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Cal U's Female Leaders Discuss Journeys

Respect others.
Have confidence.
Seize the opportunities.
Empower each other.

At two events on March 7, Cal U celebrated the success of women and the opportunities women have to affirm and encourage others.

Leadership Panel

Five female leaders shared lessons learned along their personal and professional journeys as part of a Women's History Month panel sponsored by the Student Affairs Diversity Committee.

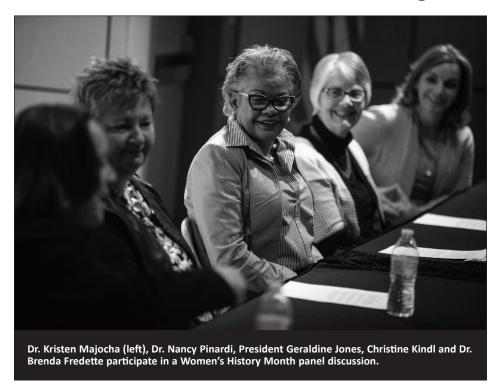
Panelists were President Geraldine M. Jones; Dr. Nancy Pinardi, vice president for Student Affairs; Christine Kindl, vice president for Communications and Marketing; Dr. Brenda Fredette, dean of Eberly College of Science and Technology; and Dr. Kristen Majocha, dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

President Jones — a first-generation college student, a Cal U alumna, and the University's first female and African-American president — explained there were fewer than two handfuls of female faculty and even fewer African-American faculty when she started working at the University.

Her path to the presidency included positions where she supervised faculty who taught her

"Treat people with respect, the way you want to be treated, and don't let anyone define you," she said. "Don't ever say 'can't,' and it's OK to fail."

President Jones, who has been married to Jeff Jones for almost 45 years, said, "You must have balance, with everyone in your family working as a team, and your relationships will become even stronger."





Cal U Recognized for Election Efforts

alifornia University of Pennsylvania has been named a Voter Friendly Campus for 2019-2020, one of 10 universities in the state to be recognized by the Fair Election Center's Campus Vote Project and NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

It is the second time the university has been named a Voter Friendly Campus.

Nationwide, 123 campuses in 31 states received the designation for developing plans to engage students in the electoral process.

Schools were evaluated on developing a plan to engage students in the midterm elections in 2018, facilitating voter engagement efforts on campus and analyzing the success of the initiatives.

The American Democracy Project at Cal U partnered with other campus groups to prioritize voter education, registration and mobilization.

ADP provided registration tables at campus events; organized forums on campaign issues; planned rides to the polls on Election Day; and welcomed a panel of experts to analyze the results.

Also in 2018, Cal U received a \$6,000 grant from the Campus Vote Project that was used, in part, for stipends for two students who were chosen as election and voter engagement fellows.

"Cal U invests much time and effort into civic engagement programming, because today's college students will be tomorrow's community leaders," said Dr. Melanie Blumberg, director of the American Democracy Project at Cal U and a professor of political science.

Garcia Leads Office of Enrollment Management

homas "Dave" Garcia has begun work as Cal U's first vice president for Enrollment Management.

The Office of Enrollment Management was created through a reorganization of existing staff, with a goal of better coordinating the full scope of Cal U's strategic enrollment and student success efforts. It comprises the offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Success, and Career and Professional Development, plus the Welcome Center and Student Orientation.

Garcia, who started March 4, comes to Cal U from Kent State University, in Ohio, where he created and implemented strategic enrollment plans resulting in 10 consecutive years of enrollment growth. He also introduced several new financial aid programs, including initiatives designed to assist first-generation and low-income students, and to help college seniors graduate.

At Cal U, Garcia has been charged with steering



Thomas 'Dave' Garcia

the Enrollment Management Office toward success with a "students first" attitude, data-based decision-making and an entrepreneurial spirit. He will serve as a member of the President's leadership team.

"As an educator, my goal is to reach out and encourage students to excel and strive for greatness," Garcia says. "As a leader for the enrollment management division, I know the important role we all play in creating an environment that is user friendly,

caring and student-centered."

