Millersville’s Center for Sustainability recently partnered with participants at the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville to unveil a rain garden on campus. Dr. Nadine Garner, director of the Center for Sustainability, arranged for MU to be the recipient of the rain garden that was installed by 25 landscape artists during the conference held in the SMC June 5-7.

“This is the first time in the history of the 20-year conference that workshop participants have been able to leave a legacy behind for the campus to enjoy,” said Garner. “The rain garden is adjacent to Cambria House (Ann Street House), located at 14 E. Ann St., across from Gordinier Hall.

Landscape artists received continuing education credits for participating in the workshop, titled "Vegetated Solutions for Functional and Aesthetic Rain Gardens.” The effort was led by Kevin Staso and Claudia West of North Creek Nursery.

“This partnership is an example of the University's commitment as a signatory on the Alliance for Resilient Campuses (ARC),” explained Garner. “Our center promotes ways to solve real-world problems and create and maintain a sustainable society. There is more to a rain garden than meets the eye. The rain garden is an example of an effective storm water management practice: the downspouts from the roof of Cambria House were redirected to divert rainwater into the garden. The garden is filled with native plants, which create a natural ecosystem in place of the monoculture of turf, bringing biodiversity in the form of plant life, and attracting beneficial insects. The garden provides a working example for the MU community to integrate into their own homes and gardens.”

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the rain garden took place on June 6. Garner and Dr. Jason Baker, psychology, created the ribbon from cornstalks and locally-grown roses. Seth Taylor, groundskeeper supervisor, and Jeff Gipe, groundskeeper and member of the Sustainability Committee, also collaborated on the project.
Many people would likely jump at the opportunity when offered a 19-day cruise of the Atlantic Ocean aboard a 279-foot ship during the warm summer months. Hesitation may ensue when it is revealed that the purpose of the cruise is not to get a tan and relax, but instead to “study the links between the biomass of surface ocean phytoplankton and the production in the lower atmosphere of freshly-emitted sea-spray aerosols.” For two Millersville University students and one professor, this mouthful of a mission is a reality.

The expedition, a project called the West Atlantic Climate Study (WACS II) saw Dr. Robert Vaillancourt and students Jeremiah Stone and Evan Ntonados cruising the North Atlantic aboard the research vessel, the Knorr, from May 18 to June 7.

“WACS II is an excellent example of the importance of viewing the ocean and atmosphere as one integrated system and how surface ocean biology can have important impacts on the chemistry of the lower atmosphere, and thus affect global climate,” said Vaillancourt, assistant professor of earth sciences.

Vaillancourt, a seasoned ocean researcher, has spent time studying in the Atlantic, Pacific and Southern oceans, as well as the Mediterranean Sea during his research career.

Stone and Ntonados measured phytoplankton (which are minute plant organisms carried by water), biomass and species composition during the cruise, using that information and subsequent analysis as part of their senior theses at Millersville. The two also plan to present their findings at international meetings over the next two years.
The WACS II is a collaborative project, led by Dr. Patricia Quinn of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle. Scientists and researchers from Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Oregon State University, Naval Research Laboratory, Harvard University, Texas A&M University, University of Washington and Rutgers University are also participating in the study.

**Millersville Named Military Friendly Once Again**

For the second consecutive year, Millersville University has been recognized as Military Friendly by Victory Media Inc. Every year, thousands of colleges and universities around the nation are asked to participate in the annual military friendly school survey, and this year Millersville placed in the top 20 percent of all the submissions received.

“The University has a very positive atmosphere about it,” said Eugene Mizdail, recruiting and operations officer for the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) and veteran of the Pennsylvania National Guard. “It’s a two-way street here. The vets work into the population and receive an education, and they bring with them benefits that can help the University overall.”

Each school that submits a survey has its answers graded on a weighted scale then evaluated and scored as a whole. The selection is based on university criteria including scholarships, graduation rates, flexibility, overall education and on-campus military support. Only the top fifth of all submissions are recognized by Victory Media Inc. as “military friendly,” referring to them as the “schools nationwide that deliver the best experience for military students.”

“I see Millersville as a more military-focused school than some others,” said Mizdail, who is in his first year of working at Millersville after spending 13 years in a similar role at Shippensburg University. “It provides a good education to everyone, and you can really see the veterans and campus community come together.”

“Millersville is a military friendly University with an active Student Veteran’s Association and a Veterans Resource Center,” said Dr. Aminta Breaux, vice president of student affairs. “The Veterans Resource Center provides a place for students and veterans to receive support and
assistance in attending and successfully graduating from college, while the house serves as a way of supporting families of soldiers who are already deployed or preparing for deployment in military service.”

