ITEC Receives Major Software Gift

Dr. Mark Snyder, industry and technology, recently received a gift of ArtiosCAD software, valued at $442,700, from Esko Graphics, Inc. The software provided by Esko Graphics includes industry-standard applications for the structural design of paperboard and corrugated packages.

“I was surprised at the size of the gift and the amount of software donated,” said Snyder.

He requested 25 seats of ArtiosCad Designer software, but received the whole suite, which includes eight different applications commonly used in the printing and packaging industries.

The suite of ArtiosCAD Design Modules are among the most popular structural design software applications used for packaging design. The software provides dedicated tools specifically designed for packaging professionals involved in structural design, product development, prototyping and manufacturing. Esko Graphics’ gift is “excellent for preparing students for the large printing and packaging industry that contributes to the regional economy,” explained Snyder.

After receiving a separate $40,000 grant from the International Corrugated Packaging Foundation (ICPF) in 2007, Snyder kept in steady contact with Esko Graphics, which contributed the new gift. The grant from the ICPF was for the purchase of equipment to be used in the development of a packaging curriculum. Esko Graphics manufactures software that interfaces with the Gerber Innovations/ Datatech samplemaker/plotter table that was provided through the ICPF grant.

Introducing students to this software is a critical part of the packaging curriculum that Snyder is developing as part of the graphic communication option in the Department of Industry & Technology. As Snyder explained, “few schools of Millersville's size receive software gifts of this magnitude.” The University will now be able to produce ITEC Graphic Communication graduates who are better prepared for professional careers.

Campus Climate Assessment

What is life like on the Millersville University campus? That question and many others will be answered in an upcoming campus climate survey. The Social Equity Strategic Planning Advisory Committee (SESPAC) has been developing questions for the survey, which will be distributed next month.

A working group from SESPAC has been meeting since late October and working diligently to develop the survey questions and submit the proposal to the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The web-based survey will be sent electronically to all students, faculty and staff on February 16, upon IRB approval. Paper surveys will be available, as needed.

“Millersville University seeks to create an environment characterized by equal access for all students, faculty and staff regardless of cultural differences, and where individuals are not just tolerated but valued,” explained Patricia Hopson-Shelton, social equity & diversity. “A welcoming and inclusive climate is grounded in respect, nurtured by dialogue and evidenced by a pattern of civil interaction. The first step in creating such an environment is to assess the current campus climate in order to identify important issues and then to create ways for the University to address them.”

The last survey of this magnitude was conducted at Millersville University in spring 2001. “It’s time that we took another snapshot of the campus,” said Hopson-Shelton. “We need to see what has changed, what has improved, and where we have room to grow.”

The 2009 survey will be divided into four sections; demographics, personal experiences, work-life issues and perceptions of campus climate. “Once the 2009 survey results are completed, we can begin to update the University Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Community,” said Hiram Martinez, social equity and diversity.

“We want to make sure that people know their answers will be confidential; therefore, we encourage everyone to complete the survey and seize this opportunity to voice your opinions, thoughts and perceptions.”

Upcoming Events in January

19 Exhibit: Danielle Krcmar: Only the Real, 5 p.m., Sykes Gallery, Breidenstine Hall, (January 19-March 12)
21 Guest Artist Piano Recital: Ivana Vidovic featuring Dr. Maria Corley, 8 p.m. - Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall
23 Ford Atrium Concert Series: “Melange a Trois,” noon - Ford Atrium, McComsey Hall
23 Women’s Film and Lecture Series: Mary Haverstick’s “Home” with introduction and discussion by the director, 7:30 p.m. - Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall
25 Music from Millersville: Faculty Chamber Concert “Melange a Trois,” 4 p.m. - St. James Episcopal Church
27 Martin Luther King Celebration: Dr. Michael Eric Dyson presents “Dr. King for the 21st Century,” 7:30 p.m. - Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall
Dr. Bill Archibald, English, will be a member of Millersville’s team attending the Educause Learning Initiative’s annual conference in Orlando, Jan. 20-22. The conference is an opportunity to discuss the intersection of teaching and learning with technology at a time when budget realities demand educators to be even more creative, value-conscious and mindful of coming generations of learners.

