

Effective: January 22, 2003

**University Governance
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT
and STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS**

Approved: January 22, 2003
Revised: June 20, 2007
Council of Trustees

Vision Statement

The Millersville University experience will empower students to make a significant difference in the communities where they will live and work. Millersville will be a premier comprehensive public university.

Strategic Directions

Millersville University will be a premier comprehensive university of national reputation by pursuing six identified strategic directions that will drive our efforts in undergraduate and graduate education. We will offer students academic programs of national distinction. We will nurture a passion for learning and growth among all members of the university community. We will foster an appreciation of the liberal arts as the foundation of all disciplines and professions and vital for success in today's society. We will help all members of our university community to grow by exposing them to a diversity of peoples and ideas. We will prepare students to embrace the challenges of life and civic leadership. We will act as responsible stewards in growing and managing our resources.

Creating Academic Programs of National Distinction

Millersville will work to enhance all of its academic programs to make the University nationally recognized as the best educational choice for the people of Pennsylvania and beyond. We commit ourselves to hiring faculty who are scholar-educators, equally known for their contributions to their fields as they are for teaching and mentoring students. We commit ourselves to providing the resources necessary to support programs of distinction and to employing technology that enhances the educational process. We will enhance the training that enables the administration and staff to provide the support that faculty and students rely on as they undertake the robust intellectual, professional, and civic activities that are characteristic of programs of national distinction.

Nurturing a Passion for Learning

Millersville University's commitment to programs of national distinction envisions an environment in which faculty and students are passionate about learning and in which free inquiry is guaranteed. Faculty scholarship and research expand the frontiers of knowledge, and the insights gained through these endeavors will enhance teaching and enrich student learning. We will develop innovative programs to initiate students into the college experience and to stimulate their passion for learning through intense engagement with faculty and fellow students. Students sharing in faculty research and participating in programs that apply classroom lessons to community needs will be prepared to become life-long, self-actuated learners. Small class sizes, personalized instruction, and effective support services will be hallmarks of the Millersville experience.

Fostering an Appreciation of the Liberal Arts

The University will support a culture of free inquiry and self-reflective learning, in which the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences together help students to become thoughtful individuals who will never lose their passion for engaging new ideas. This liberal arts core, vigorously complemented with intensified study in the student's major, will be enriched by programs such as co-operative education, international student exchange, internships, and service-learning. We will prepare students to succeed in the job market or to undertake further education. The knowledge, skills, and values students learn will also provide them with the critical tools needed to adapt to the new challenges in our age of rapid technological change, preparing them to accept increasing levels of career, civic and social responsibility.

Cultivating a Community of Diverse People, Thoughts and Perspectives

Millersville University will enhance the diversity of people, thought, and perspectives in our community because we believe it to be a source of enrichment and intellectual growth. Members of the community will be empowered by policies and practices that promote fairness, justice, civility, and accessibility. We will prepare our students for citizenship in a world of increasing human diversity. We will actively advance an atmosphere of mutual respect, tolerance, understanding, sensitivity, and appreciation for the richness of human diversity through programs, workshops, dialogue, and training. The University will continually renew itself as a place where inquiry is encouraged, ideas are expressed openly, and the dignity and rights of all individuals are respected and protected.

Developing Life and Leadership Skills that Promote the Greater Public Good

As a public university Millersville dedicates itself to a continuous search for new and better means to prepare its students to assume the responsibilities of citizenship and civic leadership. We will prepare our students to engage with communities inside and outside of the University by incorporating the latest scholarship in our programs, and by exposing students to a diversity of ideas and people. We will match these efforts by a determination to provide physical and social environments which encourage personal growth. We will emphasize co-curricular and extra-curricular programs that nourish the whole student and are conducive to both academic growth and personal development.

Millersville will expand its investment in strategic partnerships with a variety of public and private institutions and businesses in order to enable students to become civically engaged while still at the University through service learning, internship, study abroad and other such opportunities. The University will continue to seek initiatives that will empower its graduates to play ever greater roles in local and global communities – making contributions that improve the social, political, and economic conditions of the community, the nation and the globe.

Providing Responsible Stewardship

Responsible stewardship requires both a commitment to effectively allocate available resources and the creativity to expand resources in advancing all of our strategic directions. We also recognize Millersville University as an important force in our regional economy and as a vital cultural resource for the region. We will actively solicit the advice of community leaders to improve our undergraduate, graduate, and professional training programs in ways that will advance the region's economic future. We will improve the facilities necessary to make the University a cultural center for the region and to enhance the programs that we offer to our neighbors. We will provide an integrated, coherent structure that demonstrates how resources are allocated to institutional priorities, and how program outcomes are continually assessed and improved.