

NEWSLETTER for the College of Graduate Studies & Adult Learning



MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

As the days grow longer and the air slightly warmer, with flowers on the trees and swans in the pond, it must mean that, once again, the end of the academic year is upon us. In many ways, this past academic year was our first real step away from the disruptions of the Covid pandemic. Even in the dead of winter, we were able to once again gather as a community to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduate students in a fully indoor winter commencement. It was a great pleasure to join the hundreds of graduate and undergraduate students, and their friends and families, to mark the end of one stage of life, as a student, and to begin anew—to “commence”—as alumni of Millersville University! We are once again looking forward to coming together as a community on the evening of May 5, as we celebrate Graduate Studies Commencement in Pucillo Gymnasium.

The spring semester has proven the resilience and ingenuity of our faculty and students. In the College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning, we marked the launch of two new fully online degree-completion programs for adult learning. The Office of Online Programs partnered with the College of Education and Human Services to implement a new degree-completion program in Early Childhood Education, which we envision as a degree pathway for many adult students, including those with an associate degree, those working in early childhood education centers, and paraprofessionals working in school districts around the commonwealth. Online Programs also partnered with the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to implement an online degree-completion program in Public Relations. Millersville now offers 10 fully online degree-completion programs, and we welcome the many adult learners who have chosen to study with us!

A recognition of the effectiveness of online learning is one of the silver linings of the Covid era. Not only are we providing degree-completion pathways for online undergraduate students, but we are expanding the number of master's degrees we now offer fully online. These include new programs in English (both the M.A. and M.Ed.), Language and Literacy, Social Work, Integrated Scientific Applications, Early Childhood Education, and Secondary Certification through the Assessment Curriculum and Teaching program. We are adding new programs every year, and in so doing hope to provide effective and convenient degree pathways for students seeking to earn their master's degree.

As you will see in the pages herein, our graduate faculty and students remain at the cutting edge of their fields. Our students actively present their work at national conferences, supported as always by our dedicated and caring faculty.

Whatever you may be doing this summer—whether you are teaching in a summer institute or taking summer courses, conducting research, traveling or taking some well-earned time off, I wish each of you the best for a wonderful summer season!

James A. Delle, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning
Associate Provost for Academic Administration

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Millersville
University

Congratulations WINTER 2022 GRADUATES





Congratulations

CERTIFICATION & CERTIFICATE GRADUATES

Art Instructional I

Anthony William Harp
Amy Lee Hess
Jennifer Schuck
Joyce Williams

Biology Instructional I

Tyler S. Bridgehouse
Christina D. Clawson

Earth Sciences Instructional I

Curtis Mark Silverwood

Elementary and Secondary School Counselor PreK-12 Education Specialist

Marie Eppler
Emily Grace Forry
Natalie Alexis Hertzog
Wayne David Hooper
Sara Danel Richardson
Emily E. Schriver
Meredith Kaitlin Sefcik
Janeen Y. Selfridge
Brendan John Staudt
Jessica L. Zentner

English Instructional I

Jesse Owen Rice
Kathryn Lynn Shaffer

French Instructional I

Lauren A. Eyler

German Instructional I

Dana Ginder Sick

Gifted Education PreK-12 Endorsement

Ashlie Jean Crosson
Bethany A. Eaton
Roxanna Christine Everly
Stacy Pierce Gasteiger
Hannah Kaptur
Angela L. Tena

Gifted Education Certificate

Hannah Kaptur

Online Instruction Program PreK-12

Katherine E. Krebs
Rebecca Lynn Maryott
Cameron Tyler Murray

PreK-4, Early Childhood Education Instructional I

Madeline Lynette
Bruno Sara
Nicole Herbst
Brittany Kortright
Alina Latshaw
Kristen Bennett
Thomas Rachael
Kathryn Thomas
Ashley Weatherby

