Jim McCollum to Serve as Acting President

On behalf of the Council of Trustees, Chairman Michael G. Warfel announced recently that Dr. James McCollum, executive deputy to the president and chief of staff, has been named acting president of Millersville University for the period of January 26 through April 1, when president-elect Dr. John Anderson will begin his duties as president. Following standard University interim/acting protocols, the Council of Trustees first asked the University’s provost, Dr. Vilas Prabhu, to serve in this position. Due to recent eye surgery that will limit his ability to perform presidential duties, particularly travel, Prabhu declined this request. Therefore, the trustees next turned to Dr. James McCollum, executive deputy to the president and chief of staff, to fill this acting position and he has accepted.

Prior to his arrival at Millersville University, McCollum served for 10 years as CEO of the inter-university council of Ohio, an education association representing the collective interests of the state’s public universities. For more than 20 years he was associated with Youngstown State University as presidential assistant, governmental relations officer, head of the university relations unit, and as a state assistant attorney general and university legal counsel.

In accepting this position McCollum said, “I am honored to accept this temporary assignment and respect Dr. Prabhu’s decision. The provost’s leadership of academic affairs and his support will be crucial to me during my time as acting president. In order to assist a smooth transition between Dr. McNairy’s departure and Dr. Anderson’s arrival I will collaborate closely with cabinet and trustees, and work cooperatively with faculty and staff to ensure our students continue to receive an educational opportunity second to none and that normal University operations are managed effectively. We will all work closely with Dr. Anderson to facilitate his transition as our next president.”

The chairman of the Pennsylvania State System Board of Higher Education, Guido Pichini, commented on the announcement, “The Board looks forward to Dr. Anderson becoming Millersville University’s next president and is confident he will have great success on behalf of the entire campus community, especially its students. In the meantime it is important that the University continues to move forward under strong, consistent leadership. Dr. McCollum has demonstrated during his professional career he can fulfill this role during this transition period.”

MU Receives Second Annual Safety Ranking

Student safety and campus crime have become all too familiar issues facing colleges and universities today. But how many students consider those factors during the college evaluation process? According to a recent news release issued by StateUniversity.com, founder Dominik Mazur said student safety and campus crime are sometimes overlooked, which is why the leading website for college information began ranking the 450 safest colleges and universities in the U.S.

In its second annual list, Millersville University received a score of 92.56 out of 100 – ranking as the 16th safest college in Pennsylvania. Overall, Millersville ranked 219 in the nation.
“It is important to keep in mind that the crime rate at Millersville University is very low. Our positive safety ranking by StateUniversity.com reflects a small part of what occurs toward safety and security at Millersville University,” said Peter Anders, Millersville’s police chief. “The ranking is based solely upon past reported crime; students and staff have worked with the University Police toward making our community a safe and nice place to live, study, work and visit.”

According to StateUniversity.com, safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape and murder on campus, and then are weighed based on the probability of each incident happening to each student since naturally larger campuses would be expected to have a higher number of total incidents. Violent crime is given more weight in the ranking system, and has a greater effect on the safety rating than non-violent crime such as theft.

Incidents of larceny-theft affected approximately six people out of 1,000 at Millersville. There were no incidents of arson, murder, robbery or vehicle theft. Of the 14 Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education schools, 11 received notable rankings among the top 20 ranked universities in Pennsylvania with the highest safety rating. Mansfield University ranked number one, Indiana University of Pa. ranked second and Slippery Rock ranked third.

“University Police continue to caution that while we are in a safe environment, several small practices could decrease the opportunity for crime. Students are encouraged to keep their rooms, vehicles and apartment doors locked, even when they are in their apartment, and not to walk away from valuables in public areas,” Anders added.

The 2012 rankings are available online, at stateuniversity.com/rank/safety_score_rank.html.

