

# Parents Newsletter

## MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Summer 2008

### FALL NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

New student orientation will begin August 19. The six-day program is aimed at helping new students get acclimated to the Millersville University campus. At orientation, students will begin to learn their way around campus, become acquainted with faculty and staff and have the opportunity to start forming lasting friendships with peers.

#### Fee

There is a fee associated with orientation. This fee covers meals, housing and programming for the six-day program. The fee for residence students is \$290 and the fee for commuter students is \$215.

**Please note, the price is included in the first semester bill whether you attend or not.**

There is no fee for parents and family members.

#### Transfer students

Transfer students who are entering with under 30 credits and have full-time status are required to attend orientation. Students — both first time college students as well as transfer students — are automatically registered for orientation. Transfer students entering the University with over 30 credits are welcome to attend but must register. For more information call the Orientation Office at (717) 871-5553.

#### Parents

Parents may participate in a number of activities on August 19 only. Please check the Orientation website at: [www.millersville.edu/newlyadmitted/fallorientation/index.php](http://www.millersville.edu/newlyadmitted/fallorientation/index.php) for updates as well as a complete schedule of events.

#### Orientation Check-In

When arriving on campus on Tuesday, August 19, check-in for orientation will be held in the Student Memorial Center, Reighard Multi-Purpose Room from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. At check-in, students will receive information on their assigned orientation group as well as an updated schedule of events for the week.

**Millersville University**  
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

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## WELCOME ALL NEW STUDENTS ❁

Millersville University of Pennsylvania is working hard to prepare its campus to embrace the next freshman class. This fall all newly registered freshmen and transfer students with fewer than 30 credits will be required to take part in the orientation program that will be held from August 19, which is check-in day for all of the residence halls, until Sunday the 24. Classes begin on Monday, August 25.

This orientation will be a learning experience, where all new students will be split into smaller groups led by experienced upperclassmen to learn about the campus and campus life as well as learn how to survive those very intimidating first few days of college.

"Attending new student orientation is one of the most important steps a student can take to ensure a successful transition into the Millersville community," said Kelly M. Duncan, assistant director, student programs. "By using a group-centered approach, students are able to begin to understand the academic and social culture of the University, while at the same time becoming familiar with the physical layout of the campus and forming relationships with peers. Orientation is an opportunity to ask questions, welcome new experiences, and discover what the Millersville community is all about!"

The events vary from day to day. From placement testing to a tour of nearby Lancaster City, every aspect of student life will be covered.

New students are also required to read this year's "Common Reading" book, "A Long Way Gone, Memoirs of a Boy Soldier" by Ishmael Beah. This University-wide program will provide everyone with a shared intellectual experience. It is also an

opportunity for students to meet and interact with a member of the Millersville University faculty in an informal discussion outside the boundaries of the classroom and formal academic requirements.

The Freshman Orientation Program is a recent addition to Millersville University and has proved to be very beneficial to all involved.

Even parents will have the opportunity to be involved. Parent and family programs will take place on the first day and will include sessions on how to let go, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and student records, health services, alcohol and other drugs, a virtual history tour and information on campus safety.

For more information about orientation visit [www.millersville.edu/newlyadmitted](http://www.millersville.edu/newlyadmitted), call 717-871-5553, or email [orientation@millersville.edu](mailto:orientation@millersville.edu).



## SIRENS AND SAFETY ON CAMPUS

Millersville University has been moving forward when it comes to campus safety and security. Blue emergency phones have been placed around campus and thousands have signed up for the new MU-Alert text messaging system.

Following the success of the MU Alert text messaging system, two other aspects of campus security will debut this fall. One is the Reverse 911 system, and the other is the Campus Mass Notification System — more widely referred to as a siren system.

The Reverse 911 system affects every phone that is connected to the campus phone system. The system will call each phone and broadcast a message and instructions. The same emergency alert that goes out over the MU alert text message and siren system will be broadcast to every classroom, residence hall, dining hall, office and anywhere else that there is a speaker phone.

