Millersville University: 150th Anniversary
Millersville Academy founded by L.M. Hobbs and leaders of the Millersville Community.
John Fair Stoddard was appointed principal (1855-1856)

The Lancaster County Normal Institute opened with 130 regular students.

The Page Literary Society organized
1856-1857

1856: James P. Wickersham appointed principal (1856-1866)

1857: Normal Literary Society is founded. General Assembly passed “The Normal School Act” which provided for the creation of a system of state-supported normal schools.
1858-1860

- The Model School was established in 1858.
- Became the First Pennsylvania State Normal School in 1859. (2-year program of Study)
- 1860: First meeting of the Alumni Association. First ever intercollegiate sports event in PA was a cricket match between the Normal School and F&M. Normal won 129-80.
1860 Faculty
Special Notice.

The term of the School which would have ended on September 4th, was suddenly interrupted by the rebel invasion of the State; and after the approach of the enemy to the Susquehanna, and the burning of the Columbia Bridge, it was found impossible to keep the School together, and the largest number of Students ever assembled at the Normal School scattered—some, to seek the security of home, and others to aid in driving back the ruthless invaders of our soil.

The Principal of the School raised a Regiment, the 47th P. V. M. in which were two Professors of the Institution, and a large number of its Students. This Regiment having accomplished the work assigned it was mustered out of the service on the 12th of August.

The Normal School will therefore re-open as usual on the Second Monday in October.

No Normal School graduates this year because of the Civil War.

Special Notice from the 1862-1863 Catalogue
Dr. Edward Brooks appointed principal (1866-1883)
Old Main Chapel and Administration Building (including tower) erected in 1875.
“Revolt of 1881” centered around visitation rules of the school:

1. It is expected that the ladies and gentlemen of the Institution will treat one another with politeness, and in accordance with the usages of good society.
2. No prolonged conversation between the sexes must take place in the Chapel, in the Recitation Rooms, or in the Halls.
3. At the close of the evening lectures or society meetings, all will repair immediately to their respective rooms.
4. No student shall correspond, meet, walk, or ride with one of the opposite sex, except in case of necessity; and then only with the permission of the Principal. A violation of this rule will be severely punished.
5. Gentlemen students having sisters or cousins in the Institution whom they wish to visit, may obtain Visiting Cards from the Principal, which will admit them to the privileges of the Ladies’ Parlor at certain specified times.
6. Students of the two sexes, other than relatives, cannot meet privately except by the special permission of the Principal. Gentlemen, not students, desiring to call upon lady students, must obtain permission of the Principal. Except for special reasons, no visiting will be permitted on the Sabbath.

(Regulations for Students: Relation of the Sexes (1881 Catalogue))
Dr. Edward Brooks resigns.

Trustees ban dancing on campus.

B.F. Shaub appointed principal (1883-1887)
Several students expelled for criticizing certain faculty members at a Page Literary Society meeting.
1887

E. Oram Lyte appointed principal (1887-1912).
Football established as a major sport.

Baseball had been established sometime earlier.
1880s Campus Scenes

Faculty sitting room

Old Main

Dining Room
First black student applied and was accepted by Millersville State Normal School, but he could not live on campus. (Board of Trustee Minutes, 7 June 1890)

New gymnasium built.
1891 Baseball Team
In 1892 Dr. H. Rapp submitted the low bid for the new library ($20,000)

1892: 901 students enrolled.

1893: College band organized.
1894-1895

- Wiring for electricity installed.
- Completion of Library Building (now known as Biemesderfer Executive Center).
- Millersville was the first Pennsylvania Normal School to build a separate building for its library collection.
1897

Science Hall completed
The Wickersham (later the Millersvillian, now the Touchstone) established.

The Faculty from the 1899 Wickersham.
1890s Campus Scenes

Conestoga Creek

West Frederick St., 1892

Old Main, from George St.
1900

Model School Building built.

Men’s basketball established.
First undefeated football team in Millersville’s history
1905-1910

- Several stained glass windows were installed in the chapel in Old Main in 1905.
- In 1908 electricity was supplied to the dormitories.
- The four-year course was approved in 1910, prior to this all programs were two or three years in length.
Early 1900s

Down by Conestoga Creek

Classroom

Woman’s Dorm
1912

Dr. P. Monroe Harbold
appointed principal (1912-1918).
In 1913, the Girl’s gymnastic carnival was organized. This was the forerunner of the May Day Exercises.

Millersville State Normal School became the property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1917.
Dr. Charles H. Gordinier appointed principal/president (1918-1929). Title changed when the Normal School became a state teachers college.

1918

Flu epidemic on campus.
1910 Campus Scenes

From the K. Elva Heffley Photograph Album
Women’s varsity basketball was established in 1919.

The first mingling of the sexes on campus was officially sanctioned in 1920. Dances were approved by school authorities.

