Changes on Campus

The following changes were made on campus in recent months:

**Office of the President**

- **Hiram Martinez** has been promoted to assistant to the president for social equity & diversity.

**Academic Affairs**

- **Dr. Victor DeSantis**, in addition to his duties as dean of the college of graduate and professional studies, is also now associate provost for Civic Engagement. Upon Dr. Melvin Allen’s retirement, DeSantis has assumed responsibility for the Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP).
- **Alison Hutchison** is now the director of records and operations in the registrar’s office.
- **Andrew Welaish** is now the administrative manager for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

**Finance and Administration**

- **F. George Miller** has been promoted to electrician manager.
- **Lenny Aurand** has been promoted to director of housekeeping and grounds.
- **Fred Eddinger** has been promoted to director of physical facilities & technical operations.
- **Ken Dearstyn**e is interim director of construction, in addition to his duties and responsibilities as associate vice president for finance and administration.

**Student Affairs**

- **Anthony “Tony” Clauto** was hired as a new part-time security officer for Millersville University Lancaster.
- **Steve Goris** was hired as the new assistant volleyball coach.
- **Mia (Gambino) Hall ’07** was hired as the new head lacrosse coach.
- **Katherine Hendricks** was hired as the new assistant director of the Center for Student Involvement & Leadership (formally known as Student Programs). She will work with fraternities, sororities and student organizations.
- **Jonathon Ramos** was hired as an intern assistant football coach, serving as video coordinator and running backs coach.
- The title of **Jayme Trogus** was changed from coordinator to director of the Elsie S. Shenk Wellness and Women’s Program.

**University Advancement**

- **Lorie Mahoney** is now assistant director of reunion planning & giving, responsible for alumni reunion planning and giving, and continues as staff support to the capital campaign cabinet.
• **Alice McMurry**, assistant director of major gifts, will oversee operations of the annual fund.

• **Kathy Wiley** is now responsible for office support for Vice President Gerald C. Eckert. Wiley will oversee the vice president’s calendar, reports, proposals, correspondence, student worker, etc. She also will continue support assistance to the grants officer, Dr. Rene Munoz.

• **Denise Weidman** will now provide clerical assistance to the development office. She will continue with staff support to the University Foundation.

• **Derek Hoffman**, assistant director of advancement services, will assume the responsibilities of Honors and Awards.

• **Dr. Rich Frerichs**, advertising/sponsorship consultant, is working with UC&M.

*Photo caption (L-R): Hoffman, Mahoney, Wiley, Weidman, McMurry and Frerichs.*

### Information Resources

- **Rick Koelsch** is the interim director of communication and network services.
- **Joseph Yourgal** now reports to Veronica Longenecker, AVP of information technologies.
- **Marie Firestone** joined the Teaching and Learning Team within Information Technology as an instructional support specialist.
- **Christopher Adams** joined the Technology Assistance Center within Information Technology as a help desk technician.
- **Ken Slish** joined the Technology Assistance Center within Information Technology as a technology support specialist.
- **Michael Dulay** joined the Enterprise Applications Team within Information Technology as an application manager.
- **Tara Keefer** joined the Enterprise Applications Team within Information Technology as an application manager.

### We will never forget: Remembering 9/11

“We will never forget the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11, 2001 – not after one year, not after five years and not after 10 years,” said Candice Hozza, community development coordinator. The University community will come together for a special three-day commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, from September 11-13.
“Many of our students were young when September 11, 2001, occurred. I want them to know and to remember how strong we are,” said Hozza. “My hope and goal of this 10-year commemorative event is to remember that we rallied from the tragedy and that the American spirit excelled through this horrific moment in our country. My personal focal point and personal contribution will be on healing of the American heart and those in the Millersville community.”

On each of the three days, bells will ring once at 8:46 a.m., twice at 9:03 a.m., three times at 9:37 a.m. and four times at 10:03 a.m., for each attack that took place on 9/11.

