

Bray Named to Professional Standards and Practices Commission

Dr. Jane Bray, dean of the School of Education, has been appointed to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Professional Standards and Practices Commission. The Commission is committed to providing leadership for improving the quality of education in the Commonwealth by establishing high standards for preparation, certification, practice and ethical conduct in the teaching profession. Bray was nominated by the governor and recently confirmed by the State Senate.

"It is quite an honor to be appointed to the commission," said Bray. "This body is responsible



Dr. Jane Bray

for making sure that the quality of education in Pennsylvania is above reproach."

The Commission is composed of 13 voting members. The Professional Educator Discipline Act specifies that membership includes: seven teachers (one to be an educational specialist), three public school administrators (at least one to be a commissioned officer and one a principal), one administrator of a teacher preparation program and two members of the general public (one to be an elected public school director).

Commissioners are appointed for a three-year term and can serve two consecutive terms.

New Teaching Method Focuses on Student Learning

Associate professor of elementary and childhood education Dr. Lillie West was invited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) to a luncheon briefing in Washington, D.C., this spring on "What's Really Happening in Schools of Education." West presented on the topic of the Teacher Work Sample (TWS), and how it has increased teacher candidate awareness of and the ability to impact student learning in pre-kindergarten to grade 12.



Dr. Lillie West

for the impact their graduates have on the learning of children. Future teachers are taught to have a deeper understanding of who the student is and of each student's need even before the lesson plan is made, in order to be able to fully adapt to each student's learning abilities.

Education courses have been revised to place a greater emphasis on student learning and what the teacher should know or do to have a greater effect on it. According to West, "These factors include not only specific student characteristics such as special needs, medical concerns, etc, but also those things in the community, school and classroom that impact and influence student learning." Pre- and post-assessments are administered in order to calculate the students' learning growth, which is the basis behind the TWS project.

West has had plenty of experience on this topic. She has spoken at 11 national conferences and acted as a consultant at Bloomsburg University and Delaware University from 2002-2007. Her co-speaker, Steve Richards, explained the methodology of the TWS to insure the learning of his middle school students, proving that it is not just universities that are applying these devices.

With attendees from the House of Representatives, the U.S. Department of Education and the National Governor's Association, West and Millersville alumnus Steve Richards, a teacher at Lebanon Middle School, spoke on the evolving ways of teaching.

West explains that Millersville's own goals in teaching have changed to insure that the professors themselves become accountable

Millersville Receives \$500K From Alumni's Estate

James C. Ebbert, considered "a very, very nice man at all times" certainly lived up to his reputation. In 1941, Ebbert earned his bachelor's degree in education at Millersville University. When he died on Dec. 26, 2007, at age 90, he left a gift of \$500,000 to Millersville University. The gift will fund scholarships for teacher education students.

After he graduated from Millersville, Ebbert taught for five years. Then he bought out the former K&L Lumber Co, where he worked for 36 years. He also served on the board of directors of St. Luke's Hospital in Quakertown, Pa., for 30 years until 1995.

Staff Activities

Dr. Tom Bell, industry and technology, was recently selected by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to be part of its National Advisory Committee for the development of Praxis material for technology education. The committee held its first meeting on May 16-18 at ETS headquarters in Princeton, N.J.

Jean Bradel, music, performed with Dr. Ross Ellison, music, on April 26 for the Westminster Presbyterian Church Concert Series in Lancaster, Pa.

Dr. Katarzyna I. Jakubiak, English, recently had the chapter, "Simulated Optimism: The International Marketing of White Teeth," published in the collection "Zadie Smith: Critical Essays." She also had her translations of two poems by contemporary Polish poet Ewa Sonnenberg published in "The New European Poetry." Her presentation proposal, "Black Body in Translation: Polish Productions of Lorraine Hansberry's Raisin in the Sun in the 1960s" has been accepted for the Modern Language Association's 124th Annual Convention in San Francisco coming up in December.

Dr. Tanya E. Kevorkian, history, recently received the William H. Scheide Prize from the American Bach Society (ABS) for her book "Baroque Piety: Religion, Society, and Music in Leipzig, 1650-1750." The ABS "honors a publication of exceptional merit on Bach or figures in his circle by a member of the Society in the early stages of his or her career. Eligible publications include books, articles or editions that have appeared in the previous two calendar years."

