Officer Miller Receives Award

University police officer James Miller recently received an award from the Lancaster County Human Relations Commission at a ceremony at Community Hospital. Each year the commission seeks nominations from police departments around the county for those officers who have displayed exemplary service to their department and community. Miller was nominated by his peers as they noted his work in campus crime awareness and his seeking to have the campus community understand the role of the police in an educational environment. As part of this year’s program review, Miller’s work in the residence halls was mentioned by the students as being especially helpful in allowing students to see the police officers as “real people.” Another student noted Miller’s concern for dealing with campus quality-of-life issues and his efforts to have students see “that we are in this together” to make the campus a safer place to live, learn and work. In addition, Miller works programs such as the Open House Weekends scheduled by admissions, and orientation for new students. He serves as a field training officer for new officers and is active with the DUI Council.

Webster Receives $10,000 Grant

Millersville’s Dr. Roger Webster, computer science, has received a $10,000 grant from Keystone Innovation Zone. “This grant will help bootstrap a research venture between the Penn State College of Medicine and Millersville University into a potentially commercially viable hardware and software solution for microsurgical simulation such as eye surgery,” explained Webster. “The company, Microsurgery Simulation Software Incorporated, and Millersville University are in the process of obtaining significant outside funding through the stimulus package incentives for this cutting edge healthcare training technology.”

Millersville received the maximum $10,000 from the Innovation Transfer Network’s $78,715 in assistance grant funding for faculty and private sector commercialization projects in South Central Pennsylvania.

Newly Tenured Professors

Congratulations to:
Ben Cunningham, Art
Dr. Stacey Irwin, Communication & Theatre
Dr. Jennifer Wood, Communication & Theatre
Dr. Adam Lawrence, Government & Political Affairs
Dr. James LaPorte, Industry & Technology
Dr. Scott Warner, Industry & Technology
Dr. Marilyn Parrish, Library
Gregory Szczrybak, Library
Dr. Natalia Dushkina, Physics
Dr. Karen Rush, Psychology
Dr. Timothy Trussell, Sociology and Anthropology

New Medical Director

Dr. Susan Northwall has accepted the position of medical director for the student health services office at the University. Northwall has been serving as the interim director since April 7.

Northwall is a family practice physician with the Crossroads Family Medical Center, where she has been on staff since 1981. She is also trained and currently practices individual family and marriage counseling. She previously served as a family practice preceptor for the Department of Family Practice at the Hershey Medical Center, and as the family practice residency director for Community Hospital of Lancaster.

Due to her present obligations, Northwall will continue in a part-time role with the student health services office until the end of December. She will begin a full-time schedule effective Jan. 2, 2010.
Staff Activities

Dr. Marco Antolin, foreign languages, recently presented at the International Poetry Symposium Celebrating the Work of Peruvian Poet Cesar Vallejo at Hofstra University and in the VIII International Congress of Hispanic Literature in Costa Rica on the influence of Chilean Poet Pablo Neruda on Robert Bly.

Lori Austin, judicial affairs, and Anthony Floyd, University police, presented a program entitled “Bridging the Gap between Law Enforcement and Judicial Affairs” at the PASSHE Student Affairs Conference on May 21.

Victor Capece and Gene Ellis, both communication and theatre, recently worked on the play “Steel Magnolias” at the Ephrata Performing Arts Center. Capece designed the stage and Ellis was the director.

Jon Landis, educational foundations, was invited to give the commencement address to the graduates at Penn State York on May 15. Two hundred graduates were recognized at the associate, baccalaureate and graduate level.

Dr. Kimberly Mahaffy, Latino/a Studies and sociology, was awarded a Summer Research Fellowship from the University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Latin American Studies. She will be continuing her research project, “Soberania Llega: Understanding the Divergent Outcomes of the Panama Canal Zone and Puerto Rico,” in residence.

Dr. Yuan Zhong, biology, had her peer-reviewed research article “Genome-wide and expression analysis of protein phosphatase 2C in rice and Arabidopsis,” published in BMC Genomics, rated as a “Highly accessed” article (www.biomedcentral.com/info/about/mostviewed) by BioMed Central.