"I am so excited to join the Cal U family," Garcia says. "I was highly impressed with the beautiful campus and the excellent academic programs here at Cal U.

"With the leadership and vision of President Jones and the outstanding faculty and staff at Cal U, I have no doubt that we will be able to grow enrollment to higher levels in the years to come."

The office of Enrollment Management is located in Dixon Hall Room 302.



Science Olympiad at Cal U

McGuffey High School sophomores Lauren Baker and Nate Witkowsky identify reptiles at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Regional Science Olympiad on March 6 at the **Convocation Center. Middle** school and high school students from 13 counties competed in STEM-related events. Teams from Shady Side, Franklin Regional, Quaker Valley, Norwin, Winchester Thurston, **Peters Township and Mount** Lebanon advanced to the state competition April 27 at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa. The **National Science Olympiad will** be June 1 at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

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Trustees Get a Peek at Coover Hall

Before getting down to business at its March 7 quarterly meeting, members of Cal U's Council of Trustees toured a renovated and expanded Coover Hall, which is scheduled to open for the fall semester.

Funded by the state Department of General Services, the two-year, \$11 million project included a total life-cycle renovation, plus a two-story, 42,000-square-foot addition.

It will house the Department of Applied Engineering and Technology, as well as classes in art and design.

At the meeting, chairwoman Annette Ganassi introduced new trustee Anthony H. Amadio '73, who recently was appointed by Gov. Tom Wolf.

This is the second consecutive meeting with a new trustee at the table: Stephen M. DeFrank '92 attended his first quarterly council meeting in December. He is now Cal U's representative at PACT, the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees.

Amadio is seeking his fourth term as Beaver County commissioner. A retired teacher and former township supervisor, he is a lifelong Beaver County resident whose children, Tony Amadio '92 and Amy Fredericks '03, also are Cal U alumni.

"I have to give so much credit to Cal U, because without my degree from here I would not be where I am today," Amadio said.



Anthony H. Amadio



Stephen M. DeFra

In her report to the trustees, University President Geraldine M. Jones praised the exemplary work of the Facilities Management and Student Affairs staffs during the Feb. 20 power outage on campus.

The Facilities Management team worked tirelessly to identify the problem and make repairs, she said, while the Student Affairs staff went above and beyond to keep Cal U's students safe and comfortable when the power went out.

"You can tell a lot about the character of a community by watching how it responds to unexpected circumstances," she told the trustees. "I saw dedication, collaboration and a tremendous amount of hard work."

In other business:

• Dr. Bruce Barnhart, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs, received approval to forward proposals for two academic programs to the Office of the Chancellor. Cal U is seeking to convert the Arabic Language and Linguistics program from a concentration within the M.A. in Social Science to a master's degree program, and to offer a Master of Science in Accountancy.

In his enrollment update, Barnhart reported some positive trends, despite a decrease in overall headcount of more than 6 percent compared to spring 2018. The number of new first-year students taking on-campus courses is rising, he said, and enrollment by military students increased by about 1.6 percent compared to last spring.

Cal U's headcount ranks seventh among the 14 State System universities. Registration for Summer College sessions began Feb. 18.

• Robert Thorn, vice president for Administration and Finance, received approval for an updated five-year capital spending plan that prioritizes construction of a new science building to replace Frich and New Science halls.

The capital spending plan, which must be approved annually, sets the new building's cost at more than \$44 million. Like Coover Hall, the science center will be constructed with state funds.

• Dr. Nancy Pinardi, vice president for Student Affairs, introduced Becky McMillen and Lindsay Mongell of University Conference Services.

Their presentation focused on the

Convocation Center, highlighting the professional development opportunities available to Cal U students. In addition to work-study opportunities and graduate assistantships, students in programs such as commercial music technology, sport management and tourism gain hands-on experience at the Convocation Center.

Since 2011, more than 425,000 visitors have come through the building's doors.

• Tony Mauro, vice president for University Development and Alumni Relations, reported that his office has raised more than \$3.5 million in donations, which includes more than \$2 million in cash donations, so far in fiscal year 2018-2019.

Both of these totals are the second highest in the past seven years.