Dr. Jeremiah K.N. Mbindyo, chemistry, presented a paper, "Reinforcing green chemistry concepts using microscale laboratory experiments" and a poster, "Functionalized polylactic acid micro- and nanoparticles for targeted drug delivery," at the 235th meeting of the American Chemical Society in New Orleans, April 6-10. Two Millersville students and an alum were co-authors.

Dr. Behnam Nakhai, business administration, presented a peer-reviewed research paper entitled "Toward Assessing Students' Teamwork Competencies," co-authored with professors Joao S. Neves and Waheeda Lillevik of The College of New Jersey, at the Annual Conference of The Eastern Academy of Management (EAM), May 14-17 in Washington, D.C. The paper, which is published in the proceedings, received EAM's 2008 Outstanding Conceptual Paper award and the authors each received an Honor Award plaque. Nakhai's co-authored article with Dr. Seokjin Kim entitled "The Dynamics of Quality Costs in Continuous Improvement," has been accepted for

publication in the International Journal of Quality and Reliability Management.

Retired Staff Activities

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, elementary and early childhood education, was in Jasper, Ind., for a Teaching American History (TAH) workshop on April 9 and 10. He gave a TAH workshop in Monroe, N.J., on April 16, and he gave a Heroes-based workshop in Charleston, W.Va., on April 19. During May he gave a TAH workshop in Hackensack, N.J., on the 8th and 9th, as well as a TAH grant workshop in Marathon, Fla., on the 31st. This month Denenberg will give a TAH workshop in Eugene, Ore., on the 7th, a two-day special Heroes program in Elk Grove, Calif., on the 17th and 18th and a TAH grant workshop in Lakewood, N.J., on the 26th. During July he will be part of two teams for the National Council for History Education (NCHE) in Hampton, Va., on the 8th and 9th and in Brevard City, Fla., on the 22nd and 23rd. He will give a full-day workshop for the School District of Fairfax City, Va., on July 7th.

Dr. Stanley Kabacinski, retired faculty, was mentioned in the New York Times on May 20 for his work with Columbia University baseball coach, Brett Boretti. In

2003, while Boretti was coaching baseball at Division III Franklin & Marshall, an assistant introduced him to the visualization work of Kabacinski, a motivational consultant. The concept worked for F&M pitchers, so Boretti extended it to the rest of his team. At the start of Columbia practices, speakers blaring Kabacinski's motivational messages implore the Lions to envision success. The Lions often smile and mimic Kabacinski's booming enthusiasm, although they also seem to listen. They say it has become a program trademark.

Obituaries

Joan D. Haigh Horine, known to the Millersville Community as Joan Haigh, died on April 25 at the age of 84. Joining the University in 1984, Horine worked concurrently for both the Social Work Department and the Economics Department in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Rev. Dr. Robert D. Sayre, 63, retired history professor, died on Friday, May 16 at the Essa Flory Hospice Center. He was the husband of Roma J. (Weaver) Sayre, retired Millersville employee, with whom he would have celebrated 42 years of marriage on July 17. In addition to being a history professor, Bob Sayre was campus minister with United Campus Ministry at Millersville University from 1981 to 1997. He began teaching in the history department in 1988.

Summer Events

The Millersville University Alumni Association is inviting all faculty and staff to their summer events.

Lancaster Barnstormers

Friday, July 25 at 7 p.m. at Clipper Stadium. Price is \$5 per person and is for Section 4 seating right along the first base line. Tickets are available for pick-up the day of the game at the box office.

Reading Phillies

Saturday, July 26 at 6:35 p.m. at FirstEnergy Stadium. Price is \$10 per person including game tickets and \$5 in Phillies Dollars. Tickets are available for pick-up the day of the game at the MUAA table by the box office.

PA Renaissance Faire Picnic

Saturday, August 23 from noon – 2 p.m. at Mount Hope Estate in Manheim. Price is \$37.50 for adults and \$20.50 for children. This includes a private picnic in the Feasting Glen and an all day pass to the Renaissance Faire. Tickets are available for pick-up the day of the event at the box office.

