Most of the families of the early trustees of the Millersville State Normal School remain unknown, although their stories provide unique glimpses into late nineteenth-century life. Andrew M. Frantz, a Lancaster lawyer, served as a prominent member of the Board of Trustees. Elected in 1861, he remained active until his death in 1911. During that time, he served as board secretary and as the chairman of the Committee on Grounds and Buildings, which oversaw, among other things, the construction of the original library, now Biemesderfer Center.

Andrew Frantz’s daughter, Letitia, graduated from Millersville in 1876 and then attended the Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania—which was America’s first medical school for women. Letitia, whose uncle Henry was a doctor in Reading, detailed her experiences in Philadelphia in four letters that now reside in Millersville University’s Archives & Special Collections. The collection, the Frantz Family Papers, contains ten letters written in 1883 to Andrew Frantz and his wife Esther. Some of the letters describe rural domestic life, but Letitia’s provide an interesting insight into the practical, emotional, and religious challenges experienced by a young female student in the big city.

Letitia’s first letter was written just after she arrived in Philadelphia for the fall term. Since she had not previously booked arrangements for room and board, she wrote her mother that she had arrived safely and had accepted temporary accommodation with the College janitor and his wife. Letitia described how she had visited 11 rooms in search of a place to stay:

Last of all (after I had engaged temporary board) I called on Bradshaw’s. […] We got around to the board question & …well—she said she would take me again alone in that 3rd story room if I wanted to come for 5 dollars. I asked her whether she would take me if I wanted to come. She had previously said that if I heard of any one that wanted to come I should recommend her. Then I asked her about me & she said yes. […] I wish you would write quickly & tell me whether I shall go to B’s. (September 19, 1883)
In a second letter, written a few days later, Letitia wrote that “I reasoned with myself & I labored with myself & finally (under pressure of circumstances & I think, a real attachment to my old place & remembering how laughingly you treated my (to me) irreconcilable objection & being assured by Mrs. B. that everything was all right) I concluded that even if everything were not all right, it would be best for me to go back.” Letitia mentioned her objection to returning to the Bradshaw’s, but she never explicitly described it and only wrote that it was “of too fleshly a nature” (September 3).

Finally having decided to overcome her objections and room with the Bradshaws, Letitia paraphrased Hamlet’s famous soliloquy and wrote to her father, “I am thankful every day that I am here, and have concluded that it was much better in this case to endure the ills I have than fly to others that I know not of.” She went on to inquire after the family and to discuss the status of her thesis. The school also experienced a bit of sensation with a welcoming reception for a student from India. Letitia quoted the newspaper deliverer as saying “Have you seen the Heindoo [sic] princess yet? She dresses like an Indian & looks like an Indian & they say she daren’t eat what we eat” (September 30).

The “Heindoo princess” was Dr. Anandibai Joshi, age 18, the first Indian woman to pursue a Western education. She went against Brahmin orthodoxy to become India’s first woman doctor. Joshi arrived in Philadelphia in 1883, the same year Letitia was writing, and she graduated in 1886. Unfortunately, Joshi died of tuberculosis in 1887, at the age of 22.

When Letitia wrote her mother again, she was already settled into her school term. She discussed how she performed well in the class quizzes, but she also went on to write, “I was quite discouraged the other day, because I could not study more, & was much comforted when Harriet Lewis told me that she never studies evenings & she expects to graduate this spring.” Schoolwork, however, was not Letitia’s only trouble. Coming from a deeply religious tradition, Letitia continuously struggled with her faith:

I still, as of old, have a great trouble with myself, spiritually—I am not contented, as I should be & as I much desire to be, I am selfish, conceited, impetuous, and in fact, all wrong—lacking judgment etc. yet, with all these frailties & blots, I can only bow low at the feet of my Savior & implore mercy & forgiveness. [...] I will not despair & look forward in faith to the time when the Lord will see fit to fill me with His spirit. (October, 1883)