Events planned for Sunday, September 11, include a 7 p.m. service of remembrance, featuring a performance by the United Christian Fellowship Choir, and the placement of memorial flags by ROTC members as well as those students in attendance. Earlier in the day, the peer mentors at Millersville, along with other students, will cover the sidewalks of campus, starting at Swan Pond, with the names of the 2,753 individuals who lost their lives as a result of 9/11 – using chalk.

“In 2002, during the first anniversary of 9/11, the University community created a Wall of Remembrance in an effort to heal from the events that occurred. Members of the University and the community were invited to write on the wall and share their thoughts and prayers,” remembers Hozza, who was involved in planning the first anniversary, and now the 10th anniversary, too.

On Monday, September 12, a slide show presentation featuring the Wall of Remembrance and a display of past events and the events of 9/11, will run all day in the SMC atrium. Students, faculty, staff and members of the community are invited to stop by and share reflections, thoughts and prayers, remembering those lost on that day.

At noon, a plaque and eagle will be re-installed at the SMC and re-dedicated to Millersville University students who have served our country in the armed forces, law enforcement and public service. This event will take place at the SMC Clock Tower and will feature Dr. Aminta Hawkins-Breaux, vice president for student affairs, and Millersville University’s Marching Band.

The commemoration will conclude September 13 at 5 p.m. with a memorial service offered to Millersville University students and alumni who gave the ultimate sacrifice and dedicated to their surviving family members. The memorial service, which will take place in Reighard Multipurpose Room in the SMC, will feature a flag presentation to the wife and family of LT. Demetrius Frison, a 2008 Millersville University alum killed in Afghanistan; ROTC Color Guard; a resolution by NAACP; a dance tribute by Brittany McClinton; bagpipes procession to the pond; and a performance by Gospel Choir at Millersville University.

For more information, contact Hozza at Candice.Hozza@millersville.edu or 717-872-3489.

*Photo caption: A bagpipe procession held during the University’s one year anniversary of 9/11.*
Rare Butterflies Find Home at Millersville

What started out as a childhood hobby of Millersville University alum Dennis Remley ’71, of Lancaster, Pa., will now serve as a learning tool for faculty and students thanks to a recent donation to Millersville’s Entomological Museum. A collection of approximately 300-400 butterflies, most dating back more than 100 years, is partially on display in the basement of Caputo Hall.

“The collection will also be used extensively in classes such as ecology and evolution and entomology, for possible student research projects, as well as to augment the entomological museum holdings,” said Dr. John Wallace, biology, who, along with senior biology major Andrew Watson, picked up and delivered the collection to the University.

As preparations began to sell Remley’s childhood home, where the collection had been stored for decades, he wanted to donate it to the University so entomology students at Millersville could enjoy the butterflies as much as he did growing up, explained Wallace.

“By donating these [butterflies] to a teaching/research university like Millersville, our students will have an opportunity to learn about rare taxa they may never see in the wild, learn about their conservation, the use in museums and in education,” said Wallace.

The butterflies are in pristine condition; many are rare, uncommon and come from tropical regions of the world including Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Honduras and Mexico.

“The hands-on learning experience, such as observing the iridescence in the scales, having the ability to measure legs and wings, doing comparisons and photographing them, will provide a three-dimensional learning opportunity beyond what a textbook can teach. While books are good in their own right, nothing beats having the actual organism in front of you,” added Wallace.

Photo caption (L-R): Watson, Wallace, Remley and Munoz.

New Event Space Dubbed Marauder Court

Millersville University has expanded the Student Memorial Center (SMC), moved into downtown Lancaster with Millersville University Lancaster and is in the process of renovating the Visual and Performing Arts Center and library. With more space comes more opportunity for the University to host events – not only in numbers but in scope and quality, too.
In the newly renovated SMC Fitness Center are three multi-activity courts, which are separated, and may be used for indoor sports, basketball and/or large group fitness classes. Together, the three multi-activity courts can open up into one large space, which has temporarily been named Marauder Court.

