

# President's Report

2006-2007

Millersville University  
SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY



Dear Friends:

It is very gratifying to share with you Millersville University's many accomplishments in the 2006-07 academic year. We continue to deliver on our promise to provide our students with an educational opportunity second to none.

With a view to the future, this year the University finalized a new vision statement and strategic directions, as presented in this report.

This vision is realized on campus, in the community, and in the Commonwealth by offering deep academic resources, awakening the intellect of our students, and providing a supportive and enriching community.

I hope you will join us as we continue to seize the opportunity.

Sincerely,

*Francine G. McNairy*  
President

## Vision Statement

The Millersville University experience will empower students to make a significant difference in the communities where they will live and work. Millersville will be a premier comprehensive public university.

## Strategic Directions

- We will offer students academic programs of national distinction.
- We will nurture a passion for learning and growth among all members of the university community.
- We will foster an appreciation of the liberal arts as the foundation of all disciplines and professions and vital for success in today's society.
- We will assist all members of our university community to grow by exposing them to a diversity of people and ideas.
- We will prepare students to embrace the challenges of life and civic leadership.
- We will act as responsible stewards in growing and managing our resources.

## Highlights/Distinctions

- » Millersville University received \$4.9 million in performance funding from the Pa. State System of Higher Education for successful System Accountability Plan outcomes in 2005-06. Once again, Millersville received the highest award among the 14 System universities.
- » Millersville co-hosted Mela: A Harmony of East and West, a celebration of Indian culture, with the Lancaster Symphony, Lancaster Museum of Art, Elizabethtown and Franklin & Marshall Colleges, and York Technical Institute.
- » The 2007 Human Rights Symposium, “Humanity Interrupted,” offered perspectives on human rights issues from students, faculty, staff and guest speakers such as Kerry Kennedy.
- » A Millersville biology faculty member and student were featured on the PBS science television program, Nova, in an April 2007 segment on cuttlefish.
- » Millersville unveiled a new identity campaign designed to tell the story of the university community.
- » Millersville hosted its eighth Chinese Executive Training Program, funded by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development and the Shanghai Education Center for Administrators. A dozen Chinese executives were introduced to more than 80 regional companies, government offices, organizations and community leaders.

### Recognition

- » *U.S. News & World Report* again ranked MU highly in its Best Universities—Master’s category, at #45 among public and private institutions in the north. Millersville was also selected as one of the top ten public universities in the north.
- » *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* magazine named Millersville one of the nation’s 100 best values in public colleges.
- » Receiving and maintaining accreditation is important as a sign of academic excellence: the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accrediting boards certified that all teacher preparation and school personnel programs meet national standards and are accredited for seven years; the English department gained national recognition status from the National Council for Teachers of English.
- » Governor Ed Rendell named President McNairy as a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania (remarkable women who are important to the Commonwealth’s history).
- » In a national competition, computer science students on the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition team placed first in the Mid-Atlantic region and second nationally.
- » Millersville University won a Bronze Award in Visual Design in Print—Posters from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).



### Students and Their Success

- » More than 430 students in local and regional internships earned more than \$900,000, a 58 percent increase in income from last year.
- » One-hundred percent of nursing graduates passed national advanced practice certification exams; nearly 100 percent of respiratory therapy graduates passed the licensure exam.
- » The overall passing rate on all areas of the Praxis test, 97.42%, exceeds state averages.
- » African-American students represented 8 percent of new students in fall 2006; Latino students 4.5 percent, a 20 percent increase in rating.
- » The number of full-time transfer students from Pennsylvania community colleges to Millersville increased 6 percent.
- » Six-year graduation rates for students of color increased again this year: African-American rates grew from 50 to 53.16 percent and Hispanic rates grew from 31.3 to 37.5 percent.
- » Second-year persistence, or retention, rates improved this year from 80.42 percent to 82.82 percent.
- » Millersville implemented the Student Involvement Transcript to permit students to record participation in leadership programs, special training activities, internships, and other co-curricular activities as part of a supplementary permanent record.
- » The Snapper student newspaper received first-place awards in feature and photo stories and sports coverage in the 2007 Scholastic and Collegiate Keystone Press competition of the Pa. Newspaper Association.

### Resources

- » MU raised \$10.57 million in private gifts, grants and contracts this year.
- » Total endowment assets increased in value to a total of \$16.54 million.
- » Millersville has successfully competed for state and federal grants to support new programs and initiatives. This year, 60 grants were funded totaling \$4.5 million.
- » A total of \$2.1 million in support of social equity was received from the Pa. State System, Migrant Education, Gear-Up, Lancaster Partnership Program and the Upward Bound Program.
- » Millersville was one of several Pennsylvania colleges that received a \$1 million grant from the Jack Kent Cook Foundation as part of a partnership to develop a college access program for low-income high school and community college students.
- » The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a \$240,000 three-year Research Experience for Undergraduates grant entitled Watersheds: From River to Estuary.
- » Millersville received a \$150,000 two-year NSF grant to develop a computer graphics and game development track in the Department of Computer Science.
- » Meteorology faculty, working on satellite synthetic aperture radar imagery, received a \$230,000 Office of Naval Research grant.
- » The NSF also awarded a \$280,000 grant for tethered balloon research of atmospheric measurements.

