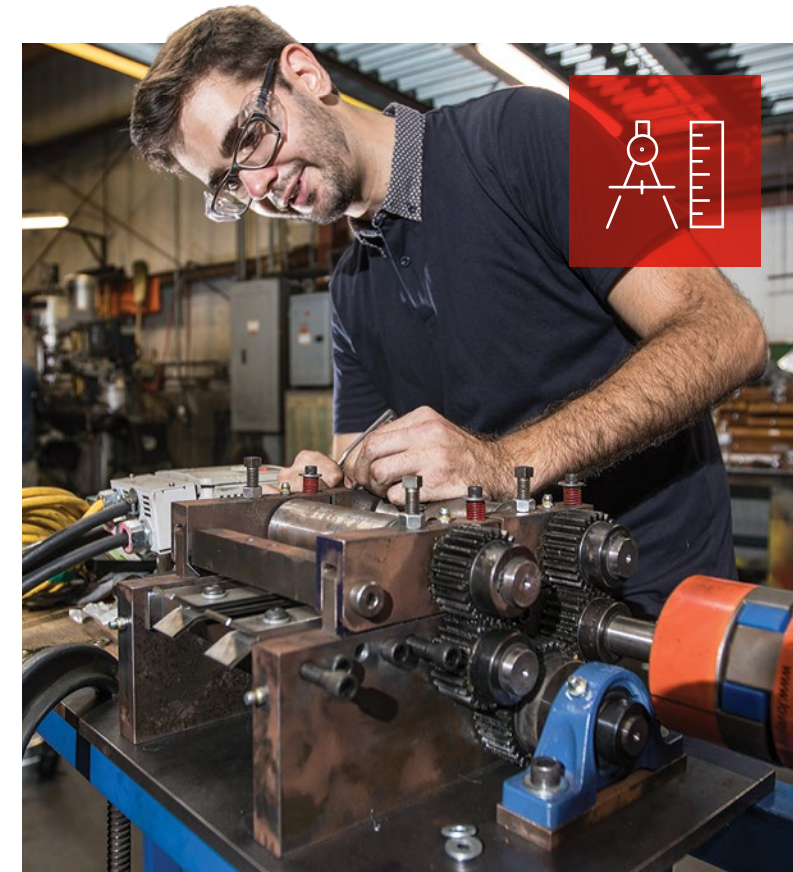
"Last year, I took the training wheels off and had Steve design a machine for us, with some guidance," says engineering manager Dana Smith.

"He spent time behind the computer to do the design work. This year, as the capstone to his internship, we're finishing up the fabrication."

The experience complements Gerba's classroom education.

"I've gotten to work with production workers, machinists, chemical engineers. Being out in the real world, you get to see all sides and learn to work as a team."

"It's a huge resume-builder. A degree and an internship – that's a great combination to have." ■



FOCUS: TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Sometimes the value of an internship lies in the "soft skills." Employers value leadership, communication, hard work and problem-solving – attributes you can't learn from a textbook.

Strengthening these transferable skills has been one of the biggest benefits of senior Johnae Robinson's internship. She's an assistant manager at the PSECU Financial Education Center at Cal U, and she aspires to a career in mental health counseling.

"I approach a lot of people about our services, people I don't know," Robinson says. "That definitely develops communication skills that I will need to have as a counselor."

Handling confidential information is another area of overlap.

"We obviously have to take great care with people's personal information, just as you have to in a clinical setting."

And finally, representing a company on campus requires stellar leadership skills.

"Lots of people recognize me on campus as the 'PSECU lady,'" Robinson says. "I want to set standards for new students."

"I want them to know that if they need something, not just with PSECU, I'm here to help." ■





FOCUS:
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

In the 19.5 square miles that comprise Peters Township, Pa., there are a lot of manholes, inlets and headwalls – all structures within the municipality’s storm-sewer network.

As an intern in the township’s engineering department, senior Alexander Brady spent his summer and fall using the latest technology to pinpoint their locations.

Applying his skills in geographic information systems (GIS) – his major at Cal U – Brady helped to create an online identification system for each structure.

“The GPS unit uses 20 to 30 different satellites that triangulate in a very precise manner,” Brady says.

“Let’s say a manhole is out in the woods. With a GPS point, they’re able to find that location pretty much immediately. It saves a lot of time for (staff in) Public Works.”

Brady worked with township staff and a consulting firm, getting a preview of public- and private-sector work environments. He learned the Python coding language and used a high-accuracy GPS data collection receiver.

“I didn’t just learn GIS,” he adds. “I’ve been able to learn about engineering terms and how things work at the municipal level.” ■



FOCUS:
PROFESSIONAL GOLF MANAGEMENT

Sophomores Rachel Wilson and Colby Roberts played a summer-long practice round of sorts as they interned in professional golf management.

Wilson spent her time at Valley Brook Country Club, in McMurray, Pa. Roberts worked at Milwaukee Country Club, in River Hills, Wis.

The internships align with career options for PGM students: business operations, sales, instruction and tournament management.

Wilson and Roberts learned the basics, like how to fit golfers with clubs, give golf lessons, manage the pro shop, organize golf outings and assist with various golf leagues.

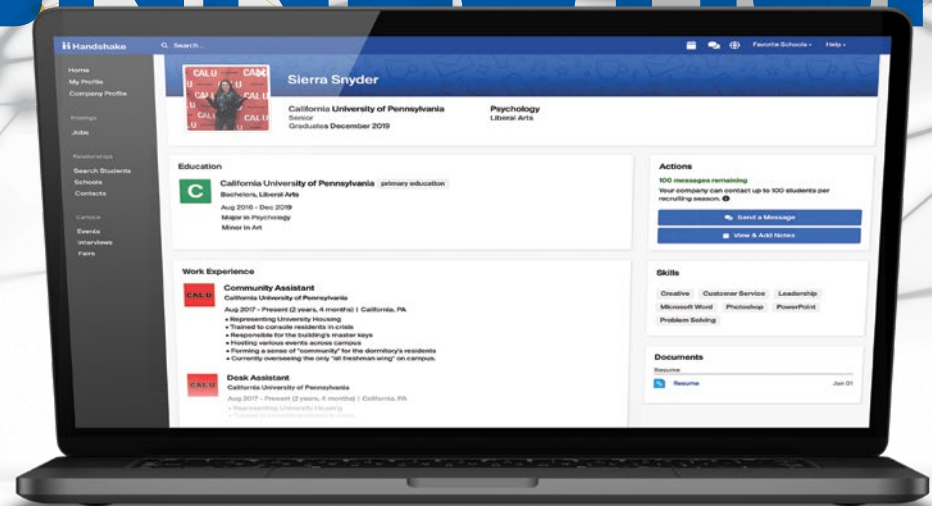
“I want to teach people to play golf,” Wilson says. “I learned a lot by shadowing the pro at Valley Brook.”

Roberts is also studying psychology, intrigued by the career options that a dual major provides. “This internship will definitely add to my resume. It was a fun learning experience – I didn’t even realize at the time how much I really was learning.

“Most of the (PGM) internships are paid, and the locations are great. It’s a very beneficial experience.” ■



career-ready
CONNECTIONS



Online tool introduces employers, alumni and students

Attention, Cal U students and alumni: There are 400,000 potential employers waiting to meet you.

That’s the impressive number of businesses using Handshake, an online career platform. It includes businesses of all sizes and 100% of the Fortune 500 companies.

Cal U began using Handshake to connect with employers in 2017. Students started using the platform in 2018.



“Handshake’s motto is ‘Democratizing Opportunity,’” says Rhonda Gifford, director of the University’s Career and Professional Development Center.

“It was founded by graduates of a school similar to Cal U, in that it wasn’t located near a major metropolitan area that a lot of recruiters would flock to. Handshake wants those students to have the same opportunities.

“A student can connect with employers like JP Morgan Chase even if they don’t come to campus.”

STUDENT BENEFITS

Cal U students are registered with a Handshake account when they enroll at the University, and the account remains active after they graduate.

The account gives them access to job opportunities from across the country. During the 2018-2019 academic year, 4,300 employers posted almost 30,000 jobs and internships directed specifically to students at Cal U.

30000
JOBS & INTERNSHIPS
DIRECTED AT CAL U STUDENTS

The platform is also a “one-stop shop” where students can find on-campus employment, register for internships, prepare for career fairs, make appointments with career coaches, upload resumes and access career tip sheets.

Resumes that Cal U students upload to Handshake automatically get a second look from the Career and Professional Development Center to ensure the best chance of success.

“It’s a wonderful feature for our online students,” Gifford says. “Through Handshake, they have access to everything our career center has to offer. They can make an appointment, upload a resume and meet with a career coach and never have to set foot in our office.”

Senior Brittany Kach is an accounting major who secured two internships through Handshake. The rose plastic® company, in nearby Coal Center, Pa., contacted her for a summer internship in 2018. She completed another summer internship, at PNC in Pittsburgh, in 2019. *Continued on page 10*

That 10-week experience led to an offer to return to PNC after she graduates in May 2020. Kach will participate in the company's year-long finance and accounting development program before being placed in a permanent position.

"I don't think I would have purposefully gone to PNC's website to look for opportunities," she says.

"Handshake is easy to navigate, and it's easy to narrow your job search by location. What's nice is employers can set criteria, but if there's something you don't match, it tells you how important that is.

"For example, if a company wants a business management major but you majored in economics, maybe you could apply anyway."

Handshake has a peer-to-peer feature, where job-seekers can pose questions about other people's experiences with an employer.

"If you want to know what it's like to work for Google, you can ask someone who works for Google," Gifford explains.



Accounting major Brittany Kach found internships through Handshake.

"We always encourage students to network and job-shadow, but I think this is a really easy, comfortable way for them to make connections."

"I like how people can leave job reviews," Kach says of the peer-to-peer capabilities. "When I interned at rose plastic,® it prompted me to leave a review, and it was nice to be able to recommend the experience.

"It also helped to calm my nerves about not knowing anyone at PNC, because I could get some information first about what it's like there."



HR professional Brittany Madoni '07 (left) utilizes both Handshake and on-campus recruiting.



We always encourage students to network and job-shadow, but I think this is a really easy, comfortable way for them to make connections."

RHONDA GIFFORD

Handshake has a mobile app that has a "very cool social media feel," Gifford says. "Students fill out their interests initially, and the more they use it, the better the recommendations get."

