

California University JOURNAL

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Profile in Courage Winner to Discuss Voter Rights

A John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award winner honored for her commitment to voter rights will speak at Cal U on Tuesday — primary election day in Pennsylvania.

Jennifer Brunner was awarded a Profile in Courage Award, the nation's most prestigious honor for public servants, in 2008. She was the secretary of state in Ohio from 2007-2011.



Jennifer Brunner

Brunner will present "Profile in Courage: Guarding the Vote" at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Eberly Hall, Room 110.

She was recognized with a Profile in Courage Award — created in 1989 by members of President Kennedy's family to honor him and celebrate the political courage he admired most — for her efforts to

address voting irregularities in Ohio.

During the 2008 primary Brunner ordered that paper ballots be provided to voters who requested them.

After problems were found with the state's new electronic voting systems, she called for them to be replaced with paper ballots and optical scan technology before the November 2008 election.

Prior to serving as secretary of state, Brunner was a Common Pleas Court judge. Today, she is a lawyer in private practice and continues to advocate for election reform.

"No longer in public office, Attorney Brunner continues to fight for good government," said Dr.

American Democracy Project



American Association of State Colleges and Universities

Melanie Blumberg, a professor in the Department of History and Political Science and campus director of the American Democracy Project at Cal U.

"Her ongoing efforts to press for election and campaign reforms are no surprise, as she is one of the most successful election law attorneys in Ohio."

Also on Tuesday, two panels of experts will discuss politics and voting rights in Pennsylvania. Both events will be in Duda Hall, Room 303.

- In "New Barriers to the Ballot," a roundtable discussion at 11 a.m., Drs. Michael Slaven, Craig Smith and Kwame Botwe-Asamoah, from the Department of History and Political Science, will be joined by student Courtney Cochran, who recently completed a research project on the new voter identification law.

- At 3 p.m., "Leadership & Politics" will be moderated by Dr. Anthony Rodi, with panelists Dr. Michael Hummel, director of the Linda and Harry Serene Leadership Institute at Cal U; Lawrence Maggi, a Washington County Commissioner; and the Hon. Janet Moschetta Bell, from Washington County.

All events are co-sponsored by Academic Affairs/Office of the Provost, College of Liberal Arts, Department of History and Political Science, Linda and Harry and Linda Serene Leadership Institute, Cal Campaign Consultants, and the American Democracy Project.



Dr. John R. Kallis has developed the proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Mechatronics Engineering Technology, the first of its kind in the State System of Higher Education.

Mechatronics Program Set for Approval

Approval from Cal U's Council of Trustees is the last step in the approval process for a Bachelor of Science in Mechatronics Engineering Technology.

At its April meeting, the PASSHE Board of Governors approved three new degree programs, including the four-year program at Cal U.

If approved by the Trustees, the mechatronics degree would be the first of its kind in the State System of Higher Education. New rules leave the final approval for new programs in the hands of the host school's Trustees, said Kenn Marshall, media relations manager at PASSHE.

Mechatronics blends mechanical and electrical engineering technology with computer science. A mechatronics engineer works with mechanical devices that incorporate mechanical, electrical and software components, such as robots, automated guided vehicles or other "smart" tools.

The new degree would align with Cal U's commitment to science, technology, engineering and math, and to STEM education, which has garnered attention because of the vital role it plays in workforce development, economic development and competitiveness in international markets.

If approved, the program is expected to start in fall 2013. It would complement the two-year associate degree in robotics engineering technology already in place at Cal U.

Both degrees have their roots in a Department of Defense grant that helped to found NCRETE, the National Center for Robotics Engineering and Technology Education at Cal U. This center provides articulated curricula, teacher professional development and outreach programs to regional schools.

"The mechatronics engineering technology degree would position California University as a leader in mechatronics career development," said Cal U Provost Geraldine Jones. "It would help to meet STEM workforce needs across a variety of industries by graduating high-tech, multi-skilled engineering technologists."

