Staff at Offsite Library Location Takes on Extensive Reclassification Project

Extremely busy, often unpredictable and quiet are a few of the factors that contribute to the overall feeling of the offsite library location at the Greenfield Corporate Center, described by Dr. Marjorie Warmkessel, coordinator of technical services. The team, comprising three library faculty members and seven support staff, are responsible for all of the library’s technical including the acquisition, cataloging and processing of materials.

The warehouse, 10 offices and an open workspace houses the majority of the library’s books, bound periodicals, microfilm and much of the special collections. Warmkessel also notes that the new location has a different feel, “Since there are no students at the off-campus site, it’s a very different environment from being on campus.”

The acquisitions staff ensures that subscriptions are renewed in a timely manner and orders for new materials are placed. The staff works directly with library vendors and enters information into various accounting systems for tracking expenditures. When new materials are received, the cataloging staff catalogs and processes them, making them available for use. Cataloging librarians are also responsible for maintaining the integrity of the library’s catalog, and all cataloging staff enters holdings into an international database so that other libraries know what the Millersville University Library has. In addition, cataloging faculty and staff are taking on a major reclassification project of portions of the library collection still using the Dewey Decimal system. Since 1997, the library has used the Library of Congress (LC) system for new materials, but there are approximately 100,000 volumes still classified in Dewey Decimal.

“Over the years we gradually reclassified certain sections of the collection to make it easier for students and faculty to find things,” said Warmkessel. Also, the staff that is working with these older materials are repairing slightly damaged books in house and sending other materials to the bindery for more extensive repair.

A typical day at the Greenfield location consists of a constant workflow for the reclassification project that includes pallets of books being unpacked, opened and scanned in sequence. Using a hand-held scanner, a staff member scans the barcode on the front of the book in order to make routine changes in the record that will allow those doing the actual reclassification to work more quickly. In most cases, the reclassification process takes only a minute or two per volume. A more complicated item can take 10 minutes or more.

The staff at this location include Warmkessel; Teresa Weisser, cataloging and metadata librarian; Anne McGillivray, cataloging librarian; Thelma Eckerd, library technician in acquisitions; D’Ann Ressler, library technician in acquisitions; Sue Rohrer, library technician in cataloging; Loree Strickler, library assistant in cataloging; Gemma LaSpada, library assistant in cataloging;
Sally Levit, library assistant in both cataloging and acquisitions and Jacob Gehman, temporary assistant in both cataloging and acquisitions.

Most of the work at this location is ongoing and will continue even after the renovated library building is ready for occupancy. “We would love to have all of the Dewey volumes reclassified to LC by the time we return to the library building,” said Warmkessel.

Photo caption: The offsite library location, with palletized boxes on one side of the warehouse and the rows of shelves of reclassified books on the other side.

**New Education Classes, New Field Experiences**

Students seeking dual certification in pre-K-4 and special education can look forward to more applied experiences with children and professionals in the field with the new teaching certification changes being complemented at Millersville University as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. As of this semester, the Department of Special Education and Elementary & Early Childhood Education began offering three new classes: “Early Intervention to Kindergarten,” “Serving Individuals with Persuasive and Extensive Disabilities in Inclusive Settings” and “Language Development and Emergent Literacy.”

These new courses are required for students before they begin their student teaching experience. Along with the courses, students will have two field experiences working with children. In addition, they will gain insight from experts in the field of early intervention through speaker sessions held throughout the semester.

“I thought it would be best that they learn from the professionals who are working in this area of special education. The speaker sessions give an authentic sense of the important population of children who are receiving early intervention services,” said Dr. Ellen Long, assistant professor of special education.

In February, the special education department invited five expert speakers to present on the most current and best practices in the field of early intervention for children from birth to age 5. The first presenter, Kirsten Crosby-Blose, special instructor and first step evaluator, spoke on how to evaluate children for early intervention and routine based services. Next, Tania Hripto, early intervention coordinator for Lancaster County Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Early Interventions, and Nicole Castagna, parent coordinator, spoke to the students about the zero to three early intervention programs and working with families. The last speaker, Mari Cunningham, physical therapist for TheraPlay and Intermediate Unit 13 instructor, spoke to the students about her experiences as a physical therapist working in early intervention.

Cunningham will return on April 2 to speak about sensory integration. Also, Amy Teigland, itinerant preschool special education teacher, will speak about her role and experiences. Teigland
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will present on April 10. The sessions are open to the entire special education and early childhood education departments.

