

Millersville University

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Sept.
2022

Dear Campus Community,

The fall semester appears to be proceeding faster than one can imagine. As we complete the sixth week of classes, our campus is brimming with activity. The pond is back to its previous glory and the wildlife are gradually getting used to their restored habitat. I am thrilled to see our students spending time on nice and sunny afternoons around the pond while Miller and S'Ville control their domain with elegance.

We were blessed with a beautiful and sunny day for our State of the 'Ville and the Garden Supper that evening was filled with delectable food and drinks from our Dining Services and Catering staff. The highlight of the day was the presentation of our inaugural [EPPIIC Value Awards](#) to eight exemplary employees who contributed to making our University such a special place. Congratulations again to all the nominees for this year's awards. If you couldn't join us, you can watch the [State of the 'Ville video or read the text of my speech here](#). Many thanks to our community members who made this a memorable event.

As some may recall, my first Listening Tour in 2018 included meetings with over 75 constituent groups composed of faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends. As I embark on my fifth year at Millersville University, I am committed to the continued thriving of our community and hearing directly from you about our future together. Therefore, I am excited to announce my Listening Tour 2.0 for the 2022-23 academic year. My office is currently scheduling visits for this year, and I plan to meet with about 35 groups of faculty, staff and students. Last week, I kicked off the tour with a visit to the McNairy Library faculty and staff. A new website for [Listening Tour 2.0](#) has been launched and I look forward to meeting with our community members in the coming weeks.

The articles in this month's newsletter include a faculty-student recycling project that was presented during last Spring's Made-in-Millersville event. Other articles focus on our new Hunger-Free Campus designation, a recent campus visit by a Ghanaian business delegation, and our new dining options on campus, which include a return of the faculty/staff dining room. Finally, you can read more about a number of twins who have recently joined our student body.

I look forward to seeing you on campus at one of our many athletic games and matches, performances, or other special events.

RECYCLING PLASTIC IN A MEANINGFUL WAY

It takes a lot of coordination, smarts and a rather large shredder to take post-consumer plastic, like plastic water or soda bottles, and repurpose them into something more permanent. But that's exactly what's happening at Millersville University.

The students bring in their own plastic waste to be sorted, cleaned, shredded and turned into something different within [Applied Engineering, Safety & Technology](#). Students then take the plastic waste, sort it by type and color, clean and wash it, shred it, and put it through any number of machines and processes to make something useful.

The recycling process was presented to Millersville's Council of Trustees at their Sept. 21 meeting. Millersville students Lauren Coca and Jackson Harral presented with Dr. Dominick Manusos at the meeting.

The impetus behind the recycling project was to give the students an authentic experience in plastics recycling. Dr. Manusos applied for and received a \$2,500 [Positive Energy Fund grant](#) from the University to purchase materials to build an extruder, an injection molder, and to upgrade an existing plastics shredder. This will allow the department to scale up its capacity as the MU Sustainability Club scales up its collection.

Manusos says the students will get to decide what they will make from recycled plastic this semester. It could be Millersville keychains or maybe Millersville branded coasters. He says they hope to sell the products at the bookstore on campus. Another thing they've considered is selling shredded plastic by the pound.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS WITH GHANA

Business leaders from Ghana and the Lancaster area met on our campus on Sept. 15 as part of a regional business-to-business expo.

Florence Hart, president of the U.S.-Ghana Chamber of Commerce, organized the business-to-business expo for about 50 Ghanaian companies in Philadelphia on Sept. 16. The companies, accompanied by six senior delegates from the Ghana government, including two ministers, were in the Lancaster area for a half-day visit.

Millersville University hosted the delegation in the morning on campus with a breakfast and networking event. Our community partners, including the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Economic Development Corporation and Discover Lancaster, coordinated the visit and arranged for a tour at Case New Holland.

In addition to the networking event and information exchange, our faculty and students were invited to attend a panel discussion from trade professionals on international business and trade opportunities.

The Government of Ghana is looking for strategic partnerships in several industries, including Petro-Chemical, Agro-processing and supplies for the newly established Auto production firms in Ghana.

TWINS AT THE 'VILLE

Cory and Jacob Engle are twins from Shillington, Pa, in Berks County. They started at Millersville this fall as applied engineering majors with a concentration in advanced manufacturing. They room together and also hope to start a club to pole vault. The Engle twins say they're excited about the engineering club where you build a Baja Buggy and get to race it. They came to Millersville because it had everything they were looking for - except pole vaulting.

Owen and Patrick Hoffman are another set of twins at Millersville this fall. The pair from Atglen, Pennsylvania, are both undeclared at this time. The Hoffman's said they always planned to go to the same college, although their parents drew the line at the two rooming together. Owen says he plans to join clubs since he enjoys doing new things and talking to people. He's also a music lover and likes to make his own music and play basketball. Patrick also loves basketball and wants to try out for Millersville's team. He's excited about the food, too.

MU FIGHTS FOOD INSECURITY

Millersville University is taking multiple steps to fight food insecurity on its campus, and here are just a few.

Pennsylvania's First Lady Frances Wolf and Acting Secretary of Education Eric Hagarty visited the University on Aug. 4 to announce the [Hunger-Free Campus Initiative](#). This grant program is designed to help students at risk of hunger access free, healthy food on college campuses across Pennsylvania. The University was recently given the Hunger-Free Campus designation, ensuring our status as a member of the initiative dedicated to helping our students.

Under new director Jacob Marino, the HUB continues to serve free lunches every Tuesday and Thursday and French toast every Friday night. Free "grab & go" breakfast items and snacks can be found in the lobby. The HUB also runs the Campus Cupboard, a service where students can shop for free groceries once a week.

And the University also encourages the use of Share Meals, a free app that helps students locate free food on campus. By creating an account with their Millersville email address, students are

automatically enrolled in the Millersville community and can get notifications whenever an event with free meals occurs.

NEW AND IMPROVED DINING OPTIONS

The dining experience at Millersville looks quite a bit different this fall, with more options and services. The campus community now has the opportunity to dine at the new Evergreen Café in Gordinier Hall. Fall 2022 hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Students will also be able to visit the self-service kiosk named Millersville Caputo, previously known as the Cyber Café, in Caputo Hall. Millersville Caputo operates similarly to Club de Ville in the Student Memorial Center. The kiosk sells prepackaged food and drinks. Students can stop by during the operating hours of Caputo Hall.

And faculty and staff now have a new option with a lunch buffet in the Audubon Room of Bolger Conference Center. The dining room is open three days a week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Faculty and staff need to purchase a flex account or use Marauder Gold to enjoy the benefits.