Principal K-12 Administrative

Dawn L. Eby
Patrick Corrigan Muench
Amber J. Owen

Reading Specialist Instructional I

Kelli Anne Barron
Heidi L. Melleby
Megan Elizabeth Murphy
Ashleigh Linn Posch

School Guidance Services – Supervisory

Christina Lampo

School Nurse Education Specialist

Lisa M. Andrews
Sandra Lee Dunn
Haley Jane Irvin
Cerissa Anne Kleinfelter
Jennifer Marie Mausser
Christy Marie
Nobile Jillian Seese

School Psychologist Education Specialist

Isabelle Baumgartner
Katlyn Michelle Bennett
Sabrina Eisele
William J. Halko
Georgia Saldana Jones
Madisan J. Mark
Kim Leigh Neptune
Christina M. Powley
Daniela J. Prisco
Elizabeth G. Sager
Carlos Henry Soto
Alyssa Jory Sunday
Danielle M. Taylor
Gabrielle M. Vaxmonsky
Sadie N. Wentland

School Social Worker PreK-12 Education Specialist

Morgan Lea Yoder

Social Studies Instructional I

Brandon Michael Gregor
Ryan James Guidos
Louis J. Vitale
Robert Joseph Wildasin

Spanish Instructional I

Waylon Brown
Lauren A. Eyler
Elizabeth M. Roderick

Special Education 7-12 Instructional I

Andre David Dyer
Emily Wryk

Special Education PreK-8 Instructional I

Brittany Kortright
Ashley Weatherby

Special Education–Supervisory

Jessica Cunningham

STEM PreK – 12 Endorsement

Chelsea Lynne Connelly
Jessica Knoll
Rebecca Lynn Maryott
Mia E. Rowan
Jennifer Lynn Schnabel
Madison Elizabeth Stambaugh





GRADUATE HIGHLIGHTS

DOCTOR OF SOCIAL WORK (DSW) PROGRAM



Linda Timme, a third-year DSW student, presented at the International Conference on virtual EMDR Therapy at EMDR Canada in Montreal. She will also be presenting at the 2023 National DSW Conference on Education and Social Work: Social Workers' Perspective of the Effectiveness of EMDR in Telehealth for PTSD Patients.



Michelle Palmieri, a third-year DSW student, presented on her dissertation topic at the 2023 National DSW Conference on Education and Social Work: *COVID-19 and Mental Health: Exploring the Impact of a Digital Application*.



Kelli Star Fox, a third-year DSW student, presented on her dissertation topic at the 2023 National DSW Conference on Education and Social Work: *Playing well with others: Evaluating an intervention to enhance social work student preparedness for interprofessional collaborative learning*.



Yechiel Benedikt, a first-year student in the Doctor of Social Work program, led a workshop entitled "Building Resources with Individual Clients" at the 81st Annual Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama Conference at Fordham University in New York, N.Y., on March 29–April 2, 2023.

WEHRHEIM SCHOOL OF NURSING



Elizebeth (Liz) Edmister is a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) student in the Wehrheim School of Nursing at Millersville University. During a clinical rotation doing street medicine, Liz was astonished at how many people suffered from dental disease or complaints associated with their teeth. This is not only a central Pennsylvania (PA) problem, but the WHO Global Oral Health

Status Report (2022) estimated that oral diseases affect close to 3.5 billion people worldwide. Due to the lack of dental care, many people present to the emergency department (ED) to have their dental needs addressed. Ms. Edmister teamed with the director of the Community Health Initiative through UPMC Central PA and many local dentists, with a goal of aiding the uninsured and the underinsured population in central PA. This group is working to propose a general dental residency for UPMC Central PA. Liz completed a needs assessment and realized that 1,238 patients presented to one of the seven EDs within a six-month period. It is estimated that a 10% decrease in the busiest urban hospital ED volume for dental complaints could occur with a general dental residency. Liz presented her needs assessment for the possible implementation of the dental residency to the UPMC Central PA Administration, who accepted the proposal. A formal business pro forma plan is now in the works, along with the application process to obtain Commission of Dental Accreditation (CODA) residency, which could take upwards of 12-18 months. Ms. Edmister presented her graduate poster at the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) conference in Philadelphia, Pa., on March 23 and 24, 2023. Congratulations, Liz!

