Memo Shares Details of Parking Plan

The recent memo to all members of the Cal U community addressed the paid parking program on campus that will begin with the Fall 2010 semester. The parking program will affect the entire University community, including students, faculty, staff and the University President.

“T
the campus enhancements that have resulted in changes to our parking situation are a reflection of Cal U’s success in attracting and retaining students,” said Angela Burrows, vice president for University Relations. “Our enrollment growth, coupled with our commitment to ensuring a high quality life for our students, has resulted in new construction and a reconfiguration of the parking situation.”

The specific parking arrangements continue to be subject to ongoing discussions with the bargaining units. The University administration has been meeting with bargaining unit representatives to address the concerns of all represented employees and to reach an amicable resolution to these issues.

Some of the information provided in the most recent communication resulted from these discussions. Examples include the establishment of the Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee, the proposal to add reserved parking, the increase in the number and frequency of shuttle service, and the locations of the bus stops on campus.

“We look forward to continuing to work with the bargaining unit representatives to achieve a resolution to the University’s parking challenges,” said University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. “As additional information becomes available, including any modifications to the proposed plan as a result of these discussions, we will continue to keep the University community informed.”

All members of the campus community are urged to watch for the online newsletter that will be published throughout the summer, providing information and updates as details are confirmed. Parking updates also will appear in the Journal and on the Cal U website.

In the meantime, the University has created a list of frequently asked questions (FAQ), along with answers addressing various aspects of the proposed paid elements of the parking program. The updated FAQ reprinted here specifically notes that discussions with bargaining units are ongoing, and that the information is subject to change based upon those discussions. It also includes corrected information concerning the free parking option for employees. “In the coming months, as we draw closer to the new parking arrangements at Cal U, the University will continue to communicate with students, faculty and staff,” Burrows said. “The intent of the communication is to keep everyone informed about the changes, so they can make the best parking choices for their personal situation.”

For questions or concerns about parking and transportation issues, call the parking hotline at 724-938-4677 or send e-mail to calapts@calu.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions

This information is subject to change based upon the ongoing discussions with the employee bargaining units.

Q. Why is paid parking necessary?
A. Increased enrollment prompted the need for new construction. The University has long outgrown Hamer Hall, which was built in 1964, when the University’s enrollment was less than half of the more than 9,000 students currently enrolled. As enrollment increased, student expectations rose as well, prompting the need for a new facility. That facility — the convocation center — will open for use in Fall 2011. This construction resulted in the loss of 400 parking spaces. In order to alleviate the loss of these spaces, as well as to address the historical lack of parking on campus, in 2008 Cal U’s parking challenge was announced.

California University is among 286 colleges and universities included in The Princeton Review’s Guide to Green Colleges, a comprehensive new directory produced in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council. Launched online in time for the 40th annual Earth Day celebration on April 22, the free guide can be downloaded at www.princetonreview.com/greenguide and www.usgbc.org/campus.

The new guide profiles “the nation’s most environmentally responsible campuses.” It is based on a survey of hundreds of colleges nationwide, but unlike other Princeton Review guides, it does not include student comments. California University’s online profile specifically mentions the “ambitious multimillion-dollar geothermal project … to reduce the need for fossil fuels,” and the Cal U Weather Center’s participation in the worldwide GLOBE science, education and data dissemination program.

In addition, “37 percent of the school’s energy consumption is derived from renewable resources,” the profile says, and “the university also offers internships and employment counseling for environmentally aware and sustainability-related industries.” The University’s geothermal project also was highlighted in the 2008-2009 Green Community exhibition at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. “Once again, Cal U is being recognized as a leader in practical sustainability,” said University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. “These are not just ‘feel-good’ initiatives. “Our commitment to energy conservation makes sense both financially and from an environmental standpoint. Our residence halls conserve resources while providing world-class housing for our students. Our green decisions have been made after a great deal of thought, and I am pleased that our efforts have been noticed.”

Prospective students and their families may be taking notice. In a recent survey of students and parents, The Princeton Review found that two-thirds of respondents indicated that information about a school’s commitment to the environment would be a factor in their decision to apply.

For the past five years, The Princeton Review has named California University one of the best higher education choices in the northeastern United States. The education services company profiled Cal U in its The Best Northeastern Colleges: 2010 Edition, and listed it in the “Best in the Northeast” section of its website feature “2010 Best Colleges Region by Region.”

