

Millersville University **IMAGINE** NEWSLETTER

“IMAGINE” is Millersville’s e-newsletter for friends of the University. Its goal is to share stories demonstrating the diversity of student learning experiences on campus while emphasizing the positive impact that private support makes in the lives of our students. As you will read, everyone can make a difference when we “Imagine the Possible.”

Millersville University Supports Students EXTENDS **“Imagine the Possible”** CAMPAIGN

In light of the magnitude of the challenges facing Millersville University students and their families as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, **Millersville President Daniel A. Wubah** has announced an extension of the **“Imagine the Possible”** fundraising campaign to support student success. The “Imagine the Possible” campaign is the first fundraising campaign in the history of the University focused entirely on students.

When the campaign launched in July 2017 with a \$32 million goal to raise funds for student scholarships, athletics and student experiences, no one imagined that as of June 2020, the campaign would be at more than **\$44.8 million** in support—over **140%** to goal.

“While the impact on students has been tremendous already, the expansion of the “Imagine the Possible” campaign has the ability to benefit every student seeking support during this difficult time,” said Wubah. “Now, more than ever, it is important to support the critical needs of our students in the wake of the financial adversity created by the coronavirus pandemic. We, as a University, are well positioned to assist the region’s economic recovery through retraining adults for new jobs in the workforce, certificate programs to strengthen resumes, and expanded programs including the newly minted Lombardo College of Business. Millersville University has the personnel and programs



needed to make a difference in this difficult time.”

“Though we are in the middle of a pandemic, now is an important time to give back to the Millersville Community,” says student-athlete, Benjamin Fellman ‘21. “Many students in college were working part-time or even full-time, to ease the burden of student loan debt. During this time, many students are unable to work, which in some cases means they will be unable to pay for their next semester in college. Giving back to the University during this time could help

spur a chain reaction in which these students later help a future student in a similar situation.”

To date, through the campaign, generous donors gave over **\$14.3 million** in new scholarship funds for students, over **\$4.6 million** in funds to support Marauder Athletics and over **\$25.9 million** to support student experiences like student faculty research, study abroad, internship stipends, and funds to support unique student learning experiences at the brand new Lombardo College of Business. The length and goal for the extension will be determined at a later time.

“The impact of any gift during this time period is amplified because of the damage caused by the pandemic,” says James K. Sullivan ‘21, a student-athlete at Millersville.

“Thank you for your selfless giving.” ♦

For information on the “Imagine the Possible” campaign [visit](http://visit Imagine.Millersville.edu) [Imagine.Millersville.edu](http://visit Imagine.Millersville.edu)



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STUDENT SUCCESS

Continues During Spring Semester Transition



ONLINE LEARNING PROVIDES LESSONS *and* OPPORTUNITIES

As the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) resulted in a transition to remote instruction for the students of Millersville University at the end of March, students left campus and returned to their homes to complete the spring semester online. The unexpected adjustment to online learning presented challenges, as well as opportunities for growth. In the remote learning environment that became the “new normal,” a spirit of resilience and optimism prevailed and is exemplified by the experiences and achievements of the students. ♦

“Imagine *the* Possible”

STUDENT SUCCESS UPDATES Spring Semester 2020

EMILY BLAND '20

“Instead of being a student during this transition, I am a teacher. As I shift my teaching remotely, I have had to adapt my methods of teaching, communicating and overall responding. Online teaching has a plethora of benefits, which I continuously learn about each day. Although I am considered a teacher, right now, I feel just as much of a student, too.” ♦

NAIMA WINDER '22

“Even though this is a strenuous time, my family and I are engaging in this opportunity of spending more meaningful quality time together. Prior to COVID-19, both of my parents were extremely busy within their careers, my little sister being in elementary school and myself being in college. However, now we are able to have dinnertime and meaningful discussions without interruptions and busy schedules. I feel as if we are using this time to the best of our abilities. I am thankful that I am able to be with my family and have the academic support that I greatly need.” ♦

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Thank You for Making a Difference!

Generous contributions to the "Imagine the Possible" campaign allow Millersville University students to celebrate great accomplishments, and we are truly grateful to everyone who made a gift to support student success.

We welcome your ongoing participation as the campaign continues. **Thank you!**

EXPERIENCE INSPIRING STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

[Click Here](#) to watch the "Imagine the Possible" virtual program highlighting the achievements of five outstanding Millersville University students.

