

# California University JOURNAL

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 10 APRIL 5, 2010



Thea Kalcevic '06, who transformed a prestigious internship into a full-time job with *The Late Show with David Letterman* in New York City, will address more than 1,300 of Cal U's most accomplished scholars this Saturday during Honors Convocation.

## IT Becomes University Technology Services

“It’s not your dad’s IT Department,” explained Dr. Charles A. Mance, vice president for Information Technology, as he described the reasoning behind his department’s reorganization and new name.

As Cal U moves toward more collaborative learning, greater data sharing and new mobile computing initiatives, Mance anticipates a greater need for a broader-reaching, more responsive department. And he is ready to deliver.

Look for University Technology Services — UTech Services — to replace the traditional Information Technology Department at Cal U over the next few months.

“Information Technology was a term that originated with data processing,” Mance said. “University Technology Services is more descriptive of what we do today — and how we will address the growing needs of students, faculty and staff in the future. It’s all about service.”

This user-focused approach, developed from successful business models, will affect all aspects of technology at the University. Features will include everything from an expanded Help Desk to a new security, quality and compliance group that will develop policies and procedures, and

— Continued on page 3



Charles Mance, vice president for Information Technology, is spearheading an effort that aims to better address the growing technological needs of students, faculty and staff.

## Top Scholars to be Honored

California University will recognize more than 1,300 of its most accomplished scholars at an Honors Convocation 2 p.m. April 10 in Hamer Hall Gymnasium.

Alumna Thea Kalcevic, a production associate with *The Late Show with David Letterman* in New York City, will deliver the honors address. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Communication Studies with a concentration in television and radio broadcasting in 2006.

A former entertainment anchor and master technical director with CUTV, California University Television, Kalcevic was chosen from a nationwide field of hundreds of applicants for a writer’s internship with *Letterman* in spring 2006. She has been employed at the late-night TV show ever since.

While she was a student, Kalcevic received a Cal U Distinguished Service Award for academic achievement and service to the University and the community. She also was the recipient of a Cal U Internship Support Program Award from the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

A graduate of nearby Belle Vernon Area High School, Kalcevic has been a speaker at Cal U’s Alumni Pride Weekend.

Kalcevic now lives in Astoria, N.Y. Always civic-minded, she is a volunteer fundraiser for the Susan F. Komen Race for the Cure in New York City, the New York AIDS Walk, and New York’s City Harvest.

Cal U President Angelo Armenti, Jr. will preside over the Convocation, and Provost Geraldine Jones will introduce the platform party.

The University rewards academic excellence on the part of master’s-, bachelor’s- and associate degree-seeking students by honoring Presidential Scholars at this annual event. In addition to meeting other requirements, Presidential Scholars carry a grade-point average of 3.25 or above. Both full- and part-time students are eligible for the award.

This year’s Honors Convocation will recognize 238 students from the College of Graduate Studies and Research, 214 from the College of Liberal Arts, 618 from the College of Education and Human Services, and 263 from the Eberly College of Science and Technology.

A reception for all attendees will be held in the gymnasium immediately after the program.

For more information, contact Jodie Rooney at 724-938-1584 or [rooney@calu.edu](mailto:rooney@calu.edu).

## Sunday’s Red and Black Affair Has Vintage Theme

Fashions from the past return to the runway Sunday for the fourth annual Red and Black Affair Extraordinaire

Presented by Cal U’s University Alumni Association, the fashion show will feature vintage clothing from the 1850s to the 1970s.

Foster-Tweeds Vintage Fashions will present styles from the 1930s to early ’70s, offering a glimpse of past elegance and glamour in day, dinner and evening wear. Cal U’s Department of Theatre and Dance will provide replicas of clothing from earlier periods.