EMPLOYER BENEFITS

Handshake is ideal for businesses that are seeking interns or looking to hire newer graduates, Gifford says.

"Handshake's mission is to help the new college graduate transition into the workplace."

It's a convenient platform for employers because they can reach students at more than 700 schools with one account.

Alumna Brittany Pattison Madoni '07 works in human resources for Ensinger, a plastics manufacturer headquartered in Washington, Pa., with production facilities in New Jersey, Texas and Delaware. This fall, in addition to taking part in Cal U's on-campus career fair, the company used Handshake in its search for a technical sales intern.

"There are definitely advantages to using Handshake when (a business has) multiple locations, since students right out of college are more willing to travel or may want to move to different locations before they settle," Madoni says.

Alaina Emery works as a human resources business partner for the City of Pittsburgh Department of Human Resources and Civil Service.

She says the ability to recruit nationally is a Handshake benefit.

"It's a critical tool to help us reach targeted audiences across the country. We are able to get jobs and internships in front of thousands of students very quickly.

"We started using it as a way to register for career events, and then when we recognized what a powerful application it is, we started taking advantage of all the opportunities."

Both HR professionals have advice for students.

"It's extremely important for students to start using the platform to get a head start on their job search or get work experience through internships," Madoni says.

"It's also important to see some of the different businesses out there and to get familiar with the jobs that are available."

"This platform puts a large portion of employers seeking talent at your fingertips," Emery adds. "It is a great resource to use when seeking professional experience." ■

*By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U*

MEET HANDSHAKE

Learn more about how Handshake can help you find or fill a job opening. Get started at app.joinhandshake.com.



LINGUA ITALIANA

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OFFERS ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES

Buon giorno classe! Mi chiamo Sr. Tedrow: Benvenuti al Liceo Beth-Center.

Italian is just one language Thomas Tedrow '97, '15, '16 can use to greet his students at Beth-Center Senior High in Washington County, Pa.



Thomas Tedrow '97, '15, '16 instructs his Italian I class

French and Finnish – yes, Finnish – also roll off his tongue. They both are part of a robust world languages program at Beth-Center that also includes Spanish.

Tedrow majored in French at Cal U. He spent time in France teaching English as a second language, and he learned Italian when

he studied in Venice while earning his graduate degree.

The Finnish? "I was a Rotary exchange student to Finland," Tedrow explains.

He introduces that language to his students as part of a Comparative Cultures class that includes Scandinavia.

Tedrow worked in finance for 15 years before being drawn back to Cal U by his love of languages. He earned his master's degree in teaching, with a world language concentration, in 2015, and his M.Ed. in English as a Second Language in 2016.

He developed the Italian program at Beth-Center after principal Aaron Cornell '97 asked him for ideas to expand the selection of elective courses. The program began last year with 43 students. Italian II is new this year, with levels III and IV to follow.

It's a rare opportunity for high school students. The National K-12 Foreign Language Survey Report, which examines world language

instruction nationwide, includes figures for 16 languages. Italian isn't among them.

"Once they realized I could speak Italian in addition to French, our students wanted this class," Tedrow says. "A lot of them have great-grandparents who were Italian immigrants."

Tedrow works with Beth-Center learning support teachers Sean Virgili '96 and Megan Ragaller '12 to offer world language instruction to their students, too.

"They love learning world languages, and they're very good at it," Tedrow says.

"Mr. Tedrow has been amazing with my students," Ragaller says. "It gives them the opportunity to be social with general education students, and it allowed them to open up and not be so shy with others.

"They have really picked up on the Italian language. I am always so impressed!"

It's important to offer world language options for all students, Tedrow says, even though Pennsylvania does not require high school students to study a language other than English in order to graduate.

"You can be good at learning a world language just like you can be good at science or math," Tedrow says.

"At first, some students asked why I would offer Italian, and my response is, 'Why wouldn't I offer Italian?' Exposure to other cultures and languages is very important, and our students deserve to have that opportunity.

"Whether they end up leaving this area or staying close to home, they'll be better prepared." ■

*By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U*



Exposure to other cultures and languages is very important, and our students deserve to have that opportunity."

THOMAS TEDROW '97



PITTSBURGH PAINTER MAKES THE REGION HIS SUBJECT

Ron Donoughe, a Pittsburgh artist known for his realistic landscape paintings, will bring his latest work to Cal U this spring.

Brownsville to Braddock: Paintings of the Monongahela Valley will be on display in the third floor gallery of Manderino Library from April 1-May 8. A reception with the artist is scheduled April 16 in the gallery.

The exhibit is the result of a collaboration among Cal U, Touchstone Center for Crafts in Farmington, Pa., where Donoughe has taught classes, and the Mon River Towns Program, which provides funding to promote towns along the Monongahela River as regional assets.

Donoughe is known for his 90 *Pittsburgh Neighborhoods* series, which was acquired by the Senator John Heinz History Center. A yearlong series on the industrial heritage of the Mon Valley was a natural follow-up.

He has explored towns such as Brownsville, California, Charleroi, Monessen, Monongahela, Clairton, Duquesne, McKeesport and Braddock, as well as the river itself.

"Brownsville to Braddock is such an interesting stretch of the river, because it has such a rich industrial heritage that hasn't been captured before," Donoughe says.

"I wanted to bring attention to an area that doesn't get a lot."

Donoughe is known as a *plein air* painter, meaning he leaves the four walls of a studio and creates his pieces on-site. The 12-month project began in January 2019 and will finish with roughly 60 pieces, each on a 12- by 16-inch canvas.

One of them shows the familiar bend in the Mon that is home to Cal U.

"I painted that after a meeting on campus about the exhibit," Donoughe says. "Being on-site gives me a spirit of place."

"When I look at something directly for hours, I absorb a spirit of place and time, light and shadow, all the things you can't get when you paint from a photograph."

Associate professor Maggy Aston says having Donoughe's work at Cal U will benefit her art students.

The artist will give a gallery talk on Earth Day, April 22, as part of the University's Art and Design Lecture Series. An outdoor painting event and a student art show are being planned for Earth Day, and regional high school students, local artists and community members will be invited to set up easels and paint campus scenes.

Aston says hearing from Donoughe and seeing some of his work will inspire students who are considering art as a career.

"It's really important for our students to see someone who is a professional working artist, who earns a living by painting," she says.

"He is from this area, and he is making a living in this area. There's no reason why our students, who are very skilled, can't do that. What they sometimes lack is the confidence that they can." ■

By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U

VISIT MANDERINO GALLERY

Brownsville to Braddock: Paintings of the Monongahela Valley will be on display April 1-May 8 in the third floor gallery in Manderino Library. The public is welcome to visit. Special events are planned, including a reception with Pittsburgh artist Ron Donoughe from 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 16 in the gallery. For details about gallery hours, special Earth Day events and more, check in this spring at calu.edu/news.



CAMPUS CLIPS

VISITING SCHOLARS Teach & Learn

Two Frederick Douglass Institute scholars have joined the Cal U faculty for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Dr. Jessica Spradley holds bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology; she is pursuing her Ph.D. in social foundations of education at the University of Toledo. Her research examines the use of care-based practices in the classroom and the intersections of race, class and education in society.

Rod Taylor '10 earned a bachelor's degree in English at Cal U. He is completing his Ph.D. at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and is revising his dissertation, *Writing Back: Anti-Plantation Literature in the Reconstruction South, 1865-1905*.

The FDI fellowship is a component of the Frederick Douglass Institute Collaborative, a network of scholars at each of the 14 schools in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

Named for the renowned African-American orator and statesman, the Frederick Douglass Collaborative focuses on making each campus inclusive and establishing connections among historically underrepresented students and faculty.

Since 2003, Cal U's fellowship program has brought 18 FDI scholars to campus, where they share their talents and receive professional support from experienced faculty as they prepare for academic careers.



AWARD RECIPIENT VALUES 'CHAMPIONS'



Jesse J. McLean Jr. '83, '94 accepted this year's Jennie Carter Award at a reception in the Kara Alumni House.

A human services professional with more than 30 years' experience in Pittsburgh's nonprofit sector, McLean is an executive director at Pressley Ridge, where he oversees the fiscal, operational and clinical integrity of programs for children and families in western Pennsylvania.

The annual award is named for Elizabeth "Jennie" Adams Carter, Class of 1881, the University's first African-American graduate.

"I would love to know who her champions were, because ... I believe you need champions to help nurture your spirit,

resilience and leadership," McLean says, citing the late Elmo Natali '53, former vice president for Student Development, as his own champion and mentor.

McLean continues the tradition. Over the years he has successfully recommended his alma mater to more than 150 students, and he comes to campus regularly to check on their progress.

"I am very connected to the University," says McLean, of Penn Hills, Pa. "I continue to mentor and work with these students because I want to make sure they graduate."

CAL U BUILDS ENGAGED CITIZENS

Cal U has been recognized as one of the nation's "schools doing the most to turn students into citizens."

Washington Monthly magazine lists Cal U on its honor roll of Best 80 Colleges for Student Voting.

Schools on the honor roll received a perfect score on a scale that awards points for participation in the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE), a project at Tufts University that calculates voter registration and turnout rates for college campuses, and submission of election-year "action plans" to the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, which encourages universities to promote civic engagement.

The campus chapter of the American Democracy Project leads the University's voter engagement efforts.

"Cal U is committed to educating students about the importance of civic engagement, whether it is volunteering in the community or voting on Election Day," says Dr. Melanie Blumberg, the chapter's director.

"The hope is that students will see themselves as stakeholders and realize they can impact decisions that affect their lives."



a variety of mummified animals that died naturally before their bodies were preserved.

"I enjoyed the one-on-one interactions with the public and the chance to explain the mummification process," Kuba says.

"This was a wonderful opportunity for our Cal U students and alumni from the anthropology program to share their knowledge, too."



BEST? DISTINCTIVE? YES, THAT'S CAL U!

For the 15th consecutive year, The Princeton Review has recognized Cal U as one of the best universities in the northeastern United States.

The nationally known education services company profiles Cal U online in its 2020 Best Regional Colleges listing. Schools on the list are "academically outstanding and well worth consideration" by future students, the website says.

The "Best in the Northeast" list includes colleges in 11 states and the District of Columbia.

For the first time, Cal U also was selected as a College of Distinction for its commitment to undergraduate education.

The University was cited for excellence in four areas: student engagement, faculty, student life and student outcomes.