Retired Staff Activities

Dr. Dennis Dennenberg, emeritus, gave a Hooray for Heroes lecture on June 4 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and heroes colloquiums in Houston, Texas, on June 8 and 9. On June 10, he was the keynote speaker for the Core Knowledge regional conference in Lubbock, Texas, and from June 15-17, he spoke at the National Council for History Education conference in Orlando, Fla. On June 29, he will give a Hooray for Heroes keynote address in Bowling Green, Ky.

Obituaries

Mildred (Strunk) Donnon, 93, widow of Francis Donnon, died June 2. She received a master’s degree from Millersville University in 1966. She taught at the Lab School at Millersville University, where she went on to supervise student teachers from 1962-1968.

Jacqueline Long, associate professor emerita of French, died May 31. She was appointed as a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Foreign Languages for the 1963-1964 school year and retired in December 1999.

PLCB Conference Attendees

Members of the University’s Alcohol and Other Drug Steering Committee attended Project Blueprint the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board’s Annual Conference, April 2-3 in Harrisburg. Presentations focused on creative ways colleges can respond to the issue of college student alcohol use. In attendance were: (l-r) Millersville Borough Chief of Police, John Rochat; John Baltzer, counseling center; Lori Austin, judicial affairs; Jayme Trogus, wellness and women’s center; and Drs. Daniel O’Neill and Joseph Lynch, counseling center.

Dogs, Autism and Common Reading

The Freshman Common Reading book for the summer is “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” by Mark Haddon. From Publishers Weekly – “Christopher Boone, the autistic 15-year-old narrator of this revelatory novel, relaxes by groaning and doing math problems in his head, eats red—but not yellow or brown—foods and screams when he is touched. Strange as he may seem, other people are far more of a conundrum to him, for he lacks the intuitive ‘theory of mind’ by which most of us sense what’s going on in other people’s heads.” Autism will also be the subject of this year’s Carter G. Woodson Lecture by Holly Robinson Peete, “Autism: A View from a Parent’s Perspective,” which will be held on September 15.
Since the Soar to Greatness campaign began in July 2006 close to $43 million has been raised. Two hundred and sixty-three Millersville employees are “in” and together have contributed over $303,705! To support our students and become a member of the “in crowd,” visit www.millersville.edu/development.

University Athletics on Facebook and YouTube

Fans can now follow Millersville athletics news and view videos through the launch of the official Marauders’ Facebook page and YouTube channel.

The Facebook and YouTube sites will work in conjunction with millersvillianathletics.com, the official online source for Millersville athletics. Through Facebook users can become “fans” of Millersville athletics and receive news, links to stories featuring Millersville athletes and be reminded of upcoming promotions and events. Also, they can connect with fellow Millersville fans.

Videos will also be linked between the Facebook page and the YouTube channel, youtube.com/millersvillesports. All of the department’s video content featured on millersvillianathletics.com will be posted on its YouTube channel.

Because of NCAA regulations, representatives from Millersville’s athletic department cannot engage in communication in these forums. All commenting and posting on the Facebook “Wall” and YouTube channel has been disabled. Millersville requests that fans and alumni comply with all NCAA rules in this matter.

In the past year, Millersville athletics has improved the fan experience and the ease by which they can receive news by the creation of millersvillianathletics.com. Fans now have the ability to sign up for text messages, and free e-newsletters and view live stats and photo galleries, as well as follow news on its new Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Faculty Attend AAC&U Engaging Departments Institute

Eight members of Millersville’s faculty and staff will be attending the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Engaging Departments Initiative from July 8 to 12 at the University of Pennsylvania.

During the institute, campus teams will be able to work as a group and to collaborate with other campus groups and with faculty consultants who are available throughout the institute. The University’s goal in attending the Institute is to help advance each faculty member’s skills in assessing and improving student learning within their departments’ curriculum and to help develop initiatives that can be used to assess student performance within the general education program.