Commencement Friday, Saturday

Students, faculty and families are reminded that undergraduate Commencement will be held, rain or shine, at 10 a.m. Saturday in Adamson Stadium at Roadman Park.

Gates will open at 8 a.m. Guests are reminded that early arrivals will find the most convenient bleachers. On-site parking will be available in the Roadman Park lot, at Vulcan Village and in the Mid-Mon Valley Transit Authority’s Park ‘n’ Ride lot off Route 88. Overflow parking will be available on the main campus, with free shuttles to and from the stadium. Carpooling is suggested whenever possible.
Council of Trustees approved a $20 million bond issue to pay for parking improvements on campus.

Phase 1 of the parking garage construction will cost $12.5 million. The remainder of the funds has been used for parking improvements. To date, these improvements have included expansion and repaving of the River Lot, creation of the Beazell Street access crossing into the River Lot, paving the lot at Roadman Park, enhanced lighting in the River Lot and at Roadman, and the addition of bus shelters, as well as emergency phones and security cameras, at Roadman and the River Lot.

Q. Is there no other way to cover these costs?  
A. No. The cost of the parking garage and upgrading of parking facilities, in accordance with the policies of the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, must be paid for by those who use the services.

Q. Will parking revenue be used to cover anything other than parking-related expenses?  
A. No. Parking revenue will be used: (1) to defray the cost of the debt service payment on the $20 million bond; (2) to cover the personnel, equipment and supply expenses of the new Parking and Transportation Department; and (3) to cover annual expenses of maintaining the parking lots and garage.

Q. How do I register and express my preference for a specific parking lot?  
A. From June 1 through June 15, you will have an opportunity to pre-register online and indicate your preferences regarding parking, i.e. first choice lot, second choice and third. In July, you will have the ability to register and pay online via the University’s parking management system.

Q. How will the University monitor parking?  
A. Those who register and pay for parking will be given a RFID or access card/parking hang tag that will enable them to enter the University’s paid parking lots. Some of these lots will be gated and others will not. Two parking enforcement officers will be hired prior to the start of the Fall 2010 semester to enforce compliance in areas that are not gated. All cars parking at Roadman will be required to have RFID tags since the lot will be gated.

Q. What will parking options and their proposed costs be?  
A. Please see the tables showing proposed parking plans and proposed transient rates (above).

Q. Can I use my RFID in more than one registered vehicle?  
A. Yes, the RFID owner may register additional vehicles when necessary, but the owner is not permitted to share the RFID between individuals. This is a violation of the parking policy.

Q. Will there be a charge for the RFID card?  
A. No, but a deposit on the RFID card will be required of all those parking on campus. The deposit will be refunded if a student or employee departs the University, provided the RFID card is returned.

Q. Will reserved parking be open to any faculty, staff and student?  
A. Yes.

Q. How will enforcement be handled for ungated lots?  
A. Enforcement will be handled by ticketing and, if necessary, towing of illegally parked vehicles at the owner’s expense.

Q. If I am a member of the faculty or staff, may I pay for parking via payroll deduction? If so, will it be deducted and will be pre-tax?  
A. Yes. Payment may be handled via payroll deduction option to pay for their parking choice (both 20 and 26-week payroll).

Q. Will there be any visitor parking on campus?  
A. Visitor parking will be available in the garage. In the short term, there also will be spaces available along University Avenue for Welcome Center guests.

Q. Will Vulcan Village residents have an opportunity to purchase parking permits on campus?  
A. Yes.

Q. How often will shuttles run between Roadman Park and the Main Campus?  
A. Please see the table (above) showing Vulcan Flyer Service.

