Dr. Robert T. Smith has been named dean of the School of Science and Mathematics by Dr. Vilas Prabhu, provost, effective July 1.

Smith has been with the University for the past 22 years. In addition to serving as professor, he has held the title of chairperson for the department of mathematics since 1999.

“I am very excited to be taking on the role of dean at this time. After serving the department of mathematics for more than 20 years, this is a wonderful opportunity for me to serve the School of Science and Mathematics in a broader capacity,” says Smith.

Smith is co-author of eight calculus textbooks and has published numerous research articles on mathematical problems arising in engineering and physics. The U.S. Army’s Ballistic Research Laboratory also contracted him to perform research. For disadvantaged students at Millersville University majoring in mathematics or science, Smith has helped solicit grants that have provided almost $1 million in scholarship funding.

Smith served as acting dean for the School of Science and Mathematics during the 2003-2004 school year.

The University has switched providers for the campus text message and emergency email alert system – MU Alert. With the switch, everyone needs to re-sign up for MU Alert at mualert.millersville.edu.

The new system called RSAN is more flexible and allows more users and better administration tools. It is also more robust—ensuring that emergency text messages and emails are sent in a timely manner. The new RSAN system uses priority communication lines, minimizing the chance for dropped or delayed text messages and emails reaching users.

The switch-over date for the new RSAN system was June 1, and for a variety of reasons, user account information cannot be migrated from the old system to the new RSAN system. This means all MU Alert users must reenter their account information.

Millersville University's 2009-10 cultural events calendar is going green. In the past the calendar was distributed as a printed information guide for people to learn about campus cultural experiences. The 2009-10 booklet will be inserted in the Review magazine, placed on a newly designed interactive website and will be included on Millersville University's web calendar, creating more outlets and interactive routes to receive the information.

Millersville University's push for sustainability, technological advances, and reduced costs has led to the discontinuation of printing the cultural events booklet. Two cultural events calendars will be released through the Review: one in the fall containing fall and winter events, and once again in the spring, containing all spring cultural events. The Review is currently distributed to 50,000 Millersville alumni, faculty, staff, community members and local businesses.

The cultural events will also be going online. The new website will allow viewers to learn more about the events, check out photographs, review in-depth biographies, link to related sites and purchase tickets online for upcoming events. The cultural events will also be added to Millersville University's web calendar.

The Administrative Professional Luncheon was held Wednesday, April 22 in Lehr Dining Room. Performer Adam Lauver entertained the crowd. Melanie DeSantis, director of professional development and training spoke to the group, as did President Francine G. McNairy.
Staff Activities

Dr. Patrick McCaskey, business administration, recently had his article, “New Product Development: An Overlooked but Critical Course” accepted for publication in The Journal of Product & Brand Management. The article was written with Geoffrey Lantos of Stonehill College and Donald L. Brady of American University of Bulgaria.

Dr. Michelle White, academic advisement, was interviewed for a May 19 article in the Chronicle of Higher Education, “Career Talk—Four Ph.D.’s talk about turning away from faculty careers to work in academic advising.”

Retired Activities

Dr. Saulius Suziedelis, emeritus, history, was a member of the Lithuanian delegation to the 24th Annual International Book Fair in Jerusalem and an invited speaker at the panel, “Is it still difficult to speak about the Holocaust in Lithuania?” held at the fair on February 17. Suziedelis also participated in a forum held at the Interdisciplinary Studies Center of Herzliya University in Tel Aviv on February 18 to discuss joint Lithuanian-Israeli academic events.

Warwick Tops Stock Market

Regional schools took top honors in the spring 2009 Stock Market Game of Pennsylvania coordinated regionally by Millersville University's Center for Economic Education under the leadership of Dr. Mike Gumpper, economics, and across the state by EconomicsPennsylvania. The statewide stock trading competition involves teams of students in grades 4-12 competing in three grade level divisions. The student stock traders challenge other schools from across Pennsylvania to determine who can amass the largest stock portfolio.

While competing regionally against 290 teams and 861 students from Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties, teams from Warwick High School, Conestoga Valley Middle School, York Suburban Middle School, Central York High School, and Hanover High School took top honors in the region. In addition, the team from Warwick High School, advised by teacher, Brenda Crosetto, placed 2nd overall in the state out of 6,218 teams and 19,793 students.

At the end of the ten-week trading period, the Warwick team of Nicholas Weit, John Hohman, Julianna Gerlach, and Jeffery Sgro amassed a portfolio with a value of over $207,000 while starting with just $100,000 on February 9.

On May 18 the winning teams were recognized at an awards party sponsored by the Millersville University Center for Economic Education. Susquehanna Bank and the Teleflex Foundation provide funding to support the Stock Market Game competition and awards in the Millersville University competition region.