For more information call #3352.

The Exchange is published for employees of Millersville University of Pennsylvania on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Send news to the Office of University Communications & Marketing, Duncan Alumni House; email: janet.kacskos@millersville.edu or call ext. 3586.

Editor: Janet Kacskos; Graphic Designer: Diane Tothoro. Student Writers: Peter Taraborelli Lauren Thompson, and Jenna Gerstenblith. Current and past issues of the Exchange are available online at www.millersville.edu/~ucm/.

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2390v-0508

Productization Community Board Members Named

The Millersville University Computer Software Productization Center (MUCSPC) has named the following individuals to serve on the Community Advisory Board:

- Daniel Betancourt, President and CEO, Community First Fund
- Charles Chrystle, CEO, Mission Research
- G. Yale Eastman, General Partner, Eastman Family Partnership
- Cheryl Irwin, Vice President, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Scott Landis, Barley Snyder, LLC
- Jesse Stauffer III, CTO, GeographIT

Betancourt, Irwin, Landis and Stauffer are Millersville University graduates.

The Community Advisory Board of the MUCSPC will provide insight and advice on fulfilling the mission of the center: to assist technology-focused entrepreneurs in developing software from concept to marketable product. With faculty steering



committee members Dr. Stephanie Elzer, computer science; Dr. Patrick McCaskey, business administration; and Dr. Theresa Russell-Loretz, communication and

theatre; the board will develop a call for qualifications for those interested in having their projects developed by the center. The call will be issued in fall 2008.

Quit Picking On Me! Millersville University to Hold Bullying Workshop

On Tuesday, June 24, Millersville University's School of Education will host a free workshop for parents who have children in kindergarten through 12th grade, to educate them on bullying in schools and other forms of bullying including cyber bullying. The conference will be held at the Bolger Conference Center. The free workshop will run from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Dr. Hilda Quiroz Graham is a keynote presenter, program developer, training specialist and author for the National School of Safety Center. She has designed training programs about bullying, hate-bias crimes, school safety, team building and cultural issues. She has also written books, articles and pamphlets on the topic.

The event is free, but registration is required. Call the campus ticket office at #3811 or stop by the Student Memorial Center on campus. More information about the event can be found at:

<http://www.millersville.edu/~deaneduc/csv.php>

The workshop is part of the School Violence Conference being held on campus June 23 and 24.

Mollah-Hardy Receives Funding to Promote Connections Between Education and Private Sector

Dr. Nazli Mollah-Hardy, computer science, has received a \$5,000 grant for her work with White Wolf Security. The Innovation Transfer Network (ITN), a partnership among 13 institutions of higher education in Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster



Dr. Nazli Mollah-Hardy

and Lebanon counties, provides business assistance, technology assessment, and this year a total of \$127,000 in seed funding for technology transfer activities. The seed assistance grants were funded through a Keystone Innovation Grant (KIG).

Hardy will use the money to build a system for "Interoperating Applications to Simulate a Self-Contained Real World Economy for Security Training."

The seed grants provide up to \$10,000 to educational institutions to encourage further development of projects that are close to commercialization. The process is competitive, and preference is given to those projects that involve a private sector partner. This year the program received the most applications of any year and 12 of the 14 projects chosen for funding had private-sector relationships.



Egghead Open

Every year the Millersville University faculty sponsors a golf outing called the Egghead Open. Dr. Joseph Lynch, Center for Counseling and Human Development, said the Egghead is not a fundraiser "but instead an opportunity for current and retired MU-APSCUF faculty to enjoy a social and fun event after graduation each year."

This year the event was rained out on its typical date of the Monday after graduation, May 12, but rescheduled and played on May 14th at the Crossgates Golf Club. MU-APSCUF supplements the cost of the dinner and prizes.

This year there was a tie for first place at 8 under par between the foursomes of; Dr. Fred Oppenheimer, Dr. Bill Price, Dr. Joe Abromaitis and Dr. Roger Webster (pictured below); and the foursome of Dr. Chip Schaffer, Dr. Tom Bell, Dr. Ying Wushanley and Dr. Jeff Weimer (pictured above).