For more information on Victory Media Inc.’s military friendly school list, visit www.militaryfriendlyschools.com

Changes and Updates Coming to the Exchange

The first “Millersville College Faculty Exchange” was published on October 4, 1967 (Vol. 1, No. 1) and, for the majority of the year, every two weeks thereafter by the Public Relations Office. In 2009, because of budget cutbacks and trying to be a good environmental steward, the decision was made in University Communications & Marketing to make the Exchange electronic only.

With changes in how people receive information in 2014, and the speed of that delivery, it presents a good opportunity for University Communications to improve the way the information in the Exchange is updated and distributed.

In keeping with the University’s new strategic plan to engage learners on campus and to be agile:

- News stories will be posted as they are available, instead of only twice a month. The top three news stories will continue to feed to the homepage. All of the stories will be available at the Exchange webpage.

- The stories will also be sent out via Social Media. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at #MillersvilleU

- Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to contribute photos and articles – send to janet.kacskos@millersville.edu.
The faculty/staff activities will continue to be collected and posted to the Exchange page. In addition, an email from President Anderson will be sent to the campus community once per semester with the faculty/staff highlights and links to the major news stories.

- The “Who Makes Millersville Special” feature will become part of the homepage slider and will rotate along with profiles of students and alums.

The resulting benefits include that news stories will be posted more frequently, and the news itself will be timelier. It will also hopefully reduce the number of mass email blasts being sent out. The changes will take effect this summer.

**McNairy Library and Learning Forum Recognized with Award**

They say that good things come to those who wait. Millersville University students and faculty waited two years for the construction of the Francine G. McNairy Library and Learning Forum, and in the eyes of many, a very good thing came. The Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) agreed, awarding the library the CMAA Mid-Atlantic 2014 Chapter Project of the Year award for higher education construction projects under $20 million.

“With the renovation we now have a dedicated HVAC system for our area and a gas fire suppression system which helps protect some of our most valuable items,” said Janet Dotterer, archives & special collections. “We now have a reading room for students to come do research and a classroom, so that Dr. Marilyn Parrish can instruct students using some of our most interesting items. Overall, the construction has greatly improved our ability to protect valuable items and to share our most educational items.”

The CMAA Mid-Atlantic chapter honors construction projects from categories including K-12 projects, higher education, public buildings, private sector and mega projects (over $100
Exchange
June 19, 2014

million), among others. The awards are based on each project’s cost, schedule and safety management, innovation, creativity, customer service and sustainability.

“I feel that the new library deserved this recognition,” said Roger Bruszewski, vice-president for finance and administration. “The renovation brings the library into a new era of technology and advancement, and the building is aesthetically beautiful. Highland Associates did a wonderful job.”

Millersville will be presented with the award on June 24 at the awards banquet in Philadelphia.

Need to Know

Degree Works now available to faculty and advisors

Beginning fall 2014, Millersville is launching a new degree audit system called Degree Works. Degree Works will replace the “DARS” system for all students (new and continuing) in fall 2014. Degree Works provides a more organized and interactive way for students to assess their academic progress toward degree completion.

We are pleased to announce that Degree Works is now available for preview and testing to all faculty and advisors. To access the Degree Works system, login to your MAX account. Click on the “Faculty Services” tab and then proceed to the “Advisor Menu.” Click on the link for “Degree Audit” to access Degree Works.

With Degree Works students and advisors will:

Track – View all completed and in-progress courses as they apply to a student’s declared degree, major, option and minor requirements. Transfer credits, waivers and exceptions to graduation will all appear on the audit to help you track a student’s progress. Note: Exceptions and waivers from DARS are being transferred into Degree Works this summer, so at this time you will not see all exceptions or waivers in Degree Works.

Prepare – Click on courses within degree requirements to see course descriptions, currently scheduled sections and to view pre-requisites. See how courses would apply to another major, minor or concentration using the “What If” feature.
Plan – Use the “Look Ahead” feature to enter future courses a student is planning to take and see how they apply to the degree requirements.

DARS access to students will be discontinued as of August 25, 2014. Students will have only Degree Works as their option to run an audit at this time.

Faculty and advisors will continue to have access to DARS through the fall 2014 semester. However, new exceptions and curricular updates will not be maintained in DARS after the August 25 date.

You may email degreeaudit@millersville.edu if you have questions regarding Degree Works.

