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UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export 2005

E is for Entrepreneurship; The E-Fair Comes to UMaine

19 Jan 2005

Contact: Sharon Malm, Target Technology Center, 866-6500;

ORONO, Maine --- Studying and getting a degree just isn't enough for some University of Maine students. They want to bring their ideas to the marketplace and turn new knowledge into a product or service. For them and other students who want to consider such a path, UMaine will hold an E-Fair in the Memorial Union, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., February 10. Sponsored by the UMaine Innovation Center and Target Technology Incubator in Orono, the fair will offer panel discussions and exhibits on business support services. "It's designed to allow students to stop in as their schedules allow," says Sharon Malm of Target.

Last year's fair in Wells Commons drew more than 100 students. "The E-Fair is very educational, and I would recommend it to all students who are serious about starting a business in Maine," says Carl E. Barr, a UMaine MBA graduate student, business owner and power plant engineer. Gary Arnold, recent UMaine graduate in business administration, adds, "there was considerable value in having successful entrepreneurs discuss their stories of moving through the process, from concept to commercial reality."

At this year's event, exhibits will be set up in the Bangor Room, and panel discussions will be held at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. across the hall in the FFA Room. Speakers will include a student entrepreneur, faculty members with expertise in entrepreneurship and representatives of business development services such as the Small Business Development Center, Eastern Maine Development Corporation and Maine Technology Institute.

No registration is required.

New Book on Maine Term Limits Reveals "Unintended Consequences

24 Jan 2005

Contact: Richard Powell, (207) 581-1795, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- When Maine voters approved term limits in a 1993 referendum designed to replace what some considered professional politicians with more rank-and-file citizens, they set into motion a series of related changes with some unanticipated consequences.

Voters interrupted or ended some lengthy political careers, but it is clear more than a decade later that voters also diminished the political power and efficiency of the Maine Legislature.

Three current or former University of Maine political science professors are authors of a newly published book, "Changing Members: The Maine Legislature in the Era of Term Limits" (Lexington Books, 2004), which assesses the effects of term limits in Maine.

The collaborators are Richard J. Powell, assistant professor of political science, Kenneth T. Palmer, professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Political Science, and Matthew C. Moen, former professor and chair of the political science department and now dean

of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of South Dakota. The book takes a non-partisan look at the impact of term limits.

It is an analysis based primarily on a survey of members of the Maine Legislature, plus several dozen interviews with legislators, staff, executive branch officials and lobbyists. The authors each have published articles or books on a variety of political science issues, including Congress, the Presidency, Federalism and Maine politics.

The research is particularly significant, the authors note, because Maine is the first state in the nation where term limits actually forced members out of both chambers of its state legislature. Lessons from Maine may be applicable to the other 16 states operating under term limits.

One of those lessons is that term limits can easily "gum up the works," Palmer says of the tendency for the Legislature to operate less efficiently under the restrictions.

Unless a Maine legislator switches chambers or sits out an election cycle, a member is ineligible to run for reelection after serving four consecutive terms in the Maine House or Senate. This keeps new and largely inexperienced faces coming and going in Augusta, with what Powell calls "unintended consequences."

One of those consequences is an abbreviated learning curve for new legislators, who must very quickly learn their way around the institution. They need to make a mark -- particularly if they have leadership ambitions. They sometimes are impatient with the give-and-take of the legislative process.

Moen observes that new legislators often reintroduce legislation rejected in previous sessions, often unaware that such bills already had been considered. From 1995 to 2000, for instance, the number of bills introduced in the Maine Legislature rose by 43 percent. As each bill must be researched by the legislative staff and prepared for formal introduction, the redundancy consumes valuable time and resources, can extend the length of legislative sessions and, additionally, can distract legislators from more pressing legislative matters, according to the authors.

Perhaps more significant is the loss of seasoned legislators, which effectively increases the political power of other policymakers, such as executive branch officials or legislative staff. Elected officials, the authors suggest, seem to have ceded at least some political power to these non-elected officials, who often serve, through necessity, as the institutional memories for legislators.

While Moen, Powell and Palmer describe many of the interrelated consequences in detail, they also explain efforts of the Maine Legislature to adjust to this new political conundrum.

In fact, a theme of the book is how legislators have attempted to adapt to the term limits era in a manner consistent with Maine's participatory political culture and values, avoiding steps such as limits on bill introductions per member.

Ironically, the authors note, the relative success of Maine legislators' efforts to adapt their institution to term limits almost makes it harder for term limit opponents to persuade voters to repeal them, since many of the difficulties are less apparent to the public.

In addition, many legislators are still reluctant to campaign against term limits, since it was the voters who adopted them

in the first place.

"Changing Members: The Maine Legislature in the Era of Term Limits" is available through Amazon.com.

UMaine Camden Conference Course Explores Middle East Dilemmas

24 Jan 2005

Contact: Marlene Charron, (207) 581-4095, Tim Cole, (207) 581-1882, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's Camden Conference and the intensive, three-day UMaine course traditionally structured around it, analyze the current Middle East turmoil and explore related United States' foreign policy directions.

The course will examine the nature, consequences and future direction of the politics in the Middle East, with primary focus on Iraq and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts, and their effects on other nations. It also requires students to attend part of the Camden Conference.

The Camden Conference, Feb. 25-27 and titled "The Middle East: Compromise or Conflagration?" will bring together a panel of distinguished authorities, former policy-makers and scholars to explore factors that may explain such questions as whether Iraq will be a model for the future or a quagmire in the making, in addition to social, political, economic and cultural implications for the region.

"This roster of speakers is always just first rate," says Timothy Cole, an associate professor and chair of the UMaine Political Science Department. "Students get a first-hand, bird's-eye view, so to speak, of the thinking that makes up American foreign policy."

For students interested in pursuing political science or international affairs careers, Cole says, the course in conjunction with the Camden Conference, is a rare opportunity to talk in an informal setting about ideas and meet the people who are moving the world forward in foreign policy matters.

Experts, including former CIA Director James Woolsey, Rend Rahim Francke, Iraq's U.S. representative, and U.S.M.C. Gen. (Retired) Anthony Zinni will discuss the implications and reality of reforms in Iran and whether Islamic fundamentalism is a clash of civilizations, a struggle within Islam itself, a rejection of modernity or just rejection of westernization?

The UMaine course, scheduled for three Saturdays -- Feb. 19, March 19 and April 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. -- is a compressed three-credit-hour course that is open not only to UMaine students, but to those who would like to enroll as non-degree students, according to Robert White, dean of the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning, Continuing Education Division. The conference fee is included in the course tuition.

Students will get an in-depth historical perspective on the two conflicts and a discussion of the future. Additionally, the outlook, tone and assumptions of American foreign policy as they

relate to these conflicts will be discussed, with particular emphasis on the underlying world view of the Bush administration and the "Bush Doctrine" approach to national security.

The course is considered one of the most unique and relevant courses offered anywhere, according to White, who also is a member of the Camden Conference advisory board. It also represents an opportunity for the university to extend its resources to the community, White and Cole say.

"The University of Maine is one of the first in the United States that has offered a course around a conference of this type," he says.

People interested in the course are welcome to register, regardless of whether they are regular students enrolled in the university, or those interested in taking it on a non-degree basis according to White. "We'll continue to register students until February 25.

UMaine faculty collaborating in teaching the course include Cole, Alexander Grab, history professor, Josef Hallatschek, professor of military science, and Paul Charbonneau, instructor of peace studies.

Other wide-ranging topics the Camden Conference will cover include: distinctions between states that formed themselves (Egypt, Turkey, Iran and Saudi Arabia) and those created by outside powers, and now possibly disintegrating states; factors leading states toward a liberal democracy, Islamic republic or an autocratic regime; and globalization and the politics of oil-based economic development.

On Friday evening, Feb. 25, keynote speaker Zinni is scheduled to outline western world challenges in the Middle East. Saturday morning will feature three sessions with Juan Cole, professor of history at the University of Michigan, Olivier Roy, senior researcher at the French National Center for Scientific Research, and Rend Rahim Francke, addressing history, lessons and prospects of political, economic, social and cultural development in the region.

Saturday afternoon sessions will be dedicated to the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian peace process, with Yossi Alpher, editor of the Bitterlemons.org newsletter, the featured speaker. Sunday morning, National Public Radio's Deborah Amos is scheduled to provide a news reporter's view on the situation in Iraq and neighboring states. Former U.S. Ambassador Richard Murphy and Woolsey also will discuss the implications for U.S. interests in the prospects for both the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian peace process and the broader Middle East conflicts.

A concluding round table discussion involving all the speakers and the audience will provide an opportunity for a free-wheeling debate on how U.S. policy toward the Middle East should evolve over the next several years.

Further information about the UMaine Camden Conference course is available by calling Marlene Charron, assistant director, Conference Services Division, at (207) 581-4095 or Tim Cole at (207) 581-1882.

The schedule for the UMaine course is as follows:

Feb. 19: First class session. Overview, introductions, followed by first session on Israel-Palestine issues with Prof. Alex Grab as principal lecturer. Soderberg Center, Jenness Hall, UMaine Orono campus.

Feb. 25-27: Camden Conference, Camden Opera House. Students are required to attend a preliminary course session in the Picker Room, Camden Public Library, beginning at 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 25.

March 19: Second class session with a concentration on Iraq. Grab will be the principal lecturer. The Hutchinson Center, Belfast.

April 2: Third class session -- American foreign policy response in Iraq and the Middle East, and conflict resolution. Profs. Cole and Charbonneau will be the principal lecturers. Soderberg Center, Jenness Hall.

University of Maine System Libraries Launch "Gateway to Digital Collections"

24 Jan 2005

Contact: Raymond H. Fogler Library; Marilyn Lutz, 207-581-1658

Orono-- The University of Maine System Libraries have brought online a newly developed, searchable database for public use, to support the education, research and public service mission of the universities.

The Gateway to Digital Collections provides online access to thousands of selected digitized materials in all formats --full text, image, sound, video, and finding aids. These materials come from the special collections of the UMS Libraries, and other cultural institutions in Maine.

There are over 7,000 electronic books in Maine's Netlibrary collection and the Project Gutenberg collection (public domain titles). The e-books are accessible to all Maine citizens. This resource includes options to browse the title lists of each collection.

The Gateway includes access to the full text Electronic Theses and Dissertations database (ETD), which indexes University of Maine doctoral dissertations (1964+) and masters' theses (1876+). Many of the records provide abstracts and link to the full-text documents. An electronic copy of the dissertation or thesis is automatically deposited in the database; retrospective documents are scanned on a per need basis. Access to a limited number of full-text documents may be restricted to UMaine faculty, staff, and students, as required by the author. Access to these documents will now be available as part of the Gateway to Digital Collections.

Digital images of works of art can be viewed online in the Carr Collection, a subset of the Museum Collection held by the University of Maine Museum of Art. The Carr Online Gallery contains digital surrogates of the nearly 300 modern and contemporary prints that comprise the collection. The gift of Robert Venn Carr, Jr., Class of 1944, the collection includes works by Pablo Picasso, Josef Albers, Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, David Hockney, Joan Miro and Robert Delaunay, as well as a fine collection of nearly 90 paintings and World War II political cartoons by William Gropper.

The Maine Music Box is an interactive multimedia digital music library. Through the new database, users may view images of sheet music scores and cover art, play back audio renditions (MIDI files), and manipulate the arrangement of selected pieces by changing the key and instrumentation (SCORCH files). A few titles contain streaming video renditions. The sheet music collection consists of approximately 22,000 pieces of historical and popular sheet music published and widely played from the mid 19th century until approximately 1990. Most of the collections are from the Bagaduce Music Lending Library in Blue Hill.

The University of Maine System Libraries are among early library developers of a system to manage the metadata and associated digital resources. The system and software supporting the Gateway to Digital Collections provides the libraries with the ability to: store large digital resources (e-books, sound, video, spatial data sets), manage access, and integrate the metadata across collections. Using this technology, Gateway users can search digital resources in special collections at all the campus libraries, from any network connection, and be linked to the document on the local website.

According to Joyce Rumery, dean of Fogler Library, "The Gateway unlocks the doors to unique, digital resources in the Libraries' collections, and broadens access to support an interactive education program."

The UMS Libraries Gateway to [Digital Collections](#).

Maine's First Lady to Celebrate UMaine Child Center Expansion Jan. 19

14 Jan 2005

Contact: Marie Hayes, (207) 581-2039, Kevin Duplissie, (207) 581-3080, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Maine's First Lady Karen Baldacci will help the teachers, staff and psychology students -- and dozens of preschool children -- celebrate the grand opening of a new sunroom porch at the UMaine Child Study Center Jan. 19.

The 12-by-36-foot carpeted, glassed-in room adds substantial new indoor space for the center's preschool program and brings in more sunlight and fresh air, according to UMaine psychology professor Marie Hayes, who oversees the center as developmental coordinator, and Kevin Duplissie, the head teacher.

"It's such a magnificent improvement," Hayes says. "It dwarfs the existing center in terms of its enhancement. It also was a real-parent-driven push to do it now."

Karen Baldacci, a long time children's reading advocate and certified school teacher before moving from Bangor into the Blaine House in Augusta with her husband Gov. John Baldacci, will join in a grand opening celebration Jan. 19 and will read to the children from 9-10 a.m. Baldacci's niece currently attends the preschool.

The center's new room was built with exceptional efficiency because of volunteered labor from many of the parents, staff and faculty in the UMaine psychology and other departments. They worked evenings, weekends and holidays, donating expertise ranging from professional engineering skills to painting and carpentry, which resulted in significant cost savings, Hayes and Duplissie say.

Psychology department Chair Jeff Hecker committed department funds and other resources to enable the project to proceed and the Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center carried out the structural design and committed

funds and personnel to build the roof system using new composite technology developed at UMaine. Marden's and Home Depot also donated some of the materials for the sun porch.

Duplissie says children were exuberant to return after the semester break to find their play space so airy and bright. There now is room for the indoor climber, the small trampoline and balance beam, he says.

With large windows on three sides of the porch, "we see the squirrels running around; we can see the birds fly through," Duplissie says. "The children just enjoy seeing what's going on around them. That's how they learn."

Thirty-seven families send children between the ages of 2

Book By UMaine Lecturer Cruikshank Lauded By National Center

03 Jan 2005

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO--Part-time Women's Studies faculty member Margaret Cruikshank has been awarded an honorable mention by a national human rights center for her latest book, "Learning to Be Old: Gender, Culture and Aging."

The book, published in 2003 by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., of Boulder, Colo. was one of fewer than 50 books honored recently by The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights, housed at Simmons College in Boston. Sponsors of the Center, ranging from the NAACP to B'Nai Brith, sifted through more than 300 books to select this year's award winners.

In "Learning to be Old," Cruikshank analyzes gender, culture and aging, and explores a variety of lifestyle issues that Americans rarely consider until they begin to approach old age. Cruikshank discusses cultural myths about aging women and their changing social roles as they age. Learning to be old is complicated by cultural and personal perceptions of what it means to grow old, she says.

"Aging is really about our bodies and it's about philosophy and theology," Cruikshank says. "I'm looking more at the meaning of aging."

An adjunct lecturer in women's studies at UMaine and faculty associate of the Center on Aging at the university, Cruikshank's introduction to working with older people came when she was did a graduate studies internship in gerontology at San Francisco State University. She later taught courses on aging and women, in addition to gay and lesbian studies at City College of San Francisco, before moving to Maine.

In 1993, she received an honorable mention from the Gustavus Myers Center for her book, "The Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement." Other books she has written include "Thomas Babington Macaulay" and "Fierce with Reality: An Anthology of Literature About Aging."

In "Learning to Be Old," Cruikshank examines what she calls an "alarmist demographic discourse" and discusses American perceptions of the aging population as being a threat to those of younger years and as a drain on the economy. Cruikshank posits the concept of creating a new understanding of old age that doesn't dwell on decline.

"It's kind of a challenge to mainstream thinking about aging, about how to think about aging differently," she says. "I look at it from both the social sciences and the humanities perspectives. I ask a lot of questions. For instance, does aging bring some good things as well as losses?"

Cruikshank also devotes a chapter to the overmedication of the elderly and takes a skeptical view of the practice. At the time the book was published, skepticism about overmedication was less common than today.

"It was that challenge, that way of challenging that I did that makes my book useful," she says.

Cruikshank says that her book "falls somewhere in the large space between practical guides to aging and theoretical work."

"I have attempted to bring together matters usually treated separately -- health, politics, the humanities, feminist

gerontology and cultural analysis," she says in the preface of the book. "My motivation for writing this book is the belief that neither gerontology nor women's studies has really come to grips with the fact that most of the old are women."

Though it focuses primarily on women's experiences with aging, Cruikshank says the principles apply to both sexes. "This book is about healthy aging in its broadest sense," she says.

The book is available at many libraries and booksellers, including [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). and Rowman and Little Publishers (<http://www.rowmanlittlefield.com>).

Cruikshank lives in Corea, Maine.

Three UMaine Faculty Honored for Research Contributions

12 Jan 2005

Contact: John Mahon, (207) 581-1516; George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Three University of Maine faculty members are among 10 professors honored recently by the University of Maine System Chancellor's Office for their research contributions in fields that advance Maine's scientific, agricultural and economic development.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Professor Richard J. Kersbergen, UMaine psychology Professor Alan M. Rosenwasser and electrical and computer engineering Professor John F. Vetelino received University of Maine System Trustee Professorships in December. Trustee Professorships were created by university trustees in 1998 to honor and support outstanding university faculty from the seven system campuses.

They recognize individuals who have made significant and noteworthy contributions to academic excellence on their campuses and within the system. The professorships are for one year.

"These awards reflect the rich diversity of research, teaching and outreach at the University of Maine and have clear, demonstrable impacts on the citizenry of Maine," says John Mahon, UMaine's interim provost. "Research by these professors in the study of alcoholism, organic milk production and in sensors at the nanoscale level, are most appropriate at this time."

Rosenwasser's research interests include exploring novel approaches to alcoholism research, which is expected to extend his current National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism research and develop a larger grant proposal through the acceleration of his existing efforts. He also will create a research team that cuts across international borders by aligning work with The Jackson Laboratory in Maine and the NeuroSearch A/S in Denmark. Additionally, he anticipates building an interdisciplinary research and teaching program in neuroscience.

"All of these efforts support extend and enhance our research and teaching missions and directly serve the residents of Maine," Mahon says.

A Hampden resident, Rosenwasser join the UMaine faculty in 1986.

The focus of Kersbergen's research will be on forage and pasture production in Maine and throughout New England, specifically with regard to organic crops.

Organic and forage-based milk production is the fastest growing agricultural sector in the Northeast, and Kersbergen's efforts will enable small dairy farmers to assess the impact of switching to organic production of milk and contribute to sustainable agriculture in the state.

"Dairy production is an important sector in the state of Maine," observes Mahon, "and his efforts will support, extend and enhance our research and community outreach missions and directly serve the residents of Maine."

Kersbergen, of Burnham, joined the faculty in 1985.

Vetelino, who is active in solid state, microwave acoustics and sensor research, is being recognized for his work using transduction schemes to perform research relating to sensing at the nanoscale level. His efforts will continue to serve as the basis for research proposals with the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and others.

The analytes that will be sensed include physical, chemical and biological analytes, which have direct application to agriculture, medicine environment and homeland security. Vetelino previously has helped area high school students with sensor experiments, using sensors to detect gases that can indicate, among other things, ripeness of fruit.

"This research would be a new area for Dr. Vetelino, and will support, extend and enhance our research and teaching missions at UMaine and directly serve the residents of Maine," Mahon says.

A resident of Veazie, Vetelino came to UMaine in 1969.

Concert to Benefit Michele Alexander Scholar Award Fund

11 Jan 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A benefit concert featuring folk music by "Generations," a local group that includes University of Maine professors Larry Latour and Joel Gold, is scheduled for Friday Jan. 21 from 7-9 p.m. in Room 100 of UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Proceed will support the Michele Alexander Scholar Award, named in honor of the UMaine psychology professor who died in a Dec. 2003 car accident. The annual award is given to an outstanding UMaine senior continuing on to graduate studies in Social Psychology, which was Alexander's specialty.

"Michele was a wonderful person and an outstanding professor," says Gold, a psychology department colleague. "Her loss has been felt very deeply, but we are fortunate that this fund has been established to allow her legacy to continue."

In addition to Latour and Gold, "Generations" includes Leslie Hemberger and David Mussey. The group mixes guitar, banjo, mandolin, concertina and four part harmonies to perform familiar and meaningful songs reminiscent of Woody and Arlo Guthrie, Pete Seeger and the Weavers.

Tickets will be available at the door. General admission is \$10; student admission is \$5.

Toderian, Baldacci Appointments Approved

07 Jan 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal has approved two recent University of Maine appointments. Robin Toderian has been promoted to the role of Assistant Vice President of Auxiliary Services and June Baldacci has been named director of Purchasing and Resource Efficiency.

"In two years as UMaine's executive director of auxiliary services, Robin has proven to be a creative and entrepreneurial senior manager," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance. "She has demonstrated expertise in strategic planning, project and change management, finance and employee relations. Robin has a strong track record in directing multiple departments, in team-building, and in establishing solid relationships with customers, clients and suppliers."

Toderian's former employers include the University of Toronto, where she worked for 15 years, Touche Ross & Co. and other businesses. She holds a professional accounting designation from Canada as a Certified General Accountant.

Close professional associates have described Toderian as having "very effective financial, business, and supervisory experience" and as being "very opened minded and very good at problem solving." She also is "a visionary, a strategic thinker, and a good communicator," they say.

"We are also extremely pleased to have June Baldacci on board." Waldron says. "June is an experienced purchasing and materials manager with a proven record of success in implementing cost reduction and cost avoidance programs." Her former employers include Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, where she worked for 15 years, Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems, Maine Air National Guard and the 776th Radar Squadron in the U.S. Air Force. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Maine and a master's in business from Husson College. Baldacci is also a Certified Purchasing Manager.

"June is professional, customer service- oriented, and possesses enthusiasm and good people skills," Waldron says. "She also embraces change -- an appropriate attribute in a dynamic environment such as UMaine. I am confident the campus community will enjoy working with her."

UMaine, Orono Police Investigating Vehicle Burglaries

07 Jan 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine and Orono police have received reports of 16 vehicle burglaries that occurred during the evening of Jan. 1 and the morning of Jan. 2. Each of these incidents occurred on the UMaine campus or in adjacent residential areas.

Investigators are hoping for help from the public.

"Anybody who may have seen suspicious activity or may have any other information about these burglaries should contact us," says Sgt. Chris Gardner of the UMaine police department. The UMaine police phone number is 581-4040; the Orono police are at 866-4451. Confidential online reports can also be made at UMaine's Campus Eyes website.

Police investigators say that each of the burglarized vehicles was left unlocked.

"It is worth the time and effort to keep unattended vehicles locked and valuables out of sight," Gardner says. "Simple precautions like this can go a long way toward deterring crime."

Watershed Program Focuses On Lincoln Area Lakes

06 Jan 2005

Contact: Laura Wilson, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 207-581-2971, lwilso91@maine.edu

ORONO--Lincoln area residents will have the opportunity this winter to learn about water quality in lakes and how to protect it. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering its Watershed Stewards program starting February 16 at the Lincoln Town Office.

The program will run on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 to 9 p.m., through March 30 with an additional training on a date to be announced.

Instructors will cover a variety of topics including basic lake functions, water quality threats such as pollution and invasive plants, and ways to protect water quality. The program will focus on lakes of interest to the participants.

The cost is \$20 and a commitment to provide 25 hours of volunteer time on water quality protection efforts. The fee can be waived under special circumstances. Interested citizens can contact Laura Wilson, Extension assistant scientist, at 207-581-2971 or by e-mail, lwilso91@maine.edu.

Go Blue! Broomball Event Pits Business School Faculty Against UMaine Women's Hockey Team Jan. 29 at Alfond

05 Jan 2005

Contact: Nory Jones, 581- 1995; Nancy Dysart, 973-5055; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO--It won't exactly be the Clash of the Titans, but a group of University of Maine Business School faculty have challenged the UMaine women's hockey team to a 10-minute game of broomball, a fundraising battle on ice, Jan. 29, during the period breaks at the men's hockey game against Northeastern.

The teams hope to raise \$5,000 for the Children's Miracle Network in Bangor.

The teams have recruited some heavy-duty coaching assistance for the occasion. Gov. John Baldacci and his family will coach the faculty players; Interim UMaine President Robert Kennedy and his family will coach the women's team, which boasts a 9-5-2 record so far this season.

The Children's Miracle Network saw 118,000 patient visits last year at network hospitals in eastern, central and northern Maine. It helped kids of every age and background with everything from broken bones and serious injuries to cancer, heart disease, asthma, cystic fibrosis, pediatric AIDS and muscular dystrophy. The Children's Miracle Network uses 100 percent of locally raised money to fund local hospital treatment equipment and services.

Nory Jones, UMaine assistant professor of management information systems, came up with the broomball challenge with UMaine men's hockey coach Tim Whitehead.

"A big part of the work we do in the Maine Business School at the university involves community outreach, consulting and collaboration with the state and local businesses, and we also wanted to model socially responsible behaviors for our students," says Jones, who will be part of the faculty team. "This broomball game will get us out of the office and let us have some fun doing it."

The broomball game will take place during two five-minute breaks during intermissions. The men's game starts at 7 p.m. at Alfond Arena.

Throughout the entire men's hockey game, however, volunteers will stand by at Buchanan Alumni House with a bank of telephones to receive pledges during the game. WABI-TV (Channel 5), which will air the UMaine-Northeastern game in conjunction with network affiliates at WMTW-TV (Channel 8 from Portland and Auburn) will scroll the telephone numbers for pledges across the bottom of the television screen. The pledge number for the broomball game is (207) 581-4880.

Additionally, Maine Business School student groups assisting with the fundraising event will collect donations before and during the game in various locations on the Orono campus. Prizes to be awarded during the evening include an autographed UMaine men's team hockey jersey, a hockey stick signed by the team, two stuffed black bears, all donated by the UMaine Bookstore, in addition to a variety of other prizes, courtesy of Wal-Mart.

Among the faculty players planning to suit up for the broomball game are: Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; John Mahon, a business professor and current interim provost at UMaine; Gloria Vollmers, associate dean of the college and business school; and professors David Barrett, David Steiger, Marie-Christine Therrien, Bret Golann, Robert Strong, Sheila Pechinski and Jones.

Women's hockey coach Perron is entrusting Bob Kennedy with some of his best players: Rachel Gettings, Emily Stevens, Cheryl White, Tristan Desmet and Laura Maddin.

Players with plastic brooms and sneakers, not ice skates, will square off at center ice for the beginning of each five-minute broomball period. A referee will drop a rubber ball between the two teams to start the action.

"We're quite pleased with our lightning off-the-line response," Jones says, "and we think our advantage will be in getting good team coordination and keeping the ball away from the Black Bear players. We're pretty confident in our coaching staff and the collective experience of these seasoned faculty members."

Guided by the rule that a team cannot practice too much, the faculty team has held one practice session in each of the last two months. They currently are resting up for the game. The women's hockey team reportedly is not holding practice sessions, apparently guided by the belief that practice won't be necessary to perform against players more than twice their age.

Men's hockey coach Whitehead says he wishes both teams the best in skill, adding that his players currently are divided over which broomball team to support. The decision may come down to politics -- whether to cheer for their female counterparts and friends or the faculty in whose classes some of them may sit the following Monday.

Whitehead, meanwhile, expects plenty of interest, and hopes for generous contributions to the Children's Miracle Network.

"With the NHL lockout, we think there may be room at the national level for broomball," he adds. "The faculty team may want to consider going on the road if they win this game."

Further information is available by calling 581-1968.

Penobscots Grant to Fund Songwriting Workshop

05 Jan 2005

Contact: Carla Fearon, (207) 817-7355, Laura Lindenfeld, (207) 581-3850, John Bear Mitchell, (207) 581-1417; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO--Dozens of Penobscot Nation children will have a chance to become songwriters as a result of a special cultural project taking place in April through a collaboration of the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club and the University of Maine's Project Opportunity and the Wabanaki Center.

California singer-songwriter and educator David Nachmanoff will spend the third week in April on Indian Island working with children, members of the Penobscot community and tribal elders, sharing cultural stories and crafting lyrics and themes for songs for an original compact disk.

Nachmanoff's visit to the island community is being sponsored through a \$4,425 Maine Community Foundation grant to Boy's and Girls Club Director Carla Fearon. John Bear Mitchell, associate director of the UMaine Wabanaki Center, and Laura Lindenfeld, director of UMaine's Project Opportunity, assisted with the grant application.

The workshop will give the youth of the Penobscot Nation an opportunity to reflect upon and discuss with tribal elders their cultural heritage, language, history and Native identity. They'll then put thoughts to words and write songs to be recorded and performed publicly at the end of the week-long workshop, according to Mitchell and Lindenfeld.

It will be Nachmanoff's second visit to Indian Island. Nachmanoff conducted a song-writing workshop with Bangor area Jewish children last summer and spent an afternoon with Penobscot children at the invitation of Mitchell and Lindenfeld. The product of that session was a single song, "It's Just for Fun," a tune about Penobscot canoe racing. A group of boys on the island came up with the words and Nachmanoff, a soft-rock and folk artist, composed the music, recorded the song and sent the children a CD.

"It was absolutely amazing," Lindenfeld recalls. "The kids loved the song."

Adults liked the song, as well, according to Fearon. Those who heard it sung by the children and Nachmanoff "thought it was really good," she says.

Mitchell says that as part of his community outreach efforts at the Wabanaki Center, he was anxious to engage Nachmanoff for a full week to bring together Penobscots of all ages to think about and appreciate their heritage and identify.

Mitchell is confident the young people will embrace the project, particularly because it is educational, yet outside the restrictive confines of school. Plus, many of the children already have met Nachmanoff. Children who didn't participate in writing the canoeing song are especially anxious to become involved now, he says.

The resulting CD will become a part of tribal archives, according to Mitchell. The songs can be performed at future community events, including drum circles, public performances and school programs. Children also will be encouraged to translate the songs into their native language and represent the songs through other forms of artistic expression such as painting or short stories.

Collaborating with elders will tighten generational bonds within the Penobscot community and create a venue for elders to pass on their knowledge of tribal history, language and culture. At the end of the week, children involved with writing the songs with Nachmanoff will perform them in concert.

The event also will be memorialized on film, as Lindenfeld and Mark Kelley, assistant professor of broadcast journalism in the UMaine Department of Communication and Journalism, have received a separate micro-grant to enable a team of journalism students to produce a television news program about the songwriting workshop. Among the themes of the CMJ451 class is learning the importance of giving voice to community groups that have been under-represented or misrepresented in the news media.

Nachmanoff studied music and philosophy at Columbia and Oxford universities and earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California, Davis, in 1997. He retired from academia, however, to dedicate himself to music. His musical performance and recording style has been compared to "somewhere between the easy-going charm of Arlo Guthrie and the raw energy of Bruce Springsteen." He has recorded five CDs and spent part of last summer touring the United Kingdom as backup for and musical accompanist for Scottish singer-songwriter Al Stewart ("Time Passages" and "Year of the Cat").

Information about the project can be obtained by calling the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club at (207) 817-7355, Project Opportunity at (207) 581-3850 or the Wabanaki Center at (207) 581-1417

UMaine Presents White Paper on Relatives as Parents Recommendations

13 Jan 2005

Contact: BJ Kitchin, (207) 581-3615, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Center on Aging and a consortium of child and aging advocacy agencies have proposed a series of recommendations to help enable older relatives to care for children when parents can't. The University of Maine's Center on Aging, in conjunction with Families & Children Together, Family Connections in Bangor, presented the recommendations Jan. 13 in a policy white paper, capping three years of research into factors making it difficult for grandparents and other relatives to become recognized guardians for children who are unable to live with their parents. Relatives taking over for parents in emergencies or in the midst of family crises is a growing problem, compounded by restrictive financial, policy and philosophical issues that put grandparents and other relatives at a disadvantage. Frequently, offers by relatives willing to step in to help keep frayed families together encounter bureaucratic and legal obstacles, according to child advocates and relative parents. Nationally, more than six million children live in households headed by grandparents or other relatives, according to the 2000 census. In Maine, some 11,000 children lived with relative parents in 2000. More than 40 representatives from public and private organizations, in addition to state legislators, policy-makers, probate judges and social workers were joined Jan. 13 by aunts, uncles and grandparents at UMaine to review the recommendations from the Maine's Relatives as Parents Project, coordinated by the Center on Aging. The recommendations will be forwarded to entities, including the Maine Legislature, that are positioned to implement changes in law and policy. "We are offering a series of recommendations, which, if implemented, would dramatically improve the quality of life for those grandparents raising at-risk grandchildren and other young family members throughout the state," says Lenard Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging, who assisted principal white paper author Sandra Butler, interim director and associate professor in the UMaine School of Social Work. Recommendations include providing relative parents the same access to financial reimbursements and financial aid that foster parents receive, the same access to educational and professional resources, including reimbursable family counseling sessions and day care, the same access to subsidized healthcare for children in their custody and the same levels of support from mental health and child welfare services. Many of the proposals have less to do with money and more to do with providing moral and professional support for relatives as parents, according to Butler. There may be additional costs to the state initially, if financial services become available to this now largely excluded population, but Butler sees the changes as preemptive measures that will both help keep children in extended family settings and also save the state money later if fewer crises occur. "All of these things are to some degree preventative," she says, "if we can allow these relative parents to continue to work and remain a part of the employment base. The fact that these kinship families are taking in these children instead of going to foster parents,

they are saving the state a lot of money." "This session provided a hands-on workshop for policy opinion leaders and practitioners to begin the process of leveraging their various roles to meaningfully create statewide change and necessary services in support of relative families and children," says BJ Kitchin, a UMaine student in social work and workshop coordinator. Barbara Kates of Families & Children Together has discussed the recommendations with grandparents groups, "and their response was, 'Oh, my gosh, this is just what we need,'" she says. "I think it's wonderful to come together at this time and say, yes, we know what's needed and we're going to be able to move forward." Information is available by calling the UMaine Center on Aging at (207) 581-3615. The white paper can be seen on the center website.

Wash Fruits and Vegetables

13 Jan 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Washing fresh fruits and vegetables with distilled water appears to be as effective in protecting food safety as using some commercial products designed for that purpose, according to a new University of Maine Cooperative Extension fact sheet.

Eating fresh produce provides important health benefits, but raw foods can also carry risks of food-borne illness if they are not properly cleaned. A market has thus developed for new commercial wash treatments designed to reduce those risks.

To test the effectiveness of these products, UMaine researchers compared the results of washing with three products, according to package directions, and with distilled water that is free of microorganisms. Researchers applied each product to lowbush blueberries.

The research team included Kristi Crowe, graduate student, and Professor Alfred Bushway of the Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition and Mahmoud El-Begearmi, food safety specialist for Cooperative Extension.

Distilled water was as effective as Fit

Search for Extraterrestrial Life

13 Jan 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Wendy Hagen Bauer, an astronomer at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, will give a free public presentation at the University of Maine on January 27. Her presentation is titled The Search for Extraterrestrial Life and will be given in room 101, Neville Hall at 7 p.m.

A graduate of Mt. Holyoke College and the University of Hawaii, Hagen Bauer studies the process of mass loss from stars in the late stages of their lives. Her talk will summarize several issues in the search for life in other parts of the universe:

- why we think extraterrestrial life is likely to be carbon-based and require liquid water;
- which types of stars would be likely, or not likely, to harbor intelligent life;
- where in our own solar system we might expect to find liquid water (including information we have learned from the Mars Exploration Rovers)
- how we are detecting planets around other stars and how we will attempt to find earth-sized planets in the future;
- how we are searching for radio signals from intelligent life.

In addition to the public lecture, Hagen Bauer will give the weekly physics colloquium at 3:10 p.m. Jan. 28 in Room 140, Bennett Hall, and speak in several UMaine classes.

In her own research, Hagen Bauer is currently investigating the binary star system VV Cephei, in which a mass-

losing supergiant star is orbited by a smaller, hotter companion. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, the American Association of Variable Star Observers, the American Astronomical Society, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Council on Undergraduate Research, and the International Astronomical Union.

The presentation is part of a series of public events sponsored by The Shapley Visiting Lectureships program of the American Astronomical Society and by the UMaine Dept. of Physics and Astronomy in celebration of the Albert Einstein centennial year and the World Year of Physics.

UMaine's Annual Career Fair Links Students, Jobs

19 Jan 2005

Contact: Patricia Counihan, (207) 581-1359, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine Career Center Director Patricia Counihan sees increased interest in this year's annual Career Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 26 as a good omen for the Maine economy.

The fair, being held at the UMaine field house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., has 124 companies and organizations participating, with representatives anxious to scout future employees from the thousands of students expected to attend.

"Companies who used to recruit every year had stopped when the economy dropped, but now they are coming back, IBM for instance," Counihan says. "I think the economy is picking up slowly but surely."

Last year 121 companies from throughout New England set up information booths. Companies range from businesses that are little more than sole proprietorships to major corporations -- Bath Iron Works, MBNA, UnumProvident or Citigroup, for instance. They represent a broad array of fields, including construction, technology, healthcare, financial, educational, social services, communications, recreation, military and government.

The event is both a career fair and a job fair, Counihan says. Students can discuss products or services, workplace environment and benefits with prospective employers, seniors can get great leads -- and interviews -- on job opportunities after graduation and underclassmen and women can learn about internships or other experiential education opportunities to help prepare them for when they are ready to enter the job market.

"It's strictly information gathering, so they can explore what type of careers they'd like to pursue," Counihan says. "Students can ask questions like, 'If this is something I want to do, what would you recommend I major in?'"

Some companies don't know yet if or when they'll be able to hire, but they still attend the annual career fair to let students know what they can offer. On the other hand, Counihan adds, "We always tell seniors to dress professionally because you never know when an informal meeting can become an informal interview. A senior would be crazy not to go."

The UMaine Career Center, however, is trying to impress upon all students that the career fair is an unusually informative event for all students, and even faculty, who can keep up with their fields of academic expertise in some cases by seeing what's happening in the marketplace. .

There is no cost for the career fair. It is designed for University of Maine students and alumni, but students from other colleges and universities are welcome.

Some changes this year, in addition to the location, include an Internet Cafe, which IBM and the Alumni Association are sponsoring, with eight wireless laptops available for students to use for anything from researching companies to system registering with the Career Center's BearTRAKS system, to filling out on-line job applications, Counihan says.

Also, company representatives who are UMaine alumni will be identified with name tags so they'll be more visible and which can create a bond with current students, she says. As many as a third to half of the representatives at the career fair are UMaine graduates, Counihan says.

Some of the companies send recruiters to the Career Center in the Memorial Union Building for a few days after the

fair to conduct follow-up interviews.

"I'm really thrilled with some of the companies that are coming," Counihan says. "Employers that are coming are really excited. They say this is the best career fair they attend."

Counihan expects as many as 2,000 students to attend this year. As an added incentive, there will be a drawing for door prizes for those students who attend and register with the Career Center BearTRAKS system.

Additional information, including a list of employers and organizations signed up for this year's fair and tips on making the best use of the fair, is available on the Career Center [website](#) or by calling the Career Center at (207) 581-1359.

Major sponsors of the 2005 UMaine Career Fair are IBM, Pike Industries, Inc., Sweetser, CDM, Citigroup, Coca-Cola, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, FPL Energy Seabrook Station, Irving Woodlands LLC, MBNA America, National Grid, Sebago Technologies, Inc., Tyler Technologies/MUNIS Division, UNICEL, UMaine Alumni Association, UMaine Bookstore, UMaine Corporate Affiliate Program and the UMaine Division of Enrollment Management.

Saltwater Marketing, LLC Partners with University of Maine on a Lobster Ground Line Recycling Project

19 Jan 2005

Contact: Patricia Pinto, President, Saltwater Marketing, LLC, 207-321-2109

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine engineers will work with Saltwater Marketing, LLC, an affiliate of the Lobster Institute at UMaine, to develop recycling options for used lobster trap lines. The project will get underway as Maine lobstermen consider replacing commonly used trap lines, also known as ground lines, in an effort to protect endangered right whales.

Ground lines are designed to float and thus reduce the chances of snagging on rocks and other obstacles on the sea floor. However, as they hover over the ocean bottom, such lines can present a threat to right whales. Lobstermen are looking at the possibility of replacing ground lines with heavier rope that, since it stays on the sea floor, has a lower chance of entangling the whales.

Saltwater Marketing has received a \$20,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) National Whale Conservation Fund to support its Lobster Ground Line Buyback and Recycling (ME) Project. The Lobster Institute, the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC) at UMaine and the National Marine Fisheries Service, Protected Resource Division, will assist.

Scientists and engineers working on the project will:

- 1) Identify lobster ground line reclamation solutions that are practical to implement and support the need to prevent potential entanglement of large whales along Maine's coastline.
- 2) Ensure that float rope that comes out of service is recycled or reused and kept out of Maine landfills.
- 3) Identify new uses for recycled lobster ground line.

Lobstermen have traditionally used polyolefin "float rope" to link traps with each other and with a buoy on the sea surface. The National Marine Fisheries Service estimates that 5 million pounds of float rope is currently used in Maine as ground line in the lobster industry.

Saltwater Marketing has contracted with UMaine's AEWC to develop processing techniques for reutilizing the rope. Researchers will explore techniques to clean and process the rope into a usable form and determine the workability of the material in conventional plastic processing equipment.

Engineers will use extrusion and injection molding equipment to study the manufacturing and testing of prototype materials. The AEWC will examine both pure plastic and wood plastic composites for use in consumer products.

The Lobster Institute will serve as a liaison to the lobster industry and assist in the coordination of the project.

The institute conducts communications, outreach, research and education focused on protecting, conserving and enhancing the lobster resource and lobster fishing as an industry and as a way of life.

Saltwater Marketing, LLC, a Maine limited liability company, was founded in 2002. The company serves as the exclusive commercialization arm of the Lobster Institute.

Winter Art Camp Feb. 21-25

18 Jan 2005

Contact: Wally Mason at 561-3350

Bangor -- Winter 2005 marks the 1st Winter Art Camp to be held at the University of Maine Museum of Art. in downtown Bangor. The museum will offer a week-long session of art and fun for students from Grades 3 through 5, providing a unique opportunity for children to observe and practice art in a dedicated classroom at the museum. The camp session will be taught by the museum's education coordinator, Sara Grover, using observation as a springboard for instruction while sparking creativity through a wide variety of media. Children will also spend time exploring the galleries and the exhibits on view. Finally, the camp session will end with an "Exhibit Opening" to which parents and families are invited to view their children's masterpieces.

CAMP INFORMATION:

Time: 8:30 -- 12:00

Dates: February 21 -- 25, 2005

Grades: 3rd - 5th Grade

Tuition: \$115; Members of the Museum of Art - \$95. (includes all materials)

Please call 561.3350 for more information and to register your child.

University of Maine Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person.

No charge: Museum Members, UM students w/ ID.

Directions:

From the North

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 4th light (1.2 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Stroke Survivors Offered Free Testing in UMaine Research Project

07 Jan 2005

Contact: Judy Perkins Walker, (207) 581-2003; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- People who are recuperating from a stroke are being sought for participation in a research project by a University of Maine communication scientist.

Judy Walker, an associate professor in the Department of Communication Science and Disorders, studies the effect of stroke on the ability to understand language.

Participants in the study must have had a stroke that may have caused specific types of problems such as difficulty understanding and speaking with others, paying attention and remembering, solving problems and recognizing visual cues.

Walker received her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts in 1994. She has 25 years of clinical practice and ten years of experience in clinical research in studying certain aspects of language disorders known as aphasia. The results of her research assists the medical community and other researchers in identifying specific areas of brain damage and prescribing the newest rehabilitation techniques for stroke survivors.

Walker and her students have developed a testing system which uses a computer to play words and sentences and record a subject's responses. She will work with participants in their homes and other settings. The initial screening will last for about an hour. People who qualify for additional testing can expect to spend about two to three hours on the test procedure which can be spread over two sessions. Participants will receive a free hearing screening and language test.

People interested in participating in this project can contact Walker at 207-581-2003.

UMaine Workshop on Stuttering Planned Feb. 12

18 Jan 2005

Contact: Nancy Hall, (207) 581-2404, Marybeth Allen, (207) 581-2403 or George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is inviting parents, children, teens and speech-language pathologists to a workshop Feb. 12 on stuttering and strategies for overcoming stuttering.

A series of discussions scheduled throughout the day at the Memorial Union on the Orono campus will explore new therapy strategies, the most recent scientific explanations for what causes stuttering and also brings together young people who stutter to share experiences.

The workshop, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., is jointly sponsored the University of Maine and its Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, the National Stuttering Association and the UMaine Chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association.

"Our goal is to provide education and support to parents, speech language pathologists and people who stutter, and also to create an environment where children and teens who stutter can meet other people who stutter," says Nancy Hall, an associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. "Children who stutter often feel like they are alone with their disorder."

Hall, who holds American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Specialty Recognition to treat people who stutter and teaches a graduate course at UMaine in fluency disorders, is one of three workshop leaders.

Others are Judy Butler of Franklin, Mass. and Marybeth Allen. Butler, like Hall, also holds ASHA Specialty Recognition in Fluency Disorders, and works with children and adolescents in private practice. Allen, a clinical educator at the UMaine Stuttering Clinic, also holds ASHA Specialty Recognition in Fluency Disorders and leads the Eastern Maine Chapter of the National Stuttering Association and Fluency Discussion Group -- Maine. Allen is a person who stutters and maintains a private practice treating people who stutter.

According to the National Stuttering Association, the largest self-help organization for people who stutter, a quarter of children who stutter do not outgrow it, and the disorder often is misunderstood by teachers, counselors and even pediatricians. Some parents are advised to defer speech therapy until it's too late to overcome stuttering, Hall says.

Speech language pathologists often can identify children at risk for chronic stuttering at an early age and, with

appropriate intervention, the children can go on to become fluent communicators, Hall says. Some notable people who overcame stuttering include actor James Earl Jones, newscaster John Stossel and nurse Clara Barton.

Supporting a child's self-esteem and confidence is a major component of therapeutic intervention, according to Hall. The workshop Feb. 12 will address that, in addition to the importance of parents and speech therapists' role in therapy programs.

Parents and speech pathologists will have an opportunity to share information and hear speakers discuss diagnosis and intervention for stuttering, in addition to learning about resources and other issues surrounding raising a child who stutters.

Children, Hall says, will be grouped by age and can learn from one another about successful therapies and participate in self-affirming activities.

"This is really a wonderful opportunity for a broad spectrum of people with wide-ranging skills, education and experiences to come together and share their expertise," Hall says.

The cost of the workshop is \$10 for families and \$20 for speech-language pathologists. More information is available by calling Marybeth Allen at (207) 581-2403 or Nancy Hall at (207) 581-2404, or by visiting the Communication Sciences and Disorders website.