The sold-out fashion show begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Natali Student Center. Doors open two hours earlier so visitors can shop at vendor stands in the student center. Guests also can enjoy a gourmet

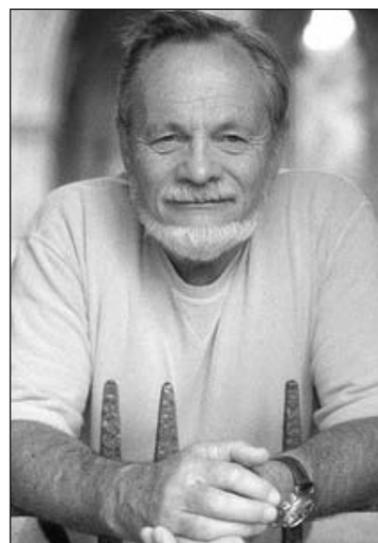
luncheon, auction, door prizes and other games of chance. Lumene Cosmetics will continue the tradition of providing gift bags to all guests.

Emcee for the fashion show is Dr. Nancy Pinardi, associate vice president for student development and services at Cal U. Some 400 alumni and friends of the University have purchased tickets for the fundraiser, which has raised nearly \$60,000 for student scholarships over the past four years.

For more information about Sunday’s Red and Black Affair Extraordinaire, contact Tricia Rutherford Stahl at 412-257-8596 or 412-498-1674.

Information about Foster-Tweeds can be found at <http://web.me.com/johanna15425/Foster-Tweeds/Welcome.html>.

## On Campus This Month



Author, professor and archaeologist Dr. Brian Fagan (left) will discuss climate change at 11 a.m. April 13 in Eberly 110. Artist Thomas Mann will discuss his own work and the business aspects of art this Tuesday and Wednesday on campus. His appearance is part of Cal U’s Visiting Artists Series. See stories on page 2.



Cal U has been designated a Founding Partner by the Library of Congress for its role in the Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center through the Teaching with Primary Sources Program.

## Library of Congress Designates Cal U a Founding Partner

As the 10-year anniversary of the Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress approaches, Cal U has been designated a Founding Partner for its role in this endeavor.

The University was informed last month in a letter from U.S. Rep. Ron Kind of Wisconsin and U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar of Indiana.

Through the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Veterans Oral Histories Project, more than 100 oral histories have been

*"The most important 'thank you' belongs to the men and women who unselfishly and bravely served our country and share their stories."*

— Dr. Michael J. Brna  
Cal U TPS program director

collected and added to the VHP collection, which now numbers more than 68,000.

TPS is housed in the College of Education and Human Services.

"We are privileged to be recognized along with the thousands of other volunteers who have contributed to the largest oral history program in the history of the United States," said Dr. Michael J. Brna, director of the TPS program at Cal U.

"We are also pleased that we are

able to add the perspectives of local veterans to the national collection. Without this initiative, those perspectives would have been lost."

Founding Partner status is awarded only to those VHP partners active since the program's inception.

Brna praised the collaborative efforts of Cal's Communication Studies Department for taping, Manderino Library for archiving and TPS for digitizing the oral histories, and to various faculty, students, staff and community members for conducting interviews.

"Our relationship with the Library of Congress is a world-class affiliation that meets the institution's community service mission and commitment to the region," he said. "The most important 'thank you' belongs to the men and women who unselfishly and bravely served our country and share their stories."

## Improv Group Stages 'Reunion'

Singing, dancing, comedy and improvisation will hit the stage when The Good Life, a student improv troupe, presents "The Good Life Class Reunion" from 8-10 p.m. April 6 and 7 in the Blaney Theatre in Steele Hall.

This is The Good Life's third year at Cal U, and the troupe's first performance as a branch of the University Players.

Previous Good Life improv shows have appeared at Cal U and at other colleges in the greater Pittsburgh area.

Because of limited seating in the Blaney Theatre, tickets will be sold only at the door. Cost is \$3; doors open each night at 7:30 p.m.

## Archaeologist Discusses Climate Change

As part of the Meteorology/Earth Sciences Colloquia series, Dr. Brian Fagan will visit the Cal U campus April 13 and lecture during the 11 a.m. common hour in Eberly Hall, Room 110.

Fagan is the author of 46 books, including seven widely used undergraduate college texts, and a contributing editor to *American Archaeology* and *Discover Archaeology* magazines. His presentation is titled, "And on that day the earth will be burnt to ashes: An Archaeologist Looks at Climate Change."

The event is free and open to the Cal U community and the general public.