Need to Know

MEMORANDUM

To: University Community
From: Employee Wellness, Office of Human Resources
Date: June 10, 2014
Re: Fitness Classes & Weight Loss Challenge

During Summer Session 2, 2014, the SMC Fitness Center will offer yoga, spin and bodyworks group fitness classes.

Also this summer, the SMC Fitness Center will offer a weight loss challenge from July 7 to August 15.

Summer 2, 2014

Group Fitness Schedule
Classes Run: 6/9 - 7/11

- Faculty and Staff who do not have a fitness center membership can pay the $4 day fee to attend classes.

Yoga
Fri. 12:15 - 1:15p.m. (this class runs only from 6/9 - 6/20)

Spin
Tues. noon - 1:15 p.m.
Wed. – 5 - 5:45 p.m.

Bodyworks
Thurs. 12:15-1:15 p.m.
SUMMER WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE

BEGINS: MON., JULY 7
ENDS: FRI., AUGUST 15

DETAILS:

-MONDAY MORNING WEIGH-INS AT THE FITNESS CENTER

-FREE FITNESS CENTER MEMBERSHIP FOR THE SIX-WEEK CHALLENGE

-FREE ATTENDANCE TO GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

- ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN LUNCHTIME WALKS ON MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS FROM 12:15-12:45 P.M. (MEET AT THE FITNESS CENTER)

* Contact Sara Burcin- sburcin@ssi.millersville.edu to sign-up

6/19/14 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for June 19, 2014.

Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Tanya Kevorkian, history, gave a pre-concert lecture in Houston for the Baroque ensemble, Ars Lyrica Houston.
Retired

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, faculty emeritus early education, recently gave two "Hooray for Heroes" presentations June 9 in Lubbock, Texas. He also spent time on June 11 with second graders at Doe Run Road who study heroes. Their teacher, Karlene Eichelman, was a student of Denenberg’s at Millersville. On June 13, Denenberg was in Absecon, N.J., for a Heroes Fair for fifth graders. Another of Denenberg’s former students, Ginny Megargee, holds this event every year. You can watch video from a previous fair at: www.heroes4us.com.

Congratulations to:

Dr. Steven Kennedy, chemistry, and his wife, Anna Brendle Kennedy who welcomed the arrival of their daughter, Miriam Frances Kennedy, on April 6.

Obituary

Anna (Lorenz) Simon, 94, of Millersville, died June 8. She retired in 1980 from Millersville University.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Linda Rogers, who recently retired from Millersville as the interlibrary loan technician. She began at the University in September 1992.
Q: What are the various job titles you’ve had over the years?
A: Clerk typist 2, clerk typist 3, and interlibrary loan technician

Q: How has the library changed over the years?
A: With the onset on computer technology, patrons no longer need to visit the library for some materials. Computer software replaced the card catalog.

Q: Libraries across the nation have changed in their scope and focus. Do you think the changes have been positive?
A: Yes. More academic libraries focus on faster services for their patrons. Interfaced-computer programs can provide electronic articles to these users within 24 hours or less.

Q: With so much information available via computers, Smartphones, etc., why is there still a need for a library?
A: Even with electronic systems, it is impossible for libraries to provide access to all the materials needed by patrons to do their research. Libraries assist patrons in identifying the best possible resources for their research and help obtain needed books and articles that are not part of the regular collection. The Interlibrary Loan/Resource Sharing Department where I work aids in obtaining unavailable materials for our patrons and other libraries’ patrons. In fact, during the 2013 fiscal year, we provided 33,763 filled requests, and we are on track to fill 35,754 requests for the 2014 fiscal year.

Q: What are some of your favorite memories at Millersville?
A: Graduation day and moving back into the newly-renovated library.

Q: I understand that you and your son graduated at the same time from Millersville. Could you tell us about that?
A: My son, Jeremy, and I both graduated from Millersville University the spring of 2002. Jeremy’s degree was in sociology with a criminology option. I graduated cum laude with a psychology degree and an English writing minor.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?
A: I like to do crossword, cryptoquip, and Sudoku puzzles, and I also take my dog for walks.

Q: What are your plans now that you’ve retired?
A: My husband and I plan to spend more time visiting our grandson and also doing some travelling.

Q: Do you have any pets?
A: I have a 9-year-old dog named Sasha. She’s a Peek-A-Pom (Pekingese/Pomeranian) purebred cross.

Q: Favorite food?
A: Unfortunately, macaroni and cheese.

Q: What was the last book you read?
A: The Bible. I try to read it every day.