UMaine School of Performing Arts' Spring 2005 Performance Schedule

07 Jan 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704; George Manlove, (207) 581-3751

ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Performing Arts has announced its 2005 spring performance schedule, featuring music and theater by students, faculty and special guests. All events are \$6, unless otherwise noted. UMaine students are admitted free with MaineCard. Discounts are available for students, seniors and groups. More information is available by calling the UMaine Center for the Arts box office at (207) 581-1755 or by visiting the SPA web site at www.umaine.edu/spa. The schedule follows: Music Faculty Series - Minsky Recital Hall All concerts are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. * Jan. 15: Cadenzato -- Several faculty members will perform an eclectic mix of music, including "Quiet City" by Aaron Copland; * Jan. 23: Four Hands Piano Recital -- Ginger Hwalek and Laura Artesani -- 2 p.m.; * Jan. 29: Cello and Piano Recital -- Noreen and Phillip Silver, with special guests for Schubert's "Trout" Quintet; * Feb. 11: Tuba Recital -- Scott Vaillancourt; * Feb. 13: Piano Recital -- Baycka Voronietzky - 25th Anniversary Recital; * Feb. 19: Voice Recital -- Karen Pendleton, soprano, with Phillip Silver, piano; * Mar. 19: Voice Recital -- Ludlow Hallman, baritone, with Phillip Silver, piano, featuring a performance of the Brahms "Magelone Lieder;" * April 3: Trumpet Recital -- Jack Burt and friends, 2 p.m. -- a varied program featuring music for trumpet and voice, organ, piano, marimbas and brass sextet; April 14: Special Lecture and Performance -- Physicist, composer, horn player Brian Holmes of San Jose State University will discuss the physics of horn playing, with accompaniment by pianist and UMaine music instructor Laura Artesani; Minsky Recital Hall; Ensemble Series * Feb. 6: Massenet Concert -- Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.; * Mar. 20: University Singers Concert -- Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.; * Mar. 24 & 25: Broadway Nights -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; * Mar. 29: Three Bands Concert -- Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.; * April 1 & 2: Opera Workshop -- Cyrus Pavilion Theatre, 7:30 p.m.; * April 5: Chamber Concert -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; * April 16: Collegiate Chorale Concert -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; * April 17: Symphonic and Concert Bands -- Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.; * April 19: Percussion Ensemble -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; * April 21: Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Combo -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; * April 23: Orchestra Concert -- Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.;

Gallery Talk by John Szarkowski and Richard Benson on a Maritime Album: 100 Photographs and Their Stories, Currently on Exhibition at the UMMA

22 Feb 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

Richard Benson and John Szarkowski will conduct a gallery talk in the University of Maine Museum of Art on Monday evening, March 28, 2005. A Maritime Album: 100 Photographs and Their Stories is on exhibit at the museum until April 2, 2005. The exhibition, which conveys a sense of maritime history through 100 photographs selected from the collection of the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, VA, was the result of the efforts of two of the most important and influential individuals in the modern history of photography, Richard Benson and John Szarkowski.

John Szarkowski is widely considered the most influential living figure in the field of modern photography. Internationally renowned as a photographer, historian, and author of photographic books, he served as director of the Department of Photography at the Museum of Modern Art in New York until his retirement in 1991. At 80, Mr. Szarkowski's photographs are the subject of a retrospective exhibition at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art which opens in February. He was profiled in the current issue of Vanity Fair.

Richard Benson, Dean of the Yale University School of Art, is a photographer and master technician. He has produced the film for many innovative photographic books and has shown his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions. A recipient of a MacArthur Foundation award for 1986 - 1991, Benson is acknowledged as the world's expert on photo-mechanical/photo-electronic reproduction.

The evening will include a reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m. with a gallery talk by Mr. Szarkowski and Mr. Benson to follow from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., they will also sign the book that accompanies the exhibition.

The event has an extremely limited number of tickets remaining. The nonrefundable tickets are \$10.00 per person and must be purchased prior to the event. For more information or to reserve your tickets, please contact the Museum Office at 561.3350.

March 28, 2005
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Norumbega Hall
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, Maine
561.3350

Forestry, Food Science Students Win Scholarship Awards

26 Jan 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777, houtman@maine.edu

ORONO-- Two University of Maine graduate students, Kristi Crowe of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Keith Kanoti of Atkinson, Maine, have received awards for their research from the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. They both won the George F. Dow and Fred Griffee awards, and Crowe also won the Norris Charles Clements award.

The awards are given annually for dissertation research that is related to experiment station goals. Each award includes scholarship assistance to help pay tuition expenses.

Crowe, a Ph.D. student in the Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition is evaluating methods to protect the quality of wild blueberries after harvest. She has focused on microbes and chemical residues.

With financial support from the Maine Wild Blueberry Commission, she has measured the effectiveness of several post-harvest treatments including ultra-violet light (UV), hydrogen peroxide and combinations of hydrogen peroxide and UV. She found that a combination of dilute hydrogen peroxide solution and UV achieved the highest reductions in microbes. Her work also demonstrated that the treatment did not produce toxic pesticide by-products as a result of contact with phosmet residues on wild blueberries.

This work is beneficial to the Maine blueberry industry's efforts to move away from the use of chlorine in post-harvest processing facilities.

After graduation, Crowe aims to work in a university specializing in post-harvest agricultural research and food safety. She also hopes to promote educational initiatives to inform the public about the effect of food and nutrition on health. She is currently working on legislative proposals with Maine State Senator Sean Faircloth.

Kanoti is a former USDA Forest Service employee and a master's student in the Dept. of Forest Ecosystem Science. He is studying the influence of climate and growing conditions on seedling germination in laboratory and field studies. "With the possibility of a changing climate it will be important to predict how new temperature and precipitation patterns may influence the distributions of tree species in our forests," he has written.

His goal is to understand influences on early growth of tree species such as balsam fir, red spruce, eastern white pine and white birch. After finishing his degree in May, he plans to remain in Atkinson and work in the forestry profession. "By remaining in the state and being an involved member of the community I hope to help to ensure that forestry remains a viable industry in the state of Maine," he says.

Conference to Help State, Nation Prepare for Aging "Boomers"

26 Jan 2005

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 581- 3483, Leah Ruffin, (207) 581- 2299, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- With Maine's population of aging "baby boomers" increasing at dramatic rates, a consortium of experts are gathering Feb. 2-3 for a conference in South Portland to examine ways the state and the nation should prepare for the impending population shift.

Speakers will discuss issues ranging from the threatened social security system to medical, healthcare, transportation and housing security for aging Mainers.

The conference, titled "At the Crossroads: Aging Policy in Maine," is sponsored by the newly resurrected Maine Gerontological Society and is an official forerunner to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging -- an October event that will help shape the way the nation provides for its elderly.

Conference supporters include the American College of Health Care Administrators, Cedars Nursing Care Center in Portland, LTC Financial Partners, Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Maine Bureau of Elder and Adult Services, the Muskie School's Institute for Health Policy, UNECOM MatureCare and the University of Maine's Center on Aging in Orono.

Issues surrounding the increasing number of people classified as elderly are important for Maine, says Len Kaye, a Maine Gerontological Society board member and chair of the committee organizing the Crossroads conference, because Maine already ranks highest among states in the nation in terms of the percentage of the population over age 65. The U.S. Census Bureau reported in 2002 that 14.4 percent of Maine's population was at least 65 of age. It projects that the population will increase to more than 21 percent by 2025.

"Members of the public who want to stay fully informed and keep their finger on the pulse of policy issues confronting state government and older Mainers will want to attend this program," says Kaye, who also is director the UMaine Center on Aging on the Orono campus.

Roberta Downey, director of the Eastern Agency on Aging and a member of the conference planning committee, adds that "the scope and breadth of this program goes beyond any previously offered on these particular topics. No issue or challenge has been left uncovered."

The conference, being held from 8 a.m. to 5:30 on Feb. 2 and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 3 at the Sheraton Hotel in South Portland, begins with a welcome from Gov. John Baldacci, followed by two days of workshops and panel discussions led by decision-makers from public and private sectors.

Members of the public are invited to register on site and join policy-makers, administrators, physicians, clinicians, legislators, educators and opinion leaders in attending as many as 16 workshops.

"Baby boomers are rapidly edging toward retirement, and given that an older population creates many challenges, unpreparedness could be disastrous," Kaye says. "We need to look at housing needs, healthcare and social service needs and affordable prescription drugs. At the same time, we need to consider how we can utilize the expertise and

the wisdom that older adults bring to their communities as we think about the ways to buttress the Maine economy."

The Maine Gerontological Society is a statewide, multidisciplinary association of doctors, nurses, social workers and other concerned individuals throughout Maine who work with older people or provide services for them.

Speakers include John Nicholas, Maine Health and Human Services commissioner, and Robert Blancato, a member of the policy committee of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. Former Maine Sen. Mary Cathcart, now a senior policy fellow with the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy at UMaine, and Kathryn Hunt, a research associate at the Smith Center, also will speak about how to communicate effectively with state legislators and strategies for developing policy recommendations.

Catherine Cobb, acting director of the state Bureau of Elder and Adult Services, chapter, Robert Mollica, senior program director for the National Academy for State Health Policy, and Galen Rose, acting state economist with the State Planning Office, also will share their expertise with their audiences.

Recommendations to be drawn throughout the conference will be Maine's contribution to the official White House Conference on Aging, says Kaye, "which makes it clear that what happens in those two days in February in Maine can have significant influence on what happens on the national level."

More information about the conference can be found on the UMaine Center on Aging [website](#) or by calling the center at (207) 581-3444. The Maine Gerontological Society contact person is Sharon Berz at the Aroostook Area Agency on Aging, (207) 764-3396.

Spring Socialist-Marxist Lecture Series Explores Invasion, Occupation

31 Jan 2005

Contact: Doug Allen, (207) 581-3860, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Marxist-Socialist Studies Program is focusing its 2005 lunchtime lecture series around invasion, occupation and human rights -- timely and controversial topics as United States policy-makers struggle for answers in the Middle East.

Co-sponsored by Maine Peace Action Committee, the Memorial Union and with generous support of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the lecture series explores thought-provoking and relevant topics, says Doug Allen, a professor of philosophy and coordinator of Marxist-Socialist Studies.

Speakers in the series, who do not necessarily present Marxist or socialist viewpoints, are visiting the Orono campus from as far away as California. All lectures are from 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union Building, unless noted otherwise, and are free.

The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, Feb. 3rd: "The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict Since Arafat," Professor Alex Grab, history.

Feb. 10: "Linguistic Politics and Language Wars in Europe," Professor Kathleen March, Spanish. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union.

Feb. 17: "A Socialist's Take On the 2004 Election and the Situation Now Facing the Working Class," Carl Cooley, industrial worker, farmer, teacher and Socialist Equality Party candidate for Congress in 2004.

Feb. 24: "A Nation Drunk on Illusions: The American Imperial Project and Its Inevitable Failure," Professor Burt Hatlen, English.

March 17: "Should Marxists Support Capital Flight (Under Certain Conditions)?" Professor Michael Howard, philosophy.

March 24: "Understanding the U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Iraq," Professor Ngo Vinh Long, history, "Vietnam War and Iraq War;" Professor Doug Allen, philosophy, "U.S. Empire and Iraq War."

March 31: "Militarism in the Schools," Al Larson, Bob McElwain, Jon Eddy and Peter Phillips, members of Veterans for Peace.

April 7: "The Last Samurai Meets WWII: The 'Zen' of Japanese Militarism and 'Holy War,'" Dr. Brian Victoria, visiting professor of Asian Studies at Binghamton University, specialist in Zen Buddhism and author of "Zen War Stories."

April 14: "How Should the Left Think About Trade?" Professor Darrel Moellendorf, philosophy, director of Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs at San Diego State University and author of "Cosmopolitan Justice."

For additional information, please call (207) 581-3860 or e-mail: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Offers ArtWorks Program to Community Children

18 Feb 2005

Contact: Constant Albertson, (207) 581-3251, Department of Art, (207) 581-3245, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's ArtWorks after school art program, offering art instruction for area children, is accepting applications for the spring session.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

ArtWorks is a creative opportunity for the university's art education majors to share their art expertise with children from kindergarten through sixth grade and gain essential practical teaching experience, says art Professor Constant Albertson, who directs the program.

It also gives children an opportunity to explore different art media, including paints, pencils, pastels, clay, wire or paper mache.

"Last semester, second- and third-graders created Claymation movies -- writing stories based on their own original myths, making the clay figures, designing sets, doing the camera work, picking out music and even doing their own editing," Albertson says. "The children were very proud and the parents were amazed."

In another group, the children wrote poems about rain and made musical instruments that sounded like rain. Another group worked on large murals and learned about cave paintings.

"The university students work hard to create interesting and educational art experiences for the children that expand their ideas of what art is and why people participate in making and appreciating works of visual culture," she says. "It's more than decorating the refrigerator."

The curriculum changes each semester. Students teaching the classes under Albertson's supervision are art students studying to become state-certified art teachers.

"ArtWorks is part of the art education program's curriculum courses. Writing curriculum for lessons that they will teach to the children during the course is a powerful a learning experience for our students," Albertson says. "This makes the learning that they do practical, immediately relevant and serves a community need. The lessons tend to be innovative, fresh and lively."

ArtWorks classes meet at Carnegie Hall and at a universally accessible classroom in Deering Hall on the UMaine campus. The spring session runs March 25 through April 22, meeting Friday afternoons from 3:30-5 p.m. A \$25 course fee covers the costs of materials. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Applications may be requested from and submitted to ArtWorks, Department of Art, 5712 Carnegie Hall, University of Maine, Orono, 04469-5712. More information is available by calling Albertson at 581-3251 or the UMaine Department of Art, 581-3245.

Art for Engineers Show Set for Advanced Manufacturing Center

22 Feb 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO-- "I Engineer, Therefore I Art," reads the slogan on Will Manion's t-shirt. It's more than just a clever play on the famous statement, "I think, therefore I am," by French mathematician Rene Descartes. It expresses the theme for a new initiative that links the literal with the imaginative.

Manion is an instructor in the University of Maine Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He has teamed up with Edwin Nagy, Ph.D. candidate in engineering, and Sam Van Aken, assistant professor in the Dept. of Art, to inspire the creative impulses of engineering students.

A new group they have organized, the Engineering Art Club, will have its first public show, Art by Engineers, February 23, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the second floor of the new Advanced Manufacturing Center on the UMaine campus. The AMC is located just north of the Memorial Union between Shibles and Stevens halls.

The event is free and open to the public. It will feature sculptures, paintings, cement tile, computer aided design drawings and other work by engineering students, faculty members and alumni.

Refreshments will be available. An award ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m.

"We don't want students to leave here after four years and not understand that engineering is a creative discipline," says Manion. "Analytical engineering skills are certainly important, but a lot of what engineers do starts with imagination."

Faculty, alumni/ae and sponsoring company representatives will be the judges for the show. The event is part of National Engineers Week activities at UMaine.

FBI Cyber-Crime Expert To Speak at UMaine March 15

24 Feb 2005

Contact: Sharon Steele, (207) 581-1968, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The Federal Bureau of Investigation agent who heads the FBI's counterterrorism, counterintelligence, criminal computer intrusion, cyber crime and Computer Analysis Response Team programs for the northeastern region of the United States will speak to UMaine business students and the public about cyber crime on March 15.

The appearance and talk by James Burrell, from 3:30-5 p.m. in Room 100 at the D.P. Corbett Business Building, is arranged and sponsored by the University of Maine Business School and the MBS Management Information Systems Association (MISA).

Before assuming his current position, Burrell had served in the Counterterrorism and Cyber Divisions as chief of the FBI Computer Intrusion Unit and the International Investigative Operations Unit at FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. He is a doctoral candidate and holds a B.S. in electrical engineering and a M.S. degree in telecommunications and networking. He works in Boston.

Burrell's appearance was arranged at the request of Nory Jones, assistant professor of management information systems, to introduce students to issues of security and cyber crime.

"We're trying to expand the knowledge and skills of our MIS students," she says. "We initially invited James to speak to our MIS students, but since he is such a prominent authority in this area, and it is of such a concern to the public in general, we decided to open the talk to more people."

Given the huge growth of the Internet in all aspects of life and business, and the proliferation of cyber crime, identity theft and the threat of cyber terrorism, Jones believes Burrell's observations will be of great interest to a broad constituency both on and off campus.

Additional information is available by calling Sharon Steele at (207) 581-1968.

Conference Examines Middle School Sports Issues

25 Feb 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine --Alternatives to cutting, friction between school sports and youth sports, and the impact of specialization will be among the timely issues discussed at the Middle Level Sports Conference taking place Wednesday, March 30 at the Augusta Civic Center. "Developing Healthy Middle Level Students through Sports" is the theme of the conference, sponsored by the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching Middle Level Athletics Task Force and the Partnership for a Tobacco-Free Maine.

"We want to engage participants in the important matters that are of interest and concern to schools, communities and anyone interested in middle level athletics," said Karen Brown, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at the University of Maine. Many students drop out of sports in middle school, missing out on the unique physical, learning and personal growth benefits that participation offers, according to Brown. "We want to change that trend by making middle level sports more enjoyable and meaningful for students," she said.

The conference opens with a keynote address by Dr. Robert McAfee of Portland, appointed by Gov. John Baldacci to chair the board of the newly established Dirigo Health Plan. The retired surgeon and former president of the American Medical Association, is also a member of the statewide Select Panel, which last month issued the highly anticipated report Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes.

UMaine Women's Soccer Head Coach Scott Atherley will give the second keynote of the day following lunch. Atherley has amassed the highest winning percentage in the program's history, and his teams have proven to be among the strongest defensively in the Northeast Region. With the focus on excellence on and off the field, his teams have also been honored for their academic distinction. In 2002, the Black Bears were recognized as the top academic women's soccer team in the America East Conference. Atherley will also be the speaker for the breakout session on sports specialization.

The conference will feature approximately 20 workshops led by athletic directors, community recreation coordinators, game officials and other sports leaders and professionals from around the state. In one of three morning sessions alone, participants may choose from topics such as: Innovative Ideas for Small and Rural Schools, What New Middle Level Coaches Should Know, Basic Legal Issues in Middle Level Sports, and Middle Level to High School Transition and Connection.

"The conference offers a full day of professional development for people who want to learn how to create healthy sports experiences for middle level students," Brown said.

The registration fee, which includes lunch and conference materials, is \$50. The registration deadline is March 21. For more information and to register, contact the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at (207) 581-2443 or e-mail MaineCSC@umit.maine.edu.

National 4-H Council Announces Healthy Lifestyles Grant to Cumberland County Cooperative Extension

25 Feb 2005

Contact: Lisa Phelps, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Cumberland County, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND-- Sometimes finding a source of locally grown food or a new walking path for an evening stroll can be difficult. This spring and summer, 4-H and school groups in Portland and Bowdoinham will collect such information and make it available on maps and Web pages through the "Techni-Kids on the Move" project.

The Cumberland County office of University of Maine Cooperative Extension has received a \$7,500 grant from the National 4-H Council and Kraft Foods, Inc. to conduct the project at the Riverton School in Portland and the Bowdoinham Community School. The goal is to support healthy community systems and promote physical activity.

The projects will be carried out by Kathy Savoie and Lisa Phelps, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educators, as well as teachers and community volunteers. The "Techni-Kids on the Move" project will work with youth to use geographic information systems and global positioning systems (GIS/GPS) and Web-based technologies to create environments that support healthy community systems and promote physical activity.

At Riverton, youth and adults in the program will create a community food map using GIS/GPS to display where foods are produced, grown and sold in the school district. They will also create a community map that highlights seasonal physical activities for youth and families in Portland.

In Bowdoinham, youth will be creating a safe walking trail that school and community members have easy access to, along with improved public accessibility to the existing school garden. The Bowdoinham participants will create an educational Web page using digital cameras and Web-based technology to inform others how to construct accessible gardens.

"This is a great opportunity for youth to learn about GIS/GPS technologies and to be involved in their communities," said Lisa Phelps, Extension educator. "Community mapping will encourage outdoor activity and encourage healthy lifestyles."

"It's a win-win opportunity", said Kathy Savoie, Extension educator. "Involving volunteers and youth in community service projects such as these will help to create self-sustainable infrastructures within communities and increase individuals' skills to adopt lifelong behaviors to foster healthier communities."

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Visit www.4husa.org for more information about the 4-H adventure and <http://umaine.edu/cumberland/> for more information about Cumberland County Extension Programs.

UMaine Engineering Students Gear Up for International Snowmobile Challenge

25 Feb 2005

Contact: Michael Peterson, Mechanical Engineering, 207-581-2129; Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO-- Want to know the future of snowmobiles? Just ask a member of the University of Maine's Clean Snowmobile Challenge team. Thirteen students in the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering and three students in Mechanical Engineering Technology are installing sensors, writing software and designing and building their own diagnostic equipment in preparation for the March 14-19 international competition at Michigan Tech in Houghton, Michigan, sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE).

"After a third place finish last year, we think we have a design that can threaten the dominant position of University of Wisconsin-Madison," says Michael L. Peterson, associate professor in the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering and the team's co-advisor. "Wisconsin built a hybrid electric snowmobile, but for overall performance, we think that we have a competitive design."

The students have divided into groups focusing on computer modeling, dynamometer design, fiberglass construction and an exhaust gas sensor system. Two additional groups are building custom equipment for testing the new snowmobile designs. Their goal is a machine that not only performs well but leaves the air fresher and uses less fuel than its predecessors.

The team's focus is a 2003 Arctic Cat snowmobile equipped with a four-stroke engine. When students are done with it, the machine will have a whole new personality. In addition to Peterson, Chuck Maguire in mechanical engineering technology advises the team. Financial support has come from Applied Thermal Sciences in Sanford and the College of Engineering and Dept. of Industrial Cooperation at UMaine.

The work began last fall in Crosby Lab on the UMaine campus as students began by looking for opportunities to increase the machine's efficiency. "There's been so much improvement of snowmobile engines, we didn't think we could get much more out of the basic engine design," says team member Adam McNaughton of Newport. "We've been focusing more on ways to get the pollutants (in the exhaust) down."

McNaughton and four other students are installing a sensor system that will analyze exhaust gases and send a signal to a microcontroller. Using instructions written by the students, the microcontroller will adjust the signals sent to the engine's stock engine control unit to make better use of the catalytic converter that was adapted to the engine by last year's UMaine team. This combination will keep exhaust gases as clean as possible.

"The catalytic converter reduced hydrocarbon emissions from about 130 parts per million to about 20," said McNaughton. "With the new engine electronics, we think we have gotten that down to about 12. This compares to 1600 parts per million for the 2-stroke Ski-Doo we worked on three years ago, and that was with some significant tuning improvements!"

Other members of the sensor group are Aaron Phinney of Hermon, Steve Geller of Waterville, Mike Peabbles of Gray, Chris Richards of Buxton, Corey Hibbard of Bingham, Warren Peters of Gorham, Jon Souliere of Dayton, and Alex

Daigle of Madawaska.

Since a machine needs to look good as well as run efficiently, another group has built a new fiberglass fairing, the lightweight cover that protects the engine and reduces wind resistance. The fairing is also key to keeping the machine quiet, another important factor in the competition. They began by making a form out of wood, Styrofoam and automotive body filler, sanding and shaving it to assume the shape of the finished product. Completing the new fairing required two additional steps: creating a fiberglass mold by layering glass fabric and liquid resin over the form; and repeating the process by making the fiberglass fairing itself inside the mold. The design is unique in that it uses sound deadening materials that are built right into the structure.

Members of the fairing team include Trevor Jenkins of Sebec, Kyle Spratt of Frenchboro, Steven Cook of Jay and Kate Charles of Bangor.

Making sure that the machine is running to their specifications requires hooking it to test equipment known as a dynamometer. The students could have spent \$6,000 for a digital off-the-shelf model. Instead they decided to build one from scratch, using sensors and a laptop computer that displays sensor signals on screen.

"We had to learn the electronics from the beginning," says Brian Parent of Van Buren. "None of us were experts in it. Now we can expand this system to monitor almost anything." In addition to Parent, students working on the dynamometer include Craig Michaud of Frenchville and Ryan Crawford of Freeport.

In industry, new products are designed on a computer before machinists grind metal on a shop floor. Phinney and Geller filled that role for the UMaine team by modifying a computer model that predicts the consequences of changing basic features of the engine, transmission, clutch and other mechanical components. "For example, being able to change something like the top engine speed helps us see how that affects exhaust or fuel economy," says Phinney. The students have also improved model documentation, a written report that describes the modeling procedure, lists the software code and describes applications used in the design process.

To competition judges, how well the team explains and demonstrates its work is as important as how well the snowmobile performs. "We think we can make a big improvement in that area over what we did last year," adds Phinney.

The competition will be held at the Keweenaw Research Center at Michigan Tech, known for its vehicle test grounds and as the Midwest's finest winter driving track. Other participating universities include: Clarkson University in New York, Kettering University in Flint, McGill University in Montreal, Michigan Tech, Minnesota State University at Mankato, Montana Tech, the State University of New York at Buffalo, the University of Alberta, the University of Idaho, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

General information about the competition is available at <http://students.sae.org/competitions/snow/>.

Middle School Girls Explore Science, Technology Careers March 1

25 Feb 2005

Contact: Rani Gould, (207) 581-1259, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Editors: A schedule with workshop times and locations is available from the Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3756

ORONO -- Hundreds of Maine middle school girls will spend a day at college March 1, learning about science-oriented careers historically pursued by males.

Coming from all corners of the state, the girls will get a look at more than a dozen career fields, from learning about insects, wilderness skills, tracking wildlife to DNA research, veterinary medicine, glaciers, rockets and geometry software.

The day's events are presented through the seventh annual "Expanding Your Horizons" program, coordinated by the University of Maine Women's Resource Center with support from the Office of Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

Visiting students can choose among a variety of 45-minute workshops about science careers, and will have a chance to tour UMaine's new Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology, with a new state-of-the-art "clean room"

laboratory so tidy that scientists wearing special white suits perform molecular research in a hyper-ventilated, dust-free environment.

The girls will be mentored by almost 200 teachers from their schools, professional women from UMaine and the community, as well as university students.

A keynote presentation and welcoming remarks by physics professor Susan McKay and a performance by "sisters-IN-sight" begins the day at 9:15 a.m. at the Maine Center for the Arts. Registration starts at 8 a.m.

Workshop sessions are scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon and 12:14-2:15 p.m., with lunch available in the Memorial Union from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Closing ceremonies, with a review of the day's activities, are scheduled from 2:30-3 p.m. at Hutchins Concert Hall in the MCA.

Workshops will be held in classrooms and laboratories throughout the UMaine campus, but clustered around Jenness, Murray, Neville, Barrows and Sawyer buildings.

Previous "Horizons" programs have included tours of research facilities such as the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Laboratory and the Electron Microscopy Laboratory, and a workshop on gender equity.

Cooperative Extension Staff to Focus on Obesity, Public Health

28 Feb 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Staff members of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hear the latest advice on food, nutrition and physical activity at a training session March 2 at the University of Maine. News media representatives are welcome to attend and cover discussion of subjects such as different types of dietary fat, the benefits of specific fruits and vegetables and recent recommendations from the USDA and the Maine Commission on the Study of Public Health.

Maine's First Lady, Karen Baldacci, will welcome participants and give a keynote address at 10:30 a.m. She is a registered dietician with degrees from the University of Maine in food and nutrition as well as education. She currently leads efforts to promote literacy and local agriculture and to improve school-based nutrition programs.

In sessions throughout the day, Extension faculty will address physical activity guidelines and dietary topics such as fruits and vegetables, dairy products and beverages, fats and whole grains. The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge of the Memorial Union on the UMaine campus.

The schedule will be as follows:

8:30 - 9:00 Registration and refreshments
9:00 - 9:10 Welcome, Shirley Hager, Cooperative Extension
9:10 - 9:55 Fruits and Vegetables
10:00 - 10:30 Break and Displays in the FFA Room
10:30 - 10:45 Welcome and Keynote Presentation, Karen Baldacci
10:45 - 11:30 Dairy and Beverage
11:30 - 12:15 Physical Activity
12:15 - 12:45 Lunch, Memorial Union Food Court
12:45 - 1:00 Physical Activity Break and Display Viewing
1:00 - 1:45 Fats
1:45 - 2:30 Whole Grains
2:30 - 3:00 Evaluation and Wrap- Up

Extension's Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Program is organizing the meeting. The program goal is to encourage Maine people to "adopt healthy lifestyle behaviors by recognizing, achieving and maintaining a healthy weight through a nutritious diet and regular physical activity."

Oakland Seventh Graders to Tap Climate Change Institute at UMaine

14 Feb 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Using laptop computers and the Internet, seventh grade students from SAD 47 in Oakland will study the climate with the help of a University of Maine research expedition in southern Chile. As part of an Earth science project, the students will begin by visiting the Climate Change Institute at UMaine on Feb. 15 to meet with researchers, tour laboratories and see research equipment. The visit is scheduled for 9:45 a.m. in the Sawyer Environmental Research Center.

According to teacher Allyson White, the students will track the expedition's progress through email and over the Internet. They will conduct experiments paralleling those of the expedition, including setting up their own weather station. Students will create a historical timeline of local climate based in part on interviews with area residents. Efforts will be made to integrate social studies, math, and Spanish.

Paul Mayewski, CCI director and professor in the Dept. of Earth Sciences, will leave Maine with a four-person team on Feb. 20. Their goal is the mountains and coastal waters of southern Chile, part of a region known as Patagonia. Other team members include Andrei Kurbitov, research scientist, and Ph.D. students Eric Osterberg and Dan Dixon. Charley Porter, an adjunct CCI scientist and owner of the Patagonia Research Foundation, will provide a ship to transport the research team.

Researchers will spend most of their time on land, hiking onto mountain glaciers to collect ice cores and snow data. They aim to understand factors that drive the growth and decline of glaciers and how those factors relate to the potential for climate changes in other parts of the world.

Financial support for the expedition is provided by a federal abrupt climate change grant through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. A website for the expedition can be found [here](#).

Maine Families can Host a Japanese Exchange Student

15 Feb 2005

Contact: Jill Coffren, state coordinator, Cooperative Extension 4H Japanese exchange program, 207-645-3248

MAINE FAMILIES CAN HOST A JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENT

ORONO, Maine -- If the Japanese boys and girls who come to Maine every year could be rolled into one person, they might be something like the fictional Kenta from Chita City. He would be 12-years-old and like soccer and dogs. He hopes to come to the United States and live with a Maine family. He can't wait to go swimming in a lake and dreams of getting a chance to ride a horse.

This summer, local families will host 19 Japanese youngsters as part of a two-way exchange program sponsored by the 4-H program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The students will stay with their American host families from mid July to mid August.

This program is open to families in Maine with children close in age to the Japanese participants. Families without children in this age range will be considered as hosts for the adult chaperone from Japan.

"You don't have to be involved with 4-H to host; you just need a willingness to share your home and your world. There is no need to know Japanese; the students have all studied English and are anxious to use it," says Jill Coffren of Jay, state coordinator for the program.

"The program gives host families a chance to share their culture, friendship, and family life with an exchange student and at the same time learn about Japanese life," she adds. "The home stays only last a month during summer vacation, but the effects last a lifetime." Host family applications and brochures about the program are available from local county Extension offices or Coffren at 207-645-3248. The deadline for applications is April 15.

The 4-H International Exchange Program is one of the largest exchange programs involving North American and

Japanese youth in the world. Since it began in 1972, some 39,000 students have stayed with families in 39 states, including Maine, and more than 6,300 American students have made reciprocal visits to Japan.

Last year Maine hosted 19 students. Maine's state program earned an "Outstanding Quality Program" award November 13 at the National Coordinators' Conference.

Lopez-Anido Receives Fulbright Scholar Grant

15 Feb 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO-- Roberto Lopez-Anido, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Maine, has received a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and do research at Universidad de Chile in Santiago, Chile during the 2005-2006 academic year. He is among about 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to some 140 countries, according to the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Lopez-Anido has conducted research and developed innovative designs for bridge and pier decks, marine piles and retaining walls and other structures using high-performance wood-plastic composite materials. In Chile, he will continue this work, utilizing by-products from the Chilean forest industry.

He and colleagues from the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center at UMaine conduct research and training leading to product development, which will meet identified market needs as well as larger institutional and international opportunities.

He will teach at Universidad de Chile to expand cultural exchange and, upon return to UMaine, he will foster scholar and student exchanges within the framework of the general agreement between both institutions.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange activity, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, its purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

Over the past 57 years, thousands of U.S. faculty and professionals have studied, taught or done research abroad, and thousands of their counterparts from other countries have engaged in similar activities in the U.S. They are among more than 250,000 American and foreign university students, K-12 teachers, and university faculty and professionals who have participated in one of the several Fulbright exchange programs.

Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields. Among thousands of prominent Fulbright Scholar alumni are Milton Friedman, Nobel Prize-winning economist; Alan Leshner, CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Rita Dove, Pulitzer Prizewinning poet; and Craig Barrett, CEO of Intel Corporation.

Maine Garden Day Set for April 16 in Auburn

16 Feb 2005

Contact: Frank S. Wertheim, Extension Educator, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 41 Shaw's Ridge Road, Sanford, ME 04073

ORONO-- The 12th annual Maine Garden Day will feature 35 dynamic workshops from renowned horticulturists on Saturday, April 16 at the Central Maine Community College in Auburn. In addition there will be educational displays and a gardening trade show.

Some of the featured speakers will include: Extension Small Business Development Specialist, James McConnon, presenting "Growing a Business;" Bonsai enthusiast, Richard Pollock presenting "Bonsai Basics;" Windswept Gardens owner, Robert Bangs presenting "Roses, the right choice for Maine?" and Robins Nest Aquatics owner, Christopher

Pauquette, presenting "Water Gardening in Maine."

Participation is limited to 550 people. To register, request a brochure from the Cooperative Extension at 1-800-287-1482 or find the brochure online [here](#). The cost of this day-long gardening extravaganza is \$37 and includes lunch and all workshops.

UMaine to Host Scholastic Chess Tournament March 5

16 Feb 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Every nook and cranny of the University of Maine's Memorial Union will be occupied by a chessboard and two players on Saturday, March 5 when UMaine hosts the Maine Scholastic Chess Tournament.

Some 350 players are expected for the event, which includes students from kindergarten through high school. Competition occurs in four categories: kindergarten through grade three, grade three through grade six, grades seven and eight, and grades nine through 12.

Play will commence at approximately 9:30 a.m., continuing until sometime around 4 p.m.

UMaine Lecture Series to Educate and Inform About Campus Heritage

17 Feb 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A series of four lectures will highlight the educational component of a comprehensive new University of Maine project aimed at studying the university's historic campus and planning for its preservation. Known as the University of Maine Campus Heritage project, the initiative is supported by funding from the Getty Grant program. The grant was secured in 2004 by UMaine history professor Martha McNamara, with support from UMaine's Office of Development and the university administration.

The project has two primary goals. The first is to create an Historic Preservation Master Plan, which will be integrated into the university's ongoing development of a comprehensive master plan for the campus.

"Through this process, we will be positioned to create a model for combining historic preservation with campus planning," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for finance and administration. "The UMaine campus is ideally suited for this type of effort because of its natural beauty, historic significance and the fact that much of its original core remains intact."

The second goal is to educate the UMaine community and others with interest in related subjects about the value of campus historic preservation. This component includes the training of staff members and student interns, along with a lecture series featuring prominent historic preservationists. The lecture series schedule follows:

Thursday, Feb. 24

Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts

Reception at 4:30 p.m., Lecture at 5 p.m.

"The Economics of Historic Preservation"

Donovan Rypkema, of "Place Economics," a consulting firm in real estate and economic development services for state and local governments and non-profit organizations

Wednesday, March 23

Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts

Reception at 4:30 p.m., Lecture at 5 p.m.

"Giving Preservation a History"

Max Page, assistant professor of Architecture and History at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Thursday, April 7

Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts

Reception at 4:30 p.m., Lecture at 5 p.m.

"Social Connections as Guides for Preserving Cultural Landscapes"

Paul Groth, professor of U.S. Cultural Landscape History at the University of California, Berkeley

Thursday, April 21

Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts

Reception at 4:30 p.m., Lecture at 5 p.m.

"The University of Maine's Historic Preservation Master Plan"

Malcolm Collins, Prof. Martha McNamara, Jennifer Jones and Sara Martin of the Campus Heritage Project Team

The lectures are free and open to the public.

Scientists Propose new Approach to Estimating Global Ocean Productivity

10 Feb 2005

Contact: Emmanuel Boss, School of Marine Sciences, 207-581-4378, emmanuel.boss@maine.edu ; Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777, houtman@maine.edu

ORONO - Tiny marine plants known as phytoplankton provide clues to the health of the oceans and the state of the climate, but for half a century, scientists have struggled to estimate changes in the size and condition of phytoplankton stocks. A team of researchers, including Emmanuel Boss of the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, is now reporting a major step in improving such estimates by using satellite data to determine phytoplankton growth rates and physiology.

In addition to Boss, the authors of the new report are Michael J. Behrenfeld of Oregon State University; David A. Siegel of the University of California, Santa Barbara; and Donald M. Shea of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Their report appears in the January issue of the journal *Global Biogeochemical Cycles* and was the subject of a news conference at NASA today. Funding came from NASA and the National Science Foundation.

Chlorophyll, the green pigment that powers photosynthesis, has long been the benchmark for estimates of the size of phytoplankton populations and how productive they are. The new approach comes down, in a sense, to the color of water and intensity of that light as seen from space. If accepted broadly by marine scientists, it could lead to significant revisions in estimates of how much carbon the oceans absorb from the atmosphere. It may also lead to new understanding of how shifts in phytoplankton populations echo through marine ecosystems, from the smallest bacteria to whales.

Phytoplankton provide the foundation for marine fisheries and, like all plants, help regulate the climate by using carbon to grow. These microscopic life forms include diatoms that build complex geometric skeletons, so-called "red tide" organisms that produce toxins and photosynthetic bacteria that may be among the most abundant species on Earth.

While scientists have used measurements of chlorophyll to estimate the size or biomass of phytoplankton stocks, they have been well aware of weaknesses in that method. Chlorophyll in the water varies with sunlight intensity and phytoplankton physiology.

Plants growing in low light conditions produce as much or more chlorophyll per cell as plants growing in full sunlight, says Boss. However, plants need nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, and when nutrients are in short supply, phytoplankton cells respond by not producing as much chlorophyll. "There's no point absorbing all that light if you can't use it to fix more carbon. So being able to assess how much chlorophyll there is per unit of carbon is key to saying how fast these guys are growing, fixing carbon, producing oxygen and all the rest," says Boss.

In place of chlorophyll, the new method substitutes an analysis of the amount of carbon in phytoplankton. Key to the approach is ocean color as measured by satellite. Satellites collect color over a wide spectrum, but a component of

that color known as backscattering, the reflection of light off particles in the water back to space, is particularly useful. Two Maine scientists, Collin Roesler of the Bigelow Laboratory of Ocean Sciences and Mary Jane Perry of UMaine, developed a method to obtain backscattering from ocean color in the mid-1990s.

"There is a big leap of faith in our work. And that's how you assess carbon," says Boss. "The leap of faith is based on several reports in the literature that the proportion of the backscattered light (attributed to) phytoplankton is relatively constant. If that's correct, then we can use backscattering to give us biomass.

"Chlorophyll divided by this biomass tells us what the physiological status of the algae is. Factor in light, temperature and its correlation to nutrients, and now we can estimate how fast they are growing."

Scientists can use data from orbiting satellites to calculate each of these factors. In their paper, the authors use the new method to produce estimates of phytoplankton abundance and production in 28 large areas of the world's oceans. Their regional estimates are strikingly different from currently accepted numbers. The authors excluded the Arctic Ocean and coastal waters, where backscattering can be complicated by other factors.

"This approach was developed in the lab. Other people working in algal physiology have shown the relationship between chlorophyll and carbon to growth rate and its consistency across different species in the lab. They have shown exactly how this happens. The big leap is to show that we can do it with satellites on a global scale. All the pieces were there," adds Boss.

"There's still a long way to go. There is still a lot of validation work to do. A big motivation is to spur the marine science community to have a discussion. What other tools can we use to do it better . . . to understand how it (phytoplankton) is distributed, where it is, is it changing or not as a function of time?"

In estimating phytoplankton growth rates, the new method appears to be consistent with shipboard experiments in which scientists grow phytoplankton in containers and measure the amount of carbon the plants absorb.

The paper grew out of a four-year collaboration between Boss and Behrenfeld that began during conversation over coffee at Oregon State and continued after Boss came to UMaine in 2003. Boss specializes in ocean optics and Behrenfeld in algal physiology. In 2003, they published some details of their new approach in the journal *Deep-Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research Papers*. Siegel and Shea contributed calculations that were critical to obtaining the satellite based data.

The authors continue to work with colleagues to refine ecosystem models of plankton production at Princeton, UMaine and other institutions.

Chicago" Next UMaine Musical Production

07 Feb 2005

Contact: Tom Mikotowicz, (207) 581-1965, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine School of Performing Arts' Music and Theater Departments are collaborating to bring the sensational vaudevillian razzle-dazzle musical "Chicago" to Hauck Auditorium this month.

A cast of 19 characters with an equal number of stage hands and technicians have been at work since October, polishing their singing and dancing, and memorizing lines for one of the most resilient and relevant musicals of the century. The show opens at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10 at Hauck Auditorium on the Orono campus and runs Feb. 10-12, 17-19, with 2 p.m. Sunday matinees on Feb. 13 and Feb. 20. Admission is \$10.

Director Tom Mikotowicz, associate professor of theater, says the popular show, successfully revived several times since it was written in 1926 -- including as an award-winning movie in 2002 starring Richard Gere, Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones -- will delight and dazzle the audience.

Written first as a play set in the Roaring Twenties, "Chicago" was made into a Broadway musical by Bob Fosse in 1975. The story focuses on two murderesses on death row who vie for the spotlight and the headlines, hoping the publicity will catapult them to fame, freedom and successful stage careers. It also is about "how the justice system can be overhauled by the media," Mikotowicz says.

Pianist Voronietsky Performing 25th UMaine Concert

08 Feb 2005

Contact: Baycka Voronietsky, (207) 581-1257, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- After five decades of performing, pianist Baycka Voronietsky, associate professor of music, has a love-hate relationship with the stage.

She lives for the music, but she confides that she is privately uncomfortable with the silent formality of the classical concert stage -- an uneasiness compounded by stage fright. Voronietsky, however, is comforted by her piano. The resonance of the first note dissolves discomfort. It is the key to listening to the music instead of thinking about it, she says.

"It is incessant listening," says Voronietsky, who on Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall will perform her 25th annual concert at the University of Maine. "Once you start the first note you have to keep listening without projection of what can go wrong. It's just being in the moment. Once you start, you go. I know the notes. I maneuver them."

Polish-born Voronietsky is known campus wide and internationally for her command of the piano and passionate translation of the music of Bach, Chopin, Schumann and others. She performed professionally in Poland, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Spain and Morocco before emigrating to New York at age 27. She has been featured with the Gdansk Philharmonic, performed on Radio Italiano, and on Spanish and Danish radio stations.

Voronietsky plans a program Feb. 13 of melodic nostalgic music by Romantic period composers. In spite of her discomfort with the concert venue, Voronietsky says she looks forward to this 25th annual performance, scheduled 25 years to the day from her first concert on the Orono campus.

"There is something about wanting to share what is so beautiful," she says. "For this concert, I selected music, I think, that is closest to my heart. I think the basic theme is nostalgic, for what could have been, but what is not."

Voronietsky acknowledges an appreciation for Chopin's nostalgic reflections in two pieces she'll perform in the first half of the concert, "Mazurka in C Minor, Opus 41, No. 1" and "Mazurka in C Minor, Opus 50, No. 3."

Chopin was born and raised in Poland, moved to France at age 19 and seems to have expressed through this score second thoughts about his emigration, Voronietsky says.

"He combines Polish national folk dance-like rhythms with a French elegance," she says. "There is a nostalgic quality as if he was missing Poland. He is moving in and out of sadness, pretending as if everything is fine."

The first piece of the evening is a nocturne by Chopin, followed by Rachmaninoff's "Etude-Tableau, Opus 39, No. 2." "It's based on a psalm for the dead," she says, adding that she is dedicating the piece to a friend, Bangor physician Michael Solomon, who died recently. "It's a very pensive, very somber, nostalgic piece."

Another piece Voronietsky will perform is a Schumann sonata, whose "soft, romantic and melodious theme" is a reflection of the composer's gentle obsession with his wife-to-be Clara, she says.

Other music on the program includes the musical poem "Desire" by Russian pianist Alexander Scriabin, a "Chopinesque" composer, she says, who wrote pensively and nostalgically from Paris in the late 19th Century.

In the second half of the concert, Voronietsky shares the stage with former UMaine music professor and pianist Katherine Ann Foley, whose long-time friendship Voronietsky would like to celebrate in a dual performance. They will play "Tears" from Rachmaninoff's "Suite, Opus 5, No. 1," and five movements of "Silhouettes, Opus 23" by Anton Arensky, a Russian composer and student of Rimsky-Korsakov, whose music is considered to have been influenced by Mendelssohn.

Voronietsky emigrated to the United States from Europe in 1969 to pursue a career teaching music. A classically trained concert pianist in her native Poland since the age of seven, Voronietsky studied under maestros in Poland and

Venice and received a master's degree in performance from the F. Chopin Warsaw Conservatory of Music. She studied and performed in New York, California and Massachusetts before earning a second master's degree, in piano performance and pedagogy, at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She came to the University of Maine in 1979.

Today, she says, she approaches music, teaching and -- reluctantly -- the stage with a Zen-like philosophy. "I would just like people to come and hear me play, not knowing how many masters I have had and where I played," she says. "You could say I play music entirely for its own beauty. Just like I grow flowers, but I don't sell them. It's for the love of it and what comes out of it is the performance. Here, I have to show my students that I can play so they will listen to me as a teacher."

Minsky Recital Hall is in the Class of 1944 Hall. Admission is \$10.

Cooperative Extension to Host AG Outlook Conference

09 Feb 2005

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, Extension Educator, Cumberland County, 1-800-287-1471 (within Maine)

ORONO-- Agriculture is key to the state's economy as well as to communities and farm families. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension will provide a peak at the future of Maine agriculture in a conference on March 10 in Orono.

Speakers will include Mark Lapping, professor of public policy and management at the University of Southern Maine; Stewart Smith, professor in the UMaine Department of Resource Economics and former state commissioner of agriculture; and Marge Kilkelly, former state legislator.

They and others will address the needs of Maine farmers and the strategies being developed by public and private organizations to meet those needs.

Representatives of governmental and non-profit groups will discuss the history and future of Maine's farm history, the role of agriculture in rural economic development and UMaine's efforts to help farmers thrive.

This day-long conference is open to the public and will be held at the Wells Commons on the UMaine campus. The \$10 registration fee includes proceedings and lunch. A complete schedule and registration information are available on the Internet or by phone, Melissa Potts, 1-800-287-7170.