BENJAMIN FELLMAN '21

"I think the most important thing I have been doing to prepare for the upcoming tennis season is staying healthy. For me, this includes getting enough sleep every night, eating healthy foods, working out and making sure I do whatever I can to keep myself in the best health." ♦

MEAGAN SCHULMAN '20

"I am adapting well to remote instruction. A lot of my classes were discussion-based, so they have moved online with either Zoom calls or discussion posts." ♦

JENNA DAVIS '20

In the photo from the spring semester, Jenna is completing her senior seminar. As she explains, it is "a presentation about my research on synthesizing silver nanostructures and using them for surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy. Normally, this would be held in front of a room full of my peers and professors, but instead they tuned in via Zoom to hear me talk about my project." ♦



ENCOURAGE STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Student success is demonstrated by dedication and perseverance, even during a time of transition. With scholarship funding, students can overcome challenges and celebrate extraordinary accomplishments.

FOR MORE STORIES OF STUDENT SUCCESS, [Click Here](#)

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

Marauder Fund Student Investment Association

Promotes Student Success



For the student members of the **Marauder Fund Student Investment Association (MFSIA)** at Millersville University, they are acquiring valuable first hand experience investing and managing real money in a student managed investment portfolio. The Marauder Fund (MF) was approved and funded by the Millersville University Foundation in the fall of 2017. Led by Dr. Mike Gumpper, professor of economics and faculty advisor for the MFSIA, the organization offers members “a unique and valuable learning experience that includes exposure to various types of investments, investment strategies and portfolio construction and management.”

POSITIVE EXTERNALITIES

The transformative effects of involvement in the Marauder Fund benefit student members long after they graduate from Millersville University. As Gumpper states, “Students who ‘graduate’ from the Marauder Fund take with them communication and leadership skills that benefit everyone around them. They will develop critical reasoning skills and data analysis skills that will help them navigate a world where it is getting increasingly difficult to separate fact from fiction. They will have the confidence to be more involved in their communities and in politics. In economics, we have a term for all of the positive benefits that spill over from a transaction in the market. The students in the Marauder Fund are given an opportunity to grow personally and to benefit personally from their experience, but in turn, they generate tremendous benefits for others in society, others who had nothing to do with their decision to get involved with the Marauder Fund. We call these benefits ‘positive externalities.’ It’s my goal for the Marauder Fund that we not only help students personally with internships and career opportunities, but that we maximize the positive externalities.”

A TALE OF TWO MARKETS

During the early years of the Marauder Fund, the student managed investment portfolio experienced great success. “We consistently outperformed our benchmark. Although this portfolio has only been active for just over two years, most actively managed portfolios do not beat their benchmark on a yearly basis and only 15-20% of portfolios beat their benchmark over a 10-year period,” notes Gumpper.

As the current economic climate has shifted dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic, the students of the Marauder Fund are adapting their investment strategies and discovering learning opportunities. According to **ANDREW RYAN '20**, CEO of the Marauder Fund, “The most valuable experience is probably watching some investments underperform what we originally expected, especially during the recent market downturn. Now members can say they have experienced some incredible growth and extreme downturn during our time in the Marauder Fund.” **MATT BISCO '22**, vice president of the Marauder Fund Consumer sector, mentions, “An important thing to note is while most people are looking at the negatives, there are some hidden gems out there thriving during this time. ... Such events like COVID open opportunities for new ideas, tendencies, products and companies to form.”

ESTABLISHING LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

The organizational structure of the Marauder Fund includes an executive team composed of five sector vice presidents, a CFO and a CEO. There are five sector groups including Healthcare; Technology; Consumer; Industrials; and Finance and Real Estate. Experiences of the student leaders of the Marauder Fund encompass a collection of rewarding skills and lessons obtained through their participation in the group. ♦

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Marauder Fund CEO: Andrew Ryan '20

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

"Because of the Marauder Fund, I am now much more confident to present and speak in front of others during classes or meetings. The Marauder Fund has given me so many opportunities, such as sitting on the Millersville University Foundation Board, meeting alumni and local business professionals, growing friendships, being able to stop and talk to friends and members on campus and getting to know professors and faculty much better here at Millersville." ◆

Marauder Fund CFO: Mihir Saudagar '20

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

"The Marauder Fund has piqued my interest in investing and encouraged me to pursue higher education in the field of finance. I've been able to better organize and pursue my goals because of my involvement with the Marauder Fund. My involvement with the fund helped me come up with ideas of what I could do in this field." ◆

