

# The GRADUATE & Adult Studies NEWSLETTER



Millersville University  
COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
& ADULT LEARNING

SPRING 2022



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Spring has always been my favorite season of the year. Here in Millersville, the flowering trees and shrubs come into full bloom, the skies fill with the sounds of returning birds, and snow gives way to the gentle rains of April. These changes in season not only return life and beauty to our campus but herald the end of another academic year. This one, like all academic years, was full of challenges and rewards for all of us in the College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning. In the Deans office we said goodbye to Cindy Darin, Administrative Assistant in the office, and Dr. Janice Moore, Associate Dean of CGSAL. Both have moved on to

new career opportunities, and we wish them all the best in the next stages of their careers. On a happier note, we also have warmly welcomed Melissa Tineo as our new Administrative Assistant, and Madison Sears as a new online student support specialist. Welcome to them both as they join the fantastic team here in CGSAL!

This semester saw the return of our traditional Graduate Commencement to Pucillo Gymnasium. Millersville conferred 209 masters and doctoral degrees to our hard-working adult learners at Commencement; it was great to hear Pucillo rocking again with the cheers of family and friends supporting the fabulous accomplishments of our graduate students! Our semi-annual Certificate and Certification Dinner was also a big hit this semester. Best wishes to our recent graduates and certificate completers as they take all they have learned as students here to the next stage of their careers!

Although we faced uncertainty and challenges this past semester, I cannot express just how wonderful it was to have our students and staff back on campus. Although we may be living with Covid for quite some time, our collective efforts at understanding the virus, and taking care of ourselves and others, allowed the university to remain open for the entire academic year. Our tremendous faculty have shown great resolve and creativity throughout the pandemic; we could never have made it to this point without them!

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of our Newsletter, which celebrates the remarkable achievements of our students and faculty, all of whom have persevered through the challenges brought on by Covid, and all of whom demonstrate the power of perseverance.

James A. Delle, PhD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Delle'.

Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning  
Associate Provost for Academic Administration

# Congratulations, SPRING 2022 GRADUATES!





# CONGRATULATIONS Certification and Certificate Graduates!

## Art

Brookye Lee Keeney

## Biology

Hayley L. Caulfield-James  
Anne Patricia Grandfield

## Elementary and Secondary School Counselor PreK-12

Kimberly J. Dauksha  
Paige Elizabeth Martin  
Mary I. McGarvey  
Bethany C. Moore  
Courtney M. Napiltonia  
Marisa Sponhouse

## English as a Second Language

Wyatt Bray Dranchek  
Sarah Jane Kensinger  
Meghan Elizabeth Kulp  
Kevia A. Santiago

## Gifted PreK-12 Endorsement

Christopher Michael Brode  
Amy Davis  
Nicole Ann Keller  
Jessica M. Piacentino  
Patrice Nicole Semicek  
Denise Marie Williams

## Home and School Visitor PreK-12

Bridget Ann Martin  
Stacy Strasbaugh  
Rebecca N. Swartz

## Mathematics

Deborah Aiken

## Online Instruction Program PreK-12

Susan J. Allen  
Abigail K. Gulliver

## PreK-4, Early Childhood Education

Mariah Catharine Balmer  
Alexis Elizabeth Cunningham  
Kelly Elizabeth Etter  
Dakota Ann Faust  
Joshua Eric Mays  
Zoe Alison Ruth Murray  
Patricia Anne Pollock  
Erica Jeanne Schnettler  
Katie Marie Waite

## Principal K-12

Erikka Michelle Bishop  
Joshua Robert Burkhart  
Howard P. Hanson  
Tara Janae Newhouse  
Matthew Thomas Schuck

## Reading Specialist

Lauren Kimberly Collins  
Amy J. Evans  
Holly Ann Hartman  
Amy Elizabeth Jansky  
Jessica Lynn Kessler  
Khoan Saou Ly  
Lisa Marie Rusek  
Jessica Elizabeth Violante

## School Nurse

Elizabeth Ann Bradburn  
Christina Izumi Cruso  
Stephanie L. Erb  
Amy Elizabeth Isaacs  
Brittany Anne Nolt  
Sarah Apondi Ongiri  
Laura Irene Pavelko  
Laurel A. Siemon  
Whitney Summey

## School Psychologist

Kristy Bankert  
Marone L. Brown  
Zachary Allan Johnson

## School Social Worker PreK-12

Bridget Ann Martin  
Stacy Strasbaugh

## Social Studies

Mark Aiken

## Spanish

Kathryn Michelle Gomez

## Special Education PreK-12

Erica Jeanne Schnettler

## Special Education-Supervisory

Jennifer Lynn Stafford

## STEM PreK-12 Endorsement

Mary F. Feaster  
Chloe Hartung  
Richard Leroy Johnson  
Alicia Marie Panzarella  
Alyssa Rose Pezick  
Robin Lynn Ryan

## Certificate Candidates

## Emergency and Disaster Management

Victoria Casale  
Rachel Elaine Gutierrez

## Expressive Arts

Judith Gabrielle Woodring

## Gifted Education

Deborah K. French

## Space and Weather Environment

Sara Housseal

## Writing

Jordan Elizabeth Traut



# ONWARD AND UPWARD!

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**Congratulations** to the following students from the doctoral program in educational leadership who defended their dissertations successfully!