Dr. Robert Carallo, English, has had his article “Fair is foul, and foul is fair” Macbeth as Morality Play and Discreet Exemplum,” accepted for inclusion in a forthcoming critical edition of Shakespeare’s “Macbeth.”

Drs. Nadine Garner, psychology, and James Valle, elementary and early childhood education, co-authored the chapter “Solution-Focused Theory Applied to Career Counseling” in the book, Career Development in the Schools. The chapter includes professional contributions by Dr. Jason Baker, psychology; Cori Fetrow, Millersville alum and school counselor at Dallastown Area Middle School; Melissa Ostrowski, Millersville alum, school counselor at Penn Manor High School, and an adjunct faculty member in educational foundations; and David Colestock, adjunct in psychology, school counselor for the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, and a current post-master’s student in the School Counseling Supervisory Certification Program.

Drs. Michaël Houlanah and Philip Tacka, music, will have their new book highlighted as a lead title by Oxford University Press in “Music Catalogue for 2009.”

Staff Activities

Integrated, Interactive Learning Modules to Elementary Music Education offers a researched, thorough and practical approach to transforming curriculum goals into tangible, achievable musical objectives and effective lesson plans.

Dr. Joseph C. Labant, elementary and early childhood education, gave a poster presentation entitled “Including Story Bags in Oral History Projects” at the National Council for the Social Studies Conference in Houston, Texas, November 13-16. He also presented a session “Including All Students in Social Studies Instruction: Example Adaptations” and attended the two-day National Council’s House of Delegates Assembly, where he was one of three delegates representing the Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies.

Dr. Dan Keefer, wellness and sports science; Loretal Maguire, professional training and education; and Al Unrath, web and multimedia services, attended the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Educause January 7-9, in Philadelphia. They gave a presentation on the policy development processes associated with the MU Online Advisory Group. In addition, Keefer gave a poster session on measuring student motivation in completing online assignments.

Dr. Jeremiah K.N. Mbindy, chemistry, had an article published in the referred Journal of Chemical Education with two Millersville undergraduate students as co-authors: Stephen A. Michaylira and David M. DeMarco. The article was titled, “Stamping Lithography: An Undergraduate Experiment in Nanotechnology.”

Shane Pontz, maintenance operations, received a bachelor of science degree in industrial technology on December 14 from Millersville University.

Dr. M.P.A. Sheaffer, English, sang as an alto ringer with the Sacred Music Chorale of Richmond Hill in Queens, New York, in their Christmas concert on December 7 in a program featuring Ottorino Respighi’s Laud to the Nativity and selections from Mozart’s Vesperae Solennes as well as special choral arrangements of Christmas carols by Sir David Willcocks and Sir Malcolm Sargent.

Dr. Scott Warner, industry and technology, and the Region 1 Director for the Industry and Technology Education Association (ITEA), hosted a free interactive webinar for middle and high school teachers on November 18.

Drs. Sepi Yalda and Rich Clark, earth sciences, presented a workshop on “Integrated, Interactive Learning Modules for Meteorology Education” at the 4th IEEE International Conference on e-Science on December 8 at the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus as part of the special session “Riding the Geoscience Cyberinfrastructure Wave of Data: Real Time Data Use in Education.” This work is a collaboration between Millersville University, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications CyberEducation group and computer scientists at Indiana University at Bloomington as part of the efforts of the NSF-funded project Linked Environments for Atmospheric Discovery.

Retired Staff


Case Awards

Millersville University has received two Council for the Advancement and Support of Higher Education (CASE) District II Accolades Awards. A gold award in the “Visual Design in Print-Logos/Nameplates” category was awarded to Dan Yabut, University Communications & Marketing (UC&M), for his outstanding creative work on the University theme, “Reason & Hope in an Age of Uncertainty identity.” A bronze award in the “Crisis Communications” category was awarded to Janet Kacsikos, UC&M, for her planning and execution of the University Crisis Communication Plan during the April 1, 2008 lockdown at Millersville.