Parking Program FAQ

California University of Pennsylvania  
Proposed Parking Plans*  
Fall 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of Parking Lot</th>
<th>Parking Plan Option</th>
<th>Daily Base Rate</th>
<th>Weekly Base Rate</th>
<th>Pay Period Base Rate</th>
<th>Caribbean Year Rate</th>
<th>Academic Visitor Rate</th>
<th>Semester Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Reserved</td>
<td>$5.99</td>
<td>$29.95</td>
<td>$59.90</td>
<td>$1,557</td>
<td>$777</td>
<td>$505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Lots (Except River Lot and Roadman Park)</td>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>$2.99</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td>$29.90</td>
<td>$777</td>
<td>$505</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Lot</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>$1.99</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>$19.90</td>
<td>$517</td>
<td>$336</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicapped (All Lots Other than River Lot)</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>$1.99</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>$19.90</td>
<td>$517</td>
<td>$336</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadman Park (Students)</td>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>$1.99</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>$19.90</td>
<td>$517</td>
<td>$336</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadman Park</td>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulcan Garage</td>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>$2.99</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td>$29.90</td>
<td>$777</td>
<td>$505</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Parking plans are available by calendar year, academic year or semester (Fall, Spring or Summer).
Free parking will be available only to faculty and staff who are members of bargaining units.
Transit parking (by the hour or day) will be available in the Vulcan Garage starting in Fall 2010.

Proposed Transient Parking Rates (Vulcan Garage only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Stay</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 hours</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 to 18 hours</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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VULCAN FLYER SERVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peak Time</th>
<th>Hours of Service</th>
<th>Frequency of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Every 10 minutes</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Non-Peak Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Every 15 minutes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.</td>
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</table>

Weekends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MMVTA (Silver Line Service) Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Walk a Mile — In Her Heels

Nearly 200 men donned high-heeled shoes on April 15 and paraded across campus as Cal U participated for the second consecutive year in the international program known as Walk a Mile in Her Shoes. The project is based on the 'age-old adage that you really don't know someone until you walk a mile in their shoes,' said Nancy Skibel, associate dean for student services. The event was sponsored by the P.E.A.C.E. Project to raise awareness about sexual violence and men's role in preventing it.
The be night of April 14 showcased Cal U’s Jazz Ensembles — and surprised the chairman of the Music Department.

As the performance in Morgan Hall Auditorium neared its end, an unexpected encore became an unexpected tribute to Max Gonano, a professor at Cal U since 1982. He and colleague Dr. Marty Sharer directed the performance.

Instead of performing the encore Gonano had planned, the Jazz Ensembles — and some visiting alumni who had been hiding nearby — played a musical selection composed by prominent Pittsburgh jazz musician Ralph Guzzi, a longtime friend of Gonano’s.

The Big Band jazz number was titled “Put it Together and Spell It,” and some visiting alumni who had been hiding nearby — played a musical selection composed by prominent Pittsburgh jazz musician Ralph Guzzi, a longtime friend of Gonano’s.

With the help of Music Department secretary Rose Marykowich, a mass e-mail was sent out to the big bands. Sharer helped with three secret rehearsals that also involved the visiting alumni.

Chirichetti echoed the sentiments of hundreds of Cal U students involved in music during Gonano’s tenure.

He has touched so many students’ lives and has sacrificed so many hours and time from his family for us,” she said.

“Now there is no way in words to describe how much he means to us. We communicate through music and were just hoping this song would show him how much we care.”

Gonano said his catch-phrase and the title of the composed piece started a buzz joke. He is fond of telling students to “leave your bag at the door.” Chirichetti said.

“Mr. Gonano is so positive, and he says that to us whenever we walk through the rehearsal doors or onto the field,” she said. “He always tells us to work together as a team and not let outside factors distract us from what we’re trying to accomplish.”

Did all the planning have a successful ending?

“He did not have a clue and was totally surprised,” an enthusiastic Chirichetti said.

Parking Program: Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Where will the shuttles stop?
A. Beginning at Roadman Park parking lot, the shuttle will stop at the MVMTA Park ‘n Ride (opposite Vulcan Village), then continue to lower campus with stops at Building “B,” corner of Hickory and Third streets, and Mandettro Library. Once the bus leaves campus, it will stop at the upper Vulcan Village stop and then at the Roadman Park lot.

Q. How will Cal U shuttle buses be identified?
A. Buses will display the “Vulcan Flyer” fleet, as the service will be called, will be clearly identifiable. Periodically, when an auxiliary bus is needed, that bus also will carry Vulcan Flyer signage.

Q. Who will be responsible for parking recommendations?
A. A Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee will be established. Membership on the 21-member committee will include four space holders (one from each of the four academic units: Education and Human Services, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology, and Graduate Studies and Research), one coach, two staff members (one from AFSCME and SCUPA), four administrators, five union representatives (one each from the five major bargaining units on campus; individuals chosen by the respective union) and the Director of Parking and Transportation, who will serve as chair. Representatives will have term limits.