Cal U also received special recognition for programming in the Business, Education, Engineering and Career Development categories. Criteria include program accreditation, breadth of programs and track records for success.

"We are proud to be recognized by these well-respected organizations," says Dr. Bruce Barnhart, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs.

"At Cal U, we put our students first. We give them the tools they need for career success. And we prepare them to become thoughtful, productive members of our global society."

MAJOR GRANTS BENEFIT STUDENTS, COMMONWEALTH

Two significant grant awards will benefit students and communities across Pennsylvania:

A Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Opioid Workforce Expansion Grant will help students prepare for careers in fields related to drug addiction policy, prevention and recovery.

Dr. Sheri Boyle, chair of the Social Work Department, and Dr. Elizabeth Gruber, chair of the Counselor Education Department, were awarded the three-year grant, which totals \$1.3 million.

Fun with STREAM

Will the coconut sink or float? Preschool children watch carefully as sophomore Elijah Wood helps them find out at STREAM Fest, an annual exploration of science, technology, reading, engineering, arts and math for pre-K learners. Elementary education majors design and teach the STREAM-based lessons in front of their peers and professors. The event complements the field work that many education students take on for the first time during the fall semester.



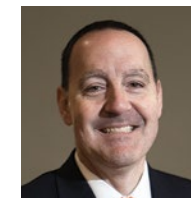
PROF TAKES MUMMIES TO SCIENCE CENTER

Anthropology professor Dr. Cassandra Kuba was among the experts featured when the Carnegie Science Center, in Pittsburgh, unveiled *Mummies of the World: The Exhibition*.

Kuba was invited to speak at the traveling exhibition's media preview and the opening event, where she and a group of current and former anthropology students talked with visitors outside the main exhibition.

Although Kuba is an expert in biological anthropology and the study of the human skeleton, her display was tailored to the Carnegie Science Center's theme: It featured

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING EARNS NATIONAL NOD



Raising funds for student scholarships is a priority at Cal U. Now those efforts have received national recognition.

CASE, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, honored the University with its 2019 Educational Fundraising Award.

A first-time winner, California is the only university in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education to receive the CASE fundraising award this year.

"Scholarships are more important than ever," says Anthony Mauro, vice president for University Development and Alumni Relations.

"For many students, a scholarship makes the difference between earning a college degree and taking another path. And our donors take great pride in empowering students to succeed."

Cal U was one of four schools honored for overall performance among public comprehensive institutions with endowments under \$35 million.

CASE bases its selection on a review of data submitted to its annual Voluntary Support of Education (VSE) survey. Among other characteristics, award recipients demonstrate "solid program growth" and "breadth in the base of support" for fundraising initiatives.

STAFF MEMBERS OFFER EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

Two staff members are the inaugural recipients of awards recognizing outstanding job performance and customer service.

Cindy Speer '97, administrative assistant for the Department of History, Politics, Society and Law, received the Vulcan President's Circle Award.

Rhonda Gifford, director of the Career and Professional Development Center, accepted the Vulcan Exceptional Service Award.

The Vulcan President's Circle Award recognizes a staff member for outstanding job performance. The Vulcan Exceptional Service Award honors a staff member who consistently provides superior service to students, parents, fellow employees and/or community members.

"Staff members play a critical role in University operations and campus life," says University President Geraldine Jones. "Our first two awardees demonstrate Cal U's commitment to excellence in everything they do."



It's official!

Mascot Blaze joins University officials at the rededication ceremony for Coover Hall, which reopened this fall after a two-year renovation. Cutting the ribbon are (from left) Dr. Kristen Majocho, dean of the College of Liberal Arts; University President Geraldine Jones; Blaze; Dr. Bruce Barnhart, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Brenda Fredette, dean of the Eberly College of Science and Technology. Coover Hall's new infrastructure, remodeled learning spaces and upgraded technology benefit students in applied engineering and technology, art, and graphic design courses.

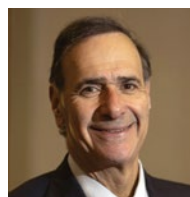




Training reaches Taiwan

Crime scene officers from the Tainan City Police Department in Taiwan receive certificates after completing computer forensics training at Cal U. The three-day training was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Center for Investigative and Forensic Sciences, housed at the University. Celebrating the cultural exchange are (from left) officer Chang-Han Yang; Dr. John Cencich, the center's coordinator and director of Cal U's criminal justice graduate programs; officer Pei-Fang Chung; and cyber forensics expert Dr. Raymond Hseih, who developed Cal U's new academic program in cyber forensics.

ALUMNUS TO LEAD COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES



Attorney James T. Davis '73 has been elected to chair the University's Council of Trustees.

A founder and partner of Davis

and Davis Attorneys at Law, in Uniontown, Pa., he has served on the council since 2009.

At its reorganization meeting in September, the council also elected Washington County Commissioner Larry Maggi '79 as vice chair and student Alex Arnold to continue his role as secretary.

Each university in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education has a Council of Trustees that serves as a policy-setting board. The governor nominates trustees for a six-year term, and the state Senate confirms the appointments.

GRADUATE DEGREE HELPS YOU GET AHEAD

Looking to enhance your resume or advance your career? Discover how a master's degree or doctorate from Cal U's School of Graduate Studies can help you build your future.

Information sessions for prospective students are planned for 6-8 p.m. March 26 and June 24, 2020.

Cal U offers both on-campus classes and graduate-level degree programs delivered 100% online – a convenient choice for busy professionals.

At the information sessions, you can meet with faculty, financial aid staff, grad students and alumni to learn about the benefits of a Cal U graduate degree. Campus tours, free applications and information on graduate assistantships also are available.

The sessions are free, but online registration is requested at calu.edu/gradopenhouse. For details, contact the School of Graduate Studies and Research at 724-938-4187 or gradschool@calu.edu.

ROTC CADET TAPPED FOR BEST WARRIOR EVENT

First-year student Jordan Amrhein, a private first-class in the U.S. Army Reserve and an ROTC cadet, was selected to compete for the title of Best Warrior this fall.

The annual competition, held at Niagara Falls, N.Y., is a preliminary event used by major Army Reserve commands to select the best junior enlisted soldier and noncommissioned officer in their ranks. Winners represent their units at the annual U.S. Army Reserve Command Best Warrior Competition.

Amrhein, of Bentleyville, Pa., serves with the 393rd Medical Company, based in

Coraopolis, Pa. He was nominated to represent the 99th Battalion.

He took on a variety of challenges at the competition – firing weapons, marching with a heavy pack, taking part in written exams and formal interviews, and tackling the Army Physical Fitness Test, among others.

A computer engineering technology major, Amrhein says his goal is to graduate and be commissioned as a second lieutenant. Then he hopes to attend Ranger School and train for Special Operations before beginning his active military service.

"Growing up I've always wanted to be in the military ... but I also really enjoy working with computers," Amrhein says. "My academics can only help me in my military career."



CUSTOM BREW

Craft beer created for Vulcan Fest and Homecoming

At the heart of every craft beer is a great community. From locally sourced ingredients to unique flavor profiles, craft beer draws inspiration from the area where it's produced and becomes a delicious source of hometown pride.

Now the Cal U community has a brew to call its own.

"Like all of our beers, the recipe starts out as a vision of who, how and where the beer will be enjoyed," says Matt Smiley, co-owner and brewer at Laurel Highlands Brewing in Uniontown, Pa.

The small craft brewery created a special Cal U Brew for this year's Vulcan Fest and Homecoming celebration.

"Knowing that it would be served at Homecoming, we wanted to go with a light, approachable, lower-alcohol beer that you could drink all day. We decided to add some light blackberry notes to keep the beer interesting and play on the school colors and local flora."



The University is represented in both the beer and the brewery.

Matt Smiley and Bob Kotarsky started brewing beer together before opening Laurel Highlands Brewing in 2016. Their wives, best friends since high school, attended Cal U together.

Allison Kotarsky '07 studied graphic design, with a minor in graphic communication technology. She creates the artwork for the brewery's labels and website, as well as graphics used on social media and apparel.

Amy Smiley '07 majored in public relations, with a minor in marketing. She consults on social media efforts and events.

To create a beer specifically for Cal U, the husband-and-wife teams worked with Ryan Barnhart '08, '09, the University's director of Alumni Relations.

"We are beyond thrilled to have this come full circle," Allison Kotarsky says.

"Being a part of our University and showcasing the business our husbands have built is really exciting."

The popularity of craft beer has exploded in the last five years, and drinkers value its local connections.

According to the Nielsen research firm, 66% of craft beer drinkers purchase only brews produced in their region, and 57% prefer brands with ties to their city or town.

"Beer has always been a community experience," Bob Kotarsky says.

"Being the first brewery in the Uniontown area since Prohibition, we have an obligation to educate and bring back local, handcrafted beer to a community where it has been absent since the 1920s."

While the process of fermenting grains to produce alcohol is more than 5,000 years old, the scientific understanding and artful appreciation of the brewing process has advanced significantly.

Every new brew is a carefully calculated experiment involving glucose, ethanol, carbon dioxide and the local water's mineral content. Colors and flavoring can turn a blank, water-based canvas into a masterpiece.

"Higher education and brewing actually go hand-in-hand," Matt Smiley says.

"Partnering with the University and discussing the brewing process allows us to show how an education can lead to opportunities and careers outside of the traditional corporate structure." ■

By Jeff Bender
Digital communications director at Cal U





WELCOME HOME VULCANS!



Veteran California Borough firefighters and the parade's grand marshals (from left) Wesley Sheets, Jon Bittner '68, and Tom Hartley Jr. all have ties to Cal U.



University President Geraldine Jones crowns the Homecoming royals: King Eric Townsend, with 1-year-old daughter Aubree, and Co-Queens Maddie Rush and Cynthia Obiekezie.



Bria Thomas '15, aka DJ Femi, takes the stage at Vulcan Fest.



Senior McKenna says 'yes!' and confetti flies when senior Nicholas Ferris proposes during the Homecoming Parade.



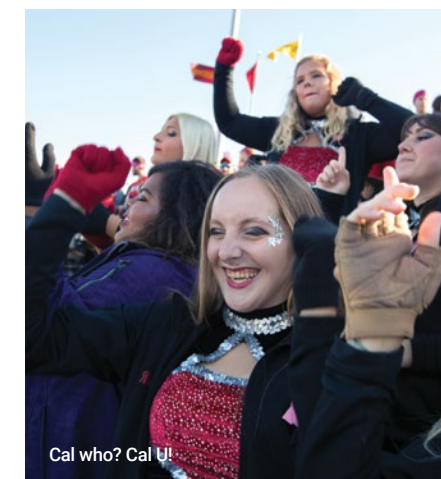
Junior Maggie Cave, a member of the Homecoming Court, puts the finishing touches on a parade float.



