

California University JOURNAL

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Freescale Cup Comes to Cal U

Computer-driven cars will be racing to campus for the Freescale Cup East Coast Regional competition from 1-4 p.m. April 27 at the Convocation Center.

Sponsored by the microprocessor manufacturer Freescale, the global collegiate competition challenges students to program and race autonomous, small-scale model cars around a racetrack, seeking the fastest time.

Stakes will be high this year: Nearly 40 teams from Connecticut, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island will travel to Cal U to face off for a chance to compete Aug. 21-24 in Harbin, China.

The West Coast regional winner will be on campus to face the East Coast winner immediately after the regional competition. The winner of that face-off will advance to the international contest.

For Freescale Cup competitions, each team is given a car chassis and basic parts. Students are responsible for the programming, motor control and sensory components of the car.

The little cars zip around the racetrack, following a black line by using a sensor or camera attached to the bottom of the car.

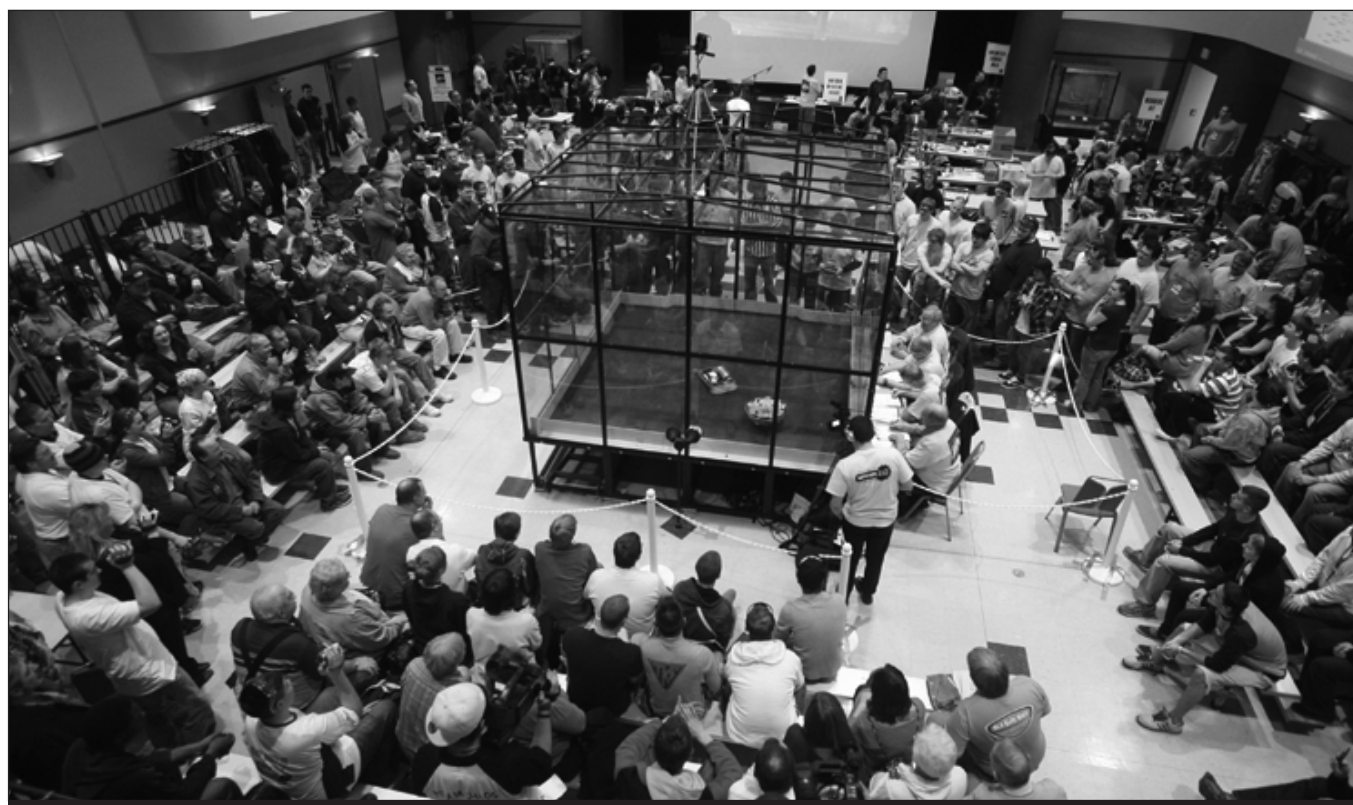
"This isn't the type of problem that has a textbook or cookie-cutter solution," said Dr. Jeff Sumey, an associate professor in the Department of Applied Engineering and Technology.

