



## Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

### Academic Affairs Staff

Mary Kay Dayner

Executive Staff

Assistant to the Provost

Andrew Galla

Application Developer

Kathy Gavazzi

Director of Summer College  
& Associate Registrar

Marisa Gillis

Secretary

Daniel E. Engstrom

Associate Provost  
for Student Retention

Jodie Rooney

Academic Events &  
Act 48 Coordinator

Caryl Sheffield

Interim Associate Provost

Caleb Tom

Applications Developer

Heidi Williams

Registrar

Stephen H. Whitehead

Interim Associate Provost

Dr. David Argent and William Kimmel (Biological and Environmental Sciences) presented "Status of benthic and pelagic fishes in the Monongahela River 2005-2010. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

Dr. John D. Massella (counseling Center) Presented "Identifying and Treating Adolescent Substance Abuse" At The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Nursing in Pgh, PA.

Dr. John D. Massella (counseling Center) Presented "Problem Gambling: Not Just for Grownups" to the Beaver County Area SAP (student assistance program) Counselors/Coordinators at the Annual SAP Training, in Beaver, PA.

Dr. Taunya Tinsley (Counselor Education) presented "Life's Transitions: Session I" at the National Football League, New York, NY with Felicia Hall and Johnny Allen.

Dr. Taunya Tinsley (Counselor Education) presented "Life's Transitions: Session II" at the National Football League, New York, NY with Felicia Hall and Johnny Allen.

Dr. Taunya Tinsley (Counselor Education) presented "Talking with your Children about the Sandy Hook School Tragedy" at UrbanMediaToday, Pittsburgh, PA.

Dr. Taunya Tinsley (Counselor Education) presented "Speaking to Kids about Tragedy" at American Urban Radio Networks, Pittsburgh, PA.

Dr. Taunya Tinsley (Counselor Education) presented "Ethics in Counseling and Pastoral Care" at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA with Dr. Rev. Joan Prentice.

Dr. Aref Al-Khattar (Justice, Law, & Society) presented "Arab Spring from an American Perspective" at the International Conference on Human Security and Social Movements in Jordan. December 2012.

Dr. Michael Hummel (Justice, Law, & Society) presented the keynote speech "The 7 Dimensions of Human Security and Humanitarian Aid Worker Security in a Belligerent Environment" at the International Conference on Human Security and Social Movements, Mutha University, Amman Jordan. December 2012.

Mr. James Kane Record, J.D., LL.M. (Justice, Law, & Society) presented a paper "Forensic Expert Testimony Meets the Confrontation Clause" at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 65th Annual Scientific Meeting, in Washington DC. February 21, 2013.

Dr. Emily Sweitzer (Justice, Law, & Society) presented "School violence: early indicators" at the 29th Annual Head Start Parent Conference and Family Engagement Institutes. Dallas, TX.

Dr. Yugo Ikach (Music) conducted the Washington County High School Chorus in a concert featuring repertoire from the Opera, Operetta and Music Theater Stage. 14 High Schools were represented in the concert.

Dr. Joni Roh, (Department of Health Science) Mary Popovich, Aimee Thompson and Lori Rippole, California University students and members of Nu Omicron Chapter of KON presented "Rock Your Tastebuds" at Cheat Lake Elementary School in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Dr. Bernadette Jeffrey (Social Work) did an on camera presentation with a live call-in feature for Cornerstone TV (January 15, 2013, 60 minutes in length) focusing on children's responses to the Sandy Hook shooting and violence and what parents can do in response to the children's needs for formal help.

Dr. Susan Jasko (Communication Studies) was featured in an article in the Pittsburgh Business Times "Be proactive in positioning yourself as an expert".

March  
2013



### Academic Affairs Mission

Under the direction of the provost, the Office of Academic Affairs at Cal U comprises three undergraduate colleges and the School of Graduate Studies and Research. The Office of Academic Affairs supports the mission of building the character and careers of individuals by ensuring quality academic programs, classroom technology, student enrichment activities and world-class instruction. California University provides students with the tools they need to have a lifetime of success, both educationally and professionally.

# Academic Affairs Newsletter

## From the Desk of Acting Provost Dr. Barnhart



If you've ever watched the TV show "CSI," you may be familiar with Jon Wellner and Marc Vann, who star in the hit series. But you may not know that our own Dr. Cassandra Kuba, from the Department of Justice, Law and Society, occasionally shares her expertise in forensic science with the show's producers.

The "CSI" actors recently gave a talk at the Penn State-Berks campus. Dr. Kuba made a "guest appearance" when she was introduced as one of the experts who help to keep the storylines authentic.

Two members of the Social Work Department also had a moment in the spotlight. Dr. Pamela Twiss was named Southwest Division Social Worker of the Year by the Pennsylvania branch of the National Association of Social Workers. And Dr. Gwendolyn Perry-Burney received a Heinz Endowment grant for \$50,000, co-written with Dr. Bonnie Young Laing, of Pittsburgh. The grant supports a partnership between two organizations — Stand Up Now and the Hill District Consensus Group — to promote youth empowerment, organizing and action to improve schools in the Pittsburgh area.

Golf season isn't here yet, but the awards season is in full swing for our Professional Golf Management program. The PGA's Tri-State Section honored program director Justin Barroner with its 2012-2013 Junior Golf Leader Award. This is Mr. Barroner's fifth consecutive year earning a PGA award from the section, making him one of its top award recipients of all time.

Dr. Vanessa MacKinnon, the program's internship director, received the section's Horton Smith Award for her contributions to the PGA's educational program.

