MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY | PRESIDENT’S UPDATE

In the blink of an eye, the leaves fell, and temperature dropped. Perhaps it was hard to notice
the drastic change of season against the whirlwind of activity on campus over the past three
weeks. My Listening Tour is in full swing, and I have enjoyed meeting with academic
departments and administrative units to hear them share their perspectives and voices.
Judith and I have enjoyed a variety of sporting events and performances on campus and in
the community. One of my favorite events, Glorious Sounds of the Season, will kick off the
holiday season on December 3 and 4 at the Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center.
I am also looking forward to the commencement ceremony on December 11 at 2 p.m. at the
Pucillo Gym. This ceremony reflects the success of our students after studying hard during
their time on campus. I invite our faculty to participate in the ceremony as a final show of
support, just like they provided for our students during their college experience. Our students
always appreciate their presence.
In this edition of my monthly newsletter, you can read more about some of our top priorities,
like providing access to a Millersville education and creating a sense of community and
belonging. I am pleased to highlight a new First Generation Student Scholarship supported
by Milly Keefer ’66 and celebrate a recent accolade as a Military Friendly institution.
November is Native American Heritage Month, and I am pleased to share more about
Millersville University’s Land Acknowledgment statement. Finally, I’ll introduce a new pilot
program in collaboration with Apple to enhance the use of iPads in the classroom and share
additional details about our upcoming December commencement ceremony.

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FIRST-GEN SCHOLARSHIP

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MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY NOW HAS A LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT
STATEMENT
November is Native American Heritage Month, and Millersville
University released a Land Acknowledgment statement earlier
this fall.
A Land Acknowledgment is a statement that recognizes the

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Arnold adds it is important to note that most Native cultures called themselves something
other than the names European colonists gave them and we know them as now.
"Most Native groups called themselves, in their own language, a word that translated as 'the
people.' Many are known today by names given to them by others," she explains. "Some
have changed those labels applied to them by outsiders and taken back their original name."
She adds, "of course archaeologists, not knowing what people in prehistoric societies called
themselves, have also given various names to Native American groups."
"Our knowledge is based on archaeology and history, neither of which is infallible nor can
ever know the full reality of times past," she continues. "And for that reason, one of the
phrases in our acknowledgment notes that we are recognizing the Native peoples of the
lower Susquehanna River basin—those known and those unknown to us. Native Americans
lived here—hunting, gathering, growing food, and moving all through the region that today
we call Lancaster County."
The Land Acknowledgement Statement was released at an unveiling on Tuesday, Oct. 25.
The planning committee for the statement and the event included Drs. Arnold and Kevorkian,
along with Dr. Karen Rice and Carlos Wiley, the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the
University. The committee also included MaryAnn Robins, President of the Circle Legacy
Center in Lancaster and A'lice Myers Hall, President of the American Indian Society of
Washington, D.C. Hall was the keynote speaker at the event.

APPLE PILOT PROJECT
The Vilas A. Prabhu Center for Academic Excellence, under the
direction of the Provost, is

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x Professor Kim Auger, Assistant Professor, McNairy Library
x Dr. Nitu Bagchi, Profes