Millersville University
Exchange

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Trustees Approve Purchase of 42 N. Prince St.

Millersville’s Council of Trustees (COT) voted yesterday (March 17) to proceed with plans to purchase the building at 42 North Prince St. in Lancaster, Pa., from the owner, Union National Community Bank.

The COT approved the plans because of the building’s fit with the University’s mission to develop nationally recognized programs and opportunities for its students and faculty. The purchase will mean a broad-based expansion of Millersville’s visual and performing arts into the greater community, which will enhance the economic vitality of the city of Lancaster and the region and help preserve a valuable community asset.

The trustees approved a proposal for $13.5 million, which will cover the price of the building and renovations to make it compatible with Millersville University’s needs based on appraised value and revenue projections that include savings from off-campus programs now being offered at Liberty Place and private gift support. In addition they approved $1 million for furniture and equipment. Money for the building, renovations, furniture and equipment will come from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) capital construction fund.

The building will provide “overflow” space in the short term for the University during the two years it will take to complete the new Visual and Performing Arts Center on the main campus. In addition, the Prince Street building will accommodate the undergraduate and graduate classes now being offered at Liberty Place.

In the long term the building will allow Millersville University to expand its liberal arts into the greater community in collaboration with key education and arts organizations. It will provide quality event space for business and community organizations. And, the Prince Street facility will provide an opportunity for the 14 state-owned universities, through Millersville University, to promote the visual and performing arts to the region, particularly to the school districts within the region.

The next step is for the recommendation to be considered by the PASSHE Board of Governors, which meets next month.

Joint MSW Program Receives Accreditation

The master of social work program operated jointly by Millersville and Shippensburg universities has earned accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Dr. Kathryn Gregoire, professor and chair of the department of social work and Millersville’s program co-director, said “The accreditation is validation that we have met rigorous standards that define competent preparation for advanced social work practice.”

The approval is also good news for any student who has completed the MSW program, now in its fourth year of operation. The accreditation is good initially for four years and is retroactive.

The MSW program allows students to enroll at either campus of their choice. Currently, 48 students are enrolled in Shippensburg’s program and 68 are enrolled at Millersville. “The program is filling a need in the South Central region and meeting our enrollment targets each year,” said Gregoire.

Room & Board Set

Millersville’s Council of Trustees (COT) approved room, board and fees for the 2010-2011 school year at their meeting on March 17. Students will see a 6.9% increase in room and board, which equates to a $266 increase per semester. Students will pay $4,149 per semester, rather than the $3,883 that they currently pay.

In addition, the COT approved an increase in fees for undergraduates of $137.50 per semester. The majority of that increase ($111/semester) is due to a referendum, approved by students in 2007, to expand the student center.

“The University and the trustees were mindful of these difficult economic times and worked hard to keep the costs within annual inflationary ranges. The increases reflect anticipated costs with utilities and personnel costs,” said Roger Bruszewski, vice president for finance and administration.

Tuition costs are set by the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education generally in June of each year.

In other action, the COT approved a $5,000 contribution to the Millersville Fire Company and emeritus status for Dr. Celica Milovanovic, who taught in foreign languages from 1986-2009.
Staff Activities

Dr. Richard D. Clark, earth sciences, gave a talk, “Observations of Boundary Layer Circulations and Their Influence on Local Air Chemistry” at the Department of Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences (MEAS) at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in Raleigh, N.C., on March 8. Clark will be co-hosting with NCSU MEAS and physics faculty a two week, hands-on instruments course at the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute located near Asheville, N.C. in early summer.

Dr. Fred Foster-Clark, psychology and former General Education Coordinator, and Dr. John Ward, educational foundations, joined with two colleagues from Worcester State College to present a pre-conference workshop titled, “Navigating the Journey to General Education Reform,” at the Association of American Colleges and Universities General Education Reform, at the Association of American Colleges and Universities General Education Reform conference in Baltimore.

Dr. Abdelhadi Halawa, wellness and sport sciences, has completed the evaluation of two research proposals for the Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP). UREP is one of two research grant funding agencies of the State of Qatar National Research Funds (QNRF). The two research proposals are “Anthropometric Measurements, Nutritional Habits and Physical Activity of School Children and Adolescence in Qatar” and “Associated Possible Risks Factors Involved With Low Birth Weight Among Qatari Infant.” The two research proposals presented by researchers from the U.S. and Turkey have been approved for grant awards totaling $27,000. The two studies will employ seven undergraduate student researchers from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar and come from five different countries. The mission of QNRF is to encourage and advance knowledge and education by supporting original, competitively selected research by providing grants ranging from $20,000 up to $350,000 per proposal per year in a myriad of research disciplines.


Dr. Laurie B. Hanich, educational foundations, and her colleague Dr. Michele M.M. Mazzocco, Johns Hopkins University, published their paper “Mathematics Achievement, Numerical Processing, and Executive Functions in Girls with Turner Syndrome: Do Girls with Turner Syndrome Have Math Learning Disability?” in Learning and Individual Differences.

