Newman Civic Fellow at the ‘Ville

Anyae Broomer, a Millersville junior, has been named a 2015 Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow. Broomer was nominated by Dr. John Anderson, president of Millersville. The award is sponsored by the KPMG Foundation, a private non-operating foundation with a minor commitment to grant making. Broomer was among the 201 students who were honored for this national award.

“Anyae shows great potential for effective and long-term civic engagement by being a shining example of an individual who puts her principles into practice and inspires other students to serve,” said Anderson.

Broomer, a social work major from Willow Grove, Pa., works to improve the academic achievement of at-risk K-12 students in an urban school community. She currently mentors two high school students and participates in three collegiate mentoring programs to encourage academic success and persistence.

“I know that education is vital to breaking the barriers of poverty, therefore the focus of my service work and leadership has been devoted to improving the academic achievement of at-risk K-12 students,” said Broomer. “Through tutoring and mentoring, I’ve been able to help students succeed and strive towards their highest potential.”

During her sophomore year, Broomer provided over 400 hours of direct service to local community partners as a part-time AmeriCorps member. Her service as an academic tutor and mentor inspired her to develop an after-school dance program for middle school children.

Additionally, Broomer is the co-founder of the University’s step dance team, FUSION (For Us Stepping Is Only Natural), which performs throughout the year for campus and community events and raises funds for several nonprofit organizations.

“My experiences as a mentor—along with my campus leadership roles—have helped me develop the skills I need to lead organizations, network, and build lasting relationships with others,” said Broomer. “Using my knowledge and influence to help guide youth down the right path means the world to me.”

The award recognizes student leaders who have displayed their leadership through service, research and advocacy – student leaders who are making the most of their college experiences to better understand themselves, the root causes of social issues and effective mechanisms for creating lasting change.
A Search for Biodiversity; Crayfish to Wood Ducks

Millersville University’s Biological Preserve was the site of the first on-campus BioBlitz on April 16 and 17. The Entomology Club coordinated the event and garnered the technical and taxonomic expertise of biology professors Drs. Jean Boal, Dominique Didier, Aaron Haines, Chris Hardy, John Wallace and Daniel Yocom, and renowned area plant expert Tim Draude of the Muhlenberg Botanical Society.

During this BioBlitz several classes and nearly 100 students and faculty members took part in a search for as many species of plants, fungi, invertebrate and vertebrate animals as could be found in this short one and a half day period. Technology employed in these efforts ranged from invertebrate sampling nets, binoculars and the rubber sole on a standard pair of hiking boots to remote cameras, electrofishing equipment and GPS.

In total, over 230 species were documented for the Preserve. Unique plants found included liverworts, walking ferns, pawpaw, spicebush and hickories. Highlights among invertebrate animals included morning cloak butterflies, green darner dragonflies and the Allegheny crayfish. Vertebrate highlights included red-backed salamanders, greenside darters, flying
squirrels, pileated woodpeckers and wood ducks.

Students entered their findings into the Biological Preserve portal to NatureAtlas.org, recently created by Drs. Chris and Nazli Hardy with former MU student Alex Bonsall. All of these discoveries are now available on for exploration, mapping and download (www.natureatlas.org/preserve/).

Article written by Entomology Club President, Joe Receveur; and Drs. Haines, Hardy and Wallace.

Photos taken by Edwin Sanchez, Joe Receveur and Lindsay Harrison

**MU – First to Adopt LiveSafe**

Millersville University is the first university in Pennsylvania to adopt the campus safety application known as LiveSafe.

“We looked at a number of apps that use technology to increase the awareness and safety of our students,” said University president, Dr. John Anderson. “We chose LiveSafe because of its sophisticated technology – we believe it will have a significant impact on our students.”

“It was largely a student based initiative to bring the app to campus,” said Randi Chrismer, Student Senate President. “Senate saw this as the right choice from our students. It is something that students really want.”
LiveSafe is high-tech, mobile safety tool that can be downloaded on smartphones. The app can be used in a number of different ways including to submit tips and information about unusual activity; it also allows the user’s friends or family to virtually “walk” them to their destination; it will alert safety officials of mental health concerns or a sexual assault and it can track a person’s location during an emergency.