In addition to the lecture, Fagan will participate in roundtable discussions in classes throughout the day.

An emeritus professor from the University of California at Santa Barbara, Fagan earned his doctorate from Cambridge University in Great Britain. He is an archaeological generalist, with expertise in the broad issues of human prehistory.

Fagan has contributed more than 100 specialist papers to national and

international journals, and formerly wrote a regular column for *Archaeology Magazine*. He serves on the editorial boards of six academic and general periodicals and has been an archaeological consultant for many organizations, including the National Geographic Society, *Time/Life*, and *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Fagan has lectured extensively about archaeology and other subjects at many venues, including the Smithsonian Institution, the National Geographic Society, and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. He also has appeared on television programs, such as *Little Ice Age* on The History Channel.

"Dr. Fagan has published a number of popular climate-related texts on archaeology, and I have used some of his texts as required readings in my Applied Climatology course," said Dr. Chad Kauffman, associate professor in the Department of Earth Sciences and faculty adviser to the Meteorology Club.

"This is a must-see presentation for our students and anyone with an interest in archaeology."

## Program Mixes Art, Business

Art students, working artists and anyone interested in operating a studio business may attend a lecture and workshop by artist Thomas Mann, who will discuss his own work and the business aspects of art April 6-7 as part of Cal U's Visiting Artists Series.

Mann has been an active participant in the contemporary American craft movement for the past 30 years as an artist, gallery owner and lecturer.

He will discuss his own artwork at 6 p.m. April 6 in Duda Hall, Room 103.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 7, Mann will conduct a "Design For Survival Workshop" in the Chapel of Old Main.

Both events are sponsored by Cal U's Department of Art and Design. Admission is free to the Cal U community and the general public.

Workshop participants will experience three lecture-presentations: "Design Vocabularies: What Are They and How to Use Them," "De-Mystifying Public Relations" and "Pricing Your Work: The Pivot Point of Success."

Sessions are designed for everyone

who is thinking about starting a studio business in any field, or anyone who owns a business and wonders how to advance it.

Mann lives and works in New Orleans, La., where he oversees a jewelry design and production studio, a sculpture studio and a gallery. He currently exhibits his jewelry and sculpture at more than 250 galleries, stores and premier craft events nationwide and abroad.

Although he uses several design modes when creating jewelry, he typically combines industrial aesthetics and materials and with evocative romantic themes and imagery, a design system he calls "techno-romantic."

