Women in Mathematics and Science Conference

What do shampoo, silly putty, ketchup and a commercial flight all have in common? Keynote presenter Dr. Pam Cook will answer this question and more in her presentation during the 27th annual Glenna Hazeltine Women in Mathematics and Science Conference on Tuesday, April 8.

The keynote presentation, titled “Shampoo, Silly Putty, Ketchup and Commercial Flight: My Career and My Family,” will provide an introduction to some unusual behaviors of these fluids, as well as an overview of a career for a woman in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

The Millersville University community and the public are invited to attend the free presentation, which begins at 9 a.m. in the Student Memorial Center Multipurpose Room. Admission to the remaining conference sessions and activities is limited to invited women and girls from local junior and senior high schools. The sessions will feature women professionals from the science and mathematical fields who will share their educational background, professional duties and the benefits they enjoy about their careers.


For more information, contact Dr. Nazli Hardy (Nazli.Hardy@millersville.edu), conference chair, or visit the conference website at http://www.millersville.edu/wmsc/.

Millersville Shares “Musical Moments” with Veterans

In collaboration with the Yamaha Music and Wellness Institute, Millersville University offers piano lessons to veterans at the Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center on Saturday mornings free of charge.

In an effort to reach out to the broader community, the Winter and Ware centers teamed up to bring Yamaha’s “Musical Moments” program to Millersville University. According to the Yamaha Music and Wellness Institute website, the program was created to “integrate creative musical expression with proven biopsychosocial strategies” and help veterans who may be wounded physically or emotionally to tap into their personal creativity.

“All too often there are certain segments of the population that, for one reason or another, are underserved by the arts despite the fact that they would both benefit greatly from arts experiences.
and would enrich the arts by their active involvement,” said Barry Kornhauser, family arts collaborative manager of the Ware Center and Winter Center.

Four Millersville students, team leader Jamie Duca, Sharon Ho, Sarah Newswanger and Lillian Noble, received training from Yamaha’s institute. Class size will be limited to six. The small class size guarantees personal attention to each and every veteran enrolled.

“This program is a chance to bless someone else with the gift of music, which is something that has always been important to me,” said Newswanger, a junior majoring in music.

“It really means a lot to be giving back to such a hard-working and friendly group of people,” said Duca, a senior majoring in music education.

Marge Mower, a veteran who has been enrolled in the “Musical Moments” classes since its inception last semester, reached out to Kornhauser to offer a personal “thank you” for bringing the classes to Millersville.

“Those of us who are participating are having a great experience,” said Mower. “It has been wonderful, and we are searching for more veterans…who may be able to be involved in this opportunity.”

Home to the largest Yamaha piano lab of any college in the country, the Winter Center was deemed a perfect place to host a program like “Musical Moments.”

“It seemed a shame not to take avail of this state-of-the-art facility for the proposed music program,” said Kornhauser.

The classes are offered free of charge through grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Association of Performing Arts Presenters/MetLife Foundation.

For more information or to enroll in the free lessons, contact Barry Kornhauser at Barry.Kornhauser@millersville.edu or 717-871-7812.

**Holocaust Conference**

Resistance will be the overarching theme of the 33rd Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide at Millersville University. The conference, held April 2-4, will commemorate the centenary of the beginning of World War I and the Armenian Genocide, 75 years since the beginning of World War II and the 20th anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide.

“During this year’s conference, we will discuss various forms of resistance to the Holocaust and Genocide: Armed and passive resistance, uprisings in the ghettos and concentration camps, partisan and underground movements, church resistance, aid and rescue of the victims of the Holocaust and Genocide,” said Dr. Victoria Khiterer.
assistant professor of history and conference director.

The conference will open at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2, with the documentary film “Misa’s Fugue” in the Student Memorial Center on campus.

On April 3-4, the conference sessions will take place on Millersville University’s main campus in Bolger Conference Center, located in Gordinier Hall.

