

Millersville University

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

April
2023

Dear Millersville University Community,

As we approach the end of this academic year, I am thrilled by the energy and enthusiasm on our campus. Our campus grounds look resplendent and beautiful, and I can't seem to get across campus without posing for a graduation picture with one or more of our students around the pond or in front of Tanger House. I enjoy these moments with students because it contributes to their commencement memories at the 'Ville.

I am mindful of all that we have accomplished together this academic year in support of our students. Their success remains at the core of our mission and is the common purpose of all our work. Celebrating their success over the past couple of weeks has been a joy at events such as the Rainbow Celebration, the Graduating Students of Color Recognition Event, the Honors College Banquet and the Student Leadership Awards.

As we look forward to a weekend of four commencement ceremonies on May 5th and 6th, I am excited to celebrate the culmination of years of work by our students. When our students walk across the stage this week, it will be because of their grit and perseverance and the dedication of our faculty and staff, who helped to make it possible. I am looking forward to celebrating with all of you.

This month's newsletter highlights a set of initiatives that are pushing the envelope and fostering innovation on campus. From a new public-private partnership with Lampire Biological Laboratories through a new "four-legged" campus colleague to a unique opportunity to recognize outstanding efforts by our colleagues, we continue to adapt and change. We also showcase recent developments in our Entrepreneur Leadership Center and the accomplishments of our spring athletic teams.

In closing, I want to invite all employees to the end-of-year barbeque at the 'Ville Courts on May 11, 2023, from noon to 3 p.m.

Until then, stay safe and be well.

INCUBATOR WILL BRING JOBS TO MILLERSVILLE STUDENTS/ALUMS

Millersville University and [Lampire Biological Laboratories](#) have signed an agreement for a Life Science incubator on Millersville's campus to give students hands-on industry experience in the laboratory and access to jobs and internships. A ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the partnership was held on Friday, March 31, in Caputo Hall on Millersville's campus.



Lampire is a privately held international biotech life science company that produces biological reagents used in the diagnostic and pharmaceutical industries. In addition, the company is active in the community, supporting life science education programs and workforce development at both the local and state level.

We are pleased to partner with Lampire Biological Laboratories on this first-of-its-kind partnership that will give our students fabulous opportunities to assist with real-life projects in the lab and also lead to jobs for our students and alumni. Since our first meeting with Lampire, this partnership reflects our EPPIIC values and mission, notably Exploration and Public Mission.

Dr. Donna Cartledge-Wolf and her lab technicians are already working in a dedicated lab on campus. Two students have been selected as interns to assist with Lampire's work.

"At Lampire, we believe collaboration is key in the life sciences industry, and our partnership with Millersville University is a prime example," said Gregory F. Krug, President of Lampire Biological Laboratories. "We are excited to work with the talented faculty, staff and students at Millersville to foster the next generation of scientists and advance the industry."

There will also be opportunities for Millersville's biology, chemistry and biochemistry faculty to collaborate with Lampire scientists on education programming, such as guest lectures, site visits and colloquium talks.

The Economic Development Company of Lancaster and Lisa Riggs were instrumental in bringing Millersville University and Lampire together. The University was chosen for the partnership because of its location and access to the student and alums workforce.

"From our first meeting last fall, it was clear to me and our faculty that the Lampire Leadership team could be a special partnership that creates incredible educational opportunities for MU students," says Dr. Marc Harris, dean of the College of Science and Technology at Millersville. "Lampire has a core value of generational educational development in life sciences, which resonates with their team."

At least one Lampire employee is knowledgeable about Millersville's campus. Their Vice President of Operations and Quality, Gary Klinger, is a '96 alum of the biology department at Millersville.

"As an alumnus of Millersville University, I am extremely proud of the partnership between Lampire Biological Laboratories and my alma mater," says Klinger. "This collaboration presents a unique opportunity for us to combine our industry expertise with the cutting-edge research and development happening at the University. I am excited to see how this partnership will drive innovation and make a positive impact in the scientific community."

UPDATES FROM THE ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP CENTER

The Entrepreneurial Leadership Center has some exciting updates, starting with the appointment of a new director.



Dr. Jennifer Jester, assistant professor in the music department and former interim director of the center, was recommended by the Entrepreneur Curriculum Committee for a 3-year term as the director of the ELC and the coordinator of the entrepreneurship minor at the University.

Jester has much experience in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial education. She was appointed as a fellow with the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership Center and previously served as Director of the ELC from 2011 to 2013 after being appointed by Dr. Francine McNairy and Dr. Melvin Allen.

