

Millersville University Exchange

Vol XXXI, Number 8
December 18, 2008

University Fulbright Scholar to Travel to Latvia

Dr. Mara Anderson, adjunct professor in the School of Education, will be traveling to Latvia next semester as a Fulbright Scholar. Anderson was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to teach foreign language methodology to future teachers of English and German and co-teach an American Studies course.

Anderson retired in 2002 after 35 years of teaching German at Ephrata High School. During some of that time she was also teaching foreign language methodology at Millersville. After retirement she began supervising foreign language student teachers at the University.

When asked why she chose Latvia, Anderson remarked, "My



Dr. Mara Anderson

parents fled Latvia in 1944. I was born in a displaced person's camp in Germany. We came to the U.S. in 1950—sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Millersville. I grew up speaking Latvian, and I was active in the Latvian community in Lancaster. I have been back quite a few times and while there, visited foreign language classes and talked to teachers and students. I often considered doing this more formally. Inta Rimsane, a Fulbright research scholar from Latvia who was at Millersville several years ago, convinced me that I should apply.

Anderson anticipates growth as a person and an educator as a result of her experience. She says, "Anytime an educator has a foreign experience or an experience outside her comfort zone, it can't help but help one grow in the profession. I will be working with many faculty members who grew up during the Soviet occupation of Latvia. Their teaching in most cases is still based very much on the teacher-centered traditional training of that time. I hope to be able to discover what they do to overcome the many obstacles they face. Also, I hope to learn more about the issues that the European Union deals with in terms of foreign language requirements and teaching throughout the European Union countries."

A Fulbright award was also presented to Millersville faculty member Dr. Barbara Stengel this year, and she is currently studying and teaching in Portugal.

Be a Mentor!

Would you like the opportunity to build a mentoring partnership with a Millersville student? The Millersville Mentoring Alliance Program (MMAP) is continually recruiting mentors and any faculty or staff member, Millersville alumnus or professional from the local community can apply.

A mentor's main focus is to provide support, share experiences and work

with students to establish and achieve goals. Mentors share life experiences and learn things from their mentees as well. Mentors and mentees strive for trust and appreciation within the relationship to encourage students to reach their full potential.

This year MMAP presented its first Outstanding Mentor of the Year award, to Miriam M. Witmer, educational foundations, for her exceptional mentor contributions. A Star Mentor and a Star Mentee award are also given each year; candidates are nominated by their mentor or mentee.

To find out more about being a mentor, visit the MMAP website at millersville.edu/~mmap/, or contact Stacy Caldwell at academic.services, stacy.caldwell@millersville.edu.



Miriam Witmer, 2008 Outstanding Mentor of the Year

Upcoming Events

January 12 Spring Term Begins



Marta Sanchez

January 15

Lecture: Marta Sanchez, "Magnetic Poetry," 6-7 p.m., Ganser Gallery

January 19

Exhibit: Danielle Kremer: Only the Real, 5 p.m., Sykes Gallery, Breidenstine Hall,

(January 19-March 12)

January 21 Guest Artist Piano Recital: Ivana Vidovic featuring Dr. Maria Corley 8 p.m. Lyte Auditorium in Alumni Hall

January 23 Ford Atrium Concert Series: "Melange a Trois," Noon, Ford Atrium, McComsey Hall

January 23 Women's Film and Lecture Series: Mary Haverstick's "Home" with introduction and discussion by the director, 7:30 p.m., Lyte Auditorium

Staff Activities

Dr. Jean Geary Boal, biology, was an invited speaker at an Environmental Enrichment Symposium held in Indianapolis, Ind., on November 9, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. Her talk, "Response to Enrichment in an Exotic Species," was one of six presentations in the day-long symposium sponsored by the Center for Comparative Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston.

Dr. Ximena Catepillan, mathematics, gave a poster presentation entitled, "Appreciating the Connections between Cultural Diversity and Mathematics: The Mathematics of the Inca" at the Blackwell-Tapia conference at the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute in North Carolina, November 14-15.

Dr. Jean D. Kabongo, business administration, recently presented a paper titled "The Status of Entrepreneurship Education in Colleges and Universities in Sub-Saharan Africa" at the annual meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute, Baltimore, Md., November 22-25. He also chaired the session International Education Issues at the same meeting. In addition, Kabongo was recently nominated to serve on the editorial review board of the *International Journal of Social Entrepreneurship* a peer-reviewed journal that publishes scientific research findings in the emerging field of social entrepreneurship.

