State System News Highlights

Council Rock North graduate named Fulbright Scholar
Wednesday, April 26, 2017
Bloomsburg University senior and Newtown Township resident Alexandra Miller has been named a Fulbright Scholar. The award will pay her travel and housing expenses and also a stipend for Miller to spend during several months of studying and teaching in Argentina, from March until late November 2018.
By Chris English, Bucks County Courier Times

Honors for Mansfield U. graduate
Friday, April 21, 2017
Sayre native Sarah Y. Polinski, a recent graduate of Mansfield University, is the 2017 winner of the Syed R. Ali-Zaidi Award for Academic Excellence from Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education.
By Jeff Murray, The (Elmira, N.Y.) Star-Gazette

MU’s Big Event Serves Community
Monday, April 24, 2017
On Saturday, April 22, 2017, Mansfield University held The Big Event in partnership with Mansfield University’s Student Government Association and Community Service Club. The Big Event is a day-long service project where students, faculty, and staff volunteer their time to give back to the surrounding communities.
By Heather Weiner, Mansfield Home Page.com

And the winner is ... WCU contest encourages entrepreneurs
Sunday, April 23, 2017
In the end, dental hygiene won the night. But not before more than a dozen aspiring entrepreneurs got the chance to publicly present their ideas – ones they hope will become the next big thing – at the Fifth Annual WCU Business Idea Pitch hosted last week by the Dr. Edward Cottrell Entrepreneurial Leadership Center.
By Brian McCullough, The (West Chester) Daily Local News

DNA Tests, and Sometimes Surprising Results
Thursday, April 20, 2017
Race and identity in many ways define who we think we are, while modern genetics can challenge those notions. To delve into these issues, I am involved with a communications studies project at West Chester University in Pennsylvania that explores narratives at the intersection of race and identity.
By Anita Foeman, in The New York Times

MapQuest co-founder urges West Chester to embrace startups
Wednesday, April 19, 2017
Chris Heivly visited his alma mater Wednesday to encourage West Chester University and county business leaders to make the area a hub for startup companies.
By Brian McCullough, The (West Chester) Daily Local News

Top Ram: Fiorentino takes helm as boss of West Chester University
Friday, April 21, 2017
Amid high pomp and circumstance, a very familiar face became the 15th president of West Chester University at inauguration ceremonies Friday. Dr. Christopher Fiorentino's local roots run deep.

By Bill Rettew, The (West Chester) Daily Local News

With enrollment at capacity, new WCU president faces unusual challenge
Thursday, April 20, 2017
Among the 14 schools in the state university system, West Chester is an anomaly, and its new president, Chris Fiorentino, is confronting an unusual problem. “There isn't really anywhere else for us to grow in terms of the campus,” said Fiorentino, who, after 33 years at West Chester, will be inaugurated formally as its 15th president on Friday. “We don't have any more room for residence halls. We're putting the brakes on our ability to continue to grow at this point.”

By John Ryan Barwick, The Philadelphia Inquirer

LHU students meet with Sen. Scarnati
Friday, April 21, 2017
Sen. Joe Scarnati (R-25) met with students from Lock Haven University recently as the students visited the State Capitol to advocate for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) System.

The (Lock Haven) Express

Cal U students, faculty gather during March for Science
Thursday, April 20, 2017
“It's not political.” The words reverberated through some 50 students and faculty members at California University of Pennsylvania's March for Science event on Thursday. The event was held in conjunction with events planned in Washington, D.C., and other cities across the nation on Earth Day, which is Saturday.

By Dillon Carr, The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Wolf steps up anti-date rape campaign
Tuesday, April 18, 2017
Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf joined with lawmakers, college leaders and anti-sexual assault advocates on Tuesday to unveil a proposal to stem the epidemic of sexual assault on college campuses. A key measure is a bill that would require colleges to give amnesty from punishment for unrelated misconduct if students report suspected sexual assaults.

By John Finnerty, CNHI

New report says state-owned universities vital to middle class
Monday, April 24, 2017
Calling the 14 state-owned universities “Pennsylvania's Great Working Class Colleges,” a new report by the Keystone Research Center said an analysis of newly available statistics shows the schools have been a vital stepping stone to the middle class for tens of thousands of students from lower- and lower middle-income families.

By Debra Erdley, The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Georgia's Next Stab at Efficiency
Wednesday, April 19, 2017
After gaining recognition for repeatedly pulling off mergers between its colleges and universities in recent years, the University System of Georgia is turning its scrutiny toward the administrative setup at its campuses and system office. System Chancellor Steve Wrigley announced a new comprehensive administrative review process Tuesday that will have the 28-institution, 321,551-
student system searching for efficiencies and improved processes. The move marks a major
initiative for a new chancellor who took over in January for the retiring Hank Huckaby, who drew
widespread attention for consolidating 14 of Georgia’s colleges and universities into seven since
2011.

By Rick Seltzer, Inside Higher Ed