Flipping for Teaching

Thanks to the college students in Dr. Oliver Dreon’s instructional technology class, fourth and sixth graders in Penn Manor School District experienced a “flipped classroom” this spring.

“In the past, teachers gave instruction in the classroom and then students went home to practice what they had learned in the form of homework. That traditional model has been turned on its head to create a flipped classroom, where students get their instruction on their own at home through videos and handouts. Then, in the classroom, teachers interact with the students and help them apply it,” explained Dreon.

The Millersville students spent this past semester creating videos, which were delivered on April 24 to the teachers in Penn Manor who are involved in the classroom. The teachers used the videos and the flipped classroom concept in their classrooms. Dreon’s class will receive evaluations from the teachers and this summer will analyze how the program worked and make recommendations for its future.

Lauren Kriebel is a junior early childhood and special education major at Millersville who was in Dreon’s course. She is also the recipient of the Nolt Family Scholarship and will use the scholarship to analyze the flipped classroom. “The great thing about this class was getting to work directly with the fourth and sixth graders and their teachers,” said Kriebel. “We listened to them and got their feedback every step of the way. As part of our class, we will evaluate how the instructional videos did, and I will also have an independent study to help determine how we move forward.”

The flipped classroom concept has been used in other parts of the country, but it is usually done in math or science. The Millersville project involved literacy and reading. Dr. Jennifer Shettel, elementary and early childhood education, was a consultant on the project, making sure the Millersville students focused on appropriate literacy strategies in their videos. “This was a great fusion of technology with literacy,” said Shettel.

Videos were created with technology available in the Digital Learning Studio in Stayer Hall. “For my group’s video, I played the role of a news anchor, and we had a breaking news story about archeologists finding mummified soldiers in China,” said Kriebel. “We also found a mummified video, and we had one of our group members voice the part of the emperor.”
Office of Global Education & Partnerships Welcomes New Director

Dr. Timothy Shea, English, was named director of Global Education & Partnerships on May 20, replacing 15-year director Dr. Kirsten Bookmiller. Shea, known for his dedication to providing his students with innovative instruction in English education, writing and film, is excited to take the reins as director. “It is truly in my blood to travel and to meet people from all over the world. I learn so much and am enriched immensely. I look forward to being an ambassador of Millersville University to the world,” Shea said.

Shea will take on promoting global initiatives not only on the Millersville campus and within the community, but extending that commitment nationally and internationally. “I would like Millersville University students to have a deeper and richer understanding of the world through the various international opportunities that we offer. My hope is that more students study abroad to more places and in new collaborative efforts.” Shea will promote and manage all aspects of the study abroad program for Millersville students, including managing the 20 institutional partner agreements with universities abroad.

Celebrating his fifth year of teaching at the University, Shea also served as English graduate director until the spring 2013 semester. From Millersville he earned his post-baccalaureate certificate in elementary education and his master’s degree in English education from Millersville. He later went on to teach at elementary, middle and high schools, both in this country and abroad, including his 10-year commitment to educating the children of Papua, New Guinea, and Indonesia. “Living abroad for over a decade and working with international students and third-culture kids in university settings has allowed me to understand the world better and myself as well,” Shea said. “It has opened up possibilities that would not have existed had I not had these rich experiences.”

One of the goals of the new director is to encourage the University family of students, faculty, administrators and staff to welcome its vision of a globally connected education system. “I would like to expand and strengthen student teaching opportunities and build partnerships within the Middle East, as it is the only major area on the map MU is not partnered with,” Shea said. The office’s goal can be achieved by welcoming international students and scholars to our campus and developing a cost-effective study abroad program for Millersville students.
Phase One of the New Student Housing Project Begins

If you plan to be on campus this summer, there are a few roads that will not be accessible due to phase one of the new student housing project. The University began construction on May 20 along Centennial Drive, which will be closed at the intersections of Shenks Lane and Creek Drive during the summer and is not scheduled to reopen until the 2013 fall semester. This beginning phase includes the completion of the new South Quad parking lot.

