



March 2011

# Academic Affairs News

California University of Pennsylvania

## New Tenure-Track Faculty Members

**Spencer Norman** (Art & Design) was hired this semester as a tenure-track faculty member in Graphic Design. Norman has a Master of Arts degree (MFA equivalent) from Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, University of The Arts London. A graphic designer focused on typography and motion design, Norman runs MILK, a branding agency in Pittsburgh.



**Charlotte Orient** (Early, Middle, & Special Education), hired this semester as a tenure-track faculty member, has a Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern Mississippi. Her primary area of interest is middle level education. Orient has made professional conference presentations in Russia, China, Australia, and South Africa.



## Going Digital

### Academic Affairs News

Response to the Academic Affairs newsletter has been outstanding. Items for the newsletter come from “good news” submitted by deans, departments, and programs for the Provost’s quarterly report to the Cal U Council of Trustees. Each quarter, the number of news has increased. Given the growth in good news, this issue was expanded to eight pages. While the newsletter has been a great tool for publicizing faculty and staff achievements, the cost of printing is becoming prohibitive. So, starting with the next issue we expect to print enough copies for the Council of Trustees and for those individuals whose achievements are noted. A digital version (PDF) of the newsletter will be distributed via email. Also, every issue of the newsletter is posted on the Academic Affairs web page in PDF for download.

## Grad School Enrollment Record

**John Cencich**, Dean, **School of Graduate Studies & Research** reports that for the first time in Cal U’s history, the graduate school enrollment exceeded 2,000 students! The first cohort of the Master of Education in Elementary & Middle School STEM program started

with 20 students. The second MSN (Nursing) cohort has 35 students. The Masters in Technology Education program began its fourth cohort and now has students from 10 states, two international students, and several foreign exchange students.

## Meteorology Earns Honorable Mention in Carnegie Science Center Awards

On February 3, the 2011 *Carnegie Science Awards* were announced and Cal U’s Meteorology program (**Earth Sciences**) received an “Honorable Mention” in the *University/Post-Secondary Student Award*. The program’s meteorology club, the Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Meteorological Society, completes educational outreach, charity, and student engagement events, including their annual *StormFest*. Held inside the Carnegie Science Center, *StormFest* is an outreach that engages K-12 students and the general public in a variety of Earth and atmospheric science demonstrations and experiments. The 2011 *StormFest*, held February 25-26, was headlined by *The Weather Channel’s* Nick Walker.



“This is a prestigious recognition for our students and California University. We are humbled by the acknowledgement and remain committed to giving back to our local communities by providing important Earth Science education programming,” **Chad Kauffman** (Chapter

Advisor) noted. The Carnegie Science Center established the awards in 1997 to recognize and promote outstanding science and technology achievements in western Pennsylvania. Celebrating its fifteenth year, the *Carnegie Science Awards* have honored more than 275 individuals and organizations that have improved lives through their commitment and contributions in science and technology. In the photo (from left) are **Ann Metzger** (Carnegie Science Center), **Provost Jones**, **Kauffman**, **Dustin Snare** (Chapter President), **Katie Mercadante** (Cal U Alumna & Inaugural *StormFest* Coordinator), **Brittany Petrarca** (2011 *StormFest* Coordinator), and **Ron Baillie** (Carnegie Science Center).

## Grants & Projects

**Barbara Crofcheck** and **Debbie Grubb** (Pre-College Online Program) received \$56,000 from the US Department of Labor through the Private Industry Council for *Pathways Out of Poverty* to support scholarships for seven Fayette County students pursuing programs in green/energy fields at Cal U.

**Bill Meloy** (Library Services) and **Craig Smith** (History & Political Science) received \$5,000 from the Cal U Faculty Professional Development Committee for *California University Archives Digital Collection Workshop* to create an interactive history website using materials from the university's archives. Meloy will handle the technical aspects of the project, and Smith will serve as the history consultant.