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

M.ED. LEADERSHIP FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



Melinda Vazquez-Markley

Patrick Muench

Congratulations to Melinda Vazquez-Markley and Patrick Muench for becoming permanent principals at Ross Elementary and Washington Elementary. Mrs. Vazquez-Markley, who will become principal of Ross Elementary, was a longtime learning support teacher and, later, an exceptional student specialist, all at the elementary level and all in the School District of Lancaster (SDoL). Mr. Muench, of Washington Elementary, was an elementary teacher for four years, including three at Lafayette Elementary in the SDoL, as well as a sixth-grade science teacher at Reynolds Middle School for three years. Both are former principal residents, a program that prepares aspiring SDoL leaders to become administrators through practical leadership experiences in district schools and master's-level coursework through the Teaching and Learning M.Ed. program at Millersville University.

M.A. HISTORY



Meagan Schulman

Meagan Schulman, a recent graduate of the M.A. History program at Millersville, is now the collections coordinator at the Lancaster Medical Heritage Museum and was recently featured in a story on WGAL Channel 8 News.

ED.D. EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP



Dr. Camille Hopkins

Dr. Camille Hopkins, Director of Schools, School District of Lancaster.

"Parent and Central Office Administrator Perceptions of Family Engagement in an Urban School District"

M.S. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (MSEM)



Adam Roser, MSEM '21

California was greatly affected by atmospheric rivers earlier this year. As a result of the impacts of the extreme rainfall affecting the state, the California State Operations Center (SOC) was established. Adam Roser (MSEM '21) with the National Weather Service Forecast Office in San Diego was deployed to the SOC and worked with a diverse group of partners at the state level to determine how resources from the local, state and federal levels would be organized. Adam also worked with various decision makers regarding weather situations including tornado warnings and coordinated with colleagues at local weather offices.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Dr. Charlton Wolfgang presented the research he and his colleague and coresearcher, Dr. Dan Snyderman, conducted on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on gifted education at state, national and international

conferences in fall 2022. He presented at the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) Conference in The Hague, Netherlands, in September; the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (PAGE) annual conference at the Kalahari Resort in October (with Dr. Snyderman); and at the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Annual Convention in Indianapolis in November (with Dr. Keri Guilbault, his coresearcher from Johns Hopkins). He also served as a conference exhibitor for Millersville's graduate gifted education programs at the PAGE and NAGC conferences. Dr. Wolfgang was honored to be the recipient of the Neuber-Pregler Award at the 2022 PAGE Conference, which is awarded annually to the individual or individuals who have most contributed to gifted education and gifted advocacy in Pennsylvania. Goals for 2023 include continuing to expand the reach of the programs nationwide and strengthening partnerships with local and regional institutions and programs to add additional value to students' experiences.



Dr. Charles Barrett released a new book titled *Social Justice in Schools: A Framework for Equity in Education*. Dr. Barrett also presented two symposiums ("*Working Together: Strategic Interconnected Implementation of*

the NASP Exposure Project" and "*When Adults Listen, Children Speak: Student Voice and Equitable Outcomes*") and led a workshop entitled "The Proof Is in Practice: Advancing Equity for English Learners" at the Annual Convention of the National Association of School Psychologists in Denver, Colorado, on February 7-10, 2023.



Dr. Oliver Dreon is a professor in the Educational Foundations department at Millersville University and serves as the program coordinator of the Master's in Education program in Assessment,

Curriculum and Teaching. At the doctoral level, Dr. Dreon teaches the Emergent Technology and Innovative Practices course. In addition, he has served on several dissertation committees and has chaired 11 successful dissertations. At the graduate level, he has taught courses including ACTE 630: Current Technology for Online Teaching, ACTE 632: Online Learning Environments, ACTE 635: Online/Hybrid/Customized Learning, and ACTE 699: Inquiry for Teaching and Learning. At the undergraduate level, Dr. Dreon has taught numerous courses, including EDFN 211: Social Foundations of Education, EDFN 320: Instructional Technology for Elementary Education, and EDFN 330: Instructional Technology, Design and Assessment.