Students using the app can choose whether or not they want to be anonymous and they have the option to add a photo or video when submitting tips and information about suspicious activity.

“We have a very safe campus at Millersville, but we’re always looking at additional tools our students will use to ensure their and others’ safety,” said University police chief, Peter Anders. “We have emergency blue light phones, patrol officers on bikes, the University Police operate a late-night escort service and now we are the first in Pennsylvania to have the LiveSafe app.”

LiveSafe is free for all students as well as for their parents, faculty and staff. It is available for download now from both Google Play and iTunes store. Millersville’s official launch date for the app is July 1, 2015, which is when the University police will begin using the live monitor for tips.

“It’s a great way for our students to look out for one another and to communicate with officers about something that concerns them,” said Anders. “Students really liked the peer to peer GPS SafeWalk feature, and felt the ‘text a tip/start a chat’ was something they would do over phoning the tip in to police.”

LiveSafe was funded by Student Senate and Millersville’s Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Additional information on LiveSafe can be found at http://www.livesafemobile.com/.

**Dr. Jennifer F. Wood — Educator of the Year**

From a colleague’s standpoint, Dr. Jennifer F. Wood, associate professor of Communication & Theatre, is one of the most approachable and helpful people around. From a student’s standpoint, she might be one of the toughest and brutally honest professors, who also helps students build professional confidence. Both standpoints demonstrate that she has proven that she genuinely cares for the people around her since she came to Millersville University in 2004. For her dedication to the University, Wood has been selected as the fourth recipient of the annual “Educator of the Year Award.” She will be acknowledged at the undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 9, 2015.
and she will speak at the 2016 Honors and Awards Convocation.

“Letters of support for Dr. Wood all talked about how she was a tough professor who always expected a lot from her students, but inspired them with her passion for the discipline,” said Dr. Sam Earman, chair of the Educator of the Year Award committee.

“My public relations writing course with her was one of the most challenging courses I’ve taken at Millersville, but I would not be the writer that I am today without it,” said Olivia Miller, a senior speech communication major with an option in public relations.

As a professional communicator, Wood teaches a variety of courses including business and professional communication, organizational communication, public relations writing and public relations campaigns. She works closely with students in her capstone public relations courses by guiding them through a campaign for a nonprofit organization. In addition, Wood trains students to act in professional settings and helps them develop pieces for their portfolio using a fail-forward technique that promotes active learning. Not only that, but she also serves as a personal mentor to students every semester. She advises students on courses, co-ops and internships both within the communications discipline and outside of the discipline.

“Students talked about how Dr. Wood would always go above and beyond with advising and helping them plan their careers,” Earman said.

“Dr. Wood has been my academic advisor for a few years,” said Alexandra Blessing, a junior speech communication major with an option in public relations. “In the short amount of time we’ve known each other, she personally invited me to apply to certain internships and encouraged me to follow my dreams.”

Wood also makes an effort to keep relationships with students well after they finish at Millersville. “As students graduate from the University, I am intentional about attending graduation,” she said. “I keep up with their careers and encourage them to come back to the University. This includes purposefully inviting students to attend our department alumni event and inviting students back to speak in my classes.”

The quote she stands by? “Where you are going to be two to five years from now is based on the books you read and people you associate with.”

Thus, she remains active in her research by writing book reviews that allow her to read multiple books that serve the communication field and help her build curriculum units in her courses. Most recently Dr. Wood has completed book reviews for “Management Revue,” an interdisciplinary European journal; “Management International Review,” a journal focused on international management; “American Communication Journal,” a journal focused on interdisciplinary scholarship on communication; “Technoculture: An Online Journal of Technology in Society;” and “Communication Research Trends.”
The Educator of the Year Award Committee is composed of seven members: Dr. Sam Earman, earth sciences; Dr. Onek Adyanga, history; Dr. Kathy Brabson, early, middle and exceptional education; Dr. Richard Mehrenberg, early, middle and exceptional education; Dr. Lisa House, counseling and human development; undergraduate student Elijah Green; and graduate student Brooke Magni.

