First Commonwealth “Productization” Center

Millersville University has received a Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) University/Business Infrastructure Seed Grant to establish the Computer Software Productization Center (CSPC). The Center is founded on the expertise of Millersville faculty and students, as well as local community advisors.

The CSPC initiative, the first of its kind in the Commonwealth, involves interdisciplinary collaboration. A team of Millersville faculty and students in computer science, business, and communication will shepherd Central Pennsylvania entrepreneurial computer software ideas from the drawing board to commercial-ready applications.

Dr. Stephanie Elzer, computer science, Dr. Pat McCaskey, business, and Dr. Theresa Russell-Loretz, communication and theatre, serve on the faculty steering committee. They will recruit and work with the CSPC community advisory board to identify and purchase necessary resources and outfit workspace for faculty, students and community stakeholders and supervise student interns.

“Software Productization” refers to the process of turning a rudimentary software concept or early prototype into a marketable product.

“Once the collaboration with the CSPC is complete, the entrepreneur will be prepared to sell the product, either by raising additional funds through existing companies or venture capitalists, or by directly selling to a customer base,” said Elzer, the principal investigator of the project. The center will assist local entrepreneurs with market research, technical implementation of a working prototype of the software, development of business and marketing plans for the launching of the product, and branding and physical packaging of the product.

Elzer noted that the CSPC center will assist local entrepreneurs with market research, technical implementation of a working prototype of the software, development of business and marketing plans for the launching of the product, and branding and physical packaging of the product.

Jewelry Studio Named for Dr. Fanani

The Fanani Jewelry Studio in Breidenstine Hall was recently dedicated. The studio was named for Dr. Dominick J. Fanani, professor emeritus, who has contributed $500,000 to the University.

“This was a way we could thank Dr. Fanani for his contributions to the study of jewelry and the impact of his work on the curriculum today,” said Jeri Robinson, art. “His contributions will be felt by many generations of students.”

After his retirement in 1982, Fanani spent many years making pendants, pins and bolas for his wife Frances and for others. Fanani and his wife established the Dominick J. and Frances M. Fanani Junior-Senior Award and the Dr. Dominick J. and Frances McAndrew Fanani Memorial Scholarship.

Fanani was an art professor at Millersville from 1961-1982.

Spring Faculty Convocation Reintroduced

The tradition of faculty convening each spring to address academic issues began again this year on January 24. Provost Vilas Prabhu addressed faculty at a dinner event that focused on service-learning, civic engagement and Millersville’s Civic and Community Engagement Research Project (CCERP). “Educating our students to be civically engaged citizens, scholars and leaders is central to our mission, vision and promise, and is a key strategic goal,” said Prabhu, as he introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Barbara Jacoby. Jacoby is senior scholar at the University of Maryland—College Park’s Adele H. Stamp Student Union. Her presentation was “Educating Civically Engaged Citizens, Scholars, and Leaders.”
Dr. Ron Baker, economics, has two research articles accepted for publication. “The Seat is Right: Bidder Heterogeneity in The Price is Right,” co-authored with Dr. Jeremy Schwartz from Hampden-Sydney College, is forthcoming in the “Journal of Socio-Economics.” “Comparing Small-Group and Individual Behavior in Lottery-Choice Experiments,” co-authored with Susan Laury from Georgia State University and Arlington Williams from Indiana University-Bloomington, is forthcoming in the “Southern Economic Journal.”

Dr. Ximena Catepillan, mathematics, and Dr. Waclaw Szymanski, West Chester University, recently presented a talk entitled “Maya Calendar Conversions” at the 114th Joint Mathematics Meetings held in San Diego.

Dr. Chris Hardy, biology, recently published an article on southern African plant evolution in the journal “Aliso” entitled “Phylogeny and historical ecology of Rhodocoma (Restionaceae) from the Cape Floristic Region.” Hardy co-authored this paper with Dr. Peter Linder of the University of Zurich, Switzerland. A pdf copy of the article can be obtained at: herbarium.millersville.edu/hardy.php.

Dr. Alan Kelly, English, presented a paper, “Problems Between Men and Women in the Poetry of Sara Teasdale,” at the Sixth Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, held in Honolulu, Jan. 11-14. Kelly also served as chair of his conference session.

Dr. Rethinasamy Kittappa, mathematics, presented a research paper at the national combined meeting of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America on “The combinatorial enumeration of kolam configurations, a traditional design of the Tamil Land of South India.”

Dr. M.P.A. Sheaffer, English, sang as an alto ringer with the St. Patrick’s Cathedral Choir, New York, in the January 24 concert commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York. The concert included Mozart’s “Vesperae solenes de confessore” and the “Ode to Joy” from Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony.

Dr. Mark Snyder, industry & technology, was recently awarded a matching funds equipment grant through the Flexographic Technical Foundation (FTA). The funds will be used to purchase a flexographic printing press and peripheral equipment. The new equipment allows the ITEC graphic communication curriculum to expand into new printing markets related to packaging and label printing, a growing industry in this region.