Artists Van Aken, Warren Exhibit at UMaine Carnegie Galleries

10 Feb 2005

Contact: MaJo Keleshian, (207) 581-3267, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- How Hollywood shapes visions of reality and concerns about technology's waste materials are themes of new exhibits in mixed media and sculpture by UMaine artist Sam Van Aken and sculptor Wally Warren at the University of Maine Department of Art's Carnegie Galleries

The show runs from Feb. 11 through March 18. The public is invited.

Both artists work with many of the same materials -- computers for example -- but in different ways. Van Aken uses computers to show how media can manipulate fact and fiction. Warren employs discarded computer parts in his sprawling landscapes.

In Van Aken's "Becoming" in Gallery I, the assistant professor of art has taken on the role of Roy Neary, the character played by Richard Dreyfuss in the film "Close Encounters."

Exploring the impact of Hollywood on shaping our reality while dealing with such themes as artistic vision and obsession, Van Aken will reconstruct the living room scene from the movie, and during the time of the exhibit, he will build the replica of Devil's Tower in character Roy Neary's vision.

Van Aken has had solo exhibitions in the United States and Europe. Other recent exhibits have included "Hybrids," an exhibit of hundreds of invented hybrid fruits made from plastic, at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, "The Multiple Deaths of Willem Dafoe," at the Maine Center for Contemporary Art in Rockport and "In Between," which used 350 speakers to broadcast layers of voices from footage taken after the World Trade Center attacks or from TV shows shouting, "Oh, my God!" to illustrate the difficulty in separating fact from fiction and the real from the imaginary, as portrayed through the media.

In Carnegie's Gallery II, Warren's exhibit "Chaos" comprises a number of the artist's "cities" as well as sculptures, notebooks and working papers.

"Technology has unleashed a multitude of 'raw material' for my use," says Warren, an artist-sculptor from Harmony. "Discarded computers, televisions and plastic toys have become key elements for my microcosms of our sprawling landscape. It's ongoing and growing as my work becomes a metaphor for the 'stuff' that pours from our technoculture, even as I am repulsed by the same material culture. It overwhelms me, and I cannot deal with it other than as an artist, a builder."

Warren has had numerous solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States. His most recent exhibit was at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, and he has done many Percent for Art public works throughout the state.

For more information, please contact MaJo Keleshian, gallery coordinator, University of Maine, Department of Art, at (207) 581-3267.

Women's Studies Lunch Series Offers Diverse Topics, Discussions

01 Feb 2005

Contact: Ann Schonberger, (207) 581-1228; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Women working in the woods, on the water, in science labs and in other traditionally male careers are among the subjects for the Spring 2005 Lunch Series talks presented by the UMaine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program.

Speakers in the spring program also include Mary Bonauto, director of the Civil Rights Project at Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, and lead attorney in the recent Massachusetts gay marriage case, in addition to University of Maine students, faculty and staff.

Ann Schonberger, director of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, says this semester's program takes on an environmental focus, with several speakers discussing such topics as women's perceptions of femininity in the wilderness and women who have become successful in biological sciences, forestry, lobstering and even fly fishing.

Schonberger is particularly enthusiastic with two series programs: Bonauto's appearance during Pride Week at UMaine and a discussion April 26 of cancer survivor Sandra Steingraber's book, "Living Downstream," two days before Steingraber visits UMaine as an Honors College speaker.

All lunch series programs are held 12:15-1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays or Wednesdays in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union and are free and open to the public.

"The WIC Lunch Series is one of the oldest and most visible aspects of our program," Schonberger says. "The series features weekly lectures, panels and performances that reflect current scholarship on women's issues. It also provides visiting scholars, university faculty, staff, students and others in the wider community an opportunity to present their work to a diverse audience."

The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 9 -- "Mapping Pasts, Changing Futures: Learning from Third-Wave Jewish Feminism," Sandra Berkowitz-Stafford, associate professor , communication and journalism, Laura Lindenfeld, research associate at the Margaret Chase Smith Center and instructor, women's studies and Jewish studies.

Feb. 16 -- "Award-winning Scientists Reflect on their Careers," with Susan Brawley, professor, plant biology, School of Marine Sciences, Laura Kenefic, assistant research professor, forest ecosystem science and research forester, U.S.D.A. Forest Service.

Feb. 23 -- "Challenging Girls' Constructions of Femininity in the Wilderness," Anja Whittington, graduate student, education.

March 15 -- "Into the Woods: Maine Women Workers Now and in the Past," Vivianne Holmes, associate extension educator, cooperative extension, Julia Hunter of the Maine State Museum and co-author of "Fly Rod Crosby: the Woman Who Marketed Maine," and Pauleena MacDougall, associate director, the Maine Folklife Center.

March 22 -- "Flute Music by Women Composers," a program of music history and performance, with Laura Artesani, instructor, music and women's studies, assistant chair of music, Elizabeth Downing, coordinator, new student programs and flautist and piccolo player in the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, and UMaine music students.

March 29 -- "Performance as Feminist Activism," Elizabeth Whitney, independent scholar and artist.

April 6 -- "The Future of Marriage Equality in New England: Massachusetts, Connecticut and Maine," Maine resident Mary Bonauto, director of the Civil Rights Project at Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). (Part of Pride Week)

April 13 -- "Unlocking Your Story: Performing Women's Personal Narratives," Marcia Douglas, assistant professor and chair of theatre, School of Performing Arts.

April 20 -- "'Just Call Me a Lobsterman:' Women in the Lobster Industry," Catherine Billings, assistant director for communications and development, College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

April 26 -- "Why is the Spring So Silent? Reflections on 'Living Downstream' by Sandra Steingraber," with Sandra Haggard, associate professor, biological sciences and women's studies at University College of Bangor, Sharon Tisher, instructor, resource economics and policy and honors program lecturer, with Anatole Wieck, associate professor, music, performing music inspired by Steingraber's book.

Additional information about the series is available [here](#).

UMaine Peace and Justice Films Target American Corporate, Foreign Policies

02 Feb 2005

Contact: Doug Allan, (207) 581-3860; George Manlove, (207) 561-3756

The UMaine Maine Peace Action Committee's 2005 Peace and Justice Film Series is offering provocative, sometimes humorous films that analyze and challenge American foreign and corporate policies.

The films include work by producers and directors that include Michael Moore, Stanley Kubrick and members of "Hollywood Ten" blacklisted during the McCarthy era and cover controversial topics that also include civil rights, the Middle East, Latin America and nuclear proliferation.

The series is sponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC), which was founded in 1974 and consists primarily of UMaine undergraduate students. These powerful and thought-provoking movies, shown at 7 p.m. at 110 Little Hall on the Orono campus, are free and followed by discussions of each film.

The schedule is:

Thursday, Feb. 3: "At the River I Stand" -- The dramatic 1968 struggle in Memphis with connection between economic and civil rights, debate over violent vs. nonviolent change, and demand for full inclusion of African Americans. (Part of Black History Month.).

Feb. 10: "The Big One" -- This challenging humorous film by Michael Moore examines why big corporations, claiming that they long for a better America, close productive and profitable plants in America and move them to third-world nations.

Feb. 17: "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" -- An extraordinary film that captures U.S.-backed, attempted coup d'etat of elected president Hugo Chavez, the man "The Wall Street Journal" credits with making Venezuela "Washington's biggest Latin American headache after the old standby, Cuba."

March 17: "Salt of The Earth" -- A powerful film, banned in U.S., focusing on strike of Mexican-American, zinc mine workers in New Mexico, is one of best films showing connections between gender, race, and class. Directed by members of "Hollywood Ten" blacklisted during the McCarthy era. (Part of Women's History Month.)

March 24: "Control Room" -- A fascinating chronicle focusing on Al Jazeera, the Arab world's most popular news outlet, that shows news coverage and perceptions of Iraq War rarely seen in the U.S. and attacked by Bush Administration.

March 31: "The Corporation" -- An entertaining, hard-hitting film that analyzes the very nature of the corporate institution, its impacts on planet, and how people are responding. Features Michael Moore, Noam Chomsky, Naomi Klein, Vandana Shiva, Howard Zinn and Milton Friedman, plus more than 30 other corporate insiders and critics.

April 7: "Dr. Strangelove" or "How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" -- A classic and provocative film starring Peter Sellers, this is producer-director Stanley Kubrick's brilliant, satirical comedy-fantasy regarding doomsday and Cold War politics that features an accidental, inadvertent, pre-emptive nuclear attack.

For additional information, please contact Prof. Doug Allen, faculty advisor and member of MPAC, University of Maine, (207) 581-3860. Information also is located [here](#).

UMaine Tsunami Aid Performance Set for Feb. 4

02 Feb 2005

Contact: Shezwae Fleming, (207) 581-1425, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The public is invited to an international talent show at Minsky Recital Hall at the University of Maine from 7-9 p.m. to raise money to aid tsunami victims in Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka and other Asian or South Asian counties hit by the Dec. 26 earthquake and tidal wave.

Sponsored by the UMaine Asian Student Association and the Southeast Asia Association of Maine, the show will spotlight more than 20 students from many countries, including more than seven Asian or Southeast Asian counties playing music, singing, dancing, performing skits and other forms of traditional cultural entertainment, says ASA president Anh Nguyen.

The talent show is one of at least three separate tsunami relief efforts currently under way on the UMaine campus. The Asian student group already has raised more than \$600 and hopes to raise several thousand more through the talent show.

Donations of \$3 for students and \$5 for adults are requested. Funds will be distributed to young tsunami victims through UNICEF. Additionally, the students will prepare traditional appetizers, which will be available in the Minsky Hall lobby.

Additional information is available by calling Shezwae Fleming at the UMaine ALANA Center, 581-1425.

New England Board of Higher Education Honors UMaine Teaching Fellows Program, State's Parents as Scholars Initiative with Excellence Awards

04 Feb 2005

Contact: Carolyn Morwick, 617.357.9620, ext. 118

BOSTON The University of Maine's GK-12 Teaching Fellows Program, along with the state of Maine's Parents as Scholar's Program, are among winners of the 2005 New England Higher Education Excellence Awards announced today by the New England Board of Higher Education.

Senator Olympia J. Snowe lauded both awardees, noting, "Maine's future economic and civic well-being demand increased educational attainment for people of all ages. These innovative programs recognize that pressing reality, and they should be studied and emulated regionally and nationally."

"The University of Maine's GK-12 Teaching Fellows Program provides valuable experience for our future teachers while enhancing the learning experience of the K-12 students involved," noted First Lady Karen Baldacci. The First Lady added, "Low-income parents often find obstacles to a college education daunting. Maine's Parents as Scholars program provides these parents the opportunity to achieve their goals."

NEBHE President and CEO Evan S. Dobbelle, noted 'the GK-12 Teaching Fellows Program is an outstanding program ' not only does it address Maine's shortage of math and science teachers, it increases the quality of K-12 education in the critical fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.?

UMaine Black History Month Features Music, Dance, Poetry

03 Feb 2005

Contact: Shezwae Fleming, (207) 581-1425, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's celebration of Black History Month at the UMaine includes a program of music, dance, poetry and discussions of black history and an exploration of the roots of African culture.

Organized by three UMaine student organizations -- the African Student Association, Black Student Union and the Multi-Cultural Center -- observances began Feb. 2 and end Feb. 23.

Yannick Moutassie, president of the Black Student Union stresses that all students, regardless of color or nationality are invited and welcome to participate in the activities.

The events for the month are sponsored by a multi-cultural collaboration, including the UMaine Impact Movement, the Office of Multicultural Programs, School of Performing Arts Theater and Music Departments, and the campus radio station WMEB FM.

The events are:

Feb. 10: A musical tribute to the African American jazz musicians of the Harlem renaissance era, from 7-8:15 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, featuring The Lidral Duo playing their own compositions inspired by Harlem jazz greats.

Feb. 19, from 3-6 p.m.: A special program WMEB FM (91.9), hosted by Moutassie, titled "The International Melting Pot of the New Century." Moutassie, who is a DJ Saturday afternoons at WMEB, is structuring his weekly show with a mix of music and live interviews with students from many cultures discussing the effects of biracial relationships in a world where many traditional cultural barriers are disappearing.

Feb. 19, 9 p.m.: "Soul Train," a weekly event at the Elks Lodge in Old Town in which people learn and show off "the latest and greatest in soul music and dance moves," according to Moutassie. In a 1960s setting, with '60's era

clothing, participates will have a dance contest and black history trivia contest. Prizes include gift certificates to The Chocolate Grill.

Feb. 23: "Come Down Burning," a 15-minute Reader's Theater production by the UMaine School of Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall. The play, by New York playwright Kia Corthron, is about two poor black women who grapple with equal access to education, abortion rights, healthcare and the legacy of injustice.

Feb. 23: "Cultural Extravaganza" from 8:30-10:30 p.m. at Wells Common, an inclusive celebration with speakers, poetry readings, appetizers and the sale of African art to benefit the Black Student Union. "It is going to be a closure event for Black History Month," says Moutassie.

Moutassie, a junior majoring in international affairs with a concentration in economics, says that in addition to promoting education about black history and culture, the Black Student Union is an apolitical organization with an educational mission.

"I'd like people to understand the Black Student Union is in no shape or form a segregationist union," says Moutassie, who is from Cameroon. "It is a student association. The goal is to promote African-American culture and help black students and all students who need help during their time that they are students at the University of Maine."

Information about the Black Student Union and other student cultural organizations can be obtained by contacting Shezwae Fleming, director of Multicultural Programs and the Alana Center in Hannibal Hamlin Hall, (207) 581-1425.

Extension's Potato Technical Assistance Program Honored

03 Feb 2005

Contact: James Dwyer, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Presque Isle, 207-764-3361

ORONO, Maine. -- The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Potato/Crops Program received a 2004 Award of Excellence Feb. 1 in Washington D.C. from the Northeast Cooperative Extension Directors. This is the highest award presented by Extension directors in the Northeast. It recognizes Extension outreach programming that has achieved outstanding accomplishments, results and impacts in addressing contemporary issues.

James D. Dwyer, crop specialist, Extension professor and team leader, accepted the award. Maine was one of three states honored. Nominations included fourteen programs in the northeast region that runs from Maine to West Virginia and Washington, D.C.

UMaine Cooperative Extension has a multidisciplinary educational team working with the potato industry. According to a 2003 study commissioned by Maine Potato Board, the Maine potato industry is the largest agricultural industry in the state. It directly employs over 2,600 individuals within 500 businesses and has an economic value to Maine

15th Annual Hudson Museum Games Day Feb. 23

03 Feb 2005

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, (207) 581-1904, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Games Day at the University of Maine's Hudson Museum is a February school vacation tradition. This year's event, the 15th annual Games Day, is scheduled for 10 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Feb. 23.

Children will have an opportunity to play games of skill and chance from around the world, while visiting the galleries of the Hudson Museum. Games stations, located throughout the museum, will include feather races, a Northeastern Native American bowl game and seal races.

The event is open to families and groups, including scout groups, and may be used to fulfill badge and Heritage belt loop and pin requirements.

"It's good for parents who are looking for structured educational activities during the February vacation," says Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner. "Parents and children can learn about cultures in the museum's galleries, while learning about traditional games played around the world."

The event is open to children ages six and up and there is a \$3 per child registration fee. Please call 581-1904 to register or for more information.

Teacher Formation Gathering Scheduled at UMaine

03 Feb 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A workshop for educators at all levels to explore the intersection of life and work will be held Friday, March 11, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the University of Maine Buchanan Alumni House in Orono.

"We Teach Who We Are: A Winter Gathering for all Who Educate" will be led by Richard Ackerman, UMaine associate professor of Educational Leadership, and a trained Courage to Teach facilitator through the National Center for Teacher Formation in Washington State. Educators from the University of Maine at Farmington and Cooperative Extension will also help facilitate the session.

Based on the work of Parker J. Palmer and the teacher formation principles outlined in his book, *The Courage to Teach*, the program is rooted in the belief that good teaching flows from the identity and integrity of the teacher and makes connections between the renewal of a teacher's spirit and the revitalization of education. The work focuses on renewing the inner lives of teachers and leaders, not on techniques or strategies.

The fee for participation in the gathering is \$20, which includes materials, refreshments and lunch. Scholarships are available on request. Registration deadline is March 1.

For more information and registration, contact Ackerman at (207) 581-3170.

Open Casting Call for UMaine Student Film Feb. 9 & 16

04 Feb 2005

Contact: Andrew Eldridge, (207) 581-8590; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Students in a UMaine film class are holding an open casting call Feb. 9 and Feb. 16 for their next short movie. Auditions both Wednesdays will be from 6-9 p.m. on the second floor of Alumni Hall on the Orono campus.

"The Stream" is scheduled to be shot entirely on weekends this month. The entire production is being run by students of the Year in Film class. This will be the sixth film made and produced by the class since Year in Film was introduced two years ago.

3 Legged Dog Productions, the production group created by Year in Film students is looking for two men and two women between ages 18 and 30. Interested parties are encouraged, but not required, to prepare a one minute monologue for the audition. No appointment is required.

Questions should be directed to Andrew Eldridge at (207) 581-8590.

Last year the class-produced film "Float" was selected for screening at the Maine International Film Festival in Waterville.

Public Forums to Discuss Statewide Sports Initiative

03 Feb 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Maine residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the new initiative to improve middle school and high school sports at a series of informational meetings around the state. Sessions will be held in South Portland, Rockland, Auburn, Brewer, Machias, Presque Isle and Augusta

The federally funded, University of Maine project led to development and publication of Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes. The report, crafted by a statewide Select Panel, defines healthy interscholastic sports and makes recommendations for shaping the best possible learning environment for student-athletes. It was unveiled at a Jan. 6 rollout at the Augusta Civic Center, attended by more than 400 educational leaders, athletic directors, coaches, parents and student-athletes.

The intent of the public regional meetings is to discuss what Sports Done Right is, what's in the report, and how schools and communities can get involved and start local conversations about the core principles that describe healthy sports experiences for young people. The informational sessions are open to anyone interested in positive sports programs for children and adolescents. These meetings would be particularly helpful to those who did not attend the Jan. 6 rollout and want to discuss the report in a small, intimate setting.

The regional meetings will be facilitated by J. Duke Albanese, project co-director and former Maine education commissioner; Karen Brown, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at the University of Maine; and other initiative staff members and Select Panel representatives as available. Robert Cobb, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, also co-directs the initiative.

Free copies of the Sports Done Right report will be available, and refreshments will be served. More information about the initiative is available on the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching [website](#):

Regional Forum Schedule

All sessions run from 4-6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 16 -- South Portland Public Library, 482 Broadway

Thursday, Feb. 17 -- Rockland Middle School cafeteria

Wednesday, March 2 -- Brewer High School cafeteria

Thursday, March 3 -- University of Maine at Machias, Science Building, Room 102

Thursday, March 10 -- Augusta City Center Lecture Hall (next to Fort Western)

Thursday, March 17 -- University of Maine at Presque Isle Student Center, St. John Room

Thursday, March 24-- Auburn Hall, All Boards Chamber, Second Floor

Maple Sugaring is Subject of UMaine Lunch Program March 15

04 Mar 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4115, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Backyard maple sugaring is the focus of a University of Maine brown bag lunch talk March 15 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus.

Kathy Hopkins, an extension educator in the university's Somerset County Extension Office in Skowhegan is the scheduled speaker. Hopkins is an authority on backyard and commercial maple syrup operations, and runs a small farm with her husband in Norridgewock.

She'll discuss necessary equipment and the sugaring process, from maple tree-tapping to boiling sap down to maple syrup, says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director.

The public is welcome to the free event. Visitors are invited to bring a bag lunch. Additional information is available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-3756.

The talk comes less than two weeks before March 27, Maine Maple Sunday.

Sports Done Right Pilot Sites Announced

04 Mar 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine --Twelve Maine school districts have been selected as pilot sites to develop and implement local policy and practices reflecting the University of Maine's Sports Done Right recommendations at their high schools and middle schools.

The 12 sites, comprising 29 separate schools, were selected from a total of 25 applicants, based on geographic distribution; community and school size; expressed commitment and need; and potential for broad community involvement in the initiative. In all, the sites represent 13 high schools, 15 middle schools and one combined middle-high school.

The federally funded UMaine initiative, begun in October 2003, led to the creation and publication of Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes. Crafted by a statewide Select Panel, the report defines healthy interscholastic sports, promotes competition without conflict, and makes recommendations for shaping the best possible learning environment for student-athletes. The document is unprecedented in its reliance on the voices of student-athletes to examine problems and solutions.

Following the report's Jan. 6, 2005 rollout, Maine school systems, through their superintendents, were invited to apply as pilot sites. An ad hoc committee, established by the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching (MCSC) at the University of Maine, reviewed and narrowed the applications, then offered the opportunity to be a pilot site to 12 school districts.

"We are delighted to see that the Sports Done Right report represents what these schools and communities consider to be a good direction, and we are excited by their readiness to start now," said Robert Cobb, Dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and Co-director of the initiative. "We are also aware of the tremendous pressures schools are under to implement state and federal mandates and assess student progress, in addition to the present fiscal constraints. Faced with such daily realities, we know that responding schools thoroughly considered the implications of taking on more work, and we applaud their proactive commitment to building better athletic experiences," he said.

A commitment to collaboration is evident among pilot school districts. For example, the Winthrop Interscholastic Athletic Programs and the Winthrop Recreation Department applied as a single site, and Lewiston and Auburn schools agreed to share status as one pilot site.

The official Sports Done Right pilot sites are:

UMaine Engineering Students Building Composite Catapult

03 Mar 2005

Contact: Roberto Lopez-Anido, Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 207-581-2119; Nick Houtman, Dept. of

Public Affairs, 207-581-3777 ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine engineering students hope that their understanding of composite material design and construction will launch them into exciting careers after graduation. But first, they intend to launch something else in an international competition this summer. They are participating in the Composite Catapult Competition sponsored by the European Pultrusion Technology Association, July 6-8 in The Netherlands. The event requires them to study the characteristics of pultruded composite materials and to design and build a machine that can catapult a 6-kilogram (13-pound) ball. In addition to demonstrating their device in tests of accuracy and distance, they must present their computer aided design models to a panel of judges. "We hope to learn more about composite materials and their capabilities," says Travis Hamel of Milford, a junior in the Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering and a member of the UMaine team. "By getting hands on experience, we can better understand the relationship between design and construction to help us improve our engineering skills. Industry is heading more towards using composite materials, so by using them in our catapult, we hope to learn more about their properties and how to apply them to real-life situations." Pultrusion is an automated manufacturing process for the production of fiber reinforced polymer composite materials known in industry as profiles. Pultrusion profiles are used for commercial products such as light-weight corrosion free structures, electrical non-conductive systems, offshore platforms, road and railway trucks and many other innovative new products. Profiles made of pultruded composites combine the following properties and advantages: high mechanical strength and low weight, corrosion and weather resistance, low thermal longitudinal expansion, good fatigue properties, high impact strength, optimal surface quality, good adhesion properties, rapid machining, assembly and mounting. "The students are demonstrating their ingenuity and will learn how to design, construct, operate and test a catapult using composite materials," says Roberto Lopez-Anido, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the team's advisor. "The challenge is to go from an innovative conceptual design to a system that can perform well under precise requirements. The team proposed a catapult design of the trebuchet type, which has a beam that swings a sling carrying the projectile. Our students will also gain valuable cultural and international experience by interacting with engineering students from other universities in Europe and the U.S.," Lopez-Anido adds. Last year's winning team from the University of Helsinki launched the ball almost 200 meters (656 feet). Other participating teams include Windesheim University in The Netherlands, University of Kaiserslautern in Germany, Lancaster University in England, and the University of Arizona and Virginia Tech in the U.S. Members of the UMaine team include the following students from the departments of civil and environmental engineering and mechanical engineering: Hamel, Steven Knapp of Cherryfield, Ian Simpson of Brunswick, Jaime England of Ellsworth, Jason Ready of Windsor and Benjamin Jewell of Hampden. Their goal is to complete a working catapult in early May. The UMaine team sponsors include Creative Pultrusions, Inc.; S.W. Cole Engineering; and at UMaine, the College of Engineering, several engineering departments and the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center.

Legislative Group to Tour UMaine Research Facilities

01 Mar 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A group of approximately 35 Maine legislators is scheduled to visit the University of Maine on Wednesday, March 2 to learn more about the university's research capabilities and infrastructure, along with its role as a statewide cultural resource.

Interim President Robert Kennedy will greet the group at 12:45 p.m. in the Maine Center for the Arts main lobby. The lawmakers will divide into four groups and spend the next hour visiting two of the following four UMaine facilities: the MCA, the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, the Laboratory for Surface Science Technology and the new Advanced Manufacturing Center. At 2:15 p.m., the group leaves for Franklin and a tour of UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research.

At each scientific facility, researchers will provide an overview of the center's activities and capabilities. UMaine is ranked among the top four percent of research universities nationwide by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The MCA tour will include a behind-the-scenes look at that facility, of which UMaine is planning a major renovation.

The visits are part of a legislative bus tour of eastern and northern Maine.

Note: Tuesday's storm could affect the legislators' Wednesday schedule. New organizations interested in covering the

Wednesday tour should call first to make sure the schedule has not changed.

UMaine Fraternity Wins Top Regional Awards

02 Mar 2005

Contact: Tyler Sing at (207) 866-7755 ext. 318

QUINCY, Mass.--The University of Maine

Education Commissioner to Address Future Math and Science Teachers

11 Mar 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Maine Education Commissioner Susan A. Gendron will be the keynote speaker at the fifth annual Math and Science Future Teachers Conference, taking place Saturday, March 26 at the University of Maine. Designed for aspiring math and science teachers, conference participants will have the opportunity to work with exemplary educators who will present workshops on innovative instructional strategies, classroom management and finding the right job.

The conference is sponsored by the UMaine Mathematics and Science Future Teachers Club, a group of Math, Science, Engineering, Technology and Education majors working to build a strong community of students and educators, including offering professional development events and maintaining teaching resources that support best practices in math and science education.

Commissioner Gendron's 9 a.m. address, titled "Preparing to Teach in the 21st Century," is free and open to the public. The pre-registration fee for the daylong conference, with workshops following the keynote speech, is \$10.

A former teacher and principal, Gendron was superintendent of the Windham School Department prior to becoming Education Commissioner on March 13, 2003. Originally from Massachusetts, she majored in Elementary and Secondary Education at the University of Southern Maine, where she also earned her master's degree in Educational Administration. During her 30 years as an educator, she has received many honors, including the Maine School Superintendents' Distinguished Educator Award in 2001 and the Superintendent of the Year Award in 2002.

"The fact that Commissioner Gendron is traveling to Orono early on a Saturday morning to address our conference clearly shows that math and science education and future teachers are high on her agenda," said Amie Gellen, UMaine mathematics education lecturer and advisor to the Future Teachers Club. "We are thrilled and honored that she is coming."

All conference events take place in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building, beginning at 8:30 a.m. with check-in and a continental breakfast. Lunch is also provided. The conference is open to anyone interested in becoming a math or science teacher, including current students at any college or university, high school and middle school students who are strong in math and science and thinking about teaching as a profession, and individuals considering a career change.

"While the conference is primarily intended for college students studying to be teachers, we think it would also be a good opportunity for high school and middle school students to observe the workshops, talk with practicing and future teachers and learn more about the profession," said Gellen.

Topics and speakers include:

- Card and Number Magic Tricks for the Math Classroom, by Jon Matte, Chair, Mathematics and Computer Science Department, Greens Farms Academy, Westport, Conn.
- Effective Classroom Management Practices, Lisa Damian-Marvin, educational consultant, American Geological Institute.
- What Do Students Know?, Mary Whitten, Chair, Science Department, Gardiner Area High School.

- What's in Space? How Do We Get There? Using children's questions to design an integrated curriculum, Joanne Defilipp, educational director, Stillwater Montessori School, Old Town, Maine.
- Technology Revisited

UMaine Student Receives Award for Research on High Temperature Hydrogen Sensor

11 Mar 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777, houtman@maine.edu

ORONO, Maine -- Monitoring the performance of jet engines and other combustion technologies requires sensors that can operate at high temperatures. University of Maine master's student Jeremy Thiele of Hollis, Maine earned an award in 2004 for his research on patented sensor technology that can operate at 250 degrees Celsius and detect hydrogen gas.

Thiele worked with Mauricio Pereira da Cunha, assistant professor in the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who developed the sensor. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) awarded Thiele its Student Award at a meeting in Montreal last fall.

Thiele made and successfully demonstrated a hydrogen sensor using langasite crystals. Langasite is a family of materials that have several beneficial properties for sensing purposes. It has proved to be more sensitive and stable at high temperatures than other sensing platforms such as quartz crystals.

In his project, Thiele equipped a langasite sensor with two electrodes made of the element palladium. For sixteen weeks, the sensor detected hydrogen gas at several different concentrations. Langasite has proven to work reliably at 750 degrees C.

Thiele's poster was titled "Dual Configuration High Temperature Hydrogen Sensor on LGS SAW Devices." Detecting hydrogen is important to the efficient operation of fuel cells, jet engines and power plants.

UMaine Students Spend Spring Break Saving Stranded Florida Dolphins

11 Mar 2005

Contact: Christine Nold (207) 866- 7373, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of UMaine students doing volunteer work in Florida over spring break joined dozens of wet-suited volunteers on Marathon Key, caring for some of the 70 rough-tooth dolphins that beached themselves in shallow water March 2.

Christie Nold, a 20-year-old secondary education major from Shelburne, Vt. was among a group of 10 UMaine students participating in Black Bear Volunteers and Alternative Spring Break program assignments at a Haitian community center and in Biscayne National Park, where they were cleaning beaches and helping to monitor coral growth at a coral nursery, when they heard about the stranded dolphins about two hours away.

Nold and her friends drove to the site of the stranding March 3 to sign up for shifts in the water, cradling sick or exhausted dolphins to keep their breathing holes above water. Their first glimpse of the scene was discomfoting, according to Nold.

"I think the hardest part was we got there before there was a lot of police control and there were huge lines of people with cameras gawking but not doing anything," she says. "The line for volunteers was a lot shorter."

The UMaine students, with at least seven people available to go into the water, signed up for the least popular shift, 4-8 a.m., March 4, Nold says. "We had such a large group, we could pretty much fill any slots they had," she says.

With wetsuits provided by Florida's Marine Mammal Conservancy, the students waded into the chilly dark water at 4 a.m. Nold's first assignment was to prevent the dolphins that were able to swim from colliding with

mangrove trees growing in chest-deep water offshore, while others held the ailing dolphins up to breathe.

"I was by myself and I was very scared," says Nold, who adds that she is fearful of fish, but buoyed by the camaraderie of her friends.

None hit the trees, she says, "but tons of them were swimming by. People were 20 feet away holding the dolphins."

Her first experience actually supporting a dolphin ranks at the top of her list of memorable lifetime experiences.

"It was heavy," she says of the first of three dolphins she held up. "I didn't realize how much they really needed us."

"You could tell the dolphins' personalities by whether they would move around or talk to the other dolphins," she says. "It was really neat to see their different personalities."

Dolphins are social creatures, Nold says, and she saw some of the healthier ones swim around but come back to the group to check on the weaker ones. Occasionally, a tired swimming dolphin would approach a rescuer for a lift, says Nold, who is certain the dolphins were not only comfortable with the humans, but understood why humans were there.

Of the dolphins Nold assisted, one was a mother with a calf close by her side. She could feel when the dolphins became cold. They shivered, Nold says.

By holding to mammals so closely, she says, "You're warming the dolphin up and it's warming you up. You could feel the warmth going back and forth. You could definitely tell how the dolphin was feeling just by holding it."

Volunteers back in Florida, meanwhile, are continuing their round-the-clock rescue vigil as biologists from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Southeast Regional Stranding Network try to discover what happened to disorient the dolphins, about 30 of which have died or were euthanized. Authorities suspect a disease or disorientation caused by a U.S. Navy submarine sonar was the reason for the beachings.

Students in the UMaine volunteers group who helped with the rescue effort also included Rachel Maloney-Hawkins, Ashley Adams, Matt Sullivan, Kaylee Cooper, Caroline Seastrom, Vanessa Morin, Lindsay Landroche, Rachel Zawacki and Jason Saucier, a graduate student and advisor with the ASB group.

The UMaine Black Bear Volunteers' Alternative Spring Break program arranges for students to do week-long volunteer service projects during spring break, including building homes for low-income families, doing conservation work or helping the elderly and at-risk youths throughout the East Coast. This year, the program placed students additionally in Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana, according to Lynette Dexter, program coordinator. Black Bear Volunteers also links students with charitable projects in Maine on weekends outside of spring break.

Women's History Month at UMaine:

10 Mar 2005

Contact: Mazie Hough, (207) 581-1225, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's Women's History Celebration, March 14 through April 7, at UMaine features a program series of lectures, performances, movies and music that explore the lives of women ranging from Joan of Arc to Maine's Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby.

Through a program of 15 presentations and performances, Women's History Celebration 2005 is designed to impart "a broad vision of what women have done and the vast opportunity for what they can do in the future,"

says Mazie Hough, associate director Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, which primarily sponsor the program. All events are public and free, unless otherwise noted.

"Each year we take a theme. Every year we try to do something a little bit different," Hough says. "This year our theme is 'Drawing from the past, Feminism for the Future.'"

As part of the series, Portland-based feminist playwright, performer and activist Carolyn Gage will appear at Minsky Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. on March 22 to discuss her book "The Second Coming of Joan of Arc," based on transcripts from Joan of Arc's 15th century trial. Joan led an army of 12,000 French against the British but later was burned at the stake for heresy.

"The following week," Hough notes, "is 'Pop Culture Princess,' March 29 with feminist performance artist Elizabeth Whitney, whose performance will critique the ways in which women are defined and controlled by cultural representations, and explore the meaning of "Barbie."

"Looking toward the future, we will also feature a visit by Hannah Pingree, the Democratic state representative from North Haven," on March 24 to discuss how and why women should get into politics, Hough says. "She is a very dynamic speaker."

Films about women's roles in Vietnam, India and Mexico, as well as in an Africa American community off the Georgia coast also are part of the celebrations programs.

The program schedule follows:

March 14

"Daughters of the Dust"

This film by Julie Dash explores the unique culture of the Gullah women, descendants of slaves -- respected for their basket-weaving skills and who lived off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina -- through the story of an African American family as it prepares to move north at the beginning of the 20th century. 4 p.m., 115 D.P. Corbett Business Building.

March 15

"Into the Woods: Maine Women Workers Now and in the Past"

Two historians and an agriculturist-educator will discuss the women who have gone into the woods for a living: Julia Hunter of the Maine State Museum and author of "Fly Rod Crosby: The Woman Who Marketed Maine;" Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the Maine Folklife Center, who has done extensive research on Fannie Hardy Eckstorm; and Vivianne Holmes of the Cooperative Extension Service, who is developing a program to assist Maine women woodworkers. 12:15 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union.

March 16

Questions of Franco Identity and Feminism in Honore Beaugrand's "Jeanne La Fileuse"

Sarah Domareki Kazmericzak, graduate student in French, will explore issues of identity and feminism in this classic Franco-American novel. 12:15 p.m., Franco-American Center, Crossland Hall (Part of the Franco-American Studies Spring Series on Ethnicity).

March 17

"Salt of the Earth"

This 1954 film focusing on a strike of Mexican American zinc mine workers in New Mexico explores the interconnections of gender, race and class. A discussion will follow. 7 p.m., 110 Little Hall (Maine Peace Action Film Series).

March 19

Spruce Run Chocolate Buffet and Silent Auction

This favorite annual event will also feature musical entertainment. Proceeds benefit Spruce Run Association, 7 p.m., University College Center, Bangor Campus. For tickets (\$15/person) and information, call Spruce Run, 945-5102.

March 20

"Arundhati Roy: Power in the Age of Empire"

This is a film of Indian feminist activist and writer Arundhati Roy's speech in San Francisco, Aug. 16, 2004. "So when we speak of public power in the Age of Empire" she notes, "I hope it's not presumptuous to assume that the only thing that is worth discussing seriously is the power of a dissenting public." 5 p.m., Peace and Justice

Center, 170 Park St., Bangor

March 21

"Surname Viet, Given Name Nam"

In this thought-provoking film, Vietnamese-born Trinh T. Minh-ha explores the role of Vietnamese women historically and in contemporary society using dance, printed texts, folk poetry and the words and experiences of Vietnamese women in Vietnam. 4 p.m., 115 D.P. Corbett Building.

March 22

"Flute Music by Women Composers: Program of Music and History"

Laura Artesani, instructor of music and women's studies, and assistant chair of the School of Performing Arts music division, Elizabeth Downing, flautist and piccolo player in the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, and UM music students will introduce us to the history and music of women composers. 12:15 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union

"The Second Coming of Joan of Arc"

Portland-based and internationally acclaimed feminist playwright, performer and activist Carolyn Gage draws from transcripts of Joan of Arc's trial in this re-vision of Joan's narrative. 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Building.

March 23

"Working Out a Salvation: Jane Addams and Democratic Faith"

Victoria Bissell Brown, professor of history at Grinnell College, has recently published "The Education of Jane Addams," a book that has been referred to as the definitive biography of Addams, a social reformer, suffragette and peace activist at the turn of the 19th Century. 3:15 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union. (Part of the History Department Symposium)

March 24

"Feminism for the Future: Young Women Getting Involved in Politics"

State Rep. Hannah Pingree, D-North Haven, will discuss how and why young women should get involved in politics. 7 p.m., 117 D.P. Corbett Building

"Hard Work to Make Ends Meet," drawing on a 19th Century survey of working women, award-winning filmmaker Jim Sharkey of Orono combines the voices of these working women together with period music, photographs and interviews with Maine historian Carol Toner, UMaine research associate and coordinator of the Maine Studies Program. The film explores the working and living conditions for women in Maine's shops and factories around the turn of the century. 7 p.m., Bangor Public Library

March 28

"After the Revolution and Embargo: Cuban Social Policy for Women and Families"

Mary Jo Blazek, professor of human services and adjunct associate professor of social work at the University of Maine at Augusta, traveled to Cuba this past year to gather data for MADRE, an international women's rights organization. She will reflect on what the new Cuban Social Policy means for women and children, 10:30 a.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union.

"Ma Vie en Rose"

This film offers us the story of Ludovic, a little girl born in a boy's body who truly believes that a miracle is going to happen. 4 p.m., 115 D.P. Corbett Building.

March 29

"Performance as Feminist Activism"

Award-winning feminist performance artist Elizabeth Whitney, who received her Ph.D. in performance studies and speech communication from Southern Illinois University, will reflect on what led her to leave the academic world for the world of performance. 12:15 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union.

"Pop Culture Princess"

In this one-woman performance, Elizabeth Whitney critiques the ways in which women are defined and controlled by cultural representations and explore and transform the meaning of Barbie. 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall.

March 31

"Unbought and Unbossed"

This is the first historical documentary on Brooklyn Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and her campaign to become the Democratic Party's black Presidential nominee in 1972. 4 p.m., 115 D.P. Corbett Building.

April 2

"Women With Wings and the Maine Women's Balkan Choir"

Women With Wings, founded by the late Kay Gardner, seeks to create a safe and sacred space for exploring women's spirituality through music. The Maine Women's Balkan Choir draws on a rich inheritance handed down from mothers to daughters as they sing traditional songs of the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Together they perform a powerful women's music finale. Workshop, 4 p.m., FFA Room, Memorial Union, concert, 7 p.m., Bangor Lounge, Memorial Union.

April 7

"Hard Work to Make Ends Meet"

See description from March 24th event. 4 p.m., University Club, Fogler Library
Refreshments will be served. (Co-Sponsored by the Friends of Fogler Library.)

Additional sponsors of the program include the UMaine Cultural Affairs Committee, the Distinguished Lecture Series, the Arthur R. Lord Fund, the Class of 1934 Fund, the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Office of the Vice President for Research, Ann Margaret Johnstone Memorial Lecture Fund, The Student Entertainment and Student Government, Inc., UMaine's Multicultural Programs, Department of Communication and Journalism and the Maine Peace Action Committee.

Persian Impressions" at UMaine Hudson Museum Spotlights Contemporary Iran

10 Mar 2005

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, (207) 581-1901, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Portland photographer Marta Morse will present a free illustrated lecture and curator's tour of her exhibit "Persian Impressions" at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 17 at The Hudson Museum at the University of Maine.

Morse's exhibit comprises 40 color prints chronicling her visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2004. They portray mosques, gardens and people as they are today in contemporary Iran, a country also known as Persia. Morse's talk will add a historical perspective to the photographs and slides. Trained as an architectural designer and artist, Morse has exhibited travel photographs in one-artist shows in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maine.

"Persian Impressions" is one of two new exhibits at the museum created around the theme of the 2005 Camden Conference, titled "The Middle East: Compromise or Conflagration?"

The second exhibit, "Across the Sands of Time," displays art and artifacts from the Middle East, some of which have never been exhibited to the public. Among the holdings of the Hudson Museum are North Syrian ceramic vessels dating from 1500-1000 B.C., Iranian ceramics from 1000 B.C. and Luristan bronzeworks. Along with the museum's collection, objects borrowed from other lenders showcase the rich artistic traditions of the Middle East.

The exhibits run through June 10.

The Hudson Museum is located in the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus. Information is available by calling (207) 581-1904.

UMaine's "Great Conversations" Take Liberal Arts and Sciences into Community

07 Mar 2005

Contact: Shannon Chisolm, (207) 581-1954, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Faculty in the University of Maine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences teach and investigate issues that are both timely and timeless. Through its "Great Conversations" program, they will share their knowledge of a variety of topics with members of the Penobscot Valley Senior College and residents at the Dirigo Pines Retirement Community in Orono Wednesday, March 9.

Eleven faculty members will address subjects ranging from the pros and cons of Maine's legislative term limits and the effects of the 2004 presidential elections to peace in a world with terrorists during the two-hour program.

Great Conversations, created for UMaine alumni during Homecoming Weekend last fall, proved so popular, according to college dean Ann Leffler, that the college decided to take the program off campus. A summer Great Conversations session, offered to the public at large, also is planned in August at the UMaine Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

"Nationally, the liberal arts and sciences are home to intriguing interests and questions that range from cutting-edge contemporary concerns to puzzles that endure over the centuries," Leffler says. "At UMaine, the liberal arts and sciences are also home to talented and knowledgeable faculty who love sharing their passion for these issues. Senior College, for its part, celebrates lifelong learning through classes, events and explorations that enrich its volunteer teachers and students."

At Dirigo Pines, "we have a number of retired professors and a lot of retired professionals," says Betty LaForge, activities director at Dirigo Pines. "It will be a good discussion."

Great Conversations is from 2-4 p.m., with a welcome reception at 1:30 p.m. Dirigo Pines is located at 9 Alumni Drive off Kelly Road in Orono. The program for the afternoon includes:

"Traveling Through Ancient Peru, with Dan Sandweiss, associate professor of anthropology and quaternary studies, who has spent decades sifting through ancient archaeological sites in Peru seeking clues about prehistoric communities.

"Term Limits in Maine: Have They Worked?" with Richard Powell, assistant professor of political science, and co-author of the recently published book "Changing members: The Era of Term Limits in the Maine Legislature."

"The Creative Economy and Liberal Arts," with Tony Brinkley, associate professor of English and associate chair of the English Department, who will discuss the impact that cultural and liberal arts can have on a community's ability to create a prosperous cultural and economic future.

"Can We Be Nonviolent in These Times of Terror and Terrorism?" with Doug Allen, philosophy professor. Allen asks whether violence has increased in the aftermath of 9/11 and the Iraq War, and whether proponents of non-violence like Mahatma Gandhi can offer effective alternative ways to analyze and deal with terror and terrorism.

"2004 Elections -- a Fundamental Shift?" with John Mahon, professor of management and interim UMaine provost. He'll discuss what some pundits view as a major shift in public opinion and how the nation views Republican and Democratic parties as a result of the last election.

"Will My Grandchild's Best Friend be a Robot?" with Elise Turner, associate professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science, who asks if movies like "AI" and television shows like "Star Trek: The Next Generation," which portray humanlike robots, are a sign of what's to come. If robots can become conscious, what should their status in society be?

"Infancy and Brain Development," with Marie Hayes, associate professor of psychology, who will discuss the early stages of brain growth and development and how environment -- pre and postnatal -- affects a child's psychology.

"Why the Criminal Justice System Can't Work," with Steven Barkan, professor and chair of the Department of Sociology, who argues that as a result of decades of research and government statistics indicating that a "get

tough" approach to crime, which relies on arrest and imprisonment, ultimately is ineffective in reducing crime.

"The Role of Arts in Modern Society," with Anatole Wieck, associate professor of music, who explains how the arts provide far more than entertainment.

"The Most Public Art: Film and American Identity," with Michael Grillo, associate professor of art. Grillo observes that over the course of the 20th Century, movies have served to shape a common American identity understood as essential for a nation of immigrants. He'll consider the most popular genres, from westerns to space empires, and ethnic comedies to nationalist epics, as he looks to how films created a sense of national belonging through a distinctly American mythology.

"Poetry as Prophecy and Consolation," with Bert Hatlen, professor of English and director the UMaine-based National Poetry Foundation. Hatlen asks about the impulses that lead us toward religion, and whether poetry and the arts offer a way to fulfill these impulses without demanding belief in a system of religious dogma?

Maine Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium Scheduled for Orono

07 Mar 2005

Contact: Kathy Savoie, Cooperative Extension, Cumberland County, 1-800-287-1471

ORONO, Maine -- The latest research and statewide programs to promote food safety, good nutrition and physical activity will take center stage April 27 at the Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium. The public is welcome to attend the event that will run from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Wells Conference Center.

LaVon Bartel, UMaine Cooperative Extension director and dean, will welcome participants and introduce speakers on topics such as food selection in school vending machines, the Healthy Weight Awareness Campaign and efforts to boost calcium intake and fruit and vegetable consumption among elementary school students.

Afternoon sessions will focus on the Healthy Maine Walks program, community strategies to reduce obesity and Web-based nutrition in the Women, Infants and Children Program. Representatives of programs focusing on physical activity in schools, dairy foods, school gardens, locally grown foods and environmental sustainability will be present as well.

Registration for the event is \$25 and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and conference materials. More information is available from Kathy Savoie, Cooperative Extension Cumberland County office, 1-800-287-1471. The deadline for registration and payment is April 8.

UMaine Peer Education Program to Sponsor Celebrate EveryBODY Week; Activities to Promote Eating Disorders Awareness

15 Mar 2005

Contact: Angela Fiandaca at 581-1397

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Peer Education Program, part of Residence Life and Programs, will sponsor Celebrate EveryBODY Week in promotion of eating disorders awareness Monday March 21 through Friday March 25 at the UMaine campus. All events are free and open to the public.

The purpose of the events is to promote awareness about eating disorders, disordered eating, fad diets, healthy eating, body image and more. All of these things affect thousands of men and women -- particularly of the college population. "It's so important to provide the information about these topics that no one else seems to be providing to students," said Angela Fiandaca, graduate assistant for the Peer Education Program. "Students are interested in this. It's time someone provides the answers to their questions."

