

Conference to Address Safety in Places of Worship

Gregory Mullen, the chief of police in Charleston, S.C., during the time of the shooting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in June 2015, will deliver the keynote address at the 11th annual Conference on Homeland and International Security.

"Protecting Places of Worship" will be held from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. April 12 in the Performance Center, located in the Natali Student Center. The conference is organized by the Department of Criminal Justice.

Registration is available at calu.edu/security.

Members of the public, including law enforcement officers and criminal justice professionals, are invited to join Cal U students, faculty and staff at the free event.

Mullen's keynote presentation, "Partnerships, Trust and Legitimacy: How They Integrate to Create Resiliency During Crisis," will be from 11-11:45 a.m.



Gregory Mullen

Mullen, now associate vice president for public safety and chief of police at Clemson University, was Charleston's chief

police from 2006-2017.

He coordinated incident action planning, crisis communications and media management surrounding the mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church. Nine members of the church were killed. Dylann Roof was convicted of 33 federal hate crimes in 2016 and sentenced to death.

Other presenters at the conference are faculty in Cal U's Criminal Justice Department:

- Dr. John Cencich, a former senior U.N. war crimes investigator and director of the Pennsylvania Center for Investigative and Forensic Services, will present "Threat Assessments through Predictive Behavioral Analysis" from 9:15-10 a.m.

- Dr. Michael Hummel, a retired military police officer and an active municipal police officer in Charleroi and Monessen, Pa., will present "The Physical Security Challenge of Protecting Institutions of Worship" from 10:05-10:50 a.m.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Warnick, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, at warnick@calu.edu or 724-938-5865.



Dr. Kimberly Woznack is a role model for women who are interested in STEM careers.

Chemistry Prof Inspires Women

Female students at Cal U who aspire to careers in chemistry have a role model in Dr. Kimberly Woznack.

The professor in the Chemistry and Physics Department began teaching at Cal U in 2004. For the past year, she has chaired the American Chemical Society's Women's Chemist Committee.

The committee's mission is to attract, retain, develop, promote, and advocate for women to positively impact diversity, equity and inclusion in the society and the profession.

Woznack and Dr. Gregg Gould are co-advisers of Cal U's student chapter of the American Chemist Society.

"The WCC hopes to remove the blinders as to what a chemist looks like," said Woznack, who also collaborates with the ACS Diversity and Inclusion Board.

"If you ask a child to draw a chemist, they would draw a picture of someone who looks like Albert Einstein in a lab coat. They would not draw someone who may have a different skin color or be a different gender.

"We're trying to give people opportunities, support and raise awareness and visibility."

Thirty percent of ACS membership is female.

"I would not say women are a rarity,

but we are still under-represented," she said. "We would like to see the membership reflect the representation of women in the industry, which is still a bit below 50 percent."

Woznack said women's participation in chemistry has significantly improved at the undergraduate level, where the population nationwide is 50 percent.

Seniors Taylor Potts and Susan Renninger accompanied Woznack and Dr. Min Li to the ACS National Spring Conference, March 31-April 4 in Orlando, Fla.

The two students presented posters and accepted an ACS Student Chapter

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State System Chancellor to Attend Forum, Conference at Cal U

Dr. Dan Greenstein, chancellor of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, will be on campus April 24.

Chancellor Greenstein took office on Sept. 4 and visited Cal U last October during his initial tour of all 14 State System universities.

His keynote address for the conference will be at 11 a.m. April 24 in the south wing of the Convocation Center.

At 1 p.m., Greenstein will hold an open forum in the Performance Center, inside the Natali Student Center. After a short presentation about the State System's redesign, the chancellor will take questions from the audience.

The entire campus community is welcome to attend the conference and the forum.

Greenstein is the fifth chancellor to lead the State System since its founding in 1983. Before coming to Pennsylvania, he led the Postsecondary Success strategy at the Bill and Melinda

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Dr. Dan Greenstein will visit Cal U April 24.

Suicide Event's Message: 'You Matter'

A moving presentation, telling statistics and sound advice blended when the Cal U Dance Ensemble and the Student Wellness Center partnered to advocate for the prevention of suicide.

