

Parents Newsletter

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA



Spring 2009

CALENDAR



Saturday, May 2 –

Commencement at 10 a.m.

Commencement – No heels on field

For safety reasons and to protect the integrity of the turf on Chryst Field at Biemesderfer Stadium, shoes with heels are not permitted.

Summer Sessions

May 11-June 5 – Summer 1 term

June 15-July 17 – Summer 2 term

July 20-August 21 – Summer 3 term

Monday, August 31 – Fall term begins

MOVE-OUT DAY

LOOK!

At 1 p.m. on April 27, 2009, duffle bags will be everywhere, parents' vans will be backed into dorm entrances and academically exhausted students will be pouring out of those entrances, arms full of Sony PlayStations, pillows and laptops.

All nine resident halls follow the same check-out time schedule and closing procedures. Students may check out at a separate time, but must make advance arrangements with their Resident Assistant.

“Students must remove all of their personal belongings from their room at the end of the spring semester,” reported Associate Director of Housing Cleo Blackston. Even if the student plans on staying in the same dorm, even in the same room, they must still take all of their belongings with them during the move-out process. They will also be provided with check-out instructions which they must follow or risk being billed for an “improper check out.” For more information - (717) 872-3162.

CIVIL SOCIETY ADVOCATE AND AUTHOR TO SPEAK AT COMMENCEMENT

Don Eberly, an award-winning author, civic entrepreneur and civil society advocate, will be the speaker at Millersville University's commencement on May 2.

Eberly is a nationally and internationally noted author and advocate for civil society, private philanthropy and volunteerism. His career includes serving in senior policy positions in Congress and two administrations, and advocating for and creating nonprofit organizations to strengthen community and civic life.

The author of many books and essays on community-based solutions, his latest book, *The Rise of Global Civil Society: Building Communities and Nations from the Bottom Up*, received critical acclaim for its sweeping overview of the forces now shaping the global debate.

Eberly holds master's degrees in government from George Washington University and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and has done doctoral studies at the School of Public Affairs at Penn State University.



Don Eberly



Commencement will be held Saturday, May 2, 2009, at 10 a.m. on Chryst Field at Biemesderfer Stadium. For more information, go to: www.millersville.edu/commencement



“THE SPITFIRE GRILL”

Millersville University recently had the pleasure of hosting the Fulton Theatre cast of “The Spitfire Grill.” They visited the campus on February 26, when they discussed the musical, its production and the social issues that are depicted in the film and the play with theater and history classes.

Those who attended the session were encouraged to see the film before hand. “Seeing the film is a perfect opportunity to explore its transition from film to stage and also make the dialogue with the director, cast and playwright more interesting...” said Victor Capece, communication & theatre at Millersville University.

The University has sponsored Fulton Theatre productions consistently for a number of years. For the past three years the sponsorship has been enhanced through a focused academic connection with students and the cast and crew of the shows. The cast’s visit to campus was valuable for the students who were not only able to meet the cast, but also given the opportunity to receive free tickets to the show to experience the production first-hand. Millersville University senior Ricky Hutchins said, “The most beneficial thing is that it proves that these professional, working, outstandingly talented actors are very human and enjoy clowning around every once in a while.”

The Spitfire Grill is a musical production by James Valcq with lyrics by Fred Alley, and is based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff and directed by William Roudebush. The musical is an inspiring tale and celebration of fresh starts and the power of an individual. After being released from prison after five years, Percy Talbot is looking for nothing other than a fresh start and a chance to live again. She travels to the small town of Gilead, Wisconsin, only having a page from an old travel book to refer to. The local sheriff and Percy’s parole officer get her a job at the only restaurant in town, Hannah’s Spitfire Grill.



Director William Roudebush and other cast members interact with students.

MILLERSVILLE NAMED TO PRESIDENTIAL HONOR ROLL

The Corporation for National and Community Service recently honored Millersville with a place on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to America’s communities.



“This recognition is possible because our students and faculty are so broadly engaged in the community,” said Kathy Naegele-Delgado, associate director of Millersville University’s Office of Internships and Civic Engagement Services. “Volunteerism thrives throughout our campus, supported by student organizations, faculty members who engage their students through service-learning and individual students who believe in serving others.”

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

“At Millersville, service-learning alone contributes well over 100,000 hours of service to the community every year,” explained Naegele-Delgado, “and many more thousands of hours are volunteered beyond that in community service activities. Millersville students are particularly active in the area of children and youth programs, volunteering in the schools, in after-school programs, and hosting programs like Second Mile here on campus.”

Anyone who wants to learn more about volunteer opportunities or would like support for volunteer activities they are working on can stop by the Volunteer Central in the Bedford House at Millersville University, or view their website at www.millersville.edu/ices.



“GOING GREEN” COMPETITION

In a “Going Green” competition at Millersville, **Thomas Sturtevant** (left) won a bike for his suggestion to change the way Millersville’s waffle bar was set up at the Upper Deck Dining Hall. The suggestion was to remove the styrofoam cups and eliminate plastic forks and knives. His suggestion reduced the usage of styrofoam cups by about 35,000 per year saving the University about \$300 per year.

Maria Brown (far right) won a bike for her suggestion to reduce the use of styrofoam at the Galley by using paper for bagels, pizza and sandwiches. Also pictured (center) is **Louis Logan**, executive chef, who initiated the competition idea.





STUDENTS WORK WITH SOFTWARE ENTREPRENEURS

“This is not your typical first job experience,” said Elyse Dougherty, senior in computer science.

