

# California University JOURNAL

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## Students Primed for The Big Event

The Student Government Association and AmeriCorps students from the Center for Civic Engagement will take the lead when The Big Event starts at 9 a.m. Saturday.

A student-run service project, The Big Event began at Texas A&M University in 1982, when student leaders saw a need to give back to the community that had long supported their university.

Since then, The Big Event has become the largest one-day, student-run service project in the nation. Typically, students complete chores for community members, such as yard work, window washing and painting.

Cal U first held The Big Event in 2007.

Working from a list created over the past several years, students have distributed forms and made phone calls to identify community residents who can use a hand. Katie McAndrew, vice president of Student Government, said more than 350 Cal U students have registered to work at one of 20 job sites.

"I've only ever heard good feedback, and we frequently get thank-you cards or nice notes on the forms that are returned afterward," said McAndrew, who joins AmeriCorps student Chelsea Getsy as lead coordinator for the project.

"It's a great opportunity for our students to go out and really make a difference to individual community



On Saturday more than 350 Cal U students will say 'thank you' to the borough of California by participating in The Big Event and performing a variety of tasks such as painting, yard work and cleaning.

members."

"I've worked the past two Big Events, and the gratitude from residents in the borough is absolutely overwhelming," added Student Government President Alexandra Brooks.

McAndrew said borough residents set the agenda for each service project.

"It can be something as simple as washing windows, painting, mulching,

raking leaves or trimming hedges," she said. "It's easy for a couple of students to go into a basement and bring out spring furniture, which can be a big help to older residents. They tell us what needs to be done."

Students will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday inside the Performance Center, where each volunteer will receive an easily recognizable Big Event T-shirt. Lunch

also will be provided.

McAndrew said the new Walmart near campus provided a \$500 grant to help with expenses, and Home Depot added a \$25 gift card.

Those interested in volunteering for The Big Event can register online; visit <http://www.calu.edu/current-students/get-involved/student-government/>.



### Ready for the Badge

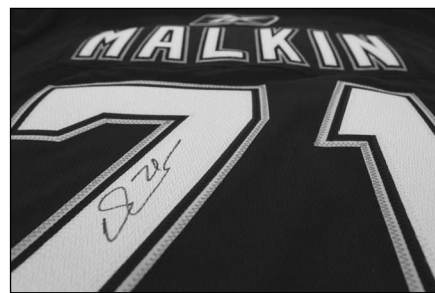
Michael Crosen, student trustee and ROTC cadet, throws the shot put while testing for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge last year. Cal U will again conduct this prestigious testing for service members, beginning Friday. See story on page 2.

## Penguins Online Auction Open

Bidding is under way in the fifth Pittsburgh Penguins Online Auction supporting scholarships at Cal U.

Hockey fans who visit the Penguins website can find a link to the auction, which continues through noon April 29.

Items on the block include replica jerseys and other memorabilia signed by players; a VIP package that includes dinner at the Lexus Club and premium seating at a game; a game-day visit to the Pens' morning practice at CONSOL Energy Center; golf and lunch with broadcaster Phil Bourque; and more. Players James Neal, Evgeni Malkin, Kris Letang,



Marc-Andre Fleury and Jerome Iginla all have autographed items for the fundraiser.

California University is the official education partner of the Pittsburgh Penguins. Since 2009, online auctions have raised more than \$24,000 for the Pittsburgh Penguins Scholarship at Cal U.

The scholarship is awarded annually to a student who demonstrates financial need and maintains a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

For package descriptions and more information about the auction, visit [www.pittsburghpenguins.com](http://www.pittsburghpenguins.com). A link to the Penguins website, and a list of all items up for auction, can be found at [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu).

## Engineering Students Chase Freescale Cup

Electrical engineering technology students will try to race their way to China during the Freescale Cup East Coast Regional competition from 1-4 p.m. Saturday 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.

Nearly 40 teams from Connecticut, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island



will travel to Cal U and 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.

Cal U will have three or four teams racing their cars against teams from some of the best engineering universities in the region.

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.

Not only does the event test students in electrical and mechanical engineering, but it also forces teams to perfect their communication and teamwork skills.

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

Visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu) to see the cars in action.



