Insiders is a newsletter to keep you in the loop of good news, current challenges and upcoming changes at Millersville University.

What’s NEW?

As the academic year draws to a close, here’s what’s new at Millersville University in Academic programs, enrollment, facilities and budget.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: Over the past year, Millersville has introduced a number of new academic programs (Integrative STEM Education Methods minor, Heliophysics and Space Weather minor, Photography minor, BS in Chemistry with Pre-pharmacy option, and MDST Programs), some in new modalities such as our online RN to BSN program. We have also added new doctorates (Nursing Practice, Education – Educational Leadership, Social Work) as well as additional master programs (Education in Assessment, Curriculum and Teaching with concentrations in Online Teaching and STEM Education, Graduate Certificate in Coaching Education). Each new program is doing well in terms of enrollment and some have far exceeded our enrollment expectations.

These academic successes result from strategically examining markets and regional and statewide workforce needs. We assess that information, then conduct market and cost analyses to determine how the University can achieve the most effective return on investment. This is a somewhat newer process than used in the past. The result of the new process enables us to focus on programs most likely to succeed.

ENROLLMENT: The April enrollment report regarding fall 2016 students looked very positive. Mr. Brian Hazlett, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, believes the increase in applications and projected enrollments is a direct result of a more strategic approach to recruitment and financial aid leveraging. The University seeks to enroll 1,335 freshmen and 500 transfer students for fall 2016.

Overall, freshmen applications have increased 13% (+800) and transfer
applications remain strong with an 11% (+81) increase over last year. In addition to continuing to serve Pennsylvania residents, recruitment has also been focused with success on out-of-state students. In fact, overall applications from out-of-state have increased by 34% and enrollment deposits are trending 24% ahead of last year. The overall quality of the freshmen class remains strong with the average SAT score of an admitted freshmen trending higher compared to the incoming class of 2015.

The Admissions Office has already begun recruiting the fall 2017 class and beyond.

FACILITIES: Phase 3 of the residence hall project is well underway. As a matter of fact, the residence hall project is ahead of schedule. We should have no problem in opening East Village in fall 2016, which will complete our residence hall replacement project. Concurrently, Gordinier Hall is under construction to expand dining facilities which will allow our dining facilities to be centralized for our students’ convenience. When Gordinier’s expansion is complete this fall, the university will break ground for the Lombardo Welcome Center, which will be a net-zero energy facility. That final project will complete all the construction around the Quad, and hopefully return the entire area to a clean hub of campus activity.

BUDGET: Until late March, Pennsylvania was without a state budget. That funding uncertainty took a toll on all State System institutions to varying degrees. At long last, however, the $20 million increase to the System (roughly 5 percent after being flat for six years) is expected to garner Millersville about $1.3 million.

Thankfully, during the budget impasse Millersville was able to forestall any truly major negative impacts to our operations, although frustration ran high over this unusual way to run a business. With the $20 million incorporated into this year’s State System budget as planned, Millersville University’s budget office forecasts ending the year with a modest surplus. This is good news based on our current and projected budget numbers. News that the governor’s proposed 2016-2017 budget includes another 5 percent increase for the State System, is very positive and we hope new budget negotiations progress swiftly and successfully by June 30, 2016.
At Millersville University, the Impact Fund (formerly the MU Fund), is the unrestricted annual giving program that supports scholarships. 100% of your investment impacts Millersville students.

THE IMPACT FUND BENEFITS:
Incoming freshman of high academic merit
Student research in the Honors College
Student-Athletes

PEOPLE… PLACES… PROGRAMS
For many students, your investment in the Impact Fund is a life-line that enables their education. For our entrepreneurial focused students, your gift becomes fuel to drive their innovation. For honors college students working on their theses, your support inspires their achievement. For dedicated student-athletes studying health education who wish to coach one day, your gift helps afford their success.

As of April 1, we have raised $155,923.38 toward our goal of $250,000.00. We are 62% of the way there and thank you for your support.

Breakdown on Impact Fund Gifts

- $107,590 from alumni
- $5,070 from parents
- $8,184 from friends of the University
- $5,058 from employees
- $30,021 from corporations, associations, and foundations

Our October 9, 2015 One Day Give social media campaign raised a little more than $94,000 from 532 donors.