Marauder Court will be used to hold events, when the event exceeds the capacity of the SMC’s Reighard Multipurpose Room facility. Most recently, it was used for freshmen orientation (pictured right).

Upcoming events that will take place in Marauder Court include the International Policy Conference Keynote Address by Bill Richardson, former governor of New Mexico, on September 15; the 27th Brossman Science Lecture by Dr. Edith Widder, biologist and deep-sea explorer, on November 3, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration with Rev. Jesse Jackson, civil rights leader/politician, on January 24, 2012.

To reserve Marauder Court for an event, or another room in the SMC, contact the Information Desk at 717-872-3510 or infodesk@ssi.millersville.edu.

* Don’t forget: If you are hosting an event on campus or at Millersville University Lancaster, submit it for inclusion on Millersville’s online calendar by filling out the Event Request Form.

Global Policy Conference Welcomes Bill Richardson

The 2011 International Policy Conference: Securing the Future: A Global Policy Conference, hosted by the Center for Civic & Community Engagement & Research Project (CCERP) at Millersville University, will take place September 15-16, in Bolger Conference Center, Gordinier Hall and in Room 24 of the Student Memorial Center (SMC). William “Bill” Richardson, former governor of New Mexico, will present the keynote address on September 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Marauder Court, SMC.

The conference includes three tracks: The International Status of Women; Global Responses to Genocide and Other Natural Disasters; and Terrorism, Safety and Security. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 15. Speaker topics include “Food Security and Sustainability,” “Secure by 2015? Global Report Card on the U.N. Millennium Development Goals,” “A Woman’s Spiritual Place in the World” and “Oil and Toil: The Middle East as the Lynchpin of Global Security,” to name a few.
For the full conference schedule of events including speakers, biographies and session topics, visit www.millersville.edu/ccerp/events/policy-conference.php.

Before being elected governor, Richardson served in the Clinton administration as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Energy Secretary. Richardson has also served as a U.S. Congressman, chairman of the 2004 Democratic National Convention and chairman of the Democratic Governors Association. In 2011, Richardson joined the boards of APCO Worldwide company Global Political Strategies as chairman, the World Resources Institute, the National Institute for Civil Discourse at the University of Arizona and Abengoa (international advisory board). He was also appointed as a special envoy for the Organization of American States.

The keynote address on September 15 is free; however, tickets are required. Optional meals will be available for a cost and require tickets. Tickets are available at the Student Memorial Center Ticket Office (Room 103) or by calling the Ticket Office at 717-872-3811, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. To register, visit www.millersville.edu/ccerp/events/conference-registration.php.

For more information, contact Lori Leaman, CCERP, at 717-872-3049 or Lori.Leaman@millersville.edu.

**Editorial Style Guide Updated**

It’s or its. Their or they’re. Pesky hyphens and proper usage are addressed in the recently updated Millersville University Editorial Style Guide, published by the Office of University Communications & Marketing.

A handy tool for those in divisions, departments and offices who write and edit University publications, the style guide offers authors greater consistency of style and easy reference to campus usage. Some of the features include University references to places, buildings and programs; capitalization, abbreviation and spelling rules; and helpful links.

“Maintaining a consistency of style presents a strong image of Millersville University to the public,” said Amy Dritzak, assistant vice president for University advancement. “Usage and style here do not mean individual literary style. The purpose of the Editorial Style Guide is to reflect the University as a whole to help readers understand our messages.”

A companion piece, the Institutional Identity Guide for Millersville University, provides usage guidelines for graphic style including the logo, seal, athletics marks and brand identity.
Let’s Get Physical!

Millersville University will hold its 18th annual Wellness Fair Tuesday, September 20, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Student Memorial Center (SMC) Promenade. Celebrated in conjunction with the wellness fair will be the grand opening of the SMC and the breast health initiative, “Breast-a-Ville,” at Health Services.

Each year for the fair a different theme is chosen based on the seven wellness dimensions: Physical, social, environmental, spiritual, emotional, occupational and intellectual. This year’s theme is physical.

