Interfaith Banquet at University

Individuals from all faiths joined together at Millersville University on September 25 for the fourth annual Interfaith Banquet. At the banquet, Millersville University received the 2008 Institutional Dialogue Award for its support in intercommunity dialogue throughout central Pennsylvania.

Sponsored by the Red Rose Foundation, Millersville University’s NAACP college chapter and the Office of Social Equity and Diversity, the banquet promoted interfaith dialogue, where Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Hindu and Buddhist communities of central Pennsylvania joined together for discussion.

Race for Rita

A 5K race to raise money to fight breast cancer will be held on the Millersville University campus on October 26. “Race for Rita,” honors of Dr. Rita Smith Wade-El, professor of psychology and African American studies, who was recently diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer.

The walk/run will take place during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The 5K race will begin at 1 p.m. at the Student Memorial Center on campus. Registration is $5 and proceeds will help reduce the cost of Smith Wade-El’s treatment expenses and will also be donated to the Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation. To register for the race, go to http://sites.google.com/site/race4rita/. For more information contact Howard Jones at 717-871-2012 or race4rita@gmail.com.

New Allied Health Major Approved

Millersville University has a new bachelor of science degree with a major in allied health technology. The Council of Trustees approved the new health degree for the University at their meeting on September 17.

The new degree will offer students four options: clinical laboratory science, nuclear medicine technology, pre-athletic training and respiratory therapy.

“By offering this new competitive degree, Millersville University will help fulfill the needs of the community and the Commonwealth for healthcare professionals,” said Dr. Vilas Prabhu, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “The new degree will also allow Millersville to develop programs in other healthcare areas in the future.”

The degree meets the requirements needed to obtain certification and licensure in health care professions but provides a sharper focus on health care. Students will receive a background in biology, chemistry, math and physics and will focus in greater depth on courses in healthcare.

The allied health care profession needs employees. A shortage of trained medical technologists is perhaps one of the most critical issues facing health care facilities today. The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) estimates that the employment opportunities for clinical laboratory scientists will increase 10 to 20 percent by 2012. And, USDOL projects that 40 percent of the occupations expected to grow the fastest are in health care.

Rusty Banks Morphs Memoir into Music

Millersville University will host the world premier of the American Repertory Ballet’s “Worlds End. And World’s Begin,” featuring the work of Rusty Banks, music, on October 17 at 7:30 p.m.

He explained that the project was put together about two years ago, “barely enough time for such an event to be organized.” The piece is based on the text “Writing at the End of the World,” by Richard E. Miller, chair of the Rutgers University English Department.

“I didn’t want reading the book to be a prerequisite for understanding the piece,” said Banks. “The work is highly informed by the book, but this is not writing one can simply sing or dance. My composition works to capture the essence of the text rather than the specificity.”

Banks had read a few chapters of the book before he was asked to base his piece on it.

continued on pg. 3

No Smoking on Campus

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education recently announced a ban on smoking at the 14 state-owned universities, including Millersville University. The ban complies with the state’s new smoking law and bars students, employees and visitors from lighting up anywhere on campus, including courtyards, parking lots and athletic fields.

Enforcement of the law comes under the Pennsylvania Department of Health. More information is available at the health department’s website, www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/site/default.asp.

Race for Rita October 26

A 5K race to raise money to fight breast cancer will be held on the Millersville University campus on October 26. “Race for Rita,” honors of Dr. Rita Smith Wade-El, professor of psychology and African American studies, who was recently diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer.

The walk/run will take place during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The 5K race will begin at 1 p.m. at the Student Memorial Center on campus. Registration is $5 and proceeds will help reduce the cost of Smith Wade-El’s treatment expenses and will also be donated to the Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation. To register for the race, go to http://sites.google.com/site/race4rita/. For more information contact Howard Jones at 717-871-2012 or race4rita@gmail.com.
Dr. Ansar Ahmed, humanities and social sciences, Dr. Doyin Coker-Kolo, School of Education, and Patricia Hopson-Shelton, social equity, will be presenting “Best Practices in Hiring and Retaining Diverse Faculty: The Millersville University Model” at the American Colleges and Universities conference later this month. The conference, Diversity, Learning and Inclusive Excellence: Accelerating and Assessing Progress, will be held in Long Beach, Calif., October 16-18. Dr. Hosein Atharifar, industry and technology, was awarded a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering in May from Southern Methodist University (SMU), Dallas. Atharifar’s thesis was “Material Flow and Heat Transfer Modeling, Monitoring and Optimization of Friction Stir Welding.” Atharifar received the School of Engineering’s annual Frederick E. Terman Award as well as the best research award during SMU’s Graduate Research Day.

