

Millersville University

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

March
2022

With spring break behind us and our COVID case numbers very low, the Millersville campus is returning to the typical frenetic pace of the second half of the spring semester, filled with a plethora of energizing events and programs that will culminate in our commencement ceremonies. I am delighted that our spring calendar is once again filled with recruitment events, student programs and community outreach activities.

Over the next month, some of the wonderful attributes of our campus will be on full display for future students. The upcoming 'Ville Preview Days and Admitted Student Day are back after two years. Thanks to all the faculty and staff for supporting these important events as we build our next entering class. I am told that registration for the admission events is strong, and our staff is excited to showcase our University.

Two of our premier STEM events for the community have also returned this year; the Science Olympiad and the Women in Math and Science and Technology Conference. On March 26, more than 750 people representing 39 middle and high schools from across the state participated in the annual Pennsylvania Science Olympiad. The Women in Mathematics, Science and Technology Conference will be held on April 5 on campus. Almost 200 young women from our regional high schools are expected to attend to learn more about careers in mathematics and the sciences. Many thanks to the faculty and staff who are supporting these two initiatives.

As we enter the final weeks of the spring semester, the Commencement Committee and the Office of University Events are working on plans for [Commencement](#) on May 6 and 7. We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of our December 2021 and May 2022 graduates.

Dr. Damaris Rau, superintendent for the School District of Lancaster, will serve as the guest speaker at the Friday evening commencement ceremony for the College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning. On Saturday, we welcome back two accomplished alumni as our commencement speakers. Ms. Silvia Vasquez-Lavado '96, a Peruvian-American mountaineer, author and social entrepreneur, will serve as the guest speaker and honorary degree recipient in the morning ceremony, while Mr. Kevin Mahoney '81, Chief Executive Officer of the University of Pennsylvania Health System, will serve as the guest speaker and honorary

degree recipient. Mr. Tom Baldrige, President and CEO of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will also be presented with an honorary degree.

In this month's newsletter, you can read more about our annual Made-in-Millersville program and today's Job and Internship Fair. We also offer a special welcome to our new college deans, Dr. Lara Willox, College of Education and Human Services and Dr. Marc Harris, College of Science and Technology, who will join us on July 1.

MADE IN MILLERSVILLE IN PERSON

The annual Made in Millersville conference is coming up on April 12. This is the eighth year that the event is being held and the first time since the spring of 2019 that there will be an in-person event.

This year, the conference will be held in person in the McNairy Library and presentations will also be available as pre-recorded videos and live-streamed. At Made in Millersville, students present, exhibit and perform their scholarly or creative work. Every University department will be represented, with an expected 225 students giving presentations this year.

The conference tag line is "A Celebration of Student Scholarship and Creativity," – what Millersville students are doing in the classroom, laboratory, field and studio. Made in Millersville gives students presenting a chance to talk about their work to an interested audience in a professional setting without the pressure of a professional conference.

In addition to the conference, the Made in Millersville Journal will be published, which preserves the student projects. Working with the journal team of trained editors offers student authors the valuable experience of enhancing their writing skills and collaborating with editors who provide personalized assistance, creating a working environment that mirrors publication processes beyond the undergraduate level.

JOB & INTERNSHIP FAIR

Experiential Learning & Career Management will host a [Job & Internship Fair](#) for MU students and alumni Today, Tuesday, March 29. The annual spring fair gives students and employers a chance to meet, establish professional relationships, and discuss potential job and internship opportunities from various industries.

Employers, many of whom are alumni, attend our fairs to meet and recruit Millersville's excellent candidates. Currently, there are nearly 60 employer organizations registered to attend the spring fair to recruit for full-time, internship and part-time opportunities. Students may register and view participating employers and the positions they are recruiting for by logging into [Handshake](#), the University's career management platform.

All students can benefit from attending, including first-year and second-year students. First-year and second-year students can explore opportunities in their field of interest and ask questions about available internships. Upper-division and graduating students should attend fairs to seek internships and full-time positions and actively network with recruiters. The fair is open to all majors, as employers are typically interested in meeting students from a variety of academic backgrounds.

The fair is set for the Student Memorial Center' Ville Courts from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. ELCM is always available to help. They are located in Bedford house (across from the University Store) or you may contact them at (717) 871-7655 or via email at careers@millersville.edu.

NEW MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR STRINGS

Retired professor Jean Marie Romig started playing the violin in elementary school and never stopped playing and learning. She would later become a strings faculty member at Millersville University and her love of the violin and music will now benefit our students for years to come.

Romig, who played with the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra, retired from Millersville in 1994 and died last year at age 86. To honor her parents, she left the University \$900,000 in her will for the "Jean M. Romig Violin and Viola Scholarship in memory of Karl and Pauline Romig." The endowment will generate approximately \$45,000 each year to be awarded to Millersville University students majoring in music education with demonstrated excellence in violin or viola.

Jean's sister, Carol Landis, also facilitated the donation of multiple violins, violas and bows, and an extensive sheet music library to the [Tell School of Music](#) from Jean's estate. The music included 13 boxes of string music, solos, duets and quartets.

Landis says music was always important to their family and she hopes the scholarship will help young musicians extend their education and travel to enrich their future in music.

For more information about estate planning or creating your legacy through a scholarship at Millersville University, please email Planned.Giving@millersville.edu or call 717-871-7520.

WELCOME TO NEW DEANS

We're pleased to add two new deans to Millersville University. Dr. Lara Willox will be joining us as Dean of the [College of Education and Human Services](#), and Dr. Marc Harris will be joining us as Dean of the [College of Science and Technology](#). Both positions are effective July 1, 2022.

Dr. Willox currently serves as a professor, department chair and interim associate dean in the College of Education at the University of West Georgia. The College of Education at UWG is the 13th largest College of Education in the nation. It includes various programs, including health, community wellness, sport management, speech pathology, leadership and teacher preparation.

Willox is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, earning a doctorate in Culture, Curriculum and Change.

Dr. Harris currently serves as the Dean of Faculty at Lebanon Valley College. In his role he is the primary liaison and advocate for all faculty matters. He provides leadership in academic standards, policies, and curriculum. Prior to his current role, Dr. Harris served as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and the Chair of the ACS certified Chemistry Department.

Harris is a graduate of the University of Arizona with a B.A. in Chemistry. He earned his doctorate in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Nevada, Reno.