Rich Frerichs Receives President’s Medallion

Professor, dean, chair, committee member, president, representative, master and volunteer are just some of many hats Dr. Rich Frerichs ’64 has worn in his career. His efforts have benefitted Millersville University, Penn Manor School District and the community in general. At the Council of Trustees meeting last month, Francine G. McNairy awarded Frerichs Millersville University’s highest honor, the President’s Medallion, which honors and acknowledges contributions to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the commitment to the values of higher education.

Frerichs, professor emeritus of educational foundations at Millersville, also served the University as dean of resident life, dean of men, associate director of financial aid and chair of the Department of Educational Foundations. He’s worked closely with the alumni association, serving as president, president-elect and past president, as well as holding positions...
on alumni association committees. Frerichs continues to play a role in MU athletics. In addition to securing athletic fundraising sponsorships, he has been a voice at football games for 40 years and basketball games for 30 years.

In addition to his most recent recognition Frerichs has been recognized with the alumni association’s Distinguished Service Award (2006) and Outstanding Volunteer Service Award (2010); he received Phi Delta Kappa’s Distinguished Educator Award (1998) and Millersville University’s Sara Lindsley Person of the Year Award (2009-10).

Beyond Millersville University, Frerichs, who has served as president of the Penn Manor School Board for 15 years, has also been a member of the Pennsylvania School Board Association, a member of the board of directors for the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators and a member of Lancaster County Campaign Against Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force, to name a few.

Saraka Appointed Director of Alumni Engagement Office

Mike Saraka of Pen Argyl, Pa., has been appointed director of alumni engagement at Millersville University. Saraka, who has more than 20 years of experience in higher education including time in career services, resident life and alumni engagement, will officially begin at Millersville on February 4.

Saraka is no stranger to the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education; his most recent alumni positions include Slippery Rock University, from May 2000 to February 2011, and at East Stroudsburg University until 2012. He also received his bachelor’s degree in communication from Clarion University and his master’s degree in student personnel from Slippery Rock University. Saraka presently serves as a human resources sergeant with the Pa. Army National Guard, a position he’s held since 2007.

As director of alumni engagement at Millersville University, he will oversee the planning and direction of all alumni programs including regional events, reunions, admissions, advocacy networks, revenue generation, student relations and mass communications.

Munoz Moves to Academic Affairs

With the start of the new year Dr. René Muñoz has a new title and has moved from the Division of University Advancement to the Division of Academic Affairs. Munoz, the former director of foundation and government support, is now the director of sponsored programs and research administration, reporting to Dr. Jeff Adams, associate provost for academic administration.

This change is being made to allow for increased interaction with faculty, students and staff in preparing and submitting grant and contract proposals. The change
was made in light of the closing of the University’s Soar to Greatness capital campaign and after a thorough review and discussion by the two divisions. Munoz will continue to oversee faculty and staff public grant activity, as well as contracts involving faculty and staff with profit and nonprofit organizations. Private philanthropic work with corporations and foundations will remain with University Advancement. Last year Munoz assisted faculty and staff in submitting approximately 120 grant proposals totaling $22 million.

Save the Date for Red Dress Luncheon

Millersville University will once again participate in the “Go Red for Women” day, which has been set aside by the American Heart Association and other organizations to raise awareness about heart disease in women. The University will hold its seventh annual Red Dress Luncheon on Friday, February 1, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (lunch served at noon) in Lehr Room, Bolger Conference Center, Gordinier Hall.

The cost is $10 per person payable to Millersville University, and both men and women are invited. RSVP by January 25 to Human Resources at Dilworth Building room 105, ext. 3017 or human.resources@millersville.edu.

Three Disability Events at Millersville this Spring

Millersville University will be holding a variety of programs on disability issues this spring: A Disability and Public Policy Forum on February 4; a Disability and the Arts Community Forum on February 18; and an inaugural meeting of the Statewide Coalition on Preserving Commonwealth Records on April 5. All three events will be held on Millersville’s campus.