Each car has different dynamics, he explained, so students must use mathematical formulas or trial-and-error to discover the most effective tuning options.

"It is a very interesting engineering problem to solve," said Sumey, who is responsible for bringing the competition to Cal U.

Freescale Cup competitions have grown in popularity over the past decade. Worldwide, more than 20 countries and 1,000 universities now participate in

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Cal U will host the 2013 southwestern Pennsylvania finals of the BotsIQ contest this Friday and Saturday. Students from more than 40 area high schools, guided by industry advisers, have been working for months to create robots for the gladiator-style competition.

Mechanical Melee: Sparks to Fly at BotsIQ Finals

It's a fight for survival, and the campus community can watch the sparks fly when robots battle to the finish Friday and Saturday in the Convocation Center.

Cal U will host the 2013 southwestern Pennsylvania finals of the BotsIQ contest, a gladiator-style competition between custom-made robots.

The face-offs continue all day long inside two Lexan "cages" inside the Convocation Center arena. The public is invited to cheer on their favorites as students from more than 40 area high schools guide their custom-built, remote-controlled robots into battle.

Contest judges look for aggression, control, damage and strategy, but teams also are judged on engineering skills,

recordkeeping, interviews and sportsmanship.

Winners will attend the National Tooling and Machining Association's National Robotics League Competition May 17-19 in Indianapolis.

"There's a lot more to this contest than smashing robots — although that's a lot of fun," says contest organizer Michael Amrhein, of Cal U's Department of Applied Engineering and Technology. "In the end, it's about developing students' interest in STEM and showing them how those skills can lead to jobs in industry."

KDKA-TV will be on hand both days to film the contest for a 30-minute television show featuring the contest and introducing Cal U's new bachelor's degree program in mechatronics

engineering technology.

VIPs including the state Secretary of Education, Ron Tomalis, are expected to attend, along with representatives from the dozens of area industries that advise the teams and support BotsIQ.

Friday's events begin with an opening ceremony at 9:15 a.m.; the 'bots bouts continue throughout the day and conclude at 5:30 p.m. Saturday's robot rumbles start at 9 a.m., with the closing awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

Admission to the Convocation Center arena is free, and visitor parking is available in the Vulcan Garage, off Third Street near the campus entrance. Food will be available for purchase. For a complete schedule, plus lists of competing schools, industry partners and awards, visit www.calu.edu.

Art, Economics Forum Rescheduled

The Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council will present the findings of its "Arts, Culture & Economic Prosperity" study from 9:30 a.m.-noon April 22 in the Kara Alumni House.

This forum, which will explain how arts and culture impact the economy of southwestern Pennsylvania, has been rescheduled after last month's power outage.

Presented in conjunction with the Arts Education Collaborative, the session will examine the economic impact of the nonprofit arts and culture sector, which generates \$136.2 billion nationwide and \$2.6 billion in Pennsylvania.

The forum at Cal U will focus on the related themes of economic impacts of

arts and culture, K-16 arts education, and workforce development, and the effect of the arts on the region's residents and businesses, now and in the future.

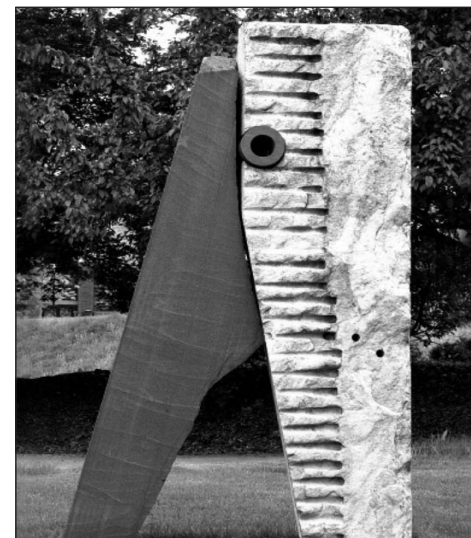
Administrators, artists, educators, funders and policymakers will be on hand to discuss arts-based education, urban development and college collaborations, as well as effective advocacy strategies on behalf of arts education. Speakers will include Interim University President Geraldine M. Jones; Jim Denova, vice president of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation; and Sarah Tambucci, of the Arts Education Collaborative.

