Rediscover Millersville with the 2010 Self-Study Process

With well over 150 faculty, staff, and student participants, Millersville is engaging in a self-study process, which is the central piece of reaccreditation through the Middle States Commission of Higher Education (MSCHE). For the next two years, they will look at existing information, processes, and policies to understand the current status and where best practices exist or where improvements may need to be made.

The theme for the self-study is “Rediscover Millersville: The 2010 Self-Study.” The process will culminate in an accreditation team being on campus in spring 2010.

The MSCHE formally reaffirms accreditation every 10 years. The self-study process is organized into two major groups — the steering committee and the working groups. The Millersville Self-Study Steering Committee, comprised of 29 members, provides broad oversight for the process and support for the working group efforts. Millersville has 11 working groups, 10 of which are responsible for standards such as leadership and governance, educational offerings, student support services and institutional assessment. The working groups range in size from 10 to 15 members.

Facilitating the entire self-study falls to Drs. Thomas Burns, Lisa Shibley and Helena Tuleya-Payne who serve as the coordinating team for the process. Tuleya-Payne, and Burns also serve as the co-chairs of the steering committee.

“We are currently engaged in the research phase of the self-study,” explained Burns, associate provost for academic administration. “In this phase, which continues through spring break 2009, the working groups are assembling data to help them address questions—the basic building blocks of the self-study process.”

Involvement in the self-study process goes beyond serving on the steering committee or working groups. Opportunities also include responding to requests to participate in interviews, surveys, or focus groups and engaging in discussions on key issues that help to guide Millersville’s future.

Tuleya-Payne, psychology, commented “I see the self-study process as an opportunity to share a deeper understanding of Millersville within our community. The self-study process is about learning and renewal.”

Students Will Work the Polls

Millersville University has established the Student Election Poll Worker and Voter Assistance Project of The Walker Center for Civic Responsibility and Leadership. More than 100 students have signed up to work at polling centers in Lancaster County during the 2008 U.S. Presidential Election.

“We’re pleased that so many Millersville students will be participating on the front lines of American democracy,” said Dr. Mel Allen, director of the Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project. “This shows that young people are regaining interest in our political system and recognizing the importance of this election.”

The project was developed by former Congressman Robert Walker and by Patrick Leahy, Millersville University alumnus and current employee of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The 2008-2009 Lancaster County pilot program was designed to connect Millersville University students to civic engagement by supporting the “Help America Vote Act” by working with the local Board of Elections on election day.

Students need to be at least 18 years of age, registered voters in Lancaster County, and able to commit to a two-hour training session prior to election day.

For more information, contact CCERPGA@millersville.edu or call Terri at #7224.

Homecoming Activities Expand

Come join the Millersville community for the celebration of Millersville University’s 75th Homecoming. This year, Family Day, Homecoming and Community Day are all rolled into one exciting event on November 1.

The day will begin with the homecoming parade at 9 a.m., where it will go from Herr Street to Landis Ave. and then finally end at George Street in front of the Student Memorial Center. Viewers may line the streets and watch the parade in lawn chairs. There will be a detour on the day of the parade. See www.parade.millersville.edu for details.

Fall Fling, next to the lake on Brooks Field will take place from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Adjacent to the lake will be the Pet Costume Contest, which will begin at 12:30 p.m. in a tent next to Wickersham.

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**Staff Activities**

**Jean Bradel**, music, and her Millersville and private students were invited by OperaLancaster to perform for the fourth year at the summer Lemonade Concert series. Over 300 people attended on June 19, and the vocalists raised over $1,000 for OperaLancaster. **Dr. Maria Thompson Corley**, music, served as the piano accompanist. And, on July 31, Bradel’s adult private students from Pennsylvania and Maryland also performed at another Lemonade Concert sponsored by OperaLancaster.


**Drs. Sandra Deemer and Laurie B. Hanich**, educational foundations, have been invited to serve as co-editors of “Teaching Educational Psychology” (TEP), a peer-reviewed online journal publication. TEP is the flagship journal of the Teaching Educational Psychology special interest group for the American Education Research Association. Deemer and Hanich will serve a three-year term as editors.

**Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer**, English, participated in the Poetry Seminar of Birkbeck College of the University of London on June 19 and presided over the July 10 Poetry Seminar also at the University of London. She also participated in the seminar on “The Tudors and the Arts” at the Courtauld Institute of Art at the University of London July 14-18.

**Deborah Sigel**, art, has a solo exhibition “Suspended Visions” at the Lancaster Museum of Art. The exhibition runs through October 26th.

**Lillie S. West**, elementary and early childhood education, and a former major, Stephen Richards were invited to present as part of a three-person panel at the opening general session of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) on September 18 in Washington, DC. The session title was “It’s All About Student Learning.”