On February 4 Millersville will host “The Challenge of Inclusion: Disability Rights, the Community Movement and Public Policy” from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Bolger Conference Center, Gordinier Hall. This is a campus and community forum on current issues of disability rights and public policy. Presenters include advocates and self-advocates and policy experts. The sponsors include Millersville University, PA TASH (an international leader in disability advocacy), Pennhurst Memorial and Preservation Alliance and the Keystone Institute. All members of campus and local community are welcome.

On February 18, join campus and community organizations for “Disability and the Arts: A Community Forum,” an insightful program on inclusion and incorporating disability and the arts into public programming. This half-day event, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Bolger Conference Center, Gordinier Hall, is designed to bring together artists, advocates and community organizers to envision how to effectively incorporate individuals with disabilities into public arts and humanities programs and venues.

In addition to performing artists, presenters will include specialists from the Kennedy Center, the Smithsonian Institution and VSA Pennsylvania (an international organization on arts & disability).

For more information and special accommodations, contact Barry Kornhauser at barry.kornhauser@millersville.edu or Dennis Downey at dennis.downey@millersville.edu.
Living the Promise

Millersville University President Francine G. McNairy recently presented Jennifer Hart and Linda Bolin, administrative assistants within the Office of the President, with “Living the Promise” awards.

Hart was honored for service above and beyond the call of duty in planning for and staffing the Pa. Association of Councils of Trustees annual conference while simultaneously staffing the presidential search. She has received numerous compliments from visiting and local trustees for the outstanding way she handled all of the details in planning and implementing the conference.

Bolin was honored for service above and beyond the call of duty in supporting the emergency management team during preparations for Superstorm Sandy. She volunteered her own time to come onto campus to support the team’s efforts in planning for the storm.

Photo caption (left to right): President Francine G. McNairy, Jennifer Hart, Linda Bolin and Dr. James McCollum, executive deputy to the president and chief of staff.

Meteorology Students Network in Austin

Twenty-seven Millersville University students attended the 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) in Austin, Texas, earlier this month with their advisor, Dr. Richard Clark, earth sciences. The meeting provides students with the opportunity to network with professionals across the weather and climate enterprise, attend conferences and town hall meetings on relevant and timely topics, and circulate resumes.

This is the 25th consecutive year that senior meteorology majors were able attend the AMS annual meeting. Since 2001 Millersville University has hosted an alumni reception at the annual meeting. This year’s reception set an attendance record for alumni participation, with more than 120 alumni, students and friends of the University stopping by to show their support.

Millersville Students Study Air in California

Millersville students pictured on a pit stop near Texarkana, Texas, on their way to Huron, Calif., to participate in the NASA DISCOVER-AQ project, which is a large multi-institutional, multi-agency study of air and particulate transport.

The students stopped in Austin, where they met up with 22 Millersville meteorology majors and a computer
science major at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society. In all, 11 students supervised by Dr Richard Clark, earth sciences, will spend five weeks in the San Joaquin Valley, returning to Millersville around mid-February.

Need to Know: Call for Proposals

University Theme

The University Theme Committee will continue the topic “Seize the Opportunity: Create, Innovate, Engage” for 2013-2014. This recurring, annual theme will serve as a focus for campus lectures, events and activities to promote collaboration, investigation and conversation across the disciplines within the University and our community. This is your invitation to submit proposals for theme-related events and activities.

New theme event and activity proposals as well as proposals in support of these existing key events are encouraged: One Book, One Campus common reading; Brossman Lecture (Science); Christie Lecture (Economics); Kenderdine Lecture (woman speaker on international political issues); Anna Funk Lockey Lecture (Education); Carter G. Woodson Lecture (distinguished scholar or public citizen who had made a significant contribution to African-American culture); Hazel I. Jackson Lecture (Literature related to African-Americans); Annual Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide; Humanities Film Series.

Submit proposals electronically to marie.zufelt@millersville.edu by Monday, February 18, 2013 at noon (late applications will not be considered). For additional information, contact Dr. Jeff Adams, chair, University Theme Committee, at 717-872-3703.