Past Award recipients include:

Dr. Susan Luek, psychology: 2010-11
Dr. John Wallace, biology: 2011-12
Dr. Ed Rajaseelan, chemistry: 2012-13

Preparing the Community for a Disaster

The latest MU Weather Watch discusses how the community can be better prepared for a disaster. Senior student meteorologist Morgan Fletcher explains the importance of improving the communication between emergency managers and the public.

The issue features interviews with Dr. Sepi Yalda, meteorology; Dr. Duane Hagelgans, emergency management and Matthew Parker, senior meteorologist at the Savannah River National Lab.

Watch the latest episode at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SL66HFqbnMM.

You can watch previous episodes of MU Weather Watch at www.muweatherwatch.com.

STEM Programs First in State to Get Endorsement

Millersville University’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs are the first of their kind to get approval by the state, according to Pennsylvania’s Department of Education (PDE). The University has two programs approved, one for graduate level students and another for undergraduate students.
Teachers and undergraduate teacher candidates who complete these programs will be able to better prepare their students for the integrative STEM demands. These programs build upon Millersville’s existing math, science, technology and engineering education courses taught by full-time faculty experts.

The STEM programs certify that prospective and practicing teachers possess the knowledge and ability to teach in the STEM area “to inspire the next generation of STEM professionals,” said Dr. Nanette Marcum-Dietrich, associate professor of educational foundations.

The graduate level STEM program was the first in the state to get approved. Dr. Marcum-Dietrich and Dr. Oliver Dreon, associate professors in educational foundations, led the development of the graduate level program.

The graduate level STEM program is offered completely online. The endorsement is available for teachers of all levels and includes accelerated seven week courses totaling 12 credits, or four courses. Credits earned for courses will count toward ACT 48 requirements.

In addition, the undergraduate level integrative STEM (iSTEM) program is currently the only undergraduate level program endorsed by PDE.

Dr. Sharon Brusic, associate professor in Applied Engineering, Safety & Technology and Dr. Jennifer Shettel, associate professor of early, middle and exceptional education led the creation of the undergraduate integrative STEM education endorsement program.

Designed for students studying to be early childhood education teachers, the undergraduate level iSTEM education endorsement program requires students to complete four courses. Unlike the graduate program, the undergraduate program has courses that meet face-to-face. These courses provide hands-on experiential activities and field experiences.

“In addition to the endorsement, we are in the process of proposing a new undergraduate iSTEM Education Methods minor that would require an additional two courses beyond those in the endorsement,” said Jeff Adams, associate provost for academic administration.

“The STEM endorsements were a real labor of love and involved folks from three different departments: Educational Foundations; Early, Middle and Exceptional Education; and Applied Engineering, Safety and Technology,” said Dreon. The entire process took three years to complete.

Other colleges that have STEM endorsement programs for teachers are DeSales University, King’s College and Lebanon Valley College.
Millersville and LIMC Win Governor’s Award

Millersville University and the Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee (LIMC) received the “Governor’s Award for Local Governance Excellence” at the Governor’s reception in Harrisburg on April 15th. The Millersville-LIMC partnership was recognized under the category of “intergovernmental cooperation.”

LIMC is a council of governments established to address municipal challenges and concerns in central Lancaster County. Its main focus centers on facilitating cooperation and coordinating programs and activities among the members. In 2014, LIMC moved its offices to Adams House on Millersville’s campus to cut costs and give students more opportunities through internships and volunteer work. “It is a great honor to receive this intergovernmental cooperation award,” said Dr. Victor DeSantis, Associate Provost for Millersville’s Civic and Community Engagement and Research Project (CCERP). “As a public university, Millersville is strongly committed to partnerships like this one to support communities and improve the quality of life in the region. Having LIMC on campus is a great benefit to our students with respect to internships and joint programs such as the new Municipal Officials/Staff Training Program.”