Christine Kindl, vice president for Communications and Marketing, teamed up with Keli Henderson, director of Marketing, and Greg Sofranko, director of Creative Services, to introduce an updated visual identity for the University and Vulcans athletic programs.

The Cal U community enthusiastically welcomed new University and athletics logos at a Logo Reveal Rally on Feb. 21 — the most recent milestone in Cal U's ongoing re-branding project.

The Council of Trustees is scheduled to meet again June 5.



Graduate School Sets Information Sessions

Interested in enhancing your resume and advancing your career with a master's or doctoral degree? Cal U is planning graduate school information sessions 6-8 p.m. March 27 and June 19 to learn about academic programs and options. Both sessions will be held in the Convocation Center, on campus.

The graduate school at Cal U offers both face-to-face classes and degree programs delivered 100 percent online.

At the information sessions, future students can meet with faculty, financial aid staff, students and alumni to learn about the benefits of a Cal U graduate program. There will also be campus tours, free applications and information on graduate assistantships.

Certificate and licensure programs are available in a variety of disciplines. Doctoral programs are offered in criminal justice, health science and exercise leadership, and education and administration leadership.

All information sessions are free but online registration is requested.

For more information about Cal U's programs, visit calu.edu/academics. For information about the School of Graduate Studies and Research, call 724-938-4187 or email gradschool@calu.edu.

Fundraiser Promotes Kindness

ookies and camaraderie highlighted a campus event to benefit the victims of last October's Tree of Life Synagogue

Proceeds from "Take a Bite Out of Hate: Cookies for a Cause" Feb. 26 went to the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's Fund for Victims of Terror. On Oct. 27, 2018, 11 people were killed in a mass shooting at the synagogue, located in the Squirrel Hill section of the city.

Those who donated were treated to cookies — representing Mexico, Norway, Germany, France, South Africa, China, Italy, the United States, Poland, Scotland, Canada and Israel — prepared by Cal U Dining and Hospitality Services.

Cal U faculty members
Dr. Emily Sweitzer and
Dr. Christina Toras collaborated
on the fundraiser.

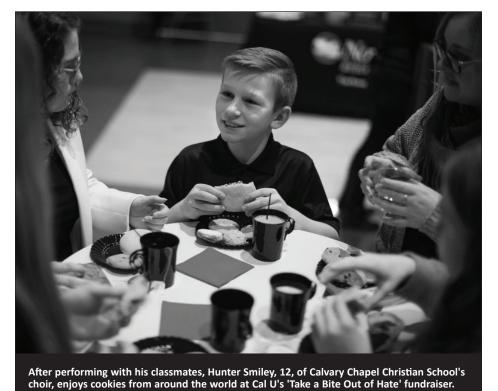
Preschool children from the Karen and Tom Rutledge Institute for Early Childhood Education, members of the Cal U String Orchestra and children from the Calvary Chapel Christian School in Brownsville performed at the event.

The Rutledge students sang "Spread Kindness" and made banners depicting what love means to them.

"The children made the day extremely special, and this is a good start to what hopefully becomes a nice tradition that just gets bigger and better," Toras said.

Cherie Sears, director of the Rutledge Institute Preschool Program, said it was important for the preschoolers to participate.

"Kids have an innocence to them. Let's try and keep that, but let's also show them that we can all get along and be kind to each other," she said.



"Unfortunately, the tragedy was so close to home, and lot of them know about it because the TVs are on. They need some kind of reassurance.

"Today they got to be the little helpers," she said, a reference to the late Fred Rogers' advice to "look for the helpers" for comfort and inspiration in times of tragedy.

Cal U first-year athletic training major Katelynn Sahady, a graduate of Calvary Chapel Christian School, enjoyed hearing some of her former schoolmates sing a medley.

"I think it's great to raise money and keep a positive awareness of what happened," she said.

Cal U cross country and track and head coach Daniel Caulfield attended the event with his wife, Jackie, who is also an assistant coach.

"It's a lovely event that deals with

such a tragic situation. It's important in taking the University where it wants to go in coming together and moving forward, especially for our students," he said.

"You must appreciate the time and effort put into this."

Scott Bush, an instructor in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, was glad he made the event part of his day.