Dr. John R. Kallis, chair of Cal U's Department of Applied Engineering and Technology (AET), developed the proposal for the 120-credit program. He

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Leadership Process Forum Focus

Students, faculty and staff discussed the new Cal U *Leader for Life* process on April 10, designated as Leadership Day at Cal U.

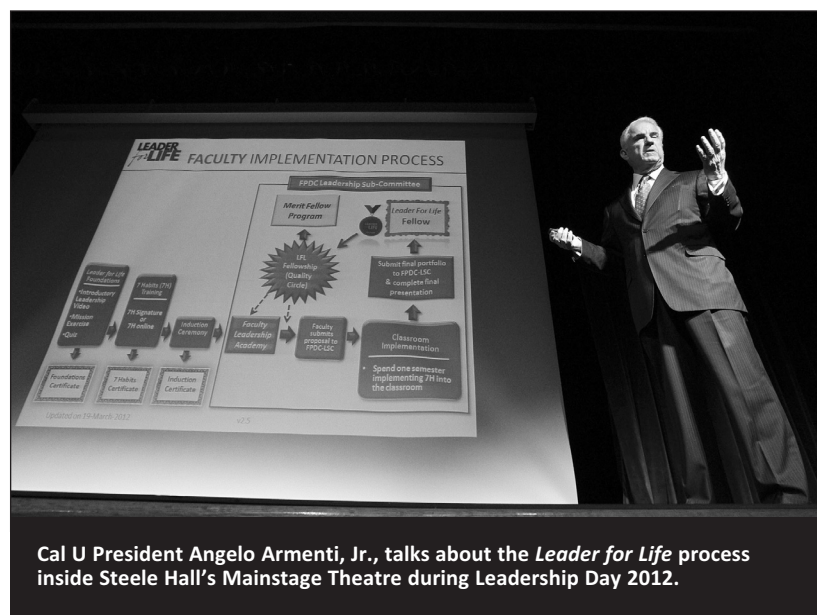
During the common hour, about 300 members of the campus community attended a keynote forum in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Eight months ago, Cal U was named the world's first FranklinCovey Leadership University, and University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. has announced a goal of attaining Lighthouse University status within three years.

Students already have begun participating in the campus-wide leadership development process, which is based on the principles outlined in Dr. Stephen R. Covey's bestselling book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Faculty and staff participation is anticipated later this spring.

President Armenti — a *7 Habits* instructor for many years — described the *Leader for Life* process and explained his motivation seeking the Lighthouse University designation.

"Employers get to choose who



Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr., talks about the *Leader for Life* process inside Steele Hall's Mainstage Theatre during Leadership Day 2012.

they hire, and I want to help provide our students with a competitive advantage in the job market," he said. "The *Leader for Life* program is just one of many things we've done to help give our students this competitive edge.

"Attaining Lighthouse status is our goal, and *Leader for Life* is the means to accomplish this end."

Student Janny Camut and Dr. Ali Sezer, an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and

Physics, introduced Lighthouse team leaders and committee members overseeing the *Leader for Life* process.

Seniors Tamara Alkhattar and Cory Stoner spoke on behalf of students, describing how they have integrated the *7 Habits* principles into their academic and personal lives.

Alkhattar, an international politics major, said the principle of

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Cal U students Elizabeth Soohoo (left) and Rachel Mari look over their poster presentation at last year's Academic Excellence Days. This year's theme is 'Connecting Faculty and Students Through Academic Achievement.'

Annual Event Spotlights Academic Excellence

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

This year's theme is "Connecting Faculty and Students Through Academic Achievement."

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

The FPDC Teaching and Learning Subcommittee will sponsor a workshop by Dr. Marie Norman, associate director of the Eberly Center of Teaching Excellence at Carnegie Mellon University.

Norman will lead "Research-Based Principles for Smart Teaching" from 12:30-1:45 p.m. Tuesday in Room 206 of the Natali Student Center. She will discuss three simple but powerful principles of learning, along with teaching strategies to put these principles into practice.

Dozens of other faculty and student presentations will take place during the two-day event. Attendees will learn how to create documents with LaTeX and how to make medieval-style arts and crafts.