The week begins with a "Wellness Fair" Monday March 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of

Memorial Union. Different organizations will staff tables with information related to all wellness topics, including alcohol use, yoga, fitness programs, skin cancer and more. Free massages will be available. Drawings for free prizes will be held throughout the fair.

"Survivors Speak Out" will be held Monday March 21 at 7 p.m. in 101 Neville Hall. UMaine students will speak about their personal experiences with eating disorders, the recovery process and their advice for audience members who might be suffering or know others suffering.

UMaine's artistic talent can be seen Wednesday March 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of Memorial Union at the "Body Expressions Art Show." Student submissions will portray men and women's bodies through paintings, photographs, sculptures, collages and more. Free refreshments served.

RN from South Portland and new author Kristielynne Cutler will give a talk titled "The Skinny on Trends." She'll provide information about fad diets, why people get caught up in them, the media's influences on people and more. A book signing will follow.

UMaine's Dietitian Laura Honeycutt will provide nutritional information about fad diets, and provide tips on how to stay healthy on little time and a small budget. "Confused About Carbs" will be held in the Bumps Room of Memorial Union Friday March 25 at 12 p.m.

UMaine's Renaissance women's singing group and Public Safety Officer Deb Mitchell's band will perform at the "Rock Your Body Concert" Friday March 25 at 9 p.m. in the Main Dining Room of Memorial Union. The theme is that these prominent UMaine people are not well known based on their looks or body type, but rather based on their talents and personalities.

A clothing drive competition will occur throughout the week among all 18 residence halls on campus. The goal is to donate all the clothes students may have told themselves will fit them if they lose weight. The hall that donates the most clothing will win a free pizza party. All clothes will be donated to local charities.

Zen Scholar to Speak at UMaine on Religion and Violence

22 Mar 2005

Contact: Hugh Curran, (207) 667-7170/581-2609, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The Peace Studies Program and the Philosophy Department at UMaine are sponsoring a visit by Brian Victoria, author and Zen scholar who has written extensively on themes relating to war and violence in Buddhism.

He is scheduled to give two talks on Thursday, April 7th. The first titled "The Last Samurai Meets WWII: The 'Zen' of Japanese Militarism and 'Holy War,' " begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room in the UMaine Memorial Union and is part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Luncheon Series. The second talk, titled "Religion Hijacked: The Universal Characteristics of 'Holy War,' " begins at 4 p.m., also in the Bangor Room and is part of the Philosophy Colloquium series. Both lectures are free and open to the public.

On Friday, April 8, he will be speaking at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Ellsworth. This talk will be sponsored by the Morgan Bay Zendo.

In the aftermath of 9/11 there is a tendency to regard "holy war" as a unique expression of Islamic fundamentalism. The reality, however, is that religion-endorsed violence has existed, at one time or another, in all of the world's major faith. The motives and justifications for using and misusing religious doctrine to justify violence will be a major part of the presentation, according to Hugh Curran, lecturer in the UMaine Peace Studies Program.

In his lecture "The Last Samurai Meets WWII," Victoria will discuss a relatively unknown example of the phenomenon of the fervent, if not fanatical, support given by Buddhist leaders in Japan, especially those associated with the Zen school, to Japanese militarism during WWII. By examining that support, Victoria will provide a better understanding of the universal mechanisms that make "holy war" such an enduring feature of

contemporary religion and society.

In "Religion Hijacked," Victoria questions the apparent contradictions in the religion-endorsed "holy wars," by faiths that make a commitment to peace a fundamental part of their teachings. This lecture will identify and help us to understand universal mechanisms -- be they doctrinal, sociological, psychological, economic, anthropological, or even evolutionary -- that make the "holy war" such an enduring feature of contemporary religion and society.

A native of Omaha, Neb., Victoria is a 1961 graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University who holds a M.A. in Buddhist studies from Soto Zen sect-affiliated Komazawa University in Tokyo and a Ph.D. from the Department of Religious Studies at Temple University. In addition to his recent book, "Zen War Stories," Victoria's major writings include the 1997 book "Zen At War," an autobiographical work in Japanese titled "Gaijin de ari, Zen bozu de ari" (As a Foreigner, As a Zen Priest), "Zen Master Dogen," coauthored with Prof. Yokoi Y

UMaine Snowmobile Honored for Best Value at International Competition

21 Mar 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine's Clean Snowmobile Challenge team received a Best Value Award while coming in fourth in competition among 13 teams at Michigan Tech last week. Teams from SUNY-Buffalo, Clarkson University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison took the first three places.

UMaine's modified ArcticCat snowmobile stayed in the running for a top spot through most of the events, according to team advisor and mechanical engineering professor Michael Peterson. Those events included a 100-mile endurance run, performance events, and tests for acceleration, fuel economy and noise. It was the latter test that posed difficulties for the UMaine team, says Peterson.

"Apparently two of the qualitatively quietest snowmobiles, University of Wisconsin and University of Maine, were found to be louder than the reference snowmobile, a stock Ski-Doo GSX Sport 600 H. O. Not only did that remove all of the noise points (up to 300 points) from the score, but Wisconsin and Maine were also ineligible for best design and best performance points."

Peterson says the UMaine team, all seniors, achieved significant gains over last year. "The students learned a lot and showed their ability to work as a team and to present the quality program at the University of Maine to a broader audience. The team built a snowmobile that reduced emissions by 99% and sound (as we can measure it) by 90%. That is quite an achievement, and a unique way to finish their course work in one of the most rigorous engineering programs in the country," says Peterson.

The Clean Snowmobile Challenge is the Society of Automotive Engineers' newest collegiate design competition. Teams of engineering students from participating schools take a stock snowmobile and then re-engineer it to reduce emissions and noise while maintaining or improving performance.

Volunteer Tax Assistance Available at UMaine

18 Mar 2005

Contact: Steve Colburn, (207) 581-1982, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine accounting students will be available Thursdays through April 14 to provide free help with filing state and federal income tax returns.

Sessions, scheduled from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thursdays, began March 17 in Room 218 in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

About a dozen students in the UMaine Business School work with taxpayers on a first-come, first-served basis, according to associate professor Steven Colburn, who has overseen the university's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) since its inception in 1996.

The service is available to anyone on the Orono campus or in surrounding communities who have basic tax assistance needs. Though designed for low- to moderate-income taxpayers and people with disabilities, the elderly or students who need help, Colburn says student volunteers are willing and qualified to help small businesses with straightforward returns.

Those seeking assistance should bring W-2 forms from all employers, Form 1099, if applicable, and any other forms or information regarding income, deductions or credits. VITA volunteers can download tax forms from the IRS website, if needed, Colburn says.

All of the volunteers have taken tax preparation courses and are up to date on the latest tax law changes. Plus, Colburn double-checks each return before it leaves the building.

The program is a benefit for taxpayers in the community and is good training for students, who enjoy the interaction with walk-in clients, Colburn says.

"They really have a lot of fun and they like helping people who come in for tax help," he says. "It makes them feel good when they can find a deduction or a credit for somebody and can get a little more money in a refund."

VITA is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service, in conjunction with the university.

The D.P. Corbett Business Building is next to the Maine Center for the Arts building. More information is available by calling Colburn at 581-1982 or emailing steve.colburn@umit.maine.edu

Maine Masque Presents "Six Characters in Search of an Author" in April

20 Mar 2005

Contact: Emily Gammon, (207) 581-7179, (cell 651-9764), George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Several area residents are in this production)

ORONO -- Luigi Pirandello's play within a play, "Six Characters in Search of an Author," is being brought to the University of Maine's Hauck Auditorium April 6-9 and April 10 by the Maine Masque Theater.

Performances for the all-student production are at 7:30 p.m. on April 6-9 and 2 p.m. on April 10 in Hauck Auditorium. Admission is \$8.

A cast of ten, a production staff and technical crew of several more students are enthusiastic about the impact it promises for audiences.

Director Joshua Schmersal says he selected the play, which explores interfamily relationships, for this year's Maine Masque production because he liked its intricate themes when he read the play his first year at college.

"The themes excited me and I could see it all happening in my mind," he says.

The premise of the play is a group of actors rehearsing for a show when a group of mysterious figures enter and explain that they are characters of an unfinished work and are searching for an author to complete them. The characters are a family that has undergone extreme challenge and conflict, and are now struggling to retell their story.

This historically controversial piece promises to challenge members of the audience, forcing them to explore the world of theater and assess their own interpersonal relationships.

Pirandello, an Italian author and a Nobel Prize winner, wrote the play during the Roaring Twenties, although the themes are still very applicable today. The infusion of autobiographical themes into his work is evident in this play.

As a young man, Pirandello had an arranged marriage to Antonietta Portulano. After the birth of their three children, his wife suffered mental breakdown and was later committed to a mental institution. Pirandello's depression and loneliness as a result of this is palpable in the presentation of the six characters in the play.

The piece is timeless because of this intense focus on familial relationships.

"Everyone relates to it one way or another," says theater major Lacey Martin of Brownville, who plays the mother in the production. "The play is about family relationships and everyone has that."

The relationship between reality and illusion and the clash of life and art also are intricately woven into Pirandello's literature -- and into the UMaine production. Schmersal stresses that audience members will have to decide for themselves what is reality and what isn't.

Jeffrey Hake, a horticulture major from Franklin who plays the character of stage manager, explains that because of the nontraditional nature of the play, "not everyone will have the same experience."

Secondary education major Ian Carlson of Standish, who plays the part of the second actor, agrees. "It forces you to look at your own life and find something," he says.

Theater major Allen Adams of Levant, playing the lead actor, adds that, "work like this is important in the academic theatre. It is extremely challenging and extremely rewarding."

Designers and technical crew include Schmersal of Bangor, set designer Dale Knapp of Newport, lighting designer Kristen Dearborn of Hallowell, costume designer Annette Sohns of Bucksport, sound designer Devon Medeiros of Richmond, stage manager Adam D. Thibodeau of Fairfield, props mistress Erin Couturier of Winslow, publicity manager Emily Gammon of Limington and technical director Joanne Pineau of Jay.

Other cast members include theatre major Chris Franklin (father) of Williamsport, Pa., theatre major Dustin Sleight (son) of Orono, music major Whitney Blethen (stepdaughter) of Appleton, psychology and sociology major Brianna Geary (Madame Pace) of Henniker, N.H., theatre major Joy VanMeter (lead actress) of Penobscot and theatre major Joshua Leigh (the director) of Wiscasset.

Information can be obtained by calling the UMaine Center for the Arts box office at (207) 581-1755.

UMaine Students Performing Broadway Nights Musical Comedy Review

21 Mar 2005

Contact: Anne Schmidt, (207) 478-0576, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Performing Arts theater division is offering Broadway Nights, an uplifting comedic musical review, March 24-25, at 7:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall on the Orono campus.

The student production, being directed by Sandra Hardy, associate professor of theater, and co-produced by students Anne Schmidt and Janis Greim, features a repertoire of energetic hit songs from 10 popular Broadway musicals.

Nearly a dozen students will sing solos, duets and choruses from the shows "Avenue Q," "Anything Goes," "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," "Jekyll and Hyde," "Annie Get Your Gun," "The Wild Party," "Smokey Joe's Cafe," "Company," "A Chorus Line" and "Wicked."

"All of these songs have a comedic theme," says Schmidt of Thorndike and who is studying for a master's degree in higher education and student development. "It's very upbeat. Chipper. We're trying to make it as funny as possible. We want people to laugh."

Schmidt says the idea behind the theme of this year's musical review was to present a light-hearted show that allows students to perform showtunes that they normally would not have a chance to sing in many of the regular season performances. Also, she adds, the majority of this year's theatrical productions have been serious or dark productions. "We wanted to add some comedy to this year's line-up of drama."

Cast members include Brian Milakovsky, Dominick Varney, HansStefan Ducharme, Jason Wilkes, Matthew Small, Crystal McArthur, Maida Cordero, Sara Richardson, Michael Thayer, Schmidt and Greim.

Minsky Recital Hall is in the Class of 1944 Hall next to the Maine Center for the Arts. Information about tickets is available by calling the Center box office at (207) 581-3756. Admission is \$5, except for UMaine students, who get in free with a MaineCard.

UMaine to Celebrate Maine Potatoes at Wednesday Event

20 Mar 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Trucks recently rolled into the University of Maine with 4,000 pounds of Maine potatoes, purchased at a steep discount from the surplus supply of the Maine Dept. of Corrections. Those spuds will find their way, on Wednesday March 23, onto the tables of UMaine students in a fun and educational event that will showcase the Maine potato and serve to kick off the recognition of UMaine's commitment to serving more home-grown Maine produce.

On Wednesday, UMaine Dining Services will host "Spud-Tacular 2005," from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Maine Marketplace, the food service area in Memorial Union. An upbeat and fun event, "Spud-Tacular 2005" will feature a menu including potato lasagna, Polish potato pizza, potato latkes, potato candy, potato bread and potato salads. Through packaging and promotional efforts, the event will draw positive attention to potatoes in particular, but also to other food products that grow in Maine.

"In addition to the obvious costs savings, these potatoes afford UMaine the opportunity to develop some creative programming that will draw attention to the value and importance of Maine food products," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's Vice President for Administration and Finance. "Additionally, the timing is perfect to draw attention to Maine-grown agricultural products. Spring arrives next week, and the planting season will be here before we know it."

Maine Agriculture Commissioner Robert Spear, along with representatives from the Maine Potato Board and the Dept. of Corrections, will be in attendance at Wednesday's event.

Black Bear Dining Services Schedules Interactive Health Fair

18 Mar 2005

Contact: Jennifer Moreau at 581-4585 or Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO-- With the rapidly rising obesity rate and the health care costs associated with a sedentary lifestyle, UMaine Dining Services has joined forces with other campus departments in a joint effort to promote National Nutrition Month and the joys of an active healthy lifestyle.

The Black Bear Dining Services' Health Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30 at York Dining Commons from 4:30-7:30 p.m. All students, faculty members and staff members are invited to participate. Special feature menu items will include a variety of vegetarian, vegan, and heart-healthy entrees.

The Black Bear Dining Services' Health Fair will inform and educate participants about the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle. It will feature a variety of made-to-order interactive menu options that encourage students to try new flavors, experience new cultures and celebrate Maine products. The Black Bear Dining Services' Health Fair will also focus on easy practical knowledge and demonstrations of active lifestyles, including local trail system information, fitness assessments, smoking cessation education and a variety of nutritional wellness opportunities.

"This event truly embodies our mission of providing a living learning community for our students. Our goal is to provide fresh and innovative choices that make choosing a healthy lifestyle more desirable. We are committed to wellness, quality and outstanding customer services that make these choices easy and exciting," says Dawn Aubrey, project manager- strategic plan for Dining Services.

As an added attraction, students will be able to participate in a variety of games of skill, nutritional trivia,

massage and other programming designed to educate as well as entertain.

For more information on the Black Bear Dining Services' Health Fair or any of the departmental activities, contact Jen Moreau at Student Auxiliary Services at (207) 581-4585.

National Report Targets School Leadership Preparations Programs

17 Mar 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

(Professors Gordon Donaldson and Richard Ackerman are available for comment on the preparation, work and challenges of K-12 educational administrators.)

Many of the themes in the hard-hitting critique of the nation's school administrator preparation institutions issued this week are age-old debates about what educational leadership is and should do, according to University of Maine faculty members in the field. While they disagree with the report's broad-brush indictments, they acknowledge that it is right in targeting underperforming, static programs and recall that it was similar criticism that led to the revamping of UMaine's Educational Leadership program.

"We began working 15 years ago to address the shortcomings in administrator preparation that this report is bringing to light, says Professor Gordon Donaldson. Our approach is focused on leadership competencies -- those skills and knowledge areas that successful school leaders use to move their schools toward greater success with every child. They are the heart of leadership preparation at the University of Maine, and they will continue to change as new challenges arise."

Associate Professor Richard Ackerman points out that the importance and power of communal work, collective learning and relationship building emphasized in the graduate program, especially in the cohort offering, are values that aren't measured in the new report. Both Donaldson and Ackerman have researched and written extensively about the preparation of effective leaders.

"Our program supports leaders of all kinds for schools -- teacher leaders, administrators, even citizen leaders. We try to give them ways to understand the many perspectives they will encounter in schools and skills to use in working with those constituencies," says Ackerman.

The UMaine Educational Leadership model is aligned to "put people near the action, in the moment, and to adapt to learning in action, according to the professors. They point out that real learning occurs in real-life situations, which is why the program gets people into schools quickly to practice situations instead of demonstrating what they have learned in an internship at the end of their studies. Particularly through group work, they say, students learn how to facilitate, and they learn that effective leaders are reflective leaders who know how to evaluate and criticize themselves, seek feedback and to be self-corrective.

"Educators in our graduate programs learn in their current jobs in schools. They take on leadership and they focus on understanding and sharpening skills and knowledge that work right there, in their schools, " says Donaldson.

UMaine's Educational Leadership program offers three degree options in K-12 administration -- Master's, Certificate of Advanced Study, and the Doctorate. A cohort option, available in all programs, allows students to progress collaboratively through coursework and other program experiences. In 2000, the program established the innovative Maine School Leadership Network, a two-year school-based leadership development program for teachers, principals and other educators, designed to help schools identify and "grow" their own leaders. Approximately 80 educators statewide have completed this alternative professional development approach, focusing on improving student learning and building leadership. The best components of the program have been incorporated into the program's Master's and CAS degree offerings.

The national study, *Educating School Leaders*, by Arthur Levine, president of Teachers College-Columbia University, is the first in a series of policy reports stemming from a four-year study of America's education schools. Future reports will focus on educating teachers, researchers and scholars.

According to Levine, administrator preparation was selected for the initial report because the quality of leadership in the nation's schools has never been more important or challenging. "Today, principals and superintendents have the job not only of managing our schools, but also of leading them through an era of profound social change that has required fundamental rethinking of what schools do and how they do it," he writes. "This is an assignment few sitting school administrators have been prepared to undertake."

Levine also notes the unrealistic expectations and escalating criticism of education schools and demands for their accountability over the past decade, as they have been faulted for intractable social problems they did not create and cannot solve. No other professional school is held similarly responsible, he says, giving the example that schools of agriculture are not faulted for the decline of the family farm, or schools of government for municipal bankruptcies. However, he describes -- but doesn't identify -- institutions with lackadaisical school administrator preparation programs, low standards, irrelevant curricula and weak faculties who have low expectations of students.

Training Session Set for Sport Done Right Pilot Site Teams

17 Mar 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Leadership teams from the 12 Sports Done Right pilot sites will gather March 22 at the University of Maine for a training session focusing on engaging communities in defining and promoting healthy interscholastic sports at their high schools and middle schools. The meeting runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House. Media are welcome to attend the meeting and to have lunch with participants.

The federally funded UMaine initiative, which got underway in October 2003, led to the creation and publication of Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes. Crafted by a statewide Select Panel, the report makes recommendations for shaping the best possible learning environment for student-athletes.

As part of the pilot site agreement, superintendents are responsible for forming school-community leadership teams. The teams will receive training, beginning Tuesday, on convening and facilitating community forums using Sports Done Right as a guiding document to initiate conversations about sports and the experiences of student-athletes.

Complete agendas will be available at the March 22 session. Tentatively, the day's activities include:

9 a.m. Welcome; overview and introductions.

9:15 a.m. Individual activity: Connecting to the project; team member concerns.

9:45 a.m. What Lies Ahead? Expectations for the pilot sites.

10 a.m. Sports Done Right Jigsaw; developing clarity about sports philosophy and community needs.

11 a.m. Large group discussion: "Pushback" -- what you might expect from the community.

11:15 a.m. Team activity: Getting started on an action plan.

12 p.m. Lunch; presentation on communication.

12:45 p.m. Paired team activities: Launching your project.

1:45 p.m. Wrap-up/timeline for submitting action plans.

The 12 sites were selected from a total of 25 applicants based on geographic distribution; community and school size; expressed commitment and need; and potential for broad community involvement in the initiative. The pilot sites are:

- Augusta School Department
- Brewer School Department
- Lewiston/Auburn School Departments -- one collaborative site

- Portland Public Schools
- Winthrop Public Schools and Winthrop Recreation Department
- SAD 5 (Rockland, Owl's Head, South Thomaston)
- SAD 29 (Hammond, Houlton, Littleton, Monticello)
- SAD 32 (Ashland, Garland Plantation, Masardis, Oxbow Plantation, Portage Lake)
- SAD 35 (Eliot, South Berwick)
- SAD 51 (Cumberland, Chebeague Island, North Yarmouth)
- SAD 71 (Kennebunk, Kennebunkport)
- School Union 29 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)

UMaine Partners with Maine Hospitals for Study of Shy Children

16 Mar 2005

Contact: Marie Hayes, (207) 581-2039, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Psychology researchers at the University of Maine and at three Maine hospitals, in Bangor, Waterville and Portland, are looking for shy children to participate in a research project they hope will improve treatment for children at risk for developing severe social anxiety as adults.

Psychology professor Marie Hayes and Ph.D. student Bethany Sallinen at the University of Maine began the study last year, but say they are in need of more shy children to volunteer. They have partnered with Dr. Doug Robbins at Maine Medical Center's Department of Child and Adolescent Psychology in Portland, as well as providers at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor and MaineGeneral in Waterville to expand the pool of study subjects.

Children, either shy or typical in their social behavior, ages eight to 12 years old, are being sought to volunteer with a parent for the study.

Incentives for participating include low cost therapy for qualifying children, under the supervision of a licensed, clinical psychologist at UMaine, and having a role in research that can reduce the number of children whose lives may be compromised by a treatable anxiety problem. Parents will receive a small financial stipend and children will receive a small gift.

The research could break new ground in identifying how to treat extremely shy children. By examining the details of parent-child interactions that may promote social anxiety, researchers hope to provide insight into parenting strategies that could improve success rates in families working to overcome shyness issues.

Studies show that about 15 percent of children are shy and about 5 percent are extremely so. A National Co-Morbidity Survey revealed a lifetime prevalence of social phobia of 13.3 percent, making it the third most prevalent psychiatric disorder. Extreme shyness can have severe effects on an individual's social, and later in life, professional development, according to Hayes and Sallinen.

"It seems to be that children who are extremely shy or 'socially anxious' have difficulty in school going to the board, speaking in class, participating in gym class and making friends," Sallinen says. "Shyness interferes with their everyday functioning. They're less likely to achieve if they are untreated."

Later in life, they look for jobs where they can avoid speaking or expressing themselves, she says. Over time, a lack of achievement and self-confidence can lead to depression because of loneliness and low self-esteem. Early recognition and counseling can turn a child's life around, she says.

The testing Hayes and Sallinen propose to do involves less than two hours of time during a one-time videotaped interview. Interviews and testing are done at the university's Child Studies Laboratory on the Orono campus.

By monitoring parent and child interaction with problem-solving tasks as well as free play time in a controlled environment, the researchers want to observe what behavior similarities exist in parents and children when facing both challenging, stressful situations -- generated through problem-solving exercises -- and spontaneous play, according to Hayes.

"The dynamics between the parent and the child sets the stage for the child's reactions outside the home," Hayes says. "If the parent is also experiencing significant social anxiety, this could be the social scenario in which the child learns to mimic similar behavior, or does not learn appropriate interpersonal behavior strategies."

Also, if a parent can pass specific personality traits to children genetically, then knowing about a predisposition for behavior that could interfere with a child's developing socialization skills could help families, teachers or counselors work with that child to minimize the affects, according to Hayes. Future research will examine the genetic basis of personality traits like social anxiety which may be present in the parents of shy children.

Using a simple saliva sample, researchers can look for DNA "markers," or genetic traits indicating a propensity toward anxiety, including social anxiety, that might be present in both child and parent. DNA testing would be done at no cost to the families by the Human Genetics Laboratory in Portland, an affiliate of Maine Medical Center.

For information about volunteering, Dr. Hayes can be reached at (207) 581-2039 or by email at mhayes@maine.edu.

University of Maine Museum of Art Spring Art Camp April 19

15 Mar 2005

Contact: Wally Mason, 561-3350

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to announce a Spring Art Camp will be held during April Vacation, April 19 -- April 21 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) from 8:30 - 12:00, and will be offered to students in grade 2 -- 4. The camp is a unique opportunity for children to have a hands-on art experience in a museum setting while creating their own masterpieces. Tuition of \$70 includes all materials. Members of the Museum of Art at the Family level and above will receive a discount. The class size is small so register early!

Instructor: Museum Education Coordinator Sara Grover.

Please call 561-3350 for more information and to register your child.

Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Search Committee Offers Four Candidates for UMaine Presidency

15 Mar 2005

Contact: John Diamond 973-3224, Rita Sullivan 973-3245

BANGOR -- Four candidates for the presidency of the University of Maine have been invited to Orono for a series of meetings with faculty, staff, students, and others.

University System Chancellor Joseph W. Westphal announced the names Tuesday morning.

A 12-member search committee, appointed by Board of Trustees Chair Charles L. Johnson, III last fall, selected the four following a nationwide search process.

Presented in alphabetical order, the four candidates are:

* P. Geoffrey Feiss. Dr. Feiss currently serves as the provost of the College of William and Mary, located in Williamsburg, VA.~ Dr. Feiss is a geologist who received his A.B. in Geology from Princeton University (1965) and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Geology (1967 and 1970, respectively) from Harvard University.~ Prior to his current position, Feiss held other administrative and faculty positions at the College of William and Mary and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also served on the faculty of Albion College early in his academic career. Dr. Feiss's professional career includes a position as exploration geologist for Copper Range Co. and AMAX, Inc. He is a First Lieutenant (retired reserve) in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

* Brian L. Foster. Dr. Foster is currently the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, N.M. Dr. Foster is an anthropologist who received a B.A. in History, with a minor in Anthropology, from Northern Illinois University (1967). He subsequently attended the University of Michigan, from which he received an A.M. and Ph.D. (1968 and 1972, respectively) in Anthropology. Prior to his current position, Dr. Foster held administrative and faculty positions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Arizona State University, and the State University of New York-Binghamton. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Foster owned and operated an insurance agency in Dixon, Ill. for five years.

* Robert A. Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy is currently the interim president of the University of Maine, Orono, ME. Dr. Kennedy is a plant biochemist who received his B.S. in Plant Science from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (1968). Following military service, Dr. Kennedy received a Ph.D. in Botany from the University of California, Berkeley (1974). Prior to his current position, Dr. Kennedy held other administrative and faculty positions at UMaine, Texas A&M University, the University of Maryland, Ohio State University, and Washington State University. Early in his career, Dr. Kennedy was on the faculty at the University of Iowa. He later worked as a program director for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C.

* Mary Ann Rankin. Dr. Rankin is currently dean of the College of Natural Sciences at the University of Texas-Austin. Dr. Rankin is a biologist who attended Adams State College in Colorado and received her B.S. in Biology and Chemistry from Louisiana State University in New Orleans (1966). She subsequently received a Ph.D. in Physiology and Behavior from the University of Iowa (1972). Prior to her current position, Dr. Rankin held several other administrative and faculty positions at UT-Austin, including chairperson of the Division of Biological Sciences. Dr. Rankin also worked six summers at Marine Biological Laboratories at Woods Hole, MA.

The presidential search process began in November. Recently the committee held individual off-site interviews with eight candidates for the position. The search committee narrowed its list to four following a meeting in Bangor last week.

The schedule of visits is being assembled and will be announced shortly. Under the process established for the presidential search, Westphal will select one person from among the four candidates and will recommend his or her appointment to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees for its approval.

More information about the search process and the president's responsibilities and desired credentials and qualities may be found at <http://www.umaine.edu/eo/administrative/president.html>.

EDITOR'S NOTE -- Photos of the four UMaine presidential candidates are available at: www.maine.edu/umainefinalists

Watershed Stewards Class to Meet in Auburn

15 Mar 2005

Contact: Laura Wilson, Cooperative Extension, 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu; Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777, houtman@maine.edu

ORONO, Maine - Auburn and Lewiston area residents will have the opportunity to learn about their lakes and the watersheds that feed them this spring. For eight weeks starting April 13, the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer the Watershed Stewards Program at the Brackett Environmental Center in Auburn.

The program provides 25 hours of training in a wide range of lake-related topics, including watershed assessment and non-point source pollution abatement. The class also covers watershed stewardship initiatives to protect water quality, lake water quality dynamics, data interpretation and invasive aquatic species.

In return for instruction, attendees are asked to commit a minimum of 25 hours of service to their watershed. The cost is \$20 (waived under special circumstances) for individuals or couples.

Sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-9 p.m. For registration or additional information, contact Cooperative Extension, 800-870-7270 (toll free in Maine only), or the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, 207-783-7733.

Extension's Watershed Stewards Program is in its ninth year. In more than 15 communities, 282 volunteers have taken the course and implemented steps to protect lake water quality. They have racked up about 5,600 hours of work in the watersheds of 19 priority lakes (as defined by Maine Department of Environmental Protection).

UMaine Music Division to Debut New Rotary Trumpets

14 Mar 2005

Contact: Jack Burt, (207) 581-1773, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine School of Performing Arts' Division of Music has acquired three new German rotary trumpets, which broadens the musical range of its brass collection for student and faculty concerts, according to Jack Burt, assistant professor of trumpet.

The three trumpets, purchased with a grant from the UMaine Scholarly Materials and Equipment Fund, will be used for research and performance by Burt and School of Performing Arts trumpet students.

Two of the new trumpets, in the keys of B flat and C, were made by Robert and Karl Schagerl of Mank, Austria specifically for the University of Maine. The trumpets are made predominantly to order by hand, according to Burt. The third is a piccolo trumpet in high A and B flat made by the Johann Scherzer company of Markneukirchen, Germany.

The piccolo rotary trumpet -- a type heard in the musical accompaniment in Beatle's song "Penny Lane" -- is well-suited for 18th Century baroque scores, says Burt.

All three trumpets will be featured at three UMaine concerts at Minsky Recital Hall in April: a faculty recital featuring Burt at 2 p.m., April 3; on Brass Night at 7:30 p.m., April 4; and in a chamber music recital at 7:30 p.m., April 5, and additionally at a Brass Night concert at Bowdoin College, April 6.

Burt, who personally owns two German rotary trumpets -- instruments with rotors like a French horn as opposed to pistons -- says rotary trumpets can emit darker tones, but can become brighter as they get louder, and still maintain a mellower, less edgy tone. The traditional piston trumpet has a firmer, compact sound that can seem harsh by comparison.

"I wouldn't want to say it's a better or worse type of thing," Burt notes. "It is one additional tool in the arsenal."

Predominant in German-speaking countries today, rotary trumpets at one time were common in the United States from the start of the German immigration before the American Civil War until the First World War, according to Burt, a professional trumpet player and teacher, whose research includes studying period music composed specifically for trumpets, and writing about rotary trumpets in music journals.

As anti-German sentiment grew in the United States following the outbreak of WWI, the U.S. developed closer ties to France, which had developed the piston trumpet. The bond initiated a new emphasis on piston trumpets in this country, Burt says, and piston trumpets have since remained the standard instrument in the United States. German rotary trumpets, however, are now being rediscovered by American trumpeters and are seen with greater frequency in concert and recital halls throughout the country, he says.

Burt is a former associate professor of trumpet at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. He previously served as principal trumpet and soloist of the Corpus Christi Symphony and Victoria Symphony orchestras, has

performed in Mexico City as principal trumpet for the Orquesta Filarmonica de la UNAM and was a member of the Orquesta Filarmonica de la Ciudad de Mexico. He joined the UMaine faculty last fall.

University of Maine Museum of Art Exhibition April 8 -

24 Mar 2005

Contact: Wally Mason at 561-3350

The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to announce a spring exhibition of selected works from Norma B. Marin's collection of Maine art which spans the past fifty years.

The Long View: Selections from the Norma B. Marin Collection of Maine Art

The Long View: Selections from the Norma B. Marin Collection of Maine Art, on exhibit at the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor from April 8 - July 2, features over seventy works in Marin's collection by artists with a profound connection to Maine.

Fifty summers ago a young woman named Norma Boom Marin began what was to become a life long passion for collecting art. Over that time her collection has grown into a diverse and thorough catalog of contemporary American art. In 1977, Norma and her husband John Marin Jr. opened a gallery, which they called Cape Split Place, at their home in South Addison, Maine. In a feature article in Down East in the fall of that year, writer Anne Weber focused on the out-of-the-way location of this "small gem of a gallery" at the tip of Cape Split. "We're prepared to entertain clients whether they arrive by boat, car, or on foot", Norma reported. During its years of operation until closing in 1986, Cape Split Place came to be known as a meeting place for artists and collectors alike. "The gallery was a wonderful thing for me," Marin notes. "I got to know people that way."

Many of the artists in The Long View had their work exhibited at Cape Split Place at one time or another, causing many of the pieces to be not just a collector's purchase but also gifts from friends. "One of our greatest treasures are the artists of Maine," Marin states. The engaging art on view at the University of Maine Museum of Art is a testimony to her efforts to bring recognition to an eclectic group of painters, sculptors, printmakers and photographers whose work shares Maine as inspiration. A checklist catalog, with an essay by Carl Little, is also available.

Artists in the exhibition include Anne Arnold, Katherine Bradford, Ernest Briggs, Jean Cohen, Daphne Cummings, George Daniell, Lois Dodd, Donald Dubose Duncan, Richard Estes, Gillyin Gatto, Francis Hamabe, Joseph Haroutunian, J. Thomas R. Higgins, Patricia P. Hill, Dahlov Ipcar, Yvonne Jacqueline, Alex Katz, William Kienbusch, Louise Kruger, Bernard Langlais, Ellen Lowe, Leslie Mackin, Rose Marasco, Wally Mason, Dirk McDonnell, Melville McLean, Elizabeth Cashin McMillen, Joan Meyers, Catherine Murray, Anne Neely, Emily Nelligan, Dennis Pinette, Paul A. Plante, Katherine Porter, Jacque Rochester, Karl Schrag, Musya Sheeler, Hunt Slonem, Reuben Tam, Claire Van Vliet, Neil Welliver, Sharon Yates and Diana Young.

Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Conference at the Maine Business School to Address State Concerns

28 Mar 2005

Contact: Paul Collins, Maine Business School

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine MBA program will host a conference entitled, "The Maine Concern," on April 5, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in the Donald P. Corbett Building on the UMaine campus. Eight presentations will cover tax and health care reform, the national park proposal, proposed LNG sites in mid-coast Maine, the loss of high-paying skilled jobs from the state, an East-West highway, lack of cell phone coverage, and alternative energy use in the state.

This conference brings fresh information to these hot topics and brings an unbiased view to public discussions. The Maine Concern is open to the public free of charge and light refreshments will be served after the conference. For more information, please email advertisers@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Talk Takes Up Historic Preservation in Orono

25 Mar 2005

Contact: Mary Bird, (207) 581-2434, George Manlove, (207) 581- 3756

ORONO -- A public discussion at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum on April 3 from 2-4 p.m. will explore ways in which the town of Orono can protect its historic resources while at the same time prepare for inevitable growth.

With Orono's bicentennial celebration only a year away, citizens are planning heritage gardens, sprucing up old buildings and celebrating the treasures of Orono's past - as developers are mapping new streets and neighborhoods, and planning new housing for people drawn to town by its cultural and historic character.

The April 3 forum, featuring Mike Johnson of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and Michael Poulin of the Hampden Historical Society, will explore such questions as how can Orono, or any town, protect its historic resources while welcoming growth, and what role can historic preservation ordinances play in helping to balance the past and the future?

Titled "Planning the Future, Preserving the Past: How can a Historic Preservation Ordinance Help Our Community?" the forum is presented by the Dr. Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, the Environment and Education in partnership with the Orono Bicentennial Committee.

The forum is one of a series of monthly gatherings that celebrate the life and legacy of former Orono resident Edith Marion Patch (1876-1954), a UMaine graduate, faculty member and head of the university's Entomology Department for more than 30 years. Patch became a world-renowned entomologist, pioneer environmentalist and a popular author of children's books. Her historic home on College Avenue is currently undergoing rehabilitation and will be the site of the Dr. Edith Marion Patch Center for Entomology, the Environment and Education.

For information about the Patch Center Forums or the Friends of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, please contact Mary Bird, 581-2434.

The Patch Center Forums are held at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus. The museum is in the big barn with the silo, south of the Maine Center for the Arts. Ample free parking is available.

"White Like Me" Author, Anti-Racism Activist Speaking at UMaine April 21

21 Mar 2005

Contact: Devon Storman, (207) 581-1550, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- Anti-racism activist and author Tim Wise will speak on campus April 21 as part of the University of Maine's Diversity Leadership Institute program. Wise, a prominent national speaker on racism and author of "White Like Me, Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son" and "Affirmative Action: Racial Preference in Black and White," and many articles on racism and stereotyping, will appear April 21 at 7 p.m. in Room 100, D.P. Corbett Building. The talk is free and open to the public. The Peace Studies Program will sponsor "The Conversation Continues" on April 22 at 9 a.m. in the Coe Lounge in the Memorial Union. Wise served as an advisor to the Fisk University Race Relations Institute from 1999 to 2003, and in the early 1990s, he was associate director of the Louisiana Coalition Against Racism and Nazism, the largest of the many groups responsible for the political defeat of neo-Nazi David Duke, according to Wise's [Web page](#). His work has received praise from such noted race scholars as Michael Eric Dyson, Kimberle Crenshaw, Derrick Bell, Hoe Feagin, Lani Gunier and Richard Delgado. He received the 2002 National Youth Advocacy Coalition's Social Justice Impact Award in recognition of his contributions to the struggle for equity, as well as the 2001 British Diversity Award for best feature column on race and diversity issues. Wise serves as the race and ethnicity editor for LIP Magazine and his columns are distributed as part of the ZNet Commentary program, a web service that disseminates essays by prominent progressive and radical activists and educators, according to the site. Wise received a bachelor's degree from Tulane University and underwent antiracism training from the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, both in New Orleans. Several members of the university's Diversity Leadership Institute heard Wise speak last spring at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity and were impressed with his presentation and perspectives, according to Robert White, assistant provost and dean of Lifelong Learning. "They came back from the experience with the goal of bringing Wise to Maine," White says. "They were not only impressed with his anti-racism message, but also report him to be one of the most engaging and enticing speakers they had ever heard." The UMaine Diversity Leadership Institute exists to support the University's commitment to diversity and to provide opportunities to understand, appreciate, support, and strengthen the diversity of our community. The program seeks to create a grassroots approach to diversity and to build a solid support system of role models, staff development trainers, speakers, mentors, ambassadors and diversity planners for the campus and greater community. The institute provides forums through which differences in gender, ethnicity, age, faith, sexual orientation, physical and intellectual abilities and talents can be better appreciated. More information can be obtained by calling the Division of Lifelong Learning at (207) 581-3113.

UMaine Technology Institute Offers Range of Workshops

24 Mar 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO-- Educators who want to bring some technology "bells and whistles" to their classrooms or who need a good introduction to the basic workings of the computer will find plenty of options at the University of Maine's annual Summer Technology Institute. Sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development, the institute is scheduled for June 20-24 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

Taught by experienced and innovative Maine technology educators, the sessions are designed to help participants creatively and confidently integrate a variety of technology and multimedia into their teaching.

From "Powerpoint for Experts to "Techie Stuff for Non-Techies," the institute offers more than 40 workshops to introduce the latest software and applications and to explore the vast potential of web-based teaching tools. Creativity will be emphasized in sessions focusing on using video, music, photography, web publishing and Geographic Information Systems. Other workshops will show teachers how to create, organize and save lessons electronically, enhance home-school communication, improve distance education presentations, trouble shoot, and find, install and use a variety of free software.

Early registration is encouraged, but participants will be accepted up to the opening day of the conference. Registration and cost information, as well as a complete outline of the workshops are available on the institute website.

Interested persons may also contact institute director Jim Chiavacci at (207) 581-2478.

UMaine Aims to Increase Minority Enrollment in Doctoral Graduate Programs

24 Mar 2005

Contact: Scott Delcourt, associate dean of the graduate school, 207-581-3217; Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Efforts to increase the diversity of the University of Maine graduate student population will get a boost from an annual \$132,000 National Science Foundation grant over the next five years. The program will enable the university to enroll more minority group students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics doctoral degree programs.

Combined with additional UMaine funds for tuition waivers, health insurance and stipends, UMaine will invest over \$900,000 in federal and matching funds over that period.

The initiative stems from UMaine's partnership in the Northeast Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (NEAGEP), an organization whose goals are to bring more underrepresented students into academia where they can serve as a role models and mentors for students in the future.

NEAGEP began in 1999 at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and includes MIT, Penn State, Rutgers and Boston University as well as minority serving institutions: Jackson State University, Lincoln University, Medgar Evers College and the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez. This year, all New England land-grant universities have joined the alliance.

"The NEAGEP partnership links the University of Maine with some of the most prominent public research universities in the Northeast, as well as other institutions with significant undergraduate minority student populations. The benefits of this alliance extend well beyond the five years of funding," says Deirdre Mageean, associate vice president for research and dean of the graduate school. "What we are striving for in this project is a cultural shift in how we mentor doctoral students."

NEAGEP has received nearly \$8.8 million in NSF funds to support minority graduate student enrollment and retention activities through 2009.

"The diversity of our graduate student community is important to us because students learn from the perspectives of people around them as well as from their own research," says University of Maine Interim President Robert Kennedy. "Historically, minority groups are underrepresented in science, math and engineering programs. We want to draw graduate students from a deeper pool of applicants and inspire the talents of some who may have felt that graduate education was out of their reach."

Funds will be used to recruit undergraduates from minority-serving institutions and to support those students in their efforts to achieve their educational goals, according to Scott Delcourt, associate dean of the graduate school. Those plans will include career development and networking activities involving the other NEAGEP institutions. UMaine will also bring undergraduate students to campus to work with faculty on summer research projects.

Mageean and Delcourt will coordinate efforts with participating UMaine graduate faculty and other NEAGEP partners to identify doctoral research opportunities for incoming minority students. The first round of undergraduate student researchers may come to UMaine as early as this summer.

UMaine Corporate Affiliates Program Reaches Out to Business

23 Mar 2005

Contact: Jonathan LaBonte, (207) 581-1976, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Editors' note: The first in a series of public sessions is Thursday, March 24, in Augusta and Tuesday, March 29 in Lewiston.

ORONO -- The University of Maine is reaching out through a series of eight regional public forums to encourage more business owners, government leaders and development authorities to take advantage of the university's Corporate Affiliates Program.

The first two sessions are Thursday, March 24 in Augusta and March 29 in Lewiston.

Hundreds of business leaders and public policy officials have been invited to the regional sessions planned around the state over the next few months. UMaine interim President Robert Kennedy and interim provost and business professor John Mahon will lead the discussions. Faculty from the Maine Business School and others from employment-related segments of the UMaine community will be on hand to answer questions and explain how the university can help Maine businesses and organizations with anything from market and marketing research to industrial and technological research.

Created in 1994, the Corporate Affiliates program overseen by the Maine Business School in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health has matched students, researchers and faculty business experts with thousands of businesses across the state, nationally and internationally. Such partnerships typically include internships, job-placements and industry-specific research projects.

The state's largest research and development center, UMaine has attracted more than \$50 million annually in research grants over the last four years, and has a wealth of experience and expertise that researchers, faculty and even students are able to share with public and private sectors, says Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health.

The university has more than 11,000 graduate and undergraduate students in 184 programs of study, pursuing some 88 different bachelor's degrees, 64 different master's degree programs and 25 separate doctoral programs. Students work in a vibrant community with state-of-the-art learning and research facilities, including Maine's largest library, the legislatively designated central research library for the state.

With the university placing increased emphasis on education combined with practical experience, much of the research involves solving real problems for real business entities.

Cianbro Corporation in Pittsfield is one of hundreds of corporations in Maine that regularly utilizes student internships through UMaine.

"The corporate affiliates collaboration between Maine businesses and the university is a program we think more people should know about," says Peter G. Vigue, president and CEO of Cianbro. "We've worked closely with the business school and the College of Engineering and have many, many success stories as a result. It's great to work with the students. These kids are the future of our state and hold the key to Maine's economy. And from our perspective, they're helping to build our company."

Vigue adds that some students have worked several semesters or summers at Cianbro and have joined the company after they graduated.

"We've found that they can hit the ground running and the quality of their training is more than evident," he says.

Representatives from different segments of UMaine will explain how to access many of the resources the university can offer. The Augusta session is from 12:30-2 p.m. at The Senator Inn on Western Avenue. The Lewiston session is from 12-1:30 p.m. at the Colisee on Birch St.

For more information about the regional meetings, and registering, please call Jonathan LaBonte in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health at (207) 581-1976.

UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum Celebrating Maple Syrup Season

23 Mar 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum in Orono is celebrating maple syrup season with a public field trip to a sugaring operation on March 31 and Maine Maple Sunday events on campus for children April 3.

The annual spring field trip March 31 will travel to Breakneck Ridge Farm near Monson to see a family-run sugaring operation, in addition to the farm's buffalo and deer farm. Please call (207) 581-4100 for reservations and details. Participants should plan to dress warmly and wear appropriate shoes.

The van leaves at 8 a.m. from the museum and will return to the Orono campus by 4 p.m., says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director. The cost is \$30 per person and includes transportation and a light lunch in a Guilford cafe. Space is limited. The trip also will visit Griff's Blacksmith Shop near Guildford.

Breakneck Ridge Farm will offer demonstrations of its maple sugar operations and a tour of the farm's "sugarbush," often hundreds of sugar maple trees feeding sweet sap into metal buckets or plastic tubing leading to the sugar house, where sap is rendered into syrup or caramelized for candy.

Griff's also will demonstrate blacksmithing, and both businesses will open their gift shops for visitors during the day.

On April 1, Henner and Page Farm and Home Museum volunteers are offering their annual Maple Syrup Sunday program, an afternoon of games and education about one of Maine's oldest agricultural industries.

With Maine being one of the biggest producers of pure maple syrup in the world, Henner says the museum looks forward to teaching children about maple sugaring and visiting the university's small maple sugar operation in University Forest on College Avenue Extension. The half-day program always is extremely well-attended, she says.

"Sugaring" is one of New England's oldest agricultural enterprises and is traditionally the first harvest of the year following winter, Henner says. Maple syrup season is one of the first cheerful harbingers of spring.

Sugaring also was first practiced by Native American Indians, and learned by colonists and settlers in New England. Settlers referred to maple syrup as Indian sugar or Indian molasses.

Because the official Maine Maple Sunday -- the last Sunday in March -- falls on Easter Sunday this year, Henner is holding the UMaine annual event April 3.

The program has a shared mission: a celebration of Maine maple sugaring and historic preservation. The program starts at 1 p.m. with a video, "The Maple Sugaring Story," at the Page Farm and Home Museum. After the film, children grouped by grade levels (K-6), will play games and hear stories as part of a learning exercise. Henner says the program also will explore some of the Indian legends about maple syrup.

"At 2:30 p.m. we will drive out to the University of Maine maple sugaring operation on College Avenue Extension," Henner says, where participants will get a guided walking tour of the university's sugar bush, where the maple sugaring story begins, then explore the sugarhouse where sap is simmered, before enjoying a sample of fresh maple syrup straight from the evaporator and poured over vanilla ice cream.