"This was a something different, a very classy event for a good cause," he said.

Sweitzer estimated 180 members of the Cal U community stopped by the Performance Center.

"We want to continue addressing causes or issues," Sweitzer said of future events. "It's very natural to do so by being in each other" company for pure enjoyment," she said.

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Conference Proposals Due April 3

roposals for the fifth annual Strike a Call for Judges Spark Conference are due April 3. Presented by the Center for Undergraduate Research and the Faculty Professional Development Center, the event showcases the research, scholarship, creative activity and application of students and faculty.

This year's conference will be from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 24 in the Convocation Center. Dr. Dan Greenstein, Chancellor of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, will deliver the conference's keynote address at 11 a.m.

All University members who have been involved in research, scholarship or creative activity are encouraged to share their work.

Faculty, alumni, regional experts and professionals outside the campus community in fields representing Cal U's array of majors are encouraged to participate as judges of student work.

Those interested in serving as a judge should email their names, discipline, and morning or afternoon availability to Dr. Keat Murray by March 31 at murray@calu.edu with "Conference Judge" in the subject line.

To learn about this year's conference and how to submit a proposal, visit calu.edu/strikeaspark. Questions can be directed to Dr. Louise Nicholson at nicholson@calu.edu or Dr. Gregg Gould at gould@calu.edu.



Samantha Gloeckl (left) and Allison Greenlief discuss their research on art history methodologies with Dr. Gregg Gould at last spring's Strike a Spark Conference.

Young Women's Leadership Conference Set

al U is hosting a conference designed to empower young

The Cal U Young Women's Leadership Conference, "You Can at Cal U," will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 29 in the south wing of the Convocation Center.

Panel discussions will focus on career pathways. Panelists will include Cal U professors, students and graduates.

Conference participants include girls in seventh through 11th grades from surrounding school districts such as Belle Vernon, Brownsville, California, Charleroi, Frazier, Monessen, and Ringgold.

As part of the application process for this free conference, participants complete the Holland



Code RIASEC (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, Conventional) test, which helps determine career interests.

Based on the test results, students will be placed in panel discussion that focus on particular career interests, according to coordinator Dr. Mary Kreis, associate professor in Cal U's Department of Exercise Science and Sport Studies.

The visiting students will also take

a campus tour, receive lunch and hear from clubs and interest groups to get examples of the campus-life experience outside the classroom as well.

Cal U administrators and faculty who will lead panels include Dr. Brenda Fredette, dean of Eberly College of Science and Technology; Dr. Kristen Majocha, dean of the College of Liberal Arts; Christine Kindl, vice president for Communications and Marketing; Dr. Laura Miller, director of the sport management program; Dr. Jodi Dusi, director of the physical therapist assistant program; Dr. Ayana Lyles, associate professor in the Department of Health Science; Dr. Shelly Fetchen, coordinator of clinical education for the bachelor's degree in athletic training.

Cal U graduates include

Dr. Dara Rinchuse, orthodontist; Allison Kotarsky, owner of Paper Hearts Invitations; and Amy Smiley, vice president of Marketing for 84 Lumber.

"We are very excited and hope this inspires these young students to continue leading and to feel empowered to do so in their schools and communities." Kreis

Cal U faculty are welcome to participate in the conference. Email Kreis at kreis@calu.edu or call 724-809-6051.

Cal U students and alumni who wish to participate are also welcome to contact Kreis.

"This is a wonderful outreach for us and a way to showcase our University to truly up-and-coming female students,"

"We know you can have an impact on these girls' lives."

Female Leaders Discuss Journeys

- Continued from page 1

Kindl came to Cal U in 2008 after being a teacher and then a journalist for 20 years. She became a vice president last summer.

As a female reporter, Kindl was assigned to features and lifestyle stories but rose to become an associate editor.

"If I didn't make the decision to step up, I was not going to advance, so I made the decision right away to take on opportunities and challenges to move out of the little box I was put in.

"When you graduate, you probably have a vision of who you want to be, and if you don't follow that straight path you might feel you've failed. But that's not the case."

