PASSHE, APSCUF agree on framework for new faculty contract

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) and Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF) have agreed to the framework for a new contract with the approximately 5,500 faculty at the 14 state-owned universities. More information will be made available as the ratification process continues.

PASSHE is the largest provider of higher education in the Commonwealth, with about 115,000 students. The 14 PASSHE universities offer degree and certificate programs in more than 120 areas of study. About 500,000 PASSHE alumni live and work in Pennsylvania.

The state-owned universities are Bloomsburg, California, Cheyney, Clarion, East Stroudsburg, Edinboro, Indiana, Kutztown, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg, Slippery Rock and West Chester Universities of Pennsylvania. PASSHE also operates branch campuses in Clearfield, Freeport, Oil City and Punxsutawney and several regional centers including the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg and the Philadelphia Multi University Center in Philadelphia.

Soar to Greatness Brings in $88 Million

On December 31, 2012, the Soar to Greatness Capital Campaign officially closed, reaching $88 million—an achievement which will propel Millersville University forward to its next stages of success for years to come. Employees contributed with 648 current and retired faculty and staff contributing more than $3.65 million to the campaign.

Launched in June 2006, the campaign for Millersville University had eight funding priorities identified with an initial overall goal of $60 million. It was the most ambitious fundraising undertaking in the history of the University or by any university within the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. In May 2010, Millersville decided to increase the campaign goal to $85 million.

Central to the strategy of the campaign was the concept of total revenue generation. The campaign embraced a total “revenue generation” effort by matching Commonwealth dollars for the renovation and expansion of the library and the expansion and transformation of Lyte Auditorium into the Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center. Revenue for all of the eight
priorities came from a mix of sources including competitive public grants, corporate sponsorships and, of course, private gifts from alumni, corporations, foundations, friends and University employees.

The campaign raised 40 percent, or $35.5 million, from the Commonwealth through matching dollar support for facility projects. The remaining $52.5 million, or 60 percent of the campaign revenue, was generated from private gifts (both individuals and corporations) and competitive state/federal grants and contracts including corporate partnerships. Of the $52.5 million, $38.7 million (74 percent) came from private support and $13.8 million (26 percent) from competitive state/federal grants, contracts and corporate partnerships.

The 32 campaign cabinet members were guided by staff members. They represented the stakeholders of this University—students, alumni, friends, employees, parents, business associates, neighbors, retirees and others. Stephen Kepchar ’70, ’12H was campaign cabinet chair and Bennett Cooper, Esq. ’67, ’12H, was vice chair. The campaign’s honorary chairs were Dr. J. Freeland Chryst ’50, ’98H, founder & chairman of The Jay Group, and James Argires, M.D., neurosurgeon with Lancaster NeuroScience & Spine Associates.

Impact of the campaign:

- More than $21.7 million from private donations and state support gifted to the visual and performing arts priority providing present and future students with quality facilities such as the Ware and Winter centers and its programming.
- A $500,000 gift to support the purchase of instructional equipment to greatly enhance student learning for a variety of facilities across the University including the sciences and the performing arts.
- A $1.5 million competitive federal grant that provided scholarships for students interested in teaching math in urban school districts.
- More than a million dollars in gifts that will assist student scholarships in the sciences, particularly marine biology and physics.
- During the campaign athletic private fundraising, primarily for scholarships, increased from $220,000 to $600,000 this year.
- Overall, more than $20 million has been gifted for all scholarship purposes.
- $100,000 gift established a unique alumni mentoring program for Honors College students.
- $300,000 gift established the first “Innovator in Residence and Lectureship.”
- The $2 million plus raised for global partnerships will provide important international experiences for students.
- $500,000 commitment will enhance the exterior library area creating a reading, sculpture garden and class space.
- $5.8 million secured in grants promote faculty-student research.
- A $200,000 corporate gift assists students volunteering at nonprofit organizations.
- A $300,000 gift established the Walker Center for Leadership and Civic Responsibility.
- A $50,000 gift strengthened the University’s women’s wellness center programming.
- A $250,000 gift providing baseball scholarships.
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- A $800,000 gift establishing the first endowed academic program in Entrepreneurial studies.
- A $100,000 gift establishing an unrestricted presidential endowment.

Hazlett Appointed Director of Admissions

Brian Hazlett has been appointed director of admissions at Millersville University. Hazlett, who has more than 16 years of experience in undergraduate and graduate admissions at three different institutions, began at Millersville on February 4.