"It is a maple sugar sundae on Maine Maple Sunday," says Henner.

To cover the costs of materials, the non-profit educational museum is asking for a \$3 per child reimbursement. Registration information is available by calling the museum at 581-4100. Information about Page Farm and Home Museum exhibits and mission can be found on the [website](#).

The museum, one of its kind in the area, reflects the many varied aspects of farming and farm life from 1865 to 1940. Exhibits include farm equipment and vehicles, poultry, dairy, 4-H, ice harvesting, in addition to a blacksmith shop, an exhibit by the Orono Historical Society and a gift shop in an old-fashioned general store setting.

Lobster Institute to Host Canadian/U.S. Lobstermen's Town Meeting April 22

23 Mar 2005

Contact: Cathy Billings, Lobster Institute, 207-581-2751

ORONO-- The 2005 Canadian/U.S. Lobstermen's Town Meeting, hosted by the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, will be held at the Delta Brunswick Hotel in Saint John, New Brunswick on Friday, April 22. The focus will be on the management of the lobster fishery, with a related topic being the economic impact of management decisions.

The discussions will cover licensing issues, seasons, quotas, v-notching and gauge size. "We will have a true 'town meeting' style format in the morning, where lobstermen will be asked to stand up and share their thoughts, concerns, questions, and experiences -- what has been effective, what has been less effective, etc. Principal participation in this component of the meeting will be from industry people, fishermen, dealers, pound owners, and processors," said Bonnie Spinazzola, executive director of the Atlantic Offshore Lobstermen's Association from Candia, New Hampshire and chair of the event planning committee.

The event will conclude with a panel discussion. "We are putting together a geographically representative panel of resource managers, scientists and economists who will be able to address the various issues raised during the town meeting portion of the event, answer questions and discuss the pros and cons of suggestions and comments raised by the lobstermen," Spinazzola adds.

Farmed Fish Health Workshop Celebrates Thirteenth Year

23 Mar 2005

Contact: Chris Bartlett, (207) 853-2518, ext. 421

Eastport, ME -- On Thursday, April 7, salmon industry personnel, scientists, fish health specialists, and agency representatives will meet at the Washington County Community College Marine Technology Center for the 13th Annual New England Farmed Fish Health Management Workshop.

Experts from the U.S. and Canada will give presentations on current issues including developments in cod farming, control of Infectious Salmon Anemia, raising shellfish and seaweed on fish farms, and the effects of ocean currents on disease transmission. The workshop will provide practical information to fish farm and allied industry personnel that could help them fine-tune fish health management practices.

Sponsors include the Maine Sea Grant College Program, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, Eastern Aquaculture Veterinary Association, USDA Agricultural Research Service, and Maine Aquaculture Association.

Speakers for the workshop include Hugh Mitchell, Alpharma, Washington; Jill Roland, USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Maryland; Michael Beattie Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, New Brunswick; Chris Duffy, Great Bay Aquaculture, New Hampshire; Richard Zurbrigg, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ontario; and Sebastian Belle, Maine Aquaculture Association (MAA).

A reception sponsored by the MAA will be held on Wednesday evening preceding the workshop at the Weston House Bed and Breakfast in Eastport.

The registration fee for the workshop is \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door, with reduced rates available for employees of the same company who pre-register and for students. Pre-registration is recommended. Flyers with a registration form are available upon request and workshop updates, as well as registration and travel information, are available [here](#).

UMaine Music Recital April 3 Debuts New Trumpets

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Jack Burt, (207) 581-1773, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

(Ed. Note: release also references the late Dr. Michael Solomon, former Bangor physician.)

ORONO -- Jack Burt, UMaine assistant professor of trumpet, and friends will perform a concert on Sunday, April 3 at Minsky Recital Hall on the Orono campus that debuts three new German rotary trumpets sharing the stage with piano, cello and percussion instruments.

Burt will play with several UMaine students and faculty from the School of Performing Arts music division, and Burt's wife Marisa Solomon. The concert begins at 2 p.m.

The recital consists of: music for solo trumpet, including the familiar fanfare from "CBS Sunday Morning..." show by Gottfried Reiche; music for trumpet and piano by Tartini, Stevens and Samuel Barber; a piece for four marimbas and trumpet, "The Prayer of St. Gregory," by Alan Hovhaness; and a piece for brass sextet, using the new rotary trumpets the university recently acquired.

Marisa Solomon will play the Andante from the Rachmaninov Cello Sonata, dedicated to her late father, Dr. Michael Solomon, a Bangor physician. She will be accompanied by Dr. Laura Artesani, instructor and assistant chair of music, on piano.

Burt will be accompanied by Phillip Silver, associate professor of music, on piano. The ensemble pieces, marimbas and brass sextet will be played by UMaine students.

It is a casual concert, with a variety of music and musicians, according to Burt, hence the reference to "Jack Burt and Friends."

German rotary trumpets are trumpets with rotors like a French horn as opposed to pistons, and can emit a wider spectrum of tonal colors, yet still maintain a mellower, less edgy tone than traditional piston trumpets. The new trumpets broaden the musical depth and range of the UMaine brass studios, according to Burt.

Concert admission is \$6, although students are admitted free with a MaineCard. Minsky Recital Hall is located in the Class of 1944 Hall. Information and tickets are available through the Maine Center for the Arts box office at (207) 581-1755.

UMaine to Host MTV Real World Star

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Derek Mitchell, Chair, Guest Lecture Series, University of Maine Student Government, Inc., (207) 712-8990

ORONO, MAINE -- Nearly five-years after the broadcast of MTV's Real World: New Orleans, 27-year-old Danny Roberts will discuss the pressures of being gay with University of Maine students on Monday.

A semi-closeted gay man when cast for the show, Roberts faced several challenges as a Real World cast member. Forced to come out to his parents before they saw the revelation on national television, and struggling to maintain a relationship with 'Paul,' an Army officer whom he had met two weeks prior to production, Roberts has become one of the most popular cast members in Real World history.

Serving as the kick-off to UMaine's Pride Week and sponsored by University of Maine Student Government, Inc., Roberts will present "Out in the Real World," Monday, April 4 at 7 p.m. in 101 Neville Hall. This event is free of charge and open to the public.

UMaine Study Looks at Infants and Chronic Night-

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Marie Hayes (207) 581-2039, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Two University of Maine researchers working in conjunction with colleagues in Japan have found links between infant and child sleeping arrangements and the phenomenon of "yonaki," or night-time crying.

The research suggests how parents, infants and toddlers all can get a better night's sleep by making bedtime arrangements as consistent as possible.

Marie Hayes, professor of psychology, and Michio Fukumizu, a pediatric neurologist from Tokyo, Japan, and visiting scholar in the UMaine psychology department, with two Japanese co-researchers have identified several factors in an infant's first few months of life that can affect how they sleep and how often they awaken in distress during the night.

The results of their research were published in an article, "Sleep-Related Nighttime Crying (Yonaki) in Japan: A Community-Based Study," in the January issue of the journal *Pediatrics*, with colleagues and co-authors Makiko Kaga, M.D., director of the National Institute of Mental Health, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry in Japan, and Jun Kohyama, M.D., associate director of Tokyo Kita Shakai Hoken Hospital.

The study involved interviews with the parents of 500 infants, toddlers and children at a well-infant clinic in Tokyo. It is customary in Japan for parents to bring infants and toddlers into their sleeping quarters -- typically a mattress on the floor (tatami) to nurse and fall asleep. Later, most infants stay with the parents, a practice termed "co-sleeping," which makes the child more accessible to the parent during the night. For a small percentage of infants, sleep occurs in a separate crib-like bed away from the parents but in the same room.

The study's findings suggest a critical factor contributing to night-waking is not as much co-sleeping or separate sleeping arrangements, but rather changes in where the infant sleeps during the night and during naps.

"In other words, it is consistency in sleeping arrangements from sleep onset until awakening that appears to be critical," Hayes says. "Infants and toddlers are disrupted when the sleeping arrangements, i.e. the site of sleep, are variable or changed between sleep onset and later in the sleep period."

In the research paper, Fukumizu and Hayes say, "We are arguing that neither co-sleeping nor separate sleeping quarters matters fundamentally. Rather, it is the consistency in sleep site from the transition to sleep throughout the sleep period is most important. Parents should avoid "musical" beds, particularly during early infancy when night-feedings are common. We want to tell people that whatever they decide on for a sleeping arrangement, it must be kept the same."

Changing sleeping arrangements is disruptive to sleep in infants and toddlers possibly because infants are sensitive to what a familiar environment, particularly during a long sleep period. An infant waking up in a different place than where it went to sleep, Hayes and Fukumizu suggest, may be disorienting and contribute to night-time anxiety.

The study also found that toddlers with frequent sleep-related night-time crying (SRNC) were more likely to have irregular bedtimes and to have non-parental day care than were those without sleep-related night crying. And preschoolers who typically slept 9.5 to 10.5 hours per night were found less likely to experience SRNC than children with longer or shorter sleep periods.

In addition to preventing parents from getting a good night's sleep, children in all groups experiencing frequent SRNC were more likely to suffer from a chronic eczema skin condition, and toddlers and preschoolers with SRNC exhibited bruxism (grinding teeth) more frequently, the researchers found. Both conditions have been associated with anxiety.

Fukumizu says the impetus for the research was to try to shed light on a growing problem in Japan with new parents, who are becoming fewer as Japan's birth rates decline at a rate that has concerned the nation. There has been little research done on sleep problems with infants and toddlers in Japan and almost none about "yonaki" written in English, he says.

"In the past, only the father worked in Japan, but now both parents working is very common," he says. "Yonaki or night-waking makes the parents -- especially the mother -- exhausted due to sleep deprivation. Sometimes child abuse occurs because of babies non-stop crying."

Pediatricians have insufficient knowledge about SRNC and medical schools in Japan also have little knowledge about sleep, developmental behavioral pediatrics and child psychiatry. It is a new field for research, Fukumizu says.

Many tired parents have been asking pediatricians why their children cry at night and, says Fukumizu, "I wanted to contribute to the comprehension of infant and toddler sleep problems."

The research findings have universal application to other cultures besides Japan because co-sleeping and particularly, partial co-sleeping are increasingly common in the U.S. For this reason, these results have general implications for recommendations to parents and for describing the development of consolidated, full-night sleeping in infants and toddlers.

Hearing & Speech Month at UMaine Includes Hearing Screenings, Reading Aloud

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Lorriann Orr, (207) 581-2007; Amy Booth, (207) 581-2011; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

(Ed. note: April 28 event offers free hearing tests for adults, free hearing aid batteries and a look at new devices to assist hearing impaired people. Last year 100 or more people showed up for hearing screening and hearing aid cleaning.)

ORONO -- UMaine will offer something for young and old, as the faculty and students of Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and its Conley Speech, Language and Hearing Center observe Better Hearing and Speech Month.

The department is sponsoring two events, a reading on April 18 at the UMaine Bookstore and a Hearing Expo April 28 at the Conley Center. The purpose of both events is to provide free educational services for members of the public and also to highlight the services offered at the Conley Speech, Language and Hearing Center in Dunn Hall, according to Susan K. Riley, clinical director.

The Conley Center offers speech-language therapy and diagnostic evaluation services in the speech-language clinic and features specialty clinics in family-based treatment and stuttering. The audiology clinic offers recommendations for improving communication, hearing screenings, comprehensive audiologic evaluations, hearing aid options, assistive listening devices and comprehensive hearing aid services.

Speech-language services at the center are provided by both faculty and graduate students who are supervised by faculty members in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and who hold Certificates of Clinical Competence in either speech-language pathology or audiology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and state of Maine licensure. The audiologist provides all services in the audiology clinic and supervises graduate students obtaining clinical hours in audiology.

The bookstore event at 1 p.m. April 18 will feature Maine coast author and speech-language pathologist Davene Fahy, who will read from her children's book "Charlie Who Couldn't Say His Name." Parents, teachers, children, physicians and speech-language pathologists are among those who might be interested in the afternoon program, according to Lorriann Orr, staff speech-language pathologist and lecturer in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The CSD department's annual Hearing Expo at the Conley Center's audiology clinic in Dunn Hall on April 28 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. will offer free hearing screenings for adults. In addition, the public will see an array of the latest in hearing aids and equipment for the hearing-impaired, including alarm clocks that shake your pillow instead of ringing or buzzing, lamps that flash when the doorbell or telephone rings and a wristwatch that vibrates at a specified time.

Exhibits at the Hearing Expo will include, in addition to free hearing screenings, free hearing aid cleaning and testing, and free hearing aid batteries, says Amy Booth, staff audiologist and lecturer in the department.

"It may not be a hearing aid that a person needs, but something else that can help them," Booth says,

referring to sound-activated lights, clocks that vibrate and other hearing-assistive devices. "Some of these devices are becoming more and more mainstream. Such devices are becoming readily available and affordable."

Two other visitor stations will provide information on finding better ways of communicating with people with hearing loss and on understanding safe and unsafe noise limits.

Booth asks that people who intend to come to call ahead for planning and scheduling purposes. The audiology clinic can be reached at 581-2009.

"Everyone in the community with an interest with speech-language and communication disorders is invited to these events," Riley says. At both the April 18 event at the bookstore and the Hearing Expo at the Conley Center, a table will be set up with literature on prevention of speech-language disorders, and there will be an opportunity to learn about communication disorders, treatment and prevention as well as to meet the faculty and see the center.

For more information or to schedule an appointment for any of the clinics at the Conley Center, please contact the clinic at 581-2006.

UMaine Sponsors Presentation on Ethical Issues Raised by Biotechnologies

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Biotechnologies such as stem cell lines, genetic engineering and cloning raise ethical questions on topics ranging from individual human rights to property rights. Eric M. Meslin, a bioethicist from Indiana University, will give a presentation on these topics at 4 p.m. Monday, April 18 at the Buchanan Alumni House on the University of Maine campus.

Meslin's presentation, "Lessons from Dolly, Stem Cells and Biobanking," is free and open to the public.

Meslin is the 2005 John M. Rezendes Visiting Scholar in Ethics at UMaine. He directs the Indiana University Center for Bioethics. He is also affiliated with the Indiana University School of Medicine where he assistant dean for bioethics and a professor of medicine, of medicine and molecular genetics and of philosophy.

In addition to his public lecture, he will present seminars to students in the UMaine Honors College.

His visit is supported by the John M. Rezendes Ethics Fund, a gift from Dennis Rezendes of Boulder, Colorado to UMaine. In addition to seminars and lectures, the fund encourages students to write an essay on the theme of "Ethics in the Public Domain." Past essay winners have written on subjects such as media portrayals of women, capital punishment and physician-assisted suicide.

More details about the initiative, including winning essays, are available [here](#).

Music, Poetry, Science and Engineering Highlight Student Research and Creative Achievement Week

31 Mar 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777.

ORONO, Maine -- From the stage to the laboratory, University of Maine students are learning by challenging themselves, laying the foundations for future careers. They will show off their achievements during the annual UMaine Student Research and Creative Achievement Week April 10-17.

Each year, more than 3,000 students participate in research projects at UMaine, according to Deirdre Mageean,

associate vice-president for research and dean of the graduate school. "By participating in research, these students learn valuable skills, such as the ability to analyze data, find solutions to problems, and clearly communicate their findings.

"The goal of Student Research and Creative Achievement Week is to promote understanding and communication about research among disciplines and to the public. It promotes a positive environment for university research and scholarship," she adds.

Leading off the program will be the Maine Masque theater production, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10 in Hauck Auditorium followed by the Collegiate Chorale Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Minsky Recital Hall.

Graduate and undergraduate research will take center stage on Monday. The Graduate Student Research Exposition and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture will begin in the Buchanan Alumni House, and seniors in the Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders will describe their work through poster presentations in Dunn Hall.

At 4:30 p.m. in room 100, Donald P. Corbett Business Building, Judge George Z. Singal, UMaine graduate from the class of 1967, will give a keynote presentation, "Wandering through the Garden of Eden: How Do I Get out of Here?" He is currently Chief Judge for the U.S First District. His talk will be preceded by a reception at 4 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett atrium.

Research presentations continue on April 12 with a graduate student awards ceremony at 4 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House. At 3:30 p.m., Michael Alpert of the University of Maine Press will give a presentation in Fogler Library on the Principles of Book Design.

A tour of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center, a Phi Kappa Phi student initiation ceremony and a readers' theater will be held on April 13.

On April 14, students in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health will present posters about their research in the D.P. Corbett Atrium from 3 to 6 p.m. Charlie Slavin, dean of the Honors College, will give a presentation at 3 p.m. as part of the Phi Kappa Phi student initiation ceremony in the Buchanan Alumni House. Events will turn to poetry and music with a 4:30 p.m. poetry reading by Michael Palmer in the Soderberg Center, Jenness Hall, and a presentation by visiting physicist and composer Brian Holmes on the acoustics of horn playing at 7:30 p.m. in the Minsky Recital Hall.

Honors students will give presentations about their thesis projects from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 15 in the Thompson Honors Center. That afternoon, graduate students in civil and environmental engineering will give presentations about their research in 310 Boardman Hall, 2:30 to 6 p.m.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will hold its undergraduate research conference on Saturday, April 16 in the Mahogany Room, Wells Conference Center, starting at 9 a.m. The Collegiate Chorale Concert will be held at 7:30 that evening in the Minsky Recital Hall.

Finishing the week will be a concert by the symphonic and concert bands at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 17 in the Maine Center for the Arts.

A full calendar is available here.

UMaine Summer Camps Offer Education, Recreation

29 Mar 2005

Contact: Paul Stern, (207) 581-1082, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- Don't let the name CAD Camp scare you. CAD Camp, offered at UMaine for youths July 10-15 is a lot of creative fun, says camp director Karen Horton, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology. It's just one of a dozen summertime activities at UMaine that combine education, recreation and interpersonal skills. Though CAD (computer assisted design) is using engineering software to create three-dimensional designs, this camp is for young people with a wide range of computer skills, from beginners to experts. During the week-long camp, students learn their way around the artistic application of CAD software, starting with basic shapes such as slabs, spheres, cones, cylinders and wedges and then adding color, texture, light variations and shadows. They can build art from photographs or any other digital image. While more sophisticated computer assisted designs

can include three-dimensional views of, say, buildings, highway overpasses and even clothing patterns, it all begins with the creativity Horton and colleague Claude Junkins, a cooperating lecturer in mechanical engineering technology, introduce to their UMaine students to during the school year -- and younger students at CAD Camp. CAD Camp is offered in partnership with the university's MaineBound recreational program, and campers spend mornings designing custom-made artwork with CAD software and afternoons in a kayak, swimming, hiking or learning rock climbing in the MaineBound Adventure Center or learning trust and leadership skills on the MaineBound challenge course. The program is available to anyone between grades 9 and 12, but Horton is trying to introduce young people who might not normally consider a career in engineering to the basics of engineering. "I want to reach out to underrepresented groups -- girls, minorities and financially disadvantaged campers," she says. "We're not focusing on those campers who are known to have an interest in engineering. This is for kids whom might like to try it." Whether they commute or choose to stay on campus for the week, CAD Camp campers begin their day at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. A sample of student artwork from last summer's CAD camp is available on the CAD Camp website. Students, Horton says, love the program and many of the private businesses that support CAD Camp financially like the camp goal of making engineering exciting and accessible. The program's long range goal is to broaden interest in engineering, particularly for Maine youths who may pursue the field at UMaine and pursue an engineering career in the state of Maine. For additional information, visit the website or call Horton at 581-2136. Here is a list of other summer camp activities at UMaine: Youth Adventure Day Camps: challenge course, paddling, hiking, rock climbing, for youths ages 8-12 and 11-16, June 20-24 and June 27-July 1. Contact UMaine Campus Recreation Maine Bound at 581-1794 or visit:

<http://www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation/specialeventscamps.asp>. Summer Sports Camps: June 20-Aug. 5, for boys and girls of varying ages; Camps teach technique, game strategies. Visit: www.goblackbears.com/camps or call 581-2267. Summer Art Camp, at Norumbega Hall, Bangor, for grades 1-8, weekly morning sessions, June 20-Aug. 12, taught by professional art educators who base activities on the art on display in the museum. Call 561-3350 or visit: <http://www.umma.umaine.edu/education.htm>. National Youth Sports Program: six weeks of teamwork, skill development for boys and girls ages 10-16, June 27-Aug. 4. Contact Diane LeGrande, 581-2466, about eligibility. Maine Summer Youth Music Camps, Junior Camp (Grades 6-8) July 10-15 & Senior Camp (Grades 9-12) - July 17-29, a variety of experiences in instrumental and vocal music for residential or commuter campers. Call School of Performing Arts, 581-4702 or visit: <http://www.umaine.edu/spa/navbarcamps.html> Young Authors' Camp, July 11-15, UMaine, Aug. 1-5, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, for grades 3-12; July 11-15 at Benton Elementary School for grades 1-12. In morning sessions, students explore writing and composition. Call 581-2438 for more information. Journalism Boot Camp -- fun, intensive training for high school students, July 20-22. Contact Shannon Martin, 581-1281 or visit: <http://www.umaine.edu/mcsj/linkedpages/conferences.html> Adventure Sports Day Camp, July 25-29, combines traditional sports games with outdoor activities, including canoeing, kayaking and mountain biking, plus climbing in the MaineBound Adventure Center. Two camps, for boys and girls ages 7-12 and middle school students, grades 6-8. Emphasis on fun, leadership skills, sportsmanship and motor skills development. Contact Campus Recreation, Memorial Gym, 581-1082 or visit: <http://www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation>.

Population Expert Warns of Global Overcrowding

29 Mar 2005

Contact: George Manlove at 581-3756

Dr. Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute in Washington. D.C. this week warned audiences throughout state and at UMaine on Tuesday that failing to manage alarming population growth in poverty-stricken nations likely will be "the ultimate global blunder, from which there is no recovery."

On campus at the invitation of Bahman Baktiari, associate professor of political science and director of the International Affairs Program, Fornos says countries including Germany, Austria, and Italy are experiencing declining populations, and even Mexico, whose average family size was seven children in 1972, has voluntarily reduced family sizes to fewer than three. And China is undertaking efforts to stem its population growth.

Countries including India and Africa, however, which are among the fastest growing populations in the world, have not undertaken significant efforts to curtail birthrates, and are encouraged to do so by neither the United States, which founded the United Nations Population Fund decades ago but has withdrawn funding, nor the Vatican, because of birth control issues.

The world population is now 6.5 billion and growing by 76 million a year, Fornos says. The world cannot support so many people, he says.

To create an image for his audiences Tuesday, Fornos compared the state of Maine, with its 1.3 million people, to Bangladesh -- about the same size geographically, but with population of 150 million and expected to double in the next few decades.

Failing to acknowledge the population crisis, he says, is a "reprehensible retreat from reality."

The population crisis already has depleted natural resources including food, fresh water and agricultural land suitable for farming, and has triggered massive healthcare problems and social disintegration of equal seriousness, Fornos says.

He suggests four ways to approach the problem, which Fornos says has largely to do with "rogue male" behavior: eradicate female illiteracy; provide full employment opportunities, with pay, for everyone, especially women; reduce infant and maternal mortality; and provide universal knowledge about ways women can postpone or avoid pregnancy.

Fornos encouraged his audiences to actively show their support for Maine's four congressional delegates, who all have supported the work of the Population Institute.

In fact, Sen. Olympia Snowe and Rep. Tom Allen serve on the institution's advisory committee. Because of disagreements over perceptions of birth control, Fornos says, the Bush Administration and a majority of congressional Republicans have opposed funding for the U.N. Population Fund.

"If there is going to be an improvement, a turnaround, it is going to be done at your initiative," Fornos told UMaine students.

Northeast Regional Student Steel Bridge Competition at UMaine April 2

30 Mar 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- College student engineers from across New England will become bridge builders for a day when they bring their custom designed steel bridges to the University of Maine's Wells Commons on April 2. They will compete in the Northeast Regional Student Steel Bridge Competition, an event sponsored nationally by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

Two winning teams could end up going to national competition at the University of Central Florida in Orlando at the end of May.

About 130 students are expected to participate. In addition to UMaine, teams will come from Merrimack College, Northeastern University, Norwich University, Roger Williams University, Tufts University, University of Connecticut, University of New Hampshire, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and University of Vermont.

The UMaine team consists of 15 students who designed and drafted plans for their bridge using computer software and their own design knowledge. Local sponsors include Bangor Steel, which contributed most of the steel, and Newport Industrial, which donated some cutting and drilling services. Other local sponsors include Cianbro, Inc., Cives Steel, Hammond Lumber, Kiewit Construction, RW Gillespie, Sebago Technics, Inc., Sigma and Aldrich, TY Lin International, and the College of Engineering and Student Government at UMaine.

"Members of the team have done the rest of the work themselves, more cutting, drilling and all of the welding," says Lauren Swett, team member from Old Town and a graduate student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CIE). "The time and effort put in by some of the students has resulted in a very impressive bridge that showcases a lot of talent in both design and hands on engineering."

Jamie Morneau of Smithfield is the team captain. Other members of the team, all CIE students, include:

Benjamin Jewell, Hampden; Chris Fournier, Biddeford; Chris Lyons, Fairfield; Keenan Goslin and Mike Swett of Old Town; Kourtney Tourigny, Sheena Bitetti and Kisch Peters, all of York; Nick Flagg, Farmington; Ken Fortier, Ellsworth; Richard Dunton, Rumford; Justin Desjarlais, Otisville, Michigan; and Ariel Reuning, Dover, Delaware. Bill Davids, associate professor in CIE, is the team advisor.

"The steel bridge competition gives the students an opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge to a challenging, real-world civil engineering design problem. In addition, the level of teamwork, organizational skills, and time commitment required of the students, especially when hosting the competition, are significant," says Davids.

The competition requires students to erect a bridge from steel parts that they have designed and built. Those parts cannot weigh more than 20 pounds each or measure more than three and a half feet long. Judges evaluate the bridges for durability, constructability, usability, stiffness, construction speed, efficiency, economy and aesthetics.

The competition will get underway with registration at 7 a.m. and construction starting at 8 a.m. Teams will continue to work throughout the day. Scores will be posted as judges complete their reviews for each part of the competition. A dinner will be held in Wells Commons at 7 p.m. with Alan Fisher of Cianbro Construction speaking on "Bridge Construction Design." More information about the event is [here](#).

Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace Set for Calais April 22-23

29 Mar 2005

Contact: Louis Bassano, Washington County office of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 800-287-1542

ORONO, Maine -- Looking to spur creative economic initiatives, nature-based tourism and business activity grounded in fundamental business skills, a coalition of public and private organizations, under the leadership of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will host the third annual Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace April 22-23 at the Washington County Community College in Calais.

The two-day event includes a special workshop Friday morning for members of the Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine. Workshops run from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday.

"The overall goal of the conference is to bring together resources to create new businesses and help existing businesses to expand, become more profitable and create jobs in Washington County," says Louis V. Bassano, Extension professor in Whitneyville.

The conference, workshops and marketplace displays are free and open to the public. The program will open formally at noon on Friday with remarks by William Cassidy, president of Washington County Community College; Vinton Cassidy, mayor of the City of Calais; and Lavon Bartel, dean and director, University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

The marketplace, featuring local products and service businesses, will be open Friday 12 noon to 5 p.m. A special Friday networking and evening social event, "Business After Hours," will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. in the marketplace, co-sponsored by Washington County chambers of commerce (all the chambers of commerce in Washington County). The marketplace will be open Saturday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Opening workshops on Friday morning will focus on nature-based tourism and designs for effective exhibit booths. Tourism will continue to be a focus on Friday afternoon. Other sessions will address state legislation affecting businesses, financial management software and profitable downtowns.

Scheduled to take advantage of the conference, a special bus tour will be conducted Friday morning for members of the Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine. This tour will feature stops at a local chip plant, woodlot, Devil's Head (a public recreational area on the St. Croix River managed by the city of Calais) and the Down East Heritage Center.

On Saturday, tourism and fundamental business skills will again take center stage with workshops on pricing,

starting a business and sales techniques. Bruce Baker of DunnBaker, Inc. will give a keynote presentation at noon on "Knowing and Growing Your Market."

Small businesses, or so-called "micro-enterprises," are at the heart the region's economy, says James C. McConnon, Jr., business and economics specialist with UMaine Cooperative Extension in Orono. McConnon is also an associate professor in the UMaine Dept. of Resource Economics and Policy and has studied small business performance in Maine and New England.

According to a recent study by him and graduate student Sibel Atasoy, Washington County is home to about 4,401 businesses that have four or fewer employees and generate about 30% of the jobs in the county. "It's clear that a lot of the Downeast economy depends on small businesses," he says.

Statewide, micro-enterprises contribute about 20 percent of Maine's employment and \$12.9 billion, or 13.2 percent, of the state's gross product.

Conference sponsors include more than 17 businesses and organizations in eastern Maine. Additional information about the Washington County Business Conference and Expo is available from Bassano, 255-3345 or 800-287-1542. More information is available online at www.wcbcm.com.

The U.S. Small Business Administration has honored the core planning team for the annual event as the Maine 2005 Home-Based Business Champion award. Charles E. Summers, New England Regional Administrator of the SBA said "this team has had an impact on small business in Washington County. They have developed a model which I hope will be replicated throughout Maine."

The team includes Bassano and McConnon, UMaine Cooperative Extension; Chris Chartrand, former owner of Videaweb Technologies; Harold Clossey, Washington Hancock Community Agency; Fred Hartman, owner, DownEast Drawings & Wildlife Art Gallery; Marianne Moore, owner, Curves for Women; Jim Porter, City of Calais; and Louise West, executive director, Machias Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

UMaine Concert, Symphonic Bands Share MCA Stage

11 Apr 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Concert Band and Symphonic Band will perform Sunday, April 17 in Hutchins Concert Hall in the Maine Center for the Arts.

The roughly 65-member concert band will open the program at 7:30 p.m. The symphonic band, with 61 musicians, will perform second, after a brief intermission.

Concert band director Christopher White has planned a program of traditional band music, including "In the Forest of the King" by Pierre La Plante and "Incantation and Dance" by John Barnes Chance.

The university symphonic band will perform a program of band literature selected from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. The band is directed by Curvin Farnham, associate professor of music. Assistant conductors are graduate students in conducting Gina Provenzano and Dean Paquette.

Their program will include "Southern Harmony" by Donald Grantham, "La Forza Del Destino" by Giuseppe Verdi and "Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Phillips Sousa. The band also will play "Ode for Trumpet" by Alfred Reed, featuring Jack Burt, UMaine professor of trumpet and professional trumpet player.

Admission for the concert, which begins at 7:30 p.m. is \$6, and free for UMaine students with a MaineCard. Ticket information is available by calling the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755.

The Mystery of "Ishi's Brain" is Topic of UMaine Lecture April 18

11 Apr 2005

Contact: Lisa K. Neuman, (207) 581-4489, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The intriguing story of Ishi, the last Yahi Indian who was a living exhibit in a California museum for several years before he died in 1916, is the subject of a lecture Monday, April 18 in the Bodwell Lounge at the Maine Center for the Arts at the University of Maine.

In a talk titled "Ishi's Brain: History, Culture, and the Politics of Memory," Duke University anthropology professor, scholar and author Orin Starn discuss his role in working with Native communities in California to track down the preserved brain of Ishi. Ishi's story has been the subject of a number of books and documentaries, but until recently, no one had been able to discover what happened to his remains after he died.

The lecture is sponsored by the UMaine Department of Anthropology and the Native American Studies Program. The lecture, at 3:30 p.m., is free. Refreshments will be served.

In addition to solving the mystery of where Ishi's brain was kept for all these years, Starn's work addresses the history of United States' expansion westward, the treatment of America's indigenous people and the relationship between anthropology and Native communities.

The story of Ishi is one that will resonate with students of anthropology, Native American studies, history and museum studies, as well as with members of Maine's Native communities. Starn is the author of several books, including "Ishi's Brain: In Search of America's Last 'Wild' Indian," "Nightwatch: The Politics of Protest in the Andes" and "The Peru Reader: History, Culture, and Politics."

UMaine Concert April 14 Highlights Music and Physics of Horns

11 Apr 2005

Contact: Nancy Ogle, (207) 581-1255, Leisa Preble, (207) 581-1016, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Music and science will meld April 14, as a California musician, composer and physicist is scheduled to deliver an inspiring combination performance-lecture at Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall.

Brian Holmes, professor of physics at San Jose State University in San Jose, Calif. and horn player with the San Jose Symphony and Opera San Jose, will illustrate the acoustical characteristics of horn-playing and explain the physical mechanics of sound as he plays several pieces, including a Beethoven sonata, with UMaine music instructor and pianist Laura Artesani.

His appearance was arranged through Nancy Ogle, a UMaine music professor and vocalist who has recorded some of Holmes' compositions, and the UMaine Department of Physics and Astronomy faculty who periodically look for interesting ways to demonstrate the wide range of every-day applications of physics beyond the classroom.

Holmes will perform for a general audience at 7:30 p.m. on April 14th at Minsky and will give a physics and astronomy colloquium in 140 Bennett Hall at 3:10 p.m. April 15. The public is invited to both events, which are free. Ogle says the performance should be of particular interest to area musicians, especially brass players.

Holmes is an entertaining and engaging speaker, according to Ogle, who knows Holmes personally, and he also is a nationally acclaimed composer and horn player, whose interests in physics and music overlap.

He does research on the physics of musical instruments and has occasionally composed music related to science. His "Updike's Science," for instance, is a set of six songs about science, composed to humorous poems of John Updike. He has lectured on the physics of musical instruments at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Oberlin College, Cornell University, Brown University, Boston University, Boston College, Pomona College, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Physical Society and the Acoustical Society of America.

As a composer, Holmes often writes for solo voice and chorus. He has composed numerous songs, song cycles, choral works and instrumental works, including a concerto for toy piano and orchestra. Several works have been recorded by the Peninsula Women's Chorus and by the Stanford University Chorale.

He also lectures on the physics of sports.

Canadian-American Center Wins Academic Prominence Initiative Award

08 Apr 2005

Contact: Nancy Strayer, Canadian-American Center, (207) 581-4220, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine's Canadian-American Center has received a grant of \$150,000 over three years to enhance support for several cartography projects and share geographic, cultural and environmental data with public schools, the tourism industry and the university.

The grant, part of the new Maine Academic Prominence Initiative (MAPI), will help the UMaine Canadian-American Center complete significant cartography projects expected to have wide-ranging educational, cultural and economic benefits to the university and the public in Maine and neighboring Canada, according to Stephen Hornsby, director of the Center.

The funding will allow the Canadian-American Center to extract environmental, economic, social and cultural data collected from the center's comprehensive "Historical Atlas of Maine" project and make it available digitally as part of the Maine Learning Technologies Initiative laptop program. Center outreach coordinator Betsy Arntzen will meet with teachers to determine the best way to organize and supply the information, some of which is based on research that has never been published before.

"Because the content is in a digital format, we can repackage it to be used at the middle school level," Hornsby says.

The historical atlas, scheduled for publication in 2006, begins with the formation of the European and North American continents and continues to the present, illustrating environmental, economic, social and cultural interactions that have shaped the history of the state and region.

"There isn't another state atlas like it in the country," Hornsby says. Modules to be designed for schools will be flexible enough for teachers to use various components "in a way that is most useful to them," he says. "This is going to be ground-breaking. We're not aware of this being done anywhere."

For the tourism industry in Maine, the center is working on an eco-tourism "Ice Age Trail Map," produced in collaboration with the Climate Change Institute and Maine Geologic Survey. The map will chronicle the geological evolution of Maine since the Ice Age, focusing primarily on Downeast Maine. Maine stands apart geologically from most states because of its diverse physical environment, encompassing complex geological formations and textbook examples of glacial erosion and deposition, varied topography, several major watersheds and mixed coniferous and deciduous forests.

"Right now, people drive through Downeast Maine and they don't have a clue of the significance of the physical landscape," Hornsby says. "This map will explain it to them."

The Ice Age Tail Map is expected to create an entirely new layer of tourist attractions for Downeast visitors. Additionally, the center plans to reprint its new "Explanatory Maps of Saint Croix & Acadia" an historical map illustrating and explaining migratory patterns of early Acadian settlers in Maine and the Maritimes.

Among the first mapping projects the Canadian-American Center's cartography lab undertook were the UMaine Campus Map and Campus Trail Map, now both campus standards. Hornsby says the Center will continue to provide creative support to academic and other entities on campus and throughout the University of Maine System.

Maps produced by the Canadian-American Center, Hornsby says, are of the quality produced by the National Geographic Society. "They are going to be very high-end with scholarly content pitched for a general audience," he says. "I think they will intrigue people who are interested in eco-tourism and cultural tourism in this state."

The Canadian-American Center has built and maintains its cartography laboratory, run by professional cartographers Mike Hermann and Matt Cote, on public and private grants, including two from the National Endowment for the Humanities and National Science Foundation. Since it is ineligible for funding available to many research and development programs, the center was eligible for one of four UMaine MAPI grants awarded in March.

The center was established in 1967, and is one of the leading institutes for studying Canada in the United States, designated as a National Resource Center on Canada by the U.S. Department of Education. The Center also coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate education, supports a major research library collection on Canada, promotes cross-border research in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and professions, and it directs outreach programs to state, regional and national audiences.

Tanglewood Conference to Focus on Forestry for Women

08 Apr 2005

Contact: Vivianne Holmes, 207-353-5557

ORONO, Maine -- Most women probably didn't grow up thinking they were going to manage a forest, says Vivianne Holmes, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator in Lisbon Falls. However, women who have purchased land with a woodlot or inherited a wooded parcel now find themselves having to think about growing trees, talking to foresters and working in the woods themselves.

"Women must educate themselves and once again find ways to enter into a male dominated industry that has not always treated women as equal partners in the stewardship of this natural resource," says Holmes.

To provide knowledge and training, Holmes facilitates the Women and the Woods Program. Participants become part of a network of women woodland owners "so they will not feel so isolated and alone in this new venture of woodland stewardship," says Holmes.

A series of small group meetings has been held around with women the state. These activities will culminate May 2 to 5 with a four-day conference at the 4-H Camp and Learning Center in Lincolnville. The focus will be on the business aspects of owning a woodlot including land stewardship, communicating with resource professionals, timber harvesting, estate planning, forest-related tax laws and much more.

There will be opportunities for women woodland owners to discuss management issues, to network, and to participate in outdoor, hands-on activities, says Holmes.

The program is a partnership between the Women's Agriculture Network (WAgN) of UMaine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and Extension's Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center. Financial support is from the USDA Forest Service.

Advanced registration required by April 25, and the fee is \$250. Financial assistance is available. More information is available from Laura Sebastianelli, 789-5808.

Research Shows Sustained Effects of Early Literacy Intervention

08 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Reading Recovery is meeting its promise to bring the lowest performing first grade readers up to the average class achievement level --- and perhaps beyond -- according to University of Maine research. The study provides scientific evidence that Maine students completing the program not only reach or exceed the reading level of their classmates, but also sustain effects of the instruction up to Grade 4.

The study investigated the performance of a cohort of Reading Recovery students, who were first graders in 1998, as measured by the 2001 Grade 4 Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) reading and writing tests. The findings are particularly meaningful as schools confront increased state and federal accountability and tighter fiscal restraints. The results -- based on all children who took the Grade 4 MEA in 2001-- show that Reading Recovery helps school districts increase reading and writing scores, as required under the No Child Left Behind Act.

Reading Recovery is a research-based one-on-one tutorial intervention where first graders with reading and writing difficulties are carefully observed and instructed for a period of 12 to 20 weeks by highly trained Reading Recovery teachers. The majority complete the program and continue learning through regular instruction. Children who do not achieve the expected performance level within the time limit still make significant gains in learning and are referred for additional services in their schools.

The investigation reveals that the average MEA reading and writing scores of Reading Recovery children who had completed the program as first graders were within the average achievement band of all Maine fourth graders. Moreover, a substantial number of these former lowest performers scored above the state average.

"It's moving the whole curve up, which is what a system intervention should do," says Paula Moore, UMaine associate professor of literacy. "The more we can have students at the average level or above, the more efficient instruction can be."

Moore was the state's first University Reading Recovery Trainer, the highest designation in the program's teacher educator structure. Moore conceptualized the study, and Valerie Ruhe, UMaine research associate, designed and conducted the research.

Data on Reading Recovery achievement is collected when students enter the program in the fall, when they complete or leave the program, and at the end of the school year. Ruhe linked micro-data of 1,250 fourth graders who were Reading Recovery students in 1998 and more than 14,000 students who took the Grade 4 MEA reading and writing tests in 2001. Students who had completed Reading Recovery scored within the statewide average range in both reading and writing.

Ruhe also compared results of the Maine study to the 2002 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), known as the "nation's report card." While only 48 percent of Maine students "met expectations" in the MEA reading test, the average score of Maine fourth graders on the 2002 NAEP was higher than that of the nation as a whole. The writing scores of Maine fourth graders on the NAEP were also higher than the national average. This outcome reflects the rigor of the MEA and suggests that first grade students at risk have farther to go to meet its high standards, Ruhe explains.

"Our research shows that most of these children are indistinguishable from the general fourth grade population and have ceased to be at risk," Ruhe writes in the report. "The findings also support the theory that Reading Recovery instruction extends young students' cognitive processing abilities."

Students can enter Reading Recovery any time during the school year, but Ruhe and Moore encourage schools to manage their programs as effectively as possible so that students can be quickly identified and begin lessons at the beginning of the year. This would allow time for a second and possibly a third round of students to receive the intervention.

"For many students, Reading Recovery provides a second chance to become effective, lifelong literacy learners," says Mary Rosser, the current University Trainer for Reading Recovery.

Rosser came to UMaine last summer from Australia where she was state trainer for Reading Recovery in Queensland and a member of the academic staff at the Queensland University of Technology. The success of Reading Recovery as a literacy intervention is thoroughly researched and documented, and the high outcomes are replicated in countries where it is implemented worldwide, according to Rosser. Reading Recovery was designed in New Zealand in the 1970s.

"In my 35 years as an international educator, Reading Recovery is one of the most powerful and successful literacy interventions I have encountered," Rosser says. "It helps students develop strategic processes for learning to read and write."

The UMaine College of Education and Human Development, in partnership with the Maine Department of Education, has been a statewide center for nationally registered Reading Recovery teacher training and service delivery since 1992. During that time, Maine Reading Recovery has trained 670 teachers and 30 teacher leaders, and has served approximately 25,800 children in 280 Maine schools.

Copies of the study, "The Impact of Reading Recovery on Later Achievement in Reading and Writing," are available from Dr. Valerie Ruhe, (207) 581-2370; Valerie.ruhe@umit.maine.edu.

In Maine, School District Size not Related to Educational Quality, Report Finds

07 Apr 2005

Contact: Philip Trostel, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, 207-581-1651; Catherine Reilly, formerly of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, now with the Maine State Planning Office, 287-1479; Nick Houtman, UMaine Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- A new report from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine finds that school district size in Maine "does not have an appreciable effect on measurable educational quality." In addition, "huge potential cost savings" could be achieved by greater consolidation, particularly of administrative functions.

Written by Philip Trostel, associate professor of economics, and Catherine Reilly, research assistant, both affiliated with the Smith Center, the report concludes that "there is considerable merit to the idea of greater consolidation of K-12 school districts in Maine." Trostel received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M in 1991 and specializes in labor markets and the effects of education on wages, employment and economic growth. During publication of the report, Reilly went to work for the Maine State Planning Office.

"This report supports what we found in an earlier (2003) study on school district size. If anything, we found greater support for the conclusions that we reached then," says Trostel.

The new report, *Improving Educational Resource Allocation in Maine: A Study of School District Size*, is based on school and student performance data from the Maine Department of Education. The Davis Family Foundation and the University of Maine Regular Faculty Research Fund provided financial support for the study.

A key point, Trostel says, is the relative size of Maine school districts compared to national averages. In 2000-2001, Maine ranked 43rd in the country, with an average of 290 students per school. The national average was 506. Likewise, Maine school districts averaged 734 students, compared to 3,177 nationally. Thus, applying national studies of school size and educational quality to Maine must take Maine's relatively small school district size into account.

The state does not rank at the low end of school costs, however. Operating cost per student was 11th highest in the country in 2000-2001, despite teacher salaries that rank 13th from the bottom.

The report addresses a variety of factors that affect educational costs and quality: student/teacher ratios, the presence of tuition-paying students, socio-economic variables, teacher qualifications, high school drop-out rates, student attendance, home schooling, juvenile crime and student testing.

"In general, greater consolidation of Maine's educational resources is likely to improve some dimensions of educational quality. It is also likely to harm others. But, as long as we are talking about the school district sizes relevant for Maine, most dimensions of educational quality would be little affected by greater regionalization," the report says.

The report does not consider two other factors: courses offered and participation in extra-curricular activities.

Larger schools are likely to offer a greater variety of courses, but a smaller proportion of students is likely to participate in extra-curricular activities, the authors suggest. It is clear, they add, that decisions to increase school consolidation pose trade-offs.

The report is available online at the [Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center website](#).

Susan Brawley Receives Geddes Simpson Award

07 Apr 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Susan Brawley, professor of plant biology in the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, has received the Geddes Simpson Award for making a major contribution at the intersection of science and history. Brawley will deliver the Geddes Simpson lecture at 3 p.m. April 19 in the Bodwell Lounge of the Maine Center for the Arts.

Her presentation is titled *The Pursuit of Science and Science Literacy: Claude Bernard to Prozac*. The public is welcome to attend.

Brawley is the principal director of the NSF GK-12 Graduate Teaching Fellowship program which received the New England Board of Higher Education's 2005 Regional Award for Project Excellence. She was a member of the National Research Council's Committee on Marine Biodiversity (1995) and a current member of the steering committee for CORONA (2001-2006), a trans-Atlantic ecological/biogeographic study of the North Atlantic. Her research has been continuously supported by NSF since 1983, and she has had four grants from the National Geographic Society.

"She worked with colleagues to preserve the Campana elm (in front of Hitchner Hall) and to develop a campus heritage map," says David C. Smith, emeritus Bird and Bird Professor of American History at UMaine. "In spite of a heavy schedule, she has done what needed doing, what any one of us would hope to accomplish as a member of the university community."

Past recipients include Smith, Kim Sebold (UMaine graduate and faculty member at the University of Maine at Presque Isle) and Howard Segal of the UMaine Department of History.

"It is indeed an honor to deliver the Simpson Lecture this year," says Brawley. "Geddes Simpson was a prolific and excellent scientist, and his work on plant viruses was keenly analytical. With this in mind, I thought it would be interesting to explore the importance of scientific method through the words of Claude Bernard, a doctor and a brilliant experimentalist of the 19th Century, some of my own research in marine ecology, and the need to increase general science literacy in the U.S."

The award is supported by the Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Series Fund which was established by the family of Geddes Wilson Simpson. Simpson was a well-respected UMaine faculty member for 55 years, chair of the Entomology Department and editor at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. He retired from UMaine in 1974.