In addition the PGM program recently established an internship agreement with Titleist Golf, of the Acushnet Company in Carlsbad, California. But an early success has strengthened our alliance, allowing us to serve as a direct pipeline for full-time associates. In the summer before his senior year, Drew Herchko became the first student to take part in Titleist's internship experience — and after just three months at the corporate headquarters, he was hired as a full-time associate. Drew is completing his studies online, and he's already been promoted to regional representative for Titleist. He'll be returning to campus in May to attend Commencement.

Sincerely,

*Bruce D. Barnhart*

Acting Provost

## Meet Cal U's New Community Education Manager

Greetings my name is Walt Czekaj, I was hired in the role of Community Education Manager. I am excited to return to Cal U where I studied as a student pursuing my Bachelors Degree in Education (07) and my Masters of Education (09).

In my new role I am responsible for aiding in the coordination of community education initiatives and events on and off campus. It is my hope to develop a strong partnership with faculty, students and staff to execute these events successfully.

Your input will be key to my success. I am excited to serve the University community in this new role. If you have an existing program or are interested in developing one please contact me to see how I can be of assistance.

I look forward to meeting with each of you. You can reach me at [czekaj@calu.edu](mailto:czekaj@calu.edu) or by phone at 724.938.4981



## Office of Sponsored Programs & Research.

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research is excited to report that 12 Cal U faculty and staff members received notification of new grant awards totaling more than \$185,047 during this quarter.

Professors Monica Ruane and Ryan L. Sittler (Library Services) were awarded \$1,000 in library materials and database access for Muslim culture research via the National Endowment for the Humanities' Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys.

Dr. Robert Skwarecki, Dr. Samantha Procaccini, and Ms. Nancy Carlino (Communication Disorders) were awarded \$4,827 from PASSHE Foundation, Inc. for the grant Electronic Health Record Conversion for the Cal

U Speech and Hearing Clinics: Aligning Clinician Training with Current Healthcare Practices.

Ms. Sheri Boyle (Social Work) was awarded \$15,000 from Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services CONNECT, Inc. for the grant Evaluation Services for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Cohort 6A LEARN After-school Program.

Dr. Lisa Kovalchick (Math, Computer Science and Information Systems) was awarded \$10,000 from the National Science Foundation through the EdLab Group for the grant PA STEM Girls' Collaborative 2013.

Dr. Scott Hargraves (Health Science) was awarded \$1,000 from the PA Faculty Health and Welfare Fund for the grant Pedometer Based Walking for Fitness Program.

Dr. Katherine Mitchem (Early, Middle and Special Education) was awarded \$51,680 from The Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust for the grant Special Education Program: Supporting Training for Students with Intellectual Disabilities 2013. Award through Foundation for Cal U and/or University Development.

Dr. David Argent (Biological and Environmental Sciences) was awarded \$51,540 from CONSOL Energy for the grant Biomonitoring and Assessment of Streambank Fencing Sites at Enlow Fork of Wheeling Creek 2013.

## Faculty and Staff Publications

Dr. Chad Hanna (Biological & Environmental Sciences) published "The lethal and sub-lethal effects of three pesticides on the striped lynx spider (*Oxyopes salticus* Hentz) in the Journal of Applied Entomology in February.

Dr. Taunya M. Tinsley (Counselor Education) co-authored "Transitions: Ending active involvement in sports and other competitive endeavors" in The Oxford Handbook of Sport and Performance Psychology (Oxford Library of Psychology), with Al Petitpas and Amy S. Walker.

Dr. Taunya M. Tinsley (Counselor Education) co-authored "Counseling interventions in applied sport psychology" in Exploring Sport and

Exercise Psychology, with Al Petitpas.

Dr. Laura Tuennerman (History and Political Science) co-authored "At the Border of Empires: The Tohono O'odham, Gender and Assimilation" with former faculty Dr. Andrae Marak.

Dr. Joseph Heim (History and Political Science) published "Wahhabism in South Asia from Shah Waliullah to the Deoband School," in UNESCO's fourth volume Encyclopedia of Islam.

Dr. Melanie Blumberg (History and Political Science) completed a pre-publication review of "Doris Graber's Media Power in Politics 6e." Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Dr. Aref Al-Khattar (Justice, Law, & Society) co-translated and published a book in Arabic "Criminological Theory", published by "Dar Alfiker," Jordan. Professor Ryan L. Sittler (Library Services) published "Using LibGuides to Enhance Library Services: A LITA Guide" with A. Dobbs & D. Cook via the American Library Association.

Dr. Weifeng Chen (Math, Computer Science and Information Systems) published "COCA: Constructing Optimal Clustering Architecture to Maximize Sensor Network Lifetime" in the Computer Communications (Volume 36, Issue 3, February 2013) with H. Li and Y. Liu.

## Student and Alumni Accomplishments

Jake Campbell (senior athletic training education student) participated in the Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association Quiz Bowl in Buffalo, NY in January. Jake finished 4th overall and secured a position on the EATA team, which competes in the National Quiz Bowl at the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) in Las Vegas, Nevada in June. Jake and the team will represent District 2 of the NATA.

Drew Slocum (junior athletic training education student) represented Cal U and Pennsylvania at the iLead Conference during the Athletic Training Educators' Conference in Dallas, Texas (January 2013). Drew was nominated by the ATEP faculty at Cal U and selected by the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society's (PATS) board of directors to represent the commonwealth during the conference.

Elizabeth Forward Middle School Assistant Principal Ms. Trish Maddas, (ADP & SLE graduate of Cal U) has received the "Schools to Watch Award" from the United States Department of Education.