Dr. Dreon was drawn to his academic and professional path due to always having an interest in learning. He states, "I have been fortunate to find a career where I get paid to wonder professionally." Dr. Dreon followed this passion by first earning his B.S. in Physics and his Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of Pittsburgh. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Penn State University. Dr. Dreon worked as a high school physics teacher prior to coming to Millersville University, with this being his 16th year at MU. Dr. Dreon's main research focus is centered around how technology can broadly support teaching and learning. Beyond this research focus, Dr. Dreon has also studied educator ethics in teacher education. He coauthored the book *The Power of Blended Learning in the Sciences*, authored the research article "Technology Competencies of Field-Based Teacher Educators" and has conducted conference presentations on designing an intentional ethics curriculum for preservice teachers and developing a community of practice for supporting faculty mentoring. Outside of Millersville, Dr. Dreon lives with his wife and two children in the Hummelstown area.

"Everyone must leave something behind when he dies, my grandfather said. A child or a book or a painting or a house or a wall built or a pair of shoes made. Or a garden planted. Something your hand touched some way, so your soul has somewhere to go when you die, and when people look at that tree or that flower you planted, you're there. It doesn't matter what you do, he said, so long as you change something from the way it was before you touched it into something that's like you after you take your hands away. The difference between the man who just cuts lawns, and a real gardener is in the touching, he said. The lawn-cutter might just as well not have been there at all; the gardener will be there a lifetime."

The previous passage is from *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, one of Dr. Dreon's favorite books, which he states "captures how I see my role as a teacher."



Deborah Tamakloe is an associate professor of special education at Millersville University and will now serve as the Graduate Coordinator for the Millersville Special Education program. Her research focuses on the areas of

assistive technology, international special education and pre-/in-service teacher preparation. Tamakloe has more than 20 years of teaching experience, including graduate and undergraduate special education courses and K-12 inclusive education in Ghana. She also serves as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for abused and neglected children in Lancaster County.

FEATURES



ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

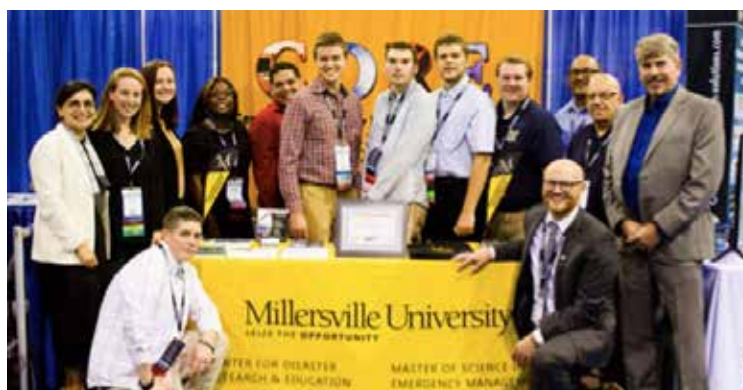
Millersville's College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning recently entered into an agreement with Academic Partnerships with the goal of boosting enrollments for online graduate programs. Academic Partnerships is an online program management group focused on facilitating the goal of scalable online program growth for University partners while supporting the success of their students.

Academic Partnerships will be working with our MSN, MS in Emergency Management, and MS in Integrated Scientific Applications graduate programs to create accelerated online program formats and expand the program reach to bring in additional students. They will assist CGSAL with marketing and recruiting students for the selected graduate programs as well as assist Millersville students during their time in those programs. Academic Partnerships will begin marketing and recruitment efforts towards the end of the spring semester to increase fall enrollments.



GIFTED EDUCATION GRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATES

Fall 2022 was a busy semester for the M.Ed. in Gifted Education, Graduate Certificate in Gifted Education, and Gifted Endorsement programs. Building on the #1 ranking of our M.Ed. in Gifted Education by [intelligent.com](https://www.intelligent.com) last year, the M.Ed. in Gifted Education was once again ranked #1 for 2023: <https://www.intelligent.com/best-masters-in-gifted-and-talented-education-degree-programs/>.



