VPAC Construction Update

As an expansion of performing arts programs at Millersville, the University is making progress with the construction of the Visual and Performing Arts Center (VPAC) on campus. The VPAC construction project began in March 2010. Construction of the new $26 million, 84,000-square-foot center is running on schedule and should be completed by April 2012. The center will feature a brand new platform stage in the Concert Hall, which will be 30 feet by 66 feet, a total of 1,980 square feet.

“Much of the plantings are in place, but grass and final paving will not be completed until spring,” said Steven Strock, project manager. “We're looking at final completion in March and move in starting in April.”

The VPAC construction project will upgrade and enhance the facility for educational activities and expand its use as a multipurpose center. In addition to the Concert Hall, the VPAC will feature a recital hall, theater, classrooms, a music library, recording studio, faculty offices and more.

“Odyssey of the Mind” Holds Out-of-the Box Competition

Odyssey of the Mind has been teaching students to think “out of the box” for more than 25 years. Roughly 590 of Pennsylvania’s most creative K-12 students will be at Millersville University’s campus on Saturday, March 3, to compete in this creative, problem-solving competition.

“The day will be the culmination of a several months of hard work for these students, all related to creativity,” said Dr. Jill Craven, professor of film studies at Millersville. More than 94 teams from Pennsylvania are already registered to compete in the day’s events.

Each year, Odyssey of the Mind posts new problems on its website for students across the globe to creatively solve by working in teams. The problems are grouped into five categories: Mechanical/vehicle, technical/performance, classics, structure and performance. For example, the technical/performance problem this year is sponsored by National Aeronautics and Space Administration. To solve it, teams will have to create and present a performance about a group of scientists who go on an expedition to uncover mysterious events.
March 1, 2012
Exchange

On the day of the competition, all teams will be given a “spontaneous” problem to solve on the spot that they cannot prepare for ahead of time. The highest scoring student teams from this regional competition will be invited to present their long-term solutions at state and world competitions.

“It's a day of great challenge, teamwork and accomplishment. It doesn’t matter whether you win, place or just show,” said Craven.

While registration is closed for this year, information for next year can be found at www.odysseyofthemind.com/registration/. This year’s competition will begin at 8 a.m. in the Student Memorial Center and continue past 4 p.m., with the award ceremony in the early evening. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Craven at 717-872-3627 or Jill.Craven@millersville.edu.

Entomology Club Works With Local Peace Corps Volunteer

Peace Corps volunteer and Lancaster native Roger Brubaker, serving in Si Thep, a small village in Thailand, has been consulting with Millersville University biology professor and returned Peace Corps volunteer Dr. John Wallace (Guatemala ’83–’87), regarding mosquito surveillance and control to prevent incidences of Dengue fever by promoting the use of homemade mosquito traps.

According to the World Health Organization, Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral infection that causes flu-like illness, and can develop into a potentially deadly complication known as Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever. In terms of the severity of the disease, until 2003 Thailand reported the maximum number of dengue cases among the South East Asia Region countries. For the last 10 years the case load has been consistently above 10,000 but case fatality rate has remained below one percent. To date, Brubaker has helped more than 900 community members build the mosquito traps with common household products. There are six homemade mosquito traps set up in each house in the village. The traps are made of bamboo, a soda bottle, a metal screen, thumb tacks, paper clips, grass, water and a dark cloth.

As their interactions expanded and the needs of the village where Brubaker works and lives became more apparent, Wallace enlisted the help of Millersville’s Entomology Club, an organization that provides a place for students interested in entomology to share their interest through service, education and recreational activities. Coincidentally, the entomology club’s past president, Kristin Sloyer, has recently been accepted to the Peace Corps and will be heading to sub-Saharan Africa for her two-year service. Last fall, the club helped Wallace package two unused, out dated microscopes and microscopy supplies for Brubaker’s sister who transported them to Si Thep in Thailand while visiting her brother. During an elaborate ceremony, the scopes were presented to the principal of the school, Rong Rien, by Brubaker.
Millersville University currently has at least two recent graduates in the Peace Corps, one in Mozambique and the other in Ecuador.