NOTE: Proposal application form attached to University Community email RE: University Theme 2013-2014 Call for Proposals - Due February 18 at 12 noon, sent Friday, 1/1/13.

President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity & Inclusion

The President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity & Inclusion is committed to supporting and facilitating programs that help create, sustain or promote a climate that fosters cultural diversity on campus and within the broader community. The President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity and Inclusion also welcomes proposals that contribute to policy developments that impact and enrich the educational experience of students. This round of applications is intended to support events from the spring 2013 through June 2013.

To apply, review the attached information*, complete the attached funding application form* and return it electronically to the Office of the Social Equity & Diversity via Jan.Bechtel@millersville.edu by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2013. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Funding decisions will be made at the PCCDI General Meeting in March.

*NOTE: Funding guidelines and application form attached to University Community email RE: Important-Call for Funding Proposals for spring 2013, sent Wednesday, 1/2/2013.
Need to Know: Payroll Tax Changes for 2013

Listed below are the changes to payroll taxes, which will touch a majority of employees within the State System. All of these changes will be in effect for the pay date of 1/11/2013.

- The payroll tax cut that reduced the employee share of social security tax from 6.2 percent to 4.2 percent in 2011 and 2012 expired on December 31, 2012. Therefore, social security tax will be withheld at the rate of 6.2 percent from employees' wages paid on or after January 1, 2013.
- The federal income tax rate on supplemental payments will remain at 25 percent. Examples of supplemental payments would be dual employment payments, continuing education, independent studies, individualized instructions, leave payout amounts upon separation from the University, etc. The tax was scheduled to increase on December 31, 2012, but was extended into 2013 at the 25 percent rate.
- The employee’s share of Pa. unemployment tax decreases from .08 percent to .07 percent.

For questions or concerns, contact the payroll office at ext. 3018.

1/17/2013 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for January 17, 2013.

Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Richard D. Clark, earth sciences, presented "EarthCubeED: Avoiding Becoming Another Brick in the Wall" at the Workshop “Shaping the Development of EarthCube to Enable Advances in Data Assimilation and Ensemble Prediction.” The workshop was sponsored by the National Science Foundation and hosted by the Unidata Program Center in Boulder, Colo. EarthCube is a scientific community-driven cyberinfrastructure initiative in its early stage of development that is designed to create an open, adaptable, and sustainable information system architecture that will enable the transformation of geosciences research and education.

Congratulations to

Dr. Jennifer L. Jeffrey-Pearsall, psychology, and her husband Bryon Pearsall, on the birth of Riley Margaret Pearsall on December 7.
Obituaries

Jane (Gehman) Barber, 94, died on December 28. She was retired from Millersville University, where she had worked as a clerk typist and been in charge of ordering textbooks for Student Services, Inc.

A. Marie (Constien) Shank, 86, died January 5. She had retired from housekeeping at Millersville University.

In Memoriam: President Emeritus William H. Duncan

Dr. William H. Duncan ’40, president emeritus, died on January 3, at the Mennonite Home, Lancaster. He and his wife, Alma (Pike) Duncan, celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary on November 23, 2012.

Duncan was president of Millersville State College (now Millersville University) from 1968 to 1981. He previously served the College as faculty member, supervisor of student teachers, registrar, director of admissions and dean of students.

Born March 20, 1918, in Mifflin, Pa., he was the son of the late Charles R. and Adda F. (Hampton) Duncan. A veteran of World War II, Duncan proudly served with the U.S. Army, where he advanced from Private First Class to Major.

In 1934 Duncan came to Millersville State Teachers College, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in 1940. He went on to receive a master’s degree and a doctorate in education from Penn State University.