Each attendee will receive a complimentary copy of *Arts, Culture, &*

Economic Prosperity (Allegheny County, Pa.), a summary of Pennsylvania's statewide economic impact study and additional materials.

The free event is open to the public and includes a light continental breakfast. Free parking is available on campus in the River Lot (Lot 4), off Second Street. Registration is required; those who registered for the original date are not required to sign up again.

For more information, contact Jodie Rooney, Cal U academic events coordinator, at 724-938-1584 or rooney@calu.edu; or Dr. David Pankratz, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council research and policy director, at 412-391-2060, Ext. 232, or dpankrat@pittsburghartscouncil.org.



Cal U, which has many outdoor sculptures, will host a forum on the arts and the economy on April 22.

'Silence' Summit Explores Exploitation

Human trafficking is becoming more common, and building an informed and aware coalition is the most effective way to combat this crime.

Those were key messages at "Shatter the Silence II: Identifying, Rescuing and Rehabilitating Sexually Exploited Children, Adolescents and Young Adults."

The April 4 summit was presented by Cal U's Assessment, Intervention and Training Center, in partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

The event concluded with graduate students in Cal U's Department of Social Work presenting on their own coalition-building efforts.

Event coordinator Dr. Margaret "Peg" Christopher described the NCMEC's Campaign Against Sexual Exploitation during her welcoming remarks.

"To rescue the victims it takes a coalition of police, human services (agencies), schools, families and others who are vigilant working together in the community," she said.

The keynote speaker, former police chief Kenneth D. Cole, began his presentation by explaining that trafficking and smuggling are different.

"Smuggling is a crime against a country's borders, while human trafficking is a crime against a person," he explained.

Trafficking victims can be moved from state to state or even town to town, he said. The U.S. Department of Justice



Former police chief Kenneth D. Cole discusses the growth of human trafficking and ways to combat it during the April 4 'Shatter the Silence II' summit in the Performance Center.

estimates that 80 percent of human trafficking victims are women, and 70 percent of them are involved in commercial sexual exploitation.

An estimated 750,000 women were trafficked in the United States during the past decade, Cole said, and more than 200,000 children younger than 18 are at risk of falling prey to the sex trade industry.

Roughly 50 percent of all human trafficking cases investigated by the FBI involve sexual exploitation, and about 35 percent involve forced labor. Hotels and restaurants are frequent areas for trafficking and prostitution.

"This is not just a state or country problem but an international problem that

is growing dramatically," he said. "The Internet and technology have played a significant role in the increase in trafficking. Before, prostitutes would approach cars or even place ads in the newspaper. Now a person just needs to turn on a smartphone."

Christopher also emphasized that exploitation and trafficking are not confined to urban areas. Children, adolescents and young adults in rural and small-town communities, especially those along interstate highways or close to casinos, are especially vulnerable to involuntary recruitment into the sex-for-profit industry, often a component of organized crime.

"Pennsylvania used to be a 'pass

through' state, but we are now a destination state," she said. "We've seen this in urban areas for years, but it's now in small-town communities — and the problem is only going to get bigger."

Cal U faculty members Tracey Koval and Dr. Mary Ann Salotti also gave presentations.

Koval described the developmental impact of trauma and discussed approaches for secondary prevention. Research about the human brain and how people process trauma is advancing rapidly, she said.

Even children are scarred by trauma.

"Some adults say they're too young to understand; however, children are affected by traumatic events even though they may not understand what happened."

Salotti spoke of the journey from the streets to the campus, and she credited students in the Master of Social Work program for addressing this difficult topic.

"Our students are playing a big part in spreading the message 'not here, not anywhere.' It's their passion," she said.

Students from several of Christopher's classes helped to organize the summit.

Graduate student Jamie Heffler also wrote "secret song" lyrics, set to a tune from the musical *South Pacific*, that teach safety tips to children.

Students have presented NCMEC information packets to local hospitals, emergency medical services, police and fire departments, she said.