**Katherine Mitchem** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) received \$22,831 for *No Tools Left Behind: EPSS for Students with Mild Disabilities 2011* from the US Department of Education through the University of Missouri. This collaboration with the University of Missouri-Columbia focuses on the development, usability, and feasibility of electronic performance support software (EPSS) for students with mild disabilities.

**Thomas Mueller** (Earth Sciences) received \$25,000 for *AmericaView 2010-2011-State View Program Development and Operations for the State of Pennsylvania* from the US Geological Survey through Montana State University to permit Cal U to continue to serve as the principal organization to provide leadership in the development and deployment of educational resources throughout our state.

**Anthony Pyzdrowski** (Math, Computer Science, & Information Systems) received \$6,938 from the US Department of Defense through Garrett College for *CASE STEM Program Development Spring 2011* to continue creating a teacher professional development program based upon a mathematics curriculum utilizing

Lego Robotics as a primary component for CASE. A training presentation of these items will be made for trainers and teachers.

**Robert Whyte** (Biological & Environmental Sciences) received a \$4,675 *Learning Community Grant* from the Faculty Professional Development Center with collaborators **Sarah Meiss** (Biological & Environmental Sciences), **Carol Bocetti** (Biological & Environmental Sciences); **John Confer** (Earth Sciences), and **Min Li** (Chemistry & Physics). The Learning Community Grant will facilitate the creation of an

interdisciplinary center for environmental studies to serve as a mechanism through which Cal U can create, build, and facilitate environmental programs that will create synergies in teaching, research, and service related to the environment and that are difficult to create strictly within the confines of the classroom and the defined disciplines of the individual departments. The initiative seeks to not only extend across intra-institutional boundaries, but to establish community partnerships, amplifying the role of the individual departments, program offices, faculty, staff and community members.

**David Argent** (Biological & Environmental Sciences) received \$19,990 from the Wild Resources Conservation Program of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for *Climate Change in Headwater Streams: A Baseline for Monitoring and Assessment*. The project will concentrate on the identification of species and natural communities most at risk from climate change, and species inventory and monitoring. Brook trout population status and stream and air temperatures in paired watersheds of Laurel Hill will be monitored over 12 months to provide a baseline for long-term assessment.

Argent also received \$30,000 from the PA Fish and Boat Commission through the State Wildlife Grants Program to evaluate the recovery of paddlefish populations in Pennsylvania. Dave and his students have been studying the pad-

dlefish for several years. In 2006, Dave led a paddlefish survey below Lock and Dam #3 on the Allegheny River. During the survey the team captured and released several paddlefish with the largest fish weighing in at 42 pounds (photo). One captured fish had cuts on its operculum that could have resulted from a propeller.



### Research Boat

This semester, Dave took delivery of a new Clark research boat. The boat was purchased with funding from the Heinz Endowments and will be used to investigate the effects of Marcellus Gas drilling in the Mon River basin. The boat will be similar to the PA Fish & Boat Commission boat in the photo, which is being used to conduct a rotenone survey on the river. Matt Kinsey (Cal alumnus) is at the helm of the boat in the photo.



## Faculty Publications

**James Bove's** (Art & Design) invited juror's statement was published in the *Washington Guild of Goldsmith's Exhibition Catalog*, which was shown at the famous Torpedo Factory Gallery outside of Washington D.C. Also in December, his *Sketch Book Project* was entered into the permanent collection at the Art House Co-Op, Brooklyn Library.

**Grafton Eliason** and **Jeffrey Samide** (Counselor Education) published the following refereed articles with colleagues: "The Grateful Terrorist: Folk-

lore as Psychological Coping Mechanism" in *Voices: The Journal of New York Folklore* (New York Folklore Society) and "Existential theory and our search for spirituality" in the *Journal of Spirituality in Mental Health*, (Routledge Taylor & Francis Group).

**Kalie Kossar** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) published "Cooperative learning for students with special needs" in the *International Encyclopedia of Education*, (3rd Edition) with E. Dooley.

