

April 7, 2011
Exchange

Millersville Programs Promote Diversity and Inclusion

The Millersville University campus community came together this week to recognize Silencing the Hate week, April 4-8. The objective: To bring attention to anti- LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual, queer/questioning, intersex or allies/androgynous/asexual) name-calling, bullying and harassment.

“Making a strong presence on campus will be the Silent Witness Peacekeepers,” said Dr. Blaise Liffick. “The true value of this program was demonstrated last spring when Westboro Baptist Church threatened to protest on Millersville’s campus – the Silent Witness Peacekeepers came out in force.”

Liffick is a computer science professor at Millersville who serves as chairman of the LGBTQIA Committee of the President’s Commission of Cultural Diversity and Inclusion. He also serves as



director of operations for Silent Witness Peacekeepers Alliance, a nonprofit agency he runs with his wife that provides Peacekeeper training to campuses and other groups.

The Silent Witness Peacekeepers Alliance at Millersville University is an organization of gay and straight allies that helps the LGBTQIA community have safe and peaceful events by preventing confrontations between protesters and those who wish to participate.

Training sessions were recently held for those interested in becoming Peacekeepers.

In addition, this past year brought many changes to Millersville –changes that have nothing to do with construction or the outward appearance of the University. These changes have more to do with Millersville’s mission of cultivating a diverse and inclusive community for all Millersville University members: faculty, staff and students.

One such change is the re-establishment of the Safe Zone program at Millersville.

After disappearing 15 years ago, the Safe Zone program is back to establish a visible network of University employees who wish to be supportive of LGBTQIA persons.



“Millersville is taking great strides to improve our campus,” said Liffick. “Part of that improvement is to make sure that students get a fair shot at an education regardless of their sexual orientation.”

Earlier this month, 18 Millersville faculty and staff members participated in Safe Zone training, joining the 28 who were trained previously this semester. Those trained received a door hanger featuring a pink triangle, which lets faculty, staff and students who may be struggling with LGBTQIA issues know that their door is always open.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

A Campus Climate survey from 2009 revealed that homophobia and heterosexism was one of the main “issues” that needed more work at Millersville. Gender neutral bathrooms have been installed in the Student Memorial Center, which Liffick says is a positive step. In addition, the renovated library will also include gender neutral bathrooms.

For more information on these programs, contact Liffick at Blaise.Liffick@millersville.edu or 717-872-3536. To learn more about the Safe Zone program at Millersville University, visit www.millersville.edu/social/eq/SafeZones.php.

Top photo courtesy of the Intelligencer Journal/Lancaster New Era, Lancaster, Pa.

Millersville News and Information Goes Digital

The University community will now be able to receive campus information with the help of 21 flat screen digital signs installed to provide a variety of content and information.

Currently, the screens are located in Gordinier Hall, Caputo Hall, Boyer Building, Ganser Library, Gerhart Hall and the Student Memorial Center (SMC). They are being used to promote a variety of topics ranging from digital menu boards, campus weather and news, conference/dining information, employee information, library information and a digital marquee for events.



“In the future, these screens will not only be an invaluable source for information about what is going on at Millersville, but they will also be incorporated into the Emergency Messaging System, giving another media outlet for important messages to the campus community,” said Robert Sempsey, computer operations manager for Student Services, Inc. (SSI).

In Boyer, one screen is a touch screen with a people finder for the building, along with campus events, a weather center and an interactive campus map. There are currently three screens in the open areas of the SMC, and when the renovation is complete, there will be a total of four screens for weather and news, a digital marquee at the ticket window, six in the Galley and 10 smaller screens in the meeting rooms for building scheduling information.

SSI has also been working with campus organizations and departments to decrease the amount of paper used for advertisements and to promote the new digital signage. Departments and groups on campus who want to use the new screens can contact SSI at thespot@ssi.millersville.edu or they can submit advertisements for events by visiting www.studentservicesinc.com/the-spot.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

New Name for Student Programs

The Office of Student Programs does more than just student programming; they are involved with Greek life, clubs and organizations, orientation and more. This is why they have decided to change their name to the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership.

“We feel the new name better represents the services we provide to students on campus,” said Kelly Duncan, assistant director of student programs. “Hopefully the name change will give students a better understanding of the work we do with students and the learning opportunities available to them.”