Alternate routes for leaving and entering campus from Shenks Lane and Creek drive are listed as follows:

If commuting to campus using Shenks Lane, drivers should follow Shenks Lane to Frederick Street, turn right and then proceed onto either the south or north ends of George Street.

If leaving campus from Creek Drive, drivers should take James Street to South George Street, turn left onto Frederick Street, and turn right onto Shenks Lane, or keep straight onto North George Street.

In addition to the closing of Centennial Drive, Burrowes and Lenhardt Halls will be closed this summer. There will be no electrical service for six-eight weeks in Burrowes Hall during the first phase of construction. Along with Centennial Drive, Lenhardt and Burrowes Halls will reopen in the 2013 fall semester.

Phase one is scheduled to be completed in late August 2014. Additional announcements will be made throughout the duration of this project. The entire $180-million project includes eight new residence halls and will be completed in approximately five years.

Four Corners Summer Arts Festival

Millersville will host the Four Corners Summer Arts Festival from June 14-29. Experience four dimensions of art: theater, music, dance and visual art. This is the fifth year that the Four Corners Festival has been held and is intended for audiences of all ages. It is free (except for the ticketed Rafters Theatre performance of “Romeo and Juliet”) and open to the public. The “Passions” art exhibit will kick off the festival on Friday, June 14, in Dutcher Hall.

Below are the scheduled events for this year’s festival:
The Jazz Ministers Big Band and Combo: Dr. Keith Wiley, music, will lead his group of musicians in a concert, which will be held at the Swan Pond on June 14 at 7:30 p.m.

All Campus Musical Organization (ACMO) presents “Broadway by the Pond”: A review of past and recent hits and Broadway favorites, at the Swan Pond. This performance will feature special guests and alumni from the past 10 years and will take on place June 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Outdoor Comedy: “Ages Ago” and “The Lover” on June 16 at 7:30 p.m. by the Swan Pond. *This event is for mature audiences.

People’s Shakespeare Project: Performs “Romeo and Juliet” from June 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. by the Swan Pond. Rain location: Rafters Theater in Dutcher Hall

“Romeo and Juliet”: from June 28-29 at 7:30 p.m. in Rafters Theatre in Dutcher Hall: Tickets cost $10 for general admission; $5 for students.

Passions art exhibit and the Post No Bills interactive art project will be open in Dutcher Hall during the following dates and times:

- June 18 and June 20, noon-4 p.m.
- June 25 and June 27, noon-4 p.m.
- June 21-June 23, noon through the end of Romeo and Juliet
- June 28-June 29 noon through the end of Romeo and Juliet

Passions: the art exhibit opens at The Ware Center, Millersville University Lancaster, on August 2, and will continue through August 22.

For more information, contact Victor Capece at Victor.Capece@millersville.edu or visit the Four Corners Festival website.

One Book, One Campus 2013-14

In the fall, all incoming students will arrive having read the same book thanks to the One Book, One Campus program at Millersville University. The goal of this program is to provide a shared intellectual experience for all new students and present an opportunity for members of the Millersville University community to interact with students in an informal discussion that engages critical thinking.

In this year’s selection, How Does It Feel to Be a Problem?: Being Young and Arab in America, author Moustafa Bayoumi captures the lives of seven Arab-Americans living in Brooklyn, facing various challenges given their ethnic identities.
“We decided on the broad theme of understanding Middle Eastern culture and experience to help students grappling with ongoing military engagements in the Middle East and with the return of veterans to our communities and campuses,” said Caleb Corkery, assistant chair and associate professor of English. “We are likely to misunderstand the perspective and experience of the people associated with the target of the conflict. Broadening understanding through different perspectives is an important component of the liberal arts program at Millersville University.”

