

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

MAY 2026

Commencement remains one of the most exciting days of the year for me. On May 9, Pucillo Gymnasium housed family and friends filled with pride and joy as more than 1,100 undergraduate and graduate students received their diplomas with each representing years of dedication, resilience and achievement.



The privilege of witnessing each graduate walk across the stage to claim their hard-earned degree is a moment I treasure deeply. These students overcame obstacles and persisted through challenges that would have deterred others, and their success stands as proof of their unwavering commitment. This achievement reflects more than individual effort because it showcases the extraordinary work of our faculty and staff. Their genuine investment in student success, both inside and outside the classroom, defines the transformative nature of a Millersville education.

We were fortunate to host three accomplished Millersville alumni as commencement speakers: Rev. Dr. Dexter L. Davis Sr. '77, Dr. Mitchell Crawford '09 and Jason Wicht '98. Having graduates return to inspire the next generation creates a powerful reminder of the lasting connections that unite the Marauder family across decades.

The stories featured in this month's update reflect the many ways our community embodies the values that define Millersville: excellence, service, leadership, innovation and a commitment to making a positive difference in the world. This edition highlights sophomore Peter Wenzel's remarkable accomplishment as Pennsylvania National Guard Soldier of the Year, the Conestoga Outdoors Club's efforts to protect one of our region's most treasured natural resources, and the continued success of our College of Education and Human Services in advancing literacy and educational excellence across the Commonwealth. We also celebrate alumna Emily Ritter's work in wildlife conservation and recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our student-athletes as they continue to compete at the highest levels of NCAA Division II athletics.

Equally important, this month's newsletter highlights the sense of community that makes Millersville such a special place. Whether through campus traditions like our annual Employee Barbecue or through the countless contributions of faculty, staff, students and alumni, the strength of our University is found in the people who dedicate themselves each day to learning, service and one another.

As summer begins, I invite you to enjoy these stories and join me in celebrating the many achievements that continue to advance Millersville University's mission and strengthen our impact across Pennsylvania and beyond. I extend my best wishes for a rejuvenating summer to our entire community. Our staff will maintain operations throughout the season, and I eagerly anticipate welcoming faculty and students back in August when they will be renewed and ready for new accomplishments.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

President Daniel A. Wubah

[Student, Army National Guard Member Wins State Best Warrior Competition](#)

Proud grandfather and Millersville employee Jay Miller shared this wonderful story with us. His grandson, Peter Wenzel, a sophomore, was named Soldier of the Year at the Pennsylvania National Guard's 2026 State Best Warrior Competition in April.



[Conestoga Outdoors Club Leads Conestoga River Clean-up](#)

Our student group held its annual event with help from Millersville Borough and the Office of University Relations and Strategic Initiatives. The clean-up kicked off a celebration of the Conestoga being named 2026 River of the Year.



Themed Employee Barbecue Draws 300

A new theme and some new activities brought out a great crowd for the annual Employee Barbecue, where Judith and I enjoyed chatting with those enjoying the good food and treats.



Accreditations, Leadership in Literacy Gain MU Recognition

Our College of Education and Human Services made a strategic investment in literacy that is paying off in the classroom and across the state.



Counting Penguins and Saving the Earth

Alumna Emily Ritter '21 is a conservation biologist who spends time outside of the classroom at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where she is earning a master's degree, engaged in bird conservation..



Spring Athletics Round-up

Millersville's Cooper Park was the proud host to post-season play as our baseball team advanced to the NCAA Super Regionals. Outdoor track and field athlete Sarah Hessler earned accolades, too, at the NCAA Division II championships.