For more information, contact Long at Ellen.long@millersville.edu or 717-872-3681.

**Millersville University Welcomes Randi Zuckerberg**

Randi Zuckerberg, the former marketing director of Facebook and sister of Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg, will appear at Millersville University on March 22. Zuckerberg will speak on “Mastering Social Media & Creating a Culture of Innovation.” Her presentation will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Steinman Hall at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster.

During her stay as Millersville University’s 2012 Innovator-in-Residence, Zuckerberg will hold an afternoon workshop with Millersville students in addition to her evening presentation. At the workshop, Zuckerberg will share her experiences with the students, who will learn about marketing and innovation from an experienced professional.

Zuckerberg was appointed to the United Nations Global Entrepreneurs Council, the World Economic Forum's Global Council on Social Media and the U.S. Broadcasting Board of Governors Commission on Innovation. Zuckerberg is now the founder and CEO of “R to Z Media,” a new social media firm that works with media companies to develop programming in new ways.

The evening presentation is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required. To reserve tickets, contact the Ticket Office at 717-872-3811, stop by the Student Memorial Center Ticket Office (Room 103) or the front desk of The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster. Ticket offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For more information contact, Carol Reichler, director of special events, at Carol.Reichler@millersville.edu or 717-871-5926.

**Renowned Army Combat Surgeon to Reflect on 30 Years**

Embodying a far-reaching amount of experience in army combat surgery is Colonel Craig D. Shriver, a Reading, Pa., native who will be speaking at Millersville University on March 30. Shriver’s lecture, “War and the Hippocratic Oath: Irreconcilable?: A Military Surgeon’s Look at 30 Years of Conflicts and Medicine,” will reflect on his heavy involvement on the front lines of combat. This event will be held at 2 p.m. at Stayer Hall in the Multipurpose Room.

Dr. Judith Wenrich, professor and director of field services in elementary and early childhood education, invited Shriver to speak in association with a course she is teaching this semester entitled “The Teaching of Social Studies.”
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“Shriver’s lecture is significant to our students in that it will assist them in understanding the conflicts between cultures, and in recognizing the humanitarian work that has been a considerable focus of the military's efforts throughout these conflicts, as well as the sacrifices made by individuals their age to preserve our society,” said Wenrich.

Shriver graduated cum laude from Albright College with a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and then proceeded to receive a medical degree from Temple University. He went on to complete his general surgery residency training at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and was selected for advanced fellowship training in surgical oncology at the prestigious Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

Shriver has published more than 200 academic papers in medical literature including the world’s most prestigious medical journal, the New England Journal of Medicine. His topics for these publications included the seminal article on sentinel lymph node biopsy in breast cancer in 1998 and a work describing the care of the casualties from Operation Iraqi Freedom returning to Walter Reed in 2004.

Shriver’s list of military achievements has swelled. Notably, he was praised by his command for his direct surgical support of the medical response to the terrorist attack against the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. As chief of general surgery at the nation’s largest military hospital, he has led his surgeons in the treatment of more than 5,500 patients from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom since terrorist attacks more than one decade ago. Shriver completed his fourth combat tour, his second in Afghanistan, returning on February 20, 2011.

He was elected into the prestigious American Surgical Association in 2010, the oldest and premier of all surgical societies in the world, with only a few select members representing the top echelon of the surgical profession. To date, he has been awarded all possible high recognitions as a soldier physician by the U.S. Army.

For more information, contact Wenrich, at Judith.Wenrich@millersville.edu or 717-872-3395.

Photo caption: Shriver describing the pancreas islet cell transplant surgery performed Thanksgiving Day to reporters during a press conference (source: www.army.mil/article/32035/).

Millersville Takes Volunteer Work “Into the Streets”

Looking for a fun, easy way to get involved in the community? If so, volunteer to participate in the annual “Into the Streets” event, hosted by Millersville University’s Volunteer Central on March 31. Into the Streets is a national initiative designed to introduce more students to thoughtful community service-learning and to provide a learning experience that will challenge them to volunteer on a regular basis.
Partnering with hundreds of nonprofit organizations throughout Lancaster County, Into the Streets gives students, faculty and staff at Millersville University an opportunity to give back, connecting the University community with the downtown community. Volunteers will be working with Mom’s House of Lancaster, the Clare House, United Zion Retirement Community, Threshold Foundation of Lancaster and Trinity House Apartments, to name a few.