In 1925, The Snapper was first published.

The Board of Trustees voted not to hire married women as members of the faculty in 1926.
Millersville State Normal School became Millersville State Teachers College with a 4-year program, B.S. in Education.

Four female students were dismissed for smoking in public.
Dr. Landis Tanger appointed president (1929-1943).

Laboratory School built.

The Alma Mater is introduced.
1920s Campus Scenes

Model School, 1922

May Day, 1928

Campus, 1927
President’s House built

1930

Industrial Arts curriculum established.
The Roddy Scientific Society was established in 1931.

Esther Lenhardt organized the Citamard Players in 1932.

In 1933 all employees had an 18% cut in wages.
1938-1941

- Ground was broken in 1938 for Brooks Hall, Wickersham Hall and the Boiler House.
- The first inter-fraternity ball was held in 1938.
- In 1941 the first married woman was hired to be on faculty (since the 1926 decision by the Board of Trustees).
- The Marauder was officially adopted as the school mascot in 1941.
1930s Campus Scenes

- Carl Sandburg on campus, 1933
- Basketball in gym, 1937
- Athletic Field, 1938
- Marching Band, 1937
D. Luke Biemesderfer was appointed president (1943-1965).
1944-1945

- In 1944, the college opened with an enrollment of 159 women and 22 men.

- 1945 saw a big increase in enrollment as returning GIs flocked to college.

- Field Hockey became the second varsity sport for women in 1945.
1949

- Girls Dolphin Club organized.
- State Teachers College conference champions in wrestling.
- First varsity sweetheart crowned.
1940s Campus Scenes

Commencement, 1942
Dorm, 1943
Dance, 1944
Robert Frost on Campus, 1943
In 1953 Lyle Hall, Roddy Hall (dorm) and Lyte Auditorium were dedicated.

The men’s basketball team was State Teachers Conference champions in 1954.

The first meeting of the Alumni Council was held in 1954.
1959

- Name changed to Millersville State College.
- The college is authorized to grant graduate degrees, expand educational curriculum and offer non-education degrees.
1950s Campus Scenes

1956 Freshman

1957 Dance

1950 Baseball Game
The first graduate courses were offered in 1961.

In 1963, the first computer was installed on campus.

The first B.A. degrees were awarded in 1964.
Dr. Robert A. Christie was appointed president (1965-1968).

Faculty Senate and Student Senate were organized.

Social fraternities were approved.
1967

Helen A. Ganser Library opened with book walk.

United Campus Ministry was founded.

Black Students Association (Black Student Union) founded.
William H. Duncan was appointed president (1968-1981).
Moratorium Day peace rally was held to protest war in Vietnam.

**Moratorium Schedule**

8:15-9 a.m.
Interfaith Religious Love Feast
9-12 noon
Student and Faculty Speakers
Folk Singers while classes change
12-2 p.m.
Small group discussion, led by members of the Millersville Moratorium Coalition
2-7 p.m.
Newman Student Association will read the war dead.
During the entire afternoon, students who wish to help canvass Lancaster, will go to Franklin and Marshall in car pools.
7 p.m.
Candlelight procession to Brooks Hall in memory of the war dead.
7:30 p.m.
Speeches on the response of Lancaster citizens by student canvassers. Religious memorial service.
1960s Campus Scenes

Dining Hall, 1965

Martha and the Vandellas on Campus, 1968
1974-1979

- In 1974 a 24-hour visitation was adopted for co-ed dorms. Also, ROTC classes were held on campus.

- Millersville ended a 54-year football jinx by defeating West Chester 17-12 in 1975.

- Sam Bigler was the first Millersville student to appear in the Olympic Games (1976).

- In 1979, the Three Mile Island accident closed the college for a week.
1970s Campus Scenes

Student Life

Demolition of Old Main
The college celebrated in 125th Anniversary.

The Alumni Bell Court, including tower to house the 1875 bell from Old Main was completed.
Dr. Joseph A. Caputo was appointed president (1981-2003).

MEDAL FUND for student scholarships established.
Name of college changed to Millersville University of the State System of Higher Education of Pennsylvania.
President Ronald Reagan made a campaign visit to MU.
MU hot air balloon launched.
1980s Campus Scenes

- Harbold Hall
- Student Life
- Football Game
In 1990 the PA Governor’s School for Teaching was established at Millersville, the only such program in the nation.

MU participated in the third International Human-Powered Submarine races in 1993.

In 1994 the University police received permission to carry firearms. Also, the University began to install a fiber optic network on campus.

MU completed its first capital campaign in 1998, surpassing the $24 million goal by $3.5 million.
2000-2001

- The Holocaust Conference marked its 20th anniversary at MU in 2000.
- In 2001 the Honors College was approved.
2003

Dr. Francine G. McNairy appointed president (2003- ).

Enrollment reached 7861.