Myth Busters:

1. **MYTH:** The budget crisis is over.
   The budget crisis is NOT over. Higher education in Pennsylvania was impacted later than most when facing the problems caused by the nation’s deteriorating economy. Therefore, it will be a time before the crisis is over. In the 2009-2010 budget, Millersville University received over $3 million in federal stimulus funding. The 2010-2011 budget is projected to include the same amount but there will be no additional stimulus funds after 2010-11. This means the 2011-2012 budget will have a structural deficit of at least $3 million to begin with. This deficit will further be negatively impacted by the upcoming large increases in employer contributions to the State Employee Retirement System (SERS). SERS costs are projected to increase by over 1000% in the coming years. As you can see, we have a long way to go before this is over.

2. **MYTH:** In the last decade enrollments have grown but we have added no additional faculty.
   Not true! In 1995, there were 338 full time faculty at Millersville University. Presently, there are 361 full time faculty positions. This represents a net increase of 23 new faculty positions during this period. In the fall of 2003, Millersville University undergraduate enrollment was approximate 6,700 FTES with a student-faculty ratio of 18.2. Today, FTE enrollment is slightly over 7,000 with a student-faculty ratio of approximately 18.3. In terms of class size, 23% of all classes this fall had less than 19 students. Five years ago this number was 24%.

3. **MYTH:** We are all sharing the pain equally.
   All departments have experienced across the board budget reductions of between 2 and 3%. Some selected department budgets have been reduced by 10%. Repair and renovation of facilities and the university’s equipment budget have been reduced by 50%. The President’s Office and the Finance and Administration division will not receive any equipment funds in 2009-10. All employees except management received a pay raise in 2009-10. Most administrative and staff positions that have become vacant have been frozen. Exceptions have been made only for those positions related to revenue generation, health and safety, and compliance. With regard to vacant faculty positions, the Provost allocates replacement complement via the use of Temporary Part Time Faculty (TPTF) to the academic departments as necessary.