

“It is with great pride that I seize this opportunity to share with you the highlights of a successful year at Millersville University...”

The story of Millersville University is about a vibrant public liberal arts university serving a vital economic region, an institution serving intelligent, hard-working students who embrace the life of the Lancaster area and contribute substantially to its betterment; and a university of faculty who are scholars, highly respected in their fields, approachable teachers and active mentors.

The 2005-2006 year was a time of forward-looking initiatives. We focused on creating a vision statement reflecting the aspirations and direction of Millersville University. We began the journey to realize the vision by planning for a capital campaign, a campaign to garner support for our dreams. And we scrutinized our own identity, developing and clarifying the message of what and who Millersville really is, within our local community, and beyond.

Simply put, Millersville University offers an educational opportunity second to none. This report illuminates how we have made good on this promise.

Sincerely,

Francine G. McNairy
President



President's Report

2005-2006



Millersville University
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

Highlights/Distinctions

- » Millersville University received \$4,562,280 in performance funding from the State System of Higher Education for successful outcomes in 2004-05 on the System Accountability Plan. MU received the highest award among the 14 System universities.
- » World-renowned pianist Andre Watts performed on campus and led a master class for Millersville students.
- » The new MSW program, a collaboration with Shippensburg University, was introduced; a full class was recruited to begin in fall 2006.
- » The University hosted its first international trade conference, “Exporting to China: Bridging Trade,” in partnership with the U.S. Department of Commerce.
- » Millersville provided leadership to state and national agencies as part of shaping public higher education policy. President McNairy served on the Pennsylvania State Board of Education and was appointed this year to the American Council of Education’s Commission on Effective Leadership.
- » Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects of York received one of two honor awards conferred by the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for excellence in architectural design for the newly renovated Osburn Hall.
- » Millersville University won a Gold Award in Year-Long Special Events from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) for the 150th anniversary celebration in 2004-05.
- » The University Planning Council was established to create a new vision statement for Millersville.



Recognition

- » *U.S. News & World Report* again ranked MU highly in its Best Universities—Master’s category, at #44 of 572 public and private institutions in the north. Millersville was also selected as one of the top ten public universities in the north.
- » *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* magazine named Millersville one of the nation’s 100 best values in public colleges.
- » Receiving and maintaining accreditation is important to Millersville: the Computer Science program has been reaccredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology; Art degree programs were fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design; Business Administration was granted reaffirmation by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs.
- » Millersville hosted a two-day hearing on academic freedom conducted by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. President McNairy offered testimony on the commitment of state universities to encourage students to value diverse viewpoints.

Students and Their Success

- » Student commitment to community service again increased: more than 2,700 students performed 114,897 hours of service to community agencies, a five percent increase. In addition, about 1,500 students contributed more than 23,000 hours of voluntary service to the community.
- » By design, enrollment management efforts succeeded by enrolling 90 fewer students overall.
- » The number of full-time transfer students from Pennsylvania community colleges to Millersville increased by 12.2 percent.
- » Millersville’s four-year graduation rate hit a record high of 41.4 percent. Growth is attributed to the success of the Freshman Year Experience program and the implementation of the 120-credit policy.
- » Six-year graduation rates for students of color increased again this year. African-American rates grew from 43.4 to 49.4 percent, and Hispanic rates grew from 30.0 to 31.3 percent.
- » More than 800 freshman students now begin their university experience in living/learning communities. Students report this experience helps them succeed academically.
- » The overall passing rate on all areas of the Praxis teaching test increased to 98 percent.
- » One-hundred percent of nursing graduates passed national advanced practice certification exams; nearly 100 percent of respiratory therapy graduates passed the licensure exam.
- » A team of computer science students participated on the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition team and placed first in the Mid-Atlantic region and second nationally.
- » The Collegiate Leadership Development Program was presented as a student retention model for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Best Practices Conference.
- » The student newspaper, **The Snapper**, received first place awards for outstanding features and sports and second place in layout from the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association.
- » The number of African-American students increased by 7.4 percent, and the overall proportion of African-American students grew from 8.9 to 9.2 percent.
- » Hispanic student enrollment grew by 10.6 percent.
- » Nicole Brewer, a senior communications major, was named Miss Pennsylvania in fall 2005; she was selected as a top ten finalist in the Miss America Pageant.
- » Helping to increase student retention, tutoring programs have increased by offering tutoring onsite in freshman residence halls and expanding the number of certified tutors.



Resources

- » MU raised \$8.4 million in private gifts, grants and contracts this year.
- » Total endowment assets increased in value from last year to a total of \$15 million.
- » Millersville has successfully competed for state and federal grant to support new programs and initiatives. This year, 48 grants were funded totaling \$4.7 million.
- » A total of \$3.46 million in support of social equity was received from the State System, Migrant Education and Upward Bound Program.
- » Planning has begun on a new capital campaign to raise \$60 million in facility renovations – including the library and a new visual and performing arts center – as well as support for globalization, civic/community engagement, faculty/student research, scholarships, instructional equipment, and health and wellness programs.



Technology

- » “Smart” classrooms were upgraded in three buildings. New equipment and wireless networking provide enhanced student learning and higher quality instruction, according to a survey of students.
- » A new digital media lab, funded through Student Technology Fees, was installed and supports digital media writing, design, production and research in the areas of broadcasting, public relations and theater.
- » “Live Chat” provides online, real-time conversation between students or staff and Information Technology support personnel to solve technology issues.
- » Student healthy computing is encouraged through the University’s SafetyNet program, which supports virus removal and software repairs for student computers.