Faculty members will discuss effective uses of classroom technology and incorporating Dr. Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* into their courses. Students will present academic research, projects and activities.

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 Tuesday, and the Service and

Service-Learning Poster Session will be held Wednesday.

Faculty also will present posters on topics including the Cal U *Leader for Life* program and issues in health and exercise science.

Artworks created by students in the Department of Art and Design will be displayed 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. Wednesday.

The Academic Excellence 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.

Recipients of the 2011 Academic Excellence awards will report on their work on last year's projects.

The 2012 recipients will launch their learning communities during this year's Academic Excellence Days and wrap them up at the 2013 event.

A continental breakfast and buffet lunch will be served both days at the Natali Performance Center from 7:30-9 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m.-1 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.

Expert to Study Terrorism Overseas

Dr. Jeffrey Magers, an assistant professor in the Professional Studies Department, has been named a 2012-2013 Academic Fellow by the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies (FDD), a non-partisan policy institute headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Under the auspices of the FDD, Magers will travel to Israel on May 27 for an intensive course in terrorism studies that focuses on how democracies can defeat the worldwide terrorist threat.

A former police officer and member of the U.S. Army Military Police, Magers teaches in the Master of Science in Legal Studies program, homeland security track, including courses in homeland security, terrorism, intelligence practice and weapons of mass destruction.

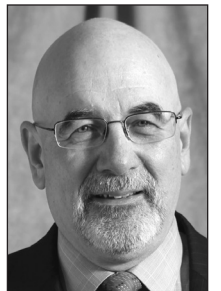
He also teaches graduate courses in law and criminal conduct, law and police processes, and criminal justice organization and management.

The FDD Academic Fellows program provides a 10-day learning experience for U.S.-based teaching and research professionals to provide them with cutting-edge information about defeating terrorist groups.

"Terrorism is the greatest threat today to the world's democracies, including the United States and our allies around the globe," said Clifford May, president of FDD. "To win the war against terrorism, we must win the war of ideas by promoting democracy and defeating the totalitarian ideologies that drive and justify terrorism."

The 2012 program, which will be conducted at Tel Aviv University from May 27-June 6, includes lectures by academics, military and intelligence officials, and diplomats from Israel, Jordan, India and the United States. Participants also will visit police agencies, customs and immigration facilities, military bases, and border zones to learn the practical side of deterring and defeating terrorists.

"I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to listen and participate in the exchanges and interactions that we will all have in Israel," Magers said. "It should be useful experience for the courses I teach in our graduate homeland security program and for future research opportunities."



Dr. Jeffrey Magers

Modern Language Day a Success

High school students engaged in friendly language competition April 13 when Cal U marked the 10th Modern Language Day with activities in the Performance Center.

Students presented original skits incorporating this year's theme of "Family," and they read poetry and prose in Spanish and French. All presentations were judged by professors and advanced students in Cal U's Modern Languages and Cultures Department, which organized the event.

"Knowing various languages opens up opportunities and awareness of other cultures. It also bridges the gap between our differences and makes us closer to our fellow human beings," said Dr. Mariana Pensa, chair of the department and an assistant professor of Spanish.

For information about Modern Language Day 2013, e-mail pensa@calu.edu.



All Together Now

Cal U students laugh as they prepare for a simultaneous flush of all toilets in the Convocation Center. The 'capacity test' was run in advance of the grand opening event on April 20. Putting the plumbing system to the test were (from left) Jordan Boatwright, Marcin Gains, Anthony Kane, Geter Sloan, Blayre Holmes and Chase Loper.

Men 'Walk a Mile' Tomorrow

For the fourth consecutive year men will don high-heeled shoes and parade clumsily across campus as Cal U participates in 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. Tuesday 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 is intended to serve as an outlet for men to come together as allies and partners in ending violence against women, especially Cal U women," said Kay Dorrance, coordinator and victim advocate at the End Violence Center on campus.

The event is sponsored by the End Violence Center. Last spring more than 130 men walked across campus to raise awareness about sexual violence and men's role in preventing it.