There will be many community organizations, Millersville departments and student organizations with interactive displays and activities.

“The Wellness Fair is a campus-wide event and is open to students, faculty, staff and the community,” said Deb Huslin, office manager of the Wellness and Women’s Program. “Our goal is to encourage healthy lifestyles by providing educational information to help individuals make positive choices.”

In the case of rain, the event will be held in the SMC Fitness Center. For more information, contact Huslin at 717-872-3841 or wellnesscenter@millersville.edu.

Making it Better: Folk Arts in Pennsylvania Today

“Making It Better: Folk Arts in Pennsylvania Today” opens for its limited engagement at Millersville University’s Sykes Gallery on September 12 and runs through October 25. This new exhibition is designed to educate visitors about the vitality of living folk art traditions found in Pennsylvania today. It will feature learning opportunities for all ages and asks visitors to consider the question, “How do your artistic traditions make a difference?”

The exhibition features more than 30 master artists from every corner of the state, and represents a wide array of traditions: African dance, stone wall construction, Native American clay flutes, Pysanky eggs, contemporary blacksmith work, wood carving and Vietnamese funerary portraits. All are integrated into people's lives and important enough to be shared and passed on.
This exhibit demonstrates that although many traditional arts are rooted in centuries-old practices, they are thriving and meeting the needs of communities today.

During the exhibit, a series of free lunchtime lectures and demonstrations will be offered Wednesdays at noon:
September 21 – Temujin Ekunfeo – Yoruba Beadwork and Storytelling
September 28 – Amy Skillman – Curator's Talk
October 12 – Pose II – Graffiti
October 19 – Losang Samten – Tibetan Mandala Writing

All gallery events are free and open to the public.

“Making It Better: Folk Arts in Pennsylvania” was created by the Institute for Cultural Partnerships in collaboration with the Erie Art Museum, Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, Northern Tier Cultural Alliance, Bottle Works Ethnic Arts Center, Community Partnerships Resource Conservation and Development Council and with assistance from the Philadelphia Folklore Project.

Sykes Gallery is located in Breidenstine Hall. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m.; and by appointment. Free tours of the exhibition may be scheduled by calling Ty Clever, gallery director, at 717-871-2186 or Tyler.Clever@millersville.edu.

NEED TO KNOW: Catch Up on Summer News

For those of you who printed out new issues of the Exchange to read while on vacation, or used your smart phones to read the latest Exchange on the beach, you should be pretty familiar with what’s been going on this summer on campus. For those of you who spent the summer in isolation away from your computers and/or smart phones, don’t worry, here’s a little compilation of what you missed.

NEW: A new category has been added to the Exchange, entitled “Need to Know.” Important information that you need to know will now be together, in one easy-to-find location including announcements, updates and more! Read more.
UPDATED: The Event Request Form, for posting upcoming events to Millersville’s online calendar, has been updated to include tips, making it easier for users to understand the content required for event submissions to be approved. Read more.

PROGRAMS: New programs and department changes taking place this fall include:

- Millersville will offer a new online certification program, the PA Certified Public Manager (CPM) program, for continuing education participants to earn a nationally recognized certification in public sector leadership/management. Read more.

- The Department of Industry and Technology will cease to exist to make way for its new designation: The Department of Applied Engineering, Safety & Technology. Read more.

- A new master’s level program, the Master of Science in Integrated Scientific Applications (MSISA), was approved, combining a specialization in applied science with pre-professional training in business, finance and accounting and organizational communication, management and leadership. Read more.

For other summer news stories, as well as faculty and staff activities, “Who Makes Millersville Special” features and more, scroll through the individual category pages or view complete issues in PDF form.

HR News Fall 2011

Employee Handbook

The Office of Human Resources is pleased to announce the development of an Employee Handbook. The addition of a handbook to the information currently available to all employees of the University was identified as a key operational goal. The document should serve as first step “go to” location for critical information on a wide range of topics important to all employees. The areas covered range from a summary of the organization and goals of Millersville University, employee rights and responsibilities and conduct, communications, safety and health, attendance and leave and benefits, to mention a few. Supervisors and managers are encouraged to use this information to assist new employees during their orientation and probationary periods.