## Reaching for the Top

Senior Stephanie Bolt, a business administration and marketing major, heads for the top of the 33-foot rock-climbing wall during a recent competition at Herron Recreation and Fitness Center. The fitness center is open from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. weekdays, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and from 1-9 p.m. Sundays.

## Service Project Revives Ballroom

When the West Newton Volunteer Fire Department needed help, Cal U students came to the rescue.

Assistant professor Mary Popovich, West Newton's mayor since 2009, was faced with the challenge of revitalizing a fire department that had lost personnel and suffered serious financial setbacks.

West Newton Borough Council was reluctant to raise taxes to catch up on delinquent mortgage payments for the firehall. So Popovich opted to increase fundraising opportunities by refurbishing the building's dilapidated 70- by 80-square-foot Youghiogheny Ballroom.

A St. Patrick's Day Oldies Dance raised enough to prevent foreclosure, but the building still needed renovations. That's when Cal U's Center for Civic Engagement and Department of Applied Engineering and Technology stepped in to assist community volunteers and fire department members.

Twenty-five students from the Technology Education Association of California (TEAC), the athletic training program, the women's rugby team, and Phi Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha sororities cleaned the ballroom, removed wallpaper, painted, replaced floor tiles and tackled other tasks.

Dr. Laura Hummell, chair of Applied Engineering, approved the community project for students in her department. Most of the work was completed by April 3.

"I'm proud of these students for stepping up to the plate to assist a small community that needs to maintain its fire service," Popovich said.

"This was brute work where you were on your hands and knees using scouring pads or razor blades, crawling on the floor around toilets. It was not pleasant, and there was no glory."

Nevertheless, junior Jason Pistner, interim president of TEAC, said he found the work gratifying.

Last November he was among a group of Cal U students who helped their classmate, injured Marines veteran James Kush, to repair his family's home in Donora, Pa.

"We try to take our service projects seriously, (so we can) actually use the skills that tech ed people have," said Pistner, who thanked Phi Sigma Sigma and local businesses for donating cleaning supplies.

"For us, it's enjoyable, and at the same time it's important



Cal U athletic training majors Jarred Binner (left) and Kyle McCarney remove linoleum from the Youghiogheny Ballroom at the West Newton Volunteer Fire Department.

for us to go out and help people in need."

With their Youghiogheny Ballroom restored, the fire department is planning a number of fundraising activities, including a 1950s-style sock hop dinner dance on May 11. Cal U students will help to market the event and serve food at the dance.

Hummell described Pistner as a true student leader. And like Popovich, she was moved by all the students' passion for helping others.

"We were both overwhelmed by their response," Hummell said. "I think that the students' community service is outstanding, and I am proud of their hard work on behalf of someone else. They are always willing and able to give back."

## Service Members Strive for Proficiency Badge

For the second consecutive year, Cal U will host members of the active-duty, reserve and National Guard components of the U.S. military as they compete to earn the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge.

Physical fitness tests will take place, rain or shine, Friday to Sunday on the University's main and upper campuses. The marksmanship test will be held at the Westmoreland County Community College Public Safety Training Center in nearby Smithton, Pa.

Testing for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge is being organized by the Office of Veterans Affairs at Cal U.

To earn the badge, candidates must meet benchmarks in swimming, running and other physical activities; qualify on the pistol range; pass a first-aid test; and complete a 7.5-mile road march while carrying a backpack weighing at least 33 pounds.

A decoration of the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Germany, the badge is one of the few foreign awards that U.S. military members may wear on their uniform.

This prestigious award has been available since 1972 to U.S. service members who meet rigorous proficiency standards. All eligible members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and National Guard may compete for the award.

The German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge is awarded in gold, silver or bronze, depending on the results of the pistol qualification, the first-aid test and the road march.

As many as 70-80 service members from Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Delaware are expected. The service member traveling the farthest for the testing is Cal U's 2007 Homecoming King, Chris Catlin of Colorado.

A ceremony recognizing participants who complete the badge requirements will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Performance Center, with a member of the German military in attendance.

## Plan Now for SEEK Summer Fun for Kids

It's never too soon to plan a rewarding summer experience for children.