“The current Peace Corps volunteer, Roger Brubaker, is being assisted by former and future Peace Corps volunteers; this interaction of service and education is what encapsulates the very mission of Peace Corps’ and in fact is a major component of the educational process for Millersville’s students. Many years ago, Peace Corps volunteers were referred to as President JFK’s ‘children.’ Well, what we have created here is an integrated Peace Corps extended family and all for the betterment of people worldwide through service,” said Wallace.

The Entomology Club has a long standing history of service to communities far and wide. This semester, the entomology club is helping assist an artist in the Harrisburg area, Pat Maguire’84, with a major art project by collecting and pinning insects that will be incorporated into the piece.

For more information about the entomology club, contact Wallace at John.Wallace@millersville.edu. For more information about Dengue fever, visit the World Health Organization at www.searo.who.int.

Photo 1 caption: A Rong Rien Meung schoolteacher assists students focusing a slide on one of two donated microscopes from Millersville’s Entomology Club. These are the only microscopes at this school and will be of immeasurable value to the advancement of science for the students of this school. Photo 2 caption: Brubaker delivering a ceremonial acceptance speech to the students and teachers for the microscope donation from Millersville’s Entomology Club.

Millersville Student “Discovers” Germany

Jeremy Rupp, a senior international studies major and German minor at Millersville University, traveled to the ancient university town of Marburg, Germany. The Marburg program has a German only requirement for incoming students.

Rupp was featured on the popular TV show “Discover Germany” during his stay abroad.

To watch Rupp’s TV debut, visit www.dw.de/dw/episode/9798/0,,15710784,00.html.
Returned Volunteers to Mark Peace Corps Week at Millersville

Lancaster County residents who served as Peace Corps volunteers will celebrate Peace Corps Week with a panel discussion at Millersville University on March 1. This event will be held at 5 p.m. in room 202 of the Student Memorial Center, and is free and open to the public.

Panel participants include Millersville’s Dr. Tim Mahoney, educational foundations, and his wife Mary Ellen, who served together as Peace Corps volunteers in Guatemala in 1990. Millersville alumni J. Phillip Eisemann (Lesotho, 2004 to 2006), Kathleen Campbell (Philippines, 2004 to 2006) and Tom and Sarah Murphy (Thailand, 2001 to 2004), innkeepers of the Walnut Lawn Bed & Breakfast in Lampeter, will also share their experiences.

Recruiter and returned Peace Corps volunteer Kimberly Helm (Dominican Republic, 2005 to 2008), a 1996 Hempfield High School graduate, will provide information about the legacy of the Peace Corps and current opportunities to serve in countries around the world.

Each year, Peace Corps Week celebrates the March 1 anniversary of President John F. Kennedy’s signing of the 1961 executive order that established the Peace Corps. To commemorate the 51st anniversary of this historic event, returned volunteers and friends of the Peace Corps are participating in activities to honor both the work of the agency and volunteers of the past and present.

The Citamard Players Present “The Vagina Monologues”

As part of the global movement to help end violence against women and girls, Millersville University’s Citamard Players will perform Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues” on March 2 and 3. All proceeds from the benefit performances will go directly to Clare House of Lancaster County, a shelter for homeless women. The March 2 showing will be held at midnight and the March 3 showing will be held once at 2 p.m. and again at midnight. All performances will be held in Rafters Theatre, Dutcher Hall.

The Vagina Monologues is based on the Tony Award-winning performer and activist Ensler’s interviews with more than 200 women. With humor and grace the piece celebrates women’s sexuality and strength. Celebrated as the bible for a new generation of women, The Vagina Monologues has been performed in cities all across America and at hundreds of college campuses. It has inspired a dynamic grassroots movement, V-Day, to stop violence against women. Ensler’s Obie Award-winning masterpiece gives voice to women’s deepest fantasies and fears, guaranteeing that no one who reads it will ever look at a woman’s body, or think of sex, in quite the same way again.
March 1, 2012
Exchange

As a group, Citamard comprises more than 60 students from all majors. One of the goals of the group is to use theater as a way of teaching. Citamard has brought back Millersville alum Devyn Heinbaugh to direct an amazing cast of 18 women. Together, they will give a voice to those who do not always have the limelight and to bring attention to important and controversial issues, such as rape, mutilation, love and what it means to be a woman.