The information is available on the Human Resources website and will be updated as changes to the topics become known: www.millersville.edu/hr/forms/Employee%20Handbook%20Final%20July%202011%20II.pdf

Benefits

PASSHE Group Health Plan (Faculty, Managers, Coaches, Nurses, Police)

Healthy U
Get a head start on Healthy U! You can now begin the next phase of the program. Start by logging onto Highmark’s website: www.highmarkblueshield.com and taking the “Pledge” and the “Wellness Profile.” Watch your email for further details and instructions on how to participate to earn the lowest health plan premium for the 2012/2013 year. For more information on the Healthy U program, go to the following link, select your appropriate employee group and then click on the “Wellness” button: www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Pages/home.aspx

Enrollment Rule Change:
Due to healthcare reform, student status alone no longer makes an adult child eligible to be covered under your health plan. An adult child is eligible to be covered under your plan only if they do not have other employer-based coverage available to them either through their own employer or through a spouse’s employer if they are married. Eligible adult children can be enrolled in your plan during the Open Enrollment window, or any time they lose their own coverage. If they lose their own coverage, an enrollment form must be received in the Office of Human Resources no later than 60 days from the date the adult child lost their own coverage.

PEBTF Covered Employees Only (AFSCME, SCUPA, Physicians)

Enrollment Rule Change:
PEBTF recently made changes to their enrollment rules. Effective immediately, you may enroll in the health plan or add dependents at any time during the year. A “qualifying event” is not required to enroll dependents. The effective date of the coverage can be no further than 60 days retroactive from the date you submit the enrollment form to Human Resources. Please note that a qualifying event is still necessary to drop a dependent from your coverage.

Get Healthy
PEBTF recently mailed letters regarding your status in the Get Healthy program. Please read the letter carefully. If you have any questions contact the PEBTF’s Get Healthy Unit at 1-800-522-7279, active member prompt (4), Get Healthy prompt (1).

Tuition Waiver
The dates for which tuition waiver session applications need to be submitted to Human Resources are: Winter 2012: October 25, 2011; spring 2012: November 7, 2011.

State Employee Assistance Program
The State System participates in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s employee assistance program. United Behavioral health has been chosen as the administrator for this program. State System employees and their family members are eligible to receive up to three free confidential counseling sessions to evaluate concerns and determine the best referral. Help is available for, but not limited to, many of the following issues: Stress, job burnout, depression, work-related problems, eating disorders, financial or legal concerns, anxiety, death and dying, parent-child conflict or relationship problems.

Services are available 24-hours a day, seven days per week by calling 1-800-692-7459. Lisa Ulrich, Benefits Manager, is Millersville’s SEAP coordinator who can answer questions about
the program. The services provided by SEAP are strictly confidential. You can learn more about the SEAP program on our website: www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/Benefits/tap%2 9/Pages/seap.aspx

Employee Recognition Program

On Thursday, December 8, 2011, Millersville University will be honoring employees at the annual Service Recognition Program in the Lehr Dining Room of the Bolger Conference Center, from 4-6 p.m. Awards will be presented to faculty and staff members upon completion of five years of service, and each five years thereafter.

Anniversary dates are calculated using the start dates and formula listed below:

Employee Wellness

Events
The employee wellness committee has events planned for the coming year. Highmark’s Drop 10 in 10 program begins on September 21. On October 18, Eleanor Isaacson will present “Are you Bitter or Better?” Foxchase Cancer Center will offer a lunch n learn about Breast Cancer on October 26. Empathy will be the topic discussed on November 8. In addition, we are accepting ideas for the second annual “Take a Hike,” which will begin in the spring 2012 semester. All events will be assigned a point value so that Healthy U participants (PASSHE Employee Health Plan) can earn points towards their annual goal.