Registration of conference participants begins at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 3. Sessions will run from 9:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., followed by the Aristides De Sousa Mendes Lecture at 7 p.m. This year’s keynote speech will be presented by Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan. Gitelman will present on the topic “Rumination, Resignation and Resistance.”

The Holocaust and Genocide Conference will continue on Friday, April 4, from 8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Following Friday’s sessions, a cultural program will be held from 2-4 p.m. in Myers Auditorium, McComsey Hall, and will feature a reading from Barry Kornhauser’s adaptation of the novel “The Devil’s Arithmetic,” performed by MU students. Kornhauser is MU’s family arts collaborative manager.

A special exhibit will also be held during the conference in the McNairy Library and Learning Forum, Room 106. The Blavatnik Archive exhibition will feature “Lives of the Great Patriotic War: The Untold Story of the Soviet Jewish Soldiers in the Red Army During WWII.”

All conference events are free and open to the public. For more information on the 33rd Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide, contact Khiterer at 717-871-5525 or Victoria.Khiterer@millersville.edu. To view the full schedule of events, visit: millersville.edu/hocon/.

2014-15 Room and Board Rates Approved

The Council of Trustees (COT) for Millersville University approved the room and board rates for the 2014-15 school year at their public meeting on March 12. The cost for a room will increase 2.9 percent for an increase of $83 per semester. The increase will generate approximately $219,845 in new revenue. These funds will be used to cover salary and benefit increases, and other program changes and upgrades.

“We tried to keep the increase as low as we possibly could,” explained Roger Bruszewski, vice president of finance and administration, “but, with our fixed costs increasing and flat funding proposed from the state, we had to have a small increase to cover our costs.”

The rate increase for board (19 meal plan) is 2.2 percent for an increase of $43 per semester. Along with other meal plan adjustments, this rate increase will generate approximately $246,194 of new revenue.
The General Fee comprises fees that support services to Millersville University students, as well as cultural, athletic and social programs. The rate increases for the General Fee remain relatively low at 2.8 percent for an increase of $26.50 per semester.

“If you take our room, board and general fees together, the increase is 2.7 percent, or $152.50 more a semester. We are still a very good value when you compare Millersville to other universities,” said Bruszewski.

In addition, the COT approved the annual payment of $5,000 to Blue Rock Regional Fire Company in support of its services on campus and of $3,000 to Lancaster Community Safety Coalition, for its services at the Ware Center.

Emeritus status was approved for Dr. Muhammad Chaudhary, associate professor in computer science from 1984-2013, and for Dr. Alan Kelly, professor of English from 1989-2013.

**Author of “The Butler” at Millersville**

On March 27 Wil Haygood, award-winning Washington Post reporter and author of “The Butler: A Witness to History,” will speak in Lehr Room, Bolger Conference Center in Gordinier Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m. The lecture, titled “The Butler: A Witness to History,” is free and open to the public.

“Wil Haygood's visit, as does his book, provides an opportunity for our students to learn about and understand periods of the American experience that most of them know very little about,” said Dr. Rita Smith Wade-El, psychology professor and director of African American studies. “Mr. Haygood can offer insight on the diversity of experiences and perspectives within the African-American community.”

Haygood, who acted as an associate producer for the motion picture based on his novel “The Butler,” will be delivering this year’s Hazel I. Jackson Lecture. The annual lecture honors Jackson, who was the first African-American instructor at Millersville University and the first female African-American teacher in the School District of Lancaster.

“The Butler: A Witness to History” is one of five non-fiction books that Haygood has written. The journalist was first in his family to attend college. While Haygood was a national and foreign correspondent for the Boston Globe, he was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize. In 2002, he joined the Washington Post as a national writer.

