



Summer 2010

Academic Affairs News

California University of Pennsylvania

South African Immersion Program

Taunya Tinsley and **Grafton Eliason** (Counselor Education) collaborated with Lourens Human, a faculty member in the University of Pretoria's Department of Counseling Psychology, and Monja Human, Psychologist at the University of Pretoria's High Performance Centre, on a South African culture immersion program that permitted Cal U and Duquesne University students and faculty to expand their awareness, knowledge and skills in the areas of multicultural counseling, spiritual counseling, and sports counseling and health education. The professors traveled May 1-16 with 15 others from Cal and Duquesne to South Africa, where students engaged in activities to develop cultural competence and sensitivity as a helping professional. They facilitated groups for youth, adolescents, young adults and adults in various settings, including an SOS Children's Village (orphanage) in Mamelodi, Itoseng Clini (Psychology Clinic) in Mamelodi, a women's shelter, a crèche, a local church, a hospice and other schools and community agencies in disadvantaged areas in Pretoria,

Soweto and Johannesburg, South Africa. Also, Tinsley and Eliason worked with Cal U's **Caryl Sheffield**, **Ayanna Lyles**, **Deb Farrer** and **Charlotte Orient** to facilitate workshops designed to increase multicultural competency when working with diverse populations. During the trip, the Cal U representatives invited faculty and students from the

University of Pretoria and the High Performance Centre to visit Cal U in 2011 for an immersion program with the diverse cultures in the United States, and they have accepted. The 2010 cultural immersion program may be just the beginning of a long-lasting relationship and partnership between Cal U and the University of Pretoria.



U.S. and South African participants in the cultural immersion program pose outside the University of Pretoria's High Performance Centre. Cal U reps and hosts included (from left) front row: (2nd) Andrea Jankowicz, Athletic Training; (3rd) Charlotte Orient, Elementary Education; (4th) Emily Obenau, Athletic Training; (6th) Patricia Milford, Counselor Education; (11th) Taunya Tinsley, Counselor Education; (12th) Grafton Eliason, Counselor Education; middle row: (2nd) Deb Farrer, Elementary Education; (6th) Bonnie Vatter, Counselor Education; (7th) Jenna Chirichetti, Counselor Education; (11th) Lourens Human, University of Pretoria; (12th) Monja Human, High Performance Center; back row: (3rd) Ayanna Lyles, Health Sciences; (5th) Lisa Auld, Counselor Education; (6th) Regis Visconti, Athletic Training; (10th) Caryl Sheffield, Elementary Education.

Award-Winning Faculty



Justin Barroner (Exercise Science & Sport Studies) received the *Tri-State PGA's Bill Strasbaugh Award for 2010* and is a finalist for the award at the national level. The award recognizes a PGA Professional who has distinguished themselves by mentoring their fellow PGA Professionals and Apprentices in improving their employment situations and through service to the community.

On May 7, the 2010 Cal U Faculty Professional Development Committee Merit Awards were presented. The award recipients recognized were **Mark Aune** (English) - Research Award, **Carol Boccetti** (Biological & Environmental Sciences) - Service & Service Learning Award, **Christina Fisanick** (English) - Technology Award, **William Hug** (Elementary Education) - Grants & Contracts Award, and **Marta McClintock-Comeaux** (Justice, Law & Society) - Teaching & Learning Award.



Shirley Lazorchak (Business & Economics) won the American Marketing Association's *Hugh G. Wales Award for Faculty Advisor of the Year* at the association's 26th Annual

International Collegiate Conference in New Orleans. The award honors the recipient for chapter guidance, training of chapter officers, chapter planning assistance, motivation, communication and support for the student chapter.

Faculty Achievements

Melanie Blumberg (History & Political Science) moderated a discussion at the 2010 *Mid-West Political Science Association* meeting in Chicago on April 24.

Paul Crawford (History & Political Science) presented "Hospitallers & the trial of the Templars" at the *International Congress on Medieval Studies* in Kalamazoo, MI, in May.

Holly Diehl and **Diane Nettles** (Elementary Education) presented "More Than Mentioning: Supporting the Teacher's Use of Mental Modeling in Teaching Reading Comprehension" at the *International Reading Association Conference* in Chicago, April 27. Also, Diehl, Nettles and **Connie Armitage** (Elementary Education) presented "Beyond Calling Words: Teaching Comprehension to Struggling Readers of Poverty" at the *Washington County Education Summit* on April 24.

Grafton Eliason and **Jeffrey Samide** (Counselor Education) published (with two others) "Existential theory and our search for meaning" in the *Journal of Spirituality in Mental Health*.

Craig Fox (Philosophy) presented "Wittgenstein and Ethics: an Approach via Film," at the *Nordic Wittgenstein Society Conference* in Uppsala, Sweden and "*What* Will Time Tell?: Comments

on Clewis' Theory of Age Factor" at the *Eastern Division of the American Society for Aesthetics* in Philadelphia in April.

