

Exchange
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\$1.2 Million NSF Grant to Fund Future Mathematics Teachers

Mathematics education students at Millersville University can soon get help with their tuition thanks to a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant, "Increasing the Quality and Quantity of Mathematics Teachers for High-Need Districts," is for \$1,199,469, and will fund the mathematics department's newly formed Noyce Scholars program. Approximately 84 percent of the money will go directly to student scholarships.

"We anticipate that this scholarship program will impact all future mathematics teachers trained at Millersville University, as well as increase the awareness and training of the mathematics education faculty on campus," said Dr. Janet White, associate professor of mathematics and principal investigator of the University's grant committee.



Twenty-four undergraduates and six post-baccalaureate mathematics education students will receive scholarships up to the cost of attendance for each academic year.

Undergraduate awardees will be eligible for up to two years of support; post-baccalaureates will receive one year of support. Total funding will be granted over a five-year period, beginning September 1, 2011. The program will include specific training and educational opportunities to help teacher candidates to successfully teach in high-need districts, and all of the candidates' field placements will occur in urban settings. The participants will also have the opportunity to take leadership roles in guiding future mathematics teachers through their ongoing participation in seminars for all majors.

Scholarships will be offered based on merit to outstanding students who will teach mathematics, with a particular interest in teaching in an urban or high-need environment. Students receiving scholarships must agree that, in exchange for the scholarship, they will teach for two years in a high-need school district for each year of support they receive.

This project falls under the direction of Millersville faculty members Drs. White and Delray Schultz, mathematics; Dr. Jane Bray, dean of the school of education and associate provost; Dr. John Ward, educational foundations; and Dr. Robert Smith, dean of the School of science and mathematics.

The NSF is a national organization that provides opportunities for research and education funding in all areas of science and engineering.

Interested students may contact White at 717-872-3957 or Janet.White@millersville.edu, to be put on a stand-by list to receive information on the application process as it becomes available.

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Millersville Named One of the Top “Green” Colleges

Once again, Millersville University has earned a spot in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 311 Green Colleges for its sustainability efforts and environmental initiatives. The guide features 311 school profiles of “green” highlights of the most eco-friendly campuses and stats on sustainability including “green” majors, job placement and more. The schools were measured on how environmentally friendly they are on a scale of 60 to 99.



“This achievement shows the work Millersville University has been doing to ‘go green,’” said Roger Bruszewski, vice president for finance and administration. “It does not end here, though. We will continue with our sustainability efforts and hopefully get more students, faculty and staff involved to improve our campus even further.”

Millersville was also honored in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 286 Green Colleges, the first, free, comprehensive guidebook focused on institutions of higher education who have demonstrated a commitment to sustainability.

Millersville’s green highlights featured the “Climate and Society” course, where students record a greenhouse gas inventory for the campus. The data collected includes electricity usage, traffic activity, fertilizer applications and solid waste disposal, used to identify where the University could improve sustainability.

Stayer Hall was also mentioned as meeting LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification standards. Built with energy-efficient fixtures and recycled materials, Stayer helped the campus become proactive in its sustainability efforts.

Millersville’s “green” facts include the reduction of its carbon footprint by seven percent last year, percent of food budget spent on local and organic food, transportation alternatives, waste diversion rate, percentage of school energy from renewable resources, percent of school cleaning products that are green-certified and more.

The Princeton Review’s Guide to 311 Green Colleges chose schools based on a survey conducted in 2010. The guide was produced cooperatively with the United States Green Building Council, an organization known for developing the LEED green building certification program. The 2011 guide can be downloaded at www.princetonreview.com/green-guide.aspx.

MU Signs Five-Year Agreement to Collect Precipitation

We depend on precipitation to live, and while the benefits are fairly obvious, it may come as a surprise that each rain drop can carry a variety of chemicals that cumulatively can be detrimental to human health, as well as the health of ecosystems. These chemicals, including heavy metals such as mercury, can be transported long distances from their sources before raining out. Since 2002, Millersville's Department of Earth Sciences has been involved in a program that continuously monitors precipitation at a site near Millersville. The University recently signed a new five year agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to continue the monitoring.