"Each assignment we do throughout the semester builds on the coalition and teaches us how sexual exploitation takes place, what signs to look for and how to educate ourselves."

Town Spruces Up on Earth Day

Through the Center for Civic Engagement, Cal U's AmeriCorps program has partnered with the Geology Club and the borough to conduct a California Earth Day Community Cleanup Celebration on April 22.

Kelsey Rufft, vice president of the Geology Club, said Cal U students, borough residents, professionals and students from local high schools will remove trash and plant flowers from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Earth Day. The rain date is April 24.

The cleanup will start at the campus border and work its way to Mechanic Street, the downtown area and Wyatt Park. Information has been distributed to student leaders of Cal U clubs, as well as to community residents through the Good Neighbors program.

Gloves, trash bags and safety vests will be provided, courtesy of the Great American Cleanup of Pennsylvania. All volunteers are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle; each will receive free refills, snacks and a ticket for a raffle at the evening's celebration.

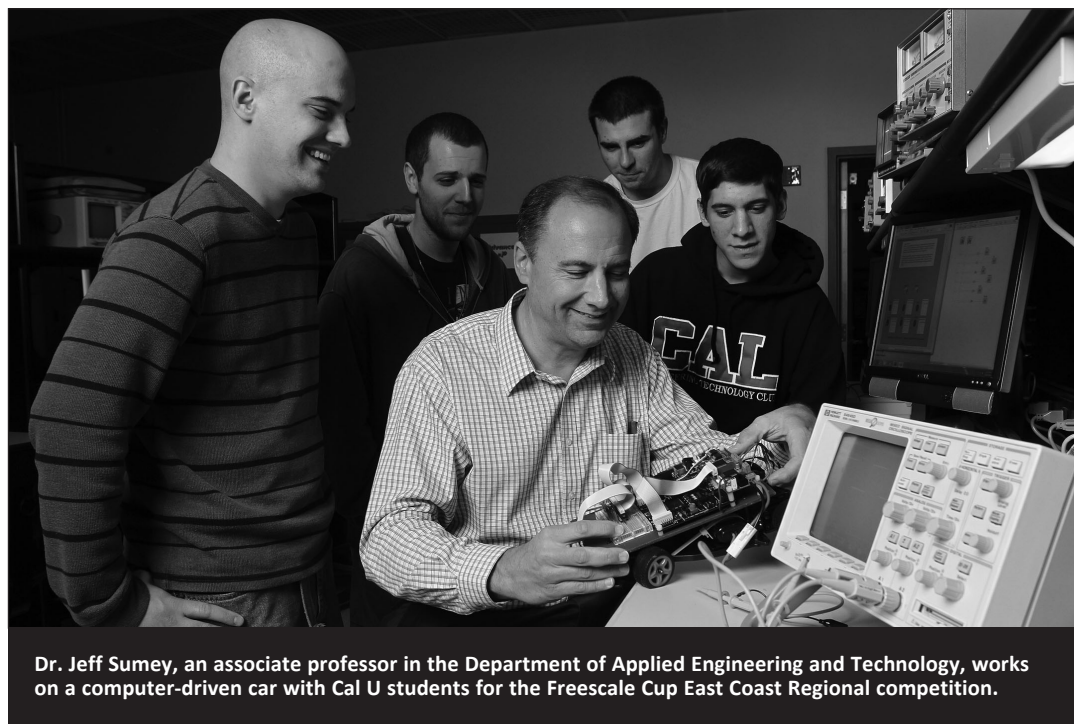
Individuals or clubs can "sponsor a planter" by paying the cost of replanting one pot with seasonal plants for one year. Flowering plants will be provided at a discount. To sponsor a planter or to purchase flowering plants, organizations should contact the Geology Club.

"I really think this event can promote not only health and wellness, but also getting out there to build a better community," Rufft said. "This is a day of service, fun and celebration."

After the cleanup, volunteers will celebrate from 5-7 p.m. at Jozart's Center for the Arts. All cleanup participants will be given a ticket for the event.

Rufft said she hopes that in the future, the event will be certified by PennDOT and the Great American Cleanup. It also may become a fundraiser for the California Loop Trail project.

Volunteers are welcome. The event is posted on Facebook; search for "California Earth Day." Registration is available online at <http://www.calu.edu/current-students/get-involved/civic-engagement/search-projects/searchQuery.php> or <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SMXK3QQ>. For more information, contact Rufft at ruf5764@calu.edu or 301-216-4570.