For more information about the employee wellness program and scheduled events, please visit our website, http://www.millersville.edu/hr/wellness/index.php

Music Preparatory Program

The Millersville Music Preparatory Program is accepting students for the fall 2011 semester! Students and adults of all levels are welcome to enroll for these individual lessons. Twelve weekly half-hour lessons are taught by University music majors on weekdays and Saturdays. Lessons begin September 10.

Lessons include piano, woodwind, brass, string, guitar, percussion, voice (voice students must be 14 years or older).

Contact the music department for an application: Phone: 717-871-2159; Fax: 717-871-2304; Email: Joel.Behrens@millersville.edu.

North Museum’s Science Every 2nd Program

The community is invited to meet local scientists and participate in the North Museum of Natural History & Science’s Science Every 2nd program, which aims to connect the community members
with local scientists, and provide the opportunity to learn more about their current research and careers as part of their museum visit on the second weekend of every month. The schedule for this fall includes the following opportunities:

**September 10: Breaking Rocks with Water: The Fundamentals of Hydraulic Fracturing** - Visitors to the Museum will learn the basics of the innovative and controversial technology of “fracking” from two local professors of earth science. Dr. Sam Earman and professor emeritus Charlie Scharnberger, both of Millersville University, will help the curious understand this process and experience the power of water pressure that makes it possible.

**October 8: Bats!** - Dr. David Zegers of Millersville University will be at the Museum to share his expertise and affection for bats. Using specimens from the North Museum and Millersville collections, Zegers will discuss current issues facing the bat population include White-nose syndrome and windmill safety, as well as debunk some of the myths and misconceptions surrounding these unique mammals.

**November 13: Better Solar Panels** - Dr. Kate Plass of the Franklin & Marshall College’s chemistry department will share her progress in developing the next generation of solar panels and provide hands-on science demonstrations and opportunities for visitors to understand how this technology works.

The North Museum of Natural History & Science is located at 400 College Ave., Lancaster. Admission to the Museum is $7.50 for adults, and $6.50 for juniors (ages 3-17) and seniors (65 and over). For more information, call 717-291-3941 or visit [www.northmuseum.org](http://www.northmuseum.org).

**9/1/2011 Activities**

![Faculty & Staff Activities](image)

**Faculty and Staff Activities**

**Dr. Robert Carballo**, English, had his article, "A 'Monstrous Birth' Brought 'to the World's Light': The Assault on Authority and the Darkening of the Soul in 'Othello'," accepted for inclusion in a critical edition of "Othello" to be published by Ignatius Press in fall 2012.

**Dr. Mandi Dupain**, wellness and sport sciences, co-presented “Agreement Between Activity Monitoring Devices During Home Rehabilitation: A Sub-study of the AAA STOP Trial” at the 2011 European Society of Cardiology Congress in Paris, France, on August 27.
Dr. Christine Filippone, art history, published the peer-reviewed article “Cosmology and Transformation in the Work of Michelle Stuart” in Woman’s Art Journal, spring/summer, 2011. She will also co-chair the session “Gendering the Posthuman” at the national College Art Association conference held in Los Angeles, Calif., in February. At Millersville, she is organizing a panel to discuss the controversy and legal implications surrounding the exhibition “Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture” to include co-curator Jonathan Katz, chair of the visual studies doctoral program at SUNY Buffalo and Professor of Law Nancy Knauer, author of Gay and Lesbian Elders: History, Law and Identity Politics in the United States. The panel will be held November 9 and is co-sponsored by the Phillips Museum at Franklin & Marshall College.


Dr. E. Elliott Seda, educational foundations, presented a workshop to teachers titled “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Urban Teachers,” at the Professional Development Day of the School District of Lancaster on August 23.

Congratulations

To Dr. Angela Cuthbert, geography, who married Douglas Brown on July 30 in Ontario, Canada.

Retired

Dr. Jack Fischel, emeritus professor history, had his 11,000 word essay on the writer Sholem Asch accepted for publication in the Scribner’s series on American Writers. The publication will appear in 2012.