Resource Utilization

- » Renovations to student dining and seating arrangements in Gordinier Dining Hall were completed.
- » New athletic facilities were dedicated in fall 2005. Chryst Field, an artificial turf playing field, was inaugurated along with a new eight-lane track, permanent visitors’ seating, and new men’s and women’s locker facilities.
- » Two replacement parking lots were completed providing an additional 60 spaces.
- » Sprinkler systems were installed in Bard and Gilbert halls, completing the sprinkler requirement for all residence halls.

Impact on the Region and State/Workforce Development

- » The National Science Foundation awarded Millersville and California universities a grant for \$810,000 to address the shortage of advanced technology workers in Pennsylvania.
- » Millersville hosted the Governor’s Institute for Technology, a week-long seminar to provide expertise to industrial technology teachers across the Commonwealth.
- » To provide nontraditional programs to expanded audiences, Millersville has partnered with CareerLink, an organization connecting job seekers and employers in Lancaster County, as its only four-year educational member. This year, six graduate and 23 undergraduate courses were offered.
- » Millersville received four Keystone Innovation Zone research grants



in collaboration with four start-up companies: Illuminex Corporation, Verefi Technologies, Mission/Research and EmPower Partners. Grants, each worth about \$10,000, provide research opportunities to students and at the same time meet regional economic needs.

- » The Corporate University, which offers custom corporate training solutions and services, increased revenues by 55 percent to \$230,546. Workforce Investment Board grants supported training for supervisors in metals manufacturing companies, such as Harley Davidson, General Dynamics, CNH Global, Alcoa, Burnham, Ross Technologies and Osram Sylvania.
- » Through the WEDnet PA Guaranteed Free Training program, Millersville provided 31 organizations access to approximately \$457,695 in funding.
- » The University worked with the Borough of Millersville on initiatives such as improved streets and parking, safe residential areas, diversity training, grant writing assistance and reducing student alcohol abuse.

Millersville University

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Academic Achievements

- » Incorporating globalization into learning experiences increased: 14.5 percent more students studied abroad in 11 countries at 22 sites.
- » A new international partnership was signed with the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez.
- » Millersville ranks first in the State System in providing internships as experiential learning experiences to students.
- » A collaborative undergraduate athletic training program between Millersville and West Chester universities was established.
- » Five interdisciplinary environmental minors, complementing existing majors in the sciences, geography, sociology and industry & technology areas, were established: land use, water resources, quantitative environmental methods, environmental policy and regulation, and industrial and environmental health.
- » The number of distance education enrollments increased by 92 percent, from 1,089 to 2,095.
- » Civic and community activities increased, including the annual Constitution Week activities, Symposium on the Japanese-American Internment and a host of prominent speakers on human rights and public affairs, such as Robin Wright, Paul Rusesabagina, Robert Hager, Myrlie Evers-Williams, Robert Wilkins and James K. Galbraith.
- » Millersville's efforts to recruit a diverse faculty saw a new high in fall 2005: 17 percent were faculty of color and 46 percent were female, a record for the University.
- » Efforts continue to position Millersville as a center for visual and performing arts. The Four Corners Festival, featuring artists and performers, invited families from the community and schoolchildren to campus.
- » MU continues to lead the State System in the number of faculty members holding a terminal degree – 96.2 percent, an increase from last year's 94.6 percent.
- » The Institutional Review Board was established this year to enable high quality research for the faculty. In addition, a new partnership with Lancaster General Hospital was created to enhance the human subjects' review process at the two institutions.
- » The University's commitment to student-faculty research opportunities included more than \$35,000 in support. Students presented poster papers and research findings on campus representing areas such as African-American studies, biology, computer science, math, chemistry, physics, sociology, economics and nursing.
- » Millersville partnered with four local school districts to develop a middle-college program to allow students from diverse backgrounds to obtain up to 12 college credits during their senior year in high school.

School of Education

- » New programs to meet the needs of students and the Commonwealth were developed: nanofabrication manufacturing in the Industry & Technology program.
- » A comprehensive electronic assessment system to assess program and student strengths was implemented for all students in teacher preparation programs.
- » The international honor society for education, Kappa Delta Pi, was chartered this year. Teacher candidates were invited to join the first chapter on campus.
- » For the first time, the University received a grant from the Commonwealth for \$108,000 to support the Governor's Institute in Technology.



School of Science & Mathematics

- » New programs to meet the needs of students and the Commonwealth were developed: nanotechnology options in chemistry and physics; a pre-pharmacy option in chemistry; MSN: Nursing Education option and a graduate School Nurse Supervisory certificate.
- » Activities to link Millersville to the community included The Center for Environmental Science's hosting the Environmental Stewardship Symposium; the Brossman Science Lecture by Dr. Arthur Benjamin; the Women in Math & Science Conference with keynoter Dr. Mary Rosson; and the Nursing Lecture.
- » Commonwealth high-need programs increased substantially: biology majors grew by 8.1 percent and 10.6 percent in physics majors. Gains were also made in math and earth sciences majors.
- » In the last five years the school has produced the largest number of graduates in the State System in the physical sciences (chemistry, earth sciences and physics) and mathematics.

School of Humanities & Social Sciences

- » The Department of Foreign Languages is working closely with the Library System of Lancaster County to develop literacy programs for Spanish-speaking children ages 3-7.
- » The Center for Disaster Research and Education fielded two teams in Louisiana and Mississippi to study post-Katrina conditions; funding was provided by the Natural Hazards Center (University of Colorado-Boulder) and the National Science Foundation.
- » Members of the Millersville University Choir were invited to join the Lancaster Symphony Choir to perform a major work every year. In March 2006, the choir performed Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