Jester helped build the program, facilitated the creation of the website, coordinated graduate assistants and student workers, and worked with committees to propose the Entrepreneurship Minor. Additionally, Jester has experience after many years of continuing entrepreneurial research and as an entrepreneur herself and has spoken at women's entrepreneurship panels and served on business innovation panels.

In other entrepreneurship news, Kaletha Henry visited the University this spring semester to meet in one-on-one mentoring sessions with our students and visit classes. Henry owns and directs her business, Go Global Be Local, a marketing and public relations firm for tourism providers. She met with students taking ENTR 201 Art of Entrepreneurship, ENTR 510 Promotion and Branding and MUSI 290 Music Industry 2 to share her experiences and expertise as a woman business owner and working within the public relations industry.

On March 23, 37 University students were featured in the MU 60-Second Pitch competition. From this competition, eight student finalists participated in the MU Shark Tank Competition earlier this month.

Lastly, entrepreneur student Autumn Schmoel was a finalist in the PASSHE State System Startup Challenge, which Jester shares as a huge success. The challenge includes students from each of the PASSHE schools who compete to share their best business ideas.

MUPD RECEIVES FIRST-EVER TRAUMA DOG

Our police department recently received a trauma dog, the first trauma dog for a PASSHE institution. Officer Ivan Gonzalez and "Brooks" got off to a quick start at our admitted student day on April 1 in the Student Memorial Center. Brooks was a big hit with current students, incoming students and parents and other staff attending.

Mount Joy breeder Karen Weatherbie donated the litter of three females and three males, born Oct.18, to the Elizabethtown nonprofit Alpha Pack K9s LLC. Sabina Mattern, Alpha Pack president, reached out to public safety agencies in central Pennsylvania to offer the trauma dog program. These aren't your typical K-9. Instead of sniffing for illicit substances, locating missing people, or protecting their officers, these dogs will be trained to offer emotional support to officers and citizens.

Trauma-trained dogs are different from therapy dogs which provide comfort to people in hospitals, schools and nursing homes, or service dogs, which help people with disabilities. Trauma dogs help victims

of crime feel emotionally supported and safe, plus they help bridge the gap between law enforcement and the communities they serve.



"Several community members have been informed of the trauma dog and have expressed enthusiasm and zeal! I hope that the community can be involved in the dog's life as much as the dog will be involved in the community," says Gonzalez.

The puppy that MUPD received is the largest of a litter of six golden retriever pups and is the most relaxed out of all his siblings. He has a long lineage of service dogs in his bloodline and has been bred to be an ideal trauma dog. Whenever the dog is not at work, he will be kept at home with Gonzalez.

"He's a true addition to our family. At work, Brooks will be at either the station or inside of a specially outfitted police cruiser," says Gonzalez.

The dog will assist in crisis responses. Dogs are used directly after a traumatic event to reduce stress and anxiety. However, they are also helpful for the police officers who come into contact with the dog daily and as a general moral boost for the community. His work will consist of demonstrating affection while exercising restraint. This ability to engage with any person is vital to producing friendships in fast, dynamic situations.

"The officers are thrilled to have a dog at the station! Many of the officers are dog enthusiasts and have already communicated that the atmosphere at work will be more enjoyable with a loving, therapeutic dog present," says Gonzalez.

The MU community was able to name our new police dog. Through a poll on the [Millersville University Instagram](#) page, faculty, staff and students could choose from Cooper and Brooks. Brooks ended up winning by a slim margin.

"It's a great way to incorporate the University both as a long-standing institution and as its present community," says Gonzalez.

The campus community can expect to see Gonzalez and Brooks in the SMC, Quad, spring athletic games and other MUPD events like Cornhole with the Cops in the Quad.

NEW MONTHLY EPPiIC AWARDS ANNOUNCED

At Millersville, we use our EPPiIC values as our compass to guide our decision-making and actions. At last fall's State-of-the-Ville, we started a new tradition of presenting our EPPiIC Value Awards. As promised, we are extending this initiative with a new monthly employee recognition program. [Skully's Circle](#) will recognize those in our campus community who demonstrate the University's EPPiIC Values, a positive demeanor and a commitment to the University's mission.

Wendy Bowersox, Employee Engagement Specialist at the University, explains that the monthly awards are another way to recognize employees for their hard work.



"While the annual EPPIC Value Award program is designed to recognize employees who consistently demonstrate their commitment to our values, Skully's Circle provides our community an opportunity to commend an everyday action they witness from a faculty or staff member," says Bowersox.