If you are on the phone when the reverse 911 alert is broadcast, your call will be placed on hold, you will hear the alert, then you will be reconnected with the person whom you were speaking to.

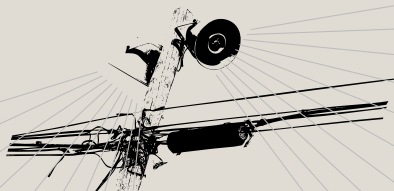
Individuals who are outside and do not have a cell phone or other means of getting emergency notifications will be able to hear the sirens. A series of four sirens located on the library, Pucillo Gym, the Prince Street Parking Garage and Lenhart Hall will broadcast a clear and concise message alerting everyone on campus of the possible threat and what they should do to protect themselves.

“The same siren system that is currently used at various military bases around the world will prove beneficial in the case of everything from a lockdown to a weather emergency,” said Pat Weidinger, director of safety & environmental health. The messages will be preceded by a series of three short tones that will sound similar to the Emergency Broadcast System tones on the radio. The voice message will tell everyone what is taking place and exactly what to do and will be broadcast continuously for 3-5 minutes and repeated if necessary.

This system will be tested frequently to familiarize the campus and surrounding area. It will use one long continuous tone that will be followed by the message, “THIS IS A TEST.” The students and community will be given ample notification of any tests. One of the initial tests of the system will be during the first couple of weeks of the fall semester. The sirens will also be tested each following semester.

“All of these emergency alert systems can be operated independently and from separate secure locations around campus. Some are even operated remotely,” said Weidinger. “All of these systems are being installed in the hopes that they will never be needed, but if they ever are called upon and they save lives, then it will have been worth every dollar.”

Parents are encouraged to talk with their students about signing up for the MU-Alert text messaging system and to review any and all emergency plans that are in place. For more information on the new alert systems please visit: [www.millersville.edu/~police](http://www.millersville.edu/~police) or sign up at [www.mualert.millersville.edu](http://www.mualert.millersville.edu).



## NEW ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR



Millersville will have a new orchestra conductor this fall – Dr. Reuben Blundell. Blundell comes to Millersville from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., where he studied conducting with professor Neil Varon during his doctorate of musical arts degree residency.

This fall Blundell is planning a series of conceptually themed concerts. The first, based on the concept of ‘lightness,’ includes music by Schubert and Debussy, and a world premiere commissioned from Eastman composer Jennifer Bellor. It will be held on October 21, 2008, at 8 p.m. in Millersville’s Lyte Auditorium.

The orchestra will also be part of the "Glorious Sounds of the Season" concert at Millersville on December 6 and 7.

Prior to studies at Eastman, Blundell was a violin fellow in both the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Fla., and the Tanglewood Music Center in Berkshires, Mass.

In addition to directing the orchestra at Millersville, Blundell will teach conducting, violin and some general education music classes. Blundell is a native of Australia and moved to the United States in 2003.

## MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY RECEIVES \$500K FROM ALUMNUS’S ESTATE

James C. Ebbert, considered “a very, very nice man at all times” certainly lived up to his reputation. In 1941, Ebbert earned his bachelor’s degree in education at Millersville University. When he died on Dec. 26, 2007, at age 90, he left a gift of \$500,000 to Millersville University. The gift will fund scholarships for teacher education students.

After he graduated from Millersville, Ebbert taught school for five years. Then he bought out the former K&L Lumber Co., where he worked for 36 years. He also served on the board of directors of St. Luke’s Hospital in Quakertown, Pa., for 30 years until 1995.

## GREG COLBY NAMED HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

This spring Millersville Athletic Director Peg A. Kauffman announced that Greg Colby would join Millersville as the new head football coach of the Marauders. Colby takes the place of Joe Trainer, who resigned in December to become defensive coordinator coach at the University of Rhode Island.