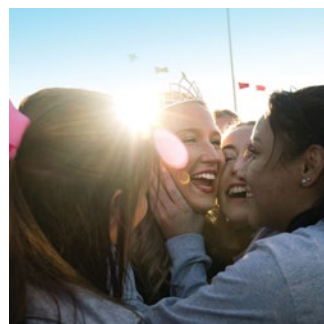
Runners take off at the Vulcan Fest 5K.



The Vulcans gear up for the Homecoming game against Clarion.



Cal who? Cal U!



Her cheerleading teammates surround newly crowned Homecoming co-queen Maddie Rush.

Nonstop fun at Vulcan Fest and Homecoming

From racing to romance, there was something for everyone at Vulcan Fest 2019.

The second annual collaboration with the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency brought thousands of visitors to California and surrounding communities.

After a week of student activities and alumni gatherings, Vulcan Fest and Homecoming Weekend got off to an early start Saturday as about 100 runners and walkers raced around campus in the first Vulcan Fest 5K.

By noon a carnival atmosphere prevailed on Third Street, where the traditional Homecoming Parade rocked to the beat of the Cal U Marching Band, a dozen high school bands, and the Pittsburgh Steelers' Steeline drum line.

The lineup of student-built floats paused for a moment while senior Nicolas Bishop

proposed to his sweetheart, senior McKenna Ferris, in a shower of confetti. Then it was off to Roadman Park, where DJs provided a soundtrack for food-truck dining, tailgate parties and samples of Cal U Brew.

After the Homecoming King and Queens (yes – two!) were crowned, Vulcans football capped off the day with a win.

"You meet a lot of people ... and do a lot of socializing," says alumnus Frank S. Ptak '59, who race-walked the 5K course and watched last year's Homecoming Queen, his granddaughter Whitney Ptak '19, crown this year's royals.

"It's fun!"

Visit calu.edu/review online for more photos and a story about three veteran firefighters who were the Homecoming Parade's grand marshals. ■

FLOAT AWARDS

1ST PLACE
Rolling Thunder: Tribute to the Vietnam War by Alpha Kappa Lambda, Cheerleaders

2ND PLACE
Man on the Moon by Acacia, Delta Zeta

3RD PLACE
Surfin' Thru the '60s Safari by Alpha Sigma Tau, Kappa Alpha Psi and friends

HIGH SCHOOL BAND AWARDS

1ST PLACE
Ringgold High School

2ND PLACE
Peters Township High School

3RD PLACE
Carmichaels High School

4TH PLACE
California Area High School

VULCAN FEST 5K AWARDS

TOP MALE RUNNER
Matthew Jenkins

TOP FEMALE RUNNER
Ally Wilson

HEY THERE,

Alumni

Vulcan Fest and Homecoming Weekend was a smash hit for our alumni and the Cal U community.

Thanks for celebrating Homecoming's 70th birthday with us!

We're already making plans for Homecoming 2020. (Details are coming soon.) Don't miss out on any of our news and events: Update your information now at calu.edu/alumni.

WE SALUTE YOU!

Our Alumni Office wants to tell the unique, inspiring and powerful stories of our graduates and their experiences after Cal U. To do that, we need to hear from you!

I invite you to share your story for possible inclusion in our monthly newsletter, *The Vulcan Gazette*, or our monthly podcast, *The Vulcan Nation*. We might even consider you for our annual alumni awards or "Under 40" recognition.

You can nominate yourself (it's OK to brag a little) or others by sending email to alumni@calu.edu.

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

The Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Career and Professional Development Center have partnered to help students dress their best for job interviews.

The new Campus Closet is a free option for students in need of business attire and business-casual clothing for internships and job opportunities.

The Campus Closet is accepting donations of gently used men's and women's business or business-casual attire and accessories. To ask questions or make a donation, contact the career center's Bridgett Nobili at nobili@calu.edu or 724-938-4413.

AFFINITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Alumni Association continues to provide value through our growing list of affinity partnerships. These relationships provide discounts and access to services and products specifically for Cal U alumni.

In addition to our existing benefits with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Nationwide Insurance and PSECU, we are proud to announce our newest affinity partner, NovaCare Rehabilitation.

A leading physical therapy service provider, NovaCare offers an on-campus location in Hamer Hall and physical therapy services around the nation. Stay tuned for details about our partnership with NovaCare.

Let's keep in touch,



Ryan Barnhart

Ryan Barnhart '08, '09
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

ALUMNI CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN
21

ORLANDO ALUMNI DAY

Meet us in sunny Orlando, Fla., for a full day of fun! Tee up with Professional Golf Management alumni at one of Disney's premier resort golf courses. Then get together with fellow grads and their guests at Bar Louie, on I-Drive, for the official Cal U alumni reception. To reserve a tee time or RSVP for the evening reception, contact alumni@calu.edu or call 724-938-4418.

MAR
1

PITTSBURGH PIRATES TRAINING CAMP

If the Pirates are in Bradenton, can Cal U be far behind? Join us for our annual spring training event with the Bucs. We'll enjoy a pre-game picnic in the outfield (watch out for fly balls!) and then watch the Pirates as they take on the Toronto Blue Jays. Reserve your spot online at calu.edu/alumni or call 724-938-4418.

MAY
2

BOW TIES AND PEARLS BALL

Plan to dress up and get down at our second annual Bow Ties and Pearls Ball. Celebrate our 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees as we raise funds for student scholarships and alumni recognition projects on campus. This 'black tie optional' affair features elegant cuisine, delectable desserts, dancing to music by DJ Sosa, and your chance to bid on exclusive gift items. Last year's event sold out! For details and reservations, visit calu.edu/bowtiesball.

MAY
7

SENIOR CLASS SEND-OFF

Don't miss this chance to network with our May 2020 graduates and welcome them to our alumni ranks. We'll enjoy hors d'oeuvres and make a toast to the graduating class as they get ready for Commencement. Alumni and members of the Class of 2020 also have an opportunity to update their professional headshots at this event, so be sure to dress in business-casual attire.

JUNE
13

CAL U DAY AT KENNYWOOD PARK

Plan to join our Cal U community at the third annual Cal U Day at Kennywood! Enjoy the park's new Steelers Country area, then meet us at the designated Cal U pavilion for an ice cream and soda social.

Stay connected to the Cal U Alumni Association's online community! Contact the Alumni Office at alumni@calu.edu or 724-938-4418 (use option 4) to request your personal ID number. You can email or call us any time for details about these and other upcoming alumni events.

ALUMNI PHOTO ALBUM

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!



50 YEARS

California's Class of 1969 gathers on the patio at Kara Alumni House during their 50th reunion. Members came from as far away as Florida and Connecticut to spend time with former classmates.

A COUPLE OF VULCANS

Alumni couple **Phil Stewart** '68 and **Emmilou Stewart** '71, of California, Pa. enjoy tailgating at Roadman Park during Vulcan Fest and Homecoming Weekend.



MOVE-IN DAY MADNESS

Development associate **Justin James** '12, '14 and administrative assistant Staci Tedrow get wacky as they prepare for the 10th annual Move-In Day Picnic. Sponsored by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, the 'indoor picnic' in the Convocation Center gives new students and their families a chance to enjoy lunch together after students move in to the residence halls.



AFTERNOON TEE

Golfers (from left) **Bryan Lipchinsky** '07, '09, **Eric Spurlin** '11 and future alumnus Thomas Victor pose at the annual Washington County Chamber of Commerce golf outing. Their team represented Cal U and placed fourth in the event.

SAVE THE DATE



2ND ANNUAL

Bow Ties & Pearls Ball

MAY 2, 2020 | CONVOCATION CENTER

GET TICKETS AT CALU.EDU/BOWTIESBALL

IN LOVE WITH GEOLOGY

An undergraduate elective changed Jaime Ritz Johnson's plans. "I started in sports medicine and ended up in geology," says the 1998 Cal U graduate.

"My professor (Robert Vargo) was a fantastic person and mentor. He made me fall in love with geology, and that's where I stayed."

Johnson works as an asset development coordinator for Edgemarc Energy, a natural gas producer based in Canonsburg, Pa.

"I do all of the permitting," Johnson says. "I am responsible for all the environmental permits, road permits, well and surface permits. If it needs a permit, they come to me for it."

She also helps to determine the costs associated with drilling.

"Our land agents sign the leases, and then I go out to the locations as we site them to determine where we want to build the well pad. I help the company determine how much it will cost for permits and to get surveyors and environmental consultants out to the site — what it will cost to get a location ready to build a well site."

Environmental erosion and sedimentation control, road permitting and pipeline construction are all within her areas of expertise.

Johnson has been employed in the geology field since 2001, spending a decade as an environmental consultant. She also has worked in the "midstream phase" of the oil-and-gas industry, or the processing, storing, transporting and marketing of the product.

At Edgemarc, she's in the "upstream" exploration and production sector.

"We're a small company, so you need to know how to do everything," she says. "Having a background in environmental consulting helps me to know the regulations and what our outside contractors are doing in the field. It helps me to speak on their level."

Her career advice: Be versatile.

"It takes time to determine what you're interested in or what you're good at. You don't know what's out there, and you need a lot of different skills."

"People are in such a hurry to become a director or vice president. You have to earn those stripes." ■

TRANSFORMING LIVES

From case manager in 2003 to chief operating officer in 2019, Shujuane Martin '01, '03 is settling into her leadership role with the Private Industry Council of Westmoreland/Fayette Inc.

The PIC assists youth, adults, dislocated workers and economically disadvantaged people in reaching their educational goals, supporting their family growth, and obtaining training and employment.

Martin, who earned her degrees in business administration, manages a \$23 million budget for the organization, which operates over 24 programs and has more than 300 employees.

She has worked for the PIC as a case manager, supervisor and director of the agency's Head Start program and, most recently, as vice president for early childhood development.

The role of the Private Industry Council in transforming people's lives is what drives Martin.

"I ran into a woman we'd encouraged to go to school to be a certified nurse assistant. We helped her go to school and earn her CNA. She told me she's now married, got her first house and is an RN."