Coker-Kolo Re-elected to AMLE

Dr. Doyin Coker-Kolo has been elected to a second term as East Region Trustee on the board of trustees of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE). Coker-Kolo is currently associate dean of the School of Education at Millersville.

According to Coker-Kolo, “To whom much is given, much is required. Being an AMLE trustee provides me with the opportunity to collaborate with educators who are passionate and diligent in promoting research and best practices in middle-level education with the ultimate goal of making a difference in the lives of young adolescents. Being an AMLE trustee is about service and advocacy.”

AMLE is a global nonprofit association and leading provider of quality resources, programs and services for those who work with young adolescents—youth aged 10 to 15. Founded in 1973, AMLE has more than 28,000 members in 45 countries, and 58 affiliate organizations worldwide.

Members of the AMLE board serve a critical role in setting the strategic plan of the association and advocating for policies and practices that guarantee a quality education for all young adolescents.

“We are pleased to have Dr. Coker-Kolo continue her service on the AMLE Board as we engage in the important work of making a difference in the lives of students,” said AMLE Executive Director William Waidelich. Coker-Kolo has been at Millersville University for six years. In addition to her administrative responsibilities, she is well published in the areas of middle level education, higher education in Sub-Saharan Africa and global education.
Need to Know

Diabetes Education Program

Taking Charge of Your Health

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Noon to 12:45 p.m.*

Stayer Multi-Purpose Room

Registration is appreciated human.resources@millersville.edu

*Please participate for the length of your lunch break.

6/6/13 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for June 6, 2013.

Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Sandra Deemer, educational foundations, was selected to participate in a faculty mentoring session where she served as a mentor to early career faculty within the Counseling and Human Development special interest group of the American Educational Research Association (AERA).
Deemer also presented a roundtable with her colleague, Dr. Laurie Hanich, educational foundations, titled “Collaborative Approaches to Teaching Educational Psychology” at the AERA conference in San Francisco.

Dr. Blaise W. Liffick, computer science, gave a presentation “Mobile Grading: A Look at Going Paperless” at the Resources for the Electronic Classroom (RECAP) Conference at West Chester University on May 23. The presentation described his experiment using an iPad to grade papers and exams with a PDF annotation application from a human-computer interaction usability perspective.

Dr. Ron Umble, mathematics, presented a contributed paper titled "Tensor Products of A-infinity Algebras with Homotopy Inner Products" at the annual Lehigh Geometry and Topology Conference, held on May 24-26 at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. His paper, coauthored with Dr. Thomas Tradler, City University of New York, will be published in the Transactions of the American Mathematical Society later this year.

Dr. Robert D. Vaillancourt, earth sciences, recently gave two presentations at a national meeting. He presented “Nitrogen Availability and Light Intensity Control Photosynthetic Quantum Yield in the Stratified Western North Atlantic Ocean” and “Resolving the Depth of the Ocean’s Productive Layer.” Both were presented at the Aquatic Sciences meeting in New Orleans, La., February 17 – 22.

Retired


Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus of early education, continues to give workshops across the country. On June 3, he gave a full day Hooray for Heroes presentation in Colorado Springs, Colo., for a teacher in-service day.

Obituaries

Jill M. (Sholley) Coleman, 54, of Millersville, died May 30. Coleman had worked as an administrative assistant at Millersville University until her retirement in February 2012.

Judith Ann Fuller, 73, of Lancaster, died May 28. She had worked in housekeeping at Millersville University.
Irene Jarvis, 86, of Columbia, died May 26. She worked for Millersville University in the housekeeping department for many years.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This issue of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dwight Horsey, assistant vice president for student affairs and director of financial aid.

Q: When did you start working here at Millersville?
A: I’ve been working at the University since 1995.

Q: Where are you originally from?
A: I was born in Baltimore. My family moved to Washington, D.C., and then back to Baltimore. I am a product of both cities.