The site, 2.3 miles west of Millersville, is officially called PA47, and is located on the Yocom Farm. The precipitation that is dutifully collected each Tuesday by meteorology students, whether in the sticky heat of summer or blinding winter blizzards, is sent off to be analyzed for a suite of chemicals (specifically ions). The results make up the database of the National Trends Network (NTN), which tracks the spatial and long-term temporal trends of chemicals and mercury in rain water.



The new contract included funding for a recently installed automated rain gauge that reduces what was once a tedious and fault-prone data collection process to a simple download to a PDA (personal digital assistant). In addition, there has been a significant upgrade or replacement of the collectors used for ion chemistry and mercury, and a new apparatus has been added that captures the dry deposition of mercury on a filter. Students now sample for mercury in rain water and in dry air.

In addition to the importance of PA47 for the purpose of providing ion and mercury trends for this area, and contributing to the national trends database, the site has substantial educational value. More than 25 students have participated in sample collection, and each year, NADP supports one student to attend an in-depth, comprehensive, three-day training workshop. These students in turn train the rest of the team on the current collection procedures. Two students have used the national trends database for research projects and presented their findings at national conferences.

“Our hope is that we can continue supporting the NTN for years to come,” says site supervisor Dr. Richard Clark, earth sciences. “Our students learn valuable sampling procedures and field methods. They learn to troubleshoot problems and fix many on their own. They are a dedicated group of assistants without whom the project could not succeed. The national database of ion chemistry and mercury in precipitation, and now dry deposition of mercury, is all the better for their effort.”

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Caption for photo: Meteorology students Phil Falgoust (left) and Tim Juliano collect samples from two of five collectors. Students are responsible for collection, keeping records, and shipping the samples to labs for analysis every Tuesday.

Millersville Parade Celebrates “Our American Heritage”

One of the major events taking place during Homecoming 2011 is the Millersville Community Parade. Community leaders, Phil and Mary Ann Gerber, will lead the two-mile award-winning parade that attracts more than 5,000 spectators. The theme for this year’s parade, taking place on Saturday, October 29, is “Our American Heritage 1761-2011 – Celebrating Millersville’s 250th Anniversary.”

According to parade chairman Steven DiGuissepe, “This is one of the best and most eclectic parades in the county! And maybe even the biggest!” The parade starts at 9 a.m. at Penn Manor High School and ends at approximately 11:30 a.m. past the Student Memorial Center (SMC) on Millersville University’s campus.



The parade includes more than 2,000 participants annually with approximately 150 entries ranging from 15 bands and dance troops to antique vehicles and more than 70 live animals. The 2011 parade will be dedicated to Cpl. Eric Torbert, a U.S. Marine killed in Afghanistan in late 2010, and who was a Penn Manor High School graduate. This year’s parade will also include a Toys for Tots donation pickup of unwrapped new toys (during the parade, as well as at a drop-off location at the SMC on parade day).

For more information, visit the parade website at www.parade.millersville.edu.

Millersville University Homecoming 2011

It’s that time of year again; Millersville University is celebrating its 2011 homecoming weekend with a number of events from Thursday, October 27 to Saturday, October 29.

Thursday, October 27

- 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Science and Mathematics Student Research Poster Display from undergraduate and graduate research projects in the lobby of Caputo Hall.
- 7 p.m. Distinguished Lecture in Nursing featuring Ann L. O’Sullivan, presenting “Are You Ready for the Consensus Model to be Implemented?” in Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall.