Letitia graduated from the Women’s Medical College in 1884 and returned to Lancaster to practice. Other Millersville graduates continued their education at the Women’s Medical College. Lilian Welsh, who graduated

continued on page 8
Since 1890, Dutcher Hall has adorned the Millersville University campus. Now in its 116th year, it has the distinction of being the oldest standing building. Throughout the years, as Millersville evolved from a normal school into a teachers college and eventually into a state university, Dutcher has stood as a reminder to new students of the distinguished history of the institution. At one time housing the “Rat Race,” the building even has its own ghost story lore, with most of the haunting occurring around theater show times. Although the uses, and even the name of the building, have changed, Dutcher Hall has been able to withstand the test of time.

During the late nineteenth century, the Board of Trustees for Millersville discussed the need for a library and a gymnasium to enable the school to be competitive for new patronage. A decision was made to build the gymnasium first to fit the current Victorian ideals, which stressed a healthy body and a healthy mind. During April of 1890, rough sketches were drawn by local architect James A. Warner, who calculated that the cost of the building would be around $9000. When the bids were actually opened, the prices were over $4000 above the original estimate. The building plans were redesigned and went up for bid in July. The contract was awarded to D. H. Rapp with the final bid of $10,385, and the cornerstone was laid on August 25, 1890.

The gymnasium was ready for use before Christmas in 1890. The gym, which was the first building separate from Old Main, was an instant success. Dr. Eliphalet Oram Lyte, the fifth principal of the Millersville State Normal School, was adamant about having state-of-the-art equipment, thus the building was outfitted with $2000 worth of new exercise gear to be used by both men and women. The gymnasium measured eighty by forty feet with an addition for instructors’ rooms. Originally, the building had a track and balcony on the second floor, and the basement even had a bowling alley although former president Dr. Biemesderfer recalled that they were in disrepair when he arrived in 1915. Although it was modern at the time, the gym still had a dirt floor, with a metal staircase leading from the basement to the first floor. The gym floor itself measured thirty-five by seventy feet. Lining the foyer walls on the second floor were gun racks of muskets and bayonets that were originally used by the Millersville Civil War Company. Later the guns were used by the Student Armed Training Center during World War I.

The gymnasium was in use until Brooks Hall, a new facility, was built in 1939. The old gym was updated to
Dutcher

house a variety of other purposes, such as a student center. In the early 1950s, the Hall was transformed into a student lounge with a snack bar and was dubbed the “Rat Race” by the students. The Rat Race became a place where day and dorm students could intermingle and hang out. The lunch counter where students could meet up with one another was even called “The Mouse.” The building was also used for dances and other social affairs. In 1954, the upper balcony was floored in to become a men’s student lounge, and the basement was converted in the latter half of the 1950s into a college store. Later, the Rat was renovated to house the Counseling Center on the ground floor. The third floor was eventually made into the Rafters Theater, used by the Citimard Players beginning in the 1960s. Eventually problems arose with the luncheonette being in the space during the day and having to move the tables at night to make room for the theater productions, so in 1972 the lunch space moved out and Citimard took over for good.

One may ask why the structure is now known as Dutcher Hall. It was rededicated in 1974 to Dr. Dean Dutcher, professor emeritus of social sciences and chairman of the social studies department at Millersville. Dr. Dutcher served at Millersville from 1927 until 1952, and during his tenure he greatly reshaped and advanced the department on campus. Dr. Dutcher earned five college degrees and taught history, guidance and ethics. Former students still remember Dr. Dutcher fondly as well. Vivian L. Hoffman Brown recalled that her professor “was young and full of fun…” and Virginia Ressel Bissinger thought that Dr. Dutcher was particularly open-minded: “…he had sort of a discussion group that he would have at his home periodically…he really tried…he opened his home and had this discussion and would bring up subjects or books that he had read that he thought were very interesting and he would recommend for us to read…” After Dr. Dutcher passed away on February 26, 1974, the decision was made to rededicate the building to honor his twenty-five years of service to the University.