Since its inception in 2012, the Millersville-LIMC partnership has given students and faculty the opportunity to conduct significant GIS fieldwork, while providing area municipalities with rich data resources. The most notable project has been the “Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Outfall Mapping Project” which was conducted by faculty and students from the geography department. Students located, mapped, and recorded water outfalls – water that runs into a sewer drain – to determine harmful discharges from storm sewers and open pipes. This two-year project allowed LIMC municipalities to gain compliance with EPA regulations while having a significant reduction in costs.

“The LIMC has a champion in the team at MU,” said Amber Green, Manor Township Supervisor and LIMC board member. “Dr. Victor DeSantis helped the LIMC re-shape our mission and provided the LIMC with the ability to integrate students into our respective municipalities. Our joint partnership has pioneered a multitude of successful projects with a student-centered and regional focus. I expect great things to continue out of our partnership.”
MU Students Present at SAM Conference for First Time

For the first time ever, Millersville University business students presented at the recent Student Business Association/Society for the Advancement of Management (SBA/SAM) conference.

The five students from Millersville’s SBA/SAM organization were given a case called “Stuck in the Middle” about 3D Systems, a company that engineers and manufactures 3D printers. The goal was to get 3D Systems in front of the 3D printing boom.

“They had acquired many small companies, but they weren’t making strides to improve their company as a whole,” said Jessica Agger, a senior Millersville student and secretary of SBA/SAM.

The students developed a financial analysis and 3-5 year plan for the company. “Our conclusion was that 3D Systems’ net income was increasing more slowly than usual,” said Agger. “Our plan was to cut down on acquisitions because the company was spread too thinly in too many markets. We also wanted to improve marketing and partner with a nonprofit to increase goodwill and brand recognition.”

In addition to the case study, there were plenty of opportunities for the students to network with other students and professionals. Several speakers gave talks about management topics as well.

“The SAM competition was cool to experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat if I could,” said Agger. “All of our members who went bonded and I feel like we have a special relationship now.”

The conference was held in Las Vegas, March 26-29.
MU at Sony NAB Show

In March, two Millersville University students were invited to attend the annual National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Show, the largest entertainment and multimedia expo in the world, as a part of the “Sony Experience.” John Coleman and Joey Bertoni not only attended the conference held April 13-16, they helped showcase the latest and greatest technology that Sony has to offer.

Last year, Coleman and Jacob Pironi ’14, were the first Millersville students to be invited by Sony Electronics Inc. to attend the NAB show in Las Vegas. They called it “the opportunity of a lifetime.”

This is the second consecutive year that Sony has invited students from Millersville to invite two students to attend the enormous event that annually attracts over 26,000 attendees and nearly 100,000 media and entertainment professionals. After upgrading the University’s TV studio equipment through Sony, the company reached out to invite two more students back to the conference this year.

Coleman, a senior and Bertoni, a junior were nominated to go to the NAB Show by the faculty in the communications department at Millersville.

“It means a great deal that my colleagues think so highly of me,” said Bertoni, who plans to move to Lancaster or Philadelphia after graduation and work in live news production.

“It is a great honor to be chosen to go on the Sony NAB trip,” said Coleman, who wants to work in broadcast engineering after he graduates in May. “It’s awesome to represent the University in a positive light. Millersville is definitely one of the smaller schools at the event, so it’s great to be represented.”

“I took away from the conference a greater understanding of the broadcast technology, and the hardware behind the television operation,” said Coleman, who worked in the Live Production Solutions booth at the show. “In addition, it was great to meet other students and professionals that all share the same interests.”

“It was also cool to meet the other students in the same boat as us and we bonded instantly,” said Bertoni, who worked with the Media Workflow Automation & Managed Services booths. “It was overall an incredible experience.”
The NAB show has established itself as the premiere marketplace for hands-on digital media and entertainment showcases. This year’s show included representatives from Warner Bros, Samsung, CNN, Major League Baseball and Dolby, among many more.

Need to Know

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REORGANIZATION

From Dr. Vilas Prabhu, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs:

In March, I announced to faculty and staff in the Division of Academic Affairs a plan for a reorganization of our academic units. I am now pleased to share this plan for a new Academic Affairs organizational structure with the entire University Community. A transition process is currently underway for the new structure to be in effect as of the new fiscal year, July 1, 2015. Until then, the current structure remains in place.