"Stories like that make everything worth it," Martin says.

At Cal U, Martin was a member of the women's basketball team and the Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

"Being a student-athlete teaches you many things," she says. "It teaches you balance, and today I need to balance being a COO, wife, mother and church elder."

"It teaches you to handle yourself well under pressure. As a team leader, you learn that people look to you for your responses to tough situations."

"Zeta Phi Beta taught me to volunteer and pay attention to the needs in my community."

The University recognized Martin's abilities in 2013, when she received the Jennie Carter Award, presented annually to a young leader who exemplifies the spirit of Cal U's first African-American graduate.

"True leadership isn't lording over people," Martin says. "It's serving people." ■



SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

Your refrigerator will break in three days. You don't know it, but relax: It does.

Welcome to the Internet of Things, familiar household gadgets and appliances that can be connected online.

Aaron Tuomi '04, a computer science graduate, manages a team of 40 developers who make the software for these "smart" devices.

"The software pulls data from the appliance and can predict when something is going to fail, why, and what part," says Tuomi, a Center of Excellence senior director for PTC, a global software company with 70 locations in 30 countries.

"A new part could be shipped to your house, and a technician can call to schedule an appointment before you even realize there is a problem," he says.

"PTC's augmented reality software can overlay holographic images on the device to help with the repair."

Tuomi's team also creates engineering collaboration software.

"This allows us to distribute engineering over various locations, minimize scrap and maximize reuse," he says.

"If you're manufacturing an airplane, you can develop the landing gear in Boston, the wings in Texas and the fuselage in Seattle. Our software can identify conflicts and how they may affect the process downstream."

Tuomi, who works in PTC's office in Uniontown, Pa., is responsible for \$6 million in revenue per year. In 2018 the company recognized him for his innovative leadership and success as a brand ambassador.

His grandfather, who loved computers, sparked his interest and nudged him to attend Cal U.

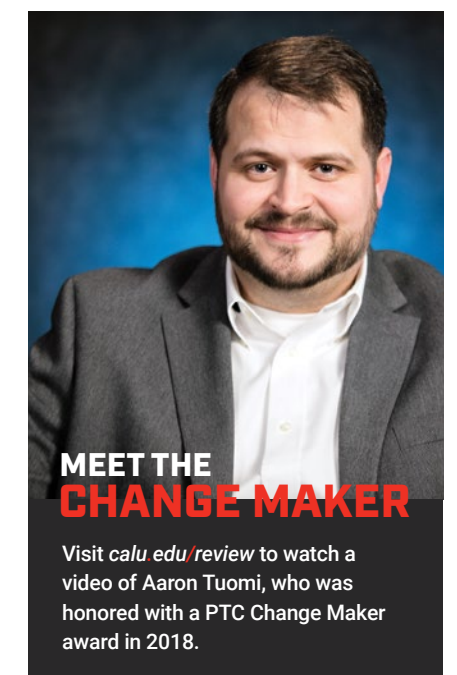
"It had a strong reputation for its computer and computer technology programs," Tuomi says. "Without him pushing, I don't know what I would have decided to do. I liked computers and technology, but I wasn't a huge fan of school."

Fifteen years later, Tuomi remains connected to his alma mater.

PTC Uniontown welcomes Cal U students as interns. About half of the location's 70 employees are alumni, he says. And he provides the computer science-related programs at Cal U with a business perspective on curriculum development.

"Having graduates who fit the job market benefits the businesses, the students and the University's reputation," Tuomi says. "It's win-win-win." ■

By Wendy Mackall
Communications director at Cal U



MEET THE CHANGE MAKER

Visit calu.edu/review to watch a video of Aaron Tuomi, who was honored with a PTC Change Maker award in 2018.

UNDER 40

RECEPTION RECOGNIZES IMPACTFUL YOUNG LEADERS

As change-makers, trailblazers and trendsetters, Cal U alumni are making a difference in their professions and their communities.



Honoree Jesse Hereda '04, executive director of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, greets a friend at the 'Under 40' reception.

This fall the Office of Alumni Relations recognized a notable group of graduates – all younger than 40 – for their wide-ranging achievements.

"We started 'Under 40' to recognize those Cal U alumni who are making significant impacts in their field, in society and for their alma mater early in their careers," says Ryan Barnhart, director of Alumni Relations.

"We have a varied group of recipients, from NFL team captains to entrepreneurs to award-winning educators and leaders of billion-dollar companies. This group of inaugural recipients represents thought leaders in conversations on the local, regional, national and international stages."

Caris '14 and Marshal '09 Carper, of Canonsburg, Pa., have remained connected to Cal U through the Career and Professional Development Center. She is a recruiter for WVU Medicine and he is an author, game designer and marketing expert.

"I'm thankful to all the Cal U professors who poured so much into me," Caris Carper says. "I hope to be able to pay that forward."

"It's humbling to be honored in the inaugural class – I graduated with some exceptional people," Marshal Carper adds.

Cody Elias '12 is a multimedia producer for the Oakland Athletics of Major League Baseball.

"All the (Cal U) professors were great," he says. "I moved to (the state of) California six months after I graduated. I'm just 30 years old, and this has been a chance to look back and reflect on how much my career has evolved.

"My company was so supportive of me coming back to Cal U, even though the A's are in the middle of a playoff run!"

Caitlin Brown '15 says Cal U has been part of her family for generations.

"My grandfather (Edward Stankovich) was a janitor here. And my mom (Catherine Stankovich Brown) and aunt (Susanne Stankovich) are both graduates," says the adaptive exercise specialist, gym owner and Paralympic coach from Virginia.

Dr. Carl Jay '08, '09 is a podiatrist in Texas who is about to open a practice in Michigan.

"The professors in the science department at Cal U were above and beyond," he says. "I've been at bigger universities, and this school easily prepared me for the basics I needed to know in medical school."

University President Geraldine Jones, herself a successful alumna, addressed the "Under 40" group at a reception in their honor.

"Your accomplishments demonstrate the value of a Cal U degree, and the role it has played in fulfilling your potential. As one graduate to another, it's great to see the progress you have made." ■



'Under 40' Power Couple: Becky '05, '17 and Eron '15 McMillen

MEET THE HONOREES

Learn more about all the recipients of Cal U's inaugural 'Under 40' recognition at calu.edu/review.



SPORTS PROFILE

GOAL

A COMMON



'We're here to help these teams succeed'

Cal U's newest head coaches bring a blend of experience and familiarity to Vulcans athletics.

Alumna April Gitzen '09, '10 has returned to coach swimming. Anita Onufer joins Cal U as head tennis coach and assistant swimming coach.

"Without a doubt the opportunity to return to my alma mater was a driving force," says Gitzen, who calls retired swim coach Ed Denny a mentor.

"This University has given me so much, and the chance to give back and help others here is an honor."

Gitzen comes back to Cal U after eight seasons as head coach for men's and women's swimming at West Virginia Wesleyan. She received Mountain East Conference Coach of the Year honors three times and guided both teams to MEC championships in 2019.

As a Vulcans swimmer, Gitzen earned All-PSAC honors in both the 400 individual medley and the medley relay team. She was a College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Scholar All-America honoree in 2009.

Onufer spent the past two seasons on the coaching staff at PSAC rival Seton Hill. A three-sport athlete at Saint Vincent College, she was a member of the Bearcats' tennis, swimming and lacrosse teams.

As a tennis player, Onufer posted a combined 10 wins in singles play and 15 wins in doubles over her last two seasons. In the pool, she was a member of the conference champion 200 freestyle relay team and earned all-conference recognition in the 100 butterfly.

"Competing just a few years ago really helps me relate to student-athletes and all the demands placed on them," Onufer says.

"Being in their shoes so recently allows me to have compassion for them, but also to share my experiences and help them work through their struggles so they can be their best in all aspects of life."

Both coaches emphasize academic commitment.

"It is vital that each of our student-athletes earns their degree with a strong grade-point average," Gitzen says.

"That degree will not read 'women's swimming,' which is why grades will always come first. College is the start of their careers."

Overall, Cal U Athletics has compiled a GPA of 3.10 or higher for 18 of the past 19 semesters. The swimming team has earned CSCAA Scholar All-America Team status for 17 consecutive years and had a 3.48 cumulative team GPA last spring.



That degree will not read 'women's swimming,' which is why grades will always come first. College is the start of their careers."

APRIL GITZEN '09 '10

"That is something that each and every student-athlete and coach should be proud of," says Onufer, who owns two degrees. "We have very motivated ladies ... but I still remind athletes to strive to be the best they can be, ultimately setting themselves up for success in the future."

Gitzen and Onufer met only recently, but their philosophies already are in sync.

"Anita is a talented coach with energy, innovative ideas and the passion to be successful," Gitzen says. "Both of us are here to help these teams succeed." ■

By Bruce Wald '85
Information writer at Cal U

FANS TEAM UP TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Vulcans sports fans stepped up to support Cal U's student-athletes on the second annual Athletic Day of Giving.

More than 150 donors answered the call, contributing more than \$20,000 to boost the Athletic Scholarship Fund.

Both the number of participants and the fundraising total exceeded last year's inaugural Athletic Day of Giving by more than 15%.

"Because state funds cannot be used for athletic scholarships, we count on the generosity of alumni and friends," says athletics director Dr. Karen Hjerpe. "Their support is essential – and our coaches, staff and student-athletes appreciate every contribution."

Visit calu.edu/review to meet four Vulcans and find out what scholarships mean to them.



BASKETBALL SCHEDULE STARTS 2020 AT HOME

As the new year begins, PSAC-West women's and men's basketball take over the Convocation Center.

Six home doubleheaders are on the schedule in less than a month, beginning Jan. 3 when the Vulcans host Pitt-Johnstown. The women's game starts at 5:30 p.m., and the men's game follows.

In other early 2020 home games, the Vulcans face divisional rivals Shepherd on Jan. 28 (5:30 p.m.), Edinboro on Jan. 11 (1 p.m.), Mercyhurst on Jan. 25 (1 p.m.), Clarion on Jan. 29 (5:30 p.m.) and Slippery Rock on Feb. 1 (3 p.m.).

The women's team, under ninth-year head coach Jess Strom, is coming off a 26-6 record last year, when the

Vulcans advanced to the regional final of the NCAA Tournament for the third time in five years.

One of Cal U's top returners is senior guard Gina Vallecorsa, who led last season's team in three-point baskets (37) and was second best in minutes played per game (27.7).