"You Matter: A Suicide Prevention Presentation" was held in the morning and evening on March 26 in the Natali Performance Center.

Donations were accepted for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention of Western Pennsylvania.

Prior to the performances, several Cal U faculty members and students from the Dance Ensemble spoke.

Diane Eperthener Buffington, who teaches dance and psychology, started the event by citing some telling statistics from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the Council for Exceptional Children:

- In Pennsylvania suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 15 to 34.
- In 2017, 47,173 Americans lost their lives by suicide, an average of 129 per day and one every 12 minutes. Worldwide, there's one death every 40 seconds.

"It's time to ask, listen, act and make a difference for someone before it happens," Buffington said. "We want to help anyone here who may be uncertain of where to go and how to get help.

"Education and awareness are the answers. You are not alone, and you definitely matter."

According to Rachel Wells, a dancer and psychology major, the 8-minute dance "explores the process of what someone might be experiencing."

"We wrote narratives for three types of people: those who are afraid to ask for help, those who are crying out for help, and those who regret a suicide attempt,"

added dancer Jessica Kroll, a childhood education major.

Dancer Alexandra Wilson, along with Wells, said she and many of her classmates have all had their lives affected by suicide.

"It's heartbreaking to watch someone suffer and find out that they are alone because no one would take them or their troubles seriously," Wilson said. "I want to see this change on campus and the topic of suicide prevention and awareness stop being taboo or something that we ignore in hopes it will go away."

Wells added, "All it takes is one person to stand up, speak up, stand in and save a life."

The dancers recently presented their performance at the American College Dance Association Mid-Atlantic North Regional Conference. Other dancers who performed were Holly Grainger, Juliann Marraccini, and Amanda Woodburn.

Dr. Holiday Adair, chair of the Department of Psychology, discussed warning signs and risk factors, citing the classic risk theory of one feeling burdensome, a social disconnect and a lack of fear of death (capacity).

"Suicide can be an incredibly impulsive act or be a well-planned out act and requires different strategies for each moment of that time," she said.

"We think about risk factors, and I would like to say that we are all at risk. We are all on this continuum, and we all change our position on this continuum as we go through life."

Dr. Dawn Moeller, from Cal U's Counseling Center, discussed where to get help on campus at the morning presentation. Dr. Jayna Bonfini, also from the Counseling Center, addressed



Cal U's Dance Ensemble performs 'You Matter.'

that topic at the evening performance.

While explaining services provided by the counseling center and the 24-hour availability of University Police, Moeller urged students to rely on their own instincts and ask another student if he or she is feeling suicidal.

"It's a big hurdle to ask someone that, but do it," she said. "You are the frontlines for each other."

Cal U's Counseling Center, in Carter Hall G-54, is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. The center's phone number is 724-938-4056. The Cal U Police Department can be reached 24 hours a day at 724-938-4357 (HELP) or 911. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 800-273-8255 (TALK). The Crisis Text Line can be reached by texting HELLO to 741741.

Women Discuss Immigration

In the midst of an ongoing national conversation about immigration policies in the United States, Cal U hosted two speakers on the subject as part of Women's History Month.

According to U.S. Census Bureau data, roughly 22,000 refugees were resettled in the United States in 2018. There are more than 43 million immigrants out of a population of 323 million people. The undocumented immigrant population is estimated at 11 million.

Emily Pence and Amy Lyons spoke about some of the issues via Skype on March 19 in Duda Hall.