Group of current MSEM students, alumni and faculty at the MSEM/CDRE booth in the exhibit hall.

MSEM PROGRAM

In November 2022, MSEM students, alumni and faculty attended the 2022 International Association of Emergency Managers Conference and Expo in Savannah, Ga. Professor Hagelgans served as the overall conference chair. Drs. Yalda and Clark presented an invited talk titled "The Nexus of Meteorology and Emergency Management." In addition, Dr. Clark presented an invited keynote titled "Convergence Frameworks Demand Partnerships: How the AMS and IAEM Partner to Address Weather, Water, and Climate Hazards."

Millersville University's Student Chapter of the International Association of Emergency Managers, which has both undergraduate and graduate student members, was selected as the student chapter of the year at the 2022 IAEM conference. This was the fourth time that the chapter has

been recognized as the chapter of the year among all the chapters in the country.

MSEM program was named one of the best emergency management programs in the country by OnlineMasters.com. OnlineMasters.com identifies the top programs in the nation based on curriculum quality, program flexibility, affordability and graduate outcomes. In addition to insights gained from industry professionals, OnlineMasters.com used an exclusive data set comprised of interviews and surveys from current students and alumni. The methodology incorporates the most recent data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and statistical data from the National Center for Education Statistics. Just 8% of U.S. postsecondary institutions earned a ranking position.

FEATURES

NEW ONLINE UNDERGRAD PROGRAMS

CGSAL recently launched two new online degree-completion programs. The [B.S.E. in Early Childhood Education](#) and the [B.S. in Communication with an option in Public Relations](#) will both be available online for the Fall 2023 semester. Interested students can apply online at <https://applygrad.millersville.edu/apply/>.



The College of Graduate Studies and Adult Learning is pleased to partner with departments across campus to offer Summer Institutes for Education Professionals. Summer institutes are three-credit, graduate-level course offerings conducted in an intensive one-week format that can be applied to certain graduate programs offered at Millersville.

These institutes offer 90 hours of Act 48 credits that can be applied to a teacher's continuing education requirements and feature quality instruction, knowledgeable speakers, and strategies teachers can take back to their classrooms. Several institutes are also appropriate for social workers, school counselors and others who work with children, families and communities.

Our first institutes for summer 2023 are planned for the week of June 12–June 16, and we wrap up our offerings in early August. Some institutes meet in person, and others are offered in an online format.

AENG 586 Problem-Based Learning participants will use hands-on activities to solve real-world problems using creativity and critical thinking, gaining insight on how to engage their students in meaningful learning.

EDUC 588/EDFN 589 Culturally Relevant Teaching will empower teachers to understand different perspectives, appreciate each student's strengths and build empathy in the classroom. One section (EDUC 588) will be offered for preK and elementary; a second (EDFN 589) will be tailored for those working in middle and high schools.

EDLD 681 Inclusion for School Leaders is the first course in a series of three designed to provide targeted professional development for current school administrators in their leadership role with the IEP process at their schools.

SOWK 641 Expressive Arts students will learn how equine-assisted therapies, music, mindfulness and movement can be used to respond to individual, group and community trauma. This institute includes an outdoor component in a barn setting, where students will work with horses and other animals.

A few other topics slated for 2023: ESL Institute, Micro-Residency for Art Educators, Coding for Educators, Trauma Institute, and Rocket Teacher Certification. Interested in learning more or ready to register? For more details, including the full list of institutes planned for 2023 and information about registration, please visit the Summer Institutes webpage:

<https://www.millersville.edu/admissions/graduate/programs/educators/institutes/index.php>.



MORE INFORMATION

Visit us at Lyle Hall, 2nd Floor (205), or email for more information about . . .

- **Graduate Admission:**
graduate.admissions@millersville.edu
- **Current Graduate Assistance:**
goffasst@millersville.edu
- **Adult Learning:**
adultlearning@millersville.edu

SAVE THE DATE:

CERTIFICATE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Friday, May 5, 2023



Millersville University

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
& ADULT LEARNING

P 717-871-4723 **W** millersville.edu/admissions/graduate

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