Community service projects will include an Easter egg hunt, gardening, cleaning, office work and a recycle collection drive.

“Giving back provides opportunities for both the students and the community. It helps the students become a part of Lancaster and provides them with experiences that enhance their resume. It also provides the community with a connection to Millersville University,” said Javita Thompson, graduate assistant for Volunteer Central.

Both individuals and groups are welcome to participate. Volunteers will be meeting on campus on March 31 at 8 a.m. and then traveling to various places throughout Lancaster City with provided transportation.

Those interested should email their contact information including full name and phone number to volunteer.central@millersville.edu. Registration is open until March 26.

For more information, contact Thompson at volunteer.central@millersville.edu.

Author to Speak About Love, Sex and Relationships

The author of It's not you, It’s Biology, the Science of Love, Sex and Relationships, Joe Quirk, will be speaking at Millersville University of Pennsylvania on Monday, April 2. Quirk, whose national bestseller has been translated into 18 languages, will present a special lecture funded by the Harold R. Weirich Memorial Fund as part of the biology department’s spring 2012 Biology Colloquium Series. This public talk will be held on campus at 5:30 p.m. in Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall.

Quirk’s lecture stems from evolutionary psychology, which uses hard data from cognitive science, anthropology and genetics to illuminate human relations.

“Sex is the one universal in our lives,” said Dr. Dominique Didier, professor of biology at Millersville, who, along with Dr. Blaise Liffick, computer science, is hosting Quirk. “We are all born sexual beings – we have a sex as male or female. However, in this country we have cultivated a society in which sex is not discussed openly and honestly. Despite the fact that our media overwhelms us with sexual imagery and sexual themes, few people learn or understand the real biological facts about sex, sexuality and sexual expression, and as a result we live as adults with many misconceptions, hang-ups and unfulfilled sexual lives –and look at the effect it has on society.”
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Prior to his evening lecture, Quirk will be speaking to Didier’s “Human Sexuality” class and Liffick’s “Cognitive Science” class.

“The Science of Love, Sex and Relationships,” a PIXAR-illustrated presentation, will answer questions such as: Is monogamy natural? Why do we bother falling in love? Why are some people homosexual?

Quirk’s talk is being sponsored by the Scholars in the Classroom project (awarded to Didier and Liffick), the MU Allies, the President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity, the Office of Social Equity and the Biology Department Weirich Fund.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Didier at 717-872-3420.

Artists Captures the “Human Condition”

Utilizing unique materials like chocolate and soap, contemporary artist Janine Antoni will blur the line between performance art and sculpture as part of the 2012 Conrad Nelson Lecture. The lecture is set for April 4 at 7 p.m. at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster.

Antoni’s primary tool for making sculpture has been her own body, through which she transforms everyday activities like eating, bathing and sleeping into ways of making art. In the past, she has chiseled cubes of lard and chocolate with her teeth and recorded her own brainwave signals while dreaming to use as a pattern for the blanket she made the following morning.

Antoni’s work has been featured in exhibitions all over the world including the Venice Biennial, Johannesburg Biennial, Istanbul Biennial and the Prospect One Biennial in New Orleans.

In 2011, she was awarded the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship. Guggenheim Fellowships are intended for men and women who have demonstrated exceptional capacity for a productive scholarship or exceptional creative ability in the arts.

This event is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required. Tickets are available online, at MUTicketsOnline.com, at the Student Memorial Center Office (room 103), by calling the Ticket Office at 717-872-3811 or at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster Box Office, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster. Ticket Offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Line Bruntse, art and design, at 717-872-3302 or Line.Bruntse@millersville.edu.

Students Participate in the 10th Annual Model African Union

Five members of Millersville University’s African Student Association (MUASA) joined their peers from 48 different institutions across the country to participate in the 10th annual Model African Union hosted by Howard University in Washington, D.C., on February 23-26. The Model African Union is a simulation of the Organization of African Unity and its successor, the African Union. Representing the country of Benin, the delegation from Millersville consisted of Nsima Umana, senior and president of MUASA, Bintu Sherif, freshman, Maekenzi Vernat, senior, Kofi Adutwum, graduate student in psychology, Wongel Heramo, senior, Dr. Doyin Coker-Kolo, faculty advisor and Dr. Onek Adyanga, faculty consultant.