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Friday, October 28

- 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Science and Mathematics Student Research Poster Display from undergraduate and graduate research projects in the lobby of Caputo Hall.
- 5:30 p.m. The 17th annual Athletic Hall of Fame reception and dinner, for the 2011 honorees, alumni and friends. *Reservations are required.*
- 8 p.m. The University Theatre is presenting “Teible and Her Demon” in Rafters Theatre, Dutcher Hall.

Saturday, October 29

- 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Science and Mathematics Student Research Poster Display from undergraduate and graduate research projects in the lobby of Caputo Hall.
- 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free tours of the new Student Memorial Center (SMC).
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free tours of Downtown Lancaster Central Market, The Ware Center at Millersville University and the Lancaster County Convention Center.
- Noon. The School of Education, the School of Science and Mathematics and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences are holding alumni gatherings at the SMC.
- Noon-2 p.m. “Author, Author!” invites all alumni, faculty, staff and retirees to feature, sell and autograph their books in the SMC Main Lobby.
- Noon-3 p.m. Millersville Pictorial Postmark in the SMC Main Lobby – The U.S. Postal Service will be on hand to officially postmark any paper item with the Millersville 250th Anniversary pictorial postmark (the official logo of their special anniversary year); 2011 is the anniversary of the original land signing between John Miller and a local Indian tribe who originally owned the acres now known as Millersville.
- 1:30 p.m. Marauder Football vs. Shippensburg at Chryst field, Biemesderfer Stadium, which includes a presentation of the 2011 Athletic Hall of Fame recipients and the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient R. William Field '77, '85M. Halftime brings the 2011 Charity King and Queen crowning and the Millersville University Marching Band performance.
- 3:30 p.m. The 5th Quarter Chili Fest will be held at the Alumni Marauders Cove Tent, Biemesderfer Stadium. Alumni from 2001, 1991 and 1981 are welcome to gather and celebrate their 10th, 20th and 30th class reunions. *Registration is required.*
- 6 p.m. The 150th Anniversary of the Alumni Association celebration is in Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall. All former board, committee and/or chapter members are invited to celebrate the history of the alumni association. *Registration is required.*
- 8 p.m. Ending the weekend of Homecoming activities will be the University Theatre's presentation of “Teible and Her Demon” in Rafters Theatre, Dutcher Hall.



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For a full listing of Millersville's Homecoming events, visit www.millersville.edu/calendar. For questions, contact the alumni services at 717-872-3352, 800-681-1855 (toll-free) or by email, at mualumni@millersville.edu. Visit the alumni homepage at www.villalumni.com to register for Homecoming events.

Dr. David Zegers Goes Bat Crazy at North Museum

Do you want to know if bats carry rabies? Do they suck blood? Are they blind? Do they get caught in your hair? If so, join Dr. David Zegers, professor of biology at Millersville, on Saturday, October 8, as he shares his expertise on the behavior of bats.



The discussion, which will take place from 1- 4 p.m., will be held as part of Lancaster County's North Museum's Science Every 2nd program, where young and old can become educated about current endeavors in the science world, new research and even possible career paths. The program, which encourages community members to interact with local scientists, is held during the second weekend of every month throughout the year.

During the presentation, Zegers will be using preserved bat "skins" and skeletons from North Museum's collection, in addition to the University's, to discuss the myths and facts about these creatures and why they are important to the Susquehanna Valley. Other topics include white nose syndrome, windmill safety and how we can protect bats from future harm.

"In general, I hope that members of the audience will be less fearful of bats at the end of the presentation," said Zegers. "More specifically, I hope that the participants will better understand bat behavior, they will learn why bats are so important to us and how we can live with them around us."



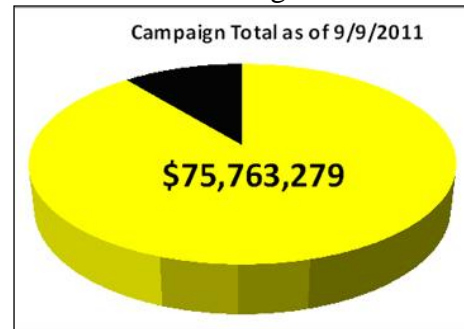
The North Museum of Natural History & Science is located at 400 College Avenue, Lancaster. Admission to the museum is \$7.50 for adults, \$6.50 for juniors (ages 3-17) and seniors (65 and over). For more information, call 717-291-3941 or visit www.northmuseum.org.