Nancy Hudson (Philosophy) presented "Nicholas of Cusa and Neo-Platonism: an Early Renaissance Man's Debt to the Greeks," at the *Renaissance Society of America* meeting in Italy in April.

William Hug (Elementary Education) published "Exploring instructional strategies to develop prospective elementary teacher children's literature book evaluation skills for science, ecology and environmental education" in *Environmental Education Research*, 16 (3).

Andrae Marak (History & Political Science) published "Frontier Masculinity, Feminity, and the Ideological Cleansing of Borderlands Teachers" in the *New Mexico Historical Review*.

Joel Press (Philosophy) presented "On the Virtue of Cursory Scientific Reduction" at the *PASSHE Philosophy and Religious Studies Society* meeting in West Chester in April. Three Cal U philosophy majors participated in the conference, including **Andrea O'Leary**, who received second place for best undergraduate paper.



Press was elected the Society's president and will host the 2011 conference at Cal U. Also, Press is the Philosophy Division Editor for the new *Keystone Journal*.

Joseph Schwerha (Business & Economics) published "Law Enforcement Challenges in Transborder Acquisition of Electronic Evidence from Cloud Computing Providers" for the *2010 Octopus Conference on Cybercrime*.

Michael Slavin (Theatre & Dance) will teach English Theatre History in London from May 17 to June 17.

John Shimkanin and **William Hug** (Elementary Education) presented "Monarchs, silkworms and painted ladies: Developing elementary learner's scientific proficiency" at the *National Science Teacher Association* meeting in Boston.

Jacqueline Walsh, **Gloria Brusoski**, and **John Patrick** (Counselor Education) presented "Including Mind-body Methods in Counselor Education Programs" at the *American Counseling Association Conference* in Pittsburgh.

Mohamed Yamba (History & Political Science) will serve as a member of the Steering Committee of the Researchers' Alliance for Development during the *All Bank Conference on Developing Economies* in Sweden, May 29-June 2.

Faculty Searches for Fall 2010

This year, five departments conducted searches for eight tenure-track faculty for Fall 2010. The positions being searched, by department, include:

- **Art & Design:** Art History (**Richard Miecznikowski**, Search Chair) & Graphic Design (**Robert Meyers**, Search Chair)
- **Justice, Law & Society:** Criminal Justice Generalist & Criminal Law Specialist (**Emily Sweitzer**, Search Chair both positions)

- **Math, Computer Science & Information Technology:** Computer Information Systems (**Gina Boff**, Search Chair) & Statistics (**Kaddour Boukaabar**, Search Chair)
- **Professional Studies:** Legal Studies (**Jeffrey Magers**, Search Chair)
- **Special Education:** Special Education (**Kalie Kossar**, Search Chair)

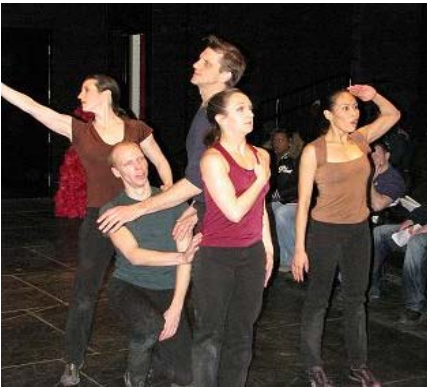
As this newsletter is being prepared, the searches have reduced their applicant pool to a few top candidates. Many

highly-qualified individuals applied, and the departments hope the best will be teaching at Cal U in the fall. This is the first time that Cal U used PeopleAdmin for an entire faculty search process. It has been a learning experience. The search chairs are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to improving Cal U academics by identifying the best candidates for these faculty positions. Hopefully, the fall issue of this newsletter will report eight new tenure-track faculty members.

Women's Studies

In March, during *Women's History Month*, the **Women's Studies** program offered activities under the theme *The Arts & Activism: Equality for All*. Three featured events were *Attack Theatre*, the *Aubrey-Beth Fitch Conference*, and *Guerrilla Girls*.

Internationally known dance company *Attack Theatre* offered a workshop to help participants to learn to use their bodies for strength, balance, and empowerment.



The 5th *Annual Aubrey-Beth Fitch Conference* offered workshops and panels on Building Community through Art; Feminist Lens in Art, Film & Media; Rhetoric of Modern Contraceptive Ads; and Redefining Theory, Art, Craft, and Sexuality. **Caryl Sheffield** (Elementary Education) presented *Social and Political Activism through the lens of African American Artists*.

Guerrilla Girls, women wearing gorilla masks, bring attention to the lack of acceptance of women artists in the art world. *Guerrilla Girls* provided workshops and training for Cal U students.



Building Careers.

Recent Grant Awards

Michael J. Brna (Teaching with Primary Sources) received \$200,000 from the Library of Congress to continue Cal U's participation in the *Teaching with Primary Sources* teacher professional development program. Cal U has been a Teaching with Primary Sources Educational Consortium member since 2004.