There is still time for you to impact our students’ lives this fiscal year by giving online at mville.us/give2mu. You can also invest in our students beyond June 30 through a recurring gift. Click SUSTAINING PAYMENTS then when you select “How often do you want to make this donation,” go long. When you contribute sustaining payments until further notice to Millersville, we will send you a plantable card and invite you to watch your seeds grow as a reminder of your support.

20% Corporations, Association, Foundations
3% Employees
5% Friends
3% Parents
69% Alumni

"You’re off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting,
So . . . get on your way!"

Dr. Seuss,
Oh, The Places You’ll Go!
Athletic Director Miles Gallagher’s First Semester

Miles Gallagher, a Lancaster native, 2010 Millersville graduate and former Marauder baseball player, was introduced as the University’s new director of athletics on December 23, 2015. Gallagher’s energy, passion and familiarity with Millersville have allowed him to hit the ground running in his first semester on the job.

“I want to build something special,” said Gallagher. “I believe Millersville has all the right pieces to do it. The number one priority is to continue to enhance the educational experience of our student-athletes, to make sure they leave with a diploma prepared to be great citizens and leaders. It is also important to create a championship experience so our students have an opportunity to compete at the highest levels.”

Among Gallagher’s initial plans are creating a strategic plan and defining the department’s core values with the assistance of coaches, student-athletes and staff. He also views filling the positions of associate director of athletics for compliance and men’s basketball head coach as vital for the future of the department.

Gallagher is diligently working to build relationships in the community. “Our alumni and community members need to feel connected,” said Gallagher. “I am reaching out to as many alumni and community members as I can. I want to share with them my vision for our department and make them a part of what we want to accomplish. We are looking at enhancing corporate sponsorships and the Black & Gold Club to further generate support and excitement about Millersville Athletics. I plan on releasing these plans in the near future. The only way for us to be successful is to work together. Our alumni, community, and program supporters are a major part of that success.”

“Our student-athletes are role models and it is vital that we continue to focus on serving others and building relationships in the community,” said Gallagher. “When academics, athletics and service are accomplished collectively, I believe there is nothing better in higher education.”

““The first few months have been outstanding,” said Gallagher. “I have seen an overwhelming amount of support and passion for Millersville Athletics. This department has a rich history and tradition of success. People are invested in moving the department forward and creating something special together. It makes it fun to come to work every day.”

Gallagher now leads a department of 19 teams with more than 400 men and women student-athletes competing at the NCAA Division II level. He is no stranger to Millersville having played baseball for the Marauders from 2008-10, served as a graduate assistant in the athletic department from 2010-12 and worked as the associate director for athletics for compliance since 2013.

RIDERS AND WALKERS, join the third annual American Dream Scholarship Ride!

Millersville University

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 7:30 a.m. beginning and ending at Millersville’s Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center. Registration required by September 9, 2016.

See mville.us/dreamride or contact the Office of Scheduling & Event Management at 717-871-5926.

The Ride funds student scholarships at Millersville University and promotes benefits of cycling.
Be a Sustaining Donor

In addition to contributing a single, one-time gift, there are many options to give on an ongoing basis to support students and programs at Millersville University.

RECURRENT GIFTS: Increasingly, individuals support scholarships, programs or special initiatives with recurrent online gifts. This practice enables one to be generous through a practical, budget friendly process. The university’s gift site provides this option at mville.us/give2mu other organizations support recurrent giving as well.

UNITED WAY: Each year we receive gifts from various United Way organizations because alumni, parents or friends designate Millersville University as the cause they support. Fortunately, these United Way donors also alert the development office that their support is coming so we know what donors’ want their gifts to support.

CFC – COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN: Federal employees have the option to list Millersville University to receive payroll contributions to the CFC program which functions much like United Way programs. Here, too, if if these donors contact the development office, their support can be directed to a particular purpose. If CFC contributions arrive and no donor preference is on file, the contributions are directed to the Impact Fund which supports scholarships, student research and underfunded needs.

THRIVENT CHOICE*: Eligible members of Thrivent may use Thrivent Choice to help make a difference for Millersville University students and programs. The university is among the thousands of non-profits and churches enrolled to receive Thrivent Choice Dollars. All you need to do is recommend that Thrivent Financial distribute some of its charitable grant funds to the University each year.