Optimism abounds with the men's team, which begins its second season under head coach Danny Sancomb. Leading Cal U's returning cast is all-conference junior guard Brent Pegram, who ranked eighth in the PSAC in scoring, with 18.5 points per game.

For complete schedules and information, visit calvulcans.com.



72 EARN DIVISION II ACADEMIC HONORS

As the fall semester began, Cal U received word that 72 of its student-athletes, representing all sports, had earned Division II Athletics Directors Association Academic Achievement Awards for the 2018-2019 academic year.

The award requires a student-athlete to post a cumulative grade-point average of 3.50 or higher, have attended at least two years (four semesters) of college, and have been an active member of an intercollegiate team during their last academic year.

Cal U student-athletes were among 975 Academic Achievement Award recipients from the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, which led all Division II conferences in the number of honorees. In all, 185 institutions and 11,600 student-athletes were recognized.



PSAC HONORS SPORTS BROADCASTER

The Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) honored Gary Smith '98, '01, director of CUTV operations and adviser for Cal U's student TV and radio stations, with the 2019 George Heaslip Award.

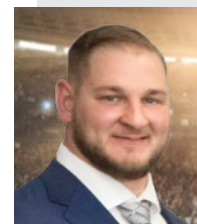
The award is presented to a media professional selected by the PSAC's sports information directors. It recognizes meritorious service while covering the conference's student-athletes, coaches and teams.

Smith has covered Cal U athletics for more than 25 years with CUTV and WCAL, breaking ground with home-and-away coverage of the Vulcans and PSAC playoff teams.

The award is named for the late George Heaslip, a sports information director at Cheyney University.

FOUR VULCANS IN NFL UNIFORMS

Four former Vulcans players took the field with National Football League teams this season.



Offensive lineman Eric Kush '12 was a starter at right guard for the Cleveland Browns after previously playing for the Chicago Bears and Kansas City Chiefs.

A three-year starter for the Vulcans, Kush was named a D2Football.com second-team All-American and earned first-team all-conference honors in 2012.

Erik Harris '13 is in his third season with the Oakland Raiders, playing strong safety and on special teams.

A two-time all-conference selection at Cal U, he previously played for the New

Orleans Saints and spent three seasons with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats of the Canadian Football League.

In this season's fourth week, Harris intercepted a pass and returned it 30 yards for what proved to be the winning touchdown in Oakland's 31-24 win at Indianapolis.

Safety Rontez Miles '12 is special teams captain with the New York Jets, his seventh season with the team.

A two-time first-team All-American, he was the PSAC-West Defensive Player of the Year in both his junior and senior seasons with the Vulcans.

CJ Goodwin is a second-year defensive back and special teams standout with the Dallas Cowboys. He previously played two seasons with the Atlanta Falcons and one with the Arizona Cardinals.



SOCCER SCORES NATIONAL UPSET

More than 75% of this year's roster consists of first- or second-year players, but the men's soccer team is serving notice that it's on the rise.

An early sign of the team's promise came in early October, when the Vulcans handed Gannon – ranked No. 4 in the nation – its first defeat of the season, 1-0.

Goalkeeper Joseph Valeriano, one of three seniors on the team, successfully faced

13 shots, while freshman Chance Pursifull made his first collegiate goal a memorable one, scoring into the right bottom of the net at the 66:04 mark.

This was men's soccer's first win over a nationally ranked opponent since 2016. The last time the team knocked off a similarly ranked opponent was in 2011, when the Vulcans beat No. 4 Mercyhurst, 2-0.



Empower students

Get a tax deduction.

Would you like to make an end-of-year donation to Cal U? And receive a tax deduction?

Did you know that all donations to Cal U are 100% tax deductible?

At this time of year, we all are looking for additional deductions to include in our yearly tax returns. Donating to a scholarship fund at Cal U is a great way to help our students pursue their dreams of earning a college degree – and it also provides you with a tax deduction.

Your gift to Cal U can be applied to an existing scholarship fund for an affinity

group, your fraternity, sorority or major. It can be used to establish your own named scholarship fund. Or it can support an academic department or our student-athletes.

Today's students are just like you were – hard-working and dedicated to their studies. Your support will help to shape the future of Cal U and make a difference in their lives.

You can mail your gift in the pre-addressed envelope found in this magazine. To give online, visit calu.edu/giving and click on "make your online gift today."



Maximize your impact!

Contact the Office of University Development and Alumni Relations at 724-938-5775 or email Vice President Tony Mauro at mauro@calu.edu.

MILESTONES

60s

David Tanner '67 and **Janet Patterson Tanner '67, '73** live near Harrisburg, Pa. Janet is a retired elementary school teacher and a certified volunteer counselor at a pregnancy center. David is a retired professional architectural consultant and a retired military officer. The couple has lived and traveled in several states and foreign countries. After being named a distinguished naval graduate in Officer Candidate School and flight school, David served for nine years as a Navy P-3 pilot. Eventually transferring to the Air Force Reserve, he flew special operations EC-130 aircraft. While a director of a century architectural firm in Elmira, N.Y., he completed U.S. Air Force Air Command and Staff College. In 1989 he was named a distinguished graduate of the Air Force senior intelligence officer school in San Angelo, Texas. Following active duty in the Persian Gulf War, David served as senior intelligence officer at Niagara Falls ARS until his retirement in 1997. He recently received the lifetime achievement award from Marquis *Who's Who in America*.

70s

William Viola II '69, '70 was honored by Allegheny County, Pa., for popularizing karate in western Pennsylvania and advocating for the sport worldwide, leading to its acceptance as an Olympic sport in 2020. "Sensei Bill Viola Day" recognized him as a co-creator of the sport of mixed martial arts and the subject of a book, a documentary and a museum exhibit. He was the owner of Allegheny Shotokan, now known as Viola Karate.

Barry Sechler '74 was inducted into the Somerset County (Pa.) Baseball Oldtimers Hall of Fame. He was an industrial arts teacher at Shanksville-Stonycreek High School and the school's baseball coach.

Linda Simpson '76, '78 is security manager for Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and Hawaiian Islands (PPGNHI) in Seattle, Wash. Linda majored in anthropology and psychology at Cal U and was a member of WVCS-FM. She and Jeri Simpson live in Kent, Wash.

Craig Ruokonen '75, of Clarksville, Tenn., is retired from the Norwin School District, which serves the communities of North Huntingdon, Irwin and North Irwin, Pa.

80s



John McCoy Jr. '80, of Philadelphia, Pa., has been inducted into the 25 Year Club as an administrator for The Hospital of the

University of Pennsylvania Department of Emergency Medicine, where he works in registration and quality assurance. In June 2019 he retired after 10 years with the Consumer Product Safety Commission, where he reviewed unsafe products. In September 2019, he and Cynthia McCoy celebrated their 32nd anniversary. They have two children, Fiona and Drake.



Lynn Romboski Messman '82 is retired and living in Georgetown, Mass. For 20 years she worked in the areas of corporate

communication, training and education for high-tech companies in the Philadelphia and Boston areas, including Unisys Corp., Digital Equipment Corp., Epsilon, Thomson Financial and Nuance Corp. After changing careers, Lynn was a teacher for 14 years, providing instruction in English and components of the Adobe Certified

Associate curriculum in a high school vocational education environment. Most recently, she taught freshman and sophomore English at Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School in Haverhill, Mass. She retired from Whittier in June 2019 and also received the school's 2019 WREA Educator of the Year Award. Lynn studied communications at Cal U and was active with WVCS, the campus radio station. She and her husband, Chris, have been married for 31 years. Their two children are Michael and Molly.

Richard Cramer '82 retired from FedEx. He started as an operations auditor and spent the past 23 years as a software quality assurance analyst.

Mary Beth Zavislan Kerekes '86 is development director for The National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pa. The largest museum of its kind in the United States, it tells the full story of the American Civil War from its causes through Reconstruction. She also serves on the board of directors of the Association of Fundraising Professionals – Central Pennsylvania Chapter. After a life of travel and building a career in nonprofit, museum and association fundraising, Mary Beth has settled in Camp Hill, Pa., with her husband of 30 years, George Kerekes, who retired as a chief warrant officer in the U.S. Coast Guard.



FIRST SWIM TEAM REMEMBERED

Cal U's recently retired head swimming coach, Ed Denny (left), and the late **Ray Kist '69** pose with a picture of the first California State College swimming team, taken in 1967. Ray, whom Ed points out in the photo, became a three-year letterman under swim coach and emeritus professor Terry Scott. A former speech therapist, lifeguard and postal worker, Ray passed away in November 2019, not long after giving Cal U the photo. It's now on display in the Hamer Hall trophy case.

90s

William Merrell '90 was recognized by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for his eight years on the Peters Township (Pa.) School Board. A U.S. Air Force veteran, William studied geography and regional planning at Cal U. He taught civics and government before he retired.

Nino Sapone '92 is the interim airport director for Flint Bishop International Airport in Michigan. Previously he was deputy airport director for operations and maintenance at Flint Bishop. He also worked as vice president of airport operations at Pittsburgh International Airport. Nino majored in education at Cal U.

Michael Andresky '79, '92 is a special columnist for the *Mon Valley Independent*, based in Monessen, Pa. His newspaper column, "The Bottom 5," publishes Thursdays during the NFL season. It is a satirical look at the five worst teams, cities, officials or other notable items. Michael and his wife, Judy, celebrated their 41st anniversary in September 2019. Judy was an administrative assistant to the dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Cal U until she retired in 2010.

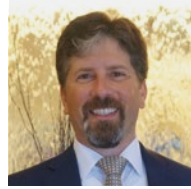
Don Record '86, '99 is senior project manager at LCK. The regional firm is certified by the National Women's Business Owner's Corp. as a woman-owned business offering project management solutions for institutions, corporations and private entities in the development of real estate. Don studied business administration at Cal U.

Donald Martin '89, '94 was named executive director of Intermediate Unit 1 after eight years as assistant executive director. He earned his bachelor's degree in speech communications and his M.Ed. in elementary education at Cal U, where he is pursuing a doctorate in education administration and leadership.

Hollie Konek-Morgan '94 teaches special education at James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury, Md. At Cal U, she was a Delta Chi little sister and a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority. Hollie lives on the Eastern Shore of Maryland with her husband and three children.