Q: What is the most difficult part of being the director of financial aid?
A: Meeting with so many students and families who are struggling financially and not always being able to assist them and staying on top of and making sure the University is in compliance with all of the ever-changing federal and state regulations that govern the administration of the financial aid programs.

Q: What are your duties as assistant vice president of student affairs?
I work with the senior management team of the Student Affairs Division to support students in their development and success. This includes assisting with diversity initiatives, working with
student veterans, assisting academic affairs with retention and recruitment activities, working with the cultural affairs committee to bring in a variety of different kinds of performance art to campus, representing student affairs on the academic standards committee and working on assignments for the vice president for student affairs.

Q: You also assist in bringing cultural events to campus. Any groups we should look forward to this year?

A: The freshman reading this year is a book titled *How Does It Feel to Be a Problem?: Being Young and Arab in America*. So the cultural affairs committee has been looking at artists of Middle-Eastern descent or that are different in some way to follow that theme. There are some very interesting acts we’ve seen that we hope to bring to campus next season. I’ll just say prepare to be entertained.

Q: Your office provides one of the most important services at Millersville. How many people would you say you interact with on a daily basis?

A: That’s a difficult question to answer. It really depends upon the time of year. During our peak time, the office gets 2,000 calls a week, which makes for a lot of daily interactions. My conversations happen everywhere on campus every day. Just walking to the SMC, I am stopped by three or four students, and when I get there five or 10 more in computer lab or in the halls. I don’t think I’ve ever counted. I’ll just say a lot.

Q: What is the typical workday for you?

A: There really is no typical day for me. The calendar says one thing, but the reality is always different.

Q: Have you received any accolades or awards during your time here at Millersville?

Yes, but the best one is the thank you I get from students at commencement.

Q: You also facilitate an organization called Millersville Concerned Men (MCM) every Friday throughout the semester? Could you tell us more about what purpose of this group?

A: The purpose of MCM is to give the men on campus the tools they need to be successful both in the classroom and in life. We work on four main principles of academics, brotherhood, leadership and community service. We also participate in workshops and retreats with MCW, Millersville Concerned Women. We’ve had the president’s cabinet speak about their journey from student to president and vice president, as well as dining and business etiquette workshops with Dr. Aminta Breaux. The men have been involved with the Millersville Mentoring Alliance and met with both the University and Millersville Borough police departments. It’s a great learning experience for everyone involved.
Q: As someone who holds a leadership position at Millersville, what do you think the most difficult thing is when it comes to being a leader?

A: Maintaining balance and managing conflicting priorities.

Q: What are you passionate about?

A: Student success.

Q: What is your relationship like with the students here at Millersville?

A: I think it’s a positive one. When you deal with someone’s financial aid, you end up talking about almost every aspect of his or her life. Their family circumstances, classes, living situation, employment, transportation, even food and clothing. It’s all interrelated. As a result, I get to know students pretty well. If I do not have the type of relationship in which the student feels comfortable sharing that kind of information, I can’t really help them.

Q: What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?

A: Working with someone who has dealt with some really difficult issues that could have and should have prevented them from being successful and watching them persevere and grow into a Millersville alum. Also, having clean audits.

Q: Would you consider yourself to be the role model you would want when you were younger?

A: Not exactly. I never imagined that I would be working with people. I wanted to work with animals. Gunter Gable-Williams, the animal trainer for Ringling Brothers Circus, was the man I most admired and wanted to be. I haven’t quite gotten there yet.

Q: You have taught self-defense classes on campus. What sort of training do you have in this area? Do you still teach self-defense?

A: I started learning karate when I was 14, and then went on to practice Wu Shu Kung Fu, Aikido, Judo and bits and pieces of other styles. I taught karate for D.C. Parks and Recreation and a women’s self-defense class at Western Maryland College. I don’t have much in the way of free time these days, and as I have matured, getting thrown around isn’t as much fun as it used to be. As a result, I only do a couple of workshops a year.