If you are eligible to participate in Choice Dollars, or are uncertain about your eligibility, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. You may also contact James F. Peterson, Sponsored Candidate for Thrivent at james.peterson@thrivent.com (814-571-0822) or your local Thrivent Financial representative.
Success = Little Things Handled Well Every Day

Jen Probst was named the sixth head coach in Millersville University softball history in June 2015 after a successful six-year stint as head of Misericordia University’s program. Probst started her head coaching career in 2010 and compiled a 150-109 (.580) record with a MAC Freedom Championship in 2012. Her teams were remarkably consistent, winning between 25 and 28 games five times and totaled three MAC Freedom championship appearances with postseason berths in five of six seasons.

Being named head coach of the Marauder program was a homecoming of sorts for Probst who has a vast familiarity with the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference. During her playing days, Probst was a standout pitcher for Bloomsburg, playing three seasons under legendary head coach Jan Hutchinson, before transferring to Mansfield as a fifth-year senior.

“Coming to Millersville in a sense was like coming home,” said Probst. “I am back in Central Pennsylvania, where I grew up and the location is ideal for recruiting with local talent in the area as well as in neighboring states, showcasing strong high school programs.”

Taking over a program certainly has its challenges. Coach Probst did not recruit the players she coached this year, and did not know any of them before arriving on campus. Probst has made the transition seamlessly, and she credits the current players as the ones who made it easy for her.

“The best part of the transition has been the total buy-in by the current players,” said Probst. “They have been open-minded and willing to change their mindset to align more with my coaching philosophy.”

A coach’s philosophy is the foundation of a program and guides both staff and players into assuming responsibility for their actions and decisions. It also encourages them to meet expectations that affect them as individual athletes and as an entire team. Probst’s philosophy begins with key attributes like attitude and accountability. She wants to offer her players the best student-athlete experience possible as well as prepare them for life after college.

“I like to form a trusting relationship between myself and my players so that they know I will be there to help them through life’s challenges,” said Probst. “I want to be able to count on them to take care of the little things on an everyday basis.”

“We are focusing on winning each inning and taking the game inning-by-inning, playing catch well, and attacking each at-bat and pitch with a positive mental attitude,” said Probst. “If by the end of the year this team has improved their skill set, grown as individuals off the field, succeeded academically and competed...”
with heart we are heading in the right direction.”

Probst has made an immediate impact building relationships with softball alumnae. She has already connected with former Marauder Audra Landers, who works for Lancaster Recreation. That partnership has enabled the softball program to give back to the community by offering a free clinic for underprivileged children. Probst has also designated a conference doubleheader as Alumnae Day.

“I am very excited about our Welcome Back Alumnae game against East Stroudsburg. We are going to bring out and honor program alums in attendance as well as have a meet and greet with food after the games,” said Probst.

Probst is also excited about recruiting the next generation of Marauder softball alums. She has already signed a number of high school seniors for her 2017 season, and the work toward a bright future continues in summer.

“There is a ton of excitement and interest in the Millersville softball program with young athletes enthusiastic about the school and ready to compete in this tough conference,” said Probst. “I look forward to the summer tournaments and seeking out the future Marauders.”
MADE IN MILLERSVILLE

The annual Made in Millersville event provided an opportunity for Millersville University to celebrate the unique research projects and creative work being produced by Millersville students. Presentations, exhibits, poster sessions and performances were held on April 22, 2016 in the McNairy Library and Learning Forum, where faculty, students, staff and representatives of the Millersville community met the student presenters and learned more about their research. This year’s event eclipsed those of previous years with more submissions, presenters and attendees than ever, and a variety of new, exciting ideas and projects from across campus.

Made in Millersville provided a one-of-a-kind opportunity for presenters to showcase their research and creativity, learn about other unique projects happening across campus and gain experience presenting and networking in a professional conference environment. Before the event, participating students had the opportunity to practice their presentations and get advice on crucial elements such as poster design and presentation techniques from our faculty and previous years’ presenters. Sessions of all kinds throughout the day were attended by groups of reviewers from our faculty and professional community, who give feedback and encouragement to MU students as they pursue their passions and curiosities.

Presenters weren’t the only ones to gain valuable experiences from Made in Millersville. This year, faculty members across campus sent their students to attend the conference, meet presenters and explore their fellow students’ work. Many professors also incorporated conference attendance into their curricula. For the first time, a group of over 30 alumni were among those who served as volunteer reviewers to provide constructive feedback to students on their presentations. Every year, we are amazed by our students’ passion and the quality of their work. We invite you to join us next April and celebrate MU students’ great work at Made in Millersville 2017!