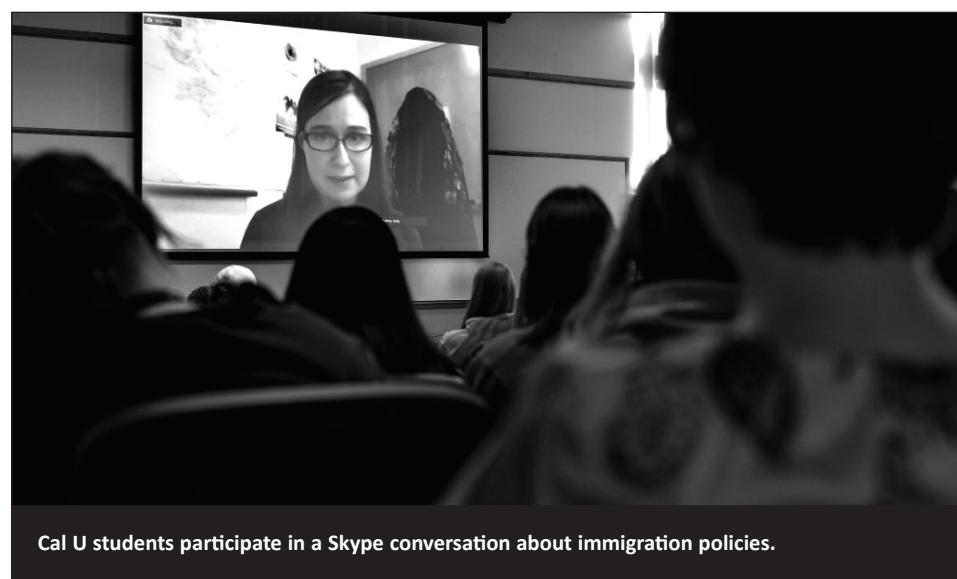
A service coordinator for Immigrant Services and Connections, Pence works for the Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh.

She connects refugees facing language or cultural barriers to services such as housing, public benefits, medical services, education, or childcare.

An artist originally from Pittsburgh, Lyons is a parent of three children who have attended Brooklyn Arbor in New York.

Her middle son is in fourth grade and has been with the same Spanish dual-language class since kindergarten. Maria, the mother of one of his classmates, has cancer; the classmate's father has been deported.

Lyons and other parents have become involved with legal agencies with hopes of the father gaining temporary re-entry. They've also raised \$40,000 through



Cal U students participate in a Skype conversation about immigration policies.

a GoFundMe site. Lyons signed legal documents to be a temporary guardian if the mother becomes incapacitated.

"It's been grueling for them. I can't even understand how Maria does it each day keeping her house in order and finding food for her children," she said.

Lyons, who is working on a children's book about the life of a 12-year-old German immigrant in Williamsburg in 1901, believes the uneasy political climate has roused people.

"Maria's voice has kind of been amplified because so many people have been outraged over the process of illegal immigrants becoming naturalized and getting any kind of residency," she said. "I think there's been a lot of pushback because so many illegal immigrants are doing the daily work of running the city."

Pence emphasized language and cultural barriers, and how daily life — using a credit card, operating an elevator, filling out an application, using a restroom — can include serious obstacles.

"These are things that we take for granted but these people have never seen," she said.

Though she's seen more rude behavior over the past couple of years, Pence believes language access, including the use of interpreters, has become better. She added that many refugees and immigrants are adept at starting own businesses and cited the ethnic grocery and restaurant stores in Pittsburgh.

"There's a lot of successes, and they are amazing and heart-warming," she said. "These people have an awful lot to offer our society."