**Katherine Mitchem** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) published *Electronic performance support tools for adolescents: An implementation manual for StrategyTools* with G. Fitzgerald, K. Miller, and K. Hollingsead under the EPSS Assistive Technologies federal grant.

**Cindy Persinger's** (Art & Design) article, "Reconsidering Meyer Schapiro and the New Vienna School" was published in the *Journal of Art Historiography* in December.

## Faculty Presentations

**Melanie Blumberg** (History & Political Science), Charles Holman, and Kirk Holman presented "Suppose They Gave a [Tea] Party and No One Came? Democrat Wins PA-12 Special Election" at the *2011 Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association* in New Orleans in January. Charles, a Cal alumnus, is pursuing a doctorate in political science at the University of New Orleans.

**James Bove'** (Art & Design) lectured and taught a one week workshop on subtractive wax working techniques used in the jewelry and metals industry at Grand Valley State University in Michigan in January. Also in January, Mr. Bove' created 50 works of art for the juried, invitational *Articulture Project*.

**James Burton** and **Kalie Kossar** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) delivered an in-service entitled "Brain-Based Learning to Grades K-8" at the Washington School District in January.

**Margaret Christopher** (Social Work) presented a poster, "Beneath the Radar: Identifying, Rescuing and Rehabilitating Exploited Children", at the *2011 Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs Conference* and the *Family Voices National Conference* in February in Washington, DC.

**Chris Harman** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) presented a poster, "Audience Response System to Change Health Behavior" at the *Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference* in Hershey, PA in February.

**Kalie Kossar, Katherine Mitchem, and James Burton** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) presented "The Role of Context in Preparing and Retaining Highly Effective Educators in High-Need Rural Schools" at the *American Education Research Association Annual Conference* in New Orleans, LA.

**Vanessa MacKinnon** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) presented her research on women and golf at the *International Conference on Sport and Society* in Kolkata, India in February.

**Cindy Persinger** (Art & Design) presented "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Is Photography's Past its Future?" at the *College Art Association* meeting in New York City in February.

**Christine Romani-Ruby** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) made three presentations: "Muscle Balance on the Foam Roller," "Posture Perfect with Pilates," and "Functional Anatomy of the Shoulder" at the *Pilates On Tour Conference* in December in Rome, Italy.

**Taunya Tinsley** (Counselor Education) was the keynote speaker at the *National Girls and Women in Sports Day Luncheon* at Chatham University in February.

## Internship Center News

The **Internship Center** reports that the number of registered internships increased from 919 for Summer 2009-Spring 2010 to 1117 for Summer 2010-Spring 2011. The current *Strategic Plan for Academic Affairs* calls for an increase of 50 internships from 2009 to 2012.

### Rutledge Award

The Internship Center awarded its first *Rutledge Internship Award* to **Emily Hut-zayluk**, a Spanish major at Cal U from Pottstown, PA. Emily began her internship on February 7 at Rivadavia Hospital in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



The *Rutledge Internship Award*, which offsets the costs of participating in an internship, was established by Tom '75 and Karen Rutledge (photo below, with President Armenti). It provides competitive scholarships to juniors and seniors with a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher who have unpaid or low-paying internships that are geographically and professionally diverse.



### THIS Internship

**Tamara Al-khattar** (International Studies), of South Park is working for the state Independent Regulatory Review Commission as part of a 15-week internship



sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Tamara is one of 14 students participating in The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) program, which provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government while earning a full-time credit load for the semester. THIS invites students from each of the 14 PASSHE universities to participate. Tamara (photo above), is the daughter of Dr. Aref (Justice Studies) and Nari-man Al-khattar and a graduate of South Park High School. She and the other students participating in the program will attend several academic seminars during their spring semester internship. Each of the students also will complete an individualized research project as part of the program's requirements.

**Ian Glumac** '10 (Tourism Studies) from Grindstone, PA, interned at Red River Community House, Red River, NM. Ian graduated in December 2010.