**Retired Faculty**

**Dr. Dennis Denenberg**, professor emeritus, will give the keynote address on October 27 to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in East Windsor, N.J. He’ll give Teaching American History (TAH) grant workshops in Piscataway, N.J. on October 28 and 29. On November 6 and 7, Denenberg will give TAH workshops in Charlotte, N.C. On the 15th he’ll be in Houston to give a workshop for the National Council for the Social Studies 88th annual conference. And on November 20 and 21, Denenberg will be a speaker and give a workshop at the Core Knowledge National Conference in Anaheim, Calif.


**Obituary**

Dr. Jane Alden-Goldman, 62, known to the University community as Dr. Jane Alden, English, died on September 20 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Alden retired from Millersville in May 2008. She was appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of English at Millersville University in 1989 and was granted tenure in 1994.

**Birth Congratulations to:**

Michael Johnstone, Student Services, Inc., and his wife, Sara, on the birth of their baby Luke Michael, born September 23rd.

**Wedding Congratulations to:**

Tonya R. Anthony, financial aid, on her marriage to Danny Hsiung on September 19, in Leola, Pa.

Ethan Hulsey, UC&M, on his marriage to Trista Space on September 20. They were married in Wheeling, WV at Oglebay Resort.

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**Professor Wins Novel Contest**

Dr. Timothy R. Mayers, English, has won the 2008 Paradigm Novel Contest. His manuscript entitled “Intelligence Manifesto” was one of nearly 80 submitted to this competition. Raymond Benson, author of “A Hard Day’s Death” and “Sweetie’s Diamonds” selected Mayers’ manuscript as the winning entrant.

“I was numb. It really took a while to sink in,” said Mayers. “I wasn’t even sure that I had won until I had read the email all the way through. My book has been a work in progress for about two years, although the general plot line has been bouncing around my head for roughly a decade. There were several rough patches while I was writing it, but no big roadblocks. I always wanted to write a novel since I was a young child and now I have.”

Mayers describes “Intelligence Manifesto” as a philosophical mystery story.

As the winner, Mayers will receive a $500 prize and a standard publishing contract with Rain Farm Press.
**Dr. Aaron White Kicks off Alcohol Awareness Week**

October 20 - 24 is Alcohol Awareness Week. Millersville will have a variety of events during the week including guest speaker Dr. Aaron White.

White, from Duke University, is a nationally renowned researcher in adolescent brain development and alcohol use. He is also well-versed in topics such as underage drinking, and links between immune system health and psychological well-being.

October 20 he will lead a “Lunch and Learn” discussion for faculty and staff in the Student Memorial Center, room 161, from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., sponsored by the Wellness Center. During the afternoon White will be speaking with the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) steering committee. At 5 p.m. White will speak to students on the topic “What happened? Alcohol, Memory Blackouts and the Brain.”

Anyone interested in attending these events can register by emailing: alcoholawarenessweek@millersville.edu. Faculty interested in having Dr. White speak to their classes should contact Dr. Dan O’Neill at Daniel.ONeill@millersville.edu.

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**Biology Colloquium**

With topics ranging from bioterrorism to cancer, Millersville University professor John R. Wallace, biology, and professors from F&M, Penn State and other professionals will speak at the Fall Biology Colloquium.

The lectures will be held in Caputo 210 on Wednesdays at 5 p.m., where light refreshments will be served before the presentations.

Oct. 22 Student Co-op Presentations

Oct. 29 Buruli Ulcer: The Ecology, Epidemiology and Cultural Aspects of a Flesh-eating Tropical Disease (Dr. John R. Wallace, biology)

Nov. 5 A New Role for DNA Topoisomerase 1 at a Replication Fork (Dr. Cliff Toleman, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee)

Nov. 12 Discovery and Characterization of Novel Lung Cancer Genes (Dr. David Mu, Penn State University Hershey Medical Center)

For more information, please contact the biology department at #3409.

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**Participants in CommUnity Day**

Millersville University police officer Josh Keller and Manor Township police sergeant, Gary Strock, along with Cylo – the Barnstormers Mascot - appeared at CommUnity FamilyFEST 2008 - Saturday, Sept. 13 at Harrisburg Area Community College’s Lancaster campus. Officers Keller and James Miller represented Millersville on a day dedicated to honoring public service and law enforcement officers from around Lancaster County.

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**Fall Events**

**October 17**

10 – 11 a.m. Richard Miller Lecture, Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall, “Make Your Life a Work of Art: Embracing the Moment of Change Without End.”

1 – 2 p.m. Panel Presentation, Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall “Productivity in The Performing Arts: How Artists Become Entrepreneurs When the Arts Become Too Expensive.”