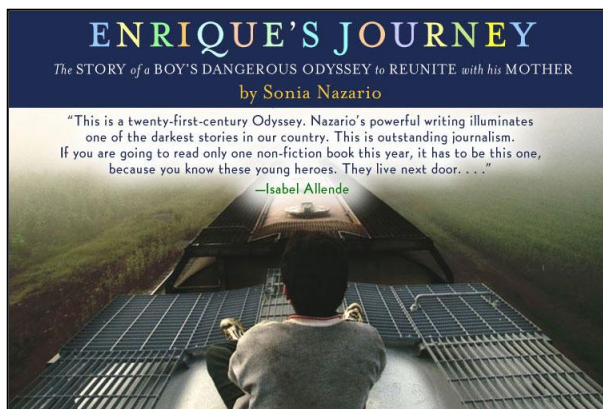


The student programs office decided on the name change after researching what similar offices at other universities were called, and combined terms that reflected the work they do. They will begin using the new name, the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, when they move into the new office in the Student Memorial Center (SMC) this May.

The student programs office is currently located at Franklin House. When the program moves into the SMC, it will be located next to the student organization space behind the information desk. For more information, contact the office at 717-872-3506.

Take a Trip to Honduras with the Freshman Reading

The 2011-12 freshman common reading book is *Enrique's Journey*, written by Sonia Nazario.



In this true story, award-winning journalist Nazario recounts the unforgettable odyssey of a Honduran boy who braves unimaginable hardships and peril to reach his mother in the United States.

Based on the Los Angeles Times newspaper series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, one for feature writing and another for feature photography, *Enrique's Journey* is the timeless story of families torn apart, the yearning to be

together again and a boy who will risk his life to find the mother he loves.

“We hope that by selecting a text with so many universal themes that an intellectual community can be built around the book,” said Dr. Caleb Corkery, assistant department chairperson and associate professor of English. “This story will engage students in critical thinking and allow

April 7, 2011
Exchange

them to perceive the world from a different perspective.”

Nazario will be part of a symposium on September 19 and will lecture on the theme of understanding the immigrant experience.

Enrique’s Journey is available at the University Store for \$14.40. It can also be ordered online at the University store’s website, <http://store.studentservicesinc.com/>.

Get Connected



You can now get the latest from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) right from Millersville’s homepage, by clicking on the “Get Connected with PASSHE” link near the bottom of the homepage. The PASSHE site

features the latest on the budget and news clips about PASSHE institutions.

“This is a timely addition to the University’s website,” said Francine G. McNairy, president of Millersville. “It will allow those who visit our website – students, faculty, staff, parents and others –to directly access information from PASSHE.”

Millersville Sponsors Fulton “Day on Campus”

Millersville University students will have the opportunity to interact directly with professional



directors and actors from the production “Michael Archangel,” thanks to a partnership with the Fulton Theatre. The University has worked with the Fulton in preparing an in-residence day on campus, Thursday, April 14.

“The Fulton Day on Campus brings members of the production including the cast, director and manager, to the University to speak to students, faculty and staff,” said Victor Capece, professor of communication and theatre. “Throughout

the day, three sessions will be held for production members to speak about communication, theatre and marketing.”

April 7, 2011
Exchange

The first session, “From Inspiration to Performance,” will have the director and actors discuss the development of a play, the process of adapting older works into a modern setting and the role and treatment of women within the work place.

Session two, “Michael Archangel’s Impact,” will have production members discuss historical connections, characterization and the design of “Michael Archangel,” along with the sharing of design renderings.

Session three, “Market This!” is for communication or public relations, marketing, graphic design, art design and business programs. The play “Michael Archangel” does not have the usual elements a Fulton production typically has and it offers marketing challenges, which will be discussed during the session on how to market theater.

Session one runs will from 9:30-10:45 a.m., session two from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and session three from 1-2:15 p.m. Anyone can attend the sessions; however, seating is limited. For more information on this year’s Fulton “Day on Campus,” contact Capece at Victor.Capece@millersville.edu or 717-872-3128.

“Michael Archangel” was written by playwright Joseph Lauinger and is the winner of the Fulton’s Discovery Project, a new biennial playwriting contest.

MUPD Joins PASSHE Officers in Unveiling of New Pin

The Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America (SPFPA) recently joined with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) to create a law enforcement pin. Millersville University Police Department (MUPD) officers are among the PASSHE officers wearing the new pin, which features the PASSHE logo.



A small ceremony was held February 24, in Harrisburg, where Chancellor John C. Cavanaugh spoke and the uniform pin was unveiled. MUPD Sgt. Bryan E. Cummins attended the event.