**Lauren Kross** (Applied Sociology) from Aliquippa, PA, interned at St. Hilda's East in London. The internship was arranged with the Washington Internship Center's Intern Abroad program. Lauren will graduate this semester.



**Pam Ciardi** '10 (Education) from Munn-hall, PA, a December 2010 graduate, interned as a Hockey Coach at Shady-side Academy during the Fall semester.



### Green & Energy

On November 14, the **Internship Center** conducted a *Green & Energy Industry Networking* event at Cal U to help students learn about job and internship opportunities in green and energy industries. Over 70 students and 20 organizations, including Consol Energy and the Washington and Westmoreland Conservation districts, participated. Co-sponsors of the event were the Regional Internship Center and Cal U **Career Services**. The event was funded through a PASSHE internship grant.

## Kreis Inspires

**Mary Kreis** (Exercise Science & Sports Studies) continues to use her life story to inspire others while promoting Cal U.



Kreis delivered a Veterans Day speech on the deck of the battleship *USS North Carolina*, a World War II vessel permanently docked in Wilmington, N.C. Two days later she competed in the PPD Beach2Battleship Iron Distance Triathlon where she finished as the first masters and first military female. The PPD Beach2Battleship Triathlon, named one of the top five iron distance triathlons in the world by *Triathlete* magazine, began with the swim in the inner-coastal waters near Wilmington, followed by the bicycle race and the marathon run.

Kreis, a cancer survivor, was asked to participate in both events by sponsor Pharmaceutical Product Development Inc., a global contract research organization with offices in 42 countries and more than 10,500 professionals worldwide. Kreis was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma in 2004 in her first week at Cal U. Because of her connection with cancer, Kreis was one of 25 cyclists selected to ride in the 2005 *Tour of Hope*, a cross-country bike ride with Lance Armstrong designed to highlight the need for clinical trials in cancer research.

Kreis was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army's Medical Service Corps while she completed her bachelor's degree. In 2006, she accepted a medical discharge with the rank of Major in the U.S. Army Reserve.

## Faculty & Staff Achievements

**Laura Hummell** (Applied Engineering & Technology) participated in the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association Board of Directors regional and state conference planning meeting in Hershey, PA in January as the university representative. Also, Hummell edited five National Technology Student Association middle and high school competitive events in January. This semester, Hummell is working to renew her *National Board Certification*.

**MacDonald Kale** (Communication Studies) participated in an *Interagency SENSE Simulation Workshop* in January in Washington, D.C. The workshop was hosted by the Department of Defense's Institute of Defense Analysis and the United States Institute of Peace and attended by individuals from the DoD, State Department, USAID, NSA, CentCom, foreign embassies, international security contractors, the National Democratic Institute, and academics.



**Libby Larsen** (Director, Sociology/Applied Concentration) was elected President-Elect of the *National Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology*. Over the next ten months, she will collaborate with the current president and then assume the presidency in October 2011. She will preside at the association's annual conference in 2012 in Milwaukee, WI and introduce the keynote speaker, esteemed sociologist, Dr. William Julius Wilson. In January, Larsen reviewed "Community and Well-Being among Older Women in the Russian Diaspora" for the peer-reviewed journal *Making Connections: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Cultural Diversity*.

**Julia McGinnis** (Library Services) chaired the Policy and Planning Committee of the Continuing Resources Sec-

tion of the *Association for Library Collections and Technical Services*, a division of the American Library Association at the mid-winter meeting in San Diego. Also, over the semester break, Julia cataloged 19<sup>th</sup> century Louisiana newspapers, many of them Civil War era, damaged in Hurricane Katrina for Tulane University Library Special Collections. She is chair of the 2011 SSHELCO annual meeting at the Dixon Center in Harrisburg.