Obituary

Edwin J. Zarek, 71, of Palmyra, died on August 18 after a lengthy illness. He taught as an adjunct to the English department at Millersville University for 17 years.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This issue of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dr. Daniel Heslink, associate professor of music. Dr. Heslink retired at the end of this year after completing 28 years at Millersville University.

Q: Why did you decide to choose Millersville?
A: I was teaching at the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay before coming to Millersville. My wife and I are both from upstate New York and decided we wanted to move back east.
Q: What were some of your responsibilities at the University?
A: I directed the wind ensemble and percussion ensemble and taught percussion, composition, orchestration and international music.

Q: What was your favorite class to teach?
A: My favorite class was international music, for it allowed me to introduce the students to a wide variety of repertoire and skills.

Q: What is your favorite memory about Millersville?
A: My favorite memories have to do with the performances of my students. These are capstone experiences for the students, and I feel much pride in their achievements.

Q: What did you like the most about your job?
A: I enjoy conducting the wind ensemble. This is an accomplished organization and the artistic rewards are plentiful.

Q: How many years have you conducted at commencement ceremonies? How do you feel about conducting each one; did it ever get boring or were you able to keep it exciting?
A: I conducted the commencement band for the last 16 years. I confess that playing “Pomp and Circumstance” 30 to 40 times to get all our graduates into the stadium can seem tedious. On the other hand, I enjoy watching the students be conferred, and it is the last time I see the band members before the summer break.

Q: What is your main instrument?
A: I play all instruments of percussion.

Q: When did you first start playing?
A: I started playing drums at age six. When I was that young, my parents took me to a performance given by jazz drumming legend, Gene Krupa; after that, I began studying immediately.

Q: When did you know you wanted to do music for the rest of your life?
A: This is the earliest of my childhood memories. I recall as a toddler hearing music on the radio and thinking it was the most beautiful experience one could have.

Q: Tell us about your involvement with the Lancaster Marimba Ensemble?
A: The Lancaster Marimba Ensemble is a semi-professional organization that is dedicated to the continuation of live marimba performance in Southeastern Pennsylvania. I formed the group in 1991, and it is comprised of my former students who have stayed within the region after graduation. We perform a varied repertoire of classical, Latin, jazz and spiritual music at regional arts festivals and concert venues.

Q: Are you involved with any other projects or groups?
A: I also belong to a professional group titled, “Overdekte Brug Percussietrio.” This translates
as “Covered Bridge Percussion Trio,” but we use the Pennsylvania Dutch designation as a way to create some regional identity when we perform in national venues.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up in Buffalo, New York, at the time that Lukas Foss was organizing his new music series at the Albright Knox Art Gallery. This was a big influence in my early musical development.

Q: What college/university did you attend? Major?
A: I majored in music education during my bachelor’s degree at SUNY Fredonia, music performance in my master’s degree at SUNY and Ithaca College, and percussion pedagogy and performance in my doctoral degree at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

Q: What was your very first job?
A: In my first job I taught music in a maximum security prison in upstate New York and played percussion with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra.

Q: What did you want to be when you were younger?
A: I always wanted to be a musician, but I did have a strong interest in music’s related discipline, mathematics.

Q: What is the best concert you have ever been to?
A: The finest performing I ever witnessed was the London Symphony playing Berlioz’s “Requiem.”

Q: How do you like to spend your free time?
A: I compose music, mostly for collegiate-level percussionists and bands.

Q: What is your ideal vacation?
A: I like to travel through Europe, visiting the concert halls were the European master musicians worked and hearing a lot of fine music.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?
A: My greatest accomplishment so far is a summer residency program for high school musicians that came from disadvantaged backgrounds that we called, “Music As a Vehicle for Success.”

Q: Do you have a favorite song lyric or quote?
A: “Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and cannot remain silent” - Victor Hugo

Q: Is there anything else you’d like to tell us?
A: I also served the University in a variety of capacities including chairperson of the music department (four years), interim associate dean for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (two years) and chairperson of the University Planning Council (four years).