Hazlett previously served as the assistant vice president and director of university admissions at Towson University. During his time at Towson, he created an Office of University Admissions overseeing undergraduate and graduate operations, increased applications by 16 percent and implemented several initiatives that resulted in enhanced diversity of the incoming class. Hazlett began his career in admissions at Philadelphia University and moved to serve as the director of recruitment at Binghamton University, State University of New York.

Hazlett received a bachelor’s degree in history and secondary education from Saint Francis University of Pennsylvania and received a master’s degree in social science from Binghamton University. Hazlett resides in York, Pa., with his wife Heather and daughter Lauren.

Student Athletes On Top

Millersville University’s student-athletes rank No. 1 of 16 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) members in Academic Success Rate (ASR) according to data recently released by the NCAA.

NCAA statistics show that among freshman entering classes from the years 2002-05, Millersville’s student-athletes produced an ASR of 86 percent, and Millersville was one of only four schools in the PSAC to top the 80 percent mark. Millersville’s women’s cross country, women’s track and field, field hockey and women’s tennis programs produced a 100 percent ASR.

ASR is calculated using a four-year rolling average, includes transfers into an institution in the calculation of the rate but removes students who left the institution while academically eligible to compete. The PSAC average was 78 percent, ranking it fourth among 23 Division II conferences. With the highest enrollment, the PSAC produced the most graduates (5,422 of 6,966).
Daffodil Days 2013

The Millersville University Business Association (MUBA) is continuing its support of the American Cancer Society’s (ACS) annual “Daffodil Days” on campus.

Faculty and staff can place orders through any MUBA member or by contacting Anna Stauffer, purchasing, at astauffer@millersville.edu or 717-872-3041. Order deadline date is Friday, February 15. Campus pick-up in the purchasing department will be March 20.

Items to choose from include a bunch of 10 daffodils at $10, vase and bunch at $15, Boyd’s Bear (Ray O. Hope) and bunch at $25 and pot of mini-daffodils at $12. On behalf of the ACS, MUBA appreciates your continued support!

Pep Band Cheers on Marauders After Almost a Decade

For the first time since 2004, Millersville University’s men’s and women’s basketball team will have their own pep band cheering them on. The pep band is scheduled to perform on February 9 at the women’s game at 1 p.m. and the men’s game at 3 p.m. Both games will be held in Pucillo Gymnasium.

During the February 9 home game, the pep band will play a variety of songs from “Firework” by Katy Perry to classics such as “YMCA.” The pep band consists of 40 Millersville students directed by Matthew Storm. “This will be a very big learning experience but with all the talented musicians that have joined, I am confident it will be great,” said Storm.

Bring your family and friends and come out to show your support for Millersville by helping the band cheer on the Marauders to victory.

If you are interested in joining the pep band for next year, contact Storm at Matthew.Storm@millersville.edu. For more information on the men’s and women’s basketball teams, visit millersvilleathletics.com.

MU student attends The Harrisburg Internship Semester

Eric Pettis of Lancaster is working for the Pennsylvania Department of State as part of a 15-week internship sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).

Pettis is a junior government and political affairs and political economics major at Millersville University. He is one of 14 students participating in The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) program, which provides students the opportunity to work in all areas of state government while
earning a full semester’s worth of credits. THIS invites students from each of the 14 PASSHE universities to participate.

Pettis, the son of Greg and Maria Pettis, is a 2010 graduate of Dayspring Christian Academy. He and the other students participating in the program will attend several academic seminars during their spring semester internship. Each of the students also will complete an individualized research project as part of the program’s requirements.

More than 500 students from PASSHE universities have participated in THIS since the program began in 1989, each gaining valuable insight into the workings of state government at the policy-making level. Interns have worked with dozens of state agencies, as well as in the offices of the governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives and the attorney general.

PASSHE students interested in participating in THIS in a future semester may obtain information on the program by contacting their individual campus coordinator or their university’s cooperative or internship office, or by calling the Dixon University Center at 717-720-4089. More information on the program also is available at www.passhe.edu/this.

The Ware and Winter Centers Host a Variety of Special Events

The Ware Center in downtown Lancaster and the Winter Center on campus will host a variety of events this spring. Below are just a few upcoming events:

**Friday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m., The Unconquerable Spirit of Harriet Tubman** comes to the Ware Center. Written and performed by actor, writer and choreographer Leslie McCurdy, this one-woman show captures the essence of Harriet Tubman, a woman who born into slavery escaped its confines and ultimately led more than 300 slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad. The show is an emotional and inspirational triumph. Tickets cost $15 for general admission, $12 for seniors, and $1 for students with MU ID.