Christina Michael explains her research project Neuroendocrine and Genetic Bases of Alternative Behavioral Strategies in the Polymorphic White-throated Sparrow to a fellow student.

Global Education and Partnerships

Outlined in The Bold Path under Goal A: Engage Learners is an ambitious objective, namely by 2020, to increase by 50 percent the number of students studying abroad, including student exchanges, faculty-led study abroad and international internships. To achieve this objective, continued and increased support to Global Education and Partnerships at Millersville University is needed. This objective not only encompasses study abroad programs but also international students studying at Millersville University.

Support to Millersville’s Global Opportunities allows our students to become enriched in and educated in many different cultures. Study abroad opportunities broaden a student’s intellectual horizons and create a deepened knowledge and understanding of cultural, political, and economic issues that cannot be taught or experienced in the classroom. Support to Global Education affords Millersville students the opportunity of a lifetime to experience the world firsthand. From scholarships, to travel expenditures and faculty lead trips, donor support to Global Opportunities provides opportunities that have a lasting impact for our students . . . opportunities many would otherwise have to forego.

On average 160 students study abroad each year in all types of programs ranging from short term faculty-led courses abroad, to study for one or two academic semesters, to professional opportunities abroad such as international student teaching, social work field placements, or international internships.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)
This past year 119 international students studied on Millersville University’s campus. These students include degree-seeking international student populations, as well short term direct-apply students along with international exchange students from partner universities who are here for one or two semesters.

GLOBAL EDUCATION LINKS
Millersville Global Education Website: millersville.edu/globaled/
Global Ed Gazette: blogs.millersville.edu/globaledgazette/
Student Profile Blog: millersville.edu/admissions/studentprofiles/aaron-jaffe.php
Global Education Videos: youtube.com/watch?v=sCR1PvpDu70&feature=youtu.be
International Students: youtube.com/channel/UCKHgkp_Bj8QsBCIfDPProDg

GLOBAL EDUCATION & PARTNERSHIP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT’S STUDY ABROAD EXPENSES – Support an MU student studying abroad or completing an international internship during a fall, spring, or summer semester. Student costs include academic, living and travel expenses. This global opportunity helps MU students become world citizens, engage in their academics, and leads to new professional opportunities. ($10,000 - $20,000)

STUDENT’S IMMIGRATION PAPERWORK, APPLICATION FEES & TRAVEL INSURANCE – Assist a student pay for these necessities when traveling. A passport, visa, other fees and travel insurance are important items for any student’s study abroad experience! ($1,000)

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT – Just the flight to get across the globe can discourage a student from studying abroad, especially when they may have never been on a plane before. (Cost: $1,500)

FACULTY LEAD COURSE AND TRIP FUNDING – Help a faculty member lower the cost of their educational and cultural program abroad as they budget to take a group of MU students across the globe to invigorate their learning. ($2,500-$5,000)

Go to Millersville.edu/give to support Global Education.

Students jump into a new world in Egypt.

Study abroad enriches cultural understanding.

Students from several countries broaden their academic opportunities studying at Millersville University.
SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 15-18  
Native Plant Conference

THURSDAY, JUNE 30  
Fiscal Year End

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17  
American Dream Scholarship Ride  
7 a.m.  
Winter Center Circle

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24  
Family Weekend –  
All Day  
Admissions Open House –  
9 - 10 a.m.

Fall Honors & Awards Convocation –  
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Marauder Courts,  
Student Memorial Center

SATURDAY, OCT. 22  
Homecoming

FRIDAY, DEC. 2  
Celebrate Scholars luncheon  
Noon – 1 p.m.  
Lehr Room, Gordinier Hall

SATURDAY, DEC. 3  
10th Anniversary of Sounds of the Season  
4 p.m. & 7 p.m.  
Clair Performance Center

SUNDAY, DEC. 4  
10th Anniversary of Sounds of the Season  
2:30 p.m.  
Clair Performance Center

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!

Have any thoughts or comments about Insiders? Can you think of something you would like to know that was not included in this issue or is coming up? Send an email to giving@millersville.edu or call 717-871-7520.

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