The steering committee is comprised of representatives of active faculty and emeriti faculty, the experiment station and the previous year's recipient.

UMaine's Pelletier Accepts Qu

07 Apr 2005

Contact: George Manlove at 207-581-3756

QUeBEC CITY -- University of Maine French professor Raymond J. Pelletier, the associate director of the UMaine Canadian-American Center, recently accepted a prestigious Canadian cultural award on behalf of an

international educational association dedicated to promoting the language and study of Quebec and French North America.

The American Council for Quebec Studies (ACQS), of which Pelletier is vice president, received the "Prix du 3-Juillet-1608" award on March 15 from Minister of Culture and Communications Line Beauchamp. The award, usually given to an individual or individuals, specifically recognizes the dynamic and dedicated service in promoting French language in North America by ACQS. The ACQS was the second foreign association to ever receive it.

The award included a work of art by Montreal artist Sylvia Safdie and a parchment document signed by Quebec Premier Jean Charest. The Quebec Parliament also voted unanimously to officially recognize the contributions of ACQS. The Prix du 3-Juillet-1608 (Prize of July 3, 1608) is an annual award presented to exemplary organizations or individuals who work to maintain and expand the language and culture of North American French. The name of the award commemorates Samuel de Champlain's arrival in Quebec.

The American Council for Quebec Studies is a multi-disciplinary academic organization promoting the study of Quebec and French North America. It is made up primarily of university professors from across the United States and throughout the world who have an active interest in Quebec's history, literature, politics, economy, language and culture. Such interest usually is manifested through articles published in Quebec Studies and presentations made at the council's biennial conference.

Three hundred scholars attended the most recent conference held at Le Chateau Frontenac Nov. 18-21, 2004 and presented more than 200 papers. Also attending the conference were Quebec province officials, Canadian and U.S. national public officials, in addition to Quebec novelists and playwrights

Center history: The Canadian-American Center, established in 1967, is one of the leading institutes for studying Canada in the United States. Designated a National Resource Center on Canada by the U.S. Department of Education in 1979, the Center coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate education; supports a major research library collection on Canada; promotes cross-border research in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and professions; and directs outreach programs to state, regional and national audiences.

Volunteers Sought for Wild Blueberry Study

06 Apr 2005

Contact: Ann Barker, Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, 207-581-1733

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine Food Science and Human Nutrition graduate student Ann Barker is looking for volunteers to participate in a study examining how wild blueberries affect cholesterol levels and other risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

Volunteers must be at least 30 years old and have borderline-to-high serum LDL cholesterol levels (between 130 and 189 mg/dl). Persons who smoke, or who have diabetes or heart disease, are not eligible to participate in the study.

USDA research has found that wild blueberries are higher in antioxidants than most fruits and vegetables. Research at UMaine has demonstrated that wild blueberry consumption boosts antioxidant levels in human volunteers and improves blood vessel flexibility and blood pressure in rats.

Volunteers will be asked to come to the university four times for analyses and to follow a low-fat diet. Half of the volunteers will also be asked to consume two half-cup servings of wild blueberries every day for eight weeks. Berries have been provided by the Wild Blueberry Association of North America. Volunteers will receive free medical analyses and diet counseling, as well as \$100 compensation for completing the study. More information is available from Barker at 581-1733.

Mutation in Clams Protects Against Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning but Raises Human Health Risk

06 Apr 2005

Contact: Laurie Connell, School of Marine Sciences, 207-581-2470

ORONO, Maine -- Just like people, clams can be affected by the toxins that cause paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP), but scientists have now identified a mutation in clams that gives some protection. PSP toxins interfere with nerve function, and the mutation, which changes a single amino acid in a sodium channel, makes nerves less sensitive to those toxins.

The discovery is reported in the April 7 issue of the journal *Nature*. The authors suggest that it has wide ranging implications for the evolution of shellfish in the presence of toxic algae and increases the risk of PSP to people who eat clams by enabling contaminated clams to survive in the presence of toxins.

The report, 'Sodium channel mutation leading to saxitoxin resistance in clams increases risk of PSP,?'

UMaine Teach-in April 12 to Explore Myths, Realities About Cuba

06 Apr 2005

Contact: Barbara Blazej, (207) 581-2625, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of UMaine students and faculty who recently returned from an educational tour of Cuba over spring break will hold a public "teach-in" on April 12 to discuss their trip and impressions of the small socialist country 90 miles off the coast of Florida.

The discussion, titled "Cuba: Myths and Realities," starts at 7 p.m. in 100 Neville Hall and is free and open to the public. The program is sponsored by the Peace Studies Program.

Among the faculty at the teach-in will be Gail Dana, director of the Wabanaki Center, Barbara Blazej, an instructor in the Peace Studies Program and Youth Violence Prevention Project director at UMaine, Phyllis Brazee, director of the Peace Studies Program, and Alex Grab, professor of history, all of whom went to Cuba during spring break. Student participants include Jeff Lowell, Sarah Stewart, Dallas Anderson, Britta Livonius, among others.

To many Americans, Blazej says, Cuba's leader Fidel Castro is a dictator. To Cubans, he is heir president, elected by a general assembly. Such is the difference in perceptions of Cuba, says Blazej, who holds a view of Cuba based on discussions with members of the Cuban public, visits to schools, farms, churches, businesses and government institutions.

Last year, Blazej took a dozen students to Cuba in a special travel-study class to learn objectively about Cuba, which the United States regards as a political adversary. The US has both a travel and trade embargo against Cuba, now in place more than 40 years. This year, Blazej organized and led a group of 22 people on a delegation to Cuba, nine of whom either study or teach at UMaine.

"Both trips were phenomenal," Blazej says, noting that the groups were able to travel freely in Cuba without government oversight.

The "teach-in" on U.S.-Cuba relations and the effects of U.S. foreign policy on Cuban life "will hopefully give the public a different view of Cuba, one that most of us don't get in this country," she says. "We want to share what we saw and bring a little bit of balance to the conversation. Part of what is so interesting about Cuba is you have this group of people who have been struggling to survive in the face of what they see as continued US aggression," she says.

Questions about the forum on April 12 can be directed to the Peace Studies Program office, at 581-2625.

Windows on Maine Partnership Launches Video-on-Demand Maine Public Television Programs to be Available

05 Apr 2005

Contact: Marilyn Lutz at (207) 581-1658 ORONO -- Video programs and clips about Maine's history and environment are now universally accessible over the Internet. The University of Maine's Fogler Library, Maine Public Broadcasting Network and the Maine State Museum have partnered to create a new Web-based archive of educational video and other multimedia resources including, maps, photographs, artifacts, datasets and the text of primary documents. Designed primarily as a classroom resource for Maine teachers and students, the new website, "Windows on Maine," features video from the historical series "HOME: the Story of Maine" and MPBN's signature science series "QUEST: Investigating our World." Windows on Maine also offers supporting primary resources from distinguished Maine collections that enrich the broad themes that portray Maine's history and the Gulf of Maine science: forestry and lumbering, fishing and fishermen, hunting and fur trading, shipping and ship building. Those elements include video, images, documents, sound files, interactive maps, animated simulations and other files that will assist in teaching and learning. The resource is available free via broadband and wireless connections. Other collaborators in the project include members of the Digital Maine Learning Group -- Maine State Archives, Northeast Historic Film, the Maine Historical Society, and the Maine Folklife Center. "Windows on Maine will provide needed digital resources for the successful middle school laptop program and its extension to high schools," says UMaine's Marilyn Lutz, the project director. "It is a vehicle for advancing student information technology skills which have been linked to the needs of Maine's (and the country's) emerging economic and workforce development programs." The website offers K-12 teachers, and teacher education programs, online professional development programming through the Annenberg/CPB educational distribution network. Windows on Maine increases the speed of Internet streaming access to these video resources that support school-based and life-long learning, across the curriculum, by providing local storage for almost a terabyte of material. Windows on Maine is designed to support the integration of technologies into classroom instruction and curricula. As the collection develops, advisors will help determine video clips and other resources that best serve educators' needs in specific subjects. It is intended to support quality technology training, which focuses on instructional skills and classroom content, and to facilitate the use of technology in learning strategies. Access to broadband availability in Maine continues to grow, and a program for its broader deployment is under study by the state Legislature. The word "broadband" encompasses technologies that carry voice and information, and means connections faster than a dial-up phone line. The most common broadband technologies are Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) and cable modem service; fixed and WiFi wireless services are becoming more prevalent. "The advent of statewide digital broadcasting creates an exceptional opportunity for the key organizations with digital resources to positively impact Maine's 18,000 classroom teachers and, in turn, the 224,000 young people they reach each year," says Mary Anne Alhadeff, president and CEO of MPBN. "Public television stations, with evolving multicasting and data-casting capabilities, and cultural organizations must begin to rely upon new partners to help develop meaningful resources for this increased distribution capacity." "One goal of Windows on Maine is to make digital collections in museums and libraries, available to teachers for incorporation into lesson plans and student work," says J.R. Phillips, director of the Maine State Museum. "Technology is also being used to advance information literacy by providing students with access to primary and secondary resources essential to an understanding of our heritage. The Windows on Maine project is supported in part with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). "The IMLS National Leadership Grants foster the best thinking in our fields about how museums and libraries can further enrich community, academic, family and individual lives across the country," says Robert Martin, the institute's director. "The grants we make today will help develop leading-edge technologies to expand access to collections and educational programs, support original research to improve professional practices, and form powerful partnerships between libraries and museums and other community organizations. It is our hope that today's grants will provide models for libraries and museums throughout the nation to emulate tomorrow." IMLS is a federal grant making agency located in Washington D.C. that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries.

Same-Sex Marriage Lawyer Bonauto Speaking at UMaine April 6

05 Apr 2005

Contact: Mazie Hough, (207) 581-1225

ORONO -- Mary Bonauto, lead counsel in the controversial same-sex civil marriage court case in Massachusetts and director of the Civil Rights Project at Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) since 1990 will speak at UMaine, Wednesday, April 6.

Appearing from 12:15-1:30 in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, Bonauto will speak on "The Future of Marriage Equality in New England: Massachusetts, Connecticut and Maine."

Part of Pride Week at UMaine and sponsored by the UMaine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, the brown bag lunch talk is free and open to the public.

Bonauto, a Maine resident, concentrates her law practice on impact litigation for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, as well as people living with HIV or AIDS. She has litigated widely in the state and federal courts and agencies of the six New England states since 1990.

In 1999, she and two Vermont lawyers won a ruling in the case of Baker v. State of Vermont, establishing that same-sex couples are entitled to the same benefits and protections of civil marriages. The ruling prompted the Vermont legislature to enact the nation's first "civil union" law for same-sex couples.

Bonauto also was lead counsel in Goodridge versus the (Massachusetts) Department of Public Health, which resulted in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court declaring that prohibiting civil marriage for same-sex couples is unconstitutional.

Bonauto is a graduate of Hamilton College and Northeastern University School of Law. She serves on the Family Law Steering Committee of the Boston Bar Association and is the North American co-chair of the International Lesbian and Gay Law Association. She also is a member of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Working Group on Racial Profiling.

Maine Folklife Center's Marshall Dodge Lecture to Explore Male Myths in Country Music

14 Apr 2005

Contact: James Moreira, 581-1891, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The hard-pressed, misunderstood, rugged individual often central in country and bluegrass music is the topic for analysis in the annual Marshall Dodge lecture April 21 at the Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine.

Featured speaker Jeff Todd Titon, professor of music at Brown University in Rhode Island and long-time Little Deer Isle summer resident, will discuss common themes in country music that relate to myths of masculinity and the contrast between "home" and "the road" that are frequent themes of classic bluegrass and country music. Titon's talk is based on his research and a paper, "Bluegrass and Country Music Lyrics: The Good-Old-Boy and the Long Journey Home." He will speak for about an hour and will answer questions afterward.

The lecture starts at 12:15 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge of the Memorial Union, and is free and open to the public.

Titon has done fieldwork on religious folk music, blues, and old-time fiddling, with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. For two years he was the guitarist in the Lazy Bill Lucas Blues Band, a group that appeared in the 1970 Ann Arbor Blues Festival. In the 1980s he took up the fiddle and banjo, and most of his music-making today involves string band music from the Upper South. He also repairs and restores violins.

At UMaine, Titon will delve into the conflict between Saturday night hedonism and Sunday morning piety as part of a larger literary and cultural pattern in which many bluegrass and country music lyrics evoke archetypal symbols to conjure feelings of loneliness and pride at various points on these poignant but mythical pilgrimages through hard times. Through the culture and history of Appalachia and the American South, Titon explores images such as home, the country, the road, the city, honky-tonks, factories and farms.

This archetypal journey portrayed in country music lyrics is a male myth, Titon argues, in which the usual hero -- a white, southern good-old-boy -- is a descendant of southern aristocracy, who, in turn, shares with the working-class redneck a hatred of bosses and Yankees, a distrust of institutional authority and ambivalence to money, worldly success and the domestic, middle-class and modern lifestyle.

The quest for an authentic life usually is evoked in terms of personal liberty, being true to oneself, honor, manliness, loyalty to family, friends or region and tradition. The quest inevitably is compromised by the conditions of work, usually viewed as demeaning, the conditions of modern life, usually viewed as duplicitous and tempting, the difficulties of finding and keeping a suitable partner and raising a family, and the physical and metaphysical distance from one's birth family and hometown.

Titon will illustrate his talk with snippets from country music and discuss with his audience why these country themes strike such personal chords with listeners. Additional information is available by calling the Maine Folklife Center at 581-1891.

UMaine Ice Sheet Research Receives Boost from NSF

13 Apr 2005

Contact: Joe Carr, University of Maine Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3571

ORONO, Maine ' University of Maine ice sheet research got a boost this week with the announcement of a new multi-institution science and technology center at the University of Kansas. Two UMaine faculty members ' Terry Hughes of the Dept. of Earth Sciences and James Fastook of the Dept. of Computer Science ' will receive support for their efforts to improve computer modeling of ice sheet behavior. Both are also affiliated with UMaine's Climate Change Institute.

Funded by a five-year \$19 million grant from the National Science Foundation, the new center will be known as the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets, or CReSIS. 'Researchers . . . will develop models and technology to achieve a better understanding of the mass balance of polar ice sheets and its impact on the rising sea level glaciologists have observed in recent years,?

UMaine Sorority to Host 3rd Annual Move Your Phi't Fund Raiser to Support Alpha Phi Foundation

13 Apr 2005

Contact: Lisa Acquaviva at (207) 581-7766

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine's Delta Nu chapter of Alpha Phi (pronounced "fee") will host its 3rd annual Move Your Phi't event on Sunday, April 17. Proceeds will benefit charitable projects of the Alpha Phi Foundation, Inc.

Move Your Phi't is a 5krun/walk for cardiac care, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in front of the Buchanan Alumni House on campus. A barbeque will follow the event at the BBQ pit near the Stillwater River. There is a five dollar registration fee for the event, payable at the race or in advance by contacting the sorority at 581-7766.

A similar event held in 2004 attracted 75 participants and raised \$2,800. This year, sorority members also plan to be at Wal-Mart in Brewer on April 15 and 16, to accept donations and to raise awareness about the Sunday Move Your Phi't event.

A nonprofit organization, the Alpha Phi Foundation is the philanthropic and educational partner of Alpha Phi, one of the first national sororities. Alpha Phi has more than 140 collegiate chapters and more than 150 alumnae chapters throughout North America. Through contributions from chapters, individual members, and friends; the Alpha Phi Foundation supports community charitable projects, a variety of scholarships and financial aid, leadership training programs and cardiac care initiatives for women.

For more information about Move Your Phi't, or to support the Alpha Phi Foundation, contact Lisa Acquaviva at Lisa.Aquaviva@umit.maine.edu, or call (207)581-7766. Or visit the Alpha Phi International Fraternity website at www.alphaphi.org.

UMaine Student Learns Business Side of Education

13 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- When University of Maine Business Administration and Accounting major Nathan Holmes began his senior year last fall, he never dreamed he would do his internship in a public school system. Thanks to an innovative collaboration between UMaine and eight area school systems, more undergraduate and graduate students specializing in fields such as management, finance and marketing will get hands-on experience in running the business operations of K-12 public schools. In turn, they will use their developing business savvy to help central office staff approach tasks and problems in different ways.

Maine public education -- a \$1.7 billion enterprise, with 679 schools and 202,025 students in 2003-04 -- is big business, and schools in the Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP) offer a microcosm of the varied and complex intricacies of running a public school

In addition to course work and being captain of the Maine Black Bear Track Team, Holmes spends a minimum of 10 hours a week working in School Administrative District 22's busy central office in Hampden. The district consists elementary schools in Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport, two middle schools and the grade 9-12 Hampden Academy. It has approximately 300 employees and 2,300 students housed in seven facilities, and a budget of \$18.8 million.

"I was surprised by all of it," Holmes says of the school business operations. "It's a completely different kind of accounting. The amount of detail is tremendous."

Holmes is a 2001 graduate of Massabesic High School in Waterboro. His parents, Maryleigh and Andy Holmes, now live in Westbrook.

Under the supervision of Emil Genest, SAD 22 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Holmes is learning the fundamentals of school business operations. He is playing a major role in helping prepare the district's 2005-06 budget, attending sessions where administrators present their needs for the next school year, compiling and comparing fiscal data, and producing a preliminary budget for school board review, all under intense deadlines.

Holmes, who says he hopes to take some of the load off his colleagues, also works closely with John Russell, the payroll and human resources supervisor, and district account Heather Johnson, to learn the nuts and bolts of those important jobs. He has learned to prepare the biweekly payroll and is being exposed to some Human Resources functions, such as injury reports, pay scales and contract details.

"So much hard work goes on in the central office, and there's so much pressure," says Holmes. "These are very busy people, and their knowledge about what's going on -- down to each individual employee -- is amazing."

Since the central office is short-staffed, Holmes is taking on responsibility and doing actual professional work to get the job done, according to Genest.

"Nate has done a wonderful job of learning and performing the accounting and payroll functions in a public school environment," says Genest. "Also, he quickly sized up the political side of school business, recognizing the importance of working with a publicly elected school board and balancing the best interests of students and taxpayers."

In addition to being a willing and motivated co-worker, Holmes has given the central office staff some new ideas, such as how to better present numbers in spreadsheets, making budget material easier to read and understand, according to Genest.

The internship is enabling Holmes to apply the theory he's learning in his Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting course at UMaine. "Putting theory to use for real is rewarding and leads to better learning," he says. "These are lessons I will remember."

Holmes, whose goal is to work with the FBI, will enter graduate school this fall at

West Virginia University, where he will work toward a master's degree in accounting and a certificate in forensic accounting.

The business internships in Penobscot River Educational Partnership schools were conceived by Robert Cobb, Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, and Daniel Innis, Dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health. Holmes is the first Business student to intern in a Partnership school.

"I enjoy every bit of the job and will definitely recommend it to other students," Holmes said. "Working with a limited amount of money to do what's best for employees and students is challenging, and it's a great incentive to come up with new ideas."

Partnership members include: Brewer, Bucksport, Old Town, and Indian Island schools, School Union 90 (Alton, Bradley, Greenbush, Milford), School Union 91 (Orrington, Orland), SAD 22 (Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport), Union 87 (Orono, Veazie), United Technologies Center in Bangor, Maine Child Development Services/Penobscot County, and the UMaine Colleges of Education and Human Development, Business, Public Policy and Health, and Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Public Welcome to Attend Orono Royal on April 30

12 Apr 2005

Contact: Samantha Foster, Maine Animal Club, (207) 581-7818

ORONO, Maine -- The Maine Animal Club is sponsoring its 23rd annual Orono Royal on April 30 at the University of Maine's J. F. Witter Teaching and Research Center off College Avenue. The public is welcome to attend the livestock show that starts at 9 a.m. and includes dairy cows, beef and sheep to be followed by games and other events.

Food will be available throughout the day. Activities will conclude by 1 p.m.

The Maine Animal Club is composed of about 25 students, both undergraduate and graduate, who expand their agricultural knowledge as well as their knowledge of animal science, according to club president Samantha Foster.

"We'd like to share with students, parents, faculty, friends and alumni the activities taking place at the Witter Farm, our accomplishments, and the progress of our animal science and equine programs," says Foster.

On May 1, the Orono Royal will be followed by the 7th annual Spring Fever Horse Show at 9:00 a.m.

Page Farm & Home Museum Brown Bag Lunch Takes Up Tatting April 27

12 Apr 2005

Contact: Page Farm & Home Museum, 581-4100, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Tatting, knitting and sewing are the focus of discussion and a demonstration at a brown bag lunch April 27 at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

Hampden resident Viola Miller is the featured speaker. She has taught tatting, knitting and sewing for many years. Tatting is a method of making lace, using a hand-held shuttle, and involves making knots and loops known as picots. The craft became popular in the latter half of the 19th century. The demonstration will show examples of different tatting patterns and designs, types of threads and tools, and instruction books.

Brown bag lunch sessions are free and open to the public. People are invited to bring a brown bag lunch and drink. For information and directions to the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus, please call (207) 581-4100.

Bangor Area Groups Stencil Storm Drains in Effort to Educate Public About Polluted Runoff

26 Jul 2005

Contact: Caroline Tjepkema at (207) 581-3213

ORONO -- Several Bangor area groups are doing their part to help protect the water quality of the Penobscot River by stenciling local storm drains. The stencils include the message "keep water clean -- drains to river" and the website address www.thinkbluemaine.org, where people can go to learn more about how to prevent stormwater pollution.

On Aug. 2 at 1 p.m., councilors in training from the Bangor Y Travel Camp will stencil storm drains on Molly Lane, Jennifer Lane, and Drew Lane in Bangor. On Aug. 3 at 9:30 a.m., campers from the KidZone summer day camp in Orono will stencil storm drains in the area of Orono High School and Westwood Drive. On Aug. 3 at 5 p.m., groups of residents from Robin Hood Drive and Rotherdale Road in Brewer will stencil storm drains in their neighborhood. On Aug. 4 at 10 a.m., a Veazie Girl Scout troop will stencil storm drains in the Silver Ridge Subdivision in Veazie. The stenciling projects on Aug. 2, 3, and 4 are part of a statewide campaign to educate the public about the sources of stormwater pollution.

Storm drains are a familiar sight in many Maine communities, but people do not always stop to think about what happens to water that enters these drains. Some assume that storm drains lead to a sewage treatment plant. Although they may resemble manholes, storm drains do not lead to the sanitary sewer. They lead to a separate storm sewer, a special system that is only for the water that runs off after a rain storm and for snow melt water in the spring. Because of the sheer volume of water that goes into the storm sewers, it is not practical to treat it.

Because water that enters the storm drains is not treated before it goes into the Penobscot River, it is important to keep it clean. Anything that can be carried away by runoff can become pollution if it ends up in a storm drain. This includes trash, soil, pesticides, fertilizer, pet waste, and oil.

Recently implemented regulations require many Maine communities to reduce the amount of pollution in water leaving their storm sewer systems. In the Bangor area, these regulations apply to Bangor, Brewer, Hampden, Old Town, Milford, Orono and Veazie. The regulation specifies that each community's efforts to reduce stormwater pollution must include a public education component. Storm drain stenciling is a great way for local citizens to help their communities while informing others about what happens to stormwater. Stenciling projects in the Bangor area have received support from the Bangor Area Stormwater Group, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

There's Still Plenty of Time to Plant this Season

25 Jul 2005

Contact: Dick Brzozowski, 207-780-4205 (Portland); Lois Berg Stack, 207-581-2949 (Orono)

ORONO, Maine -- Don't let the unseasonably cool and wet weather of early summer 2005 fool you. There is still ample time to purchase, plant and establish perennials in Maine before the end of the season. Soil moisture is in good supply in nearly every region of the state. And best of all, local garden centers are offering some great values on high-quality, locally produced perennial flowers, trees and shrubs.

If you're not sure which plants will perform well, or how to plant and establish them for best results, experienced workers at local garden centers can help. "Many Maine garden center workers have training in landscape horticulture from schools like Southern Maine Community College and the University of Maine," says Dick Brzozowski, University of Maine Cooperative Extension (UMCE) Educator in Cumberland County. "They know Maine plants and conditions, and can help gardeners select the best plants for their location." "Summer is not over yet," adds Lois Stack, UMCE Specialist in Ornamental Horticulture. "The gardening season got off to a slow start this year, when too much rain and very cool temperatures discouraged many people from gardening. But recent weeks have delivered adequate rains combined with very warm temperatures. And that has changed everything. Garden centers still have lots of high quality plants on hand, and this is a good time

to plant. As the temperatures cool down in August and September, plants will establish good root systems, and be ready for another Maine winter." Following just a few guidelines can ensure success with summer planting. Brzozowski reminds people that it is critical to select the best plant for each site. "Plants can't thrive if they're not in a place that provides optimum conditions for them. Think about sun, shade, soil type and water. When you can describe those things about your planting site, a garden center professional can help you pick the best plants for those conditions." He adds that garden center workers are gardeners, too, and have tried many of the plants they sell. "They're in an excellent position to suggest garden design ideas and great plant combinations." "Planting is just the first step," adds Stack. "Water plants well on the day of planting and again the next day. Check the plants every day for the first week or so, watering deeply as needed. And don't stop there -- to produce good root systems, landscape plants should receive an inch of water each week during the first three or four growing seasons. You can reduce that need for water a bit by matching drought-tolerant plants with dry sites, but even they need ample water during this early establishment period." What special plants might you look for this summer? Stack suggests the Plants for ME selections. Plants for ME is a collaborative program among Maine nurseries, greenhouses and garden centers. The program's herbaceous perennial selection this year is Fringed Bleedingheart, and the woody plant in this year's program is Russian Arborvitae. Both are well adapted to Maine's climate. "They're a bit out of the ordinary, adding a touch of elegance to the home landscape without requiring too much care," says Stack. "Fringed bleedingheart does well in most soil types, and in partial shade. Russian arborvitae is a beautifully textured groundcover that performs well in poor soils, and in sun or shade. And best of all, these plants are available -- garden centers throughout the state are participating in the program. Just ask for the Plants for ME." More information about selecting, planting and caring for landscape plants is available from UMCE. Brzozowski notes that "people can come into the local county extension for a paper copy of many gardening bulletins, or they can download copies from our website if they prefer. The UMCE website is www.umext.maine.edu and people can access hundreds of publications there." For more information about the Plants for ME, visit the program's website: www.ohcmaine.com.

Moving Matters! Publication Available from Extension

01 Aug 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

ORONO -- Moving Matters! is a 14-part series of fact sheets is intended for use as a teaching tool by nutrition and health professionals working one-on-one with individuals. The curriculum, which teaches the importance of physical activity, uses stages-of-change theory to structure fact sheets into precontemplation, contemplation, preparation, and action/maintenance stages. At 36 pages, it is in a simple, fun, easy-to-read format.

University of Maine Cooperative Extension provides Maine-focused, research-based information that has been either developed or reviewed by University of Maine specialists. These materials are available through Extension's online publications store at <http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/>, by calling 207-581-3792, or by e-mailing puborders@umext.maine.edu.

UMaine Sports Reform Initiative Gets More National Attention

07 Aug 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Maine and the University of Maine's Sports Done Right initiative are leaders in efforts to reform "a sports culture run amok," according to today's Parade magazine, carried in major Sunday newspaper around the country and reaching more than 75 million readers.

The lead story, "Who's Killing Kids' Sports?," examines issues like excessive pressure, intense competition and unrealistic expectations --- mostly generated by adults -- that are taking the fun out of the game and causing 70 percent of America's children to abandon organized sports by age 13.

While many communities are trying to change their approach to children's sports, "no reform effort is more aggressive than that of the state of Maine, where educators, students-athletes and others have teamed up to

launch a counterrevolution calls Sports Done Right," Parade reports. Co-directed by former Maine Education Commissioner J. Duke Albanese and Robert Cobb, dean of UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, and funded by a federal grant secured by U.S. Sen. Susan M. Collins, "the project aims to radically remake Maine's youth sports culture and provide a model that the rest of America might emulate."

The initiative, begun in October 2003, led to the creation and publication of Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes, released in January of this year. Crafted by a statewide Select Panel, relying heavily on input from Maine student-athletes, the report defines healthy interscholastic sports based on core principles and practices, promotes competition without conflict, and makes recommendations for shaping the best possible learning environment for interscholastic and youth sports programs. Twelve Maine pilot sites representing 29 middle schools and high schools and 28 communities are in the process of implementing the Sports Done Right recommendations. In addition, school districts comprising another 160 Maine communities have begun using -- or are considering -- the model to steer local sports reform and improvement efforts.

The Parade story is the latest national recognition of Sports Done Right as a workable way for schools and communities to make interscholastic and youth sports a more positive experience. In addition to national media stories, school and sports leaders from more than 30 states have requested information or copies of the report.

"The national interest is an indication of the timeliness of the initiative and the thirst for a fresh approach to the youth sports experience, says Cobb. "The state of Maine and the University are appreciative of the opportunity to provide Sports Done Right as a resource to other states and communities nationwide as they attempt to bring youth sports into a healthy perspective."

An article titled "Doing Sports Right" by Cobb and Albanese is featured in the current edition of the American School Board Journal. It will be available online September 1 at www.asbj.com. In April, National Public Radio ran a story about Sports Done Right, which followed a page 1 story published in January by Education Week.

In an Education Week follow-up as a new school year approaches, Karen Brown, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching, will be the guest responding to questions submitted during an August 10 online discussion about sports issues and solutions. The Center oversees and guides the implementation of Sports Done Right.

Parade magazine runs in more than 340 Sunday newspapers, such as the Maine Sunday Telegram, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, Dallas Morning News, and The Philadelphia Inquirer. Education Week, with more than 217,000 readers, is the national, independent weekly newspaper of record on elementary and secondary education. The American School Board Journal, serving 40,000 readers, is a monthly publication for school board members and school administrators.

The Parade story was written by contributing editor David O. Relin who attended a May meeting of Sports Done Right pilot site leadership teams in Augusta, visited several pilot sites and interviewed Maine educators, coaches and students. It will be available online August 15.

More information about the UMaine Sports Done Right initiative is available on the web: www.sportsdonerightmaine.org.

Students to Present Pushaw Water Quality Research Finding

01 Aug 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Upward Bound students will present the results of five weeks of Pushaw Lake water quality research on Tuesday, August 2, at the University of Maine. The presentations of data and findings begin at 2 p.m. in the Memorial Union Multi-Purpose Room, located on the bottom floor of the Union.

Approximately 40 students in the UMaine Upward Bound Math-Science Center program have been working to

discover why phosphorus levels have increased, particularly in the north end of the lake. The continuing research project is in collaboration with the Greater Pushaw Lake Association, and the UMaine Cooperative Extension Water Quality Program and Sawyer Environmental Chemistry Research Laboratory.

Upward Bound is a federally funded educational opportunity program for high school students from low-income, first-generation college families. The Math-Science Center students come from every New England state except Rhode Island and want to pursue degrees in mathematics, science or technology. They spend six weeks on campus each summer, working on a variety of research projects.

Prior to beginning the bi-weekly fieldwork on July 1, the students geared up for the research by learning about data management, experimental design and scientific writing, and how to use Geographic Information Systems. In addition to collecting and analyzing water samples, they scoured the lake area for sources of high phosphorus levels, such as erosion, washed-out roads, fertilizer run-off, inefficient culverts and natural decomposition.

It is hoped that the students' research-based public service will help define and solve some of the water quality problems at Pushaw Lake, a significant environmental, recreational and economic resource for the Bangor area, according to Nate Larlee, a UMaine environmental educator and coordinator of the Upward Bound Math-Science Regional Center program.

Larlee is the media contact at the August 2 presentations. Some members of the Pushaw Lake Association and other interested persons are expected to attend.

Model Adolescent Literacy Course Offered at UMaine

03 Aug 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Basic reading and writing are no longer sufficient for today's high school students who must demonstrate strong literacy and critical thinking skills to meet performance-based standards in all subject areas.

The University of Maine's Aug. 4-12 Adolescent Literacy Institute offers a national model course to help content-area teachers boost their students' reading skills.

The three-credit hour graduate institute is designed for secondary school teachers in all disciplines to understand and help students meet the literacy demands of higher academic standards. Participants may also complete a three-credit practicum course offered in five follow-up sessions during the 2005-06 school year.

Presented by the Maine Writing Project and the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the institute centers on the course, Teaching Reading through Teacher and Student Inquiry. Tanya Baker, the Writing Project's co-director for professional development who helped develop the course, is the institute's lead teacher.

Maine's Adolescent Literacy program, designed through a partnership with the Northeast & Islands Regional Educational Laboratory at Brown University, began as part of a national demonstration site to create, sustain and study school-wide literacy initiatives at the high school level. One of few such projects in the country, the Maine model is distinctive because of its collaboration and alignment with major state education priorities and secondary school reform initiatives.

In addition to Baker, content area teachers who have already taken the course and are weaving literacy development into their classroom instruction, will be on hand to share their work and act as guides and mentors to institute participants.

The Aug. 4-12 session is the only time the course will be offered in Maine this year. Payment for participation can be made with Teacher Quality, Drop-out Prevention or Title II funds.

For more information and registration, contact Bonny Harris, (207) 581-2438; bonny.harris@umit.maine.edu.

Venerable but Worn Hauck Auditorium Getting Facelift, New Seats

11 Aug 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704, George Manlove, 581-3756

After 43 years, UMaine's Hauck Auditorium is getting new seats and a facelift.

Built in 1962 as one of the state's premier auditoriums where university and community music and theater groups could call home, and serving as a site for lectures, ceremonies and movies, Hauck opened with 600 plush seats and a deep red stage curtain.

Named after UMaine's eighth president Arthur Hauck, who served from 1934-1958, the auditorium opened in an earlier and much different era for the University of Maine.

In 1962, the Memorial Union had a barbershop, bowling alley and billiard hall opposite the original Bear's Den, where cherry-flavored Coke and grilled hot dogs attracted not only flat-topped college students, but community youth who enjoyed the facilities. Hauck Auditorium predated the mini-skirt and The Beatles' first recording.

The stately auditorium was dedicated in October of 1963, two months after Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech and a month before President John F. Kennedy's assassination. Hauck has since provided comfortable seats with small folding desktops for students, faculty, community members and visitors to the University of Maine.

They've served audiences at hundreds of concerts and theater productions, at least 10,000 classes. Hauck was billed in fund-raising publicity as "Maine's Newest Dimension," and the "cultural, educational and entertainment center of the campus community."

The Hauck lobby has been a well-utilized gallery for university, community and traveling art exhibits, engineering project displays, occasional chamber ensemble performances and receptions over the years.

But 43 years of thousands of people plopping down into the original seats took a toll, says David Adkins, facility manager with the School of Performing Arts. More than 75 worn out seats have been discarded or disassembled for parts to repair the remaining seats, says Adkins. They became so old that replacement parts were unavailable.

"I think we ended up this year with maybe 510 actual usable seats," he says. "With 500-600 students every day of the week in there, there was a lot of gum and writing on the desks, and things like that."

The condition of the remaining seats also raised questions of late about the viability of Hauck as a venue for university functions. Hauck has "looked run down," says Adkins, "and for orientation purposes, it wasn't a good first impression for parents."

Now, Hauck is getting new ergonomically designed seats, new carpeting and new paint inside and out. Crews have been working all summer and plan to finish by September.

The new seats will be a textured light and deep blue. The walls will be a similar bluish purple to match the seating and new carpeting will be a multi-colored mix of colors that will create a subtle bluish, stain-resistant floor for the auditorium. The new curtain will be cobalt blue.

There will be additional space in the hall to accommodate wheelchairs.

"I think the biggest thing or the best thing people will notice is it will be a new space, even though there are no architectural changes," he says.

It also will speak to the university's commitment to the performing arts, says Sandra Hardy, associate

professor of theater in the School of Performing Arts, who is "exuberant" about the long-awaited renovations. "I think it will generate some pride in the really good theater that we have there," she says.

Adkins notes that naming opportunities exist to help upgrade other areas of Hauck that were not included in the work done this summer, including lighting, sound, rigging and a box office. The brass plates naming donors for the original seats will be compiled on a special plaque, he says.

To help with the refurbishment of the auditorium, patrons can "purchase" a new Hauck Auditorium seat with their names on the back for a \$500 donation. Checks can be made to the University of Maine with "Hauck seats" on the memo line, and sent to the Office of University Development at 101 College Ave., Orono, 04473.

A ceremony will be held in the fall, according to Adkins. It will be timed with the first theater department show, "Blithe Spirit," opening Oct. 28.

UMaine Extension Featured at National Conference

09 Aug 2005

Contact: Donna C. Lamb, 207-564-3301 or 800-287-1491 (in Maine), dlamb@umext.maine.edu

BUFFALO, N.Y.--Donna Lamb, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Educator in Piscataquis County, presented two well-received sessions during a recent national Extension conference. The National Association of County Agriculture Agents held its 90th Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference July 17-21. in Buffalo, N.Y., with some 1,500 people in attendance.

Lamb's first presentation, "Consumer Survey Assessing Direct Marketing Opportunities for Farmers in Urban vs. Rural Communities," was based on a Penobscot-Piscataquis County survey conducted in the summer of 2003 with Hsaing-Tai Cheng, UMaine Department of Resource Economics and Policy and Lili Dang, a UMaine graduate student. The second presentation, "Wood Pellet Bedding for Equines Demonstration," was based on a project conducted funded by the Maine Agricultural Center.

A new UMaine Extension publication "Why Consumers Buy - and Don't Buy - Your Farm Direct Products," has been released in conjunction with the direct marketing presentation. This session generated productive dialog on the relative success of self-serve farm stands, which depend on consumer honesty. In addition, the Maine Department of Agriculture is now interested in a similar survey conducted on a statewide basis.

The wood pellet presentation reported on a 2001 project in which fresh sawdust was compared with dried wood pellets, based on the amount of product used and the amount of manure produced from the stalls. The project was conducted with Richard Kersbergen, UMaine Cooperative Extension Educator in Waldo County.

Win a Backyard Greenhouse at Garden Gathering

16 Aug 2005

Contact: Gleason Gray, 942-7396 or 1-800-287-1485

ORONO -- Have you ever wished Maine's growing season was longer? Learn how to extend it during the Garden Gathering at UMaine's Rogers Farm on August 20. Master gardener Elliott Scott will feature a "how to" session on building a backyard greenhouse, constructing an 8 ft x 8 ft. greenhouse during his workshop. The finished product will be raffled off at the end of the day. Raffle tickets will be on sale for \$1 each.

Scott will also demonstrate how to make a simple cold frame suitable for growing late-season crops, or for wintering over plants marginally hardy in Maine's zone 4/5 climate. Participants in the season-extender workshop will be given plans, costs and specs for both the greenhouse and cold frame. "So even if you don't win the greenhouse you can be a winner by extending the season a couple of months. Imagine home-grown

lettuce with Thanksgiving dinner" Scott says.

Scott is also holding a workshop on making and using incense. The idea for the session grew out of Scott's fledgling business Incense Man, where he offers scents "for the magical and the mundane." For demonstration purposes on August 20, he will use lavender as a base for his on-the-spot created incense.

In another hands-on workshop offered by master gardeners Pru Betterly and Roberta Lobo, participants will learn how to mold hypertufa, a mixture of Portland cement and several other easily obtainable materials, into unique and affordable planters. The method was developed for gardeners who wanted planters resembling old English watering troughs without paying the greatly inflated prices charged for originals. According to Betterly, "It's a lot of fun, sort of like making mud pies---only you come out with something attractive and useful instead of just a pile of dried mud."

Another craft-based workshop is making tussie mussies, back this year by popular demand. The presenter will again be master gardener and craftsperson Lydia Mussulman. Some sources say tussie mussies were first made by Victorian ladies and fitted in nicely with that age's obsession with sending secret messages via flowers. Others believe these elegant bouquets are direct descendants of the Elizabethan "posey," a gathering of flowers kept in the hand, ready to be held to one's nose to ameliorate the unpleasant odors which were all too common.

"Tussie mussies are so pretty and sweet, and so easy to do, it's a shame they ever fell out of fashion," says Mussulman. "Since I almost never send messages via bouquets I just use the flowers or herbs I have at hand," she continued. "Any wonderful smelling flower or herb that's smallish and pretty is suitable for one of these dainty bouquets."

Garden Gathering 2005 will be held, rain or shine, on Saturday, August 20, at the Penobscot County Master Gardeners' Demonstration Garden at Rogers Farm. Rogers Farm is on Bennoch Road in Old Town, between Stillwater Avenue and Route 43. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the first workshop at 10:30. As in previous years, admission and parking are free.

"If you remember last year's Gathering, it rained the entire day and we actually had a few sessions when the chairs were sitting in small puddles. But everyone stayed for the entire workshop and had a great time," says Gleason Gray, head of the Master Gardener program for Penobscot County Extension.

This is the fifth year the Penobscot County Master Gardeners have put on the Garden Gathering, which was conceived as a day for families to come to the Demonstration Garden and participate in various garden-themed workshops, tour the various gardens and displays. In addition to the adult sessions there is a special, well-supervised children's area which features garden-themed games and crafts.

Lunch will be available on the grounds, with organic, vegetarian-style food available as well as more traditional burgers and hot dogs.

Programs may be obtained from the UMaine Penobscot County Cooperative Extension office at 307 Maine Avenue, or by calling the office at 942-7396 or 1-800-287-1485.

UMaine Musicologist Tracking Roots of Israel Philharmonic

01 Jul 2005

Contact: Phillips Silver, (207) 581-1783, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Phillip Silver, pianist and associate professor of music, has begun research through which he hopes to uncover the story behind the founding of the Israel Philharmonic.

Considered one of the best major symphony orchestras in the world, the 69-year-old Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra has an extraordinary history, according to Silver, who researches and performs music of the Holocaust era.

Founded in 1936 in Tel Aviv by Polish-born Jewish violinist and musician Bronislaw Huberman, the orchestra was designed to draw some of the best Jewish musicians away from the Nazi threat and impending Holocaust in Europe. According to Silver, it worked.

Huberman invited 75 hand-picked musicians to join the orchestra in an undeveloped British-ruled territory that would become Israel in 1948. Originally named the Palestine Orchestra, the inaugural concert Dec. 26, 1936 was conducted by the legendary Italian cellist and conductor Arturo Toscanini, director of The Met in New York from 1908-1915 and musical director of the New York Philharmonic from 1926 to 1938. Preparatory work prior to Toscanini's arrival was done by William Steinberg, a great conductor in his own right.

What was initially characterized as an orchestra of soloists, the Palestine Orchestra crystallized over the first 10 years. Languages spoken by its members included German, Polish, Hungarian, Russian and Hebrew. When Israel became a recognized state in 1948, the orchestra was given its current name.

Though many well-known international musicians and conductors have been associated with the orchestra, including Michael Taube, George Singer, Mark Lavri, Paul Ben-Haim and Leonard Bernstein, the founding members of the orchestra are not so well known. Silver's research could be the first comprehensive study in English on the formation of the orchestra.

"I haven't found extensive writings about this subject," says Silver, who is using a semester sabbatical to do the majority of his research. "This is a very complex story, one which goes beyond purely academic interests because of the incredible personal stories of the musicians and the traumatic circumstances of their lives."

Silver recently returned from Israel where he began preliminary research into the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra through its current directors and archives. On a return trip to Israel in the fall, he hopes to interview the last surviving member of the original orchestra, flautist Uri Toeplitz.

Many of the musicians were refugees and former members of the Kulturbund Deutsche Juden ("The Cultural Association of German Jews") formed in 1933 in Germany as a private venue for Jewish performers and artists after the Third Reich banned Jews from public employment and a few years before the Holocaust. Silver wants to find as many individual stories about the original membership as possible.

"I want to know who the members were and where they came from. Where did the funding come from? What kind of cultural infrastructure was already established in 1936?" he asks. "I'm curious to know

Two Join Business School Advisory Board

27 Jun 2005

Contact: Jonathan LaBonte, (207) 581-1976, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Two prominent business leaders have joined the Maine Business School's board of directors.

The addition of Jeffrey Sosnaud of Portland and Richard Gleason of Auburn brings membership of the advisory panel to 15 and increases the depth and reach of the board, which brings to the business program insight about trends in the business community and about the educational needs of tomorrow's business leaders.

Sosnaud is deputy commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic & Community Development in Augusta and a former interim associate dean and faculty member in the UMaine business school. Gleason is president of Gleason Media Services in Auburn and a graduate of the University of Maine, where he earned bachelors and master's degrees in business administration in 1969 and 1970 with an emphasis in marketing.

"We're very pleased to welcome Jeff and Dick to our board as advisors," says Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health. "Both are intimately familiar with the business climate in Maine and the needs of our constituents throughout the state. Their background and experience will be of great value in helping us to continue to respond to the educational, research and development needs of the Maine business community."

As deputy commission of DECD, Sosnaud manages the operations of the department and assists Commissioner

Jack Cashman in implementing the policies of the Baldacci Administration. He has extensive experience working with, developing and promoting Maine businesses.

Sosnaud was the founding executive director of the Maine Small Business Alliance, a statewide nonpartisan advocacy organization. A former Bangor resident, he also served as a Bangor City Councilor and chaired the council's economic and community development committee.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Yale University and a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a member of the bar in Maine and California. In addition to practicing law, Sosnaud formerly headed his own conflict resolution firm, where he mediated cases for business, government and nonprofit clients. He is a past president of the Maine Association of Dispute Resolution Professionals.

In the 1970's, Sosnaud served as an assistant to civil rights leader Charles Evers, mayor of Fayette, Miss., where he helped design and implement the town's economic development strategy. During the Carter Administration, he was an assistant to Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus, and worked on a groundbreaking urban parks and economic development initiative.

Gleason has been a part time marketing instructor for the University of Southern Maine's college in Auburn in the early 1980s, and through Gleason Marketing Services has helped businesses build sales and recognition since 1977.

Over the last 30 years, he has established, owned or managed six AM and FM radio stations in western Maine, including WTOS-FM on Sugarloaf Mountain. In 1987, Gleason also opened Computers and Electronics, a Radio Shack dealership in Oxford, which he developed into one of the largest dealerships in Northern New England. The company bought it back from him in 1999.

A former U.S. Army Reserves infantry captain, Gleason has a long history of community service and civic volunteerism. He currently chairs the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce, with more than 1,200 members, and has served as an advisory board member for Central Maine Community College and is a recipient of the Maine State Senate's Business Cornerstone Award. He also has been president of the Oxford Hills Area Development Corporation, the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce and was the founding president of the United Way of Oxford County in 1989.

The advisory board, which usually meets three times a year in Orono and Portland, "plays a critical role for not only the Maine Business School, but the university as a whole," according to board chair Jack Lavery, an economic forecaster and founder of Lavery Consulting Groups, and former chief economist for Merrill Lynch." As a collection of Maine business leaders and prominent alumni of the institution from beyond the state, the board offers insights on programming as well as opportunities for advocacy on behalf of the Maine Business School."