State System Chancellor to Visit Cal U

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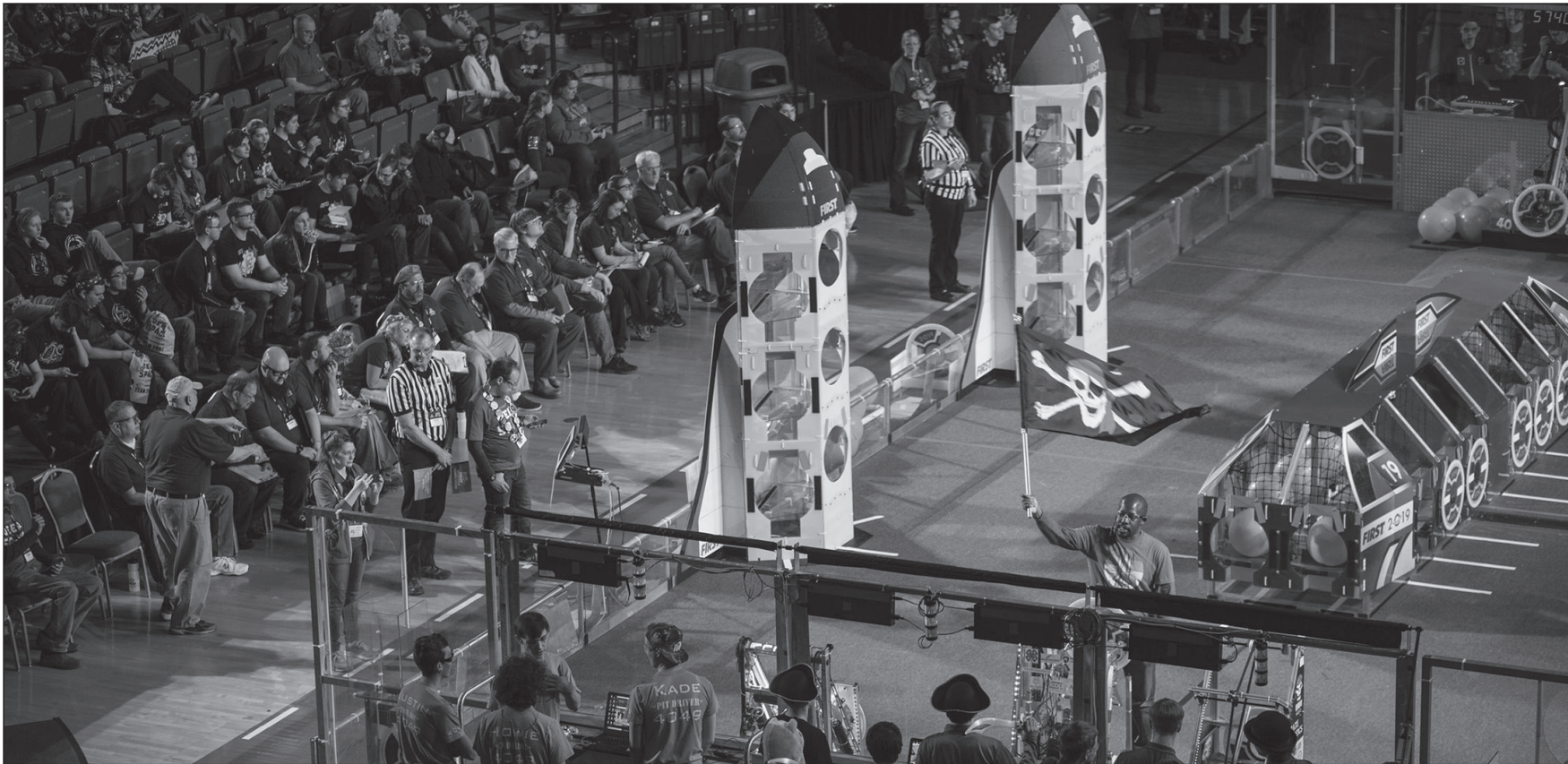
Gates Foundation. He also was a top administrator in the University of California system.

Dr. Gregg Gould, director of the Center for Undergraduate Research, said the Strike a Spark Planning Committee reached out to President Geraldine M. Jones, who enthusiastically extended an invitation to the Chancellor.

"Obviously all of us involved with the planning for this year's conference are very pleased to have such a high-profile keynote speaker and one that is certainly very interested in the research, scholarship, and creative activities of our students and faculty," said Gould.

"Being our fifth anniversary it's very special to have Chancellor Greenstein here and I am confident he will leave with a very positive impression of Cal U's academic achievements, and the energy and enthusiasm of our presenters and performers."

To learn about this year's conference, visit calu.edu/strikespark. Questions about the conference can be directed to Dr. Gregg Gould at gould@calu.edu.



Cal U has hosted the FIRST® Robotics Greater Pittsburgh Regional for six consecutive years and has become a premier regional destination for robotics competitions. Next up is the Bots IQ Finals, which will take place April 26-27 at the Convocation Center.

Robotics Teams Conquer 'Deep Space' Challenge

The challenges are always new at the FIRST® Robotics Greater Pittsburgh Regional Competition.

This year's mission, DESTINATION: DEEP SPACE, was held March 21-23 at Cal U's Convocation Center, the sixth year the event has been held at the University.

