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AUDITOR GENERAL

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News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale Hears Students' Concerns About Rising College Costs, Mounting Debt

MILLERSVILLE, Lancaster Co. – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today led a roundtable discussion at Millersville University of Pennsylvania to hear from students about the challenges of high tuition costs and mounting loan debt.

“Nationwide, there is an estimated \$1.5 trillion in outstanding student loan debt – more than double what it was a decade ago,” DePasquale said. “Pennsylvania now ranks second in total student loan debt, the average student loan debt stands at nearly \$35,000.”

DePasquale is developing a special report to follow up on his department’s performance audit of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), the state’s student loan agency.

“I want to make sure Pennsylvania is doing all it can to make higher education affordable,” DePasquale said. “Taking on huge amounts of debt can haunt graduates for decades, making it harder for them to get a good start in their career, raise a family and save for retirement.”

Numerous Millersville University students and administrators took part in today’s roundtable discussion at the Duncan Alumni House.

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