The “Model” provides a unique opportunity for university and college students to study Africa and the African Union through simulation augmented by briefings at African embassies in Washington, D.C. More specifically, the National Model African Union is designed to increase awareness of the role, organization and performance of the African Union; highlight key economic, social and political-security issues facing the African continent and to demonstrate the need for effective diplomatic, economic and military cooperative action in an unfolding crisis situation.

Adutwum won the Committee Leadership Award for the Committee on Union Government. This award is given to the individual who has made the most significant contribution to fostering consensus, capturing the essence of complex issues and leading the respective committees and council toward effective action.

MUASA students were able to participate in this event because of funding from the School of Education, President’s Commission for Cultural Diversity and Inclusiveness, Office of Social Equity and Diversity, Black Student Union, Society on Latino Affairs and the Noonan Endowment Fund grant.

For more information, contact Coker-Kolo, at Doyin.Coker-Kolo@millersville.edu or 717-872-3816.

Photo caption: MUASA students (L-R): Kofi Adutwum, Nsima Umana, president of MUASA; Dr. Hector Posset, minister-counselor, Benin Embassy; Wongel Heramo, Maekenzi Vernat and Bintu Sherif.

MESO Students Earn Honorable Mentions at Regional Competition

Six members of Millersville University’s Middle Eastern Studies Organization (MESO), representing the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, competed against nine other colleges and universities at the 2012 Ohio Valley Regional Model Arab League simulation, held at Miami University of Ohio, February 16-18. The Millersville delegation earned five awards for its representation.
During the simulation, participants were required to remain in character as members of the diplomatic delegations from the countries they represented. The objective for each delegation was to pass resolutions that reflect the actual interests of the countries they represented.

Awards were given to participants based on performance in academic, procedural and behavioral terms. Millersville students who received rewards included Bjorn Bolte, who earned Honorable Mention for his role in the Social Affairs Council; Derek Smith and Dannon Stewart, who each earned Honorable Mention for their role in the Palestinian Affairs Council and Alyssa Anderson and Barney Cannon, who each received outstanding delegate awards, the highest attainable award, for their role in the Political Affairs Council.

Cannon was also elected by participating students to the position of assistant secretary general of the Ohio Valley Model Arab League for next year’s simulation, a first for any Millersville MESO member.

“These students should be admired even if they did not earn awards given the intellectual and academic tasks they face to effectively participate in a model. I greatly appreciate them and I am very proud of them. They have provided me with some of the greatest rewards of my academic career,” said Dr. Craig Ilgenfritz, instructor of political and government affairs and Millersville’s MESO advisor.

For more information, contact Ilgenfritz, at Craig.Ilgenfritz@millersville.edu or 717-372-3550.

Photo caption: MESO members (L-R): Bernard Cannon, Dr. Craig Ilgenfritz, Bjorn Bolte, Derek Smith, Alyssa Anderson and Dannon Stewart.

5th Annual Science Olympiad

Students in middle school and high school will have the opportunity to use their knowledge and skills of science at the fourth annual Science Olympiad. Millersville University of Pennsylvania will host the PA Central Region Science Olympiad competition on Saturday, March 24, 2012. Winners of the local competition will then compete at state and national levels.

Currently, more than 41 schools are registered to participate in the competition which consists of 23 team events. The events are separated by two divisions: Division B is middle school and Division C is high school. Each school brings 15 students who compete in various events through the day on topics including biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, engineering and technology.
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Science Olympiad is a national nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, increasing student interest in science and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers.

“We consider this as a very important event that stimulates enthusiasm for science through challenging and motivational competitions.” said Dr. Mehmet Goksu, coordinator for the Olympiad and assistant professor of physics at Millersville. “Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to get involved in a day of fun and scientific competition.”

For more information, please contact Dr. Goksu at mehmet.goksu@millersville.edu or 717-872-3770.

Need to Know: Spring Faculty Convocation

The spring 2012 Faculty Convocation, hosted by the Office of the Provost at Millersville University, will be held on Wednesday, March 21, at 4 p.m. in Lehr Room, Bolger Conference Center, Gordinier Hall. Refreshments will be available at 3:30 p.m., with the event beginning promptly at 4 p.m. This year’s convocation theme is “How Innovations in Education Impact the Role of Faculty in Promoting Student Success.”