Cooperative Extension and MOFGA to Host Small Farm Field Day

28 Jun 2005

Contact: Rick Kersbergen at 1-800-287-1426 or Dee Potter at 1-800-287-1421

UNITY -- The annual Small Farm Field Day will take place at MOFGA's Common Ground Education Center in Unity on Sunday, July 31, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This family event is cosponsored by the Waldo County Office of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA).

Small Farm Field Day features a wide variety of presentations, demonstrations, and hands-on workshops designed for anyone curious about the tools and techniques of farming and homesteading in Maine---from experienced farmers exploring new enterprises to hobby farmers, homesteaders, and gardeners. It is also an opportunity to meet and learn from farmers and other experts about living on the land in Maine.

This year will offer many different presentations and workshops, with enough variety to satisfy even the most diverse farmer or gardener. Topics will include the following:

Alternative and renewable energy
Organic pest management
Poultry processing
Small-scale pig, poultry, and cow husbandry
Soil testing
Seed saving
Scything tool sharpening
Organic orchard care
Season extension
Cheesemaking
Wild edibles
Weed id & control
Irrigation
Blacksmithing
Movable greenhouses

The Field Day is free and open to the public. For more information about Small Farm Field Day or other MOFGA events, contact MOFGA at 207-568-4142, or visit the events section of www.mofga.org.

UMaine Cooperative Extension and Partners Help Host Pasture Walks and Conference Via the Maine Grass Farmers Network

28 Jun 2005

Contact: Rick Kersbergen at 1-800-287-1426 or Dee Potter at 1-800-287-1421

The Maine Grass Farmers Network (MGFN) is hosting a series of workshops at various farms around the state. Started with the support of a grant from the Northeast Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the MGFN is a cooperative effort among the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA), the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Department of Agriculture and some Maine livestock farmers. The coordinators have scheduled these workshops for both experienced and novice livestock producers who want to learn more about grazing and pasture management.

Many livestock farmers in Maine are learning about potential advantages of growing grass as carefully managed pasture for their livestock. Growing grass in Maine takes advantage of our short growing season & cool climate. Keeping land in pasture reduces soil erosion caused by row crops. Grass farming and pasture-raised livestock utilize pasture land effectively, while improving animal health, product quality, and market advantage. Pasture milk, meat, poultry, and eggs have the potential for high nutritional content and higher market prices. Grass farming can increase profitability, helping to keep farms and farmland viable and maintaining the rural character of our communities.

The MGFN coordinators held a series of pasture walks last summer, and a first annual conference in October. This summer's calendar lists a huge variety of interesting topics for graziers of all types. A conference is scheduled for August 27th. Call 1-800-287-1426 for information. Farmer-consultants will be available to provide technical information and support to a network of grass-based farmers in Maine.

MGFN PASTURE WALKS SUMMER 2005
(For directions, call the farms directly or email mgfn@prexar.com.)

JUNE 27 6-8 PM
Monday. Rotational grazing old and new pastures. Dennis Wilk, Industry. 778-0154.

JULY 6 10AM - 12 PM
Wednesday. Integrated farming and pasture systems. King Hill Farm, Penobscot. 326-9701.

JULY 10 2-5 PM

Sunday. FAMACHA training. Crystal Springs Farm, Brunswick. Help for parasite control by seeing level of infection in sheep & goats. \$30/farm, Send to MOFGA, PO Box 170, Unity ME 04988. Diane Schivera, 568-4142

JULY 18 6-8 PM

Monday. Reclaiming worn out pastures and Multi-species. Izzy McKay & Rick Thompson, Stantial Brook Farm, Brooks. 722-3430.

JULY 19 10AM-12 PM

Tuesday. Pasture Layout & Road Crossings. Jeff Bragg, Sydney. Cosponsored by MOMP. 547-3814

JULY 23-24

Saturday & Sunday. Border Collie Training Clinic with Denise Leonard of Tanstaaf Farm at Nanney Kennedy's Meadowcroft Farm, Hopkins Rd, off RT 17, Washington, ME. Fees: Participants (dog and handler) \$85 per day or \$150.00 for both days Observer: (person-no dog) \$40.00 per day.

For more info, call Nanney Kennedy, 845-2587

JULY 26 10 AM - 1 PM

Tuesday. Watering Systems & Nose Pumps. Doaks, Clements & Roberts, Monroe & Swanville. Call Paula Roberts at 338-1265

JULY 28 6-8 PM

Pasturing Horses. Jim Jaeger, Vienna Farm, Gorham. 839-4495

AUGUST 9 6-8 PM

Tuesday. Backgrounding Beef & Summer Grazing of Winter Grains. Margesons Farm, Westmanland. 896-3081.

AUGUST 10 6-8 PM

Wednesday. Multi-species, stock dogs and more. David Craven, Bucks Harbor. 255-4224.

AUGUST 17 6-8 PM

Wednesday. Developing Watering Systems. Fred Sherburne, Dexter. 924-3057

SEPTEMBER 14 6-8 PM

Wednesday. Managing water & wildlife areas in the pasture, & also Marketing Grassfed Beef. John O'Donnell's, Monmouth. 933-3052

MGFN also is creating a database and email network of livestock farmers and professionals who wish to be part of the network. Fact sheets for professionals and farmers will be created with topics to include: forage identification, fencing methods, watering systems, pasture management (reclamation, set-up, evaluation), predator control, & genetics.

For more information and registration materials, contact:

Diane Schivera, Project Coordinator at MOFGA - 568-4142

Rick Kersbergen at 1-800-287-1426 or Dee Potter at 1-800-287-1421 from UMaine Extension

Paula Roberts of Meadowsweet Farm at 338-1265.

Hair Sheep Project Field Day Planned

28 Jun 2005

Contact: Richard Brzozowski at 1-800-287-1471

PORTLAND -- Researchers from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Bowdoin College have been working together on an applied research project with Katahdin Hair Sheep since 2000. A field day to summarize the work and present highlights is planned for 2-5 p.m. Saturday, July 9, 2005, at Woolly Meadow Farm, 828 Long Plains Road (Route 22) in Buxton. This event is free and open to the public.

This applied research project was funded by the USDA sustainable agriculture program with researchers Tom

Settlemyre (retired) Bowdoin College and Richard Brzozowski of UMaine Cooperative Extension.

This special field day is designed to summarize the findings for producers. Much of the information can be used by sheep producers. Highlights of the research include: building a flock with natural resistance to roundworm (*Haemonchus contortus*) and using the FAMACHA method to monitor internal parasite infection. The project focused on sustainability by using local feeds and rotational pastures. The growth of lambs and the productivity of the ewes were measured regularly. Maine sheep producers could benefit from the findings.

UMaine Grad Student Awarded Prestigious Fellowship

17 Jun 2005

Contact: Linda Healy, Darling Marine Center 563-3146, ext 200

WALPOLE -- Emily Knight, a graduate student at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center studying with Prof. Les Watling, has been awarded a John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship for 2006.

The prestigious Knauss Fellowships provide an opportunity for graduate students interested in marine resources to pursue a career path in public policy by placing grads with "hosts" in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. The Knauss Fellowship is sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) and awarded to about 40 graduate students each year. Working with Watling, Knight is studying the effects of trawling on mixed-bottom habitats. Her project is unique because it was proposed by a fisherman, Cameron McLellan, and requires the knowledge and cooperation of both fishermen and scientists. Understanding these benthic communities is an important part of making sound fishing regulations since commercial species such as pollock, cod and haddock rely on the sponges, worms, crustaceans and other animals living in and on the sand/gravel substrate as their primary food source. Knight is specifically looking at the ability of these communities to rebound after being disturbed by fishing gear. Aboard McLellan's boat the F/V Adventurer, they sampled and videotaped the habitats in popular fishing grounds and within the Western Gulf of Maine Closed Area and Stellwagon Banks National Marine Sanctuary. In November, she will go to Washington DC and get her legislative assignment with a lawmaker for whom fisheries management, ecosystem management and marine protected areas are big issues. Over the past couple of years, Knight has worked closely with both scientists and fishermen. She says she is excited to go to Washington, learn about federal legislation, and to work on a larger range of marine related issues.

Brave New World: Hudson Museum Exhibit Explores Immigrants' Experiences

28 Jun 2005

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1409, Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- For many foreigners emigrating to the United States, the experience requires facing fears and myths about the best and the worst of American life. Preconceived notions, first impressions and anecdotes from immigrants are the focus of a new dual exhibit opening July 12 at the UMaine Hudson Museum.

Both exhibits include photographs and recordings of immigrants' stories and experiences after moving to Maine or New York City.

Stories of immigrants and refugees living in Queens, New York are presented through a traveling exhibit by New Yorkers Warren Lehrer and Judith Sloan, who spent three years collecting information for "Crossing the Blvd: strangers, neighbors, aliens in a new America," and a companion CD and 400-page book published by W.W. Norton.

Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the Maine Folklife Center at UMaine, and students recorded oral histories from immigrants living in the greater Bangor area for a more localized exhibit, "New Mainers? The Complexity of Immigrant Identities."

It includes first impressions, photographs, traditional clothing and personal objects people brought with them to their new home in the United States and Maine.

The exhibits are free and open July 12, with a reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the museum, according to museum director Gretchen Faulkner. It is scheduled to close Nov. 23.

"Crossing the Blvd" focuses on families that arrived after the adoption of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act mandating an end to discriminatory immigration policies favoring white western Europeans. It brings to life the stories and sounds of the struggles of immigrants from around the world who settled in Queens, "a modern-day Ellis Island where cultures overlap in a choreography of chaotic co-existence," according to Lehrer and Sloan. From a Mexican couple who arrived in the U.S. as undocumented laborers hidden in the trunk of a car to a high school in Queens where kids come from 40 different counties, their exhibit probes the multiple cultural divides facing immigrants in search of a new life.

"Crossing the Blvd" video interviews are accompanied by a musical score and are divided into five "movements." A few of the nationalities represented in the exhibit include Nigerian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Mexican, Afghan, Haitian, Egyptian, Russian, Bhutanese, Filipino, Romanian and people from the Caribbean islands. Some are shopkeepers, some are teachers, some came to the United States to pursue religious freedom. And some are political refugees or children of refugees. The exhibit explores multi-cultural traditions and the perspectives of children living modern American lifestyles juxtaposed against the traditional values of their immigrant parents.

Lehrer and Sloan are co-founders of EarSay, a non-profit arts organization documenting and portraying lives of the uncelebrated. Lehrer is an award-winning writer, designer and photographer. He also is an associate professor of art at the School of Art and Design and SUNY Purchase and a member of the graduate faculty at the School of Visual Arts' designer and author program. Sloan is an actress, oral historian, audio artist and faculty member at the Gallatin School in New York, where she teaches courses in documentary art, oral history, theater and community projects.

Immigrant stories in the Maine Folklife Center exhibit range from a Pakistani cafe owner in Bangor who was threatened in the days following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and then supported by an unprecedented outpouring of community support to a Hungarian woman who tells her relatives back home that Maine is, indeed, a safe and pleasant place to start a new life.

"We interviewed about 15 people from Russia, Hungary, China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Iran, Pakistan, Peru, Colombia, Panama, Argentina and Puerto Rico," says MacDougall. "I wanted to get a sense of the real underlying diversity in our community that we really don't know anything about."

MacDougall and her student assistants recorded immigrants' views on how they came to be here, what they thought before and after, how they were received, whether they experienced prejudice or discrimination and how they create a new community by finding others of similar ethnic backgrounds.

Middle Level Educators Putting Practice to the Test

28 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761 NOTE: Media are invited to all sessions of the annual Middle Level Education Institute. The majority of workshops take place in the Doris Twitchell Allen Village residential complex on Rangeley Road. The institute office, staffed throughout the week, is also located in this complex. Complete information, including daily schedules, is available on the Institute website.

ORONO, Maine -- Middle level teachers are applying fundamental principles and philosophy to their own learning at the 21st annual Middle Level Education Institute taking place June 26-30 at the University of Maine.

Approximately 135 educators from middle schools throughout Maine and 20 from the U.S. Virgin Islands are learning as their students do: by planning together what is important and relevant to learn, and integrated curriculum where children broadly explore various subjects in ways that are meaningful to their own lives. "Walk the Talk" is the theme of this year's conference, which centers on making sure everyone's questions about middle level education are asked and answered. "We've seen students become more engaged in the learning process when instruction is built around an integrated curriculum because they are learning what they want and need to know and have helped plan the curriculum," says UMaine faculty member Gert Nesin, director of this year's institute. "By focusing the institute on what we know works well, we are hopeful that

each participant will learn what he or she came to learn. Eighteen middle level consultants -- experts in areas from curriculum and assessment to young adolescent growth and teacher leadership -- are sharing their expertise with institute participants. Educators are working in teams to explore and answer questions about: building positive relationships and school climates; differentiated instruction designed to meet various learning needs and abilities; finding time to effectively teach content and skills to all students and still address assessment and be reflective about teaching; working better as school-based teams; examining middle school philosophy and its place in an assessment-driven era; modeling and promoting technology in the classroom; creating fair and effective discipline systems; and engaging and motivating students. Among topics being discussed at institute sessions today are Building Communities of Learners -- Including Parents, Reaching Real Peace Student to Student (elements of a successful civil rights team), Student-Led Conferences (making students accountable for their learning), Developmentally Appropriate Instruction (latest research on what is going on in the brain of a young adolescent), and The Differentiated Classroom (techniques to engage and challenge all learners). Teams of educators will continue to work on projects and information generated from the institute when they return to their classrooms. Institute participants represent Maine middle schools in Waldoboro, Bangor, Brooklin, Camden-Rockport, Union, Dexter, East Grand, Fort Fairfield, Gray-New Gloucester, Lincoln, Lincolnville, Madison, Milo, Naples, Old Town, Oakland, Orland, Readfield, Rumford, St. George, Topsham, Vinalhaven and Windham.

Future Teachers' Academy Opens Sunday

23 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

Media Advisory

Media are invited to all events. An agenda is pasted on to this e-mail.

ORONO, Maine -- Eighteen high school students enthusiastic about math and science will weave lessons and fun during the University of Maine's 2005 Future Teachers' Academy, taking place June 26 to July 1. The students, from Kennebunk to Fort Kent, Maine, and the Bronx, N.Y., will work with UMaine faculty and other educators on projects ranging from mathematics networks to marine science, spend a day on the coast and get to know one another through a variety of activities.

Sponsored by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the goal of the annual academy is to spark the interest of talented high school juniors and seniors in becoming secondary mathematics and science teachers and to generate opportunities for students to experience greater cultural diversity. The New York City students attend the academy through a partnership with the Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy in the Bronx.

Among Academy highlights:

June 28, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. -- An ecologically based weed management activity examining the impact of weed seed predators, such as beetles and grasshoppers. Students will engage in field and lab activities to discover what type of cover crop habitat supports the highest seed predator populations and feeding rates. This activity takes place at UMaine's Rogers Farm, Bennoch Road in Old Town. Amanda Shearin, a graduate student in the Weed Ecology & Management Program, is the activity leader.

June 28, 1-4 p.m. -- Testing and analysis to determine human impact on water quality. Students will work with chemical (PH, oxygen and temperature), biological (stream insects and crustaceans) and habitat (erosion, vegetation and stream flow) factors to tell the quality of the water and health of the stream. This activity takes place at two feeder streams in Bangor. From approximately 1:45-2:45 p.m., students will be collecting samples at a feeder stream to the Penobscot River, located off Mount Hope Avenue behind the Bangor Humane Society. From approximately 3-4 p.m., students will be working at a Kenduskeag Stream feeder tributary off Valley Avenue (second pull-off after Kenduskeag Park). Watershed educator Kerry Avery of Bangor is the activity leader.

June 29, 1-4 p.m. -- Students will visit UMaine's Aquaculture Research Center to learn about the University's effort to raise valuable tropical fish in a manner that does not harm the environment. Current methods of capture are harmful to the coral reefs and the species collected. Students will hear about the efforts required to maintain conditions to raise tropical fish, including mating, nutrition, larval stages and growing to adults. They

will have the opportunity to microscopically observe the components of the food chain required to raise larval fish, including phytoplankton (plants), zooplankton (animals) and the larval fish themselves. The program will also include a tour of the facility, which houses numerous species of tropical fish numbering in the thousands. Aquaculture Research Center manager Neil Greenberg is the activity leader.

Owen J. Logue, College of Education and Human Development associate dean, is director of the Future Teachers' Academy. Chance Nalley, UMaine alum and mathematics instructor at Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy, is assistant director.

FUTURE TEACHERS' ACADEMY AGENDA
JUNE 26-JULY 1, 2005
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

4:30 p.m. Arrival and check-in (Hancock Hall)
6 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Group meeting
8 p.m. Capture the Flag

MONDAY, JUNE 27

7-8:15 a.m. Breakfast
8:30-11:30 a.m. Math with Chance Nalley, Mathematics teacher, Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy, Bronx, N.Y., 107 Neville Hall
11:45-12:45 p.m. Lunch at the Marketplace
1-4 p.m. Exploration of Networks and Applications (the mathematics of networks), Professor Robert Franzosa, Neville Hall (Room TBA; outside if weather is good)
5-6 p.m. Dinner at the Commons
Evening Event -- Sports activities

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

7-8 a.m. Breakfast at the Commons
8:30-11:30 a.m. UMaine Rogers Farm -- Weed management and seed predators
11:45-12:45 p.m. Lunch at the Marketplace
1-4 p.m. Water quality analysis (Feeder streams in Bangor)
4:30-5:30 p.m. Dinner at the Commons
6-8:30 p.m. Challenger Space Center, Bangor

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

7-8 a.m. Breakfast at the Commons
8:30-11:30 a.m. Geometry Sketchpad, Mathematics Instructor Amie Gellen, 207 Donald P. Corbett Business Building
Potential of the software and creative exploration of geometry concepts
11:45-12:45 p.m. Lunch at the Marketplace
1-4 p.m. Marine Science Project, University of Maine Aquaculture Research Center
4:30-6 p.m. Dinner at the Commons
6:30 p.m. Evening Event -- Scavenger Hunt

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

7 a.m. Breakfast in Hancock Hall lobby
7:30 a.m. Van leaves for excursion boat at Northeast Harbor
12 p.m. Lunch at town dock
Afternoon in Bar Harbor
7:00 p.m. Karaoke

FRIDAY, JULY 1

9 a.m. Brunch at Bodwell Lounge, Maine Center for the Arts
11 a.m. New York City students depart
12 p.m. Farewell

Literacy Conference Broadens Focus

08 Jul 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Keynote addresses and dozens of workshops exploring strategies for connecting the varied components of reading and writing instruction will highlight the 2005 Seamless K-12 Literacy Conference and Reading Recovery Institute at the University of Maine. Taking place Aug. 1-3, the annual conference brings together the teachers, specialists and administrators involved in teaching literacy from preschool through high school. The Aug. 1 session is for Reading Recovery teachers only.

This year's conference theme, "To the Heart of Reading: Literature Across Our Lives," emphasizes that reading and writing in all forms is fundamental to success in school and life. Techniques and activities to produce independent readers and writers will examine the broad dimensions of a balanced literacy program, ranging from picture books to poetry and conversation to digital text.

Among featured speakers are nationally recognized educators and award-winning authors, including: Ardith Cole, literacy consultant and author from Port Townsend, Wash.; Lester Laminack, author and children's literacy professor from Western Carolina University; children's book author Lois Lowry of Cambridge, Mass.; and from Maine, poet and anthologist Paul Janeczko and children's picture book writer Lynn Plourde. The authors will participate in a reception and book signing for conference participants the evening of Aug. 2.

The Aug. 1 program for Reading Recovery teachers will feature early literacy intervention specialists Mary Lose of Oakland University, Rochester, Mich., and Mary Rosser of the University of Maine.

Traditionally a K-5 conference, this year's gathering is also underscoring the important role of adolescent literacy with a strand of sessions designed for middle school and high school teachers.

The annual Seamless Transitions conference is sponsored by the Center for Literacy at UMaine's College of Education and Human Development

For more information and to register for the conference, contact the Center for Literacy, (207)-581-2438; bonny.harris@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Center on Aging to Study Binge and Chronic Drinking by Elders

08 Jul 2005

Contact: Lenard Kaye, (207) 581-3444
George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Binge drinking typically may not be associated with older people, but the UMaine Center on Aging says alcohol abuse among elder Mainers, particularly Downeast, is a major problem that is about to be addressed.

The Center has begun a two-year study, funded by a \$30,000 grant from the state Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Substance Abuse, to find out how prevalent binge and chronic drinking is among people over age 65, what lifestyle or cultural factors contribute to it and what can be done to influence those factors.

"This is a very exciting project that is going to investigate a very severe and neglected problem, and that is alcohol abuse among older adults," says Lenard Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging.

The study will be statewide in nature but will focus especially on Hancock County, which has a disproportionately high percentage of older alcohol abusers compared to other regions of the state, according to a 2002 Health Planning Report for the Hancock region performed by Eastern Maine Healthcare.

Heavy drinking, particularly when mixed with a multitude of prescription drugs many elders take to stabilize their health, can lead to mental and physical health complications that may otherwise be avoidable.

Maine, statistically, has the largest percentage of older people of any state in the nation and Maine ranks 14th in sales of spirits. Studies show that alcohol-related costs in Maine are approximately \$1 billion a year, according to Kaye. "These expenditures are reflected in the cost of treatment, traffic accidents, associated health problems and lost work time," he says.

It's not unusual for rural populations to have higher than average rates of alcoholism, and older people in rural settings often face loneliness, isolation and depression -- putting them at particular risk. They sometimes drink as a coping mechanism, Kaye says.

Kaye says substance abuse programs nationally and in Maine are heavily geared to younger substance abusers and seldom focus on the needs of the elderly.

"We're hoping our recommendations will include some creative prevention programs that the Office of Substance Abuse and others can consider adopting as a result of our study," he says.

Kaye and senior research associate Leah Ruffin will recruit several graduate students in the UMaine social work program to assist with organizing and coordinating information gathering through more than two dozen community and state agencies, organizations or institutions that work with older adults.

The two-year research project involves close collaborations with the Healthy Hancock Coalition, a group of community health coalitions in Bucksport, Ellsworth, Blue Hill, and Mount Desert Island committed to improving the quality of life of Mainers in their region of the county. In addition to using written questionnaires, the Center on Aging will administer as many as a dozen focus groups to query a broad variety of people who work or live with the elderly, including physicians and other health care professionals, families, township officials, educators and even clergy, according to Kaye.

"We are also going to interview experts throughout the state who have experience with these folks," he adds. Recognized experts in addiction medicine and substance abuse treatment services will provide technical consultation to the project.

Researchers will seek to sort out how economic and social status affects heavy drinkers, and how geographic isolation, family relationships, cultural traditions and health status affect consumption patterns, Kaye says.

"It's difficult to tell anyone to stop drinking, but to affectively alter that behavior, you've got to deal with the root cause," he says.

Information collected will remain confidential. "We are not interested in uncovering the names of individuals here," Kaye notes. "Rather, we want to shed light on significant trends and those factors that figure most prominently in influencing alcohol consumptions patterns among older Mainers."

UMaine Center to Host International Conference in Bar Harbor

07 Jul 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Roberta Laverty at (207) 581-2110

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center will host composites

researchers and manufacturers from around the globe at the Third International Conference on Advanced Engineered Wood Composites in Bar Harbor, July 10 -- 14.

In addition to introducing the cutting edge composites research at UMaine, the conference also provides an opportunity for Maine companies to network with participants from U.S. universities and companies as well as attendees from Canada, Australia, Austria, Japan, Romania, Malaysia, Ghana and Thailand.

Conference presentations will cover topics including wood plastic composites, codes and standards for wood composites, the use of engineered wood in bridge construction, adhesion, biobased composites, composites for marine and military applications and composites in construction.

The conference will also provide opportunities for UMaine students to present their research and to network with participants at a poster session.

The Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, recently awarded a \$6 million grant to do research for the U.S. Army, will also offer an extended laboratory tour on Thursday July 14 from 9:30 a.m.-noon in Orono as part of the conference activities.

A conference schedule is available upon request.

Sports Initiative Names Consultants to Assist Communities

07 Jul 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine ---- Six Maine educational leaders will lend nearly 180 years of combined experience to help interested schools and communities apply the University of Maine's Sports Done Right initiative to local sports programs. The part-time consultants will serve as liaisons to the 12 Sports Done Right pilot sites, as well as assist other Maine communities with the process of developing grass roots consensus, commitment and action to shape positive learning environments for student-athletes.

In response to continuing requests for help in putting the Sports Done Right report and recommendations into practice, project co-directors Robert A. Cobb and J. Duke Albanese sought highly qualified individuals to further the work of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching (MCSC), which guides implementation of the initiative. They are Arthur Greenlaw of Millinocket, Leon Harriman of Brunswick, Lora Lindyberg of Orono, Thor Nilsen of Scarborough, James Stephenson of Kennebunk, and James Marascio of Augusta.

"The collective wisdom that produced the report is being recognized as the standard for conducting sports," said Cobb, dean of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, referring to the statewide panel that crafted the document. "Now, we have the impressive, combined insight and expertise of outstanding educational leaders to help us take Sports Done Right to all communities seeking assistance."

The 12 pilot sites representing 29 separate middle schools and high schools and 28 communities, were selected in February. Since then, school districts comprising another 160 communities have begun using -- or are considering -- the model to steer local sports reform and improvement efforts. In addition, more than 30 states have requested Sports Done Right information and advice.

"I am extremely honored to be working with such an experienced group of professionals who share my passion for youth sports," said MCSA director Karen Brown. "With the consultants on board, the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching is better equipped to serve the state and to become a national resource."

The consultants will help realize the initiative's intent of reaching every high school and middle school in each geographic region of the state, according to Albanese. "We have a terrific collection of committed, experienced and respected Maine educators who will be a tremendous asset in implementing Sports Done Right," he said. Albanese, former Maine Commissioner of Education, is policy advisor for the Great Maine Schools Project at the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute.

The consultants will participate in two training sessions this month and be working in the field prior to the beginning of the school year.

Art Greenlaw of Millinocket began his career in education as a science teacher, football and track coach at Skowhegan Area High School in 1970, but spent the next 27 years in Millinocket as a teacher, head football and track coach, and assistant principal at Stearns High School. He became principal of Millinocket Middle School in 1991, where he also coached girls' basketball before retiring in 2003. Since 2004 and continuing, he is assistant football coach at Mattanawcook Academy in Lincoln. A former president of the Maine Principals' Association and vice president of the Maine Football Coaches Association, Greenlaw was LTC (Eastern Maine Class C football) Coach of the Year in four different years during the 1980s. He was also assistant or head coach of the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl for four years during the 1990s. This East/West event features the top senior football players from around the state and raises funds for the Shriners' Children's Hospital. Greenlaw earned his Master's degree at UMaine.

Lee Harriman of Brunswick began teaching and coaching at Winthrop High School in 1965, but quickly moved to Bridgton Academy, where he taught English and served as director of public relations, as well as coaching football, lacrosse and basketball. From 1971-74, he was an assistant football and basketball coach and physical education instructor at UMaine. He then spent seven years as athletic director and head football coach at Waterville High School, moving on to Morse High School and Bath Middle School in 1981, where he was head football coach and athletic director and retired as assistant principal of Morse High in 1998. Since retirement, he has served as assistant football coach at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham and at Bowdoin College. He is a former Maine High School Coaching Association Coach of the Year and former president of the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference and the Maine Interscholastic Hockey League. Harriman earned his Master's degree at UMaine.

Lora Lindyberg of Orono entered the education and coaching field in 1990 in Scotia, N.Y, where she taught mathematics and was assistant track coach at the local junior high school. The following year, she taught math at Buckfield (Maine) Junior/Senior High School, where she founded and coached the cross-country team and the spring running club. From 1994-2001, she was a research associate at UMaine's Center for Research and Evaluation. Her work included directing the Sports, Schools and Learning Results project, which provided one of the first models of program assessment and improvement grounded in Maine's educational reform standards. She has devoted the past few years to raising her young children. Lindyberg received her Master's degree from Harvard University.

Thor Nilsen of Scarborough has spent his professional career in southern Maine, retiring recently as athletic administrator for Yarmouth Schools. He began teaching physical education and health at Windham High School in 1970, where he served as athletic director and coached several sports at the high school and middle school. From 1977-85, he taught and coached at South Portland High School before becoming assistant principal and athletic director at Noble High in North Berwick in 1985. He spent 1987-90 teaching and coaching track and soccer at Cape Elizabeth High School before heading back to South Portland High as an assistant principal, becoming district-wide athletic director in 1993. During his 10 years as South Portland AD, he created and chaired the Southern Maine Athletic Association League Sportsmanship Committee and hosted the first league-wide student-athlete summit. Among other awards, Nilsen was named Maine Athletic Administrator of the Year in 2001, received the State Award of Merit from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association in 2004, and this year was presented the Cooper Higgins Award for contributions to the Western Maine Conference. He has held leadership positions on local, league, association and state athletic and policy organizations. Nilsen received his Master's degree from the University of Southern Maine.

Jim Marascio of Augusta recently retired as principal of Lawrence High School in Fairfield, completing 20 years in SAD 49, which included being athletic director at the junior and senior high schools and high school assistant principal. His coaching experience began in 1978 as co-director of the Kennebec Valley Baseball School and with other Augusta sports programs. From 1978-85, he worked at Cony High School as assistant wrestling, baseball and football coach before becoming varsity head football and softball coach. Marascio, named Athletic Director of the Year in 1995 by both the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association (MIAAAA) and the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference, served on the Executive Committee of both the Maine Principals' Association and the MIAAAA. He chaired the MPA Eastern Class A Basketball Committee, Official Fees Committee and Finance Committee, and has been an active member of other state and conference athletic and policy organizations. He earned his Master's degree at UMaine.

Jim Stephenson of Kennebunk recently retired after serving 14 years as principal at Massabesic High School in

Waterboro. Athletic director and varsity basketball coach and assistant professor at Nasson College in Springvale from 1970-80, Stephenson was assistant principal at Sanford Junior High School and at Nobel High School before joining SAD 57 in 1991. Stephenson was inducted into the UMaine Athletic Hall of Fame for basketball in 1998 and was selected as Maine Principal of the Year in 2001. He was the Maine representative to the National Association of Secondary School Principals from 1996-2002 and has served on various committees of the Maine Principals' Association, including the Principals' Academy Board of Directors. Stephenson earned Master's degrees at both UMaine and the University of Southern Maine.

Information about the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching and Sports Done Right is available on the web at www.mcsc.umaine.edu.

Kennedy Names James Interim Athletic Director

07 Jul 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Laura Reed at (207) 581-3646

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy has selected Blake James, UMaine's senior associate athletic director, to serve as the university's interim athletic director. James will take over for Patrick Nero, who is leaving UMaine on July 23 to become commissioner of the America East Conference. After classes begin in the fall, UMaine will undertake a national search to find a permanent replacement for Nero.

"As senior associate athletic director, Blake has served UMaine and its student-athletes well," Kennedy says. "His familiarity with the UMaine athletics department and its role within our community, along with his experience and personal attributes, make Blake well-suited to lead the program during this important period of time."

At UMaine, James has been responsible for marketing, ticketing, retail operations, and athletic development while also being the sport administrator for men's and women's track and field and cross country, men's soccer, men's basketball and baseball.

"Blake's direct experience with so many aspects of our athletic program has prepared him well for this role," Kennedy says. "I am pleased with the overall direction of our athletic department, and I am confident that Blake will provide the leadership that will help us continue that momentum."

"This is a great opportunity, and I am excited to have the chance to lead the Black Bear athletic program," James says. "We are successful because our efforts are based on providing the opportunity for our student-athletes to succeed, academically and athletically. It's my goal to do all that I can to continue that success."

Prior to coming to Maine in Oct. 2003, James worked in athletic development at Providence College, where he established the "Friars Forever" campaign and the Friar Athletic Fund. He began his career at the University of Miami where he worked with Nero in corporate sales and athletic development.

James received a bachelor's degree in marketing in 1992 from Minnesota State University -- Mankato and earned a master's degree from St. Thomas University (Miami, FL). James and his wife, Kelly, reside in Veazie with their daughter, Haley, and son, Ryan.

Army ROTC Command Change at UMaine July 14

06 Jul 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --Lt. Col. Kevin J. Harris will assume command of the University of Maine Army ROTC Battalion in a 10 a.m. ceremony scheduled for Thursday July 14 in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, 163 Barrows Hall.

Lt. Col. Harris will replace Lt. Col Josef R. Hallatschek, who has served as Professor of Military Science and Commander of the Black Bear Battalion since June 13, 2003. He will move with his family to Harrisburg, N.C.

Harris, who was born in Buffalo, N.Y., is currently stationed in Rainier, Wash. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force in 1984. He later transferred to the Army, accepting a direct commission in the Army Corps of Engineers.

Harris earned an Associate's Degree in Surveying Technology from the State University of New York at Alfred, a Bachelor's Degree in Surveying from Ferris State College in Michigan and a Master's in Engineering Management from St. Martin's College in Washington.

UMaine Professor Invents Air Cleaner for Artists

06 Jul 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO and BRISTOL, Me. -- While the result may be easy on the eyes, the artistic painting process can be hard on the senses. Artists like Kathleen Galligan know full well how fumes and dust from paints can be irritants, causing headaches, respiratory problems and other issues. Galligan, who has been painting for 25 years, tried lots of solutions, including wearing a surgical mask, but her health issues continued to worsen.

Galligan's husband, UMaine Research Associate Professor Warren Riess, has developed and begun to market a device that has made a real difference for Galligan, allowing her to more fully enjoy the process of creating art at her Bristol studio.

"Necessity was truly the mother of this invention," says Riess, a maritime historian and archaeologist based at UMaine's Darling Center in Walpole. "Kathleen was really struggling to enjoy the work that is so important to her. I knew that there must be a solution, so I took a systematic approach to figuring out what to do. We educated ourselves about the health issues related to painting, and studied other attempts to solve the problem. Then I came up with a system that worked well for her."

Riess does not feel developing the system was very different from what he does at UMaine.

"Whether I am teaching, researching history, or investigating an underwater shipwreck site, I am always studying situations and devising solutions, sometimes technical, to improve an educational, research, efficiency, or safety aspect of my work, he says."

Before long, other artists began asking Riess to make an air filtering system for them. Riess and Galligan decided to create a product that could fit any easel and be affordable for artists. With help from Prof. Thomas Christiansen of UMaine's Advanced Manufacturing Center they improved the system's collection unit and with assistance from the Maine Small Business Development Center they developed the product for market.

The product is called Artist's Air. It is designed to attach to almost any studio easel. The offending substances are drawn into a collection device directly under the artist's work space. They then travel through a hose to a sophisticated filtering system, which returns clean air to the studio. A less expensive version is available for use when dust is the only issue in a particular studio setting.

Riess says Artist's Air is the only system available that gathers harmful substances from between the artist and their work. He also points to the energy savings from filtering studio air, rather than venting it outside. "Vented air has to be replaced by heated or cooled air. Also, venting harmful substances pollutes the outside environment."

The units cost about \$1,000 and Riess says there is not much profit involved because they are handmade. "We will be happy eventually to break even," Riess says. "Our satisfaction comes from helping to alleviate the suffering that some artists experience, and any long-term health problems associated with fumes and particles they inhale, in the practice of their craft." More information is on the product website at www.artistsair.com.

YOUNG WRITERS AT WORK

11 Jul 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- More than 50 aspiring writers are tapping their creativity and penning their thoughts at the annual Young Authors' Camp taking place July 11-15 at the University of Maine. The students in grades 3-10 are from schools throughout the Greater Bangor area and from Wiscasset to Houlton.

The day camp, sponsored by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and the Maine Writing Project (MWP), is led by MWP teacher-consultants. The MWP is an affiliate of the National Writing Project, a federally funded professional development program dedicated to the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum in the nation's schools.

Media are welcome to attend any of the camp sessions, which run from 8:30 a.m. to noon in Shibles Hall. UMaine Young Authors' Camps are also offered at Benton Elementary School (July 11-15) and at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor (Aug. 1-5).

The agenda and instructors for the Young Authors' Camp in Orono are:

Daily Agenda

8:30-10:15 a.m. -- Writing workshops

10:15-10:30 a.m. -- Break

10:30-11:15 a.m. -- Writing workshops

11:45 a.m.-noon -- Sharing and closing sessions

Instructors and Room Locations

Grades 3-4 -- Mary Moreau, 203 Shibles

Grade 5 -- Sheila Cochrane, 159 Shibles

Grades 6-7 -- Susan Morse, 202 Shibles

Grades 8-10 -- Marla Gerber, 204 Shibles

Jean Plummer, English teacher at Washington Academy in East Machias, is director of the Young Authors' Camps.

Livestock Specialist to Speak at Unity Grazing Conference August 27

21 Jul 2005

Contact: Dee Potter (207) 834-3905 dpotter@umext.maine.edu, The Maine Grass Farmers Network at mgfn@prexar.com or visit www.umaine.edu/umext.mgfn

The Maine Grass Farmers Network will hold its second annual Grazing Conference August 27 at the MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity.

The conference will feature Temple Grandin, associate professor of livestock behavior at Colorado State University and an internationally recognized authority and pioneer in the field. Grandin's keynote presentation will be on the grazing behavior of livestock. She also will participate in the animal handling session being offered on the program agenda.

Ridge Shinn, well known regionally as a specialist in the production and marketing of grass fed livestock will be the second keynote presenter. Ridge will describe the European style of livestock marketing, as well as offer a session on beef genetics for grazing. Along with the keynote presentations a series of concurrent sessions will be held on topics that include horses on pasture, Katahdin sheep and parasite resistance, economics and dairy

ration management on pasture, forages and pasture improvement, pastured poultry and a panel discussion on direct marketing.

The Maine Grass Farmers Network is a NESARE (Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) project and is coordinated by producers, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners (MOFGA) staff and staff of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Department of Agriculture.

Registration for the conference is \$20 per farm and \$10 per person for lunch. There also will be a tradeshow and equipment displays. A conference brochure, which includes the full schedule, registration information and travel directions is available by contacting Sonia Antunes at santunes@umext.maine.edu or by calling (207) 342-5971.

UMAINE FOOD SCIENTISTS PRESENT RESEARCH FINDINGS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

12 Jul 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Faculty members, staff members and students from the University of Maine Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition will make a total of nine presentations at the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Annual Meeting in New Orleans, July 16-20. Topics will include food safety, product development and food and nutrition education.

The department works closely with Maine food companies to provide technical expertise and analytical services. Laboratory Manager Katherine Davis-Dentici and Russell Hazen of UMaine's Advanced Manufacturing Center will present the results of a survey of Maine food processors, which has already resulted in the development of two regional shared-use facilities for small companies. Doctoral student and NSF K-12 Fellow Kristi Crowe, who has worked with local high school teachers to incorporate food chemistry experiments in their curricula through UMaine's National Science Foundation GK-12 Fellow Program, will describe that experience and its impact on Maine students.

Maine's wild blueberry industry sponsored three research papers at the conference. Crowe worked with professors Alfred Bushway and Rodney Bushway to evaluate environmentally-friendly alternatives to chlorine treatment for disinfecting berries. The master's thesis research of Rebecca Potter was funded by a grant from the Maine Technology Institute to the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine. Potter worked with Prof. Mary Ellen Camire and Research Associate Michael Dougherty to develop new wild blueberry soy beverages. Camire and Dougherty also worked with former student Yean Hoong Teh to create healthy ice cream-type desserts that combined wild blueberries, tofu and soymilk.

Two presentations will address problems of Maine's seafood industry. Crab-picking techniques recover only a small percentage of edible meat. Doctoral student Shari Baxter and Prof. Denise Skonberg utilized various treatments to produce surimi from crab meat by-products. Extension Food Scientist Beth Calder worked with Skonberg and undergraduate student Lilly Lanyero to evaluate the chemical characteristics of extracted crab proteins in order to better understand how they could be utilized in other foods.

Prof. Vivian Wu is studying natural compounds for their ability to control harmful bacteria in foods. Doctoral student Xujian Qiu, Alfred Bushway and Wu found that cranberry concentrate effectively prevented the growth of four types of pathogenic bacteria. Wu also collaborated with a Florida State researcher to prevent bacterial growth in ground beef through the addition of Cornus fruit extract, a product used in traditional Chinese medicine. She will make presentations on each of these projects.

Abstracts of these presentations can be found on the IFT web site (<http://www.ift.org>). Additional information about food science research at UM is available on the departments web site (<http://www.fsn.umaine.edu>).

Kids Explore Global Cultures through "Passport to the World Camp" July 11-15 at UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum

12 Jul 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Twenty-two area children, ages 5-10 years, are learning about foreign countries and other cultures this week during "Passport to the World Camp" at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

From July 11 through July 15, the children visit the museum on the Orono campus from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily to explore cultures, traditions, food and songs from central Europe, Scandinavia, South and Central America and the United States. Program coordinators are Stillwater Montessori School teacher Joanne Alex and local parents Elisabeth Daub, Sally Healey and Rebecca Green.

"Passport to the World Camp" at the Page Farm and Home Museum was created to take advantage on Friday afternoon (July 15) of the international experiences being shared during the three-week the Children's International Summer Village program currently being held at the Joseph A. Leonard Middle School in Old Town. At 1 p.m. Friday, the local children scheduled to end the week with a trip to the Leonard middle school to meet children from around the world who are participating in the international summer village camp.

Each day this week at UMaine, local students "visit" a different global region, mark the countries in home-crafted passports, read stories and learn songs from various cultures and engage in associated art projects. The children have made T-shirts, are working on a quilt and, on Thursday, will build a model Eiffel Tower as they study Germany, France and Canada, according to museum director Patricia Henner. Children's afternoon snacks take on the flavor of the countries they are visiting. Thursday, for instance, when they visit South and Central America, they'll have guacamole and tortilla chips. On Monday, they made their own butter to go with lunch.

On Friday, the focus is the USA. Children will cover American life and experience a session in the museum's one-room schoolhouse from 9-10 a.m. with Henner. They'll also spend an hour cleaning the school as part of a service-learning component.

"It's a real nice human interest story," Henner says. "It's really cute what they're doing."

Information and schedules for activities at the Page Farm and Home Museum are available by calling Patricia Henner at the farm and home museum at 581-3756.

TWO NEW UMAINE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE New Edition of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans Available from Extension

12 Jul 2005

Contact: Tracey Nelson at (207) 581-3269

ORONO -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension has added two new publications to its offerings:

Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005 (6th ed.)

The Dietary Guidelines for Americans is published jointly every five years by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Guidelines provide authoritative advice, for people two years and older, about how good dietary habits can promote health and reduce risk for major chronic diseases. The NEW sixth edition of Dietary Guidelines for Americans places stronger emphasis on reducing calorie consumption and increasing physical activity. (Supersedes Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2000.) 84 pages, 2005.

Finding Your Way to a Healthier You

This brochure summarizes the basic guidelines for eating a healthy diet and being physically active, as presented in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005. Also known as the Dietary Guidelines Brochure. (Supersedes Using the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.) 12 pages, 2005.

Extension provides Maine-focused, research-based information that has been either developed or reviewed by UMaine specialists. These materials are available through Extension's online publications store at <http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/>, by calling 207-581-3792, or by e-mailing puborders@umext.maine.edu.

Rare Nankin Chickens at UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum

14 Jul 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100
George Manlove. 581-3756

ORONO -- The expression "a rare bird" has special meaning this summer at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

Part of the museum's summer exhibit includes three Nankin chickens, small ornamental birds thought to be extinct until a nesting pair was discovered in the mid-1900s on a small farm in England. Bob Hawes of Hampden, a UMaine professor emeritus of animal veterinary and aquatic sciences and an authority on backyard poultry keeping, is one of a few breeders in the United States to raise the rare birds. He has loaned three to the Page Farm and Home Museum for the summer.

Chickens tie in with the central theme of the Page Museum, which keeps artifacts and information about rural Maine from the late 1800's to 1940. The chickens are a learning tool for visitors and allows museum goers to see one of the original breeds of chickens, developed in China and commonly available over a hundred years ago, say Patricia Henner, director of the farm and home museum. They were, however, thought to be extinct or nearly so by the mid-1900s.

"The Nankin is one of the oldest bantam breeds and is very rare," comments Hawes. "I was one of the few people in the country who raised them for several years, but in the last three to four years they have been 'found' and there is quite a bit of interest in them."

Originally from the Nanking region of China, the breed was introduced to England in the 1700s. Having been discovered on a small farm in England, the birds were then introduced to the United States in the 1960s. They are usually kept as pets, Hawes says.

The exhibit is available to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily until the beginning of the fall semester. Museum exhibits are free.

"They are very sweet," Henner says of the three Nankins. "If you go up to the pen and speak softly to them, they'll come out" of their roost.

Two of the chickens, hens, are a light golden brown color and the rooster is a bolder chestnut-red with green tail feathers. They are about the size of a common partridge. On nice days, visitors usually can find the Nankins sunning themselves or strutting, clucking and pecking at grass beneath the wire floor of the coop.

Information about the Page Farm and Home Museum programs and visitors schedules is available by calling (207) 581-4100.

Young Musicians Fine-Tune Performance Skills at UMaine Summer Music Camp

15 Jul 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704, Ginger Hwalek, 581-1246, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- More than 150 young musicians from throughout Maine and New England have been perfecting their performance skills and learning new music as they spend a week "living, breathing and thinking music" at UMaine's annual Maine Summer Youth Music Camp.

July 15 ends a concentrated week of music immersion at the University of Maine School of Performing Arts' Junior Camp for students in grades 6-8 and July 17 begins the two-week Senior Camp for student musicians in grades 9-12.

With an additional music theater class -- a show choir -- student musicians this year are tackling such productions as "Music Man Junior," "The Pirates of Penzance," and a medley of original songs from the original 1939 version of "The Wizard of Oz." That's in addition to participation in summer music camp's traditional musical ensembles that include a symphonic band, concert band or chorus. Other ensembles include jazz bands, musical theatre, the show choir and, for a small number of select senior campers, a jazz combo.~All music campers have the opportunity to participate in chamber ensembles, music classes, master classes and piano and guitar instruction, in addition to a section on concert etiquette for audiences.

Music camp is structured to offer different instrumental and vocal ensembles for youths of varying skill levels, says camp director Ginger Yang Hwalek, a Maine music instructor, pianist, violist and conductor. Students generally are matched with others of similar abilities and experience to ensure the best comfort levels in a way that still challenges the youths, she says.

An institution at UMaine, this will be the 34th year for the senior program, and the 25th for the junior program.~Hwalek stresses the importance of the university offering a music camp that provides an extended period of peer camaraderie and concentrated immersion in music with emphasis on chamber music and performance technique. Campers get education, experience and a deeper overall appreciation of music that they would not otherwise receive in their home-town schools.

"These kids are playing in ensembles with like-minded kids," says Hwalek, who has served as music director of the McPherson (Kansas) Symphony Orchestra, the Central Maine String Orchestra (MUSE) and has conducted several Piano Monster Concerts in Plymouth, N.H., and Essex Junction, Vt. "They're coming from communities where music programs may be strong but are not always at the same level. The music may be a little more challenging here and they're doing it all day, as opposed to one class period. They're living, breathing and thinking music."

