President Angelo Armenti, Jr., said the University’s primary concern was always the students, faculty and staff. “The safety and security of our students and borough residents...”

Throughout the region, the main campus continued to provide emergency shelter, food services and even hot showers to those in need. "The safety and security of our students, faculty and staff is always the University's primary concern," said President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

Although all Cal U campuses shut down Feb. 8-12 because of low water pressure and unsafe travel conditions throughout the region, the main campus continued to provide emergency shelter, food services and even hot showers to students and borough residents.

"The safety and security of our students, faculty and staff is always the University's primary concern," said President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

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**Students Weather the Storms**

R escheduling events, maintaining a sense of order and routine, and helping the community dig out were just a few of the ways Cal U students coped during the recent snowstorm.

"The students are glad they had the week off, but they’re tired of the snow," said Andrew Pirring, a community assistant in Residence Hall A, which had power and water throughout the storm and its aftermath.

Pirring said organized activities such as playing board games and watching movies "helped everyone know you’re not the only one stuck here," with about 30 students gathering at one point to "just hang out together."

Pirring, a senior, is a dual major in Political Science and Earth Sciences-Meteorology. He said his climatology class accurately predicted the snowfall totals from the major storm — "we were more accurate than the meteorologists in Pittsburgh," he said — and he already is wary of what may happen when the snow finally melts.

"Will there be flooding? We just have to wait and see," he said. "If we do get a warm spell, that could have a significant impact.

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**Keeping in touch**

Senior Jackie Davis, president of the Student Government Association, among many other leadership positions, lives just a block off campus. She never lost any utility service during or after the storm, but she did take in a good friend who lives in Vulcan Village, where some buildings were without power for days.

"I personally haven’t faced any challenges except working to reschedule and rearrange events and programs my various clubs and organizations were set to sponsor and host," she said, noting that University personnel were helpful in that effort.

"As expected, students have been doing their best with the situation. Many..." — Continued on page 3

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**Record Snows Close Campus for Week**

C al U returned to full operation Feb. 15 after the University’s first extended shutdown since the blizzard of 1993 and the campus’s 1985 flood.

Snowdrifts linger, reminders of the storms that blanketed the region in more than 2 feet of snow, causing widespread power outages and prompting California Borough to declare a state of emergency.

Although all Cal U campuses shut down Feb. 8-12 because of low water pressure and unsafe travel conditions throughout the region, the main campus continued to provide emergency shelter, food services and even hot showers to students and borough residents.

"The safety and security of our students, faculty and staff is always the University's primary concern," said President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

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**County OKs Conference Center Funds**

T he Washington County Board of Commissioners voted Feb. 4 to approve $500,000 in Local Share Account funding to equip a business conferencing center at Cal U.

The University plans to purchase and install state-of-the-art “smart” technology in the Executive Conference Services Center, a component of the $54 million Convocation Center now under construction.

“We are grateful to the commissioners, and to the LSA review committee, for bringing this project closer to fruition,” said Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr.

“The conferencing center will be a tremendous asset to the region's business and nonprofit community, allowing business leaders to offer top-quality training and information sessions right here in Washington County.”

Total cost of the Executive Conference Services Center component is $2.3 million. Of that amount, the University already has secured $1.55 million for construction.

The Local Share Account funds will enable Cal U to install intermediate-level “smart” technology in two conference rooms and advanced-level technology in a third. The conference rooms will be outfitted with cutting-edge video and computer hook-ups.

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**When ‘Push’ Comes to ‘Precious’**

Author Sapphire, whose 1996 novel Push inspired the Academy Award-nominated film Precious, will speak on campus tomorrow as the Black History Month celebration continues on campus. See story on page 4.
Autism Conference March 5

D r. Peter Gerhardt, president and chair of the Scientific Council for the Organization for Autism Research, will be the keynote speaker at “P.E.P.: The Partnership Continues,” the third annual autism conference at Cal U. Co-sponsored by Cal U and Intermediate Unit 1, the event is set for 8 a.m.-4 p.m. March 10. The keynote address will be in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre. Registration is open through March 5. Gerhardt has more than 25 years of experience using the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in support of adults and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

He is the author or co-author of articles and book chapters on the school-to-work transition process, assessment of social competence, effective sexuality education and functional behavior assessment. He has presented nationally and internationally on these topics.