Student 1st in National Forecasting Tournament

Millersville University meteorology students competed in “The Weather Challenge” this spring and senior Shawn Gray took first place in the national weather forecasting contest. Millersville's team finished ninth in the country out of 50 universities. The three seniors Gray, Erik Pindrock and Bill Deger advanced to the Weather Challenge Tournament, where Gray prevailed, placing first and capturing the tournament trophy. Each year a group of Millersville meteorology students compete in the national weather forecasting contest, pitting themselves against other students at meteorology programs across the country.

Millersville Community Parade Seeks Grand Marshal Nominees

Nominations are now being accepted for Grand Marshal of the 13th annual Millersville Community Parade, a joint effort between Millersville University, Millersville Borough and the surrounding community. The Grand Marshal has the honor of riding in the parade’s lead vehicle. The parade is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 24. The 2009 parade theme is “Myths, Fables and Fairy Tales.”

The Grand Marshal is selected each year based on his or her significant contributions to the Millersville community. All nominees must live or work in the Millersville community. Nominations can be submitted in the form of a one-page letter explaining the nominee’s specific impact on the Millersville community. The nominee’s specific impact on the Millersville community. Nominations must be received by July 31, 2009.

Nominations can be mailed to: The Millersville Community Parade, Millersville University, c/o Alumni Services Office, PO Box 1002, Millersville, Pa 17551-0302 or submit by fax to 717-871-5050. Please call 717-872-3352 with any questions about the Grand Marshal or to inquire about participating in the Millersville Community Parade.

The Millersville Community Parade was started in 1997 by a group of volunteers dedicated to improving relationships between the borough of Millersville, Millersville University, Manor Township and surrounding communities. Since then, the Millersville Parade has become one of Lancaster County's largest and most dynamic parades. Previous grand marshals include John Herr, Lynette Trout, Dorothy Bender, Jim Eshleman, Dr. William Hohman, Dr. Joseph Caputo, Steven Dorcas, Harold “Skip” Rhodes and Ralph and Judy Antonen.

Lynette Trout, 2007 Grand Marshal

Printed on recyclable paper.
There are only two hard-copy issues left of the Exchange before it goes online only. Beginning with the July 2, 2009, issue, the Exchange will only be available electronically. The move to “green” will save over $15,000 a year in printing and mailing costs.

Faculty and staff on campus will automatically receive a link to the bi-monthly publication via their email. Retired faculty and staff who are off campus and wish to receive the Exchange electronically, will need to sign up for electronic distribution.

Directions for retired faculty and staff:
• Go to - listserv.millersville.edu/archives/exchange-list.html and follow the directions.

Pa. Game Commission Offers Project WILD Programs

Millersville University and the Pennsylvania Game Commission have teamed up this summer to bring Project WILD workshops to campus. The workshops are designed for educators and scout and youth group leaders throughout the state.

A workshop, titled Topics in Biology-Conservation for Educators (Biology 598) is scheduled for August 10-14 and August 17-21 and will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. This course introduces the major conservation controversies and problems within the region and their solution. The classroom and fieldwork portion of the course will be held August 10-14 and the August 17-21 session will consist of the online and independent study portion.

Project WILD is an award-winning, international, hands-on conservation education program. Its mission is to provide wildlife-based conservation education that fosters responsible action.

WILD provides educators, with interdisciplinary activities that help address state and national education standards and help educators comply with mandates of the No Child Left Behind Act.

To learn more about the workshops and registration information contact Dr. David Zegers, biology, at 717-872-6147 or David.Zegers@millersville.edu. Registration deadline is July 6.

Statue Represents ‘How Wonderful Life Is’

Diana Lin Denenberg Durand ‘67 lived her life to the fullest and never gave up. When she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989, she fought it and won. In 1996 a bone biopsy revealed she had cancer in her sternum. She fought it and won. In 2000 the breast cancer returned and two years later the cancer invaded her liver. She fought it all and won. In July of 2006, a scan showed she had more than 30 brain tumors and while she died in 2007, she never asked, “Why me?” or complained “Oh, this is terrible.”

That fighting spirit is portrayed in a statue that was unveiled by Diana’s husband, Donald Durand, and her brother, Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, at Millersville University on May 30. The bronze statue, designed by Christina Haatainen-Jones of Los Angeles, is of a seated woman with her hand raised. “While it isn’t meant to look like Diana, it is meant to capture her spirit,” said Denenberg. Christina is a longtime friend of the Denenberg family and was one of Denenberg’s students when he began his teaching career at Manheim Central High school.

The statue will complete the Diana Lin Durand Spirit Garden that was started in 2007 by Denenberg, outside Stayer Hall on campus. “It is for students to remind them how wonderful life is and that we all need to strive to maintain it,” said Denenberg. “I hope it will encourage students to stop and think about life. And, I also want to bring the discussion of breast cancer and awareness to college-aged females.”