Dr. Rich Mehrenberg, special education, presented a seminar on February 17 titled “Taking the ‘Work’ Out of Paperwork: Voices From the Field” at the 47th annual International Learning Disabilities Association conference in Baltimore.

Dr. Jeffrey W. Wimer, wellness and sport sciences, recently conducted two on-site program reviews at King College in Bristol, Tenn., and The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minn., as part of each institution’s efforts to obtain initial national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education programs.

Obituary:

Evelyn Mae (Hulfish) Zeising, 93, died on March 2 in Lancaster. She had worked at Millersville State College.

Field Hockey #1

After producing its most successful season on the field in more than a decade, the Millersville field hockey program earned recognition recently with the Gladiator by SGI / NFHCA Division II National Academic Team Award for ranking first among all NCAA Division II field hockey teams in GPA. Millersville, under the direction of second-year coach Shelly Behrens, posted a team GPA of 3.41, edging Bentley and Slippery Rock, which tied for second with a 3.38 GPA.

St. Patrick’s Day in Ireland

Dr. Joanne Hughes from the School of Education, Queens University Belfast in Northern Ireland spoke at Millersville University this week on “Remaking the Future - Promoting Social Cohesion in Northern Ireland.” Before her talk, she spoke about St. Patrick’s Day in Ireland. In the video, she is with Dr. Dominic Scott, professor of educational foundations and Dr. Kirsten Bookmiller, director of Global Education and Partnerships.

Congratulations to:

Aaron Rohrer, dining & conference services, and his wife Shallon Rohrer on the birth of their daughter, Delaina, born on March 4.

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.kacskos@millersville.edu or call ext. 3586. Editor: Janet Kacskos; Graphic Designer: Diane Black ‘82. Student Writers and Videographers: Alexandra Wachman, Lucas Neiderer, Melissa Leary, Kerri Anderson and Adam Hoy.

Current and past issues of the Exchange are available online at www.millersville.edu/excm.

President Francine G. McNairy presented Aldine Owens (left) and Donna Owens (right), housekeeping, with the Living the Promise award on February 22. They were recognized for taking action to support several students who were treated unfairly on campus. The Living the Promise award recognizes Millersville students, faculty and staff whose work and life exemplify the University identity, and who live the promise that “Millersville University offers an educational opportunity second to none.”
Annual Holocaust Conference

The 30th Annual Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide at Millersville with the theme, “Holocaust and Genocide: A Half-Century of Changing Narratives,” will take place April 14-16.

Internationally acclaimed Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko, University of Tulsa, will be the keynote speaker on April 14. Yevtushenko will be discussing one of his famous poems, “Babi Yar” (1961). This poem is well-known for its controversial subject matter – he exposed the prevalent anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and emphasized the Jewish suffering during the Holocaust at a time when the subject was rarely discussed openly.

Some of the main themes to be considered during the conference are how people’s views and the way they tell their stories change and will include a special presentation and discussion of the movie “Defiance” (2008). In addition, four individual sessions will be held where attendees will present their own papers. Session topics include: “The Holocaust and Changing Theological Narratives”; “The Balkans, African and Genocide: Narratives”,”Rethinking Narratives and Sources on the Holocaust I” and “Rethinking Narratives and Sources on the Holocaust II.”

In 2005 the term “genocide” was added to the conference title. This was meant to expand the focus of the conference, acknowledging various instances of mass violence, such as Darfur and Rwanda. “We’ve done this [conference] now for 30 years, it is the longest ongoing annual conference of its kind in North America, it makes Millersville University special. I am hoping the conference will continue for many more years,” said Dr. Saulius Suziedelis, outgoing director of the conference.

For more information on this conference, contact Suziedelis at Saulius.Suziedelis@millersville.edu or Maggie Eichler at ext. 3555.

The detailed conference schedule is available on www.millersville.edu/~holo-con.

Science & Technology Policy Conference

Millersville University Science & Technology Policy Conference, hosted by the School of Science and Mathematics, will be held March 25-27 in Bolger Conference Center.

“The purpose of this conference,” according to Dr. Melvin Allen, CCEP, “is to foster inquiry and dialogue between experts and laypersons about policy matters related to the appropriate applications of science and technology for the advancement of human existence domestically and globally and the preservation of the planet.”

This three-day conference will feature an opening session by keynote speaker Ambassador Richard Russell, current managing partner at rpdANALYTICS and CEO at VIAforward.

On March 26 a variety of policy and panel sessions will take place. Topics for these sessions include energy, environment/climate change and cyber security. In addition, Dr. Daniel Schrag, Sturgis Hooper professor of geology and environmental science and engineering at Harvard University, will be the keynote speaker.

“It is imperative in a democracy that its citizens be sufficiently educated to be able to assume a meaningful role in the establishment of the policies that govern the actual choices involving significant risks and benefits to our society, if not the world,” said Allen.

Conference attendance is free; however, preregistration online is urged as seating capacity is limited. Onsite registration will be available only if space is available. For more information contact the Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project at ext. 3049 or www.millersville.edu/ccepp.