“Initially, the idea was to design a universal PASSHE police patch that would replace the individual ones used by officers at their respective universities,” said Cummins. “Due to differences in uniform colors, construction, etc., the pin seemed to be a better solution overall. The pin is silver in color, about the size of a half-dollar and includes the current PASSHE logo.”

The pin, a suggestion by officers in the SPFPA, will be added to university law enforcement uniforms and is intended to be worn by officers from all 14 PASSHE universities. The pin was designed by Tony Cooper, web support specialist in the Office of the Chancellor.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

Ticket Office Back in the SMC

Millersville University's Ticket Office has moved back into the Student Memorial Center (SMC). The ticket office is now located in SMC, Room 103. The rest of their contact information remains the same:

- **Hours:** Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Ticket Office Phone:** 717-872-3811
- **Ticket Manager,** Lydia Yeager: 717-871-5522
- **Fax:** 717-871-2156
- **Website:** www.MUTicketsOnline.com



“Glorious Easter” at Millersville University - Lancaster



“Glorious Easter” will be held Monday, April 18 at 7 p.m. at Millersville University – Lancaster. “Glorious Easter” features Lancaster favorites, Daniella Dalli, Randall Frizado, Katie Wieand and Philadelphia leading man Jeff Coon. This evening features songs from every walk of life and is meant to inspire your life and brighten your day. Singing solos and group numbers, the singers will perform such songs as "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "Hallelujah." There will also be traditional hymns like “Amazing Grace” and contemporary Christian hits by Selah and Indigo and a fantastic duet rendition of "Get Happy/Happy Days Are Here Again," to name only a few.

“Glorious Easter” is a fundraiser for MU–Lancaster. **Tickets cost \$35 for adults, \$15 for students with a Millersville ID** and include beverages and light refreshments. Tickets can be purchased at the front desk of MU–Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster, or by calling 717-871-2308 or 717-872-3811.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

An Alternative Spring Break

This March, 68 students from Pennsylvania state colleges including Millersville participated in an alternative spring break. In lieu of a traditional spring break, student volunteers spent four days working at the Marine Science Consortium (MSC) on Wallops Island, Va.

Students volunteered to work on projects and clean-up the MSC's main campus, the Greenbackville research site and NASA's Wallops Island. The students volunteered 805 hours of service completing tasks such as painting buses and laboratories, building a campfire ring and wood shed, working on a local nature trail, building cubby units for a dormitory, creating signage and conducting a beach clean-up.



Millersville University students Antonio Mendez, Jenny Garter, Rebecca Saunders, Sarah O'Neill and Tyler Wilt participated in the weekend. They received information on the MSC and the alternative spring break from Millersville University's Ocean Science Club.

The MSC is a nonprofit, environmental learning center located off the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The MSC educates children and adults about marine and coastal ecosystems.

Several student volunteers also had the opportunity to do field work during their stay and many volunteers will return this summer to complete summer field work.

2011 Millersville University Retirement Recognition Program

Millersville University's 2011 Retirement Recognition Program was held Thursday, March 31 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lehr Dining Room of the Bolger Conference Center in Gordinier Hall.

The 2011 retirees are listed below by area in alphabetical order:

Academic Affairs

M. Virginia Abendschein
Dr. Francis J. Bremer
Dr. John W. Dooley
Dr. Howard C. Ellis
Maureen K. Feller
Dr. Daniel M. Heslink
Dr. David C. Hill
Dr. Yvonne M. King
Dr. Manwoo Lee

Dr. Alice M. Meckley
Nancy K. Pontz
Dr. Lucinda L. Ridley
Gordon D. Rowe
Dr. John N. Short
Dr. Nancy J. Smith
Dr. William G. Smith
Dr. Barbara S. Stengel
Richard Tomao
Dr. Stephen A. Thompson

April 7, 2011
Exchange

Dr. David A. Zegers

Finance & Administration

Donald E. Andrews
Howard P. Chaundy
John E. Colarusso
Roberto Collazo
Diana A. Lyon
Patricia L. McComsey
Carl A. Mowery
Michael E. Nahalka
Nancy G. Peterson
Linda M. Pyle
Luis Ramirez
Anthony G. Reimel
James E. Robertson, Jr.

J. Kevin Scully
Kevin J. Smith
Margery J. Velde

Information Resources

Michael D. Breneman
Susan W. Gray
Kathryn J. Grove

Office of the President

Patricia Hopson-Shelton

Student Affairs

Carol A. Fridinger
Wayne W. Silcox

Millersville University 2011 retirees



Front row (L-R): Ridley, Plye, Hopson-Shelton, Meckley, W. Smith and Bremer.