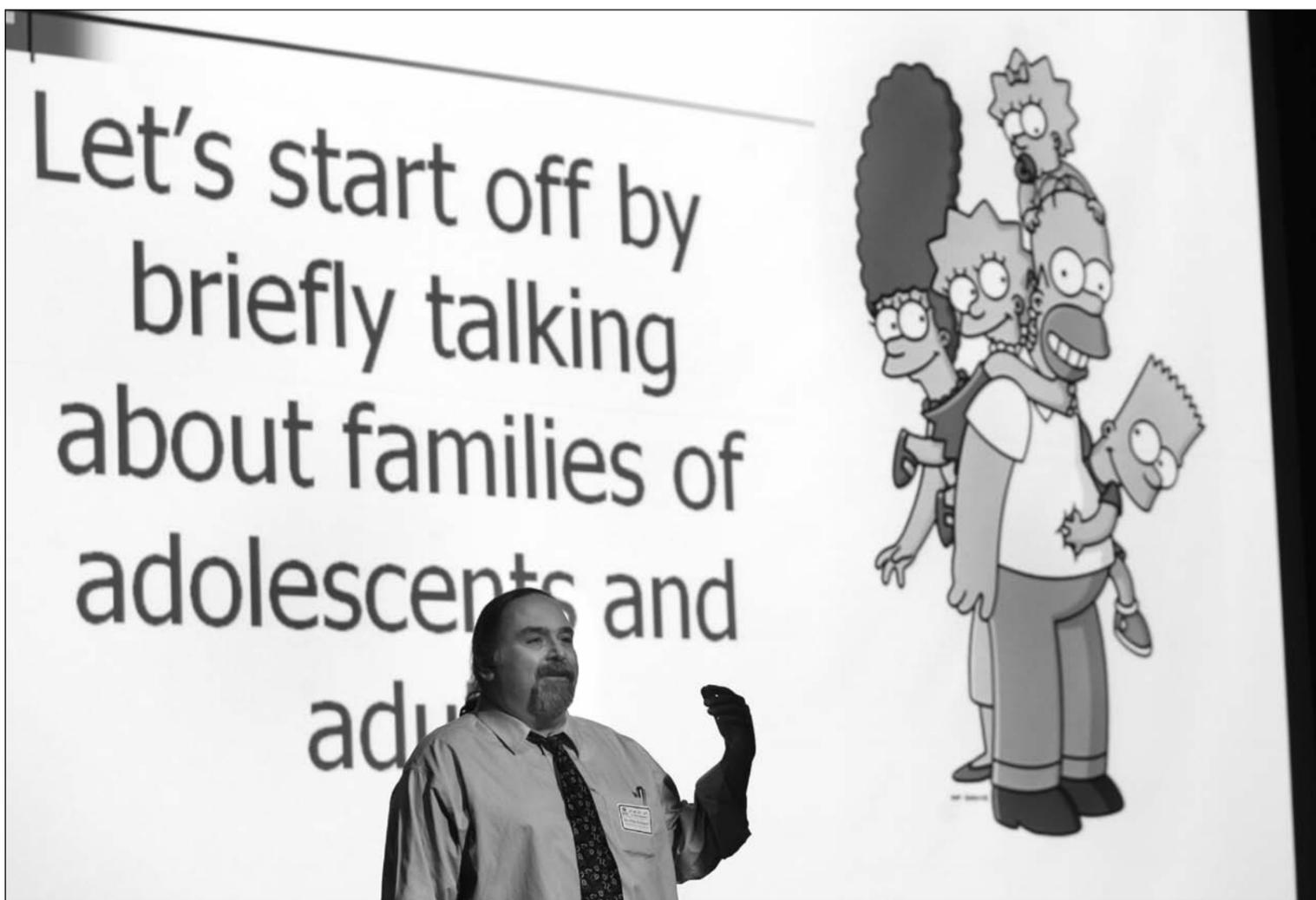
"This workshop is a must for anyone interested in understanding the business side of art," Bove said. "Thomas Mann is energetic and makes the business aspect of art approachable and easy to understand."

Registration is not required, but anyone interested in attending the workshop should contact James Bove, assistant professor in the Department of Art and Design, at [bove@calu.edu](mailto:bove@calu.edu) or 724-938-5761.



## Students Collect for Quake Victims

Andrea Cencich, professor for the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, helps students (from left) Javier Solis, Renata Silva and Codie Howard organize coats that were collected for the victims of the recent earthquake in Chile. Students from the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, International Club, Foreign Language Club and the Hispanic Student Association volunteered for the collection.



## Autism Conference

Dr. Peter Gerhardt, professor and chair of the Scientific Council for the Organization for Autism Research, presents the keynote address at the third annual autism conference at Cal U on March 10. His presentation covered principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in support of adults and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder.

# Scholarships Available for Future Teachers

## Students Majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math Eligible

Students majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematics at any Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) university can apply for up to \$10,000 a year in scholarship assistance in their junior and senior years by committing to becoming a high school math or science teacher.

Students who transfer from community colleges to a PASSHE university also can apply for the scholarship funds.

Individuals who already hold a degree in one of the so-called STEM fields can receive a \$10,000 stipend to help cover the cost of returning to school to earn teacher certification.

Both awards are available through the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program, which is funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation and is administered by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education

Foundation. The deadline for applying for fall 2010 awards is April 20.

The scholarship program was developed to help increase the number of basic education teachers with strong content knowledge in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Recipients of either the scholarship or the stipend are required to teach in a high-need school in Pennsylvania for one year for every semester they receive the scholarship.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must have an overall grade-point average of at least 3.00, and must be a full-time student during each semester for which the award is received. Transfer students or graduates whose academic standing is or was less than 3.00 must complete at least a semester of coursework at a PASSHE university to establish the qualifying GPA.