Dr. James Henke, professor of communication and theater, once said, “The Dean is at it again,” which still rings true today. Recently, the building underwent a major renovation. In order to do justice to this understated gem on the Millersville campus, the highest priority was to match the addition to the original design. Thanks to Steven Strock, the Millersville University project manager in capital construction and contracting and design, the dream was able to become reality. Painstaking effort was put into matching the color and craftsmanship of the brickwork, the slate on the roof, and the stone lintels. Even the smallest details, such as the gutters and copper downspouts, were matched as closely as possible. Lighting fixtures that originally adorned Brooks Hall were restored and attached to the front of the building. The renovation and expansion included making the building more accessible through a new entrance, new stairs and an elevator that connects every floor, ADA-compliant restrooms and an updated HVAC system. The interior of Dutcher has been updated through additions such as new carpets and paint, a new reception space and quiet air conditioning. The project was completed by Lyons Construction, the general contractor, with masonry work done by Coretti, Inc.

Dutcher Hall has withstood the test of time, being the oldest standing building remaining on campus, and continuing to stand as other

buildings grew and fell around it. Its understated elegance allows the building to quietly pass through the years in a dignified manner. The fact that the building is still here and has always been a well-loved and viable building is a feat in itself. Former student Kevin Stout stated it perfectly when he said, “There is a spirit or energy in Dutcher that just gets you.” With the new renovations, Dutcher Hall will continue to stand and delight students for many years to come.

Brigette Kamsler is a student assistant in Archives & Special Collections and a senior history major at Millersville. Brigette is in the process of writing her honors thesis and applying for graduate school to study library science/archival administration.

Stop by Archives & Special Collections on the 4th floor of Ganser Library to see Brigette’s exhibit on Dutcher Hall.

Sources:
Downey, Dennis B. We Sing to Thee: A History of Millersville University, 2004


College Archives. Millersville college catalogues, 1891-1984

Alumni Review. Fall 1972-Summer 1975


Snapper. October 28, 1999
Dear Friends,

The Friends of Ganser have been engaged this academic year with several programs and initiatives. Ms. Maria Riera-Palomeque, Vice President, and Mrs. Judy Carter, past Vice President, coordinated a very well-attended fall lecture featuring Dr. Robert Sayre, Millersville history professor, discussing personal letters from the Civil War in his presentation titled “Dear Miss Lizzie: The Civil War Correspondence of Lizzie Brick and the Hurffville Boys, 1861-1865” on September 6, 2006. Board member Mr. Phil Bishop, and his wife, Sue, are to be congratulated in planning and implementing the Friends’ sponsored bus trip to the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., on September 30, 2006. Three buses were filled with excited book lovers. I had the opportunity to be a “tour guide” on one of the buses. The trip exceeded my expectations. The Friends are already planning for next year’s event on September 29, 2007. Consider joining us!

The Friends will be conducting the annual book sale on March 18-21, 2007. Mark your calendars! The proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase items for the Special Collections area. Mr. Leo E. Shelley, Book Sale Chairperson, is the contact person if you would like to make a contribution of books for the sale. Another exciting project is our sponsored bus trip to the “King Tut and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” exhibit at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia on March 31, 2007. Three buses will be filled with Egyptology fans. Ms. Maria Riera Palomeque, Vice President, is coordinating the spring dinner and lecture to be held at 6 p.m. on April 10, 2007, in the Bolger Conference Center. The speaker will be Mr. Eric Horst, Director of the Weather Information Center at Millersville.

I invite you to join us at our upcoming events, the Book Sale and Spring Dinner & Lecture.

My thanks and warm regards to all the members for your participation and support as true Friends of Ganser Library.

Michelle M. White, President
Becoming a Friend

People become Friends of Ganser Library when they make a donation to Millersville University and request mailings from the Friends. Encourage your friends to become Friends of Ganser Library through their support of Millersville University. For more information, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.