To learn about the students of the Marauder Fund, [Click Here](#)

Healthcare Sector:

Vice President – Healthcare:

Andrew Bechtel '20

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

"The Marauder Fund has made a positive impact on my goals by giving me real life experience before I ever got out of college, not only in the stock market, but also helped me develop myself both professionally and academically. I have connected with many people thanks to the Marauder Fund, and I can say with great confidence that the Marauder Fund has positively changed my life forever." ◆

Senior Analyst – Healthcare:

Emily Horn '21

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

"The Marauder Fund has taught me the importance of bringing ideas and opinions together, something I will continue to do within my career. It has given me a taste of what the market is capable of, increasing my awareness as I enter a field that is directly impacted by the market. The Marauder Fund has also given me motivation, granting me with further experience in my studies and proving to me that I am, in fact, on a career path that I am extremely passionate about." ◆

Technology Sector:

Vice President – Technology:

Victoria Nonamaker '21

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

"It has made a positive impact on my student experience at Millersville because it gave me the ability to be more confident. I was timid and less likely to interact with others when I first started at Millersville up until I became a VP. Being in a role that has pushed me to be a leader made me more confident and able to grow relationships outside of class and during class." ◆

ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES *for* HANDS-ON LEARNING

Academic engagement and first hand work experience through internships allow Millersville University students and members of the Marauder Fund Student Investment Association to excel and succeed.

TO EXPLORE THE IMPACT OF STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCES, [Click Here](#)



REMEMBERING A FATHER'S LEGACY OF BASEBALL

Creating the **MIKE "BOOG" POWELL & FAMILY Baseball Scholarship**

On a Southern California beach on a summer evening last year, Matt Powell's wife, Melissa, and children celebrated his 40th birthday by enjoying his favorite dinner and a birthday cake at sunset. Melissa had prepared an unforgettable surprise for Matt. "Melissa knew there was no gift that would be more meaningful



Courtesy of the Powell Family

Attending a family wedding in May 2013 (left to right) are Jamie Powell, Joanne Powell, Mike Powell, Melissa Powell, Reese Powell and Matt Powell.

for my birthday than getting this scholarship established in my Dad's name. Unbeknownst to me, she reached out to the Millersville University Athletic Department... to help develop the scholarship," says Matt. "In lieu of a party, my wife reached out to many family friends via email, phone and word of mouth. Everyone knew how much a memorial scholarship would mean to me and were very excited to participate. We live in California and the majority of our family and friends live on the East Coast, so she asked for everyone to send checks for the scholarship in birthday cards with written memories and sentiments of my dad inside." At the family birthday celebration on the beach, Melissa presented the cards to Matt and announced the plan for the memorial scholarship at Millersville University. Through this creative birthday surprise, Melissa began the process of establishing the Mike "Boog" Powell & Family Baseball Scholarship, in honor of Matt's late father.

To commemorate Mike's outstanding athleticism and love of sports, the Mike "Boog" Powell & Family Baseball Scholarship is dedicated to supporting a student-athlete on the Millersville University baseball team "who demonstrates strong integrity, work ethic and is regarded as a tremendous teammate." In

remembering his father's affinity for athletics, Matt states, "Mike was passionate about all sports, but especially loved watching young kids grow as athletes. He coached all of my brother Jamie and my teams as kids... He loved his years playing for Millersville, so a scholarship for a young man playing baseball for Millersville seemed fitting."

Through the Mike "Boog" Powell & Family Baseball Scholarship, Mike's legacy will continue at Millersville University in the lives of Marauder student-athletes who will benefit from the scholarship fund. According to Millersville University Baseball Head Coach Jon Shehan, "It is no secret that times have instantly become tough from a financial aspect. Having to raise dollars for scholarships annually is a burden. The fact that the Powell family was willing to put together a scholarship in Mike's memory allows our staff to focus less on raising dollars annually and put more focus into coaching...."

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The Powells will be helping young men earn a quality education for years to come." The Powell family's ultimate goal in creating the scholarship is to provide each recipient of the scholarship with "...some financial assistance to be able to succeed as a MU student and athlete, and go on to use what was provided to him to thrive in his career and family after graduation," Matt emphasizes.



Courtesy of the Powell Family

Omicron Gamma Omega fraternity competes in a Millersville State College Intramural Basketball Championship game. At left, Mike Powell aims the basketball toward the hoop.