Colby spent six years as the defensive coordinator at Northwestern University in the Big 10 Conference. He is a 34-year coaching veteran with 25 years at the collegiate level. During that time he has been on staff for two Big 10 Championships and 12 Bowl games. Colby began his role as the 20th head coach of Millersville University football on March 31.

"Hiring Greg Colby is the first step in moving our football team forward," said Dr. Aminta Hawkins Breaux, vice president of student affairs. "We realize the very competitive nature of the Pennsylvania football conference and the needed direction of our football program. The University believes that Greg has the background and skills to take us to the next level on the field and to provide the leadership that will impact the success of the overall program."

"Coach Colby's record demonstrates that he has the ability to build champion caliber football programs at the collegiate level, while maintaining high personal and academic standards for his players," said Kauffman.

"During his tenure at each of the universities where he has worked, the overall team GPA of the football team increased significantly. In addition, while at Northwestern he helped the university win the AFCA award for the top graduation rate in the country four times. We are confident he will be successful at Millersville University in developing a competitive team that is successful both on and off the field."

Prior to Northwestern he was defensive coordinator at Kent State University and was an assistant football coach at Michigan State University and the University of Illinois.

"I'm excited to continue the rich tradition of football at Millersville University," said Colby. "My vision for the football program is to consistently compete within the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference East Division. And, I believe my ability to recruit and promote the program will lead to success both on and off the field."

Colby has his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois.



## NEW SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Millersville University has named Ethan Hulsey as sports information director, effective June 9.

Hulsey arrives at Millersville with three years of sports information experience at the NCAA Division II level, having served as the assistant sports information director at Mercyhurst College during the 2007-08 school year and as the graduate assistant at Shippensburg University from 2005-07.

He earned his bachelor's degree in communications in 2005 from West Liberty State College in West Liberty, W. Va., and then received a master's degree in organizational development and leadership from Shippensburg University in 2007.



## NO CASH REQUIRED! SHOP CONVENIENTLY WITH MARAUDER GOLD \$\$\$

Millersville University recently introduced a new way to use student ID cards at participating businesses with the Marauder Gold card. Local businesses are now accepting Marauder Student ID cards as a form of payment. Students or parents of students can deposit money into a Millersville Advantage Plan (MAP) account and then use their ID card like cash at local businesses.

Participating businesses include John Herr's grocery store, Two Cousins Pizza, a local Sheetz location, Sugar Bowl, Javateas, TheraFlex massage and two local CVS pharmacy locations. Visit [maraudergold.com](http://maraudergold.com) for a growing list of business partners participating in Marauder Gold. Also, there are plans to have several additional merchants by the beginning of fall semester.

This fall students will be rewarded for using their Marauder Gold card. RewardU! is a program that allows students to earn valuable points for every dollar they spend at off-campus businesses. Points can be redeemed for special offers from partners like iTunes, Amazon and Rolling Stone Magazine.

The program is being provided through a division of The CBORD Group, Inc., which Millersville has used for years with other OneCard services, so this additional service will be seamless to students. "The card itself will continue to be called the Marauder OneCard, while the MAP name is being phased out in favor of Marauder Gold which encompasses the capability to use it on campus and now off campus," said Kenneth Dearstyne, associate vice president of finance and administration.

For more information on Marauder Gold, visit [www.maraudergold.com](http://www.maraudergold.com) or contact Kenneth Dearstyne at (717) 872-3475.

## NEW BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD FOR MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

The business program at Millersville University has established a Business Advisory Board to build and sustain a strong foundation for collaboration and communication between the business community and the University's business program. The new board is comprised of business leaders from South Central Pennsylvania.

"We created the board to deepen the business community's participation in the development of our future business leaders," said Dr. William Darley, director of business studies at Millersville. "These strategic business partnerships will help to advise and assist Millersville University's business program in the achievement of its mission to prepare students to engage in productive, ethical and constructive lives as business professionals and to live in a diverse and technologically complex global society."

