

# Millersville University Exchange

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## Writing Studies Minor and Option Coming this Fall

As of the fall 2008 semester, a writing studies minor and option will be available at Millersville. The option is for English majors, while the minor is open to all students.

"The goal for English majors is to give them a specialization in writing," explained Caleb A. Corkery, English. "We want to train the students more in the theory of writing, not just composition—for the workplace and for graduate school. And, it's good for any major to be a good writer."

Replacing the English department's current writing minor, the new program enhances the training the department provides to non-English majors by offering five new courses



*Caleb Corkery*

to assist the progression and rigor of a writing studies minor.

The five new courses for the program include: ENGL 272 - Introduction to Writing Studies; ENGL 280 - Rhetoric of the Color Line; ENGL 340 - Visual Rhetoric; ENGL 342 - Reading and Writing for Civic Change; and ENGL 466 - Special Topics in Writing Studies Seminar.

"Students working in public relations, advertising, law, politics,

health care and business see writing as a part of their career, and writing studies will allow these students to be involved in a program that fits into their personal and professional writing goals," said Corkery. "The courses

offered are drawn from a range of rhetorical practices to provide a wider variety of writing skills."

The writing studies option will allow English majors to claim a specialization in writing, thus increasing their opportunities after graduation. "Currently, the only writing specialization is in print media, which doesn't fit the needs of many English majors," said Corkery.

For more information on the new minor or option, contact the English department.

## NASN Inducts Dr. Zimmerman

Dr. Barbara J. Zimmerman, nursing, was inducted as a National Association of School Nurses (NASN) Fellow on June 30 at the NASN conference in Albuquerque.



*Dr. Barbara Zimmerman*

Zimmerman has been working at the national level with NASN since 2003. She also served as the chair of the Education and Research Committee for the Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners (PASNAP) and has chaired several PASNAP annual conferences.

According to the present PASNAP president, Charity Istone, she has "acted as the consummate educator—mentoring board members through various responsibilities." What's the best part of being a nursing professor? "To help students find their passion in nursing!" Zimmerman exclaims.

She has been on the nursing faculty at Millersville University for 22 years and in nursing for a total of 34 years. Zimmerman states that she had always enjoyed the sciences growing up and loves the fact that she is "able to help others."

## A Peaceful Spot: Ruthie's Place



This summer the Exchange will feature gardens on campus. This edition features "Ruthie's Place," located just around the bend from the Argires Science Complex between the Nichols House and Brossman Hall, next to the Lancaster House. Named by Luceille B. Hagarman, York, who contributed \$200,000 to MU, the garden is in honor of her mother, Ruth Baker, a supporter of elementary education. The garden boasts beds of azaleas, liriopse, nandine and annual flowers.

## Staff Activities

**Dr. Sherlynn Bessick**, Office of Learning Services, recently completed her doctorate in education and school psychology, with an emphasis in neuropsychology, from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She graduated on May 10. Her dissertation was entitled "Improved Critical Thinking Skills as a Result of Direct Instruction and their Relationship to Academic Achievement."

**Dr. Richard D. Clark**, earth sciences, presented a peer-reviewed paper, "The LEAD-WxChallenge Pilot Project: The Potential of Grid-Enabled Learning" at the TeraGrid '08 Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., June 9-12.

**Drs. Nazli Hardy**, computer science, and **Chris Hardy**, biology, recently had their poster, "Interactive Google Map Application

to Mark Species Distribution on Campus," accepted at the upcoming conference of "Consortium for Computing Science in Colleges." The 24th Annual Eastern Conference will be held at Hood College, Md., on October 10 and 11.

**Jenny Monn**, health services, and **Dr. Kimberly Mahaffey**, Latino Studies and sociology/anthropology, recently presented "Millersville University Survey of Student Health: A Longitudinal Examination of the Changing Health Status of College Students," at the national conference of the American College Health Association. **Dr. Rebecca J. Mowrey**, wellness and sports sciences, and **Dr. Barbara Zimmerman**, nursing, are co-authors of the research.