As Matt explains about his father, "Mike's cancer diagnoses and eventual passing was very unexpected. He was as healthy a 64-year-old man as you could imagine, working out at the West Chester YMCA daily and still playing pickup basketball twice a week. Our family has been looking for a way to keep his memory alive." While a student at Millersville University, Mike actively participated in sports and was a member of Omicron Gamma Omega fraternity. From 1969 until he graduated in 1973, Mike was a member of the baseball team at Millersville, where he was a left-handed pitcher and played first base. In addition to his athletic accomplishments, Mike was an education major with a focus in Spanish. His career spanned the industries of education and business. Explains Matt, "Initially, he used his degree teaching English to Spanish-speaking students in the Philadelphia School District..." Ultimately, Mike's career path transitioned to the manufacturer's

representative business, where he worked primarily in the hardware business. After graduating from Millersville, Mike married Joanne in 1974 and they created a beautiful family with two sons, Matt and Jamie.

In Mike's experience as a first-generation college student, graduating from Millersville was transformative. "Mike came from a household that didn't have a lot of money, to say the least..."

To be able to get a college degree, and do so playing baseball, which was his childhood passion, was a big deal for him. He was known as a great teammate who wouldn't sacrifice his integrity," Matt states. "I'd like to think he has a huge sense of pride knowing that a young man in a similar position as he – with a similar reputation that he had, with a similar passion for baseball that he had – would be afforded help financially, even though not a substantial amount, with a scholarship in his name." On the baseball field and in the classroom at Millersville University, Mike will be remembered through the scholarship

fund. As Coach Shehan proudly notes, "Our coaches and players for years to come are going to see and hear the name Mike 'Boog' Powell. They will know who he is. As long as there is baseball being played here at Millersville, he will not be forgotten." ♦



Courtesy of the Powell Family

Mike Powell and son Jamie celebrate a Little League Championship trophy presentation in May 1993.

CREATE A NAMED ANNUAL AWARD

By establishing a named annual award, donors can make a difference in the life of a student and name the award to honor or memorialize a family member, friend or colleague. A donor may fund an annual award with a minimum gift of \$500 per year with a four-year signed pledge.

[Click Here](#) to learn more.

Dream Becomes Reality for Recipient of Liselotte R. Wehrheim Scholarship in Nursing

Celebrating the proud occasion of graduation from Millersville University is **Donna Kay Langan '20**, who recently received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Langan is the 2019-2020 recipient of the Liselotte R. Wehrheim Scholarship in Nursing, a scholarship that is designed to assist non-traditional nursing students who have unusual or special circumstances affecting the completion of their education, such as simultaneously supporting or caring for a parent, child or spouse.

Historic Gift Makes Immeasurable Impact

In December 2019, Millersville University received the largest gift in the history of the University from the estate of Liselotte R. Wehrheim, with a \$3.5 million gift to fund the Liselotte R. Wehrheim Scholarship in Nursing Endowment. Wehrheim graduated from Millersville with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1974 at the age of 59 and was a practicing nurse into her 90s. She was the oldest known living alum of Millersville University and recently died at the age of 103.

Wehrheim's legacy continues through the Millersville University students whose lives are positively influenced by the scholarship that bears her name. "To say I am grateful is an understatement," Langan states. "I am honored and humbled, yet also excited to be a very small part of the story. When I wrote my thank you letter to Mrs. Wehrheim, I expressed that I felt a kindred spirit in Mrs. Wehrheim. She was a non-traditional



Donna Kay and Tyler, her youngest son, visit the beach.

student like me, and completed her BSN at the age of 59. I am 53. Mrs. Wehrheim practiced nursing well into her 90s and I hope to carry the same spirit of nursing with me."

The inspiration for Langan to pursue a degree in nursing was her youngest son, Tyler. "Tyler was born with a terminal genetic disorder called Mucopolysaccharides 3A or Sanfilippo Syndrome. I was determined to become the best caregiver and advocate on his behalf," she explains. This passionate drive led Langan on a journey of success as a student at Millersville University, and as a graduate of the class of



As a healthcare professional, Donna Kay applies the scientific based research skills that she learned at Millersville University.

2020. In her position as a healthcare professional, receiving a BSN provides career advancement opportunities. "With the completion of my BSN, I will now be working as a nurse coordinator for Federal Occupational Health. The clinical experiences and the technology classes gave me an opportunity and advantage to promote myself and become both a leader and act as a change agent within my clinic, which helped me achieve this position," says Langan.