**Katherine Mitchem** (Early, Middle, & Special Education) worked with Dr. Gail Fitzgerald on the *No Tool Left Behind* federal grant to develop and test: *PictureTools* (computer software), *Kid Coach* (interactive training web site), and *StrategyTools: Smart Cards Version* (U.S. Department of Education project #H327A080036). They will investigate the use of *PictureTools* with four teachers and 100 kindergartners at Washington Park Primary School this year.

**Tom Mueller's** (Earth Sciences) GIS students last semester completed a project for the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation of the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The students worked on a web GIS development project; applying geospatial tools to improve the sharing of local park information. When completed, the project will permit park professionals, planners, and users to query park information anytime/anywhere with online



*Continued on page 6*

## Faculty & Staff Achievements

and mobile apps, fulfilling a long-time dream of park and recreation professionals, according to Mr. Thomas Ford, Chief of Customer Assistance & Policy with the Bureau. In January, Mueller was elected Vice President of the Eastern Great Lakes Region of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing for 2011-12. Mueller also serves as President of PASSHE's *GIS Consortium*, a Board Member of *Pennsylvania Mapping and Geographic Information Consortium*, and the Chair of the *Pennsylvania National Hydrography Dataset*.

**Ellie Nesser** (Southpointe Center) attended the *International Academy of Management and Business 2011 Winter Conference* in Orlando, FL, in January. Scholars, academics, and business people from more than 20 countries attended.

**Mary Popovich** (Health Science) passed the PA Department of Health re-accreditation for the EMT-B program and became a re-certified paramedic.

**Loring Prest** (Library Services) was appointed Chair of the *Keystone Library Network PILOT Committee*, which deals with the online catalog used in PASSHE and other libraries.

**Joni Roh** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) mentored the *Virtual Vikings*, a FIRST robotics team in Morgantown, WV. In December at the state competition, the team placed first in research, which focused on bio-engineering.



**Stephen Whitehead** (Applied Engineering & Technology) earned his doctorate in Curriculum & Instruction from Indiana University in December. This semester, his GCM students are working with Knepper Press (Clinton,

PA) to evaluate their production processes and make improvements. In February, Whitehead attended the *Theory of Constraints for Education* training in Niceville, FL.

**Peter Wright** (Applied Engineering & Technology) facilitated a *Strategic Planning Retreat* for the Main Street Farmers Market Board of Directors in January at Washington & Jefferson College.

**Roy Yarbrough** and **Charles Crowley** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) completed the Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management Instructor Development Program workshop training in Cincinnati, OH in December. The workshop permits Sport Management students to be trained in alcohol awareness and stadium operations in food service.

**Kimberly Woznack** (Chemistry & Physics) accepted an appointment as an associate to the Committee on Women



Chemists of the American Chemical Society (ACS) from the 2011 ACS President, Dr. Nancy B. Jackson, and the Chair of the ACS Board of Directors, Dr. Bonnie A. Charpentier. The

ACS was founded in 1876, and with more than 160,000 members around the world it is the world's largest scientific society. ACS is a congressionally chartered independent membership organization that represents professionals at all degree levels and in all fields of chemistry and sciences that involve chemistry. The Committee on Women Chemists mission is to be a leader in attracting, developing and promoting women in the chemical sciences and related disciplines. Woznack will serve on the Attracting Subcommittee and will review award applications and deliberate with the committee on award decisions.

## History of Winter

**Elizabeth Springer** (Secondary Education, photo right) was a biology student teacher last semester with Kelly Kruper (photo, left) at Laurel Highlands High School (Uniontown, PA). Elizabeth and Kelly were invited to the *History of Winter*, a NASA-sponsored science training in February. Through a grant program, Kelly and her Laurel Highlands colleagues are creating a NASA-based curriculum. The NASA grant provided the *History of Winter* opportunity. The training, an annual event held in Lake Placid, New York and co-sponsored by Blueice International and NASA, introduces teachers to the application of inquiry-based learning to study snow and ice as indicators of climate change. Elizabeth's student teaching faculty supervisor was **Pete Bozick**.