At the University’s convocation this past fall, President McNairy laid out the Case for Change that challenged Millersville University to respond through a comprehensive transformation leading to “a thorough or dramatic change—a metamorphosis—of this University at the start of the 21st century.” One of the key drivers identified is competition, which has been the focus of a number of recent publications focusing on the future of higher education in America. Online resources (e.g., Khan Academy), open-source publishing (e.g., Washington State Open Course Library), open access courses from top institutions (e.g., MIT OpenCourseWare), prior learning assessment (e.g., Council for Adult and Experiential Learning), etc., are changing the landscape of higher education in the 21st century. These changes, driven by what Clayton Christensen, author of The Innovative University, calls “disruptive innovations,” will require universities to respond in unprecedented ways if, according to Christensen, they are to survive and prosper in the face of these challenges.

Faculty will present some of their innovations and open the conversation about how these innovations are reshaping the faculty role. The program will culminate with break-out sessions to discuss in greater detail the ways in which faculty have created opportunities out of these challenges. To help inform this discussion, a series of articles and suggested references are available at www.millersville.edu/iae/assessment/files/Faculty%20Convocation.php. Several of the books referenced on this site are available for check-out through the Center for Academic Excellence in Adams House.

For more information, contact the provost’s office at 717-872-3772 or Pstudent2@millersville.edu. Faculty should RSVP by March 13 through the following registration form:
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docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dERpeVFDODNtV19ZTHFJR1VIdktMblE6MQ

3/15/2012 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for March 15, 2012.

Faculty and Staff Activities

**Dr. Ralph Anttonen**, academic & student development, and **Dr. Michelle White**, academic advisement, recently had their article, “Reinvigorating Faculty Advising on Your Campus,” published in *The Mentor* at dus.psu.edu/mentor.

**Dr. Stephanie Elzer**, computer science, **Dr. Nancy Mata**, art & design, and **Dr. Patrick McCaskey**, management & marketing, met on February 27 with Raymond Wee, manager, Industry Development Group, and Tan Aik Bing, assistant director, Industry Development Group of the Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) of Singapore, a government agency under Singapore’s Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA). This meeting was to assist IDA in the development of a program through Millersville University’s Software Productization Center.

**Dr. Abdelhadi Halawa**, wellness and sport sciences, has been selected by the Senior Advisory Board (SAB) of Intellectbase International Consortium to serve as a conference co-chair for the Multi-Disciplinary International Academic Conference to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from March 15-17.

**Drs. Linda McDowell**, educational foundations, **Lynn Marquez**, earth sciences, **Caleb Corkery**, English, and **Dan O’Neill**, counseling & human development, presented at the 31st Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience in San Antonio, February 17-21. Marquez, McDowell and O’Neill presented Millersville’s work on the Freshman Year Experience in a workshop titled “Data is the Lesson, Experience is the Teacher: Keys to Building a Successful FYE Program.” They also conducted a roundtable discussion, “Weathering the Storm: These Times they are a Changing,” focused on challenges universities face in providing quality first year programming. Corkery and O’Neill presented their work in coordinating the One Book One Campus and CHOICES Orientation programs in a workshop titled “Engaging First-Year Students in Crucial Conversations at Orientation.”
Retired

Dr. Francis Bremer, professor emeritus of history, has been selected for a fellowship at Trinity College, Dublin, beginning April 1. He will be researching puritan conversion experiences in the early modern Atlantic world. Also this spring, Bremer’s new book, First Founders: Puritans and Puritanism in the Atlantic World, will be published. The dedication for the book is to Bremer’s colleagues, students and administrators of Millersville University.

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus of elementary education, will present a “Hooray for Heroes” in Vineland, N.J., on March 21. The presentation is through a Teaching American History grant workshop.

Dr. Karl E. Moyer, professor emeritus of music, played two of the series of Wednesday’s noon Lenten Meditation events, organ music with printed but without spoken comment, in the United Methodist Church. One more remains for him: Wednesday during Holy Week, 12:15 - 12:45 p.m., with the theme “From Palm Sunday to Good Friday in Music.” He was consultant for the rebuilding of the organ and played its opening re-dedication in January 1972. Dr. Philip Wynn, professor emeritus of industrial arts education, was chair of the organ committee in that project. The organ is one of the more significant in Lancaster County.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of the Exchange features Dr. Sandra Deemer, professor of educational foundations.

Q: How long have you been working at Millersville?
A: I am in my 12th year at Millersville. I began working here in August of 2000.