Dr. Jeff Sumey, an associate professor in the Department of Applied Engineering and Technology, works on a computer-driven car with Cal U students for the Freescale Cup East Coast Regional competition.

Freescale Cup Comes to Cal U

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Freescale events.

The competition also has added to the success of the Electrical Engineering Technology (EET) program at Cal U, said Sumey, who started using the Freescale Cup cars as a term project for his junior-level EET 360 course back in 2010.

"The cars are creating a lot of excitement about the program and the class in a 'trickle-down' sort of way," he said. "Freshmen entering the program look forward to participating in the course, and student enrollment in the class has doubled since I added the project."

When the competition comes to campus in April, Cal U will have three or four teams racing their cars against teams from some of the

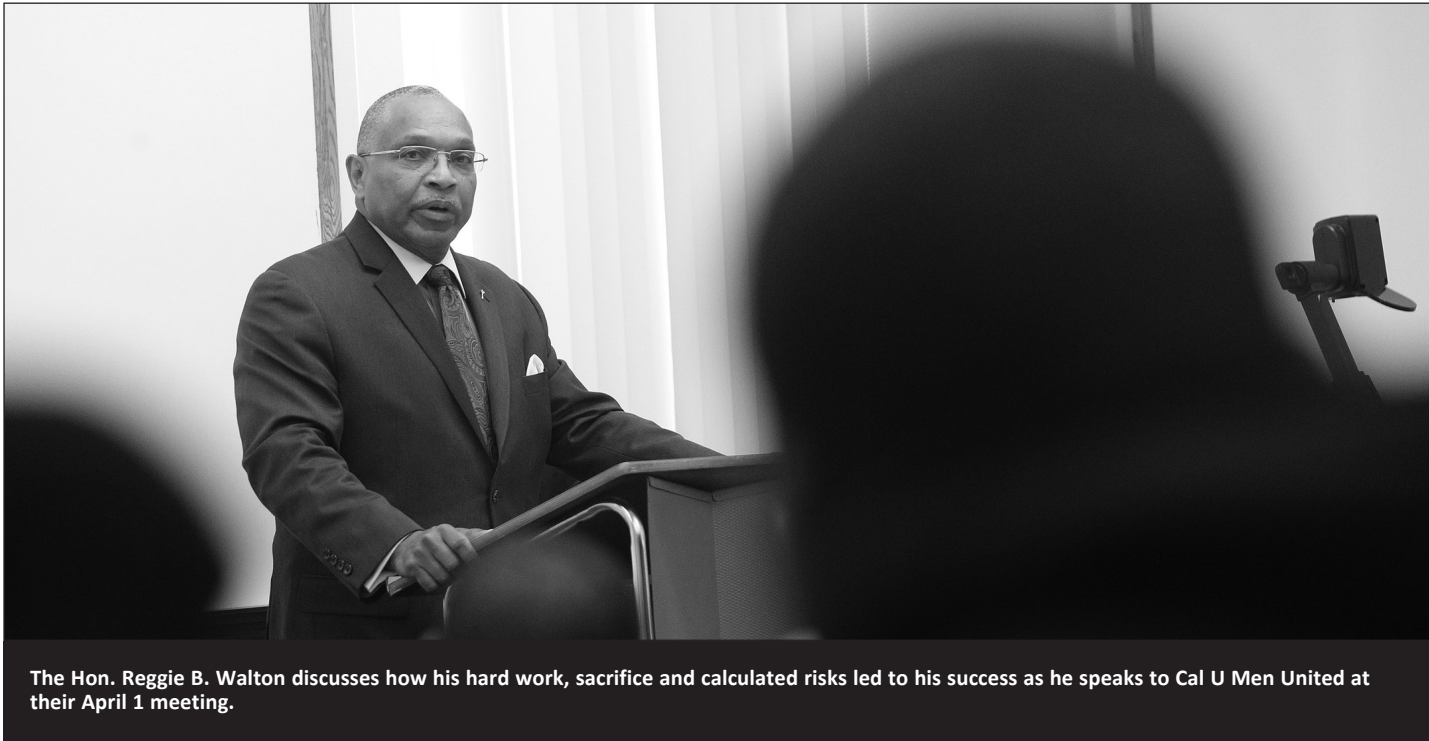
best engineering universities in the region.