Fredette came to Cal U in 2018 from Medaille College in Buffalo, N.Y., where she was the assistant vice president for Student Success and a professor in Medaille's Division of Veterinary and Natural Sciences.

As a young female teacher in a male-dominated STEM field, she was told by a Ph.D. adviser that she could not have both a family and a career.

"I got a new adviser," Fredette said. "You don't have to make a choice between a family and a career, and I knew I was good at what I did."

Pinardi earned three degrees from

Cal U and a doctoral degree while working in Student Affairs. She has led that division since 2012.

"Never underestimate your own abilities. You are as good as anyone," she advised the young females in attendance.

Pinardi also encouraged women to pay it forward.

"As women, we must help other women get to the table and support them to get where we are now.

Majocha came to Cal U in 2018 from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, where she was the assistant to the vice president of Academic Affairs and an associate professor in the Communications Department.

A U.S. Navy veteran and single parent, she recalled a lasting impression early in her teaching career, when a disheveled but creative student described himself as organized in front

"Right then I learned the most important thing is to be yourself," she said. "I realized the student could not hide from who he was and neither could I. You have to be yourself."

She also emphasized resilience, describing how she turned several professional rejections into positive experiences.

"I faced my fear by feeling it, learning from it and moved forward," Majocha said. "I don't believe in barriers."

Women's History **Month Dinner**

The celebration continued March 7 with the 10th annual Women's History Month dinner. The event recognizes the efforts of organizations including the President's Commission for the Status of Women; the PASSHE Women's Consortium; the Cal U Women's Center and its I Am That Girl program; the women's studies minor; "The Vagina Monologues" cast; Cal U Women United; and the Serene Institute, which supports the Audrey Beth Fitch Women's Leadership retreat.

Keynote speaker Dr. Azadeh Block, of the Social Work Department, spoke to the group about microaggressions brief, everyday interactions based on a person's appearance or other external characteristics. Too often, women and people of color are subject to these instances of subtle discrimination.

"Rising up will only happen if we are all in this together," Block told the audience. "Strength lies in our collective experience of seeing things as they are."

Women's **History Month Ends**

al U's Women's History Month celebration concludes with two free events. March 26 — Free the Girls, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Natali Student Center: Educational content and fun activities will take place throughout the building to bring awareness and knowledge of the Free the Girls campaign and the international problem of human trafficking.

Free the Girls is an international organization that accepts financial donations as well as donations of new and gently used bras to help survivors of human trafficking start their own businesses selling bras. Donation boxes are located in campus buildings. Sponsor: Women's Studies and the Women's Center.

March 28 — *RBG*, 11 a.m., Vulcan Theatre: This 2018 film covers the exceptional life and career of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who has developed a breathtaking legal legacy while becoming an unexpected pop culture icon. Sponsor: Women's Studies and the Women's Center.

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Students Celebrate National TRIO Day

Cal U student Maritza Bernal (front right) meets with some of the high school juniors in the TRIO Upward Bound program. More than 90 high school students from Cal U's TRIO Upward Bound program marched through campus carrying posters on Feb. 23 as part of the 33rd annual National TRIO Day. TRIO Upward Bound is a federally-funded program that helps to prepare eligible students for success in postsecondary education. Cal U hosts Upward Bound programs for Washington, Fayette and Greene counties.

Theater Season **Continues**

The Department of Music and Theatre will continue its spring season with a night of the unexpected.

One-act plays by Maurice Maeterlinck, Susan Glaspell and Valery Bryusov will make audiences' minds roam and hearts yearn while keeping them on the edges of their seats.

Showtimes are 7 p.m. April 4-5 and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. April 6 in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$6 for those 55 and older and 12 and younger. Cal U students with valid CalCards pay 50 cents, plus a \$5 deposit that is refunded at the show.

For ticket information, or to charge tickets by phone, call the Steele Hall Box Office at 724-938-5943.