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Millersville Campaign: An Update

The five-year “Soar to Greatness” campaign continues to reach toward its goal of \$85 million by 2013. So far, the University has brought in pledges and contributions totaling \$75.7 million as of September 9, 2011.

The eight areas that the campaign supports include student-faculty research and faculty development; the library; global opportunities; scholarship and fellowships; student health and wellness; instructional equipment; civic engagement and community partnerships and visual and performing arts.



For more information, visit the [Soar to Greatness: The Campaign for Millersville University](#).

Follow MU on Twitter

Want to know when fellow faculty members are performing a recital or what outstanding scientists will be leading the Biology Colloquium lectures? Consider following Millersville University’s official twitter feed at [MillersillveU](#) for events, speakers, closures and other important information. Also provided on the MillersvilleU twitter feed will be event photos and related links.

Twitter is a social networking service that allows users to post messages (tweets) up to 140 characters for other users (followers) to read. To follow Millersville, you need a Twitter account. You can sign up for free at: [twitter.com/](#). Twitter also has its own free application that is accessible from any Smartphone.



For more information on Millersville University’s Twitter feed, contact Janet Kacskos, director of communications, at 717-872-3723 or Janet.Kacskos@millersville.edu.

Need to Know: WANTED: Millersville’s Got Talent Contestants

Millersville is celebrating its 250th anniversary during the 2011 year. In commemoration of this unique milestone, a special entertainment program entitled Millersville’s Got Talent (MGT), is being produced in the borough to showcase local talent. Grand Prize: \$500.

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The contest is open to Penn Manor School District and Millersville University students, faculty/staff, their alumni, Millersville borough residents and Millersville business employees. Contestants can be singers, dancers, musicians, jugglers, comedians—even animal acts—all ages are encouraged to tryout. Some restrictions apply.

Tryouts will be held on Sunday, October 16 at 1 p.m. at Millersville University's Pucillo Gymnasium. Entry information, rules and regulations and related documents can be found online at www.millersville250.org or call the alumni services office at 717-872-3352 for registration materials. Entry Fee: \$5/per act.



Public shows are scheduled for November 6 and November 20, both at 3 p.m. at Millersville University, with a panel of local judges. Tickets can be obtained by calling the Ticket Office at 717-872-3811.

MGT host will be Lori Burkholder, news anchor from WGAL-TV (and MU alumnus). Judges will include:

- Chris Ivey, professional juggler, Penn Manor School District Elementary Teacher; Millersville University alumnus;
- David Patterson, member of the Wheatland Chorale, president of the Millersville Business Association/Millersville 250 committee/Manager and Pharmacist, Wiley's Pharmacy, Millersville;
- Kristin Sims, vocal instructor, Millersville University; soloist, who has appeared with several US symphony's, orchestras and many operatic performances;
- Raymond Antonelli, director/producer/actor from Lancaster County; Millersville University alumnus.

Millersville 250 is dedicated to showcasing Millersville Borough and its 250th anniversary by focusing attention on its people, schools, businesses and service organizations of the community while celebrating the borough's history and heritage. Visit millersville250.org for more information on upcoming events and commemorative apparel.

Need to Know: Fall 2011 Biology Colloquium Series

The Millersville University biology department has announced the schedule for the fall 2011 Biology Colloquium series. The Colloquium Series features alumni, professors and various professionals within diverse disciplines of science presenting their work, recent findings and upcoming research.