Applicants for the stipend must have earned a degree in science or



By committing to becoming a high school math or science teacher, students majoring in science, technology, engineering or mathematics at any PASSHE university can apply for scholarship assistance through a grant funded by the National Science Foundation.

mathematics and make a commitment to completing certification requirements to teach secondary science or mathematics within two years of the initial award.

For more information or an application, please go to:

[www.thepafoundation.org](http://www.thepafoundation.org) or contact Eileen Showers in the PASSHE Foundation office at 717-720-4065 or [eshowers@thepafoundation.org](mailto:eshowers@thepafoundation.org). Information also is available through Pennsylvania Career Link.

## IT Becomes University Technology Services

— Continued from page 1

ensure a consistently high level of service.

One of the largest initiatives will take place this summer, when Desire2Learn replaces BlackBoard and eCollege, eliminating the need for students and faculty to adapt to two online learning systems. Recently selected as the single learning management system for PASSHE, Desire2Learn, in conjunction with the Learning Edge Equella learning content management system, will facilitate an exchange of ideas across all 14 state universities and beyond.

By August 2011, Banner will supplant (SIS) SCT Plus as the University student information system. The Banner administrative suite will elevate the University's capability for reporting and data analysis and offer a more user-friendly portal for students.

Mance notes that the success of UTech Services rests on quality trained support staff who will be certified to provide strategic — not just tactical — responses. "We have high-potential people in our group, and they will be put in

'stretch' positions where they can grow," said Mance.

While the University's SMART classrooms symbolize a commitment to interactive education, Mance suggests that UTech Services can support and enhance even the most sophisticated learning environment, making it more productive for students and faculty — and more efficient for the University.

"We're investing in technology that can simulcast between two SMART classrooms, for example, to make the space more usable and give more students access to advanced resources.

"Cal U's campus is so impressive, and its reputation for excellence is growing," Mance said. "I want to make sure our technology service and support is just as impressive.

"With the changes we're making, I foresee an extremely high quality, customer-centric department that supports and empowers everyone in the Cal U community."

Learn more about University Technology Services at [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu). Updates on UTech Services initiatives will appear in the Journal throughout the next few months.

## Women's Basketball Banquet Saturday

Cal U's women's basketball banquet will take place at 5 p.m. Saturday on the upper level at Lagerheads, in Coal Center.

Cost for the buffet dinner is \$15. FastBreak Club members at the Captain's level will receive two complimentary tickets. For a reservation, e-mail Annie Malkowiak at [malkowiak@calu.edu](mailto:malkowiak@calu.edu) or Nancy Skobel at [skobel@calu.edu](mailto:skobel@calu.edu).

The Vulcans ended this season with a 25-8 overall record. The team made its ninth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance and advanced to the PSAC championship game for the 10th straight season. Both are league standards.

# Vulcans No. 2 in Dixon Standings

Following a successful winter season, Cal U's athletic program moved up to second place in the 2009-2010 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Dixon Trophy standings.

The Vulcans began spring competition with 124 overall points after earning 49.5 points from their five winter sports — men's and women's basketball, women's swimming, and men's and women's indoor track and field.

Shippensburg leads the standings with 138 points.

Cal U earned a winter-best 15 points from the women's basketball program after the team advanced to the championship game of the PSAC Tournament for a league-record 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive season.

The Vulcans women's swimming team collected 11 points after finishing fifth at the PSAC Championships last month and in the nation's top 20 for the second consecutive year.

The women's indoor track and field team achieved its best finish in program history, earning 10 points after placing sixth at the PSAC Championships. The team set eight records during the indoor season.

Men's basketball finished with 7.5 points for a second straight year, and the men's indoor track and field team totaled six points.

Seven different institutions have won the Dixon Trophy. Cal U brought home the trophy a year ago with a conference-record 161 points.

The Dixon Trophy has been awarded annually since the 1995-1996 academic year. The winner is determined by a point system based on the results of conference playoffs and/or regular-season records.

Each institution's point total is calculated by adding its top six women's finishes and top six men's finishes in 22 conference sports.