"It is a very good project for what we do in this program," said senior Paul Dixon, an EET major. "The competition gives a very comprehensive view of embedded programs, and it takes what we do in the classroom to another level."

A team from Cal U couldn't get its car to perform at last year's regional competition at Penn State University, but this year students are looking forward to showcasing their knowledge on home turf.

"The competition is the end-game to our time in the program," said senior Dakota Diehl, another EET major.

"We look forward to the event. It really helps us stay focused on our studies, learn to be part of a team and manage our time throughout our experience at Cal U."



The Hon. Reggie B. Walton discusses how his hard work, sacrifice and calculated risks led to his success as he speaks to Cal U Men United at their April 1 meeting.

Campus BRIEFS

Leadership Workshop Tuesday

The Hon. Theresa Dellick, juvenile court judge for Mahoning County, Ohio, will deliver the keynote address at *Leadership and Public Service*, a daylong series of leadership workshops set for Tuesday at Cal U.

Organized by the campus chapter of the American Democracy Project and the Linda and Harry Serene Leadership Institute, the event is designed to spark discussion of leadership on campus, in the community and across the nation.

Dellick will describe her innovative work in the juvenile court system at 7 p.m. in Eberly Hall, Room 110.

Because she believes that issues are related, Dellick created a Treatment Court that blends mental health and substance abuse together for rehabilitation.

She also has launched model programs that provide specific treatment and sanctions, including education and truancy courts, a counseling program, a comprehensive sports program for juveniles, the Parent Project, a teen court and an ADHD program.

Additional leadership presentations are planned throughout the day.

Leadership and Public Service is co-sponsored by California University's Office of Academic Affairs/Office of the Provost, College of Liberal Arts, Department of History and Political Science, Department of Justice, Law and Society and Cal Campaign Consultants.

All presentations are free, and the public may attend. To see a list of presenters and the schedule, visit www.calu.edu.

Weather Spotter Volunteer Training Set

The Cal U Meteorology Club will host a SKYWARN session to train severe weather spotters at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in Eberly Hall, Room 120.

SKYWARN volunteers provide the National Weather Service with timely reports of severe weather, primarily by identifying and describing severe local storms.

The National Weather Service uses the information to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

John Darnley, from the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh, will lead the training. The session is free, and the public is welcome. No registration is required.

Judge Inspires 'Men United'

Speaking at the April 1 meeting of Cal U Men United, the Hon. Reggie B. Walton discussed how his hard work, sacrifice and calculated risks led to his success.

President George W. Bush appointed Walton as the U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia in 2001. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts appointed Walton to a seven-year term as a judge of the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, where he now serves as chief judge.

Becoming a lawyer was something he never imagined as a child, said Walton, a native of Donora, Pa.

"Growing up in the Mon Valley, I didn't see people who looked like me and were making a living using their brain," he said.

After a few fighting incidents that had Walton scared for his life, he finally decided to obey his parents' wishes and start focusing more on sports and education. He graduated from high school and received an athletic scholarship to play football at West Virginia State University, near Charleston.

Walton soon learned that football was

a means of continuing his education and not a pathway to a professional football contract.

"I had a coach who used to tell me I was too small to play professional football and to start focusing on my career," he said. "The realization that football was not in the cards for me came on the first day of practice, when I saw how big everyone else was."

Walton joined a fraternity whose members were mostly honor students, and he studied every spare minute he had. He eventually graduated with honors.

He then went on to earn his Juris Doctorate degree from American University, where he studied for 13 hours a day. At times, he recalled, he didn't have enough money to pay for food.

"If you want it bad enough you can get it, but you have to want it really bad," he told the students.

After law school, Walton landed a job as a public defender in Philadelphia. By 1981 he was a federal judge.

Walton credits much of his success to a strong family environment. He encouraged the students to think about

their future.

"Judge Walton has really inspired me today," said sophomore Bruce Glover, a political science major. "We have similar backgrounds, and I want to be a lawyer. It is very inspiring to hear his story and know that anything is possible."

Walton told the students that he particularly enjoys his work because he is making a difference in people's lives. He challenged them to do the same.

"The United States is a great place," he said. "It is a great place when someone from a little town in Pennsylvania can be trusted to judge something as large as the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court."