News

Book Sale
The 28th Annual Friends of Ganser Library Used Book Sale will be held in Ganser Library lobby March 19-21. The preview sale is Sunday, March 18, from 6-7:30 p.m.

Book Sale hours: Monday and Tuesday, March 19-20: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Wednesday, March 21: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The three-day sale offers a great selection of high quality used books. We are always interested in receiving new volumes for the sale, particularly juvenile, art, music, and collectible books. Contact Leo Shelley (872-3610) if you would like to donate books for the sale, or to arrange for books to be picked up.

Friends Travel to See King Tut
Three buses are already filled for the Friends sponsored trip to “King Tut and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, on March 30, 2007.

Spring Banquet
Eric Horst, director of the Weather Information Center at Millersville, will be the featured speaker at the Friends Spring Banquet at 6:00 p.m., April 10, 2007, in the Bolger Conference Center. To purchase banquet tickets, contact Kitty Glass at 872-7743.

Planned Giving Opportunities
Consider including Millersville University in your estate planning. For more information on planned giving opportunities, including Ganser Library, Friends of the Library, or student scholarships, contact the Millersville University Development Office at (717) 872-3820.

Special Collections

Treasures
by Janet Dotterer

It is a joy to work in the Archives & Special Collections at Millersville University because of all the many treasures we have here. Sometimes it is hard to decide which one to feature. However, it does seem appropriate to feature something by Wickersham since he was so instrumental in the founding of this institution.

In the winter of 1855, J.P. Wickersham visited the many one-room school houses in Lancaster County and took notes regarding each school. For each school, he noted the condition of the house for the teacher, the school itself and the method of teaching used by the teacher. On a whole, he was quite critical of the teaching methods, using words like “old fashioned,” “dull,” “self conceited” and “pronounces badly.” For some he goes on to point out that “with study and experience may make a teacher.”

Mr. Wickersham gives no summary to his findings, but it is assumed that this was done to give credence to his belief that teachers needed more education than a Summer Institute could offer. Perhaps the 1856 catalog summarizes it best, “It is admitted, among the educational men, that Normal Schools are necessary to perfect our system of education … we hope to send forth teachers, who, in honoring us, will render important aid in advancing the great cause of popular education.”

A special thanks should go out to former Archivist and Special Collections librarian, Robert Coley, for transcribing this valuable manuscript in 1992. The manuscript and transcript are housed in the Manuscript Collection of Special Collections (MS360).
Assessing Valuable Materials in Archives & Special Collections

Millersville’s Archives and Special Collections contain a wealth of information about the history of our region and of the university itself. We are fortunate to have a wide variety of materials that offer fascinating insights into the daily lives of people in the region and to faculty and students at Millersville. An assessment of Rare Books began during the summer of 2006, and we hope to continue this important process over the next few years.

As a result of the lack of dedicated HVAC in our area, during many times of the year temperature and humidity levels are too high. In particular, the discovery of high levels of humidity present in our Rare Book and Archives areas makes this an important area of concern. During the summer and fall of 2006, several volumes of early university records were found to be infected with mold and have been sent to the Conservation Center for Art and Historical Artifacts in Philadelphia for cleaning and repair. We have since located several more volumes which will need treatment. These issues are currently being examined and plans are underway to include dedicated HVAC for Special Collections and Archives in the library renovation.

Hannah Charlton is a student assistant in Archives and Special Collections. She is majoring in History and Anthropology/Archaeology and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society.

To learn more about the Women’s Medical College and the Frantz family papers, stop by Archives & Special Collections on the 4th floor of Ganser Library to view a new exhibit prepared by Hannah Charlton.

Women’s Medical College  continued from page 2

from Millersville in 1875, had a particularly notable career. She received her medical degree from the Women’s Medical College in 1889 and studied in Zurich for a year. In the 1890s she began teaching at the Women’s College of Baltimore, which became Goucher College. In addition to her medical work, Welsh was a women’s rights activist.