Back row (L-R): Heslink, Reimel, Colarusso, K. Smith, Robertson, Lee, Rowe, Silcox and Andrews.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

Here are the faculty and staff activities for April 7, 2011.



Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Julie Lombardi, wellness and sport sciences; **Drs. Joseph Lynch, Daniel O'Neill and John Baltzer**, counseling & human development; and **Jayne Trogus**, Elsie S. Shenk Wellness & Women's Program, are part of the Social Norms Research Group at Millersville. They presented the Millersville results of the National College Health Assessment to the Council of Trustees (COT) on March 16. The COT reviewed survey results and learned details about this year's Social Norms campaign to prevent high risk and dangerous alcohol use on campus.



Dr. Jason Baker, psychology, recently presented the results of a collaborative research project with several school counseling graduate students, Christine Noll, Alix Sheakley, Mark Mowery and Katy Ferrier, at the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association Conference (PSCA). The presentation was entitled "Inching the National Model Implementation Gap."

Diane Fleishman, experiential learning and career management, and Maria Gallo, AmeriCorps VISTA, presented a session "Partnerships Dedicated to Community Development in Education" at the Campus Compact 2011 annual conference, held March 31 and April 1 in Carlisle, Pa.

Melissa Gold and **Scott Anderson**, library, presented a poster titled "Authentic Assessment Through Appropriation: Co-opting General Education Assessment to Evaluate Information Literacy" at the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) 2011 conference, held in Philadelphia, March 30 – April 2. Gold presented an additional poster at the ACRL conference titled "Creating a Library Curriculum without Courses: Using Curriculum Maps and Student Learning Outcomes."

Dr. Abdelhadi Halawa, wellness and sport sciences, presented his research paper titled "Treatment of Obesity in Women Employing Three Prescribed Low-to-Moderate Intensity Exercise Modalities" at the Intellectbase International Consortium Academic Conference, held in Phuket, Thailand, March 7-9. The purpose of his research study was to investigate the role and

April 7, 2011
Exchange

effectiveness of performing low-to-moderate intensity exercise modalities in the treatment of obesity in women by employing three prescribed variable speeds walking modalities. Additionally, Halawa served as a panel discussion session chair.

Dr. Blaise W. Liffick, computer science, has been appointed as a Commission Member of the 2011-2012 ABET Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC). This national commission is responsible for evaluating all ABET accredited computing programs.

Drs. Jeremiah K.N. Mbindyo and **Laura J. Anna**, chemistry, had a paper published in the peer reviewed *Journal of Chemical Education*. The article, "Autocatalytic Patterning with Silver Using Tin(II) Chloride Sensitizer" is co-authored with two Millersville alumnus, B. Andrew Fell '09 and David A. Patton '10.

Drs. Susan Luek, psychology and **Ryan Wagner**, biology; **John Hughes**, respiratory therapy and **Dr. Charles Scharnberger**, professor emeritus, were judges at the 2011 North Museum Science and Engineering Fair in March. Luek judged the Senior High Division Behavioral & Social Sciences; Wagner judged the Junior High Division Plant Science; Hughes judged the Junior High Division Life Science and Scharnberger judged Earth & Planetary Science.

Dr. Behnam Nakhai, business administration, had his refereed research article titled "Searching for Pareto-Optimal Settlements in Negotiations: The Extreme Payoffs Method," published in the *International Journal of Strategic Decision Sciences*. The article is co-authored with Joao S. Neves, a professor from the College of New Jersey.

Dr. Beverly Schneller, English, had her updated bio-critical article on American poet Turner Cassity (1929-2009) published in *Critical Survey of Poetry*.

Dr. Timothy Shea, English, recently co-wrote a chapter of a book with Dr. Jane Hansen from the University of Virginia. The chapter is titled "If Students Are Unmotivated Writers, Motivate Them." The publication is titled *Teaching With Rigor: Supporting Multiple Ways of Learning*.

Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, gave the invited pre-Lenten lecture March 8, in the Prior's Hall at Winchester Cathedral in Winchester, England. In an illustrated presentation, she spoke on "A New Way of Seeing Through 'Inscape': The Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins."

Retired

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, recently gave two Hooray for Heroes presentations. On March 22-23 he gave a two-day Teaching American History grant workshop in Warsaw, N.Y. And on April 2, he gave a Hooray for Heroes full-day workshop in Huntingdon, W.Va.