Obituaries

Charlene “Nanna” Fenger-Petersen, 60, of Lancaster died December 24. She worked as a caterer for Millersville University in the food service department for seven years.

Edna Ross Simon, 90, who served as an assistant professor in the department of educational foundations at Millersville from 1961 to 1972, died in December. Simon was awarded emeritus status in July 1972 from Millersville University.

Dr. Haig M. Vahadian, assistant professor in the department of industry and technology died on December 26. Vahadian was a tenured faculty member with the department for the past seven years, with primary teaching responsibilities in the materials sciences, metals manufacturing, automated manufacturing and the machine tool technology curriculum.

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.kacsikos@millersville.edu or call ext. 3586. Editor: Janet Kacsikos; Graphic Designer: Diane Black ’82; Student Writers: Jenna Gerstenblith, Peter Taraborelli and Lauren Thompson; Student Photographer: Dan Giangiulio.

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

Three new degree programs in the School of Education were approved December 10 by Millersville’s Council of Trustees (COT). The new degrees are all bachelor's of science in education: Pre-K – grade 4, middle-level education mathematics and middle-level education English; and a dual degree in special education and Pre-K – grade 4. The new degrees are the result of recent changes made by the Pennsylvania Department of Education entitled Chapter 49-2. The shift is from a single special education certification in Pennsylvania to two distinct special education certifications (PK-8 and 7-12). The mandate of dual certification in special education will require specialization in early childhood education, middle-level education or a content area.

The COT recommendation now goes to the Board of Governors for approval and then to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for consideration in March 2009. “The new degrees will mean more field experiences, more collaborations with faculty, more experiences in teaching and learning about diverse learners, and more emphasis on content,” explained Dr. Jane Bray, dean of the School of Education.

Teacher candidates currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program will not be affected if they continue in their scheduled program and gain teaching certification prior to August 31, 2013.

The COT also approved four Millersville University Foundation endowments. All named endowments start at the $25,000 level include:

• Edna Butler Cohen ’27 for mathematics
• E. Kathryn Millar Kraybill ’15
• Biology Scholarship
• Student Independent or Honors College Biology Research

The COT approved emeritus status for Peter Brye, music, who taught at Millersville from 1981 to 2007; Leo E. Shelley, library, who served from 1967-2008; and Dr. Saulius A. Suziedelis, history, who taught 1990-2008.

Blue States/Redstates

Dr. Tirado stands by his recent painting.

Dr. Thomas Tirado, professor emeritus, recently had three paintings chosen for the San Diego Art Institute’s Museum of the Living Artist: Juried and Awarded Artwork from “Outstanding Visual Artists” of the Region (www.sandiego-art.org/) exhibition. His most recent work is the abstract entitled “Blue States/Redstates” which was inspired by and painted during the recent Presidential election. In addition to painting, Tirado stays active maintaining the Columbus website at Millersville (www.millersville.edu/~columbus/), participating as a committee member of the Columbus bi-annual conference in Holguín, Cuba, and volunteering in several local charities.

Wellness and Women’s Center

Spring Events

The Wellness and Women’s Center of Millersville University has announced its events for the spring semester of 2009.

January 20 and 22
“Empower Peer Education Information Table; Red Zone Awareness” at the Student Memorial Center (SMC) banking lobby from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on January 20, and in the Gordinier lobby from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. on January 22.

February 12
Peer Health Education: Safer Sex” information table at the SMC banking lobby, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

February 16-20
Empower Peer Education: Body Image Awareness Week.

February 17
Information table in the SMC banking lobby 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

February 18
Club de ’Ville activity, time TBA (evening)

For more information, please contact Jayme Trogus at jayme.trogus@millersville.edu.