The role of the Business Advisory Board is twofold: provide advice, counsel, and ideas regarding a variety of issues critical to the business

program such as curriculum, recruitment and career placement; and improve the visibility and enhance the reputation of Millersville University's business program in the business community.

Current members include: Ed Balderston, Jr., executive VP and chief administrative officer of Susquehanna Bancshares; Nevin Cooley, president and CEO of High Real Estate Group LLC; Mark Green, director of human resources at American Express; Terry Kile, vice president, sales and marketing at Horst Construction; Grant Markley, Channel CFO with the MEI Group; Ken Mertz, president of Emerald Advisers; Brad Nau, executive producer at Comcast SportsNet; Gerry Nau, president, Great Valley Division of Fulton Bank; Diane Poillon, president of Willow Valley Conference & Resort Center; Peggy Robinson, director of marketing at Immunicon Corp; Andrew Scheid, local sales manager for WGAL TV8; and Phil Walker, managing principal at Alliance Capital Group LLC.

## MILLERSVILLE CALENDAR FALL 2008

### August 25 - Classes Begin

### September 8 - Hazel I. Jackson and Kenderdine Lectures

7:30 p.m., Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

Author Ishmael Beah presents: "A Long Way Gone: A Story of Redemption and Hope." Book reading and discussion with the author.



### September 28 - The Complete History of America (Abridged)

7 p.m., Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

For tickets, contact the Student Memorial Center Ticket Office at 717-872-3811 or online at [www.MUTicketsOnline.com](http://www.MUTicketsOnline.com)

### October 2 - The Fannie Lou Hammer Story: The Right to Vote performed by mZuri

7:30 p.m., Reighard Multipurpose Room, SMC

### October 3 - Disabilities Summit

8 a.m., Bolger Conference Center

Millersville University will host a day-long disabilities summit. Initiated by the Honors College and supported by the Center for Civic Engagement, the program is sponsored with the United Way and leading social service agencies dealing with youth and adults with intellectual disabilities. For more information, contact Dr. Dennis B. Downey, at [dennis.downey@millersville.edu](mailto:dennis.downey@millersville.edu) or (717) 872-3672.

### October 14 - Christie Lecture: John Hatch

7 p.m., Lyte Auditorium, Alumni Hall

### November 1 - Homecoming, Family Day, and Community Day

For a complete and up-to-date listing of all Millersville University events, please visit our website at [www.millersville.edu](http://www.millersville.edu).

You may purchase tickets for many of our events online at [www.MUTicketsOnline.com](http://www.MUTicketsOnline.com).

## 'VILLE IDOL: FALL '08



Following a successful first run of 'Ville Idol in 2007 with over 58 contestants, the program returns to campus for Millersville students and alumni beginning September 27. The 2008 'Ville Idol singing competition is sponsored by the Millersville University Alumni Association in cooperation with the Millersville University alumni services office. This is a singing competition—not karaoke. Contestants must memorize all songs they are performing, throughout all performances and auditions.

Contestants will be scored on vocal ability, rhythm/pitch/phrasing/memorization; stage performance, movement/confidence/command; and appearance, costume/attire. There are additional rules for this competition, which can be found online or by contacting the alumni office.

The competition is open to all current undergraduate and graduate MU students and all MU alumni and boasts a grand prize of \$1,000 each to the top student and top alumnus. The format of this competition consists of an audition and a maximum of three performances before a live audience – all in Lyte Auditorium/Alumni Hall. There will be different genres of music selected for each performance. Special judges and hosts will be on hand for each performance.

Deadline for contestants to register is September 19. Auditions will be held on September 27, with performances on October 11, October 25 and November 9 with voting from the audience and judges.

For more information on 'Ville Idol, please contact the MU alumni services office: call (800) 681-1855; email [mualumni@millersville.edu](mailto:mualumni@millersville.edu) or visit [www.villealumni.com](http://www.villealumni.com).