**Sunday, February 17 at 5 p.m.,** the Ware Center hosts Carbon Dance Theatre. This award-winning Philadelphia-based contemporary ballet company will perform their program Shorts, a captivating evening of beautiful dance. Tickets cost $15 for general admission, $12 for seniors, $5 for non-MU students and $1 for students with MU ID.

**Saturday, March 9 at 3 p.m.,** the Winter Center will present the Bach Choir of Bethlehem with the Millersville University Keystone Singers. The performance includes Mendelssohn’s choral masterpiece “Elijah” with soloists Rose Lamoreaux, soprano, and bass-baritone Dashon Burton. Mark A. Boyle, director of the Keystone Singers and assistant professor of music at Millersville, is a featured singer with the Bach Choir. Tickets cost $35- $25 reserved seating, $30 for senior reserved seating and $10 for students.
Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m., the Winter Center welcomes An Evening with Garrison Keillor. American author and storyteller best known for his radio show A Prairie Home Companion, Keillor brings his special brand of homespun humor to Millersville. Tickets cost $50/$35 reserved seating.

Tickets may be purchased online, at MUTicketsOnline.com, at the Student Memorial Center Ticket Office (Room 103), by calling the Ticket Office at 717-872-3811 or at The Ware Center Box Office (42 N. Prince St., Lancaster). Ticket Offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Note: MU ID discount tickets are not available for purchase online or over the phone. MU ID must be presented at the MU Ticket Office.

Update: Millersville Students Study Air in California

The journey continues for the 11 Millersville students spending five weeks in the San Joaquin Valley, Calif., to participate in the NASA DISCOVER-AQ project, which is a large multi-institutional, multi-agency study of air and particulate transport.

On January 31, 60 6th graders from the Huron Middle School visited their field research site. The Millersville University students gave tours and presentations of each of the instruments that are being used at the site, and the students all participated in launching a weather balloon.

Next week, the Millersville University students will be going to the middle school to teach a segment on weather in six sections of earth sciences courses at Huron Middle School. In addition, next week the Millersville group will be hosting a visit from 120 4th graders and as many 5th graders at the site.

Check out the group’s Flickr page to view photos from their trip – new photos are being uploaded daily: http://www.flickr.com/photos/larc-science/sets/72157632681226908.

The students, supervised by Dr. Richard Clark, earth sciences, will return to Millersville mid-February.

Inauguration Day

Students, faculty and staff from Millersville University got up early on January 21 to take a bus to Washington, D.C., to take part in the Inauguration festivities of Barrack Obama. CCERP posted photos on their Facebook account at: www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10151170173191652.439653.3371906651&type=1.
Need to Know

2013 Distinguished Civic Leadership Awards Nomination Form

The Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP) is soliciting nominations for annual awards to be made at its Civic Engagement Recognition Event on April 11, 2013.

The purpose of these awards is to publicly recognize notable civic/community contributions on the part of individuals and entities that have had a positive impact locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. Nominees may fall into one of the following eligible categories:

- be a local, regional or national or international figure
- an MU faculty or staff member
- an MU student
- an MU alum
- a non-MU student (including pre-college)
- a nonprofit organization
- a corporation or other business entity; or institution, including schools but not governmental agencies.

It is requested that you make a nomination(s) by providing the information found at the link provided: blogs.millersville.edu/ccerp/upcoming-events-2013/. Responses are due by March 18, 2013.

Need to Know

Interim Leadership Arrangements for the Division of Information Resources

We write to let you know about interim leadership arrangements for the Division of Information Resources. As you know, Vice President Chip German will be leaving Millersville to assume a new role at the University of Virginia on February 15. Effective that day, Vice President for Finance and Administration Roger Bruszewski will assume responsibility for the Division of Information Resources on an interim basis until incoming President John Anderson (who arrives on April 1) determines new leadership for the division. Meanwhile, the division will continue its full array of projects and initiatives. The plan for interim leadership was developed by Cabinet, and it has been approved by Acting President James McCollum and reviewed with President Anderson.