Cal U's Summer Educational Enrichment for Kids program, known as SEEK, will offer two weeklong sessions in 2013 for children entering grades 1-8.

Classes will be held June 24-28 and July 15-19. This year's theme is "Back to Nature."

SEEK allows children to participate in interactive learning experiences that are entertaining and academically challenging in a fun and creative environment. Full and half-day sessions are available.

For more information, e-mail [seek@calu.edu](mailto:seek@calu.edu).

## Art and Economics: Public Forum Today

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

The forum was 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.

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](mailto:rooney@calu.edu); or Dr. David Pankratz, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council research and policy director, at 412-391-2060, Ext. 232, or [dpankratz@pittsburghartscouncil.org](mailto:dpankratz@pittsburghartscouncil.org).

# 'Help Others,' Alumnus Tells Scholars

Reflecting on his journey from Cal U to a distinguished career in finance, Jesse Hereda '04 encouraged Cal U's Presidential Scholars to find success by helping others.

Hereda delivered the address at the University's 2013 Honors Convocation, held April 6 in the Convocation Center. Nearly 1,250 people were in attendance.

The director of finance for the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Hereda earned a bachelor's degree in political science/pre-law at Cal U. After graduation he worked in the mortgage industry in Las Vegas, Nev., and held a finance position at the Bellagio Resort and Casino before returning to Pennsylvania.

The move was a return home for Hereda, a native of Camp Hill, Pa. Although a declining housing market prompted the change, it helped him to re-evaluate his career goals.

"I had lost my definition of success and might have been too worried about my career and money," said Hereda, who also holds an MBA in international finance from the Keller Graduate School of Management at DeVry University.

"I believe there's a deeper connection to success. I ask you to help others and to make a positive impact on someone else's life."

As a Cal U undergraduate, Hereda was a member of the University Honors Program, president of Student Government and president of the board of directors for the Student Association Inc. He served for three years as the student member of the University's Council of Trustees.

A co-founder of Cal Campaign Consultants, a multidisciplinary organization that teaches students the basics of professionalizing campaigns, he was a member of honors fraternities Phi Sigma Pi, Pi Sigma Alpha and Phi Alpha Theta.

Hereda praised his Honors Program thesis adviser, political science professor Dr. Melanie Blumberg, and said he developed many deep-seated relationships at Cal U.

"Through my leadership roles here I learned to help



With Interim President Geraldine M. Jones looking on, Jesse Hereda '04 delivers his keynote address to the Presidential Scholars at Honors Convocation inside the Convocation Center.

advance Cal U. ... It was my goal to foster success at the University level," he said.

He also congratulated the family and friends of the Presidential Scholars, noting that their support has a positive influence on the students' success.

Hereda has been a generous benefactor to the University, as well as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. He has established the Jesse G. Hereda Honors Scholarship, which is awarded to students enrolled in Cal U's Honors Program.

"Cal U has prepared us all for success, and it's our job to implement that success," Hereda told the scholars.

Before Hereda's address, Interim University President Geraldine M. Jones congratulated the nearly

400 undergraduate and graduate students who were honored at the convocation.

In addition to meeting other requirements, undergraduate Presidential Scholars must maintain a grade-point average of 3.25 or higher, and graduate students must have a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

"Your intellectual prowess, your diligence and your work ethic have led you to this special gathering," President Jones told the students.

"I encourage each of you to learn lessons not only in the classroom, but from every person you meet and every experience in your life. ... If you can realize the full measure of your abilities, you will change the lives of the people around you — and I have no doubt that you will change things for the better."

## Steelers vs. All-Stars Basketball Game Sparks Coaching Rivalry

There will be plenty of action on the court when the Cal U All-Stars challenge the Steelers Footballers Basketball Team, but the campus crowd will be keeping an eye on the sidelines during the Red & Black Game at 8 p.m. May 2 in the Convocation Center arena.

The University's interim president, Geraldine M. Jones, will be coaching the Cal U All-Stars. And her husband, Jeff Jones, will be coaching the Steelers players.

"I may not know basketball strategy, but I do know our Cal U All-Stars. They have the skill and the will to win!" said President Jones.