Anthony Pyzdrwoski (Math, Computer Science, & Information Technology) received \$4,720 from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission for *WvEB Mathematics 2009-2010* to provide technological assistance to the WvEB project through the creation of materials and troubleshooting problems, as well as working with teachers and school technology resource staff and participating in the dissemination of project evaluation.

Gary Seelye (Academic Development Services) received \$22,575 from the US Department of Agriculture through the PA Department of Education for the *2010 Upward Bound Summer Food Pro-*

gram for qualifying participants in Cal U's Upward Bound summer program, which assists eligible students in completing a program of secondary education and to enter and succeed in a program of post-secondary education.

Summer Arrigo—Nelson and **Mark Tebbitt**, (Biological & Environmental Sciences) and 12 PASSHE students will conduct an *Assessment of the Impact of Invasive Species on Native Biodiversity in Madagascar's Tropical Rainforest* in southeastern Madagascar with \$7,777 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council.

Gwendolyn Perry-Burney (Social Work) received \$30,000 from PASSHE to conduct the *R. Benjamin Wiley Partnership Program*. This summer, Cal U will help 42 urban high school students to develop the academic and social skills needed to succeed in college. The program was initiated in Philadelphia in 1989, Pittsburgh in 1995, Erie and Harrisburg in 1998, and in Reading in 2000.

Senior Projects Symposium

Jeffrey Sumey and **Ghassan Salim** (Applied Engineering & Technology), and **Gary DeLorenzo** (Math, Computer Science & Information Technology) ran Cal U's first multidiscipline *Senior Projects Symposium* on April 22. The symposium, conducted during Applied Engineering & Technology's *2010 Spring Technology Conference*, showcased 13 projects by 47 students enrolled in senior projects courses in Computer Engineering Technology (CET), Computer Information Systems (CIS), Computer Science (CS), and Electrical Engineering Technology (EET). Held on the third floor of Eberly, the event had 167 registrants, including parents, high school students, Cal students and faculty, faculty from Westmoreland County Com-

munity College, and industry representatives from PTC, GE Healthcare, and Bayer. In the photo, student team *iSee*, which included Michelle Shanaberger (CSC), Colin Campbell (CET), Kevan Scott (CSC) and August Rodkey (CET), is shown with their computerized vision assistant for the visually-impaired.



Programs & Students

Counselor Education received mid-cycle accreditation from the *Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs*.

Elementary Education was approved by the PA Department of Education to offer a new master's degree program in English as a Second Language.

English majors **Mike Lash**, **Alex Vucelich**, and **Rodney Taylor** delivered papers or short stories at the *English Association of PA State Universities Conference* at East Stroudsburg in April. **Sarah Downey** is their faculty mentor.

Several **Honors Program** students presented at the *Northeast Regional Honors Conference* (Harrisburg) and *Intersections Undergraduate Research Conference* (Robert Morris University, photo). Also, honors students visited the Art Institute of Chicago, the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, and the Pittsburgh Public Theater.



The **Principal's Program** received *Initial Program Approval* from the PA Department of Education by way of its reassessment application for online delivery.

Theatre & Dance students **Kaitlin Descutner**, **Mark Rockage**, **Kristin Ross**, **Jennifer Majetic**, **Catherine Hoefler** & **Laura Nichols** took classes and auditioned for employment at the *South-eastern Theatre Conference* in Lexington, KY. **Michele Pagen** led the group.



The **Internship Center** reported some interesting internships this year: Manistee National Forest (Michigan), NASA-Dryden Flight Center (California), The Golf Channel (Florida), Fox News (New York), US Department of Energy (California), and KDKA-TV and WTAE-TV Pittsburgh). Cal U intern **Caitlin Lawrence** poses with WTAE-TV meteorologist **Stephen Cropper**.



The PA Recreation & Park Society awarded Cal U's **Parks & Recreation Society & Program** the *Excellence in Recreation Programming Award* for the Annual Pike Run Youth Fishing Festival. Also, Parks & Recreation students **Joseph Unger** and **Jared Fencil** received the *Wayne Johnson Memorial Scholarship* to attend the state conference. **John Confer** (Earth Science) directs the Parks & Recreation Management Program.

Graphic Design students and professors **Greg Harrison** and **Robert Meyers** learned about advertising, design and marketing by visiting Meta Design and Turner Duckworth in San Francisco. Some of the firms' clients include Adobe, Amazon.com, Apple, Audi, Charles Schwab, Coca Cola, Dolby, Johnson&Johnson, Nike, Nokia, Palm, Sony, Wal-Mart, Xerox, and Yahoo! .



Cal U's **Institute of Criminological & Forensic Sciences**, working with original criminal profilers from the FBI Academy is providing online forensic behavioral sciences training.

In April, 11 **Modern Languages & Cultures** students were initiated into the *Alpha Mu Gamma* honor society.



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