Joe Bonadio '95 is a longtime teacher at Connellsville (Pa.) Area High School. He was an assistant coach in football and basketball, coached baseball, and is now coaching the Connellsville American Legion team.

Kellie Ketchum-Umphrey '93 is program manager for 23 Early Head Start programs in the Philadelphia metropolitan area. She works for the Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center, in Dorseyville, Pa. Kellie studied elementary education at Cal U. She and Mark Umpfrey live in Wilmington, Del.



Gene Theodori '93, professor of sociology at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, has received the

2019 Distinguished Rural Sociologist award from the Rural Sociological Society. The award recognizes recipients' outstanding contributions to the discipline of rural sociology through research, extension, teaching, public service and public policy. Gene has been at Sam Houston State since 2007. He was a sociology major at Cal U.

Kelly Parsley '96 is the track and cross country coach at Bethel College, Kansas. He studied communications at Cal U and was on the track team.

Gino Spinos '95 is director of manufacturing engineering at the National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining in Chambersburg, Pa. He studied environmental science at Cal U.

Kenneth M. Truver '95, chief of the Castle Shannon (Pa.) Police Department, was among the participants in a School Shooting Prevention Leadership Forum held at Cal U. Kenneth is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and second vice president of the executive board for the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA).

00s

Jessica Urbanik '00, director of community relations and education at SecondHalf Coach Wealth Management in Latrobe, Pa., has been named chamber member of the year by the Westmoreland County Chamber of Commerce. She studied communications at Cal U, where she previously worked in the Office of University Development and Alumni Relations.



LIFELONG FRIENDS

Beverly Thornton James '73 (left), **Fontana Smith Crable '73** (center) and **Caryl Sheffield '73** recently celebrated 50 years of friendship. The three met in 1969 as first-year students at California State College, and all graduated from the teacher education program. 'Not many people can say they have close friends for that long,' Caryl says. 'We are all members of the same sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, as is **President (Geraldine) Jones '72, '80**. As you can imagine, we've been through so many life events over the years.' Caryl and her husband, Jim, live in Sarasota, Fla. She was chair of Cal U's Department of Early, Middle and Special Education from 2002-2012 and associate provost from 2012-2015. Beverly is retired from PPG Industries Inc. after 33 years in sales, marketing and development roles. She lives in the Pittsburgh area with her husband, **Alan James '62**, who retired as Cal U's dean of Student Affairs in 2007. Fontana retired from the Monessen City School District after more than 40 years as a teacher and counselor. She and her husband, Eric, live in Clairton, Pa.

Meaggan Wilton Pettipiece '00 is the softball coach at the University of Akron, Ohio. She spent three years as an assistant coach at Kent State University and was Northwood University's head coach for 10 seasons. She was an assistant coach at Cal U, where she was a two-time All-American outfielder and helped the Vulcans win the 1998 NCAA Division II championship. She played for Canada at the 2000 Olympics and was an alternate on the 2004 team.

Cristine Maser '00, of East Hempfield Township in Lancaster County, Pa., is a member of the board of directors for the Lancaster Division of the American Heart Association. She has served as director of programs for the Hempfield Area Recreation Commission for the past nine years. In this role, she promotes health and wellness through youth and adult sports, environmental and educational programming, and a playground program that serves more than 600 families. She studied parks and recreation management at Cal U.

Francesco Amati '01 is a community development manager for the Fort Myers (Fla.) Community Redevelopment Agency. He has worked for the City of Fort Myers Community Development Department as a real estate specialist since 2013 and was promoted to the CRA. Francesco studied business administration at Cal U.

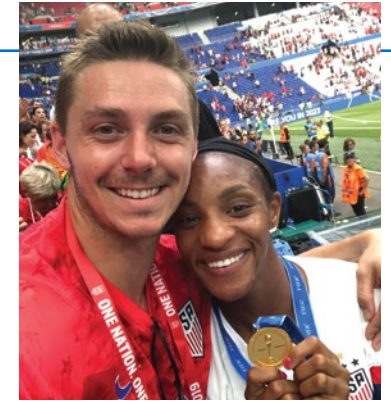
F. Dean Connors II '01, who earned bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees at Cal U, has been the CEO and president of CMS Bankcard Services in Wheeling, W.Va., for more than 10 years. He is a real estate investor with several commercial and residential units in the area, as well as a recording artist and father of two.

Chris Dountas '03 is director of football equipment operations for the University of Colorado. He spent three years as the assistant athletic director-equipment manager at Stanford University. Chris studied sport management at Cal U.

Brad Schulte '02, '04 received Drexel University's Harold W. Pote "Behind Every Graduate" Award. He was nominated by a former Drexel student for his mentorship. Brad earned his master's degree in technology education from Cal U and teaches at Baldwin (Pa.) High School.

Brent Carbonara '09, of Fairmont, W.Va., is a general maintenance supervisor at Murray Energy. He and Kristin Carbonara were married in October 2018. Brent studied electrical engineering technology at Cal U.

SOCCER SWEETHEARTS



Pierre Soubrier '19 and Crystal Dunn were married in December 2018. Pierre is head athletic trainer for the Portland Thorns, of the National Women's Soccer League. He shares the sport with Crystal, who plays for the North Carolina Courage, also of the NWSL. Crystal was a member of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team, which won the World Cup in July 2019. 'We met when I was the head trainer for the Washington Spirit, and she got drafted by the team in 2015,' Pierre writes. 'The tournament was in France, and I'm from France, so it was nice to go there for 10 days to see her play.' Pierre earned his Cal U master's degree in exercise science and health promotion, with a concentration in performance enhancement and injury prevention.

Carol L. Ackerman '05, who earned her B.S.N. at Cal U, is retired from UPMC after a 40-year nursing career. She worked for 25 years as a staff nurse at UPMC Braddock. She transferred to UPMC McKeesport, where she worked as a clinician for 15 years. During her career, Carol was awarded the 2011 Clinical Nurse Leadership Award from the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nursing. She published a book, *Chemotherapy for the Medical-Surgical Nurse*, in 2007 and an article, "Not on My Watch: Treating and Preventing Pressure Ulcers," in *MedSurg Nursing*, March/April 2011. She also was featured on the cover of *MedSurg Nursing* in 2009. Carol is courageously battling ovarian cancer.

Krista Mathias '05 extended her contract as superintendent of the Somerset (Pa.) Area School District. She earned her bachelor's degree in secondary education and a superintendent letter of eligibility from Cal U.

Scott DiTullio '06 recently earned his doctorate in education from Northeastern University, Boston. He is director of bands and athletic director at the Allegheny-Clarion Valley Area School District in Foxburg, Pa. Scott also is an adjunct instructor at St. Vincent College, near Latrobe, Pa., where he directs the jazz band, teaches the trumpet studio and consults with the marching band. Scott earned his principal's certification at Cal U.

Jessica Curran '06 is associate professor of graphic design and communications at Salt Lake Community College, Utah. She majored in graphic design at Cal U.

Ashley Krenn '08, who studied secondary education at Cal U, is the curriculum

manager for the middle school science department at Lincoln Learning Solutions, where she oversees the development of all new middle school science courses. She also is a volunteer for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Career Development program and is active with the United Way of Beaver County. She and **Jarrod Krenn '08** have a daughter, Gabrielle, who will be 3 in December 2019.

Tim Fusina '07, '08 is head men's basketball coach at Waynesburg (Pa.) University. He was the head coach at Centenary University in Hackettstown, N.J., for five years.

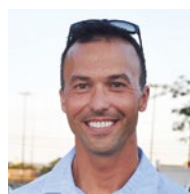
Dr. Neil Cronin '09 is vice president for Academic Affairs, Curricular Innovation and Professional Learning at Wyoming Seminary, a private school in northeastern Pennsylvania. His Cal U master's degree is in educational administration and leadership.

10s

Nicholas Robinson '10, of John Brown University in Arkansas, was named the 2019 Sports Information Director of the Year for the Sooner Athletic Conference. He earned his master's degree in sport management from Cal U.

Jeremy Stockdill '11, of McKeesport, Pa., is a photographer, editor and drone pilot for KDKA-TV, CBS Pittsburgh. He majored in communication studies at Cal U and was involved in CUTV and WCAL.

Eric Lauver '12, of Jefferson Hills, Pa., is an elementary principal in the Trinity Area School District, Washington, Pa. He earned his principal's certification at Cal U.



Tony Mehalic '10 was inducted into the Ocean City (N.J.) Beach Patrol Hall of Fame and received the 23rd Robert Stowe Award for

contributing to the profession of ocean lifesaving. Tony has worked for Ocean City Beach Patrol for 13 years; he also competes in lifeguard races. He's a physical education teacher at Latrobe (Pa.) Elementary School, where he coaches cross country and track and field. Tony lives in Latrobe with his wife, **Abigail Wilson Mehalic** '07, and daughter, Sadie.

Austin Stoddard '12 completed an unusual challenge to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital: walking his way through 100 holes at Conewago Valley Country Club in Warren, Pa. That was 53 more holes than he'd ever played in a day and included roughly 27 miles of walking, all for a good cause.

Tyson Brown '12 is the strength and conditioning coach for football at Washington State University.

Bryan Kline '12 has been accepted into the Doctor of Criminal Justice program at Saint Leo University in Florida.

Kaitlynn Fratz '15 is assistant coach for the University of Maryland women's basketball team. In 2015 she helped lead the Vulcans to the NCAA Division II women's basketball championship.

Blayre Holmes Davis '12, who earned a degree in communication studies at Cal U, is the director of community relations for the Pittsburgh Steelers. She previously held positions with the Women and Girls Foundation of Pittsburgh and Adagio Health. Blayre received the 2017 Jennie Carter Leadership Award from Cal U.

Anthony Kane '11, '12 is assistant director of Residence Life at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He studied social work at Cal U and is engaged to Ashley Geese. At Cal U, Anthony was active with the Black Student Union, Cal U Men United, SABUG and STAND.

Michael Price '13 is director of athletics for the Oxford (Pa.) Area School District. He studied sport management at Cal U. Michael and Ann Marie Price live in Coatesville, Pa.

Ryan Deveney '15 is the principal at Red Mill Elementary School, in the West Shore School District, Lewisberry, Pa. He earned his master's degree and principal's certification from Cal U.