Dr. Timothy C. Miller, English, recently had his article "Edwin Powell Hubble: American Astronomer" published in *Great Lives from History: The Twentieth Century*.

Dr. Behnam Nakhai, business administration, had his two refereed research papers entitled "The Challenges of Six Sigma in Improving Service Quality" and "Toward Generating the Efficient Frontiers for Non-Concave Preferences of the Negotiators," both co-authored with Dr. Joao S. Neves of the College of New Jersey, presented and published at the 39th annual conference of the Decision Sciences Institute in Baltimore, November 22-25.

Congratulations to:

Dr. Stratton "Chip" Schaeffer, wellness and sport sciences, and his wife, Theresa, on the birth of their daughter, Savannah A. Schaeffer, on October 28.

Dr. Kathleen M. Walsh, social work, and her husband, Michael D. Gurklis, on the birth of their son, Evan Walsh Gurklis, on November 9.

Dr. Marilyn Parrish, library, along with co-author Ed Taylor won the 2008 Imogene Okes Research Award for outstanding research in adult education from the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) for the article "Seeking Authenticity: Women and Learning in the Catholic Worker Movement," published in *Adult Education Quarterly* in May 2007. The award was presented at the AAACE meeting in Denver last month. In addition Parrish and Taylor gave a presentation with Richard Banz titled "Making Sense of Public Sites of Adult Learning: Libraries, Museums, Zoos & Parks."

Dr. E. Elliott Seda, educational foundations, presented a paper entitled, "Multicultural: Whatever Anybody Wants It to Be," at the 18th annual international conference of the National Association for Multicultural Education, November 12-16 in New Orleans, La.

Dr. Mark Snyder, industry and technology, presented "Globalization of Technology: RFID Tags and Labels" at the National Association of Industrial Technology conference in Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 18-22. Snyder's presentation involved dissecting labels manufactured to enable Radio Frequency Identification as well as discussing the advantages of RFID, types of tags and labels, how they are manufactured and current challenges facing the technology.

Dr. John Wright, industry & technology, recently served as a co-keynote speaker at the 41st National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) Conference in Nashville, Tenn. The title of the presentation was "Embrace the Future." Wright unveiled the new strategic plan for the association to more than 550 conference attendees, highlighting the new vision, mission and proposed identity in an attempt to revitalize and refresh the organization. After more than two years of research (survey and focus groups) and marketing efforts, the association's full membership will vote in late January to see if NAIT will change its name to The Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE). NAIT currently accredits Millersville's industrial technology two- and four-year undergraduate programs. Wright served as chairman of the executive board for NAIT from 2007-08 and president of the Electricity, Electronics, and Computer Technology Division.

Dr. Yuan Zhong, biology, had his peer-reviewed research article "Genome-wide and Expression Analysis of Protein Phosphatase 2C in Rice and Arabidopsis" published in *BMC Genomics* on November 20.

Millersville Adds Women's Golf

Director of Athletics Peg Kauffman has announced the addition of women's golf as an intercollegiate sport at Millersville University.

The program will begin competition in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and at the NCAA Division II level in the fall of 2009.



Scott Vandegrift

Women's golf brings the number of intercollegiate sports at Millersville to 22 and the number of women's sports to 12.

"This is an exciting moment in Millersville athletics," stated Kauffman. "There has been a great deal of interest expressed by incoming students, and women's golf is spreading in popularity. Adding this sport will give more women student-athletes an opportunity to compete in intercollegiate athletics and play the sport at a high level."

Millersville's home course will be Crossgates Golf Club, which is also home for the men's program. The course is located just minutes away from the Millersville campus.

Millersville men's coach, Scott Vandegrift, will serve as the contact for any prospective student-athletes.

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.kacsos@millersville.edu or call ext. 3586. Editor: Janet Kacsos; Graphic Designer: Diane Black '82. Student Writers: Jenna Gerstenblith, Peter Taraborelli and Lauren Thompson; Student Photographer: Dan Giangulio.

Current and past issues of the Exchange are available online at www.millersville.edu/~ucm/.

Millersville University
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

Millersville University is an Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action Institution.
A member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education



Printed on recyclable paper.

2863L-1208

University Wins "Drunken Pirate" Lawsuit - Never About MySpace Photo

On December 3, Federal Judge Paul Diamond dismissed all charges against Millersville University and issued a verdict in favor of five Millersville University administrators and against Stacey Snyder. The charges against the University had been dismissed earlier in the litigation. After a bench trial, the judge ruled in favor of the defendants; Dr. Jane S. Bray, dean of the School of Education; Dr. Vilas A. Prabhu, provost and vice president of academic affairs; J. Barry Girvin, Snyder's student teaching supervisor; Dr. Judith Wenrich, student teaching coordinator; and Dr. Beverly Schneller, chair of English.