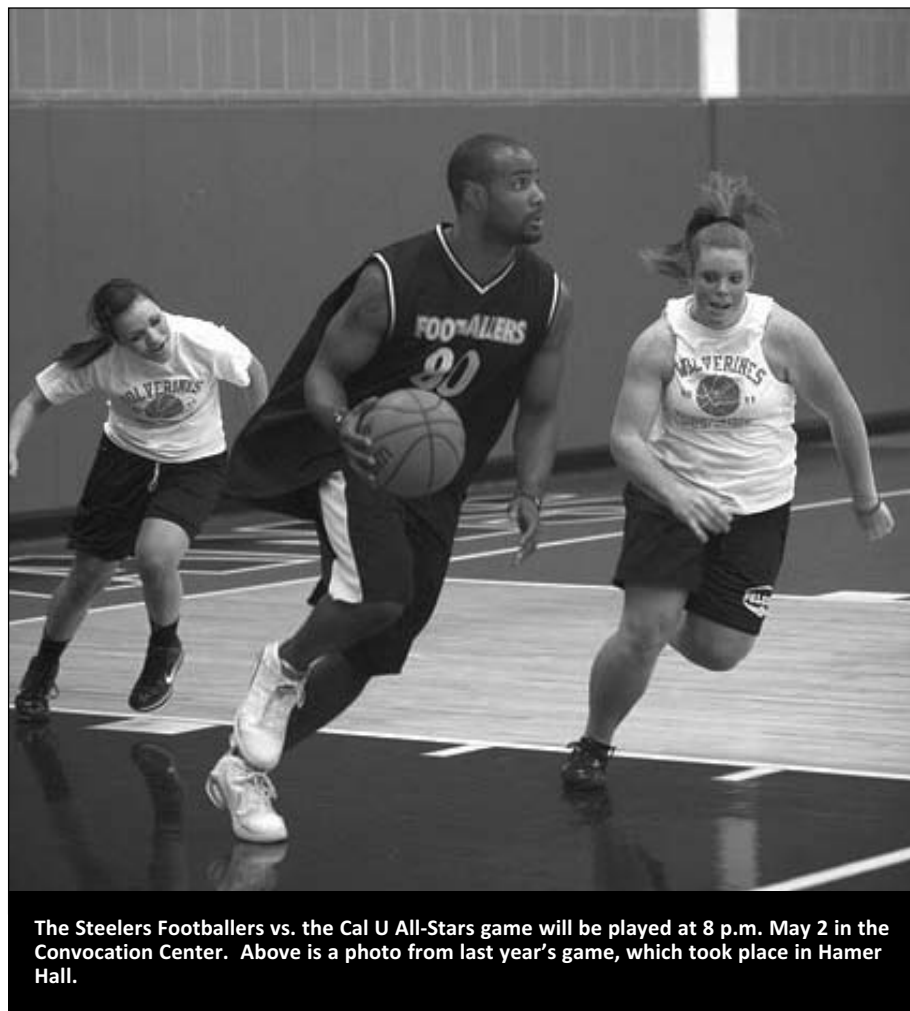
"I'm so confident in our team's ability to win," said Jeff Jones, "that in the unlikely event we lose, I will let Gerri shave off my mustache at mid-court immediately after the game."

While this good-natured rivalry plays out on the benches, teams comprising Cal U students, faculty and staff will face the Steelers Footballers in four rounds of fast-paced basketball action.

Steelers players will sign autographs for 10 minutes during half-time. More entertainment is planned for intermissions, and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Ticket price is \$7 for general admission or \$15 for courtside VIP seating. Tickets will be sold at the door.

The game is sponsored by Cal U's



The Steelers Footballers vs. the Cal U All-Stars game will be played at 8 p.m. May 2 in the Convocation Center. Above is a photo from last year's game, which took place in Hamer Hall.

Black Student Union, which hopes to make it an annual event, said LaMont Coleman, associate dean of multicultural student programs. Proceeds benefit the Jennie Carter Scholarship Fund, named in honor of

California's first African-American graduate.

Everyone is welcome at this all-ages community event. For more information about Cal U, or directions to the campus in California, Pa., visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu).