Who Makes Millersville Special?

This edition of “Who Makes Millersville Special” features Dr. Lyman Rickard, professor of chemistry for the past 18 years at Millersville. Prior to Millersville, Rickard taught for 14 years at High Points University in North Carolina.

Q. Tell us about your education.

A. I have my bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi. My Ph.D. is from Florida Institute of Technology in science education.

Q. Were you always interested in chemistry?

A. No, I wasn't even interested in chemistry in high school, and I entered college as undeclared. I was assigned a general science course, and of the courses I took, that one interested me most. I then took a biology course, and to move on in biology you needed chemistry. I took a chemistry course and liked it and decided to go on in chemistry.

Q. Was chemistry tough for you?

A. No – I found it very interesting. I understand how it can be difficult. Students have difficulties with it from two perspectives: their math background is weak – that will give them difficulty; students can manipulate equations – but when it comes to understanding what math equations say or represent, they have difficulty. In biology you begin by talking about nerves, skeletons and dissections, and you can see those things. In physics you begin with levers and dropping balls, and again, you can see those things. In chemistry we talk about atoms and molecules, and you're never going to see an atom or molecule. That's the part I found most interesting.

Q. Tell us about your involvement with the Brossman Science Lecture.

A. I've been on the lectureship committee for 15 years. It's a great committee to work with and we're involved with the local school systems and the Brossman Foundation. Susan Thomas really makes it all happen – she has it down to a science.

Q. How has the Brossman event evolved over the years?

A. We have gotten very good speakers the last four years, and we've filled the auditorium for the evening presentations. But the evening event is only a small portion of what goes on in the day. Lots of students are involved. Fourth through eighth graders come to campus from school districts across Lancaster and Lebanon counties. We also bring in high school students to compete in science and math. These teams come from all over southeastern Pennsylvania. This year we



Dr. Lyman Rickard

had 27 different schools competing.

Q. Tell us about your outreach.

A. I'm one of three faculty advisors for the American Chemical Society Student Affiliates – it's much more than just a chemistry club. It's part of the American Chemical Society with 300,000 members worldwide. It's the largest scientific society in the world. All of our faculty are members. Students start as student affiliates. For years and years we have had students who work very hard on an array of service activities and reaching out to the community. For example, we may go out and do chemistry magic shows – flashy fun demonstrations in elementary schools to get kids interested. We also give Whitaker Center and North Museum demonstrations each year. We were invited to participate at the new Science Factory in Lancaster. We bring in speakers to campus, we take tours of laboratories and sometimes we go to New York.

Q. What is one of your greatest achievements in the world of science?

A. My best piece of work was writing a textbook with two colleagues. It was a real learning, gratifying experience. We tried to do something new and different in

introductory chemistry and it's being used now in the classroom.

Q. What is your greatest achievement with students?

A. Any minor influence I've had over the students I work with is more important than the book. I've had the opportunity to work with some fabulous students and I've done research with some of them. That is the most gratifying part of job.

Q. Tell us about your work with the Illuminex corporation.

A. The collaboration between the University and Illuminex has been very beneficial for both sides. While I've been working in chemistry for over 25 years, I didn't know much about nanotechnology. They are essentially funding all the research that I do now. A major portion of the equipment and chemicals in my lab were purchased by Illuminex. Students obtained some grants as well for equipment and supplies. Doing this work is fairly expensive. We're able to work on cutting edge problems – real world problems.

There are several faculty members involved. It is very interesting to see how we all attack problems from different perspectives and then work together to solve a problem.

Q. Who have been your mentors?

A. Two who come to mind include Fred Hockridge, associate dean of science at Virginia, and my co-author of the textbook, Jim Spencer at F&M.

Q. Who would you most like to have dinner with?

A. Jimmy Carter. I really respect him and the things he has done since being president. He could have retired with a nice pension, but he has worked very hard.

Q. Do you have any hobbies?

A. A number of years ago I took up ballroom dancing with my wife. Trying to learn to ballroom dance has given me a new sense of humility. It has helped me in the classroom with students who have problems understanding. The studio we go to dance at put out a brochure with a statement about being “rhythmically challenged.” I was then, and I am now.