Sources:
Cazalet, Sylvain. “Female Medical College & Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania.” www.homeoint.org/cazalet/histo/pennsylvfem.htm
Downey, Dennis. We Sing to Thee: A History of Millersville University. Millersville University of Pennsylvania, 2004.
Frantz Family Papers (MS 71), 1883
For more information about Dr. Anandibai Joshi, please see these resources in Ganser Library:
Dr. Anandibai Joshi Time and Achievement Videocassette 610.92 J78k
Welsh, Lillian. Reminiscences of Thirty Years in Baltimore, 1925.
Students Use Special Collections for Research Projects

We welcomed 373 people to Archives & Special Collections for LibraryFest on September 13, 2006. As many of the students who attend LibraryFest are beginning their Millersville experience, it is a good opportunity to share information about our special materials and services. Including LibraryFest, we counted over 1185 visits to our area during fall semester. Students from classes in Educational Foundations, History, English, and Communication used materials from Special Collections for their research projects during fall semester, including:

**Craft of History** (History 105): Prof. Monica Spiese brought three sections of History 105 to learn about the nature of primary source materials and to begin their research projects. Each of the three sections came to the Archives for at least two sessions.

**Early American Literature** (English 235): Dr. Carla Rineer asked her students to investigate primary sources that fall outside the canon of American literature. Before locating their own primary sources, students examined the *Dying Continued on back cover

Students in Tracey Weis’ History/Women’s Studies Senior Seminar will be carrying out oral history interviews this semester in preparation for the 20th anniversary of the Women’s Commission in 2008. Other professors whose classes are involved in the project this semester include Barb Stengel, Cheryl Desmond, Nancy Smith, and Rita Smith Wade-El. Students now have access to digital audio equipment for the project, thanks to Vice President for Information Technology Susan Komsky. These digital audio kits are being prepared by Special Collections intern Phil High, who is also creating equipment documentation that students can use for their interviews. Students have already visited Archives & Special Collections to use The Snapper, college catalogs, the Exchange, Alumni Review, and

*Sayings of Mary Armitt*, a manuscript written in 1791 by a Quaker woman near Philadelphia (new to our collection).

**Research Methods** (Educational Foundations 610): Dr. Jeffrey Wimer brought his graduate research methods class to explore athletics history-related primary source materials. The students examined a variety of materials related to the history of athletics at Millersville and discussed how the intended audience for research-based publications defines how the research is presented.

**Amish and the Media** (University 179): Dr. Diane Umble’s students examined print publications from Amish and other plain communities. Students studied *The Diary*, along with other titles, to gain a better understanding of cultural values expressed in these publications that serve as vital communication links between communities across the United States.

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**Oral History Project Underway**

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Dr. Tracey Weis discusses the oral history project with one of her students.
Recent Additions

Each issue of the Folio lists acquisitions made possible through funding from the Friends of Ganser Library. Here are highlights of some of the new materials added to the collection through purchase and donation:

Quaker reflections

Dying Sayings of Mary Armitt, 1791
This small book contains the dying thoughts of Mary Armitt, a Quaker of Philadelphia, who died February 18, 1791. She was born Mary Emlen on November 1, 1707, to parents George and Hannah Emlen. Mary married John Armitt in 1728 and became a widow upon his death in 1762. This collection of her sayings, along with a short biography, was hand-written by Caleb Cresson for a friend, Alice Needham.

Fugitive slave document

Court records documenting the legal status of Fugitive Slave, 1804
Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas of York.
This document records the return of a fugitive slave named Jem to William Currens of Maryland. The document reports that Currens claimed in court that Jem was a resident of the Commonwealth of Maryland and that he was Currens’ slave according to the laws of that state. The document is signed by Charles W. Hartley, Prothonotary, and John Jos. Henry, President of the Court of Common Pleas.