The Skully's Circle program focuses explicitly on work performance, customer service, attitude and commitment, interpersonal skills, and furthering Millersville University's mission and vision. When nominating an employee, submitters should provide specific examples of their nominee's excellence in these areas.

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to nominate active full-time, part-time or temporarily employed faculty or staff members. The HR Advisory Panel will select recipients.

Nominations are accepted by the 15th of each month and will be considered for the following three months after submission.

Recipients will receive a certificate and a blanket with the Skully's Circle logo and will be celebrated via 'Ville Daily, the Millersville University webpage and through the President's Update emails and other web communication.

"We wanted to give our community a voice to share the little but mighty actions of our faculty and staff that make MU a great place to work, live and learn!" Bowersox concludes.

For more information about the Skully's Circle nomination process and timeline, [click here](#).

NEW COUNCIL TO HELP PARENTS ACCLIMATE PARENTS TO COLLEGE



Millersville University has formed a group of MU family members this semester designed to orient new parents and support current parents called the Parents Council. The members committed to sharing their time, knowledge, and expertise as the parent's journey alongside their students during their time at the University.

Faculty and staff members were chosen based on their participation in the forums Dr. Mary Beth Williams, vice president of Student Affairs, held in the fall for faculty and staff members with dependents attending the University. Beginning this spring, other parents will apply to serve on the council via an application/selection process.

"I think it is unique because we have MU employees on the council who are also parents and can give a unique perspective on the journey of a parent at Millersville working with parents who are entirely new to

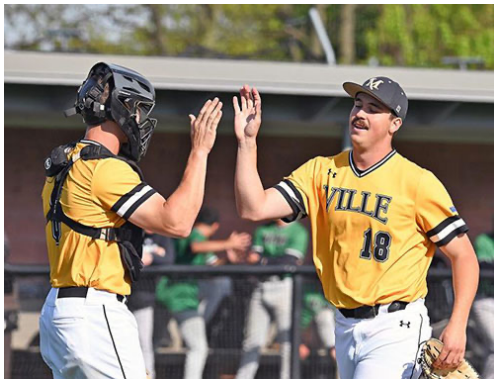
the Millersville Community," says Williams.

The council consists of five faculty and staff members with children currently enrolled at MU and six other parents with enrolled children. The group is now designing a new Parents Orientation that will run in tandem with the Student Orientation this summer.

The next task is redesigning Fall Family Weekend. Additionally, the council will serve in an advisory capacity for the [Parents Portal](#) and will work on redesigning and expanding the webpage for parents on the [MU Website](#).

PSAC PLAY CONTINUES

We are entering championship season for our Millersville spring sports, and our teams are working hard to bring trophies back to campus. Our Marauder baseball team, defending PSAC Champions, is currently ranked in the top 10 in the nation and first place in the PSAC East, playing for its fourth-straight division championship! The team's pitching staff ranks No. 1 in the NCAA Division II in ERA and several additional categories. This year's PSAC Championship series is held at Slippery Rock on May 10-13.



Speaking of defending champions, the women's outdoor track and field team is gearing up to repeat as PSAC Champions. Earlier in April, the team won the Millersville Metrics in record-setting fashion and have their sights set on the conference championships at Slippery Rock from May 11-13. Several Marauders rank among the PSAC's top performers, including Aubrey Sydnor (400-meter dash), De'Asia Holloman (100-meter hurdles), Darian Hauf (pole vault) and Hannah Woelfling (throws).

I congratulate the men's and women's tennis teams and coach Matt Helsel for recently concluding outstanding seasons. Millersville was the only school in the PSAC to have both the men's and women's teams reach the PSAC Semifinals, and our Marauders have performed that feat three seasons in a row!

Good luck to the women's golf team as it competes in the PSAC Championship in Kutztown from April 28-30. The team has already won three invitationals in 2022-23 and has finished first or second in all five of its spring invitationals. Millersville Athletics will host the top 20 teams in the Atlantic and East regions at the NCAA Super Regional at Iron Valley Golf Club in Lebanon from May 11-13.

Millersville Athletics also deserves a special shout-out for hosting a successful Make-A-Wish reveal for Olivia Neupauer on April 1. Olivia, who spent her childhood battling kidney disease, is the daughter of a former football player and alum Andy Neupauer '05. Our student-athletes spent last year raising \$5,000 for Make-A-Wish. More than 400 student-athletes supported Olivia and her family at Biemesderfer Stadium. They made her day on campus one to remember as the student-athletes revealed her dream of going to Disney World was coming true. Thank you to our student-athletes who have dedicated themselves to positively impacting the lives of those in our community.