Dougherty and Trevor Scheitrum, a junior in computer science, are paid to work with Dr. Stephanie Elzer, associate professor and director of the Software Productization Center (SPC) at Millersville, to develop software for Cruzcourt, one of two Central Pennsylvania entrepreneurial businesses selected to receive assistance with developing their software-based businesses.

“The students take part in the whole range of the software development process, and interact extensively with the clients,” Elzer said. “They get the chance to apply everything they learn in the classroom.”

Scheitrum, who hopes to launch his own software development company, agrees.

“This is a great opportunity to get a feel for how a startup company operates and get real-world experience. I especially value working with Dr. Elzer, who has experience in software engineering,” he said.

Cruzcourt, an off-site company cafeteria with a web-based ordering system, and Express Dynamics, a software company focused on providing applications that allow non-programmers to develop customized programs for business-related purposes, were selected as the inaugural by the SPC faculty steering committee and the community advisory board.

Work with clients provides SPC interns an extended classroom setting, a paycheck, and the chance to interact with students and faculty from other academic disciplines.

While Elzer works with the computer science students, Nancy Mata, associate professor of art and interactive design, directs a team of art and design interns.

Chris Willett, senior in art and design, and Amy Duggan, junior in communication/public



Dr. Stephanie Elzer (center) and students Elyse Dougherty (left) and Trevor Scheitrum (right) developing software.

relations and a minor in art and design, as well as art students Erin Kauffman and Seth Eck, are working on the graphic identity of Cruzcourt as well as learning the best web-based marketing techniques to capture the attention of IT decision makers likely to purchase Express Dynamics' software.

Also working with Mata on the Express Dynamics project are Brett Herrmann, Michael Wass and Ryan McElvaney who are enrolled in the Small Business Institute senior seminar taught by Dr. Patrick McCaskey, associate professor of business administration. They have met weekly to research the IT industry and to explore web tools as they develop a marketing plan for Express Dynamics.

They, like Dougherty and Scheitrum, enjoy the hands-on application of their classroom learning as they support regional businesses.

“The practical knowledge I've gained and the interaction with the clients has been great,” Dougherty said. “I like being involved in a process that brings it all the way out to something the client will be able to sell and use.”

STUDENT ATTENDS THE HARRISBURG INTERNSHIP SEMESTER

Kristina Lilac of Mohnton is working for the Independent Regulatory Review Commission as part of a 15-week internship sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).



Kristina Lilac

Lilac, the daughter of Tom and Kathy Lilac, is a senior government and political affairs major, with a minor in history, at Millersville University. She is one of 11 students participating in The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) program, which provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government while earning a full semester's worth of credits.

Lilac is a 2006 graduate of Governor Mifflin High School.

More than 400 students from PASSHE universities have participated in THIS since the program began in 1989, each gaining valuable insight into the workings of state government at the policy-making level.

PASSHE students interested in participating in THIS in a future semester should call the Dixon University Center at (717) 720-4089.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

LOOK!

These are challenging economic times. Be sure to check out Millersville's financial aid website for information on scholarships, grants and other aid. www.millersville.edu/finaid



For more information about the SPC at Millersville, visit the website at: www.millersville.edu/spc



FREE PROGRAM OFFERED TO KNOCK OFF NICOTINE

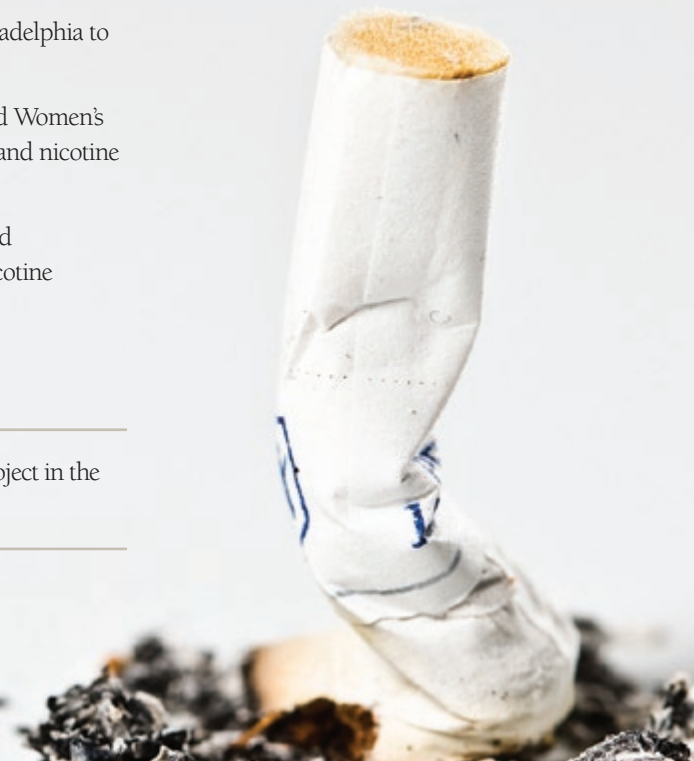
Millersville is the recipient of a \$50,000 grant from the Health Promotion Council in Philadelphia to fund a tobacco cessation program on campus.

“Quitting the use of tobacco is a very difficult challenge,” said Jayme Trogus, Wellness and Women’s Program coordinator. “For many individuals, without the support of cessation programs and nicotine replacement therapy, it can seem impossible.”

Individual and group cessation services are available to students as well as faculty, staff and administrators. All tobacco cessation services are free, as are all educational resources. Nicotine replacement therapy is offered free for the first two months.



For more information on the program, contact the MU Tobacco Control Project in the Montour House at (717) 871-2314, or swatgrad@millersville.edu.



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