Q: What classes do you teach here? Do you have any favorites?
A: I regularly teach undergraduate and graduate courses in educational psychology. I have also taught a freshman inquiry course titled “What Turns you on? Minds, Motivation and Learning” and a graduate course in educational research. In 2004, I was also involved in our Philadelphia Immersion Seminar, which is a living-learning experience in Philadelphia. As for favorites, I am fortunate in that all of my course assignments allow me to share my knowledge and enthusiasm related to the psychology behind teaching and learning. Creating and teaching the freshman seminar has been an exciting challenge as I attempt to infuse research on motivational theory with the practical learning strategies that are often useful for incoming students.

Q: Do your children or other family members influence your teaching style?
A: This is such a timely question because my son, Joshua, began kindergarten last year. I constantly find myself thinking about the dynamics of his kindergarten classroom as I discuss theories in educational psychology with Millersville students. Amazingly, what I have
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experienced in his kindergarten class as both a parent and a classroom volunteer mirrors the best practices espoused in educational psychology.

If you remember your time in kindergarten, you may recall that children are so curious, always asking questions and exploring their environments inside and outside of school. I try to consider how we as teachers can promote this questioning and exploration at various grade levels and with different types of students when I am teaching my courses in educational psychology.

Q: You had two publications featured in the Educational Psychology Reader: The Art and Science of How People Learn. How many other publications have you had?
A: I really enjoy academic writing. My dissertation advisor, Dr. Kathy Minke, was an incredible role model for me with academic writing. Although it is challenging, I gain great pride from sharing ideas in this way especially when I collaborate with others during the writing process. My most recent publication with Melissa Ostrowski in the journal American Secondary Education is a highlight of my publications because it actually describes and theoretically analyzes a current practice being used in a local high school.

Q: We featured your colleague, Laurie Hanich; she mentioned you were both co-editors of Teaching Educational Psychology. Can you tell us more about your personal involvement?
A: Laurie and I were so fortunate to be asked to serve in this role where we split the duties associated with this national peer-reviewed journal. In this role, I communicate with potential authors, solicit and coordinate reviews of manuscripts, and oversee copy editing of manuscripts until final publication. In addition, I have been involved in forging partnerships with leading organizations in education, such as the American Educational Research Association and American Psychological Association, as we market the journal to others in our field.

Q: What is your involvement with Phi Eta Sigma?
A: I have served as Phi Eta Sigma’s faculty advisor since fall 2000. Recently I turned this advising role over to one of our new faculty members, Dr. Tiffany Wright. I enjoyed assisting the members of this honor society in organizing their annual induction ceremony and overseeing their financial accounts. My role was strictly advisory as the great students who compose this organization really do all the work.

Q: Where are you from?
A: I grew up in Easton, Pa. I still have family in that area and enjoy visiting my good old hometown.

Q: What college/university did you attend? Major?
A: I graduated from Millersville in 1992. While here as a student, I majored in psychology and was fortunate enough to have been taught by great professors like Dr. Luek, Dr. Smith-Wade-El and Dr. Woo, who helped develop my passion for psychology. I also was a part of the University honors program. I received my master’s and doctoral degrees in educational psychology from the University of Delaware.
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Q: What was your dream job when you were growing up?
A: Teacher – I was one of those kids who rallied (or maybe coerced) the neighborhood kids to let me “teach” them in my makeshift school in our basement. Even though I had this calling to teach early in life, I actually steered away from it and focused on developmental psychology when I first entered graduate school. But once I took an elective course in educational psychology, I was back to my childhood dream job.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: I am an avid reader (in fact, I often trade books with Laurie Hanich). One of my favorite books is still The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?
A: With no reservation, my family and friends are my biggest accomplishment. As I mentioned above, Joshua, who now is in first grade, challenges me each day with his inquisitive personality. Emma, my two year old, is so curious and really makes me stop and “look” at the world. My husband, Mike, is an amazing partner and truly dedicated father. I am fortunate to have many great groups of friends from every aspect of my life—the high school gang, the Millersville gang, the University of Delaware gang and the Highcroft neighbors. Of course, I also take great pride in the work that I do here at Millersville, which can only happen with the great support of family and friends.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
A: Being a Millersville University alum and now a Millersville University faculty member, I can say with assurance that Millersville has so much to offer to both students and faculty if you “seize the opportunity.” I felt that I did this as a student by being involved in the University and psychology honors programs. As a faculty member, I am fortunate to exist in a community where I am able to share my knowledge and passion related to teaching and learning with engaged students and colleagues every day.