Langan's experience of receiving the Liselotte R. Wehrheim Scholarship in Nursing has provided tremendous benefits for herself and her family. "With my son's condition it was difficult, but necessary, to work while pursuing my BSN. In addition to the common cost of living, I found myself out of pocket for much of my son's needs related to his condition. Without scholarships, my BSN would have been a dream, not a reality." In sharing the extraordinary difference that the scholarship has made in her life, Langan says, "It made the impossible, possible." ♦

SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

With scholarship funding, exceptional students like Donna Kay can excel in their careers and contribute to the community.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
BENEFITS OF SCHOLARSHIP
SUPPORT, [Click Here](#)

E P P I I C

Student Compassion Fund Assists Marauders in Need

Amid the unprecedented challenges presented by the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the situation created significant needs for Millersville University students with difficult personal circumstances. As classes transitioned to remote instruction for the spring semester, students returned to their homes to continue their coursework online. However, some students remained on campus, due to temporary displacement from their homes across the country and internationally, or who faced homelessness, with no shelter other than on campus at the University. To address the urgent need to assist Millersville University students experiencing undue financial hardship, the EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund was established.

Gifts to the EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund directly support the most vulnerable students of Millersville University by providing vital necessities including groceries, rent, toiletries, school supplies and required resources for remote learning. Through an overwhelming



response of generosity, donors have contributed more than \$37,000 through May 15 to provide aid to students in need. Students seeking emergency assistance may apply for support from the EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund by completing an online application. Awards have started flowing out to students for a variety of purposes, including rent, groceries, laptops and school supplies. The EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund has been particularly meaningful for students who are not eligible to receive federal CARES Act assistance, including our international students, several of whom are not able to return to their home countries due to travel restrictions.

Motivational Messages for Marauders

In addition to the kind contributions of alumni and friends to the EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund, donors also extend warm wishes with words of encouragement for the students of Millersville University. ♦

“THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS FUND!
Please let the students who receive this funding know they are loved and we all want them to succeed and graduate.”

“I pray that hearts continue to be stretched out in compassion for one another; we will make it to the other side of ‘Through’ Together!”

“I hope every contribution helps in some way. I wish all of you safety and good health during these difficult times!”

**“Marauders,
we are in this together.”**

“We will get through this together (apart)!”

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR STUDENTS

The EPPiIC Student Compassion Fund addresses financial hardships of Millersville University students by providing essential funds for basic daily necessities and critical needs.

[Click Here](#) to help students with your gift of support

FUND *the* 'VILLE

Crowdfunding Platform Supports Community Fundraising



A new crowdfunding platform is now available online for the Millersville University community. With **Fund the 'Ville**, Millersville University students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to coordinate fundraising initiatives for projects, events and efforts that will make a difference at Millersville University. Fundraising organizers may submit an online application, and projects that receive approval will be added to the Fund the 'Ville webpage. Campaigns on the Fund the 'Ville webpage can be shared with family and friends, and webpage visitors can view and track fundraising progress and find campaigns they wish to support.

The **Millersville University Marauder Marching Band Uniform Fund** is one of the fundraising projects featured on the Fund

the 'Ville webpage. With a goal of raising \$100,000, funds are needed to purchase new uniforms for the growing number of student musicians in the band. According to Dr. Joe Cernuto, director of the Millersville University Marauder Marching Band and assistant professor of music, "Our band has grown in the recent past up to 172 members, with the projections next year to be well above that number. We had to outfit 20 front ensemble members in secondary uniforms and none of our drumline had hats. We want to look our best, and having a uniform for every member is an important step in that process."

By utilizing the Fund the 'Ville platform to promote the need for new uniforms, the Millersville University Marauder Marching Band

is making progress toward reaching the fundraising goal. To date, the fund has raised more than \$76,000. For the band members, receiving new uniforms will have tremendous benefits. Cernuto states, "First and foremost, simply having a uniform for every band member will have a positive impact. Second, our current uniforms are sharp and well-designed -- but are indicative of an older style and aesthetic... Our students have expressed deep interest in 'updating' our visual look. In fact, the base design came from sketches from one of our members! Finally, there is the powerful psychology in putting on brand-new and fresh uniforms. Our members will be looking forward to premiering our look for our Millersville family and beyond." ♦

VIEW THE VARIETY OF FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Fund the 'Ville provides an engaging online platform highlighting fundraising projects that benefit the entire community at Millersville University. | [Click Here](#) TO EXPLORE FUND THE 'VILLE ONLINE.

Millersville University
Office of Development

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