Technology Competition

Millersville University will be hosting more than 180 girls in grades six to 10, who are eager to learn about their future careers on Saturday, Apr. 10. The program, Science, Technology & Me (ST&M) is a one-day hands-on event to promote girls’ career awareness in the areas of science and technology. The girls will take part in two different hands-on sessions allowing them to actively engage in topics such as forensic science, geographic information systems, and screen printing.

The goal of ST&M is to provide awareness of technology-related career options, provide a hands-on approach to learning, spark the interest of personal future goals and increase future educational opportunities in science and technology at Millersville University. The program is funded, in part, by grants from the National Science Foundation, Millersville University’s Office of Information Technology and the Millersville University President’s Commission on the Status of Women. For more information contact Sharon Brusic at ext. 5548.

Women in Mathematics and Science Conference

The 23rd Annual Glenna Hazeltine Women in Mathematics and Science Conference will be held April 6 in the SMC’s Reighard Multipurpose Room. Sponsored by McNeil-PPC, Inc., the Glenna Hazeltine Endowment, this year’s keynote speaker is Dr. Rosina Bierbaum, dean of the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan. Her talk “A Scientist’s Journey from the Lab to the White House” is set for 9 a.m. For more information visit www.millersville.edu/wmsc or call Dr. Ximena P. Catepillán, ext. 3993.
This issue of the Exchange features Dr. Francis Bremer, chair and professor of history. Bremer has been with Millersville for 33 years, and is an expert in Puritanism, colonial and revolutionary America, American values, Winthrop Papers, religion in American history, Tudor and Stuart and England.

Q: What do you enjoy most about being a history professor?
A: Helping students come to a reassessment of their own beliefs by leading them on an encounter with the ideas and practices of men and women of the past.

Q: You recently took a sabbatical – please tell us about it.
A: I use a sabbatical to focus on one big project – in this case a large biography of John Davenport, a 17th century religious leader in England, the Netherlands, and New England, who was the founder of the town and colony of New Haven. But I also use it to wrap up some other projects that I have been working on. In this case I finished two books (just out in August), wrote five articles, and did some consulting for publishers and for a PBS series on “God in America.” And I tried to recharge my batteries with some rest and relaxation.

Q: What has caught your attention about 17th Century New England religious history?
A: When I was growing up in New York, I spent time each summer in New England and became fascinated by the region’s history. When a freshman in college I took a course on theology and became deeply interested in Puritanism, colonial and revolutionary America, American values, Winthrop Papers, religion in American history, Tudor and Stuart and England.

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Q: What is one thing you have learned while working with students?
A: How every student is different, with individual interests that have to be tapped, and talents that need to be nurtured.

Q: You have written multiple books, including your award-winning work John Winthrop: America’s Forgotten Founding Father and you are currently working on a full biography of John Davenport. What inspired you to write these two books and what type of effort has it demanded?
A: I see writing as an extension of my teaching. As I explore the world of the 17th century. To go beyond what is already written means going to the original sources, spending time doing research in archives in England, the Netherlands, and the United States. In recent years I have become more engaged with the lives of people like Winthrop and Davenport, and I try to visit the places they lived to get a sense of the landscapes they walked through and the climate they experienced. I try to bring my insights into the classroom, but writing allows me to reach a much broader audience.

Q: We understand that baseball is your favorite sport. Do you have a favorite baseball team?
A: I grew up in New York as a Brooklyn Dodgers fan watching games in Ebbets Field, but after the Dodgers moved to the West Coast my allegiance shifted to the Boston Red Sox, who I have rooted for in hard times and good for about 50 years!

Q: Have you ever played baseball? Do you play now?
A: I played rec baseball when I was young and became a coach when I got older. I coached local high school softball for a number of years (including varsity softball coach at Lancaster Catholic High School), and recently coached my oldest grandson’s youth baseball team. I enjoyed the history department faculty-student softball games when I was first at Millersville.

Q: Have you spent any time in Cooperstown National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum?
A: My wife and I took our two eldest grandchildren there last summer. I was able to relive some of the great moments in baseball history that I remember (going back to the Brooklyn Dodgers finally beating the Yankees in the 1955 World Series), and watch my grandchildren become more engaged with the history of the game.

Q: If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why?
A: I’ve been to a lot of places where I have thought of living – Assisi (Italy), southwest Ireland, Cambridge (England), the small village in southern France where my mother came from. They all have attractions, but it’s unlikely to happen since proximity to family trumps all other attractions.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?
A: That is a question for others to answer. I would only say that my greatest satisfaction comes from a 41-year marriage and wonderful children and grandchildren.

Q: What makes you smile?

Q: If you could spend a day with anyone dead or alive who would it be and why?
A: Right now it would probably be John Davenport, since writing his biography would be a lot easier if I could interview him! More generally, because of my interest in spirituality and faith I would love to spend a day with a great religious leader – Jesus, Mohammed or any number of others.

Q: What is your favorite quote?
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