Dr. Jeffrey W. Wimer, wellness and sport sciences, co-authored a peer-reviewed article titled “Motivating the Clinical Instructor” with Dr. Christine Lauber of the University of Indianapolis appearing in “Athletic Therapy Today,” the professional journal for Certified Athletic Trainers.

Retired Staff Activities

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, was busy this month with Hooray for Heroes events giving presentations in Wenatchee, Wash.; Elk Grove, Calif. and Jasper, Ind. He will give additional presentations in Monroe, N.J.; Indianapolis, Ind. and Cleveland County, N.C.

Dr. Thomas Tirado, professor emeritus, for the second year in a row has been named Outstanding Visual Artist of the Region by the San Diego Art Institute’s Museum of the Living Artist for his painting “New Baby.” The work may be previewed at www.tctirado.com/pics. In addition, Tirado recently took six trips to Cuba for academic research, publications, presentations and one-man art shows.

Walter Blackburn, music professor emeritus, was music director and conductor for two performances of noted composer Gian Carlo Menotti’s Amahl and the Night Visitors at the University on January 19 and 20. In addition to Blackburn, Millersville faculty who contributed to the production included Debra Lenssen, music, who was artistic director and also played in the professional orchestra. Dr. Cathleen Ardrey, music, was the chorus master and Dr. Daniel Heslink, Dr. Christy Banks, Cheryl Staherski, Ellen Eager and Kirstin Gordon, all music faculty members, played in the orchestra.

Obituaries

Dr. Paul Gottshall Fisher died on December 21. He was chair of music at Millersville from 1965 until his retirement in 1984.

Dr. James M. Hare, died on January 21. He taught social studies education courses in the College of Education from 1968 until 1976.

Dr. Joseph James Horvat, died on January 23. He taught psychology at Millersville, retiring in 1981.

Helen M. Martin, died on January 21. She had worked in the University’s registrar’s office for 11 years before retiring.

Correction

The February 7 Exchange incorrectly listed one of Dr. Centola’s children in his obituary. It should have read he is survived by his wife, Sue, and children Paul, Tamara and Devon.

And The Winner Is…

The alumni office is looking for volunteers who contribute to the University to be awarded the Distinguished Service Award and Honorary Alumnus award. “Sometimes our faculty and staff have people who volunteer a great deal in their areas that I am not even aware of,” said Dianne O’Connor, director of alumni services. “I would like to give them the opportunity to nominate people.”

Alumni, faculty or staff familiar with the person’s achievements may nominate a candidate by submitting a letter of recommendation to the alumni office by March 7.

Millersville University
Faculty Photos

All faculty are asked to get a new headshot taken for communication and marketing purposes. Photos will be taken (usually in the lobby):

Feb. 25: 9-10 a.m. Stayer 
10:30 a.m.-12 noon Breidenstine

Feb. 26: 1-2.15 p.m. Hash/Bassler 
2:30-4 p.m. McComsey

Feb. 27: 9-10 a.m. Breidenstine 
10:30 a.m.-12 noon Stayer

Feb. 28: 1-2.15 p.m. Caputo 
2:30-4 p.m. Hash/Bassler

Feb. 29: 10-11:30 a.m. McComsey 
1-2 p.m. Caputo

March 3: 9-10 a.m. Hash/Bassler 
10:30 a.m.-12 noon Caputo

March 4: 1-2.15 p.m. Caputo 
3:30-4:30 p.m. Breidenstine

March 5: 9-10 a.m. McComsey 
10:30 a.m.-12 noon Hash/Bassler

March 6: 1-2.15 p.m. McComsey 
2:30-4 p.m. Stayer

March 7: 10-11:30 a.m. Stayer 
1-2 p.m. McComsey

For information email Nadine Kern at Nadine.kern@millersville.edu.

How-To Create an Internship

Millersville University’s Office of Internships and Civic Engagement Services is hosting “Creating Quality Internships,” a workshop for faculty and others who supervise interns and those who would like to start an internship program. The workshop will be held on February 29 from 8-11 a.m. at Old Main in Gordinier Conference Center.

For more information email Sue Hess at Sue.Hess@millersville.edu.

IT Students Recognized for Living the Promise

Six Millersville students attending a National Association for Industry and Technology conference in Florida last fall didn’t think twice about stepping in to help a passerby who was being attacked on the street. For their swift and courageous actions, President Francine G. McNairy awarded them the Living the Promise recognition on Jan. 28.

(left to right: Dr. McNairy, Josh Hosier, Steve Sickel, Heather Heltzinger, Ale Sgro. Not pictured: Juan Rodriguez, Matt Wince)

“Productization” Center continued from pg. 1

students will play a large role in the process. “Students will be key in designing and implementing the software, conducting market research and developing business, communication and branding plans. They will have many opportunities for hands-on internships and employment,” Elzer said.

The PASSHE grant of $182,541 will be matched by Millersville University over three years for $203,700.

Mentors Needed

The admissions office will hold a reception for admitted African-American and Latino students and their parents on February 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The program is to welcome first-generation student and parents from the Philadelphia area to campus, while helping them with technical information, transition and adjustment issues and to make lasting connections.