"You all have the opportunity to do much more."

Cal U Men United is a mentoring group that supports the growth, development and achievement of young men of color as they strive to become men of character. A similar group supports young women at Cal U. Both Cal U Men United and Cal U Women United welcome participation from all members of the campus community. For more information, contact Alisha Carter in the Office of Social Equity, carter_a@calu.edu.

Fishing Festival Set for Saturday

Young anglers can try their luck when Cal U and the community again collaborate to present the 18th annual Pike Run Youth Fishing Festival, set for 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at Rotary Park, off Route 88 (Third Street) in California.

The free event is open to boys and girls ages 15 and younger. A parent, guardian or other responsible adult must accompany children ages 12 and younger. Participants may bring their own fishing gear, or they can borrow equipment from a Cal U student volunteer as part of the state Fish and Boat Commission's Borrow-A-Rod-and-Reel program.

The Pike Run Fishing Festival Committee will stock the stream with nearly 500 rainbow, brook, brown and golden trout, some as long as 24 inches. As it has done in the past, the committee will provide entertainment and food for the event.

Registration begins at 7 a.m. Along with excellent fishing, participants can look forward to family-friendly games, raffles, fishing contests and many other activities.

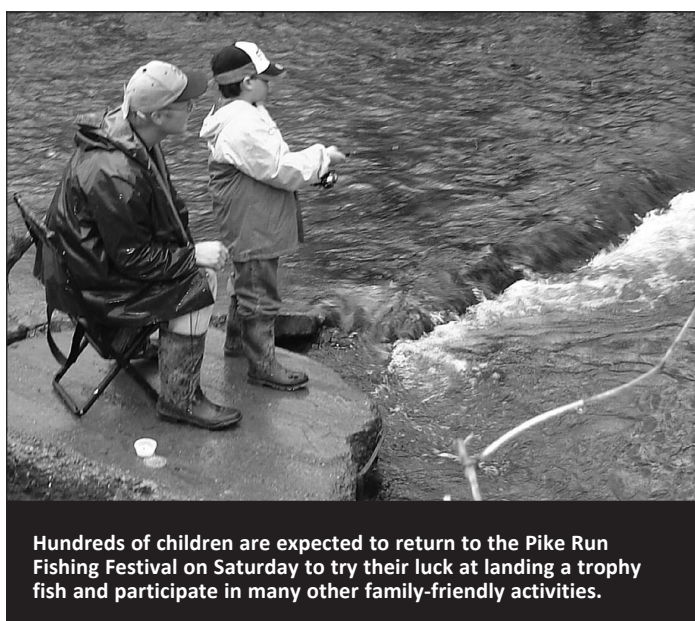
The festival closes with a weigh-in, prizes and the awarding of trophies.

Youngsters may help stock the stream at 2 p.m. Friday.

Dr. John Confer, faculty adviser for the event, said this successful collaboration between the University and community has attracted nearly 200 participants in each of the past six years.

"Everyone involved in the event learns about environmental stewardship, and it's an excellent experience in community involvement for our students," he said.

The fishing festival is co-sponsored by Cal U's Student Government Association, the Department of Earth Sciences'



Hundreds of children are expected to return to the Pike Run Fishing Festival on Saturday to try their luck at landing a trophy fish and participate in many other family-friendly activities.

parks and recreation program, and the Cal U Eco Learning Community, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the California Rotary Club, the Borough of California and the California Borough Recreation Authority.

The festival also celebrates Earth Day.

For more information, contact Confer at 724-938-4211 or confer@calu.edu, or visit the Pike Run Youth Fishing Festival website at <http://workforce.calu.edu/confer/PRYFF/> or search for "Annual Pike Run Youth Fishing Festival" on Facebook.com.

Activities Spotlight Academic Excellence

To showcase the talents of faculty and students, the Faculty Professional Development Committee will present the seventh annual Academic Excellence Days April 23-24.

This year's theme is "Taking the Lead Together."

A variety of activities designed to stimulate academic excellence will take place each day from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Natali Student Center.

The FPDC Teaching and Learning Subcommittee will sponsor two presentations by Dr. Ian Crawford, chair of the Arts and Humanities Division of the Council for Undergraduate Research.

Both presentations will take place on April 23 in Room 206 of the student center.