The lecture is sponsored by the NAACP at Millersville, the Black Student Union at Millersville, Black Culture Celebration, the Office of Social Equity and Diversity, the President’s Commission on Cultural Diversity and Academic Theme, Office of the Provost.
Millersville Hosts Mini-THON

Millersville University is gearing up for its first Four Diamond’s Mini-THON, a fundraising initiative benefiting treatment, support and research of childhood cancer at the Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital. The six-hour dance marathon will take place on Friday, March 28, from 6 p.m. until midnight in the Student Memorial Center (SMC), Reighard Multipurpose Room. It is open to University students, faculty and staff. The registration fee is $10 to participate.

“There will be musical performances by campus music groups, dance performances, dance instruction and video game competitions,” said Ben Shoff, Mini-THON co-chair and community service chair of the Honors College Student Association (HCSA). “All involved are to be on their feet the entire time, as a means of taking a stand against childhood cancer.”

HCSA is also collaborating with SMaCtivites for a benefit basketball tournament on Friday afternoon, March 28, in Marauder Courts. Attendees at the game need not attend the Mini-THON and separate registration is required. On March 7, a FOUR Dances for the Kids event featured Zumba. All proceeds from these activities will go directly to the Four Diamonds Fund. The fundraising goal is $5,000 and they have raised $3,500 so far.

According to Chelsey Wirth, president of HCSA and a junior majoring in sociology and psychology, she has experienced “a ton of gratification” in helping to put together Millersville’s first Mini-THON. The plan is to make this an annual event on campus.

“We hope to raise awareness on our campus and to garner support for the fight against pediatric cancer, because most of us, in some way or another, have been affected by stories of childhood cancer,” said Shoff, who is a junior majoring in sociology.

For details about the event and donation links, please visit The Four Diamond's Donor Drive or the MU Mini-THON Facebook page.

Contact Benjamin Shoff at 717-598-7975 or email him at bpshoff@millersville.edu.
A long-standing tradition at Millersville University, the Mr. and Miss Millersville competitions are held annually to help benefit student organizations.

The contests are a way for organizations to have fun and raise money while participating in a friendly competition. MUTV99 hosted the 8th annual Miss Millersville competition on Feb. 26. The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) will host the 6th annual Mr. Millersville competition in April.

Representing the Women’s Rugby Club, Imani Thomas, Miss Rugby, took the crown home and was named Miss Millersville for 2014. Thomas, who beat out 10 other contestant for the title, is a senior majoring in communications with an option in broadcasting.

Mr. & Miss Millersville both include three main sections to the competition: talent, beachwear and a question and answer portion. Competitions are judged on their confidence, creativity and stage presence. The judges for Miss Millersville were MU Alumni Liz Shaw; Miss Millersville 2013, Kerri Anderson; MUTV99 Advisor, Dr. Bill Dorman; and communication & theatre chair, Dr. Thomas Boyle.

Part of each night’s profits goes to the top two winners’ organizations. Each contestant has a labeled box for the audience to donate money that goes directly to the campus organization of his or her choice. At the end of the night, the organization’s box with the most funds wins the title of People’s Choice.

“Miss Millersville is an opportunity for girls from various organizations to interact with other organizations in the form of a friendly competition,” said Amanda Conroy, who organized this year’s Miss Millersville competition. “Millersville always encourages the integration of campus organizations, and Miss Millersville is a perfect way to show that.”
The Mr. Millersville competition will be held on April 8 at 7 p.m. in the Reighard Multipurpose Room at the Student Memorial Center. Mr. Millersville will cost $3 to attend and is open to the public.

**Need to Know**

**Voting Location Change**

If you had planned to “Rock the Vote” during the upcoming 2014 elections and reside in Millersville Borough District 1, be sure to rock in the direction of the Millersville Borough Administration Office. The polling location was moved from Eshleman Elementary School to the administration office by the borough council, as requested by the Lancaster County Board of Elections.

The change in polling location affects both the May 20 primary and the November 4 general elections for 2014. The Millersville Borough Administration Office is located at 100 Municipal Drive.