## Sports Information Director Named

Ethan Hulsey has been named sports information director, effective June 9. He takes over for interim sports information director Pete Strella, who had filled the role since Nov., 2007.

Hulsey arrives at Millersville with three years of sports information experience at the NCAA Division II level, having served as the assistant sports information director at Mercyhurst College during the 2007-08 school year and as the graduate assistant at Shippensburg University from 2005-07.



Ethan Hulsey

"We're delighted to have Ethan on board," said Peg Kauffman, athletics director. "He has the education, the background and the enthusiasm to take us to the next level."

He earned his bachelor's degree in communications in 2005 from West Liberty State College in West Liberty, W.Va.,

and then received a master's degree in organizational development and leadership from Shippensburg University in 2007.

At Mercyhurst, Hulsey served as the primary media contact for nine of the school's Division II athletic teams, including men's basketball, wrestling and baseball and worked closely with the Division I men's and women's ice hockey programs. While at Shippensburg which is affiliated with the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, he was the media contact for six sports and assisted in the hosting of the NCAA Division II Field Hockey Championship.

## Relay for Life

During the recent Relay for Life walk in Lancaster, the team for the late Dr. Steve Centola raised almost \$9,000 and received recognition as "The New Team to Raise the Most Money." The 2008 Relay was held on June 6 and 7 at Lancaster Catholic High School. Money was raised for the American Cancer Society.

**Drs. Elizabeth Thyrum** and **Susan Luek**, psychology, represented Millersville University at the Lancaster County Mental Health Summit, titled "Creating a Vision for Our Preferred Future," held at the Host Resort Inn and Conference Center on May 30.

**Dr. Douglas Zander**, admissions, completed his doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Temple University, graduating on May 22. The title of his dissertation was "Identification and Analysis of Successful Persistence Strategies for Urban, African American Students Enrolled at Predominantly Rural, White Campuses."

## Clips Style Salon Is Winner

Millersville University May graduate Altaress Craig, was recently awarded for her work at the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation in Harrisburg. Under the guidance of Dr. Minoo Ghoreishi, business administration, Craig submitted her business plan entitled "Clips Style Salon" and was awarded a \$2,000 check and a trophy for her work in the undergraduate division of the competition.

Ghoreishi is the advisor of two student organizations including the Society of Advancement Management (SAM). SAM students from Millersville entered the case competition in Arlington, Va., on April 3-6 and ranked third. Also, the Students in Free Enterprise team attended a regional competition in Philadelphia in April and was second runner up.

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: Jenna Gerstenblith, Peter Taraborelli and Lauren Thompson.

Current and past issues of the Exchange are available online at [www.millersville.edu/~ucm/](http://www.millersville.edu/~ucm/).

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## Obituaries

**Barbara M. Nichols** '73, alumnus and retired Millersville staff member, died on June 9. She worked at Millersville for over 24 years and was the assistant director of alumni services, in University Advancement, before retiring in 1998. Her late husband, Dr. Paul H. Nichols, was also a long-time earth sciences faculty member. Barbara Nichols was awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the MU Alumni Association for her countless hours and dedicated work to promote the Association.

**Frances M. Walker**, 92, of Kittanning, died June 9. She had been a teacher at Millersville University.

# Council of Trustees Approves Emeritus Status, Endowments

Millersville University's Council of Trustees (COT) recently approved emeritus status for four professors, and they approved five Millersville University Foundation Endowments.

The COT approved emeritus status for Dr. Marvin Margolis, professor of economics from 1981 to 2007, for Dr. Thomas Kruse who taught in the social work department from 1980-2008; Dr. Brigid O'Hanrahan, who taught in the art department from 1982-2006; and for Dr. Carol Sperry who taught in the educational foundations department from 1997-2008.

In other action, the COT approved administrator emeritus status for Robert Sauders, who retired from Millersville in March 2008 after more than 35 years of service. Sauders played a pivotal role in the dramatic and successful growth of computing and information technologies at the University.