In 2007 he was awarded the John W. Jacobson Award for Significant Contributions to Effective Behavior Intervention by the New York State Association for Behavior Analysis. Other noted professionals will lead afternoons breakout sessions on topics such as “Reading for Learners on the Spectrum,” “Autism and Play” and “The Sensory Puzzle.”

The cost is $50 for parents and family members, $90 for educators and other professionals, and $30 for students with valid identification. The fee includes refreshments, lunch, keynote speech and two breakout sessions, plus access to exhibitors.

Act 48 credits are available for this conference. Students are not eligible for these credits.

Online registration is available through the Cal U website, www.calu.edu. Please note that all registered participants should sign in at beginning at 8 a.m. March 10 in the Performance Center.

For more information or to arrange accommodations under the Americans With Disabilities Act, contact Dr. Katherine Mitchell at 724-938-6039 or autismconference@calu.edu.

Although he won't graduate until December, after student teaching this fall, George Lavelle's spring 2010 semester will mark the conclusion of an impressive scholarship achievement.

A senior technology education major from Harrisburg, Lavelle will end his term next month as president of TECA, the Technology Education Collegiate Association.

The student organization of the International Technology Education Association (ITEA), TECA has 42 chapters, including Cal U’s Technology Education Association of California (TEAC).

Lavelle became president of TECA last March after serving one year as president-elect. At the conclusion of ITEA’s 72nd annual conference on March 18-20 in Charlotte, N.C., he will turn over the reins to Wade Thatcher from Ball State University.

But first he will present the association’s annual plan, budget and progress report at the ITEA conference, the largest technology conference in the world. He also will take part in four different presentations dealing with first-year teaching and leadership.

As TECA president, Lavelle has overseen four regional competitions and the group’s role in the national event. During his tenure he focused on two key areas: updating and enhancing TECA’s competition programs and strengthening communication between TECA and regional chapters. He also incorporated a robotics component into the TECA competition.

As a student, Lavelle has helped Cal U’s student chapter continue its longtime legacy of excellence at both regional and national competitions. Last spring TEAC won five awards at the national conference and for the sixth consecutive year received the Outstanding Chapter Award.

“This year has been hectic but rewarding,” said Lavelle, who received the national ITEA College Leadership Award, the highest honor given to a TECA/ITEA student member.

“With new rules and procedures there were a few challenges at the regional contests, but that’s to be expected, and the robotics competition is now a staple with TECA.”

Lavelle is quick to credit his success to the University.

“When you walk into conferences and say you are from Cal U, you already have name recognition,” he said. “I’ve toured ‘tech ed’ programs all over the country, and Cal’s is top-notch.”

Lavelle transferred to Cal U in fall 2007 after attending the Pennsylvania College of Technology, where he studied architectural technology. During his senior year at Central Dauphin High School, near Harrisburg, his interest in teaching was piqued by first-year teacher and Cal U alumnus Jason Hancock ’04.

“I always wanted to be an architect, but in classes I realized I really enjoyed the work but did not want to do that as a profession,” Lavelle said. “So I visited several schools, but I knew as soon as I walked onto this campus that Cal was the right place. I liked the campus and everything about it. I have loved every single second at this University.

Also a past president of TEAC, Lavelle is an active peer mentor on campus. “I was inspired by my own first-year mentor, Jesse Soup,” he said.

A student worker in the Applied Engineering and Technology Department office, Lavelle had the support of former AET chair Dr. Stan Komacek, who now serves as associate provost. He also praised TEAC faculty advisers Mark Nowak and Laura Hummel, and said faculty members Steven Whitehead, John Kallis and Mike Amrhein offered valuable assistance in his bringing robotics to the TECA competitions.

Development, Alumni Relations Office Reorganized

T o improve the effectiveness of Cal U’s fundraising and alumni engagement operations, Vice President Ron Huiatt has realigned the Office of University Development and Alumni Relations.

“I have assessed the University’s development and alumni functions, and I have an evolving sense of where we want to move the organization,” Huiatt said. “These changes address that vision for the future of fundraising here at Cal U, enabling us to enhance communication, improve relationships and be more focused on our mission.”

Cal U’s first vice president of Development and Alumni Relations, Huiatt joined the University administration Nov. 30.