Teams used remote-controlled robots to gather as many cargo pods as possible in 2 minutes, 30 seconds and prepare their spaceships for departure before the next sandstorm.

The annual competition encourages high school students to develop skills in science, technology, engineering and math, along with project management, problem solving and teamwork.

The theme was announced in January. Teams had just six weeks to build their robots.

Dr. Jennifer Wilburn, an assistant professor in Cal U's Department of Applied Engineering and Technology, has been a judge for the competition since 2014.

She said this year's game pushed students to investigate and apply new technologies.

"As a judge, I look for a thorough engineering design process, and that the students are the driving force behind the design and build process," said Wilburn, who is also the coordinator of Cal U's four-year mechatronics engineering technology program.

"I also look for innovative solutions, particularly those that perform promisingly in the field."

Brandon Snyder, a senior from Girard, Ohio, and a co-pilot for The RoboCats, said the addition of the "sandstorm" which eliminates vision except from the robot's perspective, makes the game unique. He said it particularly increased his programming skills and camera knowledge.

"Instead of the first 15 seconds being all autonomous robot control, you can actually manually control your own robot," he said. "You have to put a camera on the robot to give you vision of the field while you're playing, which is a big difference.

"It's a really fun game and because I'm the co-pilot and on the field often if something goes wrong I want to be able to fix that."

In all, 45 teams from six different states competed.

Cal U President Geraldine M. Jones

Championship Bound

These teams qualified for the FIRST® Championship, April 24-27 in Detroit, Mich.

Regional Champions: Team 48, Team E.L.I.T.E., Warren, Ohio; Team 3324, The Metrobots, Columbus, Ohio; Team 5842, Royal Robotics, New Port Richey, Fla.

Chairman's Award: Team 5811, BONDS, Dayton, Ohio.

Rookie All Star Award: Team 7515, Dark Side Robotics, Parkersburg, W.Va.

Engineering Inspiration: Team 5740, Trojanators, Cranberry Township, Pa.

Wildcard qualifiers: Team 3504, Girls of Steel, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Team 4150 FRobotics, Murrysville, Pa.; Team 1787, Flying Circuits, Cleveland, Ohio.

opened the competition on Friday with welcoming remarks.

"I am eager to see how far your creativity and technical skill will take each of your teams," she said.

The weekend included a display of a self-driving car from Uber, a ride-sharing transportation company.

It also included a 900-pound commercial cleaning robot from Discovery Robotics, located in Pittsburgh, Pa.

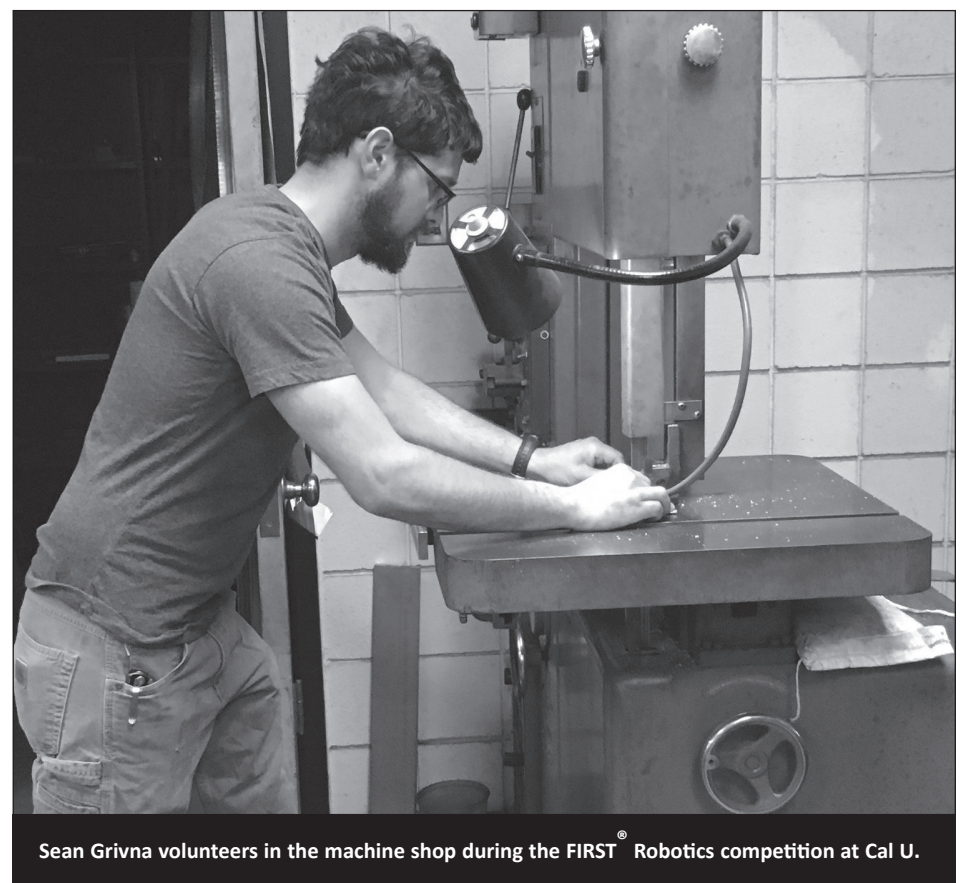
Alumnus Leonard Verdetto, who majored in robotics and mechatronics engineering technology, said the Convocation Center provided a unique testing environment for the machine.