**Dr. Nicole Irish**

Principal, Brecht Elementary, Manheim Township;  
Dissertation Topic: “Supporting Social Presence: A Phenomenological Study of the Perceptions of Intermediate Elementary Teachers Who Taught Virtually During the COVID-19 Pandemic”.



**Dr. Kristi Prime**

Principal, Susquehanna Township Middle School;  
Dissertation Topic: The Perceptions of School Leaders and Parents About Experiences That Minority Children in Poverty Have in Elementary School”.



**Dr. Christopher M. Sattelle**

Principal, Middletown Area High School;  
Dissertation Topic: “How Black Male Basketball Players at the Division III Level Navigate the Space of Racial Identity in College: A Phenomenological Study”.



**Dr. Rina Houck**

Assistant Superintendent, Dover Area School District; Dissertation Topic: Planning and Delivering Instruction in High School Self-Paced Blended Learning Environment”.



**Dr. Nick Butt**

Supervisor of Student Services, Mechanicsburg School District; Dissertation Topic: “The Intersection of Public School and Student Mental Health: Exploring the Perceptions of Secondary School Principals and School Counselors”.

# Programs

## Ranked #1 Best Master's Program

**M.Ed in Gifted Education**, was ranked as the #1 Best Master's in Gifted and Talented Education for 2022 by Intelligent.com. A master's degree in Gifted and Talented Education can help students to become a leader in developing curriculum and policy change for children who are gifted. [Click here](#) to view the article!



## LITERACY COACHING COMES TO MU!

Do you have your reading specialist certification? Did you know that you can earn a literacy coaching endorsement with only three more classes?

A literacy coach is one who helps teachers to recognize what they know and can do, assists teachers as they strengthen their ability to make more effective use of what they know and do, and supports teachers as they learn more and do more. The Instructional Coaching Endorsement is available for reading specialists who desire to strengthen their professional knowledge, build skills in instructional coaching, and stand out in their field. [Learn more here](#)

# Programs



## **Millersville University and Shippensburg University**

**Doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.)  
with Superintendent Letter of Eligibility (LOE)**

**>Now accepting applications for the Fall 2022 Cohort<**

### **Our philosophy-**

The educational doctoral degree is becoming the norm credential for K-12 educational leaders who face a myriad of new challenges. Millersville and Shippensburg Universities combine resources and faculty to bring you the most cutting-edge program to become a scholar-practitioner school leader for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century!

### **Program features:**

- 93% completion rate of the Ed.D.
- 100% pass rate on Superintendent Licensure Exam.
- Hybrid course structure to maximize in person and online learning.
- Advanced standing for students who already possess the LOE.
- Programmatic strands focusing to Technology and Poverty.
- Combined resources of two universities.
- Caring faculty with wide ranging expertise and experience who are committed to your growth and success!

**For more information contact Program Directors:**

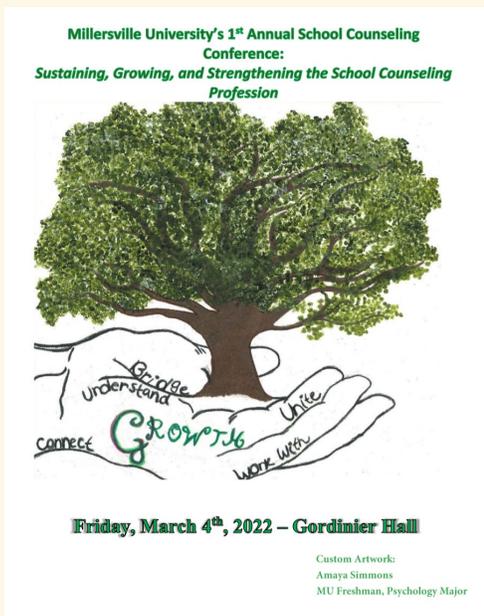
**Dr. Ann C. Gaudino, email: [ann.gaudino@millersville.edu](mailto:ann.gaudino@millersville.edu)**

**Dr. Rhonda Brunner, email: [rabrunner@ship.edu](mailto:rabrunner@ship.edu)**

# Academic Service

## MU Hosts First Annual School Counseling Conference: Sustaining, Growing, and Strengthening the School Counseling Profession

**Dr. Jason Baker** and other graduate faculty in the School Counseling M.Ed. program hosted the first annual school counseling conference on Friday, March 4th. This conference united over 200 practicing school counselors, graduate students, undergraduate students, and graduate faculty. This conference celebrates the important work of professional school counselors, advances the profession through applied research opportunities, and offers curious students an opportunity to explore the important work of the professional school counselor.