## Art & Writing Awards

**Art & Design** hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> Southwestern PA Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards at Cal U, January 22-February 6. The awards recognize the creative achievements of students in grades 7-12. Started in 1923, it is considered the nation's oldest and most prestigious award program of its type. Regional winners enter the national program in New York City, where finalists exhibit their work. The Southwestern PA Region includes Fayette, Greene, and Washington counties. **Suzan Mohney**, Chair of Art Judging, coordinated events in Drawing, Painting, Mixed Media, Ceramics, and Printmaking. Art & Design judges included **Maggy Aston**, **Greg Harrison**, **Scott Lloyd**, and **Richard Miecznikowski**.

## Department, Program, & Staff Achievements

In December, seven student members of the *Cal Campaign Consultants*; Alexandria Bernard, Courtney Cochran, Mark Mansor, Lauren Snyder, Jeff Ward, Matthew Wilson, and Brittney Yesenchak (**History & Political Science**), attended the American Democracy Conference in Washington, DC. The conference was co-sponsored by the University of Virginia and Politico. **Mel Blumberg** (History & Political Science) is the faculty advisor for the *Cal Campaign Consultants*.

*The Associated Artists of California*, a student club in **Art & Design**, prepared the Spring 2011 Exhibition Schedule for the Vulcan Hall Student Gallery where students can display work they have created at Cal U and professional artists can exhibit. Each show is organized, promoted, and managed by students, giving everyone a chance to display artwork and to gain experience that could be applied to a future career in the art world. Shows scheduled through March 3 include solo shows by Amy Hoy (February 3), Ashley Hickey (February 17), Randis Doster (February 24), and Sakura Jones (March 3). The co-advisors of *The Associate Artists of California* are Art & Design faculty **Todd Pinkham** and **Laura DeFazio**.

The **Southpointe Center** hosted the *Southpointe Chamber Tradeshow Expo* on February 25. The *Expo*, which featured the Marcellus Shale industry and how to be part of this growing opportunity, emphasized the theme "2011 Expansion of Southpointe." Also, the Southpointe Center LEADS Program's Executive Training Series will start in early March. Companies utilizing the Southpointe Center this spring include Halliburton (Geographix Seminar), Mallett Technology, SHRM Learning Systems, Orion Financial (Retirement Planning Seminar), and the PA Virtual Charter School.

The **Institute of Criminological and Forensic Sciences** co-hosted the inaugural meeting of the *Washington County Association of Chiefs of Police* with District Attorney and Cal U alumnus Steve Toprani. In the photo with Toprani (center) are **John Cencich** (left) and Robert Downey, Cal U Police Chief.



John Cencich (Institute Director) trained 30 law enforcement officers and professors from the FBI, the Pittsburgh Police and Cal U in *Forensic Law and Expert Testimony*. **Aref Al-Khattar** (Justice, Law, & Society) trained 35 law enforcement officers throughout the region in *Arabic for Law Enforcement*. **Cassandra Kuba** (Justice, Law, & Society) trained 15 coroners and law enforcement officers in *Forensic Anthropology for Law Enforcement*. Roy Hazelwood trained 37 law enforcement officers from three states in *False Confessions and Criminal Profiling*.

Meteorology faculty and students (**Earth Sciences**, photo) conducted the first-ever Cal U alumni reception at the *American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting* in Seattle in January. Five distinguished alumni who were presenting research at the meeting attended the event, including Dustin Devine '03, Patrick Taylor '04, Janice Bytheway '05, Ryan LaQuay '10, and Emily Sheer '10. Over a dozen current meteorology students and two Cal U faculty, **Chad Kauffman** (Earth

Sciences) and **Susan Jasko** (Communication Studies) attended. Amy Lombard and Leslie Fleenor, Cal U Alumni Relations, organized and sponsored the event. Several guests attended, including Charlie Woodrum of the *National Weather Service* in Pittsburgh, and students and colleagues from the University of Oklahoma, University of Michigan, and University of Washington. Cal U students Tim Lahmers, Katelyn Welsh, and Christopher Werner also presented a recent research at the student poster session during the conference.