## Academic Excellence Days Set This Week

To showcase the talents of faculty and students, the Faculty Professional Development Committee will present the seventh annual Academic Excellence Days on Tuesday and Wednesday.

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

A variety of activities are scheduled from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. each day in the Performance Center.

Dr. Ian Crawford, chair of the Arts and Humanities Division of the Council for Undergraduate Research, will give an 11 a.m. presentation Wednesday in room 206 of the student center.

At 2 p.m. he will facilitate a workshop designed to help faculty build undergraduate research opportunities into their existing courses and implement them throughout the curriculum.

Art will be on display both days in the Airport Lounge, where Cal U vocal groups will perform an eclectic mix of popular music from noon-1 p.m. on Thursday.

A complete schedule of events is 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](mailto:fpdc@calu.edu).

## THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY FORUM

April 23, 2013/4:00 p.m.,  
Carter Hall, Multipurpose Room #G06

### TENTATIVE AGENDA

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

#### II. ROLL CALL

#### III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### IV. MINUTES OF March 26, 2013

(Approved by e-mail ballot – refer to Forum website or Public Folders in Outlook)

#### V. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Informational Only – Minutes April 9, 2013)

#### VI. PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. Miscellaneous Information
- B. President's Response to Motion Passed
- C. Notice of Executive Committee Meeting: August 27, 2013 – *University Community Welcome*

#### VII. Committee Reports/Updates

- a. Ad-hoc Review Committee
- b. Budget Committee

#### VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

#### IX. INTERPELLATION

#### X. Faculty Senate Recommendations

- a. To have greater permanence and stability in administrative positions, meaning fewer interim and acting positions, and to conduct outside institution hires for those available positions when they arise (recommended by Middle States) [long range]
- b. To review and comment upon the Middle States written recommendations [annual]
- c. To permit administrative privileges for qualified faculty and students on university computers or laptops upon administrative approval and with appropriate safeguards and timeframes [annual]
- d. To have administrators seek greater input from faculty or students through their representative bodies (i.e. APSCUF, Senate, Forum) when making curricular or pedagogical decisions [long range]
- e. To create an institutional research office responsible for independent, objective collection and dissemination of institutional data (an integral component of faculty/administration communication) [long range]
- f. To demonstrate integrity in marketing class sizes using student:faculty ratio [annual]
- g. To recognize that a broad-based liberal education prepares students for future vocational choices, and a four-year university degree should not serve primarily as vocational training

#### XI. MOTION

That the Forum extends its gratitude to the students who served on the Forum Alexandra Brooks, Michael Crosen, Brendan Demmy, Amy Dunn, Georgia Minor, Jasmine Owens, Brittaney Stephanik, Jenna Terchanik, and Stephen Zemba - whose service to the Forum will end with this meeting.

#### XII. NEW BUSINESS

#### XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next FORUM Meeting September 3, 2013

#### XIV. ADJOURNMENT

# Spring Game Honors Alumni, Introduces Players

Cal U's football team will conclude its spring drills Saturday by hosting the Red & Black Spring Game at Adamson Stadium's Hepner-Bailey Field.

The varsity scrimmage will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a tailgate party in the Alumni Pavilion at Roadman Park.

Dr. Tony McGrew, professor emeritus and a volunteer academic advocate for athletics, will serve as honorary coach. National Football League defensive back Terrence Johnson and football alumnus Joe Lutz '68 will be honorary captains.

The festivities also include recognition of Cal U's 2007 football team, which went 13-1 overall and



Dr. Tony McGrew

made the program's first-ever NCAA Division II playoff appearance. The Vulcans reached the national semifinals that season.

At halftime, Cal U will introduce its new recruits for the 2013 season and announce the recipient of the DeMichela Award for

leadership, spirit and hustle in spring practice.

This award is named after alumnus Michael DeMichela '76, an all-conference tight end who was the driving force behind an annual alumni game that was contested for 30 years, from 1979-2008. This year's award-winner is junior offensive lineman Jack Abercrombie of Hatboro, Pa.

After the game, spectators will be

allowed onto the field for a photograph and autograph session with the players.

The festivities begin with a Friday Night Smoker at Lagerheads restaurant in Coal Center, Pa. Starting at 6 p.m., the pregame event is open to all football alumni.