"We want to see how it performs specific tasks in a variety of environments. I suggested Cal U because of the robotics and mechatronics programs and because of the venue."

Sydney Gillen, a freshman on the Avi and Friends team from Sylvania, Ohio, summed up the experience as she charted her team's opponents' match schedules.

Involved mainly with the non-technical aspects of the competition, she found the experience to be gratifying.

"No matter what you do in this program you are going to learn something that you will use the rest of your life," she said.



Sean Grivna volunteers in the machine shop during the FIRST® Robotics competition at Cal U.

Graduate Helps to Keep Robots in Game

Alumnus Sean Grivna enjoys helping the FIRST® Robotics teams so much he takes vacation time to do so.

An operations manager for PetraFab Inc., a stone fabrication company in Baltimore, Md., Grivna has run a machine and welding shop for FIRST® teams in Helsel Hall since the Greater Pittsburgh Regional Competition started taking place at Cal U's Convocation Center in 2014.

Initially he served this role when he was a teaching assistant for Dr. Jennifer Wilburn, an assistant professor in Cal U's Department of Applied Engineering and Technology.

"She asked if I had any interest in helping the students out in the machine shop," recalled Grivna, a 2014 graduate who studied technical studies and industrial technology management. "I had a whole bunch of fun, so I decided to do it every year."

Since helping that first time, Grivna has taken time off work to

return to his alma mater.

"It's a three-day vacation," he said. "I like working with the kids every year and seeing how they progress and come up with answers to challenges."

Jeff Laurenson, a mentor for the second-year Brashear Bulls Robotics team, was grateful after Grivna cut a bracket to fit his team's robot's bumper frame.

"For significant cuts you need a metal shop; you can't do that in the pits," said Laurenson, who teaches calculus and robotics at Brashear High School, in Pittsburgh, Pa. "He was incredibly helpful and saved me a whole lot of time."

Grivna looks forward to returning next year.

"My education at Cal U has helped me take a company from \$2.3 million to soon breaking \$4.7 million as well as creating an entire base platform and how to measure metrics for the company," he explained.

"Will I be here next year? Yes, sir."



Jae'Len Means heads into the outdoor season as a two-time All-American after finishing fifth overall in the 200-meter dash at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field National Championships.

Sprinter Earns All-American Honors

Graduating senior Jae'Len Means became the first individual male sprinter in Cal U history to garner a first-team All-American award in a flat sprint race when he placed fifth overall in the finals of the 200-meter dash at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field National Championships on March 9.

A flat race includes 60, 100, 200, and 400-meter runs.

He crossed the finish line at Pittsburg, Kan., with a time of 21.34 seconds while competing in the second heat of the finals. In the preliminaries he broke his own school record with a time of 21.33 seconds.

A 5-foot-9 senior, Means received NCAA First-Team All-America laurels for the first time in his career. He earned NCAA Second-Team All-America honors in the 200 meters at the 2017

NCAA Indoor Championships.