The Division of Information Resources comprises the University Library (which includes the Library Faculty department), the Department of Information Technology and an information security function reporting to the VP. Specific leadership responsibilities for those areas will be assigned as follows:

University Library:
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- General Library Administration: Bruszewski and Library Business Coordinator D’Ann Ressler
- Library Academic Matters: Dr. Vilas Prabhu, provost and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Jeff Adams, associate provost for academic administration; and Library Faculty Department Chair Jessica George. Adams will assume the role of the dean for faculty matters

Library Transition to Renovated Building: Bruszewski and Library faculty members Marilyn Parrish and Greg Szczyrbak
Department of Information Technology: Mr. Bruszewski and Assistant Vice Presidents Gail Childs and Veronica Longenecker
Information Security: Bruszewski and Information Security Coordinator Greg Schmalhofer

Any questions about how specific operational matters will be handled may be directed to Gail Childs and Veronica Longenecker in Information Technology and D’Ann Ressler in the Library.

2/7/2013 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for February 7, 2013.

Faculty and Staff Activities

Drs. Ximena Catepillán, mathematics, and Waclaw Szymanski, mathematics at West Chester University, recently had their paper “Fundamental Equation for Quadratic Polynomials” presented at the 2013 Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego. In the paper the authors describe a Hindu-Vedic approach to quadratic polynomials different from the traditional method taught in schools.

Dr. Christine Filippone, art and design, will have her article “Ecological Systems Thinking in the Work of Linda Stein” published in the peer-reviewed Woman’s Art Journal this spring. Last fall she presented the paper “The Human Use of Human Beings? Feminism and Systems Theory in Public Sculpture and Ecological Art” at the annual conference for the Society for Literature, Science and the Arts in Milwaukee, Wis. Last spring she co-chaired the session “Gendering the Posthuman” at the annual conference of the College Art Association in Los Angeles. This session was developed from a graduate-level seminar taught at Millersville in spring 2011 entitled Posthumanism in 20th Century Art: Gender, Technology and Computer Culture. And, this summer Filippone will accompany a study-abroad trip for students from Immaculata...
University to Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Dr. Lisa Schreiber, communication & theatre, recently announced the completion of a free online textbook, Public Speaking: The Virtual Text. The textbook has 271 pages and 18 chapters. The book can be found at www.publicspeakingproject.org/psvirtualtext.html. The textbook is part of a larger open source project (see www.publicspeakingproject.org/index.html) focused on providing free online public speaking resources to students and faculty. Schreiber is asking faculty to consider contributing an original classroom exercise, activity, syllabus or assessment tool to the site. She is also looking for videos of exemplary students’ speeches, outlines and speech transcripts. These can be sent to Schreiber at lisa.schreiber@millersville.edu.

Retired

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, gave Hooray for Heroes talks on January 16 in Chattanooga, Tenn., as part of a teacher in-service and two parent workshops at St. Peter’s Episcopal School. In addition, he will be giving a Hooray for Heroes talk on February 11 in Clarksburg, W.Va. That will be an all-day in-service through a Teaching American History grant.

Congratulations to:

Andrew Brooks, grounds, and wife Melissa, on the birth of their girl, Reese Elizabeth Brooks, on January 4.

Obituary

John Apple, 71, of Millersville died January 22. He was an associate professor in the wellness and sport sciences at Millersville University for 38 years, retiring in 2002 and being named professor emeritus. He served as head swimming and diving coach at MU for 20 years.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of the Exchange features Dr. Oliver Dreon, assistant professor of educational foundations, director of the digital learning studio and center for academic excellence.

Q: Are there any significant moments that happened during your lifetime that inspired you to become an educator?

A: I received my undergraduate degree in physics with plans to focus on research upon graduation. During my sophomore year of college, I began tutoring math and science courses at a local high school and caught the teaching bug. After graduation, I decided to pursue a master’s degree in teaching instead of going to graduate school for physics. After teaching in public schools for 15 years, I began working on a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with the hopes of working with pre-service teachers someday. That someday came a lot sooner than I had expected!
Q: What was your first job after receiving your college degree?
A: My first job after finishing my master’s degree was teaching middle school math and science and high school physics in a school district in Western Pennsylvania.

Q: What about Millersville University left a lasting impression on you, which in turn made you want to teach here?
A: I was a student at Millersville. I completed the Supervisory Program in 2000 before starting my doctoral program at the Pennsylvania State University. When I first came to Millersville, I was struck by the dedication and commitment of the faculty. Everyone is absolutely committed to student success and learning. I experienced it firsthand as a student and I’ve tried to live up to these same expectations as I’ve moved into a faculty position myself.