The reorganization creates a leadership team consisting of:

• Howard Goldstein, associate vice president for corporate and foundation relations.
• Amy Lombard, executive director of alumni relations and annual fund.
• John Fisler, senior associate vice president for special initiatives.
• Sharon Navoney, associate vice president for development.
• Mitch Kozikowski, associate vice president for leadership giving.
• Mike Amrhein, seniors executive director of major and planned gifts.
• Anthony Navoney, associate vice president for advancement.
• George Lavelle, executive director of student support services.
• John Harris, senior associate vice president for campus activities.
• Amy Lombard, executive director of alumni relations.
• Howard Goldstein, associate vice president for corporate and foundation relations.
• Amy Lombard, executive director of alumni relations and annual fund.

Fisler will serve as an adviser to Huiatt and a liaison with Athletic Development. In addition, he will focus on special initiatives and areas such as policies and procedures.

Navoney will oversee a number of support areas that have been consolidated within the area of major and planned gifts. She will supervise advancement services, prospect research and management, and donor relations/special events, along with Cal U’s planned giving and major gifts offices.

Navoney joined Cal U’s Development office in April 2009 after working at the senior management level in development and advancement at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University and the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation.

“Since coming to Cal U, I have been energized by the possibilities and opportunities,” she said. “The organizational re-alignment not only positions us to complete this campaign successfully but leverages us for the next and even larger campaign.

“Core synergies within our department, coupled with the enthusiasm and engagement of our alumni, will continue to gain momentum and open up new markets for us. It is an exciting time here at Cal U.”

Kozikowski will continue to work with leadership gifts, Goldstein with corporate and foundation giving, and Lombard with alumni engagement and the Cal U for Life initiative.

The reorganization became effective in January, about six months after the public announcement of the University’s $35 million capital campaign.

The Campaign to Build Character and Careers will host the scholarship fund; enhance internship opportunities; help to build an Honors College and a School of Business and Professional Studies; and support an endowed lecture series, the Character Education Institute, and other academic and program endeavors.

“Our goal is to bring the capital campaign to a successful and timely conclusion,” Huiatt said. “With this reorganization, we position ourselves to become a premier fundraising and alumni relations operation, the very best among comprehensive universities of our size and scope.”
**Record Snows Close Campus for Week**

"During this unprecedented weather emergency, the entire campus community went to extraordinary lengths to ensure that we — and our neighbors in California Borough — had access to essential services both during and after the storms." Throughout the week, students, faculty and staff were kept informed through cell phone text alerts, e-mail announcements, a telephone hotline and postings on the University website and social media sites. Local TV and radio stations aired regular announcements about the closing.

When classes resumed Feb. 13, power had been restored to all but one building at Vulcan Village, where six of 10 residence areas were without electricity during and after the storm. Students in Building 9 were housed at the Best Western and Holiday Inn hotels in Bentleyville until Feb. 17.

Most Vulcan Village residents found shelter with friends or family, but 10 students spent the first night of the power outage in Natali Student Center. The showers in Herron Fitness and Recreation Center were made available to students without water.

The Wellness Center remained open throughout the campus shutdown, and students living in off-campus apartments could move their vehicles off borough streets, where parking was banned.

Several years ago, under the leadership of Jonathan Janoski, who is now a graduate student, the Acacia Fraternity at Cal U launched Operation Snowflake. When school is in session, the program helps the borough's elderly and others with special needs clear their sidewalks and driveways after snowfalls.

Janoski is now the president of the California Volunteer Fire Department, and he worked with student Bruce Carpenter, senior dean of the Acacia Fraternity at Cal U, to mobilize a shovel brigade of students who could help borough residents with the mountain of snow.

"We are basically on call for the borough, and they have called us multiple times throughout the week with Operation Snowflake assignments," Carpenter said.

"Our first assignment was to shovel sidewalks on Third Street, from Ash Street to the main intersection by the Kwik Fill. A man suffering from a heart condition contacted the borough and the borough contacted us. His car was buried in snow and he needed help getting it out, so that was next on our list."