Red Dress Luncheon

Faculty, staff and students are invited to the third annual Red Dress Luncheon on Friday, February 6. Millersville University’s Employee Wellness Committee and the President’s Commission on the Status of Women sponsor the luncheon in support of National Wear Red Day, a day when Americans nationwide wear red to show their support for heart disease awareness. The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall. Tickets are $8 for a Heart Healthy Meal. For more information contact Deb Miller at Deb.Miller@millersville.edu.
This Exchange edition features Dr. Lisa M. Schreiber, associate professor of communication, who is in her second year.

Q: Describe your job here at Millersville University.
A: Much the same as other professors – I teach, advise, do committee work, etc. My specialty in teaching is speech communication classes.

Q: What did you do before you came to Millersville?
A: I taught at a small liberal arts college in Blair, Nebr., outside of Omaha.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job and why?
A: I REALLY like my job – my favorite part is the students. Sometimes they ask the most amazing questions, make profound observations, or just crack a hilarious joke. And communication majors in particular generally have no problem talking or participating in class.

Q: Is this what you have always wanted to do?
A: HAI! No! I come from a family with a lot of engineers and accountants—you could say I am the black sheep in that respect—plus my liberal tendencies do not help either. I fell into the profession and am very happy I took the opportunity when it arose.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up in Bettendorf, Iowa, on the Mississippi River. I spent many a summer weekend on the boat and water and skiing.

Q: Do you travel?
A: I have been to several countries (in Europe, Thailand and Mexico and Canada of course) and cities in the U.S. for conferences and courses I have taught. You can check out some of my Thailand pictures on Facebook.

Q: What is your favorite quote?
A: SIGH… all of the above. I would like ambient electronic (Nightmares on Wax, Kruder and Dorfmeister, Mere Mortals), ’80s alternative, classic rock, pretty much anything but country.

Q: What is your favorite season and why?
A: The summer – because everyone is more relaxed and it is warm outside.

Q: If you could change one thing about this campus, what would it be?
A: I would teach student pedestrians that they should not rely on the brakes of cars to keep them from getting flattened when they walk out in front of moving traffic.

Q: What is your favorite season and why?
A: The summer – because everyone is more relaxed and it is warm outside.

Q: What kind of music do you listen to?
A: I like ambient electronic (Nightmares on Wax, Kruder and Dorfmeister, Mere Mortals), ’80s alternative, classic rock, pretty much anything but country.

Q: What is one thing that the people here at Millersville University might not know about you?
A: Well, I am really excited about my participation in helping to write a free online public speaking textbook for students. After this is up and running on the web, I will probably be building a student companion website with activities, sample tests and speeches to critique (taped here and given by MU students).

I plan to work on some travel courses for Millersville and hope to take students to China, India, Greece, Egypt and other groovy places. This October, I am presenting a paper at a conference in Mexico City.

Q: Do you own any pets?
A: One all-black cat (named Mystery after the SpongeBob episode) and two tiny lizards (Spike and Stella – named by my sons).

Q: What is your favorite activity outside of Millersville University?
A: I am new to the area so I am getting a kick out of exploring new places.

Q: What is the most amazing question a student has ever asked you?
A: I think I would like to talk with one of my great grandmothers (both of whom I remember, but did not know well because they passed when I was so young). I think I would want to know what their life was like in terms of the culture of the time and the challenges they faced as women when they were alive.

Q: What is your favorite thing about the Millersville campus?
A: I like not having to leave the building to go to class when the weather is bad.

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Update on Internet Security

Since Millersville’s Dr. Nazli Hardy, computer science, called for a Universal Personal ID to restore safety on the Internet, she has received many questions.

“There was so much concern about the nature of the Universal Personal ID, I have prepared a bulleted discussion on this site: mucspc.csdomain.millersville.edu/mollah/Web20Security.htm,” said Hardy.

“Your feedback and academic discourse is much welcome since it is meant to generate discussion and concern about the current state of online security. There is much work and development to be carried out in this arena,” said Hardy.