Duncan enjoyed a 46-year association with the University. He came to Millersville in 1935, completed his two-year course in 1936, and taught in Strasburg while meeting the requirements for a bachelor’s degree at Millersville (granted in 1940). After several years teaching, serving in World War II, and earning a master’s degree at Penn State University, he returned to Millersville in 1947 as a social studies teacher in the laboratory junior high school. He subsequently left the classroom except for occasional part-time service to devote his time to administrative duties. He held such positions as the director of admissions, registrar, acting dean of instruction and dean of student affairs prior to his appointment as president. He oversaw the continuing building boom of the 1960s and early 1970s, the decline of state appropriations in the 1970s, the change of emphasis from teacher training to liberal arts, and burgeoning enrollments.

He was an active member of Grace United Methodist Church, Millersville. He served on the boards of many civic and community organizations including the Boy Scouts of America, Danforth Foundation, Sico Foundation, the United Way, Parish Resource Center, Urban League, American Heart Association and the YWCA. Dr. Duncan was also a past president of the Millersville University Alumni Association and served as a Life Director of the Millersville University Foundation.
Exchange
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Duncan’s dedication to his family, church and Millersville University were constants in his life. His interests included gardening, trout fishing and hunting. In 1995, the Duncan Alumni House (205 N. George St.) was named in honor of Duncan and his wife.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of the Exchange features Laura Micciche, event coordinator for the Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster.

Q: When did you begin working for Millersville University?

Q: Take us through a typical day in your shoes?
A: A typical day for me would be to arrive at the Ware Center, go through the events calendar and make sure the details of all events are handled for the day. This is usually anywhere between one and eight events per day. I also handle phone calls and emails requesting event bookings at the Ware Center. At the end of the day, our goal is to make sure everyone feels at home here.

Q: What do you enjoy most about your job?
A: I enjoy the process of coordinating the events; from the initial phone call all the way through completion.

Q: What range of events do you coordinate at the Ware Center?
A: A little bit of everything. I coordinate classes and events for various Millersville departments to corporate receptions, fundraising galas and weddings.

Q: Have you always been interested in coordinating events?
A: I have always loved coordinating events. Even when I was growing up, I loved planning family gatherings.

Q: What are your favorite kinds of events to organize at the Ware Center?
A: I really enjoy First Fridays. The entire staff gets involved in putting it together. It always involves many different types of art: Visual, music, food, etc. It’s great to see and hear visitors’ reactions when they come in to the building for the first time.

Q: Do you participate in the arts outside of work?
A: I enjoy going to see independent films, concerts and visiting museums.

Q: How does the center benefit the community?
A: The Ware Center gives an opportunity for the local community to come together and experience the arts, while at the same time offering local organizations a place to connect.
Q: Recently the Ware Center waived the fee for Millersville students to attend any Literary Guild lecture at the Ware Center. Why is this a good opportunity for students?
A: The Literary Guild brings high quality authors to Lancaster County, which offers students that personal connection to an artist or author that they may not necessarily have the chance to experience otherwise.

Q: What were you doing before you came to Millersville?
A: Producing large scale events for national corporations, nonprofits, golf championships and private individuals.

Q: Why did you come to Millersville?
A: I moved to Lancaster County from Florida to be closer to my family.

Q: What do you enjoy to do outside of work?
A: I love spending time with my husband and my two dogs.

Q: Have you won any honors or awards?
A: In 2010, I was honored by Millersville University with the Living the Promise Award for my work on the University's capital campaign public launch event at the Ware Center. In 2005, I received the U.S. Open Championship USGA Appreciation Award.

Q: What is your biggest pet peeve?
A: Walking into spider webs!

Q: Where are you originally from?
A: I grew up in Cliffside Park, N.J.

Q: Have you ever traveled outside of the country?
A: Yes, I have been to Europe, Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean Islands.

Q: If you could book any artist of any kind for the Ware Center, who would it be?
A: If I had a choice of anyone in the world, I would choose Andrea Bocelli. He is an inspiration, his voice is timeless and he is a legend. Can you imagine that voice in Steinman Hall?