The COT also approved five Millersville University Foundation endowments. All named endowments start at the \$25,000 level. The endowments include:

- Frank S. Lisella Endowment for biology equipment
- Harry Symons Endowed Business Administration Scholarship
- Charles R. Winter Endowed Scholarship in Pre-Medicine
- Don R. and Judith C. Carter Endowment for J.P. McCaskey High School Students
- Bernice R. Rydell Scholarship for Excellence.

## Summer Dining Hours

Monday - Friday

The Cove	7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Starbucks Coffee	7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Cyber Café	7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Ganser Grind	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Campus Grill	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Gordy's	as per summer conference schedule

All-you can-eat buffet, The Upper Deck in Gordinier Hall, will be open seven days a week to all faculty and staff.

Breakfast	7 a.m. -9:30 a.m.
Lunch	9 a.m. -1:30 p.m.
Dinner	4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

For additional information visit [www.millersville.edu/~dining/](http://www.millersville.edu/~dining/)

# Upcoming Events

This fall will be a busy one at Millersville with a variety of events.

- The Millersville University Summer Band will perform a patriotic concert on **July 10**, featuring traditional band music, semi-classics, marches, sacred and folk music arrangements and popular selections. The concert is free and open to the public.

It will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the air conditioned Lyte Auditorium.

- Classes start Monday, **August 25**.

- The Hazel I. Jackson and Kenderdine Lectures will be held on **September 8** at



Ishmael Beah

7:30 p.m. in Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall. Author Ishmael Beah presents, "A Long Way Gone: A Story of Redemption and Hope." Beah's book "A Long Way Gone" is being read by Millersville University's incoming freshman class this fall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

- The Friends of Ganser Library Fall Lecture on **September 9** will feature Dr. Robert Bresler, professor emeritus of Penn State, who will discuss presidential elections during wartime. His talk is set for 7 p.m. in Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall. See below, or for more information contact Linda Carvell at [lin.carvell@millersville.edu](mailto:lin.carvell@millersville.edu).

- On **September 28**, "The Complete History of America (Abridged)...Special Election Year Edition" – will begin at 7 p.m. in Lyte Auditorium. For ticket information, contact the Student Memorial Center Ticket Office at #3811.

# The Impacts of War on American Presidential Politics"

Dr. Robert J. Bresler will be the featured speaker at the Friends of Ganser Library Fall Lecture on the Millersville campus on September 9 from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This continues a more than 25-year tradition of lectures. It will be held in the Lehr Room of Gordinier Hall and is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will follow the lecture.

"The mid-20th century America has been involved in four protracted and bloody conflicts—World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and now Iraq. Each has had a great impact on American presidential politics in different and often unexpected ways," said Bresler who will speak on the topic in September.

He has been a visiting professor at the U.S. Army War College and a senior Fulbright Fellow at the National University of Singapore. He was the recipient of the James A. Jordan Award for Teaching Excellence and the Outstanding Civilian Award from the Department of the Army. Since 1974, Bresler has been the national affairs editor of USA Today and the Magazine of the American Scene, where he writes a regular column on American politics.

His recent books include: "Us vs. Them:

American Political and Cultural Conflict from WWII to Watergate" and "Freedom of Association: Civil Rights and Liberties under the Law." Since retiring from Penn State, he has been visiting professor of government at Franklin & Marshall College, teaching courses on international politics, war, politics and society and presidential war powers.

Bresler received his bachelor's degree from Earlham College in 1959 and his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1964. He has taught at the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay, the University of Delaware and Penn State University – Harrisburg, where he completed a 32-year career in 2001.

This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Ganser Library, an organization that promotes community awareness of Millersville's library services. For more information please contact Lin Carvell at #3602 or by e-mail at [lin.carvell@millersville.edu](mailto:lin.carvell@millersville.edu).



Dr. Robert Bresler

# Who Makes Millersville Special?

Today's "Who Makes Millersville Special" features Dr. Jeremiah Mbindyo, chemistry. Mbindyo has been with the University since 2002. He received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Connecticut. His master's and bachelor's degrees in chemistry are from the University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University, Kenya. He also did post-doc work at Penn State in chemistry with an emphasis in nanotechnology.