The three goals of the Engaging Departments Initiative are: restoring leadership for learning within and among departments; assessing, achieving and improving essential outcomes; and preparing for educational effectiveness by identifying and then replacing barriers with aligned effective practices.

University employees who will be attending include:
- Dr. Scott Anderson, library
- Dr. Thomas Burns, academic administration
- Dr. Michael Dillon, business administration
- Dr. Beverly Schneller, English
- Dr. Lisa Schreiber, communication and theatre
- Dr. Lisa Shibley, institutional assessment and planning
- Dr. Diane Umble, communication and theatre

Millersville is one of 26 institutions selected from a national applicant pool to participate in this program. Millersville University’s proposal was submitted by Dr. Thomas Burns. While at the institute, the Millersville team will focus on refining and developing the University’s assessment plans associated with the general education curriculum and enhancing degree coherence between general education objectives, institutional and program outcomes.

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Millersville University’s siren will be tested on June 23 at 11 a.m. There will be officials from other universities/colleges on campus for the demonstration. The University’s sirens are part of the Mass Notification System—a state-of-the-art technology that allows University emergency responders to quickly notify anyone who is outdoors of an unfolding crisis or emergency on campus.
This edition of “Who Makes Millersville Special” features Dr. Greg Seigworth, professor in communication and theatre. Seigworth has been with the University for 16 years.

Q: Tell us about your position.
A: As a full professor in communication and theatre I teach, advise, conduct research/scholarship, service… all of that stuff.

Q: What is your favorite part of the job?
A: Students - interacting with students and finding ways to integrate my research interests with my course teaching.

Q: What is the best book you have ever read?
A: Wow, that's a tough one. Probably this work of philosophy called A Thousand Plateaus by Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari. It is huge, wide-ranging, impossible. I also love this novel (one that all undergraduates should read) called Feed by M.T. Anderson. I have taught it half-a-dozen times or more and students love it (and are usually unsettled by its vision of the future).

Q: What are your hobbies outside of work?
A: Listening to music. Reading and writing. Travel. Eating at local restaurants, going to market with my wife Jackie. Facebook.

Q: What is your favorite season?
A: An easy one: spring.

Q: What inspires you to do what you do?
A: Making a difference in students’ lives for research. Responsibility to the community and its future (for service).

Q: Have there been recent changes in the way the communication and theatre department is being understood?

Travel Programs
Destinations
For more information call ext. 2308 or email: specialevents@millersville.edu
• Sept. 5 - U.S. Open

Alumni & Friends
State System
Reservations/info available at ext. 3352. Or visit: www.alumnivacations.com, click on Millersville.
• Gems of the Baltic Cruise Jul. 8-21
• Bermuda Cruise Aug. 9-16
• Iceland/Newfoundland Sept. 19-30

Who Makes Millersville Special

Dr. Greg Seigworth

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Q: What is the most challenging aspect of your job?
A: Anything involving excessive paperwork (outcomes assessment, goals statements, etc.) or other administrative-related work is a challenge to me (if by ‘challenge,’ you mean: ‘what do you hate to do.’)

Q: Do you have any heroes?

Q: If you had to write a book, what would it be about and why?
A: I have just finished editing a book on ‘affect theory’ (out on Duke University Press, 2010), but I would like to write a book on theories/approaches to cultural studies… because the field has been sorta stuck (I did write a chapter for a collection on the next generation of cultural studies recently).

Q: If you could spend a day with anyone dead or alive who would it be and why?
A: Jon Stewart (to thank him for being so engaged with a critique of the news media and the essential importance of politics and reaching out to young people so well).

Q: What is one piece of advice you would give every person if you could?
A: Make connections (honest ones) and maintain them.

The University will host The Next Generation music festival at Lyte Auditorium in Alumni Hall on June 19 at 7:30 p.m. The festival features pianist Awadagin Pratt, acclaimed for his musical insight and intensely involving performances in recital and with symphony orchestras.

This event is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. To make reservations, call the Student Memorial Center box office at ext. 3811 or visit the box office. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.