The award is named for the late F. Eugene Dixon Jr., former chairman of the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

The final eight league championships will take place this spring in baseball, women's golf, women's lacrosse, softball, men's and women's tennis, and men's and women's outdoor track and field.

The announcement of this year's Dixon Trophy winner is scheduled for May 18 at the PSAC Award Luncheon in Harrisburg, Pa.



Two-time indoor track and field All-American Brice Myers turned in one of many fine individual performances during Cal's successful winter sports season, which has the Vulcans in contention for a second consecutive Dixon Trophy. He won the PSAC title in the 60-meter hurdles and finished fourth nationally in the event.

## Two Win Omega Awards

Two members of California University's chapter of the National Order of Omega have been selected to receive scholarships from the national organization.

The Order of Omega sponsors undergraduate scholarship awards up to \$750 in the names of the organization's current and past executive directors.

Melanie Niskach received the Patrick W. Halloran Scholarship, and Meagan Boyer won the Parker F. Enright Scholarship. Both recipients are members of the Sigma Kappa Sorority.

Members of Cal U's chapter of the National Order of Omega nominated them for the awards. Scholarship candidates must be juniors or seniors displaying leadership and service to their Order of Omega chapter, the Greek system and campus life.

Niskach, who is majoring in communication disorders, served as the Cal U Order of Omega secretary and treasurer in 2009. Boyer, an elementary and early childhood education major, was the organization's president last year.

The purpose of the National Order of Omega is to recognize those men and women who have attained a high standard of leadership in interfraternity activities, and to create an organization that will help to mold the sentiment of the institution on questions of local and intercollegiate fraternity affairs.

"To be recognized by the National Order of Omega is an impressive achievement for our students and chapter," said Joy Helsel, Cal U's director of Fraternity and Sorority Life/Special Publications. "Both Melanie and Meagan are truly deserving, as well as ideal examples of students making the most effective use of their Greek experience."



Melanie Niskach



Meagan Boyer

## Campus BRIEFS

### Participants Needed for Relay for Life

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life at Cal U on April 10-11.

The third annual event is taking place at Rotary Park. Relay For Life is an overnight walk-a-thon for teams of people. Each team must have one person on the track at all times to signify that cancer never sleeps.

Cost is \$10. To register and donate, please visit [www.relayforlife.org/pacalu](http://www.relayforlife.org/pacalu).

Those interested in joining Relay For Life should e-mail Heather Brooks at [bro3766@calu.edu](mailto:bro3766@calu.edu) or come to the final team captain meeting at 5 p.m. Wednesday in Hamer Hall, room 142.

Last year Cal U students raised \$27,000 to aid the American Cancer Society's mission of eliminating cancer as a major health problem.

### Gifford Delivers Keynote Address

Rhonda Gifford, Cal U's director of Career Services, was an honorary inductee and gave the keynote address at the recent Alpha Lambda Delta induction ceremony in Steele Hall Mainstage Theatre.

Gifford spoke of the importance of finding one's passion in life and pursuing it as a career.

Founded in 1924, the ALD society was formed to honor the academic excellence of freshmen in their first semester of college. Along with academic excellence, the society also emphasizes community involvement. Members are required to complete a community service project and a Career Advantage Program activity related to their chosen career path.

The 2010 ALD induction class consisted of 82 new members.

The California Journal is published weekly by California University of Pennsylvania, a member of The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

Dr. Angelo Armenti, Jr.  
University President

Geraldine M. Jones  
Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Joyce Hanley  
Executive Vice President

Dr. Lenora Angelone  
Vice President for Student Development and Services

Angela J. Burrows  
Vice President for University Relations

Dr. Charles Mance  
Vice President for Information Technology

Ron Huiatt  
Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

Robert Thorn  
Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance

Christine Kindl Editor  
Bruce Wald Writer  
Wendy Mackall Writer

Office of Communications and Public Relations • 250 University Avenue, California, PA 15419 • 724-938-4195 • [wald@calu.edu](mailto:wald@calu.edu)

The Journal is printed on paper made from trees harvested under the principles of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative ([www.SFIprogram.org](http://www.SFIprogram.org)).

I N T E G R I T Y • C I V I L I T Y • R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y