GRANTS AWARDED

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research reports that:

- Dr. Elizabeth Gruber, of the **Department of Counselor** Education, and Dr. Sheri Boyle, of the Department of Social Work, have received the second-year funding of \$478,012 as part of a four year \$1,901,791 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. This four-year grant provides 30 stipends per year and interdisciplinary training to graduate students in Cal U's Master of Social Work, Master of School Counseling, and Master of Mental Health Counseling during their longitudinal field placements preceding graduation.
- Jennifer Ramsey, of the Department of TRIO and Academic Services, has received \$465,903 for Upward Bound Fayette and \$328,912 for Upward Bound Monongahela from the U.S. Department of Education. The program helps to prepare eligible high school students for success in college.
- Dr. Katherine Mitchem, of the Department of Special Education, has received two grants from the Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust. She received \$66,000 for a program entitled "Using Technology to **Prepare Teacher Candidates** and Their Students with ICD with 21st Century Skills." She also received \$25,000 for an Endowed Chair in Education.

Receiver Catches Hall of Fame Nod

Editor's Note: The 2019 Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized at California University's signature fundraiser, the Bow Ties & Pearls Ball, June 29 in the Cal U Convocation Center. The event is open to the public; proceeds benefit scholarships for Cal U students and legacy projects on campus. For information, visit calu.edu/bowtiesball.

ate Forse contemplated quitting football before coming to Cal U, but his decision not to resulted in a successful professional career and now a spot in the Cal U Athletic Hall of Fame.

A three-year starting and allconference receiver for the football team from 2005 through 2007, Forse earned his bachelor's degree in sport management from Cal U in 2007.

He owns and operates Forse Lifestyle Coaching, in Los Angeles, Calif.

"Cal was not my first choice, because of my dream out of high school of playing Division I. But coming here was a blessing in disguise," said Forse who transferred from West Virginia University. "I believe everything in life happens for a purpose, and it might not happen the way you plan it, but Cal U shaped and molded me into who I am today."

Football success was immediate for Forse at Cal U, where he led all receivers with 39 catches for 496 yards and two touchdowns in 2005.

The Vulcans won eight games and their first PSAC-West title in 21 years.

The following year Forse again led the team with 50 receptions for 768 yards and three touchdowns. The Vulcans repeated as PSAC-West champions and again won eight games.

In 2007, Forse caught 59 balls for 804 yards and 10 touchdowns as the Vulcans



Former star receiver Nate Forse will be the fourth player from Cal U's 2007 national semifinalist football team to be inducted into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame.

compiled a 13-1 overall record and earned the team's first-ever NCAA Division II playoff appearance. Cal won two playoff games and advanced to their first of three straight national semifinal appearances. Forse earned his third all-conference accolade at season's end.

"We had a lot of transfers, but we were so cohesive, and there were no "I guys on our team," Forse said. "The coaching staff always emphasized that how we'd play on gameday was all about how we prepared all week, and for me it was a fresh start."

Two of Forse's touchdowns his senior season came in a 38-12 win at IUP, which was Cal U's second win over their nearby rivals in three years after losing 20 times

previously. Forse had two touchdowns and 239 yards in the NCAA playoffs.

"I regret we did not make the national title game, because we had the team to do it, but that's football," Forse said. "You don't get a second chance in games, and you have to be grateful for what you have and take in the most of every single day. Those are big lessons I've learned from football."

He finished his collegiate career with 148 total receptions, 2,068 yards and 15 touchdowns. His career receptions and yards still rank fifth and 10th, respectively, in the school record book.

During Forse's three seasons, the Vulcans won 29 of 35 games with a 16-2 PSAC-West mark under former head coach John Luckhardt. Forse praised Bobby Sepesy, Cal U's head strength and conditioning coach.

"He's a huge influence on my life and what I do now," said Forse, who is from Uniontown, Pa. "He really instilled a love of nutrition and a passion for training. I stayed at Cal and really dedicated myself to training and eating well before my senior season, and it was no accident that was my best year."

Before starting his business, Forse played five Arena Football League seasons and made 199 career receptions for 2,332 yards and 38 touchdowns. He lives in Marina del Ray, Calif.

"Southwestern Pennsylvania will always be home," Forse said. "I am super humbled, honored and blown away by making the Hall of Fame. "I feel like I've come full circle and can't believe this is happening.

"Cal U was a huge influence on me, and I could not be more grateful for my time there."

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