This year, Citamard has named Clare House of Lancaster County the recipient of the show’s proceeds. Clare House serves homeless women and children by providing a temporary home in a caring environment, life-skills programs and aftercare support leading to self-sufficiency. The program not only gives women and children a safe place to stay, but also assists clients in overcoming the barriers that brought them to their current situation of homelessness.

This event is open to the public. Tickets cost $2 and can be purchased at the door.

For more information, contact Alex Dorsheimer, Citamard president, at acdorshe@marauder.millersville.edu.

Richard Clark named Fellow of Meteorological Society

Dr. Richard D. Clark, earth sciences, was inducted as a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) at the 92nd Annual Meeting held in New Orleans in January 2012. To be eligible for election to become a Fellow, an individual “shall have made outstanding contributions to the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences or their applications during a substantial period of years.”

Of the 14,000 members of the Society, no more than 0.2 percent can become Fellows in any one year. There have been 623 members elected to Fellow over the Society’s 93-year history.

Clark’s contributions to the AMS include being elected to the Council (2008-11), serving as a member of the AMS Committees on Space Weather, Environmental Responsibility and Board of Higher Education. Contributions to the larger atmospheric sciences community include serving as a member of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) Board of Trustees and liaison to the UCAR President’s Advisory Committee on University Relations, Millersville University representative to the UCAR Academic Affiliates Program (1997-2009) and a variety of other UCAR-related committees. He also served as member and then chair of the National Center for Atmospheric Research/National Science Foundation Observing Facilities Advisory Panel.

Clark’s research focused on the meteorology and chemistry of the atmospheric boundary layer, the region of the earth’s atmosphere that includes the activities of human, plant and animal existence. In support of his research, Clark has been the recipient of more than $2 million in extramural grants since joining the Millersville University faculty in 1987. More than 100
March 1, 2012
Exchange

students have participated directly in field projects, and the Department of Earth Sciences has acquired a considerable inventory of instruments and equipment, all funded by these grants.

**Gala Show Preview at The Ware Center**

If you can’t wait until May to see the Fashion and Dance through the Ages Gala, you are in luck. The Millersville University Costume Rental Shop and Kinetics Dance Theatre are hosting a sneak preview of the show one month before it debuts. The Fashion and Dance through the Ages sneak preview will be held April 6, First Friday in Lancaster, from 6-8 p.m. in Lyet Lobby at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster.

This cavalcade of costumes and parade of dance styles will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Millersville University Costume Rental Shop through five centuries of costumes, music and dance!

This event is free and open to the public. For more information about the preview show or the Gala event, which will be held May 5, contact Priscilla Kaufhold, costume shop manager and Kinetics Dance Theatre’s artistic director, at Priscilla.Kaufhold@millersville.edu or 717-872-3767.

**Women’s Giving Circle Gives Back to Students**

To fulfill its mission to inspire, educate and empower women, the Women’s Giving Circle of Millersville University will host its second annual “Power of the Purse” fundraising event on April 11. The event, which will be held from 5-7 p.m. at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster, will include a silent auction of new purses, donated by local businesses, to benefit student scholarships.

Since its establishment in 2010, the Women’s Giving Circle of Millersville University strives to make a positive impact and to continue a tradition of philanthropy and leadership. This event will provide a great opportunity to network with other outstanding women. The winner of the scholarship and gift will also be announced at the event.

This year’s keynote speaker is Pati Frey, an entrepreneur who sells handcrafted bags from Zambia, through her organization Recyclobagz. One hundred percent of the profits will go back to the women who created these bags to help care for their families. Frey will be discussing her thoughts on philanthropy and the positive impact that individuals can have in their communities.

Attendees are also encouraged to bring their gently used purses to the event that will be given to Lumina, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing women with appropriate clothing for job interviews.
March 1, 2012
Exchange

Tickets cost $20 per person or two for $35. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the Office of Special Events at Millersville University at 717-871-5926.

Need to Know:
Millersville Transformation – An Update

The following letter, an update on Millersville’s transformation process, was sent out to the campus community on February 23 on behalf of President Francine G. McNairy.

Dear Members of the University community,

The transformation process continues to move forward at Millersville University! We are embarking on this transformation to ensure our future as a vibrant and dynamic institution. Each day, new challenges arise that require a commitment to creative action. Organized by the three themes of the transformation (student success, increased advocacy and effective structures and services), the action idea teams are preparing to seek innovative solutions to address these pressing issues.