7:30 p.m. “Worlds end. And worlds begin” American Repertory Ballet World Premiere, Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

**October 21**

8 p.m. Dr. Reuben Blundell and the Millersville University Community Orchestra, Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

**October 23**

7 p.m. Humanities Film Series, Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall “Road to Guantanamo”

**October 24**

8 p.m. Concert by Bearfoot, Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

**October 26**

The Association of Third World Studies 26th annual meeting

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**Renew Your MUAlert**

The success of Millersville University’s new MUAlert text messaging system has moved onto yet another semester. Those who signed up last semester are reminded that they must sign up again in order to reactivate their account.

For those new to the system, MUAlert is a communication system that notifies the campus about emergencies and weather announcements via text messages. The same message is also sent via email.

According to Patrick Weidinger, human resources, “At our peak we had 4,000 people signed up. This included faculty, staff, students, parents and members of the community.” Currently, there is a mass email alert system in progress, where during an emergency an email message will flash on all PCs. A reverse-911 system is also in the works, in which all campus digital phones will be able to broadcast an emergency message. More information on the progress of these alerts will be coming shortly.

To sign up, or re-sign up, for MUAlert, go to millersville.edu and click on the MUAlert link.
This edition of the Exchange features Shane Pontz, a night shift maintenance repairman at Millersville University. He has worked with the University for six years, and he has also been balancing his job with undergraduate classes at the University since 2004.

Q. How long have you worked as a maintenance repairman at Millersville?
A. Three years

Q. Have you always worked the night shift?
A. No, I worked day shift in the refrigeration department for three years.

Q. Was it hard getting used to the night shift? How long did it take you to get used to staying up at night?
A. I don't think you ever get used to it. You just push through it some nights. Sleeping during the day is much harder because there is more noise: lawnmowers, trash trucks, kids, phone ringing, etc.

Q. Where on campus is most of your work performed?
A. Pretty much anywhere on campus. We do a lot of preventive maintenance that can't be done during the day.

Q. What kind of repair jobs do you find yourself doing most often?
A. We change a lot of light bulbs and air-conditioning filters at night.

Q. What is the best part about your job?
A. Interacting with the students.

Q. Where are you taking undergraduate courses?
A. Osburn Hall

Q. What are you studying?
A. I'm working on a bachelor of science degree in industrial technology, with a concentration in mechanical technology. I graduate in December 2008.

Q. After you receive your degree, what are your plans?
A. Hopefully work in management here at Millersville, or technical sales at another company.

Q. Is it difficult balancing your schooling with your night shifts and your family as well?
A. Yes, I had to miss a lot of my kid's school activities. My wife has had to shoulder a lot more so that I could go to school. Sometimes due to my class schedule and work I would be up over 24 hours at a time just to go to class.

Q. What was your first job?
A. Rax, a fast food restaurant, in Orlando, Florida flipping burgers.

Q. If you were given a paid year off of work, where would you go/what would you do?
A. I would go to Hawaii and just relax.

Q. What do you like to do in your spare time?
A. I don't have any spare time, but when I get a chance I like to go snowboarding, fishing, mountain biking.

Q. Favorite baseball team?
A. Philadelphia Phillies.

Q. What is your favorite season and why?
A. Summer is my favorite. Why? Because IT'S NOT COLD!

Q. What is your favorite summer activity?
A. I love going to Philly to watch the Phillies play.

Q. What was your dream job growing up?
A. To play third base for the Phillies.

Shane Pontz

For Sale
John Deere LA135 riding mower, 2008 model, used 12 hrs. $1500. Contact Diane Tothero, diane.tothero@millersville.edu or 872-5830.

Cemetery Mausoleum at Conestoga Memorial Park. $4,000. Contact Helena Swisher, 717-394-9670.

For Rent:
January 1 through June 30, 2009 (dates flexible): Fully furnished 5 BR house in Lancaster City. Asking $1000/month. Contact Dr. Carole Counihan: carole.counihan@millersville.edu or 872-3575.

Homecoming (cont. from pg. 1)
Hall. Other activities taking place will include craft and food vendors, a petting zoo, pony rides, Marauder Treasure Hunt and a reptile show. The Millersville University athletes will be visible all day, working a face-painting stand, giving out Skully tattoos, supervising spin art and more. At the Homecoming football game, the Marauders will take on East Stroudsburg.

To register your pet, to walk in the parade or for any homecoming questions, contact the Alumni Services office at 800-681-1855. For questions about Family Day activities, contact Student Affairs at #3594.

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

NEW YORK CITY
- Nov. 8 - Do as you please
- Dec. 6 - Radio City Music Hall Christmas Show
- March 1 - Philadelphia Flower Show

Alumni & Friends
State System
Reservations/info available at #3352 or 5628. Or visit: www.alumnivacations.com, click on Millersville.

2009
- Southern Caribbean Cruise Jan. 25-Feb. 1
- Windmills/Tulips River Cruise Apr. 7-17
- Gems of the Baltic Cruise Jul. 11-23
- Bermuda Cruise Aug. 9-16