"We are pleased with the judge's ruling," said Francine G. McNairy, president of Millersville University. "This ruling exonerates the University and upholds the principles of academic integrity that are the foundation of the University and our School of Education."

"In spite of the national media saying otherwise, this was never about a photograph," said McNairy. "To the contrary it was about performance standards. The ruling confirms that Millersville University has a quality teacher education program with high standards for certifying teachers and those principles must be upheld."

In her lawsuit, Snyder had claimed that she was denied a teaching certificate

because of a photograph of her on MySpace. The photograph in question showed Snyder wearing a pirate hat with a cup in her hand and the caption "Drunken Pirate" below the photo.

Snyder attended Millersville from June 2002 to May 2006 and earned a bachelor's degree in English, rather than a bachelor's degree in education because she did not meet the requirements to become a teacher. Judge Paul Diamond ruled that Millersville University did not have the authority to award Snyder bachelor's degree in education because Snyder failed to complete the required student teaching component of the degree. As a result, Snyder was not eligible for an initial teaching certificate. Diamond indicated that it would not serve the public interest and would be an impermissible abuse of the court's equitable powers to order Millersville University to recommend Snyder for certification to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The judge also ruled in his verdict that the University did not violate Snyder's First Amendment right to free expression.

"Millersville University is committed to serving our students and the children they will teach," said McNairy. "Providing quality teachers for the Commonwealth and nation is something we take very seriously. It's about the children."

We Need Change on the Internet

Dr. Nazli Hardy, computer science, says it is no longer okay to be anonymous on the Internet.

She is calling for a Universal Personal ID to restore safety on the Internet.

"Imagine people owning homes and cars and working at jobs under aliases where they create a fantastical identification for themselves – there would be utter security chaos," explains Hardy. "The current state of Internet security is really a misnomer. There is no security. However, there is a way to make using the Internet safe again: a Universal Personal ID."

"Web 2.0 encourages free and uninhibited information flow," said Hardy. "It is designed to draw from input of information such as blogging and social networking. It also creates an opportunity for many anonymous users and abusers. With lack of accountability, the web opens itself to the realm of unending and damaging security threats that no amount of anti-virus software can contain. There will always be another virus, another worm, another threat."

There is an answer according to Hardy. "It is essential to have a Universal Internet ID, similar to a universal driver's license, that represents all users accurately and holds them accountable for their actions online, thus protecting the populace," said Hardy. "The loss of anonymity online is outweighed by the security of accountability and the traceability of cyber crime. We need to know who is preying on our children and who is stealing our identities – not to mention who is sending all that spam."

"The Universal Personal ID, with its added layer of security, may actually encourage freedom of interactivity and the interchange of collaboration and creativity online," said Hardy.



Dr. Nazli Hardy

Volunteers Needed for "Odyssey of the Mind" Competition

Dr. Jill Craven, English, is looking for volunteers to help with the international creativity competition "Odyssey of the Mind," which takes place at Millersville University on Saturday, March 7, 2009.

Over 100 south central Pennsylvania teams of students ranging in age from kindergarten to high school are expected to compete in the tournament. During the event, teams of five to seven students work together to solve two problems.

Faculty from industry and technology, the library and communication and theatre will present creativity exhibits and activities during the competition. "This event will foster intellectual creativity throughout our region. It provides Millersville with a unique opportunity to engage with a broad spectrum of people within our community to promote ingenuity and to inspire students to continue their creative pursuits in college and beyond," explained Craven.

Volunteers are needed as guides, scoring assistants, information aides and other duties, for three-hour shifts during the competition. For more information contact Craven at jill.craven@millersville.edu.

Weiser Named Track & Field Head Coach

Director of Athletics Peg Kauffman has announced that Scott Weiser has been hired as the head coach of the men's and women's track & field programs. Weiser, who has served as an assistant at Millersville since January 2008, takes over for Andy Young, who will now turn his focus to the cross country teams while remaining an assistant

continued on page 4

Who Makes Millersville Special?

This edition of “Who Makes Millersville Special” features John Sicotte '07, administrative assistant in the registrar's office. Sicotte has worked at Millersville University for five years.

Q- As the administrative assistant in the registrar's office, what does your job involve?

A- Along with being the registrar's assistant, I perform the functions of an office manager and work on many tasks for students that help facilitate their educational experience here at Millersville.