At 11 a.m., Crawford will present "Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity: Going Beyond the Sciences." He will describe the benefits of undergraduate research for faculty as well as students, discuss the institutional value of undergraduate research programs, and identify key features of successful programs.

At 2 p.m., Crawford will facilitate a workshop, "Incorporating Undergraduate Research into Your Syllabus," designed to help faculty build undergraduate research opportunities into their existing courses and implement them throughout the curriculum.



Cal U student Jennifer Kevech displays her work at last year's Academic Excellence Days. This year's theme is 'Taking the Lead Together.'

Additional faculty and student presentations will take place during the two-day event. Attendees will learn about encryption codes and how to "crack" them, discover how iPads can be used in the classroom, and explore the use of mock trials to teach legal concepts.

Posters created by students will be on display from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. each day in the Performance Center. The

Student Scholarship, Research and Creativity Day Poster Session will be held April 23, and the Service and Service-Learning Poster Session will be held April 24.

Artworks created by students in the Department of Art and Design will be displayed both days in the Airport Lounge, where three a cappella singing groups — Cal Singers, Vulcanize and

Acappella Stella — will perform an eclectic mix of popular music from noon-1 p.m. on April 24.

The Academic Excellence Learning Communities Award program, initiated by and supported through the FPDC, awards competitive grants to faculty and staff who want to plan a learning community to foster academic excellence, intellectual rigor and civil discourse. Proposed learning communities must be multidisciplinary and include students, staff and faculty.

During this year's Academic Excellence Days, Dr. Marta McClintock-Comeaux, the 2012 AED award winner, will report on her project activities during the past year. Other CAL U faculty members who have received FPDC grants also will discuss their grant-funded projects and how they have contributed to their professional development.

A continental breakfast and buffet lunch will be served both days at the Natali Performance Center from 7:30-9 a.m. and from 11a.m.-12:30 p.m., respectively.

All members of the University community are invited to attend this event.

A complete schedule of events will be available at the Faculty Professional Development Center's website. For more information, contact the FPDC office at 724-938-4505 or e-mail fpdc@calu.edu.



Cal U will raise awareness of sexual violence by participating in the international program known as Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

Men Walk a Mile Thursday

Walk like a man? Not so much. Men at Cal U will don high-heeled shoes and parade across campus Thursday as part of the international program known as Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

The International Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault and Gender Violence will be held at 11 a.m. in front of the Natali Student Center. All participants are asked to arrive no later than 10:45 a.m. High heels can be guaranteed only for the first 75 men who register, but lunch and a T-shirt will be provided to all walkers.

"This event is intended to serve as an outlet for men to come together as partners in ending violence against women, especially Cal U women," said Kelly Fromknecht, event coordinator and graduate assistant at

the End Violence Center on campus.

"By choosing to 'walk the walk,' men become a united group saying that sexual assault, dating violence and stalking are unacceptable and will not be tolerated, especially on this campus."

Sponsored by the End Violence Center, the event has drawn widespread interest during the five years it has been held at Cal U. Two years ago more than 130 men walked across campus to raise awareness about sexual violence and men's role in preventing it. Inclement weather prevented the event from taking place last spring.

For more information, contact the END V Center at 724-938-5707 or e-mail the center at greenot@calu.edu or Fromknecht@fro3257@calu.edu.

Graduate School Open House Set

The School of Graduate Studies and Research will conduct an open house from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday in the Kara Alumni House.

Participants at this free event can learn about Cal U's flexible graduate programs by interacting with faculty and staff. Counselors will be on hand to discuss career options and cost-saving opportunities such as graduate assistantships, scholarships and federal student aid.

Cal U students can earn master's degrees in 35 fields of study, including nursing, education, legal studies, athletic training and business administration. Traditional face-to-face and 100 percent online programs are available.

Cal U's School of Graduate Studies and Research also offers certification and licensure programs for professional educators and counselors, as well as certificate programs and letters of completion in a variety of fields.

All open house events are free, but registration is requested. Free parking is available for those who register in advance. For more information about academic programs at Cal U, visit www.calu.edu.

To register, visit the Events calendar at www.calu.edu, choose "Open House" and click the register icon at the upper right. Prospective students also may contact Nikki Popielarcheck at 724-938-5490 or e-mail popielarcheck@calu.edu.

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