For more information, contact the center at 724-938-5707 or e-mail the center at greendot@calu.edu.



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

Annual Banquet Celebrates 'Best Buddies'

The Cal U chapter of Best Buddies International will recognize the special attributes every person has at the club's third annual awards ceremony and banquet 4:30 p.m. Sunday in the Performance Center.

Founded in 1987 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver, Best Buddies International works to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities through one-to-one friendships and integrated employment.

More than 40 students in the Cal U chapter are paired with "buddies" through Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services Inc., which staffs group homes.

Begun more than 40 years ago in the Mon Valley, SPHS now provides a wide variety of human services to individuals and families throughout Fayette, Greene, Washington and Fayette counties.

Chapter president Carey Brown said students phone their buddies at least once a week and visit them twice a month. The chapter holds three or four group events each semester, such as trips to the zoo, arts and crafts sessions, or



Cal U student Carey Brown (second from left) and buddies (from left) Dale Schwartz, Ryan McKinley, Robin Salciccioli and Bobby Hill recently participated in a recent Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) event.

holiday-themed parties.

"Best Buddies is all about integration and getting these people involved with social activities in the community," Brown said. "If you are really are involved, it will change your outlook on everything."

Brown, who is studying early childhood and special education, expects

to graduate in December after completing her student teaching. She has been active with Best Buddies since her freshman year and also works at the SPHS group home in Donora.

Her longtime buddy is Susie Cain, who now resides in Greensburg. "She's incredible and my best friend," Brown said. "If you're having a bad day

and call your buddy, you realize that anything that's wrong or troubling you, they've had it much worse."

At Sunday's awards ceremony, members will highlight something special about each of their buddies. Video clips and slide shows will recap the year's activities.

Perhaps the most important of the awards bestowed at the formal event is the House Cup, given to the group home with the best communication and most visits or calls from students.

"It's a big deal," Brown said. "The first group home to win this award still has the trophy on the mantel in the living room. They truly covet these awards."

Brown praised Dr. James Burton, an assistant professor in the Department of Special Education, who has been the Best Buddies faculty adviser for the past four years.

"He started when I did, and he is amazing," she said. "This will be my last banquet, which is sad for me, but this has been a wonderful experience. It's so rewarding to see our buddies dressed and up and socializing in the community."

Leadership Focus of Forum

— Continued from page 1

the "emotional bank account" and Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood, have helped her to be a more effective mentor in the Welcome Center.

"We have a great University to offer incoming students, and we should show them whatever it is they need," she said. "So we need to listen first, to find out exactly what that is."

She and Stoner, a graphic design major, agreed that 7 Habits training has helped them with time management. Both have leadership minors and are involved in extracurricular activities, but they manage their busy schedules using 7 Habits principles.

"We've all had that moment when things just click, when we see how the seven habits make a difference," Alkhattar said.

Speaking on behalf of faculty was Dr. Silvia Braidic, of the Department of Educational Administration and Leadership. She has incorporated *The 7 Habits* into online coursework for K-12 educators who aspire to be principals.

"Integrating the 7 Habits into the

principals program is a perfect fit, because they align so well with the leadership standards we adhere to," she said. "I really believe we are giving our students something of value, something that will set them apart after they graduate."

Dr. Karen Posa Amrhein, director of the University-wide Mentoring program, spoke on behalf of staff members.

"*Leader for Life* is one more way for us to be effective and to become better role models for our students," she said.

The Leadership Forum was part of a full day of activities, as guests from FranklinCovey and other academic institutions explored various aspects of the *Leader for Life* process. They also made classroom visits, including a stop at Cal U's Learning and Language Center, where the 7 Habits principles have been incorporated into lessons for preschoolers.

"We hope you will return to future Leadership Days here so that we can brief you on our progress toward achieving Lighthouse University status," President Armenti told the forum attendees. "Between now and then, we will be happy to share our experiences with you."

Mechatronics Set for OK

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recognized the Mechatronics Advisory Board, AET faculty and staff, and the offices of the President, the Provost and the Eberly College of Science and Technology for supporting the program.