Tony Elliot, communication and theatre, traveled to London, England, this summer with a group of 14 students for the third edition of the London Theatre Tour. Highlights of the trip were performances of "The Woman in Black, A Midsummer Night’s Dream," "Afterlife," and the new musical, "Marguerite." The group also had behind-the-scenes tours at the National Theatre, the Royal Theatre Drury Lane and the Globe. The next version of the London Theatre Tour is planned for the summer of 2010.

Dr. Behnam Nakhai, business administration, had his refereed research article “The Dynamics of Quality Costs in Continuous Improvement,” co-authored with Dr. Seokjin Kim of the Suffolk University, published in the “International Journal of Quality and Reliability Management.”

Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, sang as an alto ringer for the St. Olave’s Singers in the Company of Clothworkers’ Election Service at the Guild Church of St. Olave’s in London on June 13. She also sang as an alto ringer with an international chorus in the sold-out performance of Karl Jenkins’ “The Armed Man” in Royal Albert Hall on July 13.

Dr. Mark Snyder, industry & technology, received the President’s Medal and plaque from the International Graphic Arts Education Association to recognize his service as president of the organization during the past year. The award was presented at the association’s 83rd annual conference held July 26 - August 2 in Port Canaveral, Fla. During his term as president, Snyder conducted a comprehensive survey of the membership to help determine the future direction of the organization, and he reported the results of that survey at the conference.

Drs. Philip Tacka and Micheal Houlanah, music, presented a workshop entitled “Refining and Developing the Kodaly Concept for the Twentieth Century” and a paper entitled “Enhancing Expert Musicians Understanding of Music Fundamentals” at the International Society for Music Education World Conference, July 20-25 in Bologna, Italy.

Dr. John R. Wallace, biology, was senior author on a book chapter entitled, “The Use of Aquatic Insect Evidence in Criminal Investigations” in “Entomology & Death – A Procedural Guide.” He also co-authored a journal article entitled, “Evaluation of VNTR Typing for the Identification of Mycobacterium Ulcerans in Environmental Samples from Victoria, Australia” in “FEMS Microbiol.” In addition, Wallace gave an invited lecture to the entomology department of the University of Maryland, College Park, entitled, “Buruli Ulcer: The Role of Mosquitoes and Other Arthropods in the Ecology of an Emerging Tropical Mycobacterial Disease” on Sept. 12. And, he taught a half-day workshop for the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement In-Service Training on Death Investigations entitled, “Applying Insect Evidence in Criminal Investigations: Protocols in the Collection, Preservation and Processing of Entomological Evidence” to a group of 25 detectives, crime scene investigators and attorneys at Harrisburg Area Community College campus on Sept. 11.

Dr. Yufeng Zhang, English, presented a paper entitled “Academic Writing and ESL Writers’ Identities” at the International Conference of Language Issues in English-Medium Universities held in Hong Kong in June 2008. In addition, she has worked with the Journal of Second Language Writing as a translator since the summer of 2007.

Anthony Floyd has been hired as the new deputy police chief at Millersville University. Floyd has 20 years of experience at the Philadelphia police department, where he retired as a lieutenant commander. He came to Millersville University to fulfill his goal to interact with students. “I felt that this job was an open gateway to a rewarding career and experience,” he said.

Floyd has his associates degree in science from Central Philadelphia, a bachelor’s degree in management from Chestnut Hill College of Philadelphia and is a master of science candidate at Wilmington University. He also attended the Northwestern University School of Police Staff where he was president of the 174th class.