# Academic Service

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**Dr. Lauren Kaiser** shared her expertise and passion for consultation, equity, and social justice through her contribution to several presentations during the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) 2022 Annual Convention in Boston, MA. Dr. Kaiser brought together colleagues, alumni, and graduate students to share current research and evidence-based practices to further advance the field of school psychology.

**Dr. Andrew Bland** was recently appointed as the associate editor for the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*. He has an article in the journal titled, “A 15-Year Progress Report on the Presence of Humanistic/ Existential Psychology Principles in Mental Health Outcome Measurement: A Thematic Discourse and Summative Content Analysis”.



**Dr. Charles Barrett** was named an Outstanding Reviewer by the *School Psychology Review*. The *School Psychology Review* (SPR) is a referred journal published quarterly by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) with the purpose to communicate scholarly advances in research, training, and practice in psychology and education.

# GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT!

## Congratulations, Heather and Justin!

Heather Shuker, DNP student, MSN, FNP, RN and Justin McFail, MSN student were selected to present their graduate projects at the prestigious Eastern Nursing Research Society Annual Scientific Sessions. Shuker will be presenting her DNP scholarly project entitled, "Dietary Self-Monitoring for Weight Loss in Adults with Obesity."

McFail will present his MSN Capstone Project entitled "Evaluating the Use of an Escape Room to Reinforce APA Style." These students were selected by the Wehrheim School of Nursing faculty to represent our graduate student body.

## Networking and Exploration

Graduate students in the Integrated Scientific Applications program attended the American Meteorological Society Washington Forum (AWF). AWF was held in-person at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington, DC from April 25-27 2022.

Students (left to right) Amy Metz, Janelle Shank, Michella Salvitti, and Abigail Valerio participated in the plenary, panel, and networking session of the forum, which focused on all aspects of weather, water, and climate at the enterprise level. Millersville University has been taking graduate students to the AWF for over a decade where many students have made connections that have led to their first jobs.



# Graduate Student & Alumni Presentations

School psychology graduate faculty, alumni, and graduate students traveled to Boston, MA in February 2022 to be inspired and share their research and experiences at the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention. The school psychology program at Millersville had many presentation proposals accepted, allowing many graduate students and alumni to present during the convention. Some of these presentations were showcased at Made in Millersville.

**Christina Powley M.Ed**, presented on Consultation in the Real World, Before, During, and After COVID-19 at both the NASP convention and Made in Millersville. This presenter gathered valuable feedback from school psychologist who specialize in consultation, or who are interested in increasing this area of practice. She explored models of consultation before, after and during COVID-19 remote instruction. [Watch it here](#)

**Anna Clemens M.Ed**, presented at Made in Millersville on the impact of victimization and discrimination of LGBTQ+ youth in schools. She raised awareness regarding the barriers to vital mental health care the students need and called school psychologists to action to create a safe space for LGBTQ+ youth in schools through comprehensive school policies, inclusive curriculum, and Gay-Straight Alliances. [Watch it here](#)

**Danielle Taylor M.Ed and Sadie Wentland M.Ed**, presented at Made in Millersville on their experience attending the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) 2022 conference in Boston, MA. Together, they shared on the importance of networking and getting involved in professional development opportunities offered at Millersville University. [Watch it here](#)

**Lauren Kaiser, Katherine, “Kit”, Schoener, Danielle Taylor, and Sadie Wentland** presented at NASP on the topic of Adapting the classroom check-up: Novel approaches to teacher support.

**Dr. Lauren Kaiser, Hannah Lombardo-Smith, and Baily Gibson** presented during NASP on the topic of Instructional consultation: Supporting teacher with the skill-by-treatment interaction

**Dr. Lauren Kaiser and Christina Powley** presented together during NASP on Consultation in the real word before, during, and after COVID-19.





REGISTER  
TODAY

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY WILL ONCE AGAIN OFFER OUR SUMMER INSTITUTES DURING SUMMER 2022!  
SEE THE LIST OF SESSIONS BELOW THAT ARE BEING PLANNED TO HELP SUPPORT  
YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS.

June 6-15	Understanding the Root Cause of Exclusion & Inequity in Education
June 13-17	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
June 20-24	The Art and Science of Teaching Literacy
June 20-24	Rocket Teacher Certification Institute
June 27-July 1	Preparing Students for Any Future
July 11-15	Embedding Antiracism into Your Everyday Practice
July 11-15	Embedding Antiracism into Your Everyday Practice 2.0
July 11-15	Coding Confidence for Educators
July 11-15	Micro-Residency for Art Educators
July 11-15	The Art of Choral Techniques
July 18-22	Teaching Across the Curriculum Using Problem-Based Learning (PBL)
July 18-22	Modern Band
July 25-29	Bibliotherapy, Arts, Music, and Movement Using Expressive Arts to Respond to Individual, Group and Community Trauma
July 25-29	Supporting Inclusion as a Current School Leader 1
Aug. 1-5	Trauma Institute

Dates and topics are subject to change.

Watch [www.millersville.edu/summerinstitutes](http://www.millersville.edu/summerinstitutes) for more information!