The National Council on Competitiveness estimates that 100 million new jobs will be created in the 21st century at the intersection of disciplines. Mechatronics fits right in.

"Mechatronics is an evolutionary design development that requires horizontal integration between various engineering disciplines as well as vertical integration between design and manufacturing," Kallis explained.

With its multidisciplinary skill set, mechatronics has been identified by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry as a high priority occupation, he said. The department's Center for Advanced Manufacturing projects 300 to 600 job openings per year through 2020, with most of the demand resulting from an aging workforce.

Associate Provost Dr. Stan Komacek said the program has

established partnerships with two international firms: Siemens AG, a multinational powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering; and FESTO, a leading supplier of pneumatic and electrical automation technology.

Cal U's mechatronics program will strive for accreditation from the Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET, an international body that has accredited more than 3,100 programs worldwide, including Cal U's electrical and computer engineering technology programs.

"Partnerships with existing programs will be a strong point of the new program, and will aid in building the curricular foundation," Kallis said.

Cal U expects to conduct national searches for engineers to teach in the mechatronics program, with particular attention to minority and women candidates, Kallis stated.

The other two programs approved this month by the Board of Governors are a Bachelor of Science in software engineering at Shippensburg University and a Bachelor of Applied Science in technology leadership at Clarion.

Spring Game Honors Alumni, Introduces Team

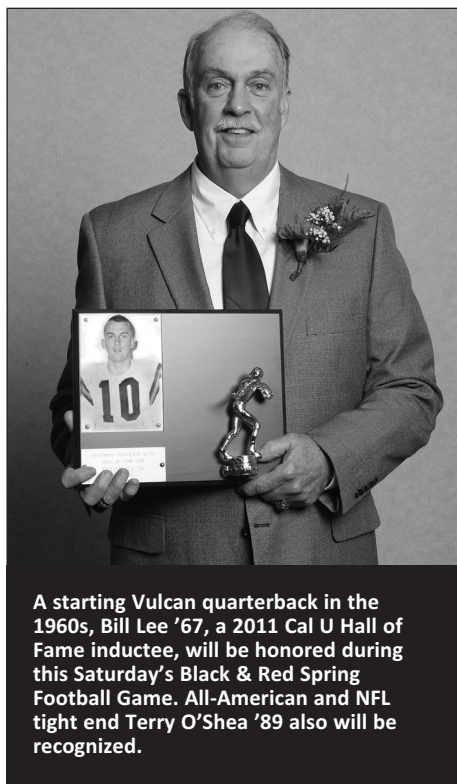
Cal U's football team will conclude its spring drills Saturday by hosting the Black & Red Spring Game at Adamson Stadium's Hepner-Bailey Field.

The varsity scrimmage will begin at 1 p.m., after a tailgate party at 11 a.m. inside the stadium.

Alumnus and National Football League referee Gene Steratore '87 will serve as honorary coach. Before the game the Vulcans will recognize Hall of Fame players Bill Lee '67 and Terry O'Shea '89 with an on-the-field ceremony.

Steratore is entering his seventh season as a referee in the National Football League. He began his career as a field judge in 2003 before being promoted to referee at the start of the 2006 NFL season. Steratore is the only current NFL referee who also officiates NCAA Division I basketball. He completed his 15th year last month by working a second-round game of the 2012 NCAA tournament at CONSOL Energy Center.

Inducted into Cal U's Hall of Fame



A starting Vulcan quarterback in the 1960s, Bill Lee '67, a 2011 Cal U Hall of Fame inductee, will be honored during this Saturday's Black & Red Spring Football Game. All-American and NFL tight end Terry O'Shea '89 also will be recognized.

last fall, Lee was Cal U's starting quarterback from the end of the 1963 season through 1966, when he passed for

a school record 367 yards in a victory over Lock Haven. A former teacher and longtime football official, he worked for nearly 30 years with his cousin's business, Lee Supply Co., and still serves as a consultant. A proud University benefactor, Lee is in his 11th year as the mayor of Speers, Pa.