Q. How can I file a complaint or make a recommendation?
A. A parking hotline and special e-mail address have been set up for use by employers and other members of the Cal U community to note complaints and suggestions regarding parking and transportation issues. The hotline number is 724-938-4677 and the e-mail address is calupat@calu.edu.

Q. Will faculty and staff be given priority with their parking preference or will it be first come, first served for everyone?
A. Parking permits will be prioritized as follows, provided individuals from these groups meet the posted deadline dates: faculty, staff, graduate students, commuter students (seniors first, followed by juniors, sophomores and freshmen), residents, four faculty members (one from each of the four academic units: Education and Human Services, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology, and Graduate Studies and Research), one coach, two staff members (one from AFSCME and SCUPA), four administrators, five union representatives (one each from the five major bargaining units on campus; individuals chosen by the respective union) and the Director of Parking and Transportation, who will serve as chair. Representatives will have term limits.

Q. Which parking lots will be provided for free to employees and members of the respective bargaining units as part of their benefit package?
A. The parking fee will be honored via free parking being provided at the Roadman Park lot.

Q. Where will handicapped spaces be available and what will the charge be for these spaces?
A. There will be handicapped spaces available in all Tier 1 lots. Those parking in these spaces will pay at the Tier 1 parking rate. This is being done because, for safety reasons, there will be no handicapped spaces in the River Lot, which is a Tier 2 area. If a person with a handicapped tag chooses to park in a reserved parking lot, he/she will pay the full reserved parking rate.

Q. Who will handle parking appeals?
A. There is a Parking Appeal Committee in place. Board will be chaired by the director of Parking and Transportation.

Q. What happens if parking charges are not paid by the student after the access card is provided to the student?
A. Students who have not paid their parking charges will be permitted to park and the Bursar’s Office will attempt to recover the charges. If the bill has not been paid by the end of the semester, the card will be deactivated. Students will not be able to early register for classes and they will not be able to obtain transcripts if they have outstanding debt.

Q. What lots will be designated as Tier 1, Tier 2 and Reserved?
A. A detailed map will be provided in a future communication.

Q. What is reserved parking?
A. Those who pay for reserved parking will be guaranteed the same parking space for the length of their parking agreement, e.g. calendar year, academic year, semester.

National Guard commander to speak

Maj. Gen. Jessica L. Wright will be the guest speaker for the Cal U Department of Military Science commissioning ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday in the Performance Center.

ROTC cadets Andrew Amey and Robyn Weidner both will be commissioned as second lieutenants. Amey, a business administration major, and Weidner, a management and athletic training dual major, will attend Officer Basic Course after graduation on Saturday.

Amey will be assigned to the infantry and Weidner to the Medical Service Corps.

Wright, a native of Monessen, Pa., is responsible for command and control and supervision of all Air and Army National Guard units in Pennsylvania, six state-owned veterans’ homes and programs for Pennsylvania’s 1 million veterans.

Prior to this assignment, she served as the Army adjutant general for the Army.
Training for Banner Transition Begins

By August 2011, Cal U’s current student information system, Banner, will be totally integrated to the PASSHE office. The system will feature a new portal, Luminis, that will replace the current SISWeb for students and faculty. Banner has the ability to track every aspect of a student’s career at the University, from registration through financial aid, billing, scheduling, graduation and alumni status. Because it utilizes an Oracle relational database, it will allow for better and more extensive reporting and more timely access to data, Nichols said.

The first element to be implemented will be the Admissions Enrollment module, which will go live in October 2010, followed by the Financial Aid module in January 2011. “We have found Banner to be a premier enrollment management system,” said Geraldine M. Jones, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. “We should be able to realize measurable improvement in our enrollment and retention efforts, and build stronger connections with our students and parents.”

University President Angelo Armenti, Jr. added his approval of the new system. “Converting to this robust, web-based information management system ultimately will pay off in greater efficiency for students, faculty and staff,” he said. “This is a complex and time-consuming project, and I appreciate all those who are working hard to make it successful.”

Components of the Banner suite include modules for enrollment, billing and financial aid, as well as valuable behind-the-scenes resources that will greatly enhance University functions such as document management, workflow, electronic data warehousing and reporting to the PASSHE office. Banner will be totally integrated with the Desire2Learn Learning Management System and will feature a new portal, Luminis, that will replace the current SISWeb for students and faculty.

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