**Need to Know**

**Microsoft Discontinuing Support of Windows XP**

Microsoft has announced that effective April 8, 2014, they will no longer support Windows XP. This announcement means Microsoft will no longer provide technical assistance or security updates for Windows XP systems.

To ensure continued security of your computer system and the overall Millersville computing environment if your computer is running Windows XP, please contact the IT Help Desk at 717-871-2371 or help@millersville.edu to determine the next steps for your specific situation.

Next steps could include upgrading to Windows 7 or replacing your computer. Through our Microsoft contract, Millersville can upgrade Windows XP computers to Windows 7 at no charge to the departments.
3/20/14 Activities

Here are the faculty and staff activities for March 20, 2014.

Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Dennis Denenberg, professor emeritus, gave a “Hooray for Heroes” all-day workshop at Shreiner Academy in Atlanta, Ga., on Feb. 10. He will also be giving a workshop in Lubbock, Texas, on June 9.

Obituary

Kathryn Borelli, 66, of Mount Joy, died on March 9. She was employed by Millersville University as an administrative assistant for 33 years before her retirement.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dr. Kevin Robinson, assistant professor of mathematics. He has been at Millersville since August 2007.

Q. Why did you come to Millersville?

A. For a number of reasons: having grown up in central Pa., it was like returning home; Millersville’s commitment to excellence in teaching and undergraduate education; and the position and department were a great match to my professional desires.
Q. Tell us why you decided on a career in mathematics and teaching?

A. After studying mathematics as an undergraduate, I studied statistics in graduate school. I began teaching as a graduate assistant and my passion for statistical education was ignited.

Q. Were you always interested in numbers and statistics?

A. I wasn’t exposed to statistics until my second semester in college. However, I always excelled in mathematics and enjoyed logic and number puzzles. I was even in the Mickey Mouse Math Club in elementary school!

Q. Your students say that you make statistics come alive for them. How do you accomplish that?

A. I try to make the classroom an active environment by having an engaging, back and forth teaching style. We also investigate real data, including a class survey, which increases interest for the students. I strive to present statistics as an exciting endeavor that is so much more than just laborious, tedious, rote arithmetic.

Q. What has been your best experience(s) over your years here?

A. I enjoy hearing from graduates who have shown appreciation for what they learned here, while providing updates on their success in graduate school or their chosen career. I also take joy in helping colleagues from other departments with their research or making presentations in their classrooms regarding statistics.

Q. What classes do you teach?

A. Stats, Stats and more Stats … typically three introductory level statistics courses and an upper level statistics course in a semester.

Q. Since mathematics and statistics are difficult subjects for many, do you think students/other people are intimidated by you?

A. Unfortunately, many people are intimidated by math and statistics. I try not to take it personally. I hope students and others find me to be friendly and approachable.

Q. What would you say to someone who says “I can’t do statistics”?

A. It can be a self-fulfilling prophecy. If they go into it with that attitude, they may end up defeated by it. I believe statistics is like a symphony of reading, arithmetic and writing. Like any
symphony, it takes a lot of work and practice. A learning curve is to be expected. However, statistics, like a symphony, is awesome!

Q. What do you do in your free time? Any hobbies? Sports?

A. I’m an avid Pittsburgh sports fan – Steelers, Pirates and Penguins. I also enjoy watching 90s sitcoms (Home Improvement, Full House, etc.) with my wife and two sons (10 and 6 years old).

Q. Do you have any pets?

A. Tropical fish aquariums

Q. What was the last book you read?

A. “What is a p-value anyway? 34 Stories to Help You Actually Understand Statistics,” by Andrew J. Vickers, which I highly recommend as an easy read regarding the big picture ideas of statistics.

Q. What is your favorite food?

A. Pennsylvania Dutch dishes like roast beef, mashed potatoes, corn, noodles and pickled eggs – so I am in the right place!

Q. What’s your favorite place to vacation?

A. I’m still searching, but I enjoy spending a day at Knoebels Amusement Resort and going to Rehoboth Beach with my extended family.