Q- What is it like working with Candae Deen, the registrar?

A- Candae is a great person to work with – she's very supportive, understanding and cares deeply about the students and the University as a whole. She's great at what she does.

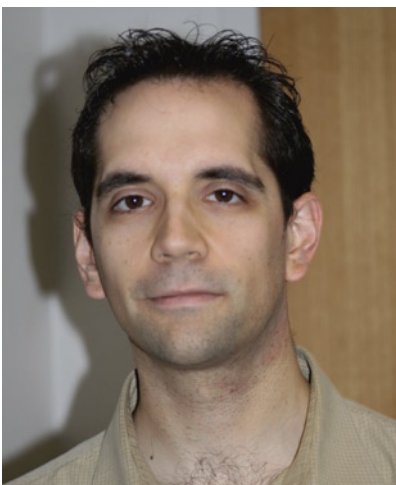
Q- Every job on campus affects the students in some way. What effect would you say you have?

A- I hope that my job, in some small way, helps the students get through their academic career at Millersville as painlessly as possible, whether it's through providing answers and assistance over the phone, getting students registered for internships or helping to make certain the academic class schedule is accurate and error-free.

Q- What is your favorite part about the job?

A- When I'm able to assist a constituent of Millersville with a question or problem – that's what makes it all worthwhile.

Q- What do you think is the most important part of your job?



John Sicotte

A- I feel that anything I can do to assist a student, faculty or staff member at Millersville is important.

Q- Have you worked for any other departments at Millersville?

A- When I first came to Millersville I worked in the office of Professional Training & Education as a program assistant.

Q- What would you say is the best part about Millersville University?

A- Personally, I love the campus – it's beautiful and very well-kept. It's very therapeutic just to walk through the campus and take in the scenery.

Q- Where did you go to school and in what program?

A- I earned my associate degree from Harrisburg Area Community College and completed my bachelor's degree at Millersville. I wasn't certain what I wanted to do with my degree after I graduated, but I followed the mindset that I should major in a subject that I'm passionate about, which for me is history. Go class of '07!

Q- If you could have any job in the world, what would that have been?

A- Probably a computer programmer or a chemist; this was before I realized how much math was involved!

Q- What was your very first job?

A- Not counting short stints while I was in high school, my first “real” job was as an office clerk for a law firm in Lancaster.

Q- What is your favorite time of day?

A- The evening–time to wind down and relax!

Q- What is one book that you feel everyone should read at least once?

A- *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo, as I find it to be a timeless reflection of the human experience.

Q- What kind of music gets you through a long car ride?

A- If I had to pick a particular genre, I'd say mostly classic rock, though I would rather have a mixture of different types of music just to make things more interesting along the way. I'm into the 60s, 70s and 80s...most of today's music doesn't “move” me that much.

Q- Do you play any instruments or have you ever wanted to?

A- I have a guitar that I continually promise myself that I'll learn how to play. I know a few chords and strum a few tunes but that's about it.

Q- What quote do you live by?

A- “The only man who never makes a mistake is the man who never does anything” – T. Roosevelt.

Q- As a recent Millersville graduate, what advice would you give fellow employees who are juggling work and school?

A- I think it's very important that they remember to take time for themselves. If they spend too much time on work and/or school, they'll get burnt out and it'll prove detrimental to both. Take breaks and devote some time for yourself and your family.

Weiser *continued from page 3*

working with distance runners.

Weiser, a 1996 graduate of East Stroudsburg, has had a great deal of success as an assistant coach and as a head coach at the collegiate level. He made an immediate impact on the Millersville program in 2008, helping the Marauders send the largest contingent in recent memory to the PSAC Outdoor Championships.

Prior to his arrival at Millersville, Weiser served as an assistant at Kutztown, and Division I New Mexico State, Bucknell and Lafayette. As a head coach, Weiser built NAIA member Wayland Baptist into a national power.

Travel Programs Destinations

For more information call ext. 2308 or email: specialevents@millersville.edu

- March 1 - Philadelphia Flower Show
- Apr. 4 - N.Y.C. “In the Heights” and “Shrek”
- Apr. 25 - N.Y.C. “Billy Elliot”

Alumni & Friends

State System

Reservations/info available at ext. 3352 or 5628. Or visit: www.alumnivacations.com, click on Millersville.

2009

- Windmills/Tulips River Cruise Apr. 7-17
- Gems of the Baltic Cruise Jul. 11-23
- Bermuda Cruise Aug. 9-16
- China & Vietnam Cruise Oct 26-Nov 9