Q. You are very involved in Millersville University's Center for Environmental Sciences (MUCES). Tell us about that.

A. I'm a member of the steering committee of MUCES which plans and oversees implementation of activities of the center. Currently, I am involved in two sub-committees. We are planning an environmental institute for middle and high school teachers, and implementing five new interdisciplinary minors established by the center. Also in 2005, we organized an all-day conference on campus on "Environmental Stewardship."

Q. You, along with Doug Zander are the co-chairs for the President's Commission on Cultural Diversity. Tell us about that committee.

A. It's about expanding racial and cultural diversity and harmony on the Millersville University campus and throughout the broader community. Cultural diversity is about appreciating the background of others, believing that every individual has a story that is worth telling and listening to. The commission organizes events on cultural diversity such as discussion forums and invited speakers, identifies opportunities for advancing cultural diversity on campus, advises the president on matters pertaining to cultural diversity and serves as a resource for students, faculty and staff.

Q. What else are you involved with on campus?

A. I serve on the Institutional Review Board, which reviews all research involving human subjects to ensure compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations on the Protection of Human Subjects. I am involved with the Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP). I'm on the Honors College Committee. I am the chemistry department coordinator for co-ops and internships.

Q. What about off-campus activities?

A. I'm on the Pennsylvania Collaborative On Applied Nanotechnology (PACAN) that fosters nanotechnology activities in all PASSHE schools. I'm on the academic advisory board of the Nanotechnology Institute based in Philadelphia at Ben Franklin Institute which brings together



*Dr. Jeremiah Mbindyo*

institutions to work on nanotechnology. I'm also on the advisory boards of two research journals, and I am a reviewer for several journals in chemistry and nanotechnology. I have research collaboration with Aptagen LLC, a biotechnology company based in York, Pa.

Q. What is nanotechnology?

A. Nano equals a billionth, so it is really working with very small materials. In nature things start small and grow because it's more economical and avoids waste. With nanotechnology, we work with the smallest pieces possible and link pieces together to get bigger units. For example, when you break gold down to the smallest unit, it's really not gold in color. When you begin to break it down, it becomes dull yellow. When you break it down even more, it is brown, then blue, then purple and finally the smallest unit is red.

Q. How can nanotechnology be used to detect diseases?

A. When you use the smallest pieces of gold they will attach to other things and change color. Our bodies produce disease fighting substances that attack and destroy substances that cause sickness. To detect a disease, these defender substances are attached to the smallest pieces of gold, and mixed with the blood or urine being tested. If there is an infection, the "defenders" attack

the "invaders," bringing along their cargo of gold particles. The resulting pile up of gold particles increases their size, and the color changes from red to blue. Very simple. No special equipment needed, and it is cheap! Which is one reason why nanotechnology is so attractive.

Q. What areas of research are you working on?

A. Three areas: nanotechnology—developing more efficient ways to deliver drugs; environmental—developing faster and cheaper ways to detect pollutants; and developing course materials for both areas.

Q. What's your favorite part of working at Millersville?

A. Teaching and working with the students. I enjoy working in class and one-on-one with students in the lab. It's amazing what you can learn from students. Everyone comes from a different point of view and they look at things differently.

Q. What do you do in your spare time?

A. I enjoy traveling, hiking and playing racquetball.

Q. When you were in Nairobi you were quite active in Boy Scouts, as a scout, leader and a trainer of leaders. Are you still involved?

A. I do give talks and photo presentations about Boy Scouts in Kenya, but I'm not actively involved here. However, once a scout, always a scout. I use the values I learned there throughout my life.

Q. Who has been the most influential people in your life?

A. My parents.

Q. When you were growing up, did you even picture yourself where you are today?

A. Not necessarily in Lancaster, Pennsylvania – but definitely as a professor and researcher.

Q. What has been your greatest achievement?

A. Growing up in a developing country that was very different from here, I didn't have many opportunities. It's taken hard work to get where I am, and I want to give back to the students. The students here are lucky and they should take advantage of all of the opportunities they have.

Q. What's the best advice you've been given?

A. There's enough good in the world to go around.