New Deputy Chief Hired

Anthony Floyd

Retired Activities

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, gave the keynote address on September 11 to the Meeting of the Minds Conference in Swedesboro, N.J. On September 20, he gave the conference keynote address for primary grade teachers in the San Antonio Independent School District, Texas. And, on September 30, he gave a one-day Teaching American History grant workshop in Wenatchee, Wash. On October 2, Denenberg gave a parent workshop in Delta, Colo. Later this month he will give parent and teacher workshops in New Port Richie, Fla., and he will be the speaker at the Pennsylvania Council for Social Studies in Gettysburg, Pa.

Obituary

Marsha Frerichs, 54, of Millersville died September 12 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was the wife of Dr. Richard Frerichs. Marsha was director of the Elderhostel at Millersville University.
Millersville University Exchange 10/2/08

Rusty Banks  cont. from pg. 1
The original idea was to make a movement for each chapter, but because “Writing at the End of the World” is based on a memoir and is not linear, Banks elected to pick and choose the topics from the book to work with, “to capture the spirit as an arch.” There are five movements in which the Millersville choir will be on stage with the dancers.

The book and the performance are based on the idea of a “catastrophe that causes the end of the world, but the beginning of something else,” explained Banks as he presented his piece to the Millersville University choir for the first time in September, just a month before the performance would take place. When asked how he got music from a book, Banks replied, “It’s not like divine inspiration hits me, and this work pours out. It took a lot of time.”

“[Banks’] chords are so natural, it’s as if they’re glowing,” said choir director Dr. Jeffrey Gemmell.

Call #3811 for tickets.

It’s Parade Time
Entry applications are being accepted for the 12th annual Millersville Community Parade through Oct. 10. This year’s parade, “Animals: Fictional or Real,” is set for Saturday, November 1, at 9:00 a.m.

The two-mile parade attracts more than 2,000 participants annually and includes bands, twirlers, floats, antique cars, civic groups, fire and emergency apparatus, mascots and much more. The parade begins at Penn Manor High School, continues onto Herr Avenue and makes a left onto Landis Avenue. The parade then makes its way to North George Street ending at the Millersville University Student Memorial Center.

For an application packet, please call the alumni services office at #3352.

Educators Night
Current and Future Educators Night will be held on Monday, October 13 in the multipurpose room of Stayer Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact graduate studies at #3099 or go to www.millersville.edu/~graduate.

Kathryn J. Albright Garden
Dedicated to Kathryn J. Albright in October of 2001, this garden is located in the Steinman Courtyard of the Argires Science Complex. Albright, administrative manager, School of Science and Mathematics, was extremely committed to science and technology. During her 12 years at Millersville University, Albright was responsible for coordinating class scheduling and the budget for all seven science and math departments. Her garden contains a cornucopia of plants: gold-finger potentilla, American cranberry, Russian sage, purple cornflower, sedum reflexum, blue spruce, and silver mist juniper.

Cap and Gown Time
Those in need of a cap and gown for the December 2008 commencement ceremony may place cap, gown, hood and tassel orders on October 13 between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. A representative from Oak Hall cap and gown industries will be in the Reighard Multipurpose Room in the Student Memorial Center during this time and will give out an early bird discount of 10%.

Rental orders will also be taken at the University Store any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday before Oct. 17.

For more information contact Victoria Fry at 717-871-2117, or vfry@ssi.millersville.edu.

Humanities Film Festival
A variety of films will be screened this fall as part of the Humanities Film Series on campus. Each film will be followed by a discussion. The series presents films relevant to humanity. Series organizer Dr. Jill Craven explains, “I am extremely pleased with our schedule for this year. These films all touch on issues like human rights, race, social responsibility and political involvement that are significant to our community as well as to the world at large.” Films are shown at 7 p.m. in Myers Auditorium.

The series includes the following films:
October 16: “Ezra”
October 23: “Road To Guantanamo”
October 30: “Returned” (special guest director Robert Koenig)

Christie Lecture
Millersville will host economist John Hatch at the Oct. 14 Robert A. Christie Lecture. The lecture will be at 7:00 p.m., Lyte Auditorium/Alumni Hall.

John Hatch is the founder of FINCA, one of the world’s leading microcredit institutions with programs in 23 countries and over one million low-income families assisted since its inception in 1984. Hatch is also known as the father of “village banking,” a group loan methodology now replicated by over 800 micro-credit programs in 60 countries.
Who Makes Millersville Special?