CADET COMMISSIONED

ROTC cadet **Daniel Mraz** '19 was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army at a Department of Military Science Reserve Officer Training Corps ceremony this fall. Daniel, who studied criminal justice, was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate, one who ranks in the top 20% of more than 5,500 Army ROTC graduates nationwide on the basis of scholarship, moral character, military aptitude and leadership ability. Commissioned as an active-duty Army Medical Service Corps officer, he will attend the Basic Officer Leaders Course this spring at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Margaret Campagna '14 is a project manager and scrum master for Keystone Collections Group. She majored in technology management and robotics engineering technology at Cal U. She and her husband, Chris Joseph, live in Irwin, Pa.

Erin Moran '14 is head coach of the field hockey team at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Kyle Halfpop '14 is head women's soccer coach at the University of Minnesota Crookston. He comes to the job from the University of Sioux Falls (S.D.), where he was an assistant coach. Kyle earned a master's degree in sport management from Cal U.

Robert Rizzo '15 is assistant superintendent of the Spring-Ford Area School District in Montgomery County, Pa. He earned his superintendent letter of eligibility from Cal U.

Michael Meketa '16 graduated from New York University's Tish School of the Arts with a Master of Fine Arts in musical theatre writing. He works at Lake Dillon Theater in Silverthorne, Colo.

Melissa White '16 is a sixth-grade teacher at Wendover Middle School in the Hempfield Area School District, Hempfield Township, Pa. She also is a mental performance coach for Hempfield Area High School.

Kelly McGowan '16 is the principal at Belmont Hills Elementary School in Bensalem, Pa. Kelly earned her principal's certification from Cal U.

Jodi VanderSchaaff '17 is the acting principal at East Union Intermediate Center, in the Deer Lakes School District, Cheswick, Pa.

Lisa Cushing '17, '19 lives in Modesto, Calif. She studied sport management and exercise science and sport studies at Cal U.

Kerry Jo Green '17, who studied history at Cal U, lives in Waltham, Mass.

Cody Maimone '16, **Jeremy Rosinger** '16 and **Dom Pomposelli** '16 are members of the musical production team One800. One of their projects was a collaboration with **Anthony Willis** '16, also known as My Favorite Color. The project was part of The Pittsburgh Sessions, where Cody, Jeremy and Dom worked with 20 Pittsburgh-area artists.

Nathan Kaylo '17 is manager of guest services and tours for Chicago Theatre. He studied business administration at Cal U, where he played hockey and volunteered with the Habitat for Humanity Club.

Barry Luciani '18 is executive vice president and chief operating officer of Carroll Community Bank, Maryland. He has a B.A. in liberal arts and history from Cal U.

Work by **Samantha Middlemiss** '17 and Dr. Peter Cormas, an associate professor of childhood education at Cal U, was accepted for publication in the journal School Science and Mathematics. Their work also yielded conference presentations at the annual meeting of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching, in Baltimore, Md., and at annual conferences presented by the State System of Higher Education and Cal U.

Paul Sheppick '15, '17 is a test specialist for Argo AI, an autonomous vehicle company operating in Pittsburgh. He studied commercial music technology and business administration at Cal U. He's also a member of the Mon Valley Push band.

Russ Joy '18 writes for the Crossing Broad website and is co-host/producer of several sports podcasts.

Brett Mooney '19 is unit director of the medical/surgical intensive care unit at UPMC Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh. His Master of Science in Nursing practicum project, on alternatives to the use of restraints, won first place as a poster presentation at the 2019 Southwestern Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders conference.

Stephanie Anderson '13, '17 is head women's basketball coach at Fairmont State University.

Sam Swetz '19 is the women's volleyball coach at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus, in Fayette County, Pa. She earned her master's degree in sport management studies with a concentration in intercollegiate athletic administration.

Arielle "Ari" Alex '18 is director of Queenpin PGH, a community organization for the advancement and empowerment of black women and women of color in the Pittsburgh area.

Julie Kerlicker '18 was named Propel Schools' 2018-2019 Rookie of the Year. She is a special education educator at Propel Pitcairn (Pa.). She studied education at Cal U.

Rachael McKruger '18 works in marketing for Dick's Sporting Goods. She's also a commentator for the University of Pittsburgh women's soccer program on the ACC Network.

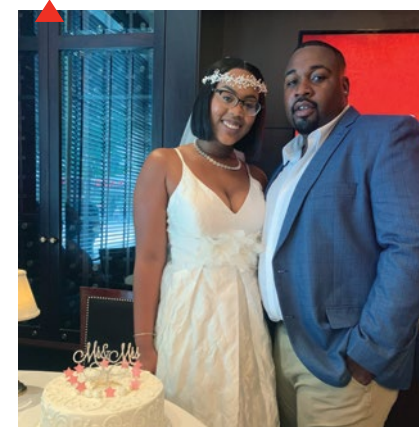
ENGAGEMENT

Cassidy Zemrose '18 and **Kyle Snyder** '17, '19 are engaged. Cassidy teaches seventh-grade English language arts, and Kyle is an emergency management planner. They met while working as Community Assistants at Cal U and plan to be married in October 2020.

WEDDINGS

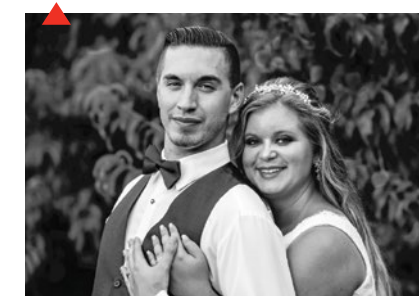
Mark Novak '10 and Melissa Wilson were married in July 2019. Mark studied environmental science and now works for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. They live in Meadville, Pa.

Mariah Howze '18 and Demetrious Peoples Jr. were married in July 2019. Mariah is a development assistant at Cal U, and Demetrious is a student in Cal U's computer science program.



Joseph Gibbons '16 and Colby Cottell were married in September 2018. Joseph has a Cal U master's degree in sport management studies, with a concentration in intercollegiate athletic administration. He is a project coordinator at Pride Mobility and head boys basketball coach at Mountain View High School in Kingsley, Pa.

Emilee Richardson '16 and **Lukas Miller** '17 were married in July 2019 in Somerset, Va. Emilee studied Spanish and secondary education at Cal U; she teaches high school Spanish in Orange, Va. Lukas, a Theta Xi alumnus, studied technology education at Cal U, and he's pursuing a master's degree from the University. He teaches technology in Culpeper, Va.



IN PRINT

Dr. Brian Johnson '94, '96 is the author of *Send Judah First: The Erased Life of an Enslaved Soul*. Based on a true story, the book honors Judah, an enslaved cook at Belle Grove plantation in Middletown, Va. Brian read from his book at a special event on campus this fall.

David L. Anderson '70 is the author of *Archetypal Figures in 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro': Hemingway on Flight and Hospitality*. David's book examines the story in a more universal, rather than strictly historical, way. The author is a retired professor of English at Butler County Community College and managing editor of the *August Wilson Journal*.

Michael Barrett '11 has written his second novel, *Skyler's Sophomore Soundtrack*. His first book, *Little Bram*, was a finalist in the young adult category of the 2018 Next Gen Indie Book Awards.

Dan Clendaniel '78 is the author of *Such Hard and Severe Service: The 85th Pennsylvania in the Civil War, Volume I, 1861-1863*. It's the first of a three-part series and an homage to his great-grandfather, who served in the regiment. Read Dan's blog at 85thpennsylvania.blogspot.com.



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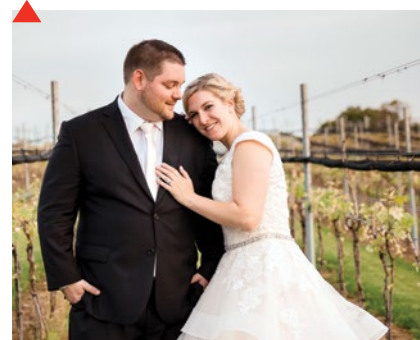
CLASS YEAR

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Anissa Comunale '95, '00 and Dennis King were married in October 2019. Anissa is in her 21st year of teaching at East Allegheny School District. Dennis is a masonry foreman for the Sidley Corp. They live in Monroeville, Pa.



Jared Long '17 and **Jennifer Babiak** '14 were married in May 2019. Jared is an automation engineer for STIHL, and Jennifer is the public affairs officer for the City of Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services.



Crystal Erb '13, '15, '19 married Brandon Joyce in June 2019 and welcomed baby girl Remi Hope Joyce in August 2019. Crystal studied criminal justice throughout her 10-year academic career at Cal U.

Tamba '11 and **Paige** '14 **Rape Marenah** were married in September 2019 in Topsail, N.C. The wedding party consisted of many Cal U graduates, and more than 50 alumni attended the ceremony. The couple lives in Charlotte, N.C.



ANNIVERSARY . . .



Gary Hicks Sr. '01 and **Jamie Ford Hicks** '01, of South Euclid, Ohio, celebrated their 15th anniversary in August 2019. Gary is an intervention specialist, basketball coach and founder of Young Men Growing mentorship program. He works for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. Jamie is a loan officer at Third Federal Bank.

IN MEMORIAM . . .

Isabelle Harris Anderson '53
Susan E. Behrendt '70, '73
Cynthia J. Schaudé Buckley '75
Richard D. Carter '63
Dr. Albert Dascenzo '67, '69,
emeritus professor of education
Ann D. Fisfis,* emerita professor,
Manderino Library coordinator
E. Ray Kist '69
George Benjamin "Ben" Gapen '88
Darlene Ann Lozosky Klus '65
Donald Joseph Lang Jr. '70
Pauline Marie Law '68
Marguerite "Margie" Salva Lawrence '65
Alan Ludwig '64
Paul Madaras '69
Joseph R. Markulike Sr. '64
George A. Martin IV '67
Dolores "Doe" Mendola Mascara '79
Jimmie R. McGinnis '61
Dr. Thomas Moon,*
emeritus professor of biology
David L. Moskovitz '82
Carolyn S. Orbin '98
Virginia Alger Peterson '05
John L. "Jack" Pratt '74
Dr. Carmen Putorti '57
Rosemarie Quayle*
Audra Marie Stepp '88
Kaelyb Suchevis '16
Adam Charles Tarbert '07
Frank Taucher '98
Bruce Nicholas Wells '72
Bill Wilson '73
Angela Zondos,* emerita professor
of health and physical education
*No class year available or on file.

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TIME OUT

Timepieces that were carefully removed from the Old Main clock tower await restoration. The storm-damaged clock faces have now been repaired and will be returned to the landmark tower.