As Millersville University is now a doctoral-granting institution of higher education, its academic units are better represented as “colleges” rather than by their current label of “schools.” This change aligns us with the majority of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education universities, which have colleges instead of schools as their degree-granting units. In addition, the department changes indicated below reflect a better fit within the new colleges, and give the three affected departments the potential for higher visibility, increased growth and additional opportunities for collaboration within their new colleges. This reorganization within Academic Affairs adds no new administrative positions and is revenue-neutral.

The new Academic Affairs organizational structure will be as follows:

- The School of Education will become the College of Education and Human Services. The Department of Social Work will become the School of Social Work within the new College of Education and Human Services.
- The School of Science and Mathematics will become the College of Science and Technology. The Department of Applied Engineering, Safety and Technology will become part of the new College of Science and Technology.
- The Department of Geography will also become part of the new College.
- The School of Humanities and Social Sciences will become the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.
- The College of Graduate and Professional Studies will become the College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning.

The new organizational structure and realignment of our academic programs better support the mission and vision of Millersville University and Our Bold Path. Academic Affairs administration and staff will work closely with the departments impacted to ensure a smooth transition.
4/30/15 Activities

C3 and Social Studies

**Dr. Joseph Labant**, early, middle and exceptional education and **Dr. Sarah Brooks**, educational foundations, planned the recent Millersville University-Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies Seminar. It was held on March 30 in Stayer Hall.

“The seminar provided an opportunity for pre-service teachers, classroom teachers, school administrators, university professors, and social studies advocates to encounter current trends and issues in social studies education,” explained Labant.

The keynote speakers were Susan Griffin, executive director of the National Council for the Social Studies and Michele Herczog, president of the National Council for the Social Studies. The topic of their co-presentation was the C3 Framework: Guiding Principles and Instructional Shifts. The C3s are becoming the guiding force in designing future social studies instruction.

Focusing on inquiry, the 3Cs are designed to guide classroom instruction, stimulate curiosity, incorporate investigation strategies, include rigorous content, and apply knowledge learned in school to real world situations. The 3C Framework was designed for use in both states that have adopted Common Core Standards and those who have chosen to opt out. In addition to the 3Cs, sessions were held on integrating literacy, religious tolerance, appreciation of diversity, stimulating interest in social studies instruction, and making social studies relevant. This is the third year for the event and the first year to have sessions for both the secondary/middle level and early childhood. There were over 80 participants.

**Faculty/Staff Activities**

**Dr. Mark Atwater**, applied engineering, safety & technology, was the lead author of a paper entitled, “Solid-State Foaming by Oxide Reduction and Expansion: Tailoring the Foam Metal Microstructure in the Cu–CuO System with Oxide Content and Annealing Conditions.” The article was recently published in the journal, “Advanced Engineering Materials.” This article details the effects of processing on the resulting structure of metal foams, and it is a follow-up study to the initial discovery of this process. The work was completed in collaboration with Army researchers.
Dr. M. P. A. Sheaffer, English, sang as an alto ringer in the annual spring concert of the Richmond Hill Sacred Music Chorale in Queens, N.Y., on April 19. The group performed Johannes Brahms’ great German Requiem.

Dr. Mark Snyder, applied engineering, safety & technology, recently co-presented at the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA) Conference in Albuquerque, N.M. with a colleague from Central Connecticut State University. Their peer-reviewed presentation was titled Colorimetric Analysis of Screening Technologies in Digital Printing. Their applied research project investigated potential differences between amplitude modulated and frequency modulated screening of multicolor (CMYK) digital printing samples.

Congratulations to:

Jane N. Case, sociology/anthropology, who married Deric P. Lilly on February 14, 2015 at Millersville University in Biemesderfer Center.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dr. Elizabeth Thyrum, associate professor of psychology.

Q: Where are you originally from?

I grew up outside of Camp Hill, Pa. I graduated from Cumberland Valley High School.