This Exchange edition features Dr. Marilyn Parrish, special collections librarian and the University Archivist at the Ganser Library. Parrish is in her fourth year at Ganser.

Q. Tell us about your work with special collections and archives.

A. I assist students and other researchers with research projects using primary sources, teach classes for students making use of our materials for their class assignments, select rare books and manuscripts to add to the collection, and work on oral history and digitization projects. I served as chair of the University Records Management Task Force, which recently made recommendations to the provost about retention of University records.

Q. What kind of books and/or sources are in the special collections?

A. Located on the fourth floor of Ganser Library, Archives & Special Collections includes the University archives and special collections of rare books, manuscripts, photographs, sheet music, oral history, and many other fascinating and wonderful resources.

Q. What makes them “special” compared to the other sources?

A. The archives of the University include records going back to the founding of Millersville. We have college catalogs from 1855 to the present, yearbooks from 1899 to the present, and the Snapper from 1925 to the present, in addition to many other records of the Normal School, State Teachers College, State College, and University. Our rare books include titles published in Pennsylvania before 1850 and rare books focused on women writers, the Harlem Renaissance, and examples of fine bindings, miniature books and limited editions. The Wickersham collection features examples of books used in the history of education from the late 1700s through 1930. Our manuscript collection includes Civil War diaries and letters, early local business financial records, sheet music, and autograph books. We are unusual among the PASSHE schools for the depth and variety of our special collections.

Q. Do you think it is important for Millersville students to know about and visit the special collections during their college career?

A. Absolutely! I regularly tell students that we have all the oldest, coolest stuff at Millersville in Archives & Special Collections. One area that continues to get lots of interest from students is the student confession books from the late 1800s. Students had to write a confession in the principal’s office when they broke the rules of the school. At the time, students of the opposite sex were not allowed to talk with each other. There are many confessions written by students breaking that rule and others. One of the most important things about introducing students to these rare materials is that they have a chance to interact with materials from another culture and another time. This interaction can challenge our preconceived ideas about the past and help us better understand the time and culture we live in.

Q. Where did you go to school?

A. I have bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history from Penn State, a master’s degree in library science from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in adult education from Penn State.

Q. How would you compare Ganser to your own school library, or to other schools you have been to?

A. Millersville University’s library is a great place! We have access to wonderful resources of all kinds and dedicated faculty and staff, eager to help students, faculty, and staff with their information and research needs.

Q. Where would you say is the best place for a person to study in the library?

A. It depends on your specific needs. Groups can use study rooms or tables on each floor. Individuals can find good places to study throughout the building.

Q. Are you a big reader in your free time?

A. Yes! I love to read. I just finished “Amsterdam” by Ian McEwan and am currently reading “Three Cups of Tea” by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

Q. What non-book related activities do you do in your spare time?

A. I enjoy spending time with family and friends. My husband and I enjoy watching films we get through Netflix, going to museums, concerts and traveling when we can.

Q. What kind of jobs have you had in the past?

A. I worked as a maid in a motel one summer in college. That was an experience!! No one would ever guess how much I learned from looking at my desk, though.

I also worked as an assistant to a hospital chaplain, in a bookstore, as a conservator in a museum, a project administrator in a futures research nonprofit, and in libraries in Pasadena, Calif., Bowling Green, Ohio and here in Lancaster.

Q. Which job was your least favorite, and what did you learn from this experience?

A. As a maid, I learned that every job is important and that there are amazing people in every profession. I also learned how important it is to leave tips.

Q. Where do you call home?

A. I grew up outside Philadelphia and have lived in Texas, Michigan, California, Ohio and Washington. We’ve lived in East Petersburg now for 16 years, so it’s home.

Q. Do you have any unique hobbies or interests you would like to share?

A. Watching NCAA basketball playoffs and attending musical events my children have been involved in.

Q. What is your idea of a perfect night after a long day at the Special Collections?

A. Spending time with my husband Jay, and phone conversations with our kids.

It is Time to Give

The State Employees’ Combined Appeal (SECA) is underway. Forms were recently distributed and are due to human resources by October 10. President Francine G. McNairy will host a dinner for the department/area with the highest percentage of faculty/staff who participate. For more information call/email Mary Fleig at #3706 or mary.fleig@millersville.edu.