“The purpose of the Biology Colloquium is to bring outstanding scientists to campus to talk and interact with our students,” said Dr. Ryan Wagner, biology. “We strongly believe that these colloquia provide wonderful opportunities and expect that all students who are serious about biology will attend.”

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The series includes a total of 11 lectures, which can be found at www.millersville.edu/academics/scma/biology/colloquium-series.php.

Need to Know: Fall 2011 Joint Math Colloquium: MU and F&M

Millersville University and Franklin & Marshall College are co-hosting the fall 2011 Joint Math Colloquium. On most Thursdays, there will be a mathematics colloquium talk either at Millersville University or at Franklin & Marshall College. These colloquium talks may be by visiting speakers or MU/F&M faculty or students.

The series includes a total of eight lectures, which can be found at www.millersville.edu/math/colloquiums--seminars.php.

10/6/2011 Activities



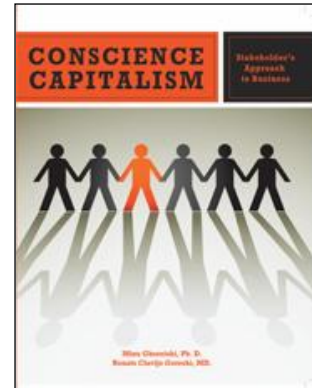
Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Thomas P. Bell, applied engineering, safety and technology, participated as an invited panelist addressing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives for the new class of Einstein Fellows in the Rayburn House Building in Washington, D.C., on September 1. Bell is the president of the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Dr. Alex DeCaria, earth sciences, completed a four-day course at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Md. The course, titled "Basic Hazus Multi-Hazards," teaches the use of a FEMA-developed Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software package for use in earthquake, flooding and hurricane response, recovery and mitigation planning. DeCaria will be incorporating elements of the Hazus software into a new course (GIS Applications for Emergency Management) that he will be teaching as part of the M.S. in Emergency Management degree program.

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Dr. M. Ghoreishi, management, had her book, *Conscience Capitalism, A Stakeholder's Approach to Business*, published on September 1. The textbook deals with overall ethics and business ethics and is being used in her classes this semester. The book offers an overview of stakeholders' models and conscious capitalism in a comprehensive and simple way for undergraduate students, but informative for others. The topics of this book emerged from efforts to learn from the recent economical crisis of 2007 – 2010, and supplement the concept of conscious capitalism to the business approach since there has not been as much emphasis on this subject.



Dr. Leroy Hopkins, foreign languages, participated in a seminar from June 25-July 9 in Berlin, Germany, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG), Neuer Blick, which introduced 20 American teachers of German to multicultural Berlin. Each participant is expected to either make a presentation or prepare an essay based on his or her experiences. As a member of the AATG's "Alle Lernen Deutsch" ("Everybody is Learning German"), a committee set up in 1991 to develop strategies to improve participation of students of color in the learning and teaching of German, Hopkins attended the workshop to see first-hand what the committee had developed in Berlin and also to gain information for an article, which he intends to write on African Americans in Berlin.

In addition, from August 18-21, Hopkins attended the first ever Black German Convention sponsored by the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C., and the Black German Cultural Society, Inc., of New Jersey. He is a board member of the latter group and presented at the convention ideas on how Black Germans and teachers of German can work together. A high point of the convention was a visit to Capitol Hill to be interviewed by the staff of the U.S. Helsinki Commission ("Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe"). The commission is one of two bodies in government that represents both the Legislature and the Executive branch.

Drs. Karen Rice and Heather Girvin, social work, presented their paper, titled "Through Their Eyes: Using Photography to Mitigate the Effects of Trauma" at Fordham University's Be The Evidence Project: Arts for Individual and Social Change Forum on September 24.

Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, sang in a concert of Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" in Royal Albert Hall, London, on July 10, under the direction of conductor Brian Kay. She also sang as an alto ringer with the St. Olave's Singers in a special noontime Eucharist at St. Olave's Church in the City of London, which featured Victoria's "Mass in Eb" on July 26. On August 15, she sang in a festival service for "Maria Himmelfahrt" as an alto ringer in Mozart's "Mass in 'C'" with the Augustinerkirche Choir at the Augustinerkirche in Vienna, Austria. In addition, she sang with the Distinguished Concerts International Chorus on September 11, in a special program commemorating the 10th anniversary of

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the attacks on the World Trade Center. The program was held in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York.

Dr. Ron Umble, mathematics, and former post-bac student Matthew Kirby, published a paper in the October 2011 issue of the mathematics magazine titled “Edge Tessellations and Stamp Folding Puzzles.” The main result in this paper was discovered by Millersville students Andrew Hall, Matthew Kirby and Joshua York during a research seminar directed by Umble in the spring of 2009. In addition, Umble was an invited plenary speaker at the International Conference on Modern Algebra and its Applications, held at the Batumi State University in Batumi, Republic of Georgia, September 19 – 26. His talk, titled “Non-operadic Operations on Loop Cohomology,” introduced the first example of a new algebraic operation that occurs in nature and can be used to computationally distinguish between certain digitally encoded geometrical objects. And, Umble will give the opening plenary address at the fall 2011 meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Section of the Mathematical Association of America to be held at Bryn Mawr College on November 19. His talk, titled “Mathematical Research Experiences for Undergraduates at Millersville University,” highlights various undergraduate research projects directed by Umble over the past decade.

Dr. Yuan Zhong, biology, chaired session two of the 2011 International Conference on Food Engineering and Biotechnology this summer in Bangkok, Thailand, and made an oral presentation, “Role of ABA in Ethylene-independent Flower Senescence – PP2C as a Positive Effector of ABA Signaling,” at the conference, which is coauthored by Millersville student Claire Ciafré. This presentation won the Best Paper Award of this conference. She received funding from PASSHE Faculty Development Grants, as well as outside support from the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation in Oklahoma to research “Comparative Genome-level Analysis of the Terpene Synthase Gene Family in Glandular-trichome-bearing *Medicago* and Non-glandular-trichome-bearing *Arabidopsis*.” She had a poster, “Comparative Genome-Level Analysis of the Terpene Synthase Gene Family in *Medicago truncatula* and *Arabidopsis thaliana*,” coauthored and presented by her Millersville student Michael Parker at the 41th Annual Meeting of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania University Biologists, which won second place in the poster presentation category at the workshop.

Retired

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, elementary and early childhood education, continues to present keynote addresses to conferences and conventions for corporate, teacher and parent groups. On October 1, Denenberg gave a keynote Hooray for Heroes presentation in Austin, Texas, at the Texas State Social Studies Supervisors Conference. On November 1, he will be the emcee for the Dollars for Scholars Gala at The Ware Center at Millersville University Lancaster. And, on November 11, he will give a Hooray for Heroes presentation at the Core Knowledge National Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Obituary

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Byron R. Detwiler, 71, of Manheim, professor emeritus of French at Millersville University, died September 19. He was a 1962 graduate of Millersville.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This issue of the Exchange features Dawn E. Reese, director of budget at Millersville University.

Q: Who do you work the most closely with?

A: Typically, most days are spent working closely with my budget office colleagues Jenn Mariacher, Gladys Laporte and Kerri Stark; however, I do have ongoing conversations with various colleagues across campus on a wide variety of issues related to budget. I also engage in quite a bit of dialogue with the vice president of finance and administration throughout the year – especially during re-budget and closeout activities.



Q: What are the three main factors (or main areas) that come into play when allocating funds?

A: The number one factor, especially over the past several years, has been the limited availability of discretionary funds. The association of allocations with the University's mission, vision and strategic directions is an important factor as well. And finally, prioritizing what is most important to the overall success of the University is a factor when allocations are approved by the cabinet.

Q: Are you involved in any of the donation processes?