Q: What motivated you to pursue a career in psychology?

I came to Millersville as a history major and was thinking I would either become a curator of a museum or go on to law school. After taking history classes, visiting a law school and speaking with students who were studying at that law school, I realized that path was not for me mainly because I wouldn’t be working with people in the way I had hoped to. Since I enjoyed my high school psychology course and found that I could run experiments well, I decided to major in psychology during my sophomore year. I was pleased with this decision and I enjoyed my psychology courses. I never looked back.

Q: From what school(s) have you earned your degree(s) from?

I graduated from Millersville in 1986. I pursued graduate study at Rutgers University, where I received my master’s in behavioral neuroscience and a doctorate in clinical psychology. I
completed my clinical internship through Brown Medical School and a post-doctorate/research associate position at Duke Medical Center.

**Q: What factors led you to attend Millersville as a student?**

One of my parents had a serious physical illness, so I needed to stay close to home. I was offered a SICO Foundation scholarship that would pay for third of my education. MU also had a newly developed honors program, which I thought would enhance my education.

**Q: Is there a professor from your time who really sticks out in your mind?**

There are too many to name. I am not trying to be polite, it’s true. A few of them still teach here (30 years later!). I am very grateful to the mentoring, encouragement and excellent instruction I received from them. I was just as well prepared as my classmates in my doctoral program, who were from Ivy League schools and other top notch universities, because of their expertise.

**Q: What was your favorite class while a student at Millersville? Why?**

Physiological Psychology. Brain-behavior relationship is so fascinating to me! After I completed physiological psychology at Millersville, I was able to enroll in a more advanced course at Franklin & Marshall during my senior year.

**Q: What is your favorite class to teach at Millersville? Why?**

Right now, I would say it is Directed Projects. This is a course that moves students out of the classroom and into a field experience. It’s wonderful to see students excel, gain invaluable experience, begin to develop into young professionals, represent MU well and obtain job offers at the end of their field experience. This course has allowed me to forge valuable associations with local agencies and facilities that may benefit our students.

**Q: How did it feel when you became a professor at Millersville after graduating from the school yourself?**

When I returned to Millersville to teach, I definitely went through a period of adjustment. During my first year as a professor, I would walk around campus, go into buildings and see faculty who had taught me, which all brought back a flood of memories! I had to build my confidence and constantly remind myself that I am a professional and colleague.

**Q: Is there a specific topic of psychology that you enjoy teaching?**

The Stages of Change Model. It is relevant in two of the courses I regularly teach, Psychology of Drug Addiction and Health Psychology. The model can help us understand how people make changes, either health behaviors like exercise or nutrition or substance use like quitting smoking or changing alcohol consumption. The two psychologists who developed this model each came to our campus to give colloquia. Our students benefitted from hearing them speak and I often refer to their talks when we cover this topic in class.
Q: What are you interested in researching?

My research interests have included understanding craving in addiction, psychosocial adjustment to cardiovascular disease, HIV, cognition and the links between psychological function and physical well-being.

Q: Are there any research projects that you have done in the past or present that you would like to tell us about?

A rewarding research effort was part of a collaboration I established with a Lancaster social service agency that assisted individuals with HIV. My students and I evaluated their clients’ cognitive and emotional function. Our goals were to understand the links between these psychological measures and the progression of their disease. In addition, we were able to assist the agency by assessing individuals for depression, which was incorporated into the services they provided their clients.

Q: How do you want students to remember you?

I would like them to think of me as an advocate and as someone who is fully invested in helping them reach their potential and become well prepared for life after Millersville.

Q: What are your interests outside of work?

One of my interests is playing the flute. For about the last eight years, I have played with Millersville’s Flute Ensemble. I love the beautiful sounds that a group of 15 flutes, alto flutes and base flutes can make.

Q: Do you have a favorite quote?

“Life is good.”

Q: What is something you absolutely need to get through your day?

Music, I always have music playing whether I am in my car or my office. And coffee.

Q: What is your greatest accomplishment?

Being a mother to my two teenage daughters and returning to Millersville to be a faculty member.