Since the Transformation Fair in November, we have made progress in a number of areas:

- Crafting of a draft definition of student success
- Constructing the Action Idea Teams

Throughout the fall semester, a dedicated group of faculty and staff crafted definitions of student success. Watch for your opportunity to provide input as the most recent draft definition is shared throughout the campus community (a sneak peak of the draft definition is located below, although we need to determine – is this statement unique and defining enough for MU?).

Millersville University students develop and utilize their intellectual curiosity and self-awareness to meet high expectations for learning, which leads to productive and fulfilling lives.

Cabinet members, deans’ council members and the transformation coordinators actively constructed the Action Idea Teams from among the hundreds of individuals who expressed interest in some level of engagement with one or more of the teams. We wanted to ensure that every facet of the University community was represented across the teams. This effort required that we identify team leaders and refine the charges for each team. The specific charges are listed on the attachment and the Transformation website.

These unique teams will work together to generate bold ideas and solutions that will take us into the future. We are still awaiting confirmation from some of the teams’ membership.

Because Cabinet and I feel so passionate about this process, we will remain active participants. Each Action Idea Team will have a member of Cabinet as its champion. Team champions will
March 1, 2012
Exchange

guide, mentor and serve as sources of support and encouragement for the team leaders and members.

Who are team champions, leaders and members? How can you keep informed of the progress the teams make? The Transformation website contains all of that information. Beginning in late March you can expect to see Action Idea Team updates on the development of their action plan as they are posted on the transformation website.

We have high expectations for the teams and support their work to do the following:

- Teams will create action plans that might be initiated or implemented within 18 months. Some teams will be charged with identifying a plan that might be implemented by fall 2012.
- Ideas in the action plan should be bold and provide a foundation for transformation.
- Action plans should identify how the outcomes of the proposed initiative will impact student success, as it is defined by our University.
- Teams should identify the impact on University policies, procedures, structure, faculty/staff development, allocation of resources, facilities, technology, etc.

We need to recommit our energy and creativity at this great University to ensure our students’ success. We want to refrain from “running in place” and do what we can during the next 12 to 18 months to propel us forward in this time of opportunity.

To be continued…

Francine G. McNairy
President


3/1/2012 Activities

Faculty & Staff Activities

3/1/12

Here are the faculty and staff activities for March 1, 2012.
Faculty and Staff Activities

Katie Fox, intercollegiate athletics, published the review of an article in Athletic Training Education Journal, released in January 2012. Fox’s review can be found in the section titled “Education Literature: Current Literature Summary: Professional Socialization.” It explored the experiences of recently graduated nurses. Her review summarized the research context and methods, its findings and its implications on athletic training education/research.

James Pannafino, art and design, recently presented at the Pennsylvania Educational Technology Exposition & Conference in Hershey, Pa. The title of his talk was “Understanding Google SketchUp 3D Modeling 101.” It was an overview of Google SketchUp’s history, educational integration options and involved a live demo of the tools techniques and capabilities.

Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, has won an award from the Pennsylvania Poetry Society (PPS). The prize is the publication by the PPS of a volume of her poetry. That volume, Cosmic Internetting and Other Stars, has now been released.

Retired

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, continues to give Teaching American History presentations. On February 10-11, he gave a “Hooray for Heroes” presentation in Moorestown, N.J. On February 24-25, he presented in Ashland, Ore., and on March 3 he will be in Trenton, N.J.

Dr. Jack Fischel, professor emeritus, presented a talk on the Middle East peace process on February 6 in Boca Raton, Fla. Also on February 6, he lectured on Yiddish-American writer Sholem Asch at Florida Atlantic University (FAU). On February 7, he gave a talk on Iran and Israel at the Stonebridge Condo in Boca Raton, and on February 10, he gave the first of four lectures on “The Evolution of Anti-Semitism” at FAU.

Congratulations

Zhigang Han, mathematics, and his wife, Yujen Shu, who welcomed a baby girl, Erin Han, on January 22, 2012.

Kathleen Walsh, social work, and husband, Michael Gurklis, who had a baby boy, Liam Kenneth Walsh Gurklis, on January 28, 2012.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This issue of the Exchange features Kelly Davis, assistant director of alumni services. Davis is starting her sixth year with the University.