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When classes resumed Feb. 13, power had been restored to all but one building at Vulcan Village, where six of 10 residence areas were without electricity during and after the storm. Students in Building 9 were housed at the Best Western and Holiday Inn hotels in Bentleyville until Feb. 17. Most Vulcan Village residents found shelter with friends or family, but 10 students spent the first night of the power outage in Natali Student Center. The showers in Herron Fitness and Recreation Center were made available to students without water. Although the Mid-Mon Valley Transit Authority briefly suspended service when road conditions were at their worst, the University shuttles between Vulcan Village and the student center.

**Shoveling out**

It was one “snowflake” some residents of California Borough were glad to see.

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**Students Weather Storms in Varied Ways**

Students who live a great distance away took advantage of the opportunity to go home," Davis said. "Others whom I’ve been in communication with and are more local to the area have been dealing with the power outages and large amounts of snow by staying with friends and relatives who have power.” SGA did not have a direct role in coordinating of different community service efforts at a council meeting Feb. 11.

"I commend those staff members who worked long hours to return our campus to safe operations. "As classes resume, I look forward to a productive spring semester for us all."

Provost Geraldine Jones has announced that the academic calendar for the spring semester will not be changed. Spring break, the spring Honors Convocation, final exams and Commencement all will be held as scheduled.

For more information about campus activities, visit www.calu.edu.

**Commissions OK Funds to Equip Conference Center**

"I would say we had maybe 20 or so students helping us out. These guys really went out and busted their tails to try to help out the community they live in.”

The Washington County Board of Commissioners recently voted to approve $500,000 in Local Share Account funding to equip a business and conferencing center that will be part of the Convocation Center now being built at Cal U.
Vulcan Men's, Women's Ice Hockey Teams Skating Well

With their sights set on winning a second American Collegiate Hockey Association Division III national championship, members of the Cal U Ice Hockey Club are intent on maintaining their perfect 24-0 overall record.

One of three Vulcan hockey teams, the club owns the top seed in the ACHA's Atlantic Region, but it moved down to the third seed by Dave Yanko, is still an ACHA Division II School, however. The club already owns an 11-4 overall and 8-3 divisional record (CHA South) as of Feb. 11.

The Vulcans will begin the CHA playoff Feb. 26 at Jamestown, N.Y.

Cal U's women's hockey team, in its second year of competition, owns a 8-6-1 overall record as of Feb. 16. This was the fourth year in the ACHA Regional at Loudonville, N.Y.

The Vulcans will begin the CHE postseason on Feb. 28 in Delmont, Pa. A year ago, the club was the first to win three consecutive league championships in the CHE's 38-year history.

Last fall, the Cal I team averaged a year-old post-season loss with a 9-1 victory over Southern Connecticut State. The one-sided victory marked the 100th career win for head coach Justin Berger.

Cal II, led by co-coaches Matt Ward and Brandon Patterson, competes in the College Hockey East Conference regular season championship and the North Division title, with a perfect 13-0 record as of Feb. 15.

This weekend the club will compete in the CHE playoffs. The Vulcans will begin the CHA playoff Feb. 26 at Jamestown, N.Y.

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The team still competes in the Delaware Valley Collegiate Hockey Conference (DVCHC), but it moved out of Division II to Division I this year.

The team, coached by Dave Yanko, is still an ACHA Division II School, however.

Last year, the women won the DVCHC playoff tournament and finished with 13 victories. This year the team is tied for third in the ACHA II East Region rankings. The top three teams in each region will earn bids to the ACHA National Tournament in Blaine, Minn., next month.

All Cal U teams play their home games at the Blade Rummel rink in Bethel Park. Pa. For updates and information, visit the Cal U ice hockey website at http://nai.cup.edu/sai/clubs/hockey or contact general manager Jamison Roth at 724-938-5826 or roth.jj@calu.edu.

Cal Musical Opens Thursday

The Department of Theatre and Dance opens its 2010 season with The World Goes Round, a musical revue showcasing the songs of John Kander and Fred Ebb.

Performances of the Broadway showstopper are set for 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with a 2 p.m. matinee also on Saturday. All performances are in the Gerald and Carolyn Blaney Theatre, the “black box” theater space in Steele Hall.

All performances are open to the public.

This glittering revue features songs from Cabaret, Chicago, Funny Lady, and more.

Tickets also can be purchased at the door.

For ticket information, or to order tickets (with a credit card) by phone, call the Steele Box Office at 724-938-5943. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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