The statue is being paid for by gifts from friends and family, as well as money from Denenberg’s speaking engagements. The author of 50 American Heroes Every Kid Should Meet, Denenberg regularly speaks at schools, meetings and conventions around the country. A plaque explaining the statue will be placed inside Stayer Hall.
This edition of “Who Makes Millersville Special” features Glenn Henry, the chief water treatment plant operator on Millersville’s campus. Henry has worked at the University since October of 2004.

Q-What does a job as a pool specialist involve?
A-My “official” position here on campus is that of chief water treatment plant operator. Taking care of the pools is just one of my tasks. The Pennsylvania health department requires that any day the pool is open for use a licensed pool operator must take chemical readings of the water and make adjustments to make sure it’s safe for the public. Some days the filters need to be backflushed, water levels increased, temperature readings taken. Most any issue with the operation and maintenance of the pools comes to me.

Q-Where did you learn your specialty?
A-Pool maintenance and operation came through taking licensing courses and passing the Certified Pool Operators test. A Pa. Dept. of Agriculture Pesticide License is also required. Water treatment plant operators licensing is done through the Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). After many courses and years of experience I was able to pass the state exam for operating a water plant with unlimited capacity. I also have a Pa. DEP Sewage Plant Operators license.

Q-How long have you been in this career?
A-I started in the water and sewer treatment field back in 1983 after high school and a few years at the University of Wisconsin.

Q-Where have you worked?
A-I worked for Millersville Borough from May of 1990 in both their water department and then their sewer department until coming onboard with the University. Before that I was running the wastewater plant for Victor F. Weaver (now Tyson) chicken plant in New Holland, the industrial wastewater plant for the former RCA plant, and the City of Newark, New Jersey, at their primary water plant in my hometown of West Milford, New Jersey.

Q-Any interesting stories?
A-Lots, but most are left up to your imagination! Remember, sewage treatment is not for the squeamish. Check out Dirty Jobs with Mike Rowe on The Discovery Channel; it’s buckets of fun! Lots of money gets sent down the sewer lines—$20s are nice to find. We even found my predecessors [John Detz] communication radio at the sewer plant about a year after he dropped it in a manhole. He didn’t want it back though… During a routine collection system cleaning we had one guy who had just started working for us. We sent him down the manhole while we operated the vacuum truck. He came out with an old diamond ring! Not too bad for a young guy in his first week on the job! Oh the perks!

Q-Did you ever fall in a pool by accident?
A-No, not yet. I haven’t even gotten in the pools. No reason why, just haven’t had the chance.

Q-What is your dream job as a child?
A-Anything outdoors in nature. I am completely 100% at ease when I can listen and hear silence. I have a wife and three daughters—you should be able to understand why.

Q-How many pools would you estimate you visit a year?
A-I visit our two pools at least once a day, every day of the year. That’s enough for me. I like to swim in creeks, streams or lakes, more to keep the mind occupied, and I like looking for turtles, snakes and crayfish.

Q-Can you give us some details on the new Pennsylvania law that requires pool drains to be covered?
A-The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act requires that all public pools and spas have anti-suction entrapment safety cover installed on their main drains. Also, if there is only one main drain, another safety device has to be installed on the system to prevent or stop entrapment.

Q-How are you going about this?
A-The University is working with a professional in the field to make sure we comply with the new law. We are running into a problem with Pucillo’s dual drain covers as they may be exempt from the regulation as they are so big. They may be unblockable by the law’s definition. We need a lot of professional people to sign off on that determination before we move forward with Pucillo. Brooks pool offers yet another problem. It has a size that is not standard, so getting an approved replacement will be difficult. If we cannot find one at that size, it needs to be jack-hammered up and a standard sized one installed.

There is another problem with the law as written. There is a standard “turn over time” required for the pool water to be filtered and sanitized. A certain amount of water needs to be filtered within an eight-hour period. The problem is the new, approved drain covers cannot meet that standard. No one in the field has one! The law is a good one but the implementation of it and communication from the issuing bodies really leaves much to be desired.

Q-What do you do with your spare time when you’re not thinking about pools?
A-Lots! This boy never keeps still. If it isn’t working on house projects or driving my daughters to sporting or other events, it’s spending time with the Masonic fraternity and lodge here in Millersville. A lot of people would be surprised to know how deep and far back the Masonic roots go here at Millersville University. I have a lot of interest in my genealogy in Millersville, Manheim and Lancaster County as a whole.

Q-Do you have a pool?
A-I have a nice seven-person enclosed hot tub. It’s great being out there in the winter with the snow falling and the water temperature about 100 degrees. I do help my neighbor and friends out with pool problems when they need it.

Q-What do you like most about your job?
A-I totally enjoy coming to work literally each and every day! The people I work with here are A1. They will bend over backwards to help in any situation.