Q: You teach several courses in the educational foundations department that relate to technology. How has technology shaped how student teaching is conducted at Millersville University?
A: Technology can be a powerful catalyst for change in education, especially in teacher preparation programs. We’re already seeing signs of this at Millersville. In the Professional Development School program, pre-service teachers (called interns in the program) are using iPads as reflective tools during their field placements. Interns use the devices to record themselves teaching and then reflect on how they’ve taught. The videos and reflections are shared on a secure server to be viewed by other interns and Millersville faculty. The devices not only help to foster reflection but they help to build a collaborative learning community with faculty and students.

Q: How much of a role do you think technology will play in classrooms in the upcoming years?
A: Some technologists predict that traditional institutions of higher education will be completely replaced by online programs offered by large educational conglomerates. While we’re seeing some of these entities emerging in the educational arena (i.e. Coursera, Udacity, EdX), I still believe that face-to-face learning environments will exist. We’ll just incorporate more technologies to engage, assess and educate students.

Q: Do you believe that students are at a disadvantage if they take an online course versus a face-to-face course?
A: I try to avoid making sweeping generalizations regarding the quality of online instruction. As a student, I’ve had some great online classes and some really poor face-to-face ones. I don’t think the delivery method itself is the deciding factor. Students benefit from having courses that are designed with their learning in mind and structured to support their conceptual development. That can happen effectively in both face-to-face learning environments and online ones as well.

Q: What do you want students to take away from your classes?
A: I hope they understand the role that technology can play in the learning process. While I’m often labeled as “the tech guy” or as a “gadget geek,” I’m fundamentally someone who values
learning and someone who sees technology as an educational tool. I hope that my students see this both through the content I teach and through the modeling I do in my courses.

Q: Do you think it’s important for potential teachers to learn to “not take their work home with them,” or do you feel an educator should be immersed in the field 110 percent?  
A: New teachers will always bring “their work home with them.” When they’re fresh out of Millersville, our graduates are some of the most caring and dedicated individuals and they want the best for their students. The key is to help them bracket these emotions so they can have productive personal lives without losing their passion for teaching.

Q: Are you involved in any organizations or current efforts at Millersville University?  
A: I am the faculty advisor for the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association organization at Millersville. This student group supports pre-service teachers through a wide range of community programming including the Study Buddies program with local school districts. I’m also the director of the Center for Academic Excellence, which organizes professional development activities for faculty on campus.

Q: Where are you originally from?  
A: I grew up in the Pittsburgh area. Though I’ve been working on it for years, people can still hear a slight accent in my voice, especially when I say words like wheel, towel and iron. I’ve purged the word “pop” from my vernacular but the accent remains.

Q: Where is the most unique place your job has taken you?  
A: While I travel a good bit to present at national and international conferences, I think one of the most unique places this job has taken me is online. I’m an avid blogger and my blog (the8blog.wordpress.com) allows me to communicate and interact with people from around the globe. Even though I study the power of social media, seeing people visit my blog from Uganda or getting comments from people in India still continues to amaze me. The blog has been online for three years and more than 35,000 visitors have read one of my posts.

Q: What do you like to do for fun?  
A: I like to spend time with my family. I have two active children who keep me very busy. Besides chasing them around, I enjoy traveling and helping them develop into well-rounded individuals.

Q: What’s your favorite book?  
A: In terms of scholarship literature, “Legitimate Peripheral Participation” by Lave and Wenger shook my educational foundation and helped me to see the world differently. In a completely different realm of literature, “The Book Thief” by Markus Zusak was really powerful and moving. Books are like children, it’s hard to pick a favorite one.

Q: If you were given the week off from Millersville, how would you spend it?  
A: I would start to tackle the growing list of books on my “to read” list. To be honest, it’s not a written list. I have a stack of books on my desk that beg for my attention daily. Given a week off, I would give them the attention they deserve.
Q: What’s the best way to start out the day?
A: I usually start my day off with a hot cup of coffee and a newspaper. Despite being labeled as the “technology guy,” I still like the smell of newspaper ink and the sound of rustling paper each morning. I’ve tried to move to reading news online but I miss the routine and pageantry of retrieving the newspaper from the front porch and unfolding it on the kitchen table.

Q: Complete this sentence. I wish that I had _______________.
A: I wish that I had kept my original computer from the 1980s. It would be a cool physical metaphor for evolution and innovation.