Dr. Jack Fischel, professor emeritus, gave a series of lectures in February at Florida Atlantic University's (FAU) Life Long Learning Program on "4 Events that Shaped the Modern Middle East." During the first week it became "5 Events that Shaped the Modern Middle East." In addition, he presented a lecture at FAU on Leon Uris and he had his essay on Leon Uris published in the *American Writer's Series* in December 2010. He also had five book reviews published in the spring 2011 issue of *Jewish Book World*.

April 7, 2011
Exchange

Dr. Troy Isaak, professor emeritus, educational foundations, is planning a vibes trio CD release April 8 at the Belvedere Inn, 402 North Queen Street, Lancaster, from 7-10 p.m. The name of the group is “Conestoga Cool” and the name of the CD is “When Lights Are Low.” Members of the group include Troy Isaak (vibes), Chuck Oettel (guitar) and Jerry Albright (bass). They will be performing tunes from their new CD plus other jazz standards.

Obituary

Eugene George "Gene" Groff, 91, died March 16. He taught health and physical education at Millersville University from 1958-1982, and retired as the supervisor of student teachers enrolled in the Secondary Education program. He coached football and swimming during his years at Millersville. Varsity level competition in swimming began under his tenure.

Deborah Dillon LeSage, 97, died March 14. She joined Millersville’s English department in 1961 and retired in 1978 as professor emeritus.

Margaret C. Woodbridge died March 13. She was an associate professor of English at Millersville University retiring in 1985. She specialized in Chaucer and women writers.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dr. Stephanie Elzer, associate professor of computer science at Millersville University.

Q: How long have you been working at Millersville University?

A: This is my eighth year full-time, but I started out teaching here as an adjunct professor while I was working as a software engineer at MapQuest.com.

Q: What are your favorite classes to teach?

A: I love teaching, so that’s a tough question! I guess my favorites are usually “Artificial Intelligence” and “Database,” but a great group of students often matters more than the content.

Q: What do you like most about your job?

A: Getting to know the students, and anytime that I can feel like I really made a difference for a student. I had terrific faculty mentors who supported me, boosted my confidence and changed my career path, so that part of the job is very important to me.

Q: Why did you choose to teach at Millersville?

A: I went to Shippensburg for my undergraduate degree and the faculty there and the environment were wonderful for me. I don’t think that if I’d gone to a bigger school, I’d be teaching today. So when I had the chance to “give back” to the PASSHE system, I jumped at the opportunity!



April 7, 2011
Exchange

A: Q: Is there a reason why you specifically chose to teach computer science?

When I was 12, my father was taking a night class at the local college. It was a programming class (using punch cards!) and he thought I would get a kick out of it, so he asked the instructor if he could bring me along; that's how it all started. I love the process of solving problems—getting lost in the maze and designing your way out!

Q: Could you explain your involvement with the Software Productization Center (SPC) and what it is?

A: I've been the director of the SPC for the past three years, working with Nancy Mata, art & design, and Pat McCaskey, business administration. The SPC is a cross-disciplinary center combining computer science, business (marketing) and art & design. The goal of the SPC is to help entrepreneurs develop their software idea from concept to a marketable product.

Q: Are you involved in any other research or computer science projects?

A: I'm also involved in an ongoing collaboration with researchers at the University of Delaware. I'm working with several professors and Ph.D. students on how to automate the understanding of graphs (bar charts, line graphs, etc.) for use in digital libraries as well as for blind users. Several Millersville students have also worked on this project over the years.

Q: Do your friends, family, etc., come to you first when they have computer problems?

A: Actually, I'm not first in line, fortunately. I'm not the only computer savvy person in the family (or my circle of friends), and I'm definitely not the most patient one when it comes to technical support!

Q: Have you ever traveled anywhere interesting for computer competitions or related events?

A: I love to travel and have visited some really great places for conferences. I've been to England, Scotland, Germany, Spain and Greece over the last few years.

Q: Where are you from?

I'm a Lancaster County native! Well, almost. We moved to Manheim when I was four.

Q: If you could right now choose any other profession, what would it be and why?

A: Maybe a chef or a caterer. I love to cook and experiment with new foods. I would definitely want a sous chef, though! All that chopping is not fun!

Q: What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?

A: Traveling is my absolute favorite. I'm never happier than when I'm exploring somewhere new and taking my kids to see new places and experience new things is such a great feeling.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?

A: I'd have to say balancing everything: family, teaching, SPC, research, etc. Not that I've mastered it; it's definitely an ongoing process!