O'Shea was a three-time all-conference tight end for the Vulcans from 1985-1988, and he received Associated Press All-American honors in his senior season. He finished with 123 career catches and then played two seasons for the Pittsburgh Steelers and one with Barcelona of the World Football League. O'Shea was a redshirt member of Cal's 1984 PSAC title team and a 1995 Cal U Hall of Fame inductee. Now a successful businessman, he resides in Greensburg, Pa., with his wife Amy.

At halftime, Cal U will introduce its new players for the 2012 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 the alumni game event that was contested for 30 years, from 1979-2008.

After the game, spectators will be allowed onto the field for a photograph and autograph session with the players.

The post-game picnic will follow in the alumni pavilion area at Roadman Park.

Under the guidance of 11th-year head coach John Luckhardt, Cal U went 10-3 overall last fall, won its seventh straight PSAC-West title and competed in the NCAA Division II playoffs for the fifth straight year.

The Vulcans, seven-time defending PSAC-West champions, open the 2012 season by hosting Hillsdale College (Mich.) on Aug. 30. Over the past five years, Cal U has compiled a 56-12 cumulative record with five consecutive NCAA Division II playoff appearances.

For more information on Saturday's Cal U football festivities, call Leslie Fleenor in Alumni Relations at 724-938-4418.

Kling Named PSAC Champion Scholar

Cal U women's track and field and cross country standout Erin Kling is the recipient of the inaugural Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Champion Scholar Award for the women's indoor track and field championships, which were hosted by Edinboro University earlier this semester.

The award, new this academic year, is presented at each of the PSAC's 23 team championship finals. It honors the male and female athlete at each contest with the top cumulative grade-point average.

Kling becomes the fourth Vulcan student-athlete to receive this honor. She joins men's cross country standout Tim Lahmers, women's soccer defender Kristen Orrett, and women's volleyball

setter Abbey Freund, who were honored last fall.

A junior majoring in biology, Kling has achieved a perfect 4.00 cumulative grade-point average. The native of Jamestown, N.Y., has been a two-time U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-Academic recipient for cross country. She was a Capital One Academic All-District Second-Team track and field selection last spring.

Kling also helped the women's cross country team earn USTFCCCA All-Academic Team honors for the third straight year. To qualify, the team must have a cumulative team GPA of 3.00 or better and have finished at least five runners at its respective NCAA regional championship. Cal U owns a 3.44 team GPA.



Cal U's Erin Kling is the fourth Vulcan student-athlete to receive the PSAC Champion Scholar Award this athletic year.

Campus BRIEFS

Leonardo da Vinci Exhibit Continues

Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion continues through May 6 in the Convocation Center. The free, hands-on museum exhibition features 40 full-size replicas of machines crafted from da Vinci's own technical drawings.

The exhibition is open from noon to 8 p.m. seven days a week in the center's south conference wing. The public may attend and ride the free campus shuttle; visitor parking is available in the Vulcan Garage.

For details and images from the exhibition, visit www.calu.edu.

Plan Now for SEEK Summer Fun

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 2012 for children entering grades 1-8. Classes will be held July 16-20 and August 6-10.

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.

Troops Test to Earn German Military Award

Cal U will host nearly 100 members of the active-duty, reserve and National Guard components of the U.S. military Saturday and Sunday as they compete to earn the prestigious German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge.

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.

It has been available since 1972 to U.S. service members who meet rigorous proficiency standards.

To earn the badge, candidates must meet benchmarks in swimming, running and other physical activities; qualify on the pistol range; and pass a first-aid test. They also must

complete a road march while carrying a backpack weighing at least 33 pounds.

Rain or shine, physical fitness tests will take place this weekend on Cal U's main and south campuses. The marksmanship test will be held at the Westmoreland County Community College Public Safety Training Center in Smithton, Pa.

A graduation event at 4 p.m. Sunday in the Performance Center will begin with all participants marching in a tactical formation from a site near the California Army Navy Store, down Wood Street, to Third Street and then onto campus.

For more information and a complete schedule, visit www.calu.edu.

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