## Technology

- » 17 new smart classrooms and two new computer labs were upgraded and equipped.
- » Faculty in the Department of Educational Foundations experimented with personal digital assistants as part of efficient student teacher supervision.
- » Online communication through email and the web replaced expensive paper reproduction materials of course scheduling, registration information, and commencement materials.
- » A technology-based behavioral lab was opened to support practicum experiences in the new MSW program.
- » The Music Business and Technology Program's Computerized Recording Instructional Studio was upgraded to industry standards in audio recording, research and performance.



## Resource Utilization

- » Athletic upgrades to the Biemesderfer Stadium area included men's and women's locker renovations and opening the Carpenter-Trout Athletic Training Facility transitional weight room.
- » The new \$1.7 million baseball stadium opened; the first Marauders game was played in March 2007.
- » Wickersham Hall, home of the Department of Mathematics, completed \$3.62 million in renovations, including a new entrance and multimedia and wireless technology in classrooms.
- » An addition to Dutcher Hall, location of theatre facilities and faculty offices, was completed. Renovations included a new theatre lobby, accommodation for the disabled, and air conditioning.
- » A new 300-space parking garage was completed on the north side of campus and opened in fall 2007.
- » Hull and Hobbs residence hall renovations were completed at a cost of \$8.6 million.
- » Sprinkler upgrades in all residence halls are now complete at a total cost of \$2.8 million.

## Impact on the Region and State/ Workforce Development

- » Millersville University generated more than \$388.7 million in direct and indirect business stimulus, including \$196.2 million in Lancaster County alone.
- » Five Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ) research grants were received in partnership with regional start-up technology companies: Advanced Technology Solutions, Inc.; Aptagen, LLC; Illuminex Corporation, Verefi Technologies. Grants provide research opportunities to students while meeting regional economic needs.
- » The Corporate University, which offers custom corporate training solutions and services for executives and managers, generated \$175,700.
- » Through the WEDnet PA Guaranteed Free Training program, Millersville provided 31 organizations access to approximately \$457,695 in funding.
- » Millersville hosted the seminar "Doing Business in India" in collaboration with the U.S. Commercial Service and attracted 60 regional business leaders.
- » Student commitment to community service again increased: more than 2,856 students performed 122,782 hours of service to community agencies, a seven percent increase over last year. Student service to the community is valued at \$2.3 million.
- » The Department of Business Administration made available to the community services such as the Small Business Institute and the VITA program (providing tax preparation assistance).
- » Regional high school students from diverse backgrounds may receive college



- credits through a dual enrollment program with eight schools, including Ephrata School District, Warwick School District, Lampeter-Strasburg School District and the Milton Hershey School.
- » Millersville participated in a program to train, mentor and retain the advanced manufacturing technology workforce with partners Lancaster Career & Technology High School and Harrisburg Area Community College.
- » The Nonprofit Resource Network (NRN) opened and provides training and education, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities to the regional nonprofit organization sector. Millersville received \$389,000 from the Lancaster County Community Foundation for a three-year period.
- » The Life of the Mind Consortium, a partnership among Willow Valley Retirement Communities, Millersville, Franklin & Marshall College, and Pennsylvania College of Art & Design, provides lifelong learning, intergenerational activities and a commitment to an involved citizenry at all stages of life.

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## Academic Achievements

- » MU continues to lead the Pa. State System in the number of full-time instructional faculty members holding a terminal degree – 95 percent.
- » Millersville's efforts to recruit a diverse faculty resulted in a new high in fall 2006: 17.92 percent were faculty of color, a University record.
- » A new General Education curriculum, effective fall 2008, was approved by faculty and features landmark changes such as the permanent addition of the First Year Seminar program, the addition of a Cultural Diversity and Community requirement, and stronger requirements for writing-intensive courses.
- » Incorporating globalization into learning experiences increased: 14.5 percent more students studied abroad in 11 countries at 22 sites – an 18 percent increase from the previous year.
- » Millersville ranks first in the Pa. State System in providing internships as experiential learning experiences to students; one in every 20 courses involved internship experiences.
- » Five interdisciplinary environmental minors, complementing existing majors in the sciences, geography, sociology and industry & technology areas, were established: land use, water resources, quantitative environmental methods, environmental policy and regulation, and industrial and environmental health.
- » The number of distance education offerings increased by 34 percent. Enrollments for distance education increased by 92 percent, from 2,593 to 3,780.
- » New international partnerships were developed with the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa) and St. Mary's University College (Belfast, Northern Ireland).
- » The MSW program enrolled its first class in fall 2006. A collaborative program with Shippensburg University, it features more than 50 percent content delivered in distance learning mode.



- » The Civic and Community Engagement Research Project (CCERP) was expanded and sponsored three major conferences.
- » The first annual Latino Language, Pedagogy, and Cultural Immersion Institute was held at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. The program was created to help Pennsylvania school districts address the needs of the increasing Hispanic student population.
- » The first annual one-day AgFest '07 attracted campus and community visitors in support of the Kellogg Foundation's vision of "a future food system that provides all segments of society a safe and nutritious food supply grown in a manner that protects health and the environment and adds economic and social value to rural and urban communities."
- » Millersville continued to advance its reputation as a center for the arts. Several key events included artist-in-residence John Blake, jazz flutist; Lego sculptor Nathan Saway's residency at the Lancaster Museum of Art; MU Chorale performance of Mozart's Requiem with the Lancaster Symphony Chorus; and the first University-sponsored Next Generation Festival featuring musician Awadagin Pratt.
- Science awareness outreach to middle and high school students continued through the Brossman Science Lecture, featuring climate change expert Dr. Richard Alley. The annual science competition, as well as the Women in Science & Math event continued.