Q: Where are you originally from/where do you live now?
A: I’m a lifelong resident of Lancaster County. I was raised in Manheim and lived in Lititz and Lancaster for much of my adult life. We moved to Millersville last summer.
March 1, 2012
Exchange

**Q: What college/university did you attend?**
A: I’m a proud alumna of Millersville University, where I graduated with a degree in business administration in 1995.

**Q: What did you want to be when you “grew up”?**
A: As a freshman at Millersville, I was a communications major, with big dreams of becoming an editor for magazines. I have an opportunity to do some writing and editorial work for the Millersville Review and alumni association e-newsletter.

**Q: What drew you into alumni services?**
A: The mission of the department is dear to my heart. I have the opportunity to interact with fellow Marauders and help them stay connected to their alma mater.

**Q: Tell us about your job. What does it involve?**
A: Our office is responsible for planning and hosting Homecoming and many other alumni events that take place on campus and across the country. I am responsible for maintaining communication with alumni through technology like our online community, monthly e-newsletter and social media. I also write the class notes for the Millersville Review.

**Q: You have hosted trips for Millersville; can you tell us about those.**
A: I’ve had the pleasure of hosting bus trips to Philadelphia Phillies games, the Philadelphia Flower Show and several excursions to New York City, most recently a guided tour of gourmet shops during the Christmas season with alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University.

**Q: You often are the host at alumni parties – do you enjoy that work?**
A: Our office hosts many events throughout the year, and I attend most of those held on campus and in the surrounding counties. It’s a great opportunity to interact with alumni and reconnect them with their alma mater through news from campus and exchanging memories of our time at Millersville.

**Q: Where is your favorite place on campus?**
A: McComsey Hall. It’s a perfect example of how the campus has grown since my time as an undergrad. The space holds great memories for me, but the origami cranes in the lobby and the renovation of the Ford Atrium are reminders that Millersville continues to move in a positive, forward direction.

**Q: What is the most memorable moment you’ve had at Millersville?**
A: I think it’s going to be in May 2012, when my daughter walks across the stage at commencement. It will be a full-circle experience for me as a graduate, staff member and mom. I’m very proud to be a legacy parent.
March 1, 2012
Exchange

Q: What’s your favorite thing about Millersville?
A: I feel a real sense of community on campus. Even as the campus grows and we don’t know everyone personally, you can always expect a smile from the student or staff member.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: I’m not much of a reader, although I have a collection of books on my nightstand just waiting for me. Most recently I read Million Little Mistakes by Heather McElhatton. It’s not a conventional novel… much more like a “choose your own adventure” book for adults.

Q: Tell us about your gaming: What games do you play, how often, etc.?
A: I grew up playing board and video games with my family, and it’s still a big part of our family gatherings today. Most holidays end in a few rounds of Scrabble or Scattegories. My husband and I play the board game Cathedral and keep score of who’s won the most games over the years. When the girls are home, we get competitive with Wii or Xbox racing and sports games. If I have time, I log on to a multiplayer online game or download the latest game on my phone. Games help keep my mind sharp and spirit young.

Q: Tell us about your hobbies, I understand you like to knit?
A: My new year’s resolution for 2011 was to learn to knit, so I took a six-week class and have successfully completed a handful of projects (I still wouldn’t expect a scarf for Christmas!).

Q: Tell us about your family.
A: When I met my husband, Dave, seven years ago, I became a second mom to three lovely daughters (now 22, 20 and 19). When they all started college, we adopted a Westie puppy named Zoey.

Q: What was the worst job you’ve ever had growing up?
A: During one of my management courses, our professor suggested spending the summer working in a manufacturing setting. I lasted eight long hours working third shift at a local pretzel factory trying to master packaging machines. I liken the experience to the “I Love Lucy” episode where she works at the candy factory. It was a real learning experience for me.

Q: If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
A: San Diego. The weather is near-perfect year round, the city has a lot to offer in terms of sports and culture and you’re always close to the ocean.

Q: Do you have a hero in your life or a mentor?
A: My mom. She places a high value on family, and she made being a parent her first priority. I followed her example, and my girls have benefited from being a part of a family with rich traditions and strong bonds.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?
A: So far, buying our house and making it a home for our family. I like to think that the best is yet to come. Goals give you a future… there is always more to look forward to.