Medicine, health, and advice

Dr. Emeline Cleveland’s Introductory Lecture on Behalf of the Faculty To The Class of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, for the session of 1858-1859, was published in October of 1858 by the managers of the college. Dr. Cleveland served as professor of anatomy and physiology at the Female Medical College and was one of the first women physicians in the United States to perform abdominal surgery. This publication includes information on tuition costs for the Tenth Annual Session of the College, beginning fall 1859. The following appeal is also included:

The Corporators of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania...regard the medical education of woman as a necessity of the age, and a way-mark of the advancement of a refined civilization. They find the demand for female physicians wide-spread and increasing...They also desire a scientific medical education for women, because it will furnish her honorable and profitable employment—giving her a new sphere of usefulness and happiness, where duty and the sympathies of her nature lead her,—in the chambers of the sick and the suffering.

Remedy Book by Jacob Smoker, 1919
Jacob Smoker was an Amish farmer from Myerstown, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. His small diary contains a collection of remedies for common medical ailments (human and equestrian).
Rev. G. S. Weaver’s Hopes and Helps for the Young of Both Sexes was published in 1876. Weaver examines “the formation of character, cultivation of the intellect, moral sentiment, social affection, courtship and marriage,” with the hopes that “a kindred chord may be struck in the minds of some Youth, which shall awaken them to a higher life, and a deeper realization of their own importance, and the beauty and immense utility of virtuous living, this work is sent out.” Advertisements at the end of the volume list additional resources published by S. R. Wells & Co., particularly focusing on the study of phrenology, physiognomy, and health.

Masonry and Temperance

James Milnor, Esq., (1773-1844), published an Oration on Masonry, Delivered at St. John’s Church in the City of Philadelphia, At the Request of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, on St. John’s Day, June 24, 1811. Milnor served as Grand Master. The Oration also includes “An Account of the Procession, and of the Ceremonies Attending the Consecration and Dedication of the New Masonic Hall.” Milnor was a lawyer and served as a U.S. Representative of the Federalist Party from 1811-1813. After studying theology, Milnor was ordained as a minister in the Protestant Episcopal Church. His first appointment was at St. Peter’s Church in Philadelphia, followed by St. George’s Church in New York City, where he served until his death in 1844.

The Masonic Song Book, Containing a Large Collection of the Most Approved Masonic Songs, Odes, Anthems, & C., Embellished with Three Appropriate Engravings, was published by Matthew Carey in Philadelphia in 1814. This small volume contains lyrics without music, but names of tunes are often noted. Plate III is described as “A Lodge for the Reception of a Fellow Craft.”

The True Path; or Gospel Temperance: Being the Life, Work and Speeches of Francis Murphy, Dr. Henry A. Reynolds, and their Co-Laborers, Embracing also a History of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, was published by Rev. J. Samuel Vandersloot in 1878. In addition to background information on Dr. Reynolds and the WCTU, Vandersloot presents a biographical portrait of Francis Murphy, a temperance advocate born in Ireland, who traveled across the United States giving temperance speeches and calling on his audiences to sign his temperance pledge.

The WCTU Educator included speeches and poems on temperance themes for use in medal contests for elocution. This newly acquired issue was sold in 1910 for 10 cents. An accompanying Memorial Day Souvenir provides a poem about the flag, statistics on deaths by alcohol abuse, and a temperance pledge.
Our sheet music collection draws interest from many parts of the United States and around the world (see the Exchange, November 2, 2006). In addition to a request from Australia for music composed by someone’s grandfather (Grandpa I’m Going to be a Soldier), we also received two requests for sheet music lost during Hurricane Katrina, both from southern Mississippi: Go Way Back and Sit Down, and Angels of the Night.

yearbooks for background research in preparation for interviews. They will return for a practice session with the equipment before the interviews begin.

The recorders will make it possible to capture the interviews as digital files for the first time. This will allow us to create an oral history digital archive, which will contain audio and video clips, interview transcripts, and student projects generated through this and the 150th anniversary women’s oral history project.