The Cal U Office of **Articulation & Transfer Evaluation** recently developed online transfer articulation agreements for two Cal U degree programs. The Cal U Legal Studies degree program approved articulation agreements with Middlesex Community College's (Lowell, MA) degree programs in the Associate in Science in Liberal Studies Paralegal and Eastern Gateway Community College's (Steubenville, OH) Associate in Applied Science in Corrections degree and Associate in Applied Science in Law Enforcement degree. The Cal U Sports Management Studies Wellness and Fitness program approved agreements with Bryan College's Gold River Campus's (Gold River, CA) Occupational Associate in Advanced Health and Fitness Training and Career Networks Institute's (Orange, CA) Diploma Program in Fitness Training.

## Department, Program, & Staff Achievements (continued)

Cal U's **Tourism Studies** program was named the 2011 exclusive education partner of the *Pennsylvania Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus*. Also, Cal U maintained its status through 2011 as a *World Tourism Organization* accredited institution and a member of the *World Tourism Organization Education and Science Council*. Exclusive contract partners of the Cal U Tourism Research Center for 2011 include the Gettysburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency,

and the PA Trolley Museum. These contracts provide opportunities for publications for **Susan Ryan** (Director), service-learning for students, and research for faculty and students.

The Office of **Web-Based Programs** reports that Cal U was selected for a third year as a *Military Advanced Education Top Military Friendly School*. The office had another successful registration term with a 3% increase in Global Online enrollments year over year.

## Student & Alumni Achievements

Over 40 Cal U **Professional Golf Management** program students recently participated in the *2011 PGA of America Merchandise Show and Conference* (Orlando, FL). The students completed golf industry product training, attended educational seminars, and networked with industry professionals while seeking internships and employment opportunities. The students were accompanied by PGM program director, **Justin Barroner** (Exercise Science & Sport Studies).

This semester, graduate students in EDE 718 Teaching Mathematics and undergraduate students in EDE 305 Math Content and Method (**Early, Middle, & Special Education**) have become *Math Pen Pals* with fourth and fifth graders at South Central Elementary School in Canon-Macmillan School District and Madonna Regional Catholic School in Monongahela. The graduate students are sending math problems to the children, who respond to the letters, solve the problems, and send back problems to solve. The Cal U students will also experience assessing the elementary

students' math solutions. At the end of the semester, the Cal U students and the elementary students will meet for a day of problem-solving with their pen pals.

A group of **Theatre & Dance** students attended the *North Central Regional Theatre Conference and Auditions/Technical Interviews* in January at Muskingum University (New Concord, OH). Student-volunteers included Jordan Brooks, Emily Cutwright, Laura Egler, Caroline Kibbe, Devin Phillis, and Jessica Straley. Student-actors included Kristin Ross, Breanna Otto, Christina Bordini, Jessica Parker, Sarah Orletsky, Katey O'Connor, Aubrey Kyler, Rachele Sanschagrín, Rachel Colson, Katy Rodgers, Angela Belcastro, and Catherine Hoefler. Student-technicians included Britt Micholas, Jordan Lippert, Emily Brant, Steven Singer, Rachele Sanschagrín, and Rachel Colson. Many of the students received call backs and job offers. They were led by **Michele Pagen** (Theatre & Dance), who participated in the conference and served as a stage manager.

### Upcoming Academic Events and Conferences

- ◆ Sixth Annual Audrey-Beth Fitch Women's Studies Conference - Thursday, March 17
- ◆ Honors Convocation - Saturday, April 2
- ◆ Celebrating Northern Appalachia in Word and Song Conference - Monday, April 11
- ◆ President's Dinner for Graduates - Thursday, May 5
- ◆ Graduate Commencement - Friday, May 6
- ◆ Undergraduate Commencement - Saturday, May 7
- ◆ Staff Recognition Dinner - Friday, June 10

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