A: Only to the extent of budgeting for and designating actual unrestricted gifts at the end of the fiscal year.

Q: Do you ever get nervous being in charge of such large amounts of money?

A: Not so much anymore, believe it or not! However, in my younger days I sometimes felt like I had the weight of the world on my shoulders. I think a certain kind of peace comes with growing older and knowing that if you've done the best you can, then it's all good. Of course, it's comforting to know you are surrounded by budget office colleagues, a president and cabinet officers who take it just as seriously and work very hard to make it all balance out.

Q: Do you balance your own check book?

A: Absolutely! Online banking downloads, Quicken software and a Mac laptop are my best friends.

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Q: Have you always been good at math, or is it strictly financial math that you excel in?

A: I have to be honest and tell you that the words calculus, geometry and algebra are not my friends. I live in a world of debits, credits, revenues, expenditures, operating surplus and shortfall and fund balance. So I guess I am good at a certain kind of math, but not all maths. However, I love numbers and know that there must be a science to the numbers behind Angry Birds, which if I understood more fully, would help me get past level 14, where I've been stuck for months.

Q: What age should you to learn how to figure out your own budget?

A: It's never too soon to start; it's probably good to start as soon as you begin to earn cash, even if it's just an allowance.

Q: What is the biggest challenge your job presents you with?

A: It's definitely the Commonwealth's "wait until the last minute" and "one year at a time" budget mentality. It makes planning very difficult and results in tuition rates, which can also be subject to politics, being approved at the last minute.

Q: Tell me about Team Holy Walkamolies.

A: Team Holy Walkamolies (and I cannot take credit for the name) was the name of our walking team. A group of budget and finance colleagues participated in a healthy living challenge to walk the length of the Appalachian Trail this past spring. Unfortunately, we didn't quite make it to the summit.

Q: You have worked at Millersville for more than 33 years. What has been the biggest positive change you have seen on campus, in our opinion?

A: Technology. I cannot imagine life without computers, shared administrative systems (Banner, SAP-FI) and report writers (Hyperion, BI).

Q: What is the best advice you can give to college students about their budget?

A: Pay attention to your spending and remember that credit card balances will eventually need to be paid.

Q: Considering the recent difficulties in the national economy, do you have any day-to-day lifestyle tips you can recommend for people trying to pinch pennies?

A: Brown bagging it really does seem to save money in the long run, but always give yourself the opportunity to participate in 'Taco Tuesday' at the SMC during the fall and spring semesters!

Q: What is something that influences the budget on a college campus that might not be obvious to the layman?

A: The cost of health care benefits is enormous. The average annual contribution that the University makes to cover one full-time employee's health care benefits is approximately \$16,000.

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Q: On a scale of one to ten, what is the stress level of creating budget projections and then having to wait a full school year to see if they match the real costs?

A: I'd give it a five. However, we don't wait until the end of the fiscal year in June to see how we're doing. We evaluate our overall budget status in the fall and the spring after enrollments are known and revise our projections along the way.

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Blue, but don't ask me why because I really don't know.

Q: Where are you originally from?

A: Willow Street, Pa.

Q: What is the biggest challenge life has presented you with?

A: Losing my mother. However, if one is open to it, significant heartache can provide positive opportunities for growth and change.

Q: Did you have a Fischer Price cash register, complete with working drawers and red, yellow and blue coins?

A: This question made me laugh out loud! No, I did not. I did, however, have a wooden train with cars painted red, yellow and blue with cigar shaped characters fitting into holes on the roofs of each car. One character (my favorite) was painted green and I named him Pickle Face. I still have the train, but unfortunately Pickle Face has disappeared.

Q: Do you clip coupons?

A: No. The coupon inserts are the first thing I throw away when reading the Sunday News!

Q: What is your best tip for stress relief?

A: I can't speak for everyone but I love to get lost in a novel by Vince Flynn where my hero Mitch Rapp saves the USA from its enemies on a daily basis.