"We were extremely excited for Jae'Len and very proud of his performances," said Daniel Caulfield, Cal U men's and women's track and field and cross country head coach. "His event coach, Sandy Estep, had predicted he would run as fast as he did, so we weren't shocked.

"However, the fact that he went from being ranked 15th to finishing fifth was fantastic."

Before the NCAA meet, Means was named the Most Outstanding Track Athlete of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Indoor Championships after winning the 60- and 200-meter events. He was also named the PSAC Indoor Track Athlete of the Year.

The 2019 NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships will take place May 23-25 in Kingsville, Texas.

Campus BRIEFS

Students Gearing Up for The Big Event

Hundreds of Cal U student-volunteers will tackle chores for local residents during The Big Event, starting at 8:30 a.m. April 13.

The annual student-led service project aims to make a difference for Cal U's neighbors and local organizations. Window washing, litter pickup, painting and yard work are some of the projects on the list.

Cal U's Student Government Association and the University's Center for Volunteer Programs and Service Learning have been teaming up since 2007 to encourage student volunteers to lend a helping hand around the borough of California.

Businesses or residents interested in receiving student-volunteer help should email volunteer@calu.edu or call 724-938-4793.

available to licensed social workers, licensed professional counselors and nationally board certified counselors.

Some of the topics will include caregiving, community health choices, dementia, depression, geriatric competency, and suicide.

For more information or to register, contact Molly Jenkins at jenkins_m@calu.edu or 724-938-4163. The summit is limited to 175 attendees.

The conference is supported by a \$1.9 million grant funded by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In addition to preparing future counselors and social workers, the grant supports training for Cal U students and their field-placement supervisors, University faculty and community-based professionals.

Student Art Display Begins April 18

A student exhibit of drawings and ceramic art, *Pots and Other Thoughts*, will be on display in the third-floor gallery of Manderino Library from April 18 through May 1.

Extended viewing hours for this exhibit will be from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon-6 p.m. Sunday. The library will be closed April 21.

Comedy Continues Theater Season

The Department of Music and Theatre will continue its spring season at 7 p.m. April 17-18 in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Commit to the Bit: An Evening of Sketch Comedy and Improvisation will be a two-act show made up of sketches that Cal U student actors created through improvisation.

Jeshua Myers, Shane Callahan, Noah Dohanich, Mack Freed, Elijah Gilbert, Christina Kent and Quest Sawyer will perform.

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

Summit on Aging April 12

The Department of Counselor Education, the Master of Social Work, and Gerontology programs are offering a free professional development opportunity for students, faculty, staff and behavioral health professionals.

"Summit on Aging 2019" will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. April 12 in the Convocation Center. The free conference is approved for five continuing education units

Correction

The expansion to Coover Hall is 4,200 square feet. An incorrect measurement was published in the March 25 *Journal*.

Woznack Inspires Women in Chemistry

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honorable-mention award for their programs and activities. This is the chapter's second honor in three years.

Potts praised Woznack as a mentor and role model.

"Dr. Woznack has been a huge inspiration to me and helped me tremendously over the last few years," Potts said. "It's important

that women chemists are recognized and treated with respect. She is a great professor and a great example of how it is absolutely possible to manage a career and family, as well as make connections with her students every day."

In February, the chapter sponsored a breakfast to support female chemists.

"At the conference I can introduce our students to a larger chemistry network, which is something we can do

here electronically but is obviously not the same," Woznack said. "Events such as the breakfast educate and show people facts on women's involvement, which they need to know."

Woznack, a mother of two, has shared her experiences in *Mom the Chemistry Professor*. She was the lead editor for the book's second edition and was a chapter author and co-editor of the first.

The book features 40 personal

accounts of the challenges and rewards of combining motherhood with an academic career in chemistry. The book also contains a chapter on safety issues for pregnant or nursing women at academic institutions.

"We wanted to showcase success stories, because you don't have to be afraid," said Woznack. "I'm a professor and a mom, and it works. Nobody's life anywhere is perfect, but it can be very rewarding and incredible."

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