Under the guidance of first-year head coach Mike Kellar, Cal U went 8-3 overall last fall. The Vulcans will open the 2013 season at Hillsdale (Mich.) College on Sept. 7.

Admission to Saturday's game and tailgate party is \$5 per person; the fee can be paid in advance or the day of the game.

For more information about the football festivities, contact Chelsey Burk, business manager for the Department of Athletics, at 724-938-5790 or [burk@calu.edu](mailto:burk@calu.edu).

## Spring Finale is Actors' 'Dream'

The Department of Theatre and Dance will cast a theatrical spell when it presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the final production of the 2013 spring season.

This whimsical play by William Shakespeare portrays the adventures of four young Athenian lovers and a group of six amateur actors who are manipulated by mischievous fairies in the forest.

One of Shakespeare's most popular works, the play is suitable for audiences of all ages.

"Everyone has been working very hard to make Shakespeare understandable for the audience through their acting, since the words are sometimes hard to understand," said Kellee Cohlhepp, the production's stage manager.

"It's going great. This show is not your grandma's Shakespeare."

Student actors include Shane Bocchi (Oberon),

Madelaine Dudley (Titania), Emily Lorence (Hermia), Molly Malady (Helena), Breanna Otto (Bottom), Mike Rogers (Demetrius), Sarah Schumaker (Puck), and Jonathan Veres (Lysander).

Dr. Michael Slavin directs the play, with set design by Bill O'Donnell. Other production duties are handled by Malcolm Callery (set construction), Valerie Webster (costume design), Joni Farquhar (costume construction) and Michael Zandhuis (music).

Curtain time is 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Ticket price is \$12 for adults, seniors and children. Students with valid CalCards are admitted free; their \$5 deposit will be returned when they attend the performance.

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

## THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY FORUM

MARCH 26, 2013/4:00 p.m., Carter Hall, Multipurpose Room #G06

### MINUTES

The California University Forum met in regular session Tuesday, March 26, 2013 in Carter Hall, Multipurpose Room #G06. Acting Presiding Officer Barnhart called the meeting order at 4:05 p.m.

The following senators were in attendance:  
Dr. Ralph Belsterling  
Mr. Rick Bertagnoli  
Dr. Bill Biddington

Ms. Alexandra Brooks  
Ms. Roberta Busha  
Mr. Craig Butzine  
Ms. Fran Fayish  
Dr. Sean Madden  
Ms. Jasmine Owens  
Dr. Craig Smith  
Dr. Pamela Twiss  
Ms. Sheleta Webb  
Dr. Kimberly Woznack

The following were also in attendance:  
Dr. Bruce Barnhart,  
Acting Presiding Officer  
Mrs. Dana Turcic,  
Recording Secretary

The following senators were absent:  
Ms. Courtney Cochran  
Dr. John Confer  
Mr. Michael Crosen  
Mr. Brendan Demmy  
Ms. Amy Dunn  
Mr. Todd Edwards  
Mrs. Rhonda Gifford  
Ms. Geraldine Jones  
Dr. Chad Kauffman  
Dr. Stanley Komacek  
Dr. Kevin Koury  
Ms. Georgia Minor  
Mr. Thomas Moore  
Mr. Josh Mrosko  
Mr. William O'Donnell

Mrs. Rosanne Pandrok  
Dr. Nancy Pinardi  
Dr. Carrie Rosengart  
Mr. Gary Seelye  
Ms. Brittaney Stephanik  
Ms. Jenna Terchanik  
Mr. Robert Thorn  
Dr. Tom Wickham  
Mr. Stephen Zemba

Due to the lack of a quorum of Forum senators, Acting Presiding Officer Barnhart adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

The California Journal is published weekly by California University of Pennsylvania, a member of The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

Geraldine M. Jones  
Interim University President

Dr. Bruce Barnhart  
Acting Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Charles Mance  
Vice President for University Technology Services

Robert Thorn  
Vice President for Administration and Finance

Craig Butzine  
Vice President for Marketing and University Relations

Dr. Nancy Pinardi  
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs

Jessica Urbanik  
Interim Vice President for University Development and Cal U for Life

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