Admissions is looking for Millersville faculty and staff members who are interested in becoming a mentor. Those interested should contact Elsa Girma at elsa.girma@millersville.edu, Donna Bazow at donna.bazow@millersville.edu, or the admissions office at #3371.

Red Dress Luncheon

Faculty, staff and students turned out in red for the Second Red Dress Luncheon on February 1. Millersville University’s Wellness Committee and the President’s Commission on the Status of Women sponsored the luncheon. Pictures are two of the organizers of the event, Deb Miller, university communications & marketing, and Dr. Ginny Palmer, nursing.
Who Makes Millersville Special?

This Exchange features Anthony Yiannakos, lab coordinator in Millersville's chemistry department. He has been with the University since 1995.

Q. Where did you attend college and what did you study?
A. I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry from LeMoyne College and a master's in chemistry from the University of Rochester.

Q. What got you interested in working at Millersville?
A. I was working three different teaching jobs at the time and my schedule was too frantic. I decided to travel a bit and look at potential places to work where I could settle down to one full-time job. This was one of the places that seemed like a good fit, and fortunately, they had a job opening in my area.

Q. What made you want to work at a college?
A. I enjoy the freedom to investigate and experiment with ideas, to run them past people and try them out in a safe environment.

Q. From what age did you know you wanted to pursue this career?
A. I went into chemistry because I was offered a full scholarship if I would major in chemistry. I could never have afforded to go to college without the scholarship. I did well enough in college that they offered me a graduate school scholarship. So, I got a free education.

Q. Have you always had a career in science?
A. I've had multiple careers, though I've almost always worked at least part-time in science. I have taught chemistry at several colleges as an adjunct, taught science to high school students, worked as a rehabilitation counselor at a psychiatric hospital, as a vocational trainer with developmentally disabled people and owned a health food store.

Q. As a lab coordinator, what are your job duties and responsibilities?
A. I am in charge of making sure the general chemistry labs are stocked and prepared for classes so that the faculty can use them. I handle the cleanup, preparation of solutions, unknowns and equipment, and disposal of wastes. I'm also involved with other staff in making sure that safety concerns are addressed and resolved. Beyond that I generally do whatever the department faculty need done to make sure that classes run smoothly.

Q. What is the most exciting part of your job?
A. It's the first two weeks of each semester when there are lots of students around buying goggles and locks. Then, I'm interacting with a lot of people.

Q. What is the most stressful part of your job?
A. Repeatedly having to clean up messes left behind in the lab. I find people are careless about equipment and chemicals in the lab, and I spend a lot of my time just trying to keep stuff from getting destroyed by misuse and carelessness.

Q. What intrigues you the most about science?
A. What intrigues me is its connection to the real world. I spend a great deal of time outdoors, and I enjoy the fact that I can look at something in nature and know that I have the tools to understand why it happens, and the ability to be surprised and awed by it at the same time.

Q. If you could conduct research on anything, what would it be?
A. I think the most interesting thing to study is the way that people interact with their environment and each other. I'd like to learn more about what forces lead to the formation of the human personality and the formation of individual values. I guess I'm a social scientist at heart.

Q. What is your favorite memory of working at Millersville?
A. Working with the undeclared students and Doc Roc. I also enjoyed the bit of tutoring students I did when I first came here.

Q. What are some of your hobbies?
A. Away from my job I'm a part-time farmer and gardener. I spend a lot of my time growing and preserving food. I'm a musician, I like to camp and travel a lot, and I enjoy building and renovating houses.

Q. Do you have any mentors or heroes you look up to?
A. The people I look up to have been people outside of the science area. I've been fortunate in my life to have met and worked with several people who were socially very influential, like Martin Luther King, Jr. and Cesar Chavez. Those are the sort of people who have inspired me and I consider heroes.

Q. If you were stranded on a deserted island what is one item that you absolutely could not live without?
A. If I couldn't have my family there it would have to be my guitar. It would keep me from going nuts.

Q. If you had one place you could visit where would it be and why?
A. I would like to visit Alaska. My dream trip would be to follow the Rocky Mountains North from New Mexico, and then veer off and go to Alaska. I really would like to examine a glacier close up before they are all gone.

Q. What's the most exciting place you've ever been?
A. I can say Woodstock? The original one.

Travel Programs

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

New York City
- Feb 23 - “Spamalot” or “Legally Blonde”
- March 8 - “A Catered Affair” or “Mary Poppins”

Alumni & Friends
State System
Reservations/info available at #3332 or 5628. Or visit: www.alumnivacations.com, click on Millersville.
- Australia/New Zealand Mar 17-Apr 2
- Canada/New England Cruise Jun 28-Jul 5
- Hawaii Cruise Aug 6-16
- Black Sea/Egypt/Holy Lands Cruise Sept 29-Oct 11

Ads

Retirement Home for sale in Sun City Hilton Head, S.C. Two bedrooms, two baths, two car garage. Must be 55 or older to own in Sun City. Call Bernie Schroeder at 872-2897.

Free Lawnmower: Much-used Black and Decker battery-operated lawn mower. Has several seasons left. Call Dr. Karl E. Moyer 397-8035 or kmoyer@millersville.edu.