The students, most of whom stay on campus in dormitories supervised by music camp instructors and staff, also make new friends through the experience, she adds. Staffing the music camp are music teachers from Maine public schools, faculty from the UMaine School of Performing Arts and UMaine music majors, who get an early look at what teaching young people is like.

"They're learning from what I feel are top-notch mentors," Hwalek says. "It's very important for campers to see these great teachers at work."

Most of the student musicians come from Maine, though many arrive from other New England states, in addition to outside of New England. Students in both camps attend planned events throughout the week, including performances by faculty, students and guest artists, as well as a midweek recreational activity and optional evening entertainment that can include popular movies or a dance. Each camp culminates in concert performances by the campers.

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On Friday, July 15, rehearsals were held throughout the morning in preparation for a series of concerts in the afternoon and evening. The next group of student musicians -- nearly 200 are registered -- will arrive on campus Sunday, July 17, to begin their two-week camp.

A schedule of events and concerts can be obtained by calling the UMaine School of Performing Arts at (207) 581-4702 or visiting the SPA web site at <http://www.umaine.edu/spa>

Page Farm & Home Museum Community Picnic July 31 Combines Fun, Education

15 Jul 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Old-time games, a home-made ice cream-making demonstration, blacksmithing, heritage garden tours and other activities from earlier times are just a few of the events scheduled July 31, as the University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum hosts its annual community picnic lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This is the tenth year that the UMaine farm and home museum has offered an educational program to celebrate rural Maine farm life and offer the public a chance to learn about past life in Maine, says Page Farm and Home Museum director Patricia Henner.

The Page Farm and Home Museum features exhibits, tours, special events and information about agricultural and rural living in Maine between 1865 and 1940. It houses a premier collection of farm implements, household items and Maine folk arts, in addition to equipment and vehicles used for clearing land to harvesting and storing crops. Permanent exhibits include a novel gift shop in an old general store setting and a replica of celebrated Maine cook and cookbook author "Brownie" Schruppf's kitchen, in addition to animal husbandry, stenciling and 4-H and ice-harvesting exhibits. The blacksmith shop, carriage house and one-room schoolhouse open for tour groups and visitors on special occasions.

One such occasion is the annual community picnic, says Henner, where visitors can experience many of the old-time activities with family and friends.

"We always have a great time," Henner says. "The kids love it. This is one of our most popular events."

The event is free, although participants are asked to bring a dish, like a casserole or a salad, to share and a lawn chair or blanket. In inclement weather, activities will move indoors. Field activities and games begin at 11 a.m. The picnic begins at noon. Games start after lunch.

Activities for the fun-filled day include a spinning demonstration, a hay maze, herbal crafts, historic videos and a poultry exhibit. Games for young and old include horseshoes, bean bag toss, croquet and a three-legged race. The annual picnic is a time for families "to come and see demonstrations of traditional crafts and to feel involved in the community, meet friends and neighbors and mix fun with education," Henner says.

The Page Farm and Home Museum, located in the oldest and last remaining original agricultural building on the University of Maine campus, is just south of the Maine Center for the Arts. More information about the community picnic and other events at the farm and home museum, please call 581-4100 or visit the museum website: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/~pfhm>.

Dr. Mary Rumpho-Kennedy Scholarship Established

05 Jun 2005

Contact: Amos Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, 207-581-5100

ORONO -- Dr. Mary Rumpho-Kennedy, Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Maine and wife of President Robert A. Kennedy, has been honored with the creation of a scholarship fund presented by alumni and friends.

Russell Bodwell '44 and Barbara Bodwell '45 spearheaded the fund with a gift to the University of Maine Foundation to express their esteem for Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy following the Stillwater Society Dinner on May 13, 2005. The fund will benefit UMaine students pursuing degrees in Biochemistry, Microbiology or Molecular and Cellular Biology and will be awarded through the University's Office of Student Aid.

Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy received her B.A. degree in Biology from Winona State University in Minnesota in 1978. She received her Ph.D. in Horticulture (Plant Biochemistry) in 1982 from Washington State University. Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy served as a Member of the Graduate Faculty of Texas A&M University before coming to the University of Maine in 2000. She teaches chemistry to over 200 students each fall and a graduate course in

biochemistry in the spring. Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy's research team is focused on biochemical and molecular studies of symbiotic "solar-powered" sea slugs. These molluscs steal chloroplasts from algae and live like green plants. They serve as a unique model organism for studying any number of biological phenomena, but especially photosynthesis and the production of natural anti-cancer compounds.

The Kennedys are the parents of four sons, Caleb, Alex, Bryce and Curran, ages 27 to 18, and both are avid gardeners. Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy also enjoys playing women's ice hockey. Recently, she raised funds for cancer research as a participant on the "Mad Scientists" team in the American Cancer Society-Relay for Life held at Old Town High School. Dr. Rumpho-Kennedy also serves as a Board Member for Special Olympics Maine and is an active volunteer and parent with the Orono Special Olympics team.

Friends may support this scholarship fund by directing gifts to the University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792.

Northeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Star Flocks to be Distributed

02 Jun 2005

Contact: Dick Brzozowski at 1-800-287-1471; Joe Carr at 581-3571

PORTLAND -- As University of Maine and Bowdoin College researchers conclude the first phase of a long-term hair sheep research project, they are making approximately 100 animals available to shepherds in an 11-state region, from Maine to West Virginia. The sheep will be allotted through an application process, with the understanding that successful applicants will agree to continue the research by collaborating with researchers on breeding and marketing issues over the next three years.

The sheep, a unique group of Katahdin Hair Sheep, have been bred to be naturally resistant to the round worm, *Haemonchus contortus*, an internal parasite. They are also genetically resistant to the prion disease scrapie. Researchers say the sheep are easy to care for, prolific, and that they produce healthy lambs. "Sheep from this research flock could be a great starter flock, leading to a profitable sheep enterprise," says Richard Brzozowski, a Cumberland County UMaine Cooperative Extension professor. Brzozowski and Bowdoin professor Tom Settlemire have been working on the USDA-funded project since the summer of 2000. Those who are selected to receive the sheep will be asked for a \$500 deposit, for use in purchasing specially selected rams to continue the research project. Shepherds may make arrangements to pay the deposit in installments. Applications are available to interested shepherds at www.umext.maine.edu. Background information about the Katahdin Star Flock is also available through that website. The application deadline is July 1, 2005.

UMaine Reunion June 3-5

01 Jun 2005

Contact: Donna Thornton at 581-1138

ORONO -- Hundreds of University of Maine alumni and their guests will return to their alma mater this weekend, for a series of fun activities and opportunities to re-connect with friends. UMaine President Robert Kennedy will be on hand for many of the events at Reunion 2005, the first such event since he was named UMaine's president in April.

The Class of 1955 will celebrate its Golden Reunion this weekend. The classes of 1950, 1945, 1940 and 1935 (six couples plan to attend for their 70th reunion) will also be honored.

Schedules include time for alumni to explore the UMaine campus. Places they may visit include the renovated and expanded Memorial Union, Hudson Museum, Page Farm and Home Museum, Carnegie Hall art exhibits, Lyle E. Littlefield Gardens and the Fay Hyland Arboretum, along with the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor.

Guided tours of Fogler Library, UMaine athletics facilities, the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center and other UMaine facilities will be offered on Saturday.

[A full schedule of events is online.](#)

Motion Translates to Sound in UMaine New Media Installation

30 May 2005

Contact: Nate Aldrich, 322-5738, Owen Smith, 581-4389

ORONO -- As sound is created by wind in the trees or a waterfall, a new art installation at the University of Maine's Memorial Union is converting pedestrian motion to computer-generated "ambient music."

Since May 26, visitors to the Bookstore and pedestrian mall in the Union building may have noticed variable electronic noises echoing and reverberating oddly from four speakers as they crossed the mall. They may not have noticed a small surveillance camera on the ceiling, or that the pitch and tone of the sound changes with different types of motion -- three people instead of one walking through -- and even different colored clothing.

Nate Aldrich, an adjunct new media faculty member who will teach classes in electronic music in the fall, and Zach Poff, who works in the film and video program at Cooper Union Art School in New York, are testing their latest artistic collaboration, "Observational Soundscape," which will be up and active through June 25.

"The idea was to create a sound environment for a public space that reflects the movement in that space," says Poff. "The idea is to treat it almost as an accompaniment of people in space and the movements that they make."

Whether the result is sound, noise or music is in the ear of the beholder, but Aldrich and Poff's ambient sounds respond spontaneously.

"A continually changing soundscape whose form and content reflect the visual and aural phenomena observed in the area" is how Owen Smith, director of the new media program and associate professor of art, describes the installation.

Poff and Aldrich wrote the computer program that converts information from the camera to sound. The system reacts to the degree of motion and also color, changing pitch, tone and timbre accordingly.

"If nothing happens, the system doesn't do anything," Poff explains. If, on the other hand, a class of visiting school children streamed through, the system would come to life to mirror the movement, and tones would likely become much more staccato and varied, he and Aldrich say.

The creation of ambient sound electronically from environmental stimuli is an evolving art form in new media, according to Poff and Aldrich. "One can think of this as a convergence of two disciplines," Aldrich says.

Poff and Aldrich presented a related performance last summer at the Ayers Island art festival, "Without Borders." By training a camera on a musician's hand movements, the motion modified the sound of the performance.

After the exhibit at UMaine, the artists plan to display the installation at Cooper Union Art School and then show it in public places in the United States and possibly Europe.

Business Students Explore Cross-Border Tourism

13 Jun 2005

Contact: Kim McKeage, 581-1989
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO--A group of UMaine graduate students recently helped put "fresh eyes" on marketing strategies designed to strengthen cooperative promotion in and between sister cities of Bangor and Saint John, New Brunswick.

Nine students complying with an international business experience requirement for their graduate degrees spent a week in Canada studying tourism promotion and made presentations before tourism office staffs and guests in Bangor and Saint John. They identified similar goals and suggested that several strategies employed by one region might also benefit the other.

It was welcome input, according to Donna Fichtner, director of the Greater Bangor Convention and Visitors Center, and Margaret Totten, director of Tourism Saint John. They say the presentations before their respective offices produced some new ways to look at old challenges. Tourism officials from the sister cities met in a joint tourism promotion session June 10 in Bangor. They included a discussion of the UMaine student recommendations in their agenda. The meeting follows an earlier collaborative session last October.

The students' perspective on tourism promotion "was certainly a great introduction to what resources are available to see things in a different way," Totten says. "They see things with fresh eyes."

"They pointed out a lot of the similarities, which most of us are already familiar with," Fichtner adds. "Toward the end of their presentation, they talked about some of the things we could do better."

Nine students, candidates for either a masters in business administration or a master of science in accounting, visited several cities and tourist hotspots in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island May 15-21 as part of Maine Business School's international business experience course led by Kim McKeage, associate professor of marketing. The trip was one of two international projects for UMaine business students in May. Another group went to Germany.

McKeage says studying tourist attraction strategies in Bangor and in Canada proved valuable for students to see different cultural approaches to similar problems, and also provided an opportunity to contribute to some economic solutions for both tourism offices. The trip to Canada also was a less-expensive alternative to a European business project that still allowed students to work in a foreign environment.

Similarities between the two cities include common histories in logging and lumbering industries and European heritage. Both Bangor and Saint John have annual waterfront music festivals, local museums and art galleries.

The students suggested that Bangor consider the "co-promotion" of various events and activities that are not necessarily related, as is done in New Brunswick. A promotional bundle might include a museum, a hiking trail and a musical event, for example. That creates a diverse experience for visitors and more compelling reasons to visit, McKeage and Fichtner say.

"This is what we share across the region," McKeage says. "Awareness, awareness, awareness. If you can just get people to try these areas, they want to go back. I think the Bangor region is much the same way. If you can just get people here, they'll say, 'Wow, there's all sorts of exciting stuff.'"

While in New Brunswick, McKeage says the UMaine students took special note of the convenience of walking, cycling and wheelchair trails around the scenic cliffs along the Bay of Fundy, and the connection of Saint John's Harbour Passage to nearby downtown business districts, giving locals an opportunity to get out and exercise. McKeage says New Brunswick uses its natural resources to help promote healthy diet, nutrition and exercise programs.

Enhancing tourism links between Maine and New Brunswick is a logical priority for the Maine Office of Tourism, according to Steve Lyons, tourism development specialist. The state's term for the promotion effort is "Two Nation Vacation."

Tourism is considered Maine's largest economic force, generating in 2003 \$9.4 billion and producing \$384 million in sales taxes, 122,000 jobs and a payroll of \$2.6 billion, according to the state tourism office.

Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop July 6

13 Jun 2005

Contact: Laura Wilson at 581-2971

ORONO -- Invasive plants pose a serious threat to Maine's lakes, rivers and streams. To help deal with this growing problem, the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants is developing an Invasive Plant Patrol, an organization of trained volunteers who can help detect offending plants at an early stage, providing the best opportunity for eradication.

The Greater Pushaw Lake Association and University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a July 6 workshop to train those interested in becoming volunteers. The workshop is free, and open to anybody who is interested. It is scheduled for 4-9:30 p.m. in UMaine's Deering Hall.

The workshop will provide the following:

Annual Herb and Heirloom Plant Sale Starts at Page Farm and Home Museum

10 Jun 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- If you got a late start on your herb and vegetable garden, the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum's Fourth Annual plant sale, running June 10 through June 26, can help you catch up.

More than 2,000 seedlings and plants -- annuals, medicinal, culinary, cutting and everlasting -- some up to 6-8 inches tall and all started locally from seed will be available at the museum on the Orono campus.

Proceeds from the sale benefit the museum's spring planting and heirloom landscaping gardens and related maintenance projects. Herb and heirloom vegetable prices are \$1 per plant. Hours for sale are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays.

Herb and heirloom vegetable varieties include: German thyme, common sage, mammoth dill, catnip, Italian flat-leaf parsley, flat-leaf parsley, chives, garlic chives, cilantro/coriander, Echinacea, lemon balm, Korean licorice mint, hyssop, sweet marjoram, heirloom Greek oregano, bouquet dill, Colorado chile, Rio Grande hot chile, basil, sacred, Genovese sweet, cinnamon, lemon, lime, Genserve, tomatoes (red, yellow pear, Burbank red, Brandywine, heirloom red calabash and San Marz), peppers (yellow perfection, Wardelo sweet, California wonder bell, Arkansas traveler), mountain spinach, squash (yellow crook-neck, seeds of change, heirloom blue ballet), gourd and birdhouse gourd, cocozelle bush zucchini, watermelon, pumpkin, Spanish radish, Armenian cucumber, Jersey cabbage, musk melon, radish, red cabbage, Calabrese broccoli and lambs quarters.

The museum's herb and heirloom plants garden also is available to visit on site. More information and directions to the Page Farm and Home Museum are available by calling the museum at (207) 581-4100.

The museum, one of its kind in the area and free to visit, reflects the many varied aspects of farming and farm life from 1865 to 1940. Exhibits include farm equipment and vehicles, poultry, dairy, 4-H, ice harvesting, in addition to a blacksmith shop, an exhibit by the Orono Historical Society and a gift shop in an old-fashioned general store setting.

UMaine Conference on Developmental Approaches for Young Children on the Autism Spectrum

10 Jun 2005

Contact: Alan Parks at 581-1236; Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- Is autism becoming more common? What causes autism? What can we do to deal with autism? Mainers are asking these questions with increasing frequency, and the national media has begun reporting more frequently on autism, heightening public awareness.

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies will host a one-day conference on June 30, 2005, at the Bangor Civic Center to help people understand autism, learn about educational

approaches to autism, and build relationships with parents and professionals interested in providing quality autism interventions for the children of Maine. Information and registration materials are available by calling (800) 203-6957 (voice/TTY) The keynote speaker for this event will be Dr. Barry Prizant, who has more than 30 years experience as a clinical scholar, researcher, and program consultant to young children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and related disabilities. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about five developmental approaches for teaching young children with autism, and will benefit from direct interaction with expert representatives of these five approaches.

UMaine Alumni Association Announces 2005 Alumni Award Recipients

13 Jun 2005

Contact: Bob Potts, Alumni Programs & Marketing, (207) 581-1149 / 1 (800) 934-2586,
bob.potts@umit.maine.edu

ORONO--The University of Maine Alumni Association is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2005 Alumni Awards. They are as follows:

Alumni Career Award (UMAA's highest honor): John D. Buckley '49, of Miami, FL. John is co-founder of PBS&J, an engineering, architecture, and planning firm of more than 3,600 employees based in Miami, Florida.

Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award (in recognition of graduates who distinguish themselves in humanitarian service): Richard A. '48 and Mildred Cohen Giesberg '47 of Los Angeles, CA

Fogler Legacy Award (presented to families with multi-generation graduates of the University of Maine): Higgins-Bodwell Family.

Pine Tree Emblem Alumni Service Award (alumni service award given in recognition and appreciation of outstanding service in promoting alumni work): Mark Cohen '54 of Armonk, NY

Black Bear Award (presented in appreciation of outstanding service to the University):

UMaine Study to Assess Forest Stewardship Strategies in Maine

09 Jun 2005

Contact: Jim Acheson, (207) 581-1898
George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A University of Maine cultural anthropologist has begun what could be the first study of landowners' stewardship strategies for Maine forests, research that should help explain owners' management decisions.

James Acheson, professor of anthropology and marine sciences, says the timing of the study of forest management is important as ownership of Maine's 17 million acres of timberlands is changing rapidly, as is the entire forest products industry. The forestry industry generates \$5.6 billion in gross economic benefits to the state.

Acheson, an expert on resource management and governance, has received an \$85,000 anthropology grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct the study. He'll work with a team of interviewers to survey representatives from four stakeholder groups: timber companies, pulp and paper companies, small private landowners and forest contractors.

The study is possibly the first of its kind for the nation's most heavily forested state. Acheson's preliminary research has turned up a plethora of studies on forests and forest management practices but remarkably little information on the attitudes of landowners, who may employ vastly different management techniques.

"We're trying to understand why people do what they do," he says. "Right now a lot of land is being bought and sold and there are a lot of new environmental easements that didn't exist 30-40 years ago. What's going

on?"

By asking about social, cultural, economic and political factors behind management decisions, Acheson hopes to gain better insight into conditions under which decision-makers do or do not conserve forest resources, and how. In many cases, Acheson says, landowners do a good job; in other cases, they do not.

"Who's to say the people doing the heavy cutting are irrational and unsuccessful?" Acheson says. "I don't think it is at all clear that those people who are holding onto their land and not doing anything with it are necessarily wrong, either. Under some circumstances, it may be good to clear-cut."

Different uses of forest lands can dictate different management practices. For some, timber harvesting is the primary reason to own forestland. For others, forests may be used primarily for recreation, hunting or for privacy, Acheson observes.

Some woodland managers harvest mainly inferior trees and leave healthy, stronger trees to reproduce high-quality stands. Others harvest the better-quality trees, and leave poor-quality trees to regenerate genetically inferior replacements, Acheson says.

Forest management raises questions that are both interesting and complex. Questions about public access, recreational use, pesticides, and differences between publicly and privately owned forests usually generate a multitude of responses and opinions.

Acheson wonders if existing state conservation programs that provide tax incentives in exchange for forest conservation have comparatively few takers. Are there too many disincentives in the regulations?

"It is issues of these kinds that we hope to get at," he says.

Questions about common property management and the degree to which government should be involved in managing privately owned lands are bound to arise as policy makers consider the state's need to preserve and protect its natural resources. Acheson's research could be used as a basis for drafting or revising forest or other resource management policies.

Acheson has studied governance and self-governance of the Gulf of Maine lobster and fishing industries for 30 years and has written numerous articles and several books on the subject. Managing "common pool resources" such as fish in the ocean is simpler, Acheson notes, because the goal is solely to preserve fish stocks. Forest use involves far more considerations, ranging from timber production and wildlife habitat to aesthetics and stream quality, few of which have been explored from the landowners' point of view.

"You've got some very interesting questions," Acheson says. "How do people treat privately owned property? Theoretically they're supposed to do a good job. What we really want to do is understand what they are doing from their perspective."

In addition to mail surveys, in-person interviews and archival research, the physical state of forests will be evaluated through field visits and analysis of satellite-based images. Steve Sader, professor of forest resources and an expert in using satellite imagery to assess forests, is assisting in the project.

Youth Sports Camp Sign-Up Begins

07 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Registration is underway for the 13th annual National Youth Sports Program at the University of Maine. Beginning June 27, the free day camp offers six weeks of fun, sports instruction and educational activities for boys and girls ages 10 to 16.

The camp's quality aquatic program, featuring daily instruction and practice, has a high success rate, according to Stephen Butterfield, UMaine professor of education who has spearheaded the NYSP program since its

establishment. Out of 200 participants last year, all but three were swimming effectively by the end of the summer, and those three youngsters had overcome most of their fear of the water, Butterfield said.

Track and field, softball and soccer, and a variety of other skill development and learning opportunities are also offered. A Native American theme will highlight a number of this summer's camp activities, such as land navigation, canoeing, lacrosse and survival skills.

A partnership between the U.S. government and participating universities and communities, with oversight by the National Youth Sports Corporation, the NYSP camp represents a \$1,000 value at no cost to participants. Under the federal grant, the majority of campers must come from families who meet Department of Health and Human Services income guidelines. Some slots for youngsters of families above the income guidelines are usually available, also at no cost. Those names are placed on a waiting list.

In addition to the activities, the program includes a comprehensive sports physical examination, a breakfast snack and lunch. Transportation is provided from designated, major pick-up points in every direction within an hour's distance of Orono. With slight variation for the first week and the July 4 holiday, the camp runs Monday through Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The last day is Aug. 4.

Conducted in a highly structured, non-competitive learning environment, the program and staff are committed to helping campers achieve the goals of believing in themselves, getting along with others and experiencing success through individual and team achievement.

For registration information, call the UMaine NYSP office, (207) 581-2466 or e-mail: diane.legrande@umit.maine.edu.

National Public Radio Considered: New Book Evaluates NPR's History, Place in Society

06 Jun 2005

Contact: Michael McCauley, 207-262-9611, mike@umit.maine.edu; George Manlove, 207-581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- With more than 20 million listeners in the United States and more in other countries via the Internet, satellite and other technologies, National Public Radio has become a force to be reckoned with in the broadcast world. The organization that debuted in 1971 with its trademark afternoon news program, All Things Considered, has endured political battles, unseasoned leadership and funding problems to become one of the country's premier news organizations.

However, that king-of-the-hill status should not be taken for granted. NPR must continually adapt to new technologies and competing audio services that offer more choice for listeners, says Michael McCauley, associate professor of communication and journalism at the University of Maine. McCauley analyzes NPR's development and offers suggestions for its future in a new book, NPR: The Trials and Triumphs of National Public Radio, published by Columbia University Press. He uses his analysis to offer a new perspective on the role of radio news in a democratic society.

"Simply put, NPR may be better off to phrase its content in a way that enhances 'monitoring' or 'sampling' (as digital media do) instead of continuing to offer a volume and intensity of radio material that tends to induce information overload. This becomes much more important as public radio content becomes better established on the Web, satellite radio, terrestrial digital stations, podcasting, and other new technologies," says McCauley.

The book combines historical analysis and commentary based on McCauley's many interviews with people central to NPR's history, as well as other primary data from the National Public Broadcasting Archives, various presidential libraries and other sources. It describes the role of non-profit organizations, including universities, in educational broadcasting from radio's tumultuous early years through passage of the landmark Public Broadcasting Act of 1967.

When that act was signed by President Lyndon Johnson, noncommercial radio was a poor cousin of the commercial industry; in fact, a 1968 survey of noncommercial station managers found that a typewriter was

the first thing many of them would buy with new federal funding. Only 73 of America's 457 noncommercial stations were then able to meet the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's minimum funding criteria in terms of transmitter power, number of employees and hours of broadcasting. Today, NPR has more than 780 affiliated stations and has become the number one brand, or signpost, or symbol of quality in the public radio industry, writes McCauley.

NPR's 34-year history has all the earmarks of a good drama: strong personalities, funding crises, political manipulation, forays into new technologies and changes in leadership. McCauley touches on these elements and describes major developments related to them. They include key points of tension between news and cultural programmers, NPR's often contentious relationship with affiliated stations and the programming imperatives that led to the removal of Bob Edwards, Linda Wertheimer and Noah Adams from their featured positions with Morning Edition and All Things Considered.

Key to NPR's success, writes McCauley, was the ability to better understand its listeners and develop programs to meet their interests. NPR listeners are distinctive because of their level of education; nearly 60 percent hold at least a bachelor's degree. These people also have higher than average incomes, and two-thirds of them fall into the baby boom age group. The book discusses NPR's efforts to maintain the loyalty of this audience and reach out to new audiences, including West Coast listeners and ethnic minorities.

Looking to NPR's future, McCauley points to challenges in leadership, audience appeal and new broadcast technologies. "NPR's primary task, for now, is to hold onto its present-day core audience, while freshening up the sound of its signature programs whenever possible," he writes. NPR is already taking advantage of satellite, wireless and Internet-based audio services. As new technologies lead to changes in listener habits, McCauley notes, broadcasters who fail to keep up risk losing audiences and revenues.

McCauley considers charges that the network has a left-of-center political bias -- a timely topic, given the recent attacks on NPR and PBS programming by some members of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting board. He also considers arguments that NPR has abandoned so-called "underserved" portions of the American public and that its news coverage has become too timid. He concludes that NPR and other public radio producers offer a service that "constitutes the best system of journalism in America, indeed one of the finest in the world."

Nevertheless, he offers a new model for NPR to consider as network managers ponder their future role in America's political landscape. This model stems from research by sociologist Michael Schudson, whose recent work suggests that news media might treat listeners not as passive consumers, but as news monitors. A "monitorial strategy helps ensure that people can receive and act upon the key bits of information, on the most important issues, through the pathways that work best for them. This new model of citizenship is preferable, in my view, to the political life of the 'informed citizen,' who gobbles up mountains of superficial data -- yet often fails to make good use of it," McCauley concludes.

McCauley began working on the book during his graduate school years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and continued his research after coming to UMaine in 1997. He was the primary organizer of "Public Broadcasting and the Public Interest," an international conference in June 2000 which produced an edited volume of the same name.

The publisher's Web page for his book may be found at the following URL:
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cup/catalog/data/023112/0231121601.HTM>.

NPR: The Trials and Triumphs of National Public Radio also can be found at many Borders and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, in addition to Amazon.com and the UMaine Bookstore.

Dining Services Health Fair Wins Award

06 Jun 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- An interactive health fair, organized and hosted by UMaine's Black Bear Dining Services on March 30

at York Dining Commons, has been recognized for excellence by the National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS). In the NACUFS Cuisine Creators Contest, the UMaine program received first place in the Best National Nutrition Month Promotion Category.

The health fair included a variety of vegetarian, vegan and heart-healthy entrees, along with information and activities intended to inform participants about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Also included were demonstrations of active lifestyles, including information about UMaine's trail system, fitness assessments, smoking cessation education and other wellness opportunities.

Award winners will be honored on July 15 during the NACUFS National Conference in New Orleans.

Upward Bound Summer Program Begins June 25

20 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine --The University of Maine Upward Bound program will welcome 158 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors Saturday, June 25 to the annual six-week academic and career exploration experience on campus.

The majority of the students (115) are in the Classic Upward Bound general academic support and enrichment program. They attend schools served throughout the academic year by UMaine Upward Bound counselors in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo and Hancock counties. The 43 students in UMaine's Regional Math-Science Center are motivated math, science and technology students from targeted high schools around New England.

During the summer program, the students take classes in math, science, English, foreign language, career exploration, SAT preparation and a variety of electives. In addition, students have a research agenda, working on projects with UMaine faculty, as well as community job and service. For example, the Math-Science students will be involved in a University/community effort to test and monitor the phosphorus levels in Pushaw Lake, as well as other water quality activities.

This year, all students and staff will read the award-winning book, "The Kite Runner" by Khaled-Husseini, and weave its messages into experiences and activities throughout the summer. "The Kite Runner," set in contemporary Afghanistan is a story of unlikely friendships, betrayal, redemption and how childhood choices affect adult lives.

Upward Bound is a federally funded educational opportunity program for high school students from low-income, first-generation college families. Its goal is to help the students overcome economic, social, academic and class barriers to higher education and break cycles of generational poverty.

Media Note: A large tent will be set up outside UMaine's Hilltop Commons from noon to 4 p.m. on Upward Bound Summer Program registration day, June 25. Media contacts at registration are: Linda Ives, director, and Nate Larlee, Math-Science coordinator.

Conference Centers on School Dropout Prevention

20 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Strategies and policy to improve learning environments and opportunities for students at risk of dropping out of school is the focus of a statewide conference for educators taking place July 25-26 at the University of Maine. The Dropout Prevention Summer Institute will provide information and steps to help schools develop comprehensive K-12 dropout prevention plans.

Maine Department of Education data over the past decade show fluctuating numbers of students dropping out

of the state's secondary schools. In 2003-04, 1,799 students or 2.63 percent of students dropped out of the state's public secondary schools and private schools with more than 60 percent publicly funded students. That was the lowest dropout percentage in a decade. However, in 1998-99, the dropout numbers climbed to 2,092 or 3.22 percent of students before beginning another decline.

"Schools are required by state and federal law to develop dropout prevention plans, and the institute will offer some expert guidance," says Shelley Reed, coordinator of truancy, dropout prevention, alternative education, homeless and school counselor programs at the Maine Department of Education. "In addition, our speakers will help participants better understand who our at-risk students are, their circumstances, and how we can help them succeed."

In addition to other activities aimed at providing information and best practices, a guided workshop will help steer participants in the creation and development of a local school district dropout prevention plan.

The institute is collaboratively sponsored by the Maine Department of Education, UMaine's Institute for the Study of Students At Risk within the College of Education and Human Development, and the Alternative Education Association of Maine.

Three keynote addresses are scheduled for July 25. Motivational speaker Guy Doud of Baxter, Minnesota, 1986 National Teacher of the Year, will open the conference with a presentation based on his best-seller book, *Molder of Dreams*. The author of other award-winning books, such as *Classroom of the Heart*, *Joy in the Journey* and *Stuff You Gotta Know*, as well as audio tapes and videos, Doud demonstrates the power of encouragement, relationships and caring in reaching youth and building self-esteem.

Vernita Mickens, a lead consultant at Colorado-based Mid-continent Research and Education and Learning (McREL), will discuss the National Dropout Prevention Recognition Program, as well as strategies to improve the achievement of students at risk for failure or dropping out of school. McREL is a nonprofit education research and development organization that provides products and services, including school reform policies and programs, to educators worldwide.

The federal School Dropout Prevention Program provides competitive grants to state education agencies and to local school districts with annual dropout rates above state average to implement research-based, sustainable dropout prevention and re-entry programs. The national dropout rate is about 11 percent over the past decade, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

William Davis, professor of special education and director of the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk, will present factors and conditions that place students at risk, and dropout prevention strategies. Davis' research focus during the past year has been student dropout issues and concerns, with investigation into areas such why students drop out and when, high and low dropout school districts, and tracking student dropouts. Many of his findings will be compiled in a Dropout Prevention Guidebook, which will be disseminated to all Maine public schools.

The July 26 speaker is Mary Madden, UMaine assistant research professor, who will discuss preliminary findings from the state Gender Equity Task Force, which is working to identify issues and come up with strategies to meet the educational needs of boys and girls. Madden is a member of the task force.

For more information and registration, contact the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk, (207) 581-2440; Roxanne.lee@umit.maine.edu.

Internationally Savvy Students Said to Make Better Business Leaders

17 Jun 2005

Contact: Robert Strong, (207) 581-1986
George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A UMaine MBA candidate says the cost of a recent business trip to Germany was money well spent.

"It was my first trip to Europe so it was a cultural experience that I'll value," says Hampden resident Joshua Coombs, a civil engineer pursuing a masters in business administration, with a concentration in general management.

Coombs and nine other Maine Business School graduate students spent a week in Germany in May with Robert Strong, professor of finance and investment education in the business school, Strong's wife Kristen, who is familiar with Germany, and German university students, professors and representatives of manufacturing companies.

The students -- studying for an MBA or MSA (master of science in accounting) -- toured a major bank, a Daimler-Chrysler factory and a science university in the city of Aalen, where they learned about robotics, creating computer-generated holographs of people and cultural differences between the American and German workplace.

In addition to evaluating two marketing scenarios by competing automobile manufacturers, Opel and Volkswagen, Strong says the students experienced several significant cultural differences that were quite striking. Among them was an absence of workplace amenities that Americans take for granted, such as office air-conditioning, public drinking fountains and, in shops and restaurants, substantially different approaches to customer service.

Strong and Coombs say it's important to understand different cultural traditions, and even workplace rules and regulations, and to learn to adapt when necessary.

"Just because things are different doesn't make them wrong," says Strong. Being able to appreciate cultural differences in both etiquette and business will make the students "more astute citizens as well as managers," he adds. "We have a lot of students who have not traveled much and they haven't had the opportunity to experience something in a deep cultural environment."

Coombs says the tour of the Daimler-Chrysler factory was interesting to him for several reasons, mostly because of the organized way the Germans structure their internal human resources -- using employee expertise efficiently. Line workers assembling Mercedes Benz engines, for instance, work with a digital board nearby so they can monitor their production rate. If they don't meet their quotas, the workers review their performance as a team and determine how to improve.

That "empowers the linemen," Coombs says. "It gives them more say and more responsibility."

In addition to working with students and faculty at an applied science university, the University of Aalen, the UMaine group also visited the Porsche museum, the walled city of N

Registration Open for On-Farm Weekend

17 Jun 2005

Contact: Vivianne Holmes, University of Maine Cooperative Extension
1-800-287-1458 (within Maine)

ORONO, Maine -- Opportunities for women to learn more about agricultural activities including raising sheep, milking goats and growing herbs and vegetables will be available later this summer. Registrations are now being accepted for an Experiential On-Farm Weekend for Women, scheduled for Aug. 19-21 at Nezinscot Farm in Turner.

The Maine Women's Agricultural Network (WAgN) and Nezinscot Farm are coordinating the weekend event, with support from University of Maine Cooperative Extension and agricultural businesses.

"This weekend event will be fun and relevant for women of all experience levels," says Vivianne Holmes, an Extension educator who coordinates WAgN. "It will feature a variety of activities, through which participants can learn from successful farm women, and from each other."

The schedule includes a close look at farm operations as well as workshops on topics such as spinning and weaving, cheese making and felting and dyeing wool. Routine farming practices from managing pastures and woodlots to planning farm related businesses will be covered.

Participants can register for the entire weekend or take part in selected workshops. Registration information is available from Holmes, at 1-800-287-1458. Space is limited.

Writing Rules at Young Authors' Camps

17 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Aspiring writers can develop composition skills and polish their prose during the University of Maine's annual Young Authors' Camp activities. Sponsored by the Maine Writing Project at UMaine, the day camps will be held in Orono, Benton and Bar Harbor.

Camps will be offered July 11-15 at UMaine, Orono, for students in grades 3-12, and at Benton Elementary School for grades 1-12. The camp at the College of the Atlantic site is set for Aug. 1-5 for grades 3-12. Daily sessions run from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

In addition to working on skills, camp participants explore different genres of writing, compose for creativity and to inform, experiment with electronic texts, and publish and share their writing.

Young Authors' camps are led by teacher-consultants from the Maine Writing Project, the state's National Writing Project affiliate. The National Writing Project is a federally funded professional development program dedicated to the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum in the nation's schools

The \$100 camp fee includes workshops, materials and snacks. For more information and registration, contact the UMaine College of Education and Human Development at (207) 581-2438; e-mail bonny.harris@umit.maine.edu.

Teachers Focus on Digital Storytelling

15 Jun 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The Maine Writing Project, located at the University of Maine, has received a competitive grant to develop and expand high-quality professional development for teachers in the areas of technology, writing and learning. The \$15,000 grant from the National Writing Project will enable a team of six Maine teachers to sharpen their skills and mentor other educators in using technology to teach writing in meaningful, creative ways.

The six teachers tapped to head the initiative are all Maine Writing Project teacher-consultants, who have completed the MWP invitational summer institute and demonstrated leadership in their schools. They are: David Boardman, Winthrop High School; Debra Butterfield, Gardiner Middle School; Jamie Heans and Seth Mitchell, Brewer High School; Teresa Kane, Warsaw Middle School, Pittsfield; and Lincoln MacIsaac, Mountain Valley High School, Rumford.

Already leaders in using technology effectively in their classrooms, the teacher-consultants will focus on developing expertise and curriculum in the art and practice of digital storytelling over the one-year grant period, beginning July 1. Digital storytelling allows students to enhance their writing with digital design tools such as images, voice and music, adding greater dimension and description to characters and situations.

During the year, the teacher-consultants will attend a digital storytelling institute, provide professional development for other educators, and develop curriculum and use the technique in their own classrooms. In the summer of 2006, the teachers will develop and present a workshop on digital storytelling at the University's annual summer technology institute for educators.

"We have great access to technology in Maine, but in many schools it is underutilized," says Tanya Baker, the Maine Writing Project's co-director for professional development. "Schools can do more to help students be producers rather than just consumers of digital text."

The Maine Writing Project, established in 1997 within the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, is directed by Rich Kent, assistant professor of literacy education. It is an affiliate of the National Writing Project, a federally funded professional development program dedicated to the improvement of student writing and the teaching of writing across the curriculum in all grade levels.

UMaine Partners with State to Create Substance Abuse Center

14 Jun 2005

Contact: Stephen Gilson, (207) 581-2409, Liz DePoy, (207) 581-1469, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO-The UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies has received \$650,000 to create a Prevention Center of Excellence on the Orono campus to study what is needed in Maine to prevent substance abuse and its consequences.

The project is a result of a cooperative agreement between the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) and the state Office of Substance Abuse, which is administering a five-year grant awarded by SAMSHA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration).

"The intent is to look at substance abuse for adolescents in the state of Maine," says Stephen Gilson, principal investigator and professor of interdisciplinary disability studies. "What does it mean and what doesn't it mean for different adolescents? In addition to asking questions, we'll also look at the environments--the media, music, social, academic and virtual environments."

The new center will identify communities in Maine that are underserved by existing substance abuse prevention programs and will provide the information necessary to craft prevention strategies relevant to these communities, according to Gilson and Liz DePoy, professor and coordinator of interdisciplinary disability studies at the CCIDS.

In addition to DePoy and Gilson, who has done post-doctoral work at the National Institute of Drug Abuse, other UMaine researchers include, Shihfen Tu and Craig Mason, psychologists and assistant and associate professors respectively of education and applied quantitative methods and co-coordinators of research and evaluation at the CCIDS.

The first year involves conducting a needs assessment with community members, teachers, policy makers, providers, youth and other stakeholders, and to lay groundwork acquiring additional state and federal funds to expand prevention services.

By the second year, the researchers anticipate identifying the substance abuse prevention concerns of Maine's communities, then recommend ways to change things. Such fixes could involve policy changes in state, school or community drug programs, establishment of community centers and other ways to get educational information to young people, Gilson says.

Linda Williams, the prevention team manager with the state Office of Drug Abuse, says the UMaine Prevention Center of Excellence, will have a counterpart at a similar new center at the University of Southern Maine. USM will have separate funding.

Williams says that although the state has an effective drug abuse program in existence, the two Prevention

Centers for Excellence can extend the reach to communities that are not benefiting as they might from available resources. In order to dispense grants to communities for substance abuse programs, Williams says communities must apply for them with grant applications that match state RFP (request for proposals) criteria. In the past when the state has sought proposals, some communities with substance abuse issues haven't responded at all, she says.

"We don't want a gap between the haves and the have-nots," she says. The state doesn't have the capacity to address the needs in underserved population areas, she says.

DePoy says the research they'll be assembling and resulting recommendations may not be unique, but will provide the evidence that state and federal governments and communities need to extend the depth of their anti-drug abuse programs to better reach communities in relevant ways.

Researchers hope to consult with researchers at the UMaine-based Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, which also has been working on community-based prevention, education and treatment initiatives in Washington and Hancock counties.

The thrust of the Prevention Centers on Excellence will be on prevention of substance abuse more than on legal consequences.

"Law enforcement comes after drug abuse," says Tu. "What we're trying to do is to prevent drug abuse from happening in the first place."

DePoy notes that the state has been successful in creating a culture of non-smokers in Maine, and she believes it can happen with drug abuse. "They've been very successful in creating behavior changes," she says. "That's our ultimate goal."

Schools, Communities Invited to Sports Done Right Training

29 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO-- Maine schools and communities will have the opportunity to learn more about the Sports Done Right interscholastic athletics reform initiative during a free training session set for Wednesday, May 25 at the University of Maine.

Twelve pilot site school districts, representing 29 separate schools from South Berwick to Ashland, are currently working with their communities to develop and implement local practices and policy reflecting the recommendations in the UMaine initiative report: Sports Done Right: A Call to Action on Behalf of Maine's Student-Athletes. The report, crafted by a statewide select panel, with input from hundreds of student-athletes, provides a working philosophical base and a blueprint for creating and sustaining a healthy sports environment and experience for youth.

The extra training session is in response to the tremendous interest expressed by schools that couldn't make the time and staff commitments required of pilot site schools. The May 25 training session runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. Lunch will be served. Pre-registration is required, and interested schools and communities are encouraged to form and send teams of up to four members. Registration deadline is May 16.

The workshop is designed to develop greater understanding of the Sports Done Right core principles and practices; strengthen team relationships and build contacts with teams from other communities; articulate an initial action plan to launch a local conversation about implementing Sports Done Right; and to discuss potential controversial issues regarding the initiative, including competition and winning.

More information and registration for the non-pilot site workshop is available from Karen Brown, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at UMaine: (207) 581-2443; Karen.brown@umit.maine.edu. Information

about Sports Done Right, including an on-line version of the report can be found at www.mcsc.umaine.edu.

UMaine Researchers to Develop Pilot Project for College Savings Accounts

26 Apr 2005

Contact: Dara McIntire, Research Assistant; Philip Trostel, Associate Professor of Economics and Public Policy, 207-581-1651

ORONO, Maine -- College can seem like an unreachable dream for students whose families may be unaware of the financial resources available or the options for starting a college savings account. Researchers in the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine will address that problem with help from a \$6,500 grant from the Cummings Fund at the Maine Community Foundation (MCF).

Economist Philip Trostel and research assistant Dara McIntire will work with an elementary school, financial institutions and other organizations to establish a prototype college savings program that is affordable, simple and sustainable. Long-term success of the project will be measured by the increase in student expectation that college is the next necessary step. The researchers hope that this new pilot project can be expanded for statewide use.

The grant from MCF will help with logistical concerns, including legal issues, support, partnerships and publicity.

"Opening college savings accounts for a large portion of Maine families would be a bold, ambitious move. The initiative's success will draw on the foresight, courage and hard work of a broad range of organizations and individuals from both the public and private sectors," says Trostel. "The long-term rewards of increased college attendance will be matched only by the level of commitment required to realize the vision of a college experience for all Maine children."

The project follows previous work by Trostel and former Smith Center policy analyst Catherine Reilly. They conducted a research project, "Saving for College in Maine: A Review of Current and Prospective Programs," for the Maine Community Foundation. Their [2004 report](#) evaluated dozens of college savings programs in Maine, the United States, and around the world. Their investigation revealed that: (1) Maine children were not continuing to college as often as their national peers, and financial considerations appeared to be part of the reason; (2) savings for college was particularly low in households with lower incomes; and (3) asset-building programs, both in Maine and elsewhere, have demonstrated that low-income households can save through structured programs.

The proposal for a new and different type of college savings account in Maine is designed to encourage participation from all Maine families. A financial institution, with the consent of a parent or guardian, would open a savings account for the student. By starting early with elementary school-aged children, families are eased into college planning, and the process then becomes gradual and less intimidating. Regular deposits to the account provide a kind of continual affirmation of the student's educational ability and of the expectation to attend.

Students and families come to see that financing college is not contingent upon how much money is saved, says Trostel. Rather, they understand that realizing a college education has more to do with the level of commitment to making it happen, and in knowing all the available resources, including grants, scholarships and loans.

More information about the pilot program is available from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, 207-581-4133. To learn more about the [Maine Community Foundation](#) call toll-free 1-877-700-6800.

Students Design Kayaks for Boaters Who Can't Use Their Arms

26 Apr 2005

Contact: Herbert Crosby, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering Technology, 207-581-2134; Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3777

ORONO-- Paddling a kayak can be tricky enough, but try it without using your arms. For a senior design course, five teams of University of Maine engineering students are demonstrating their skills by developing kayaks for people who cannot use their arms.

The students will show off their designs in a competition on the Stillwater River at 9:30 a.m. on Maine Day, April 27. The public is welcome to attend.

The student teams are working under the guidance of Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology Herbert Crosby. They have received assistance from Michael Noyes, a Levant man born without arms, and Sean Harper of Brewer. They have worked closely with the students on human factors related to the drive systems.

Old Town Canoe and Stillwater Recumbents donated kayaks and bicycling equipment respectively.

The students have been testing their prototypes in the Wallace pool at UMaine since late March. Every approach is different, says Crosby. "It's amazing how much improvement the students have made on their designs since they began. One team watched videos of fish movements and designed a fin that sweeps through the water. Another one uses a propeller."

The competition will begin at 9 a.m. at the Machine Tool Lab with an evaluation of overall design by a team of judges. At 9:30, the teams head for the Stillwater River where they will perform tests of speed, maneuverability, stability and endurance. The competition will conclude by noon.

Maine Tech 2005 May 10 in Augusta

08 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine Tech 2005, an exciting gathering of people and companies who are taking innovative, high-tech approaches to business development, is scheduled for May 10 at the Augusta Civic Center.

The event will feature an exhibit floor, where technology companies will display their ideas and their products. Also present will be service providers like banks, law firms and state business assistance programs. High-tech researchers from the University of Maine, other higher education institutions and non-profit laboratories will display and discuss the latest in Maine-based research advances.

The event is intended to highlight the recent growth in the number of Maine companies developing new technologies, in industries ranging from boatbuilding to biotechnology.

MaineTech 2005 is hosted by the Maine Technology Consortium led by the University of Maine, in partnership with the Applied Technology Development Centers, Maine Technology Institute, Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership, University of Southern Maine, Technology Law Center and Market Development Center.

Doors open at 8 a.m., with activities continuing through 4 p.m. Gov. John Baldacci and UMaine President Robert Kennedy will speak at 1 p.m. on Tuesday.

Tuesday will feature an "Elevator Pitch Contest," during which a limited number of companies will have three minutes to present their idea of new technology products or services to a panel of businesspeople and investors. The contest will feature a \$5,000 first place cash prize.

A similar event in 2003 attracted more than 500 people. Organizers expect a larger turnout this year.

Tough Choices in Health Care" Scheduled for May 21

05 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

(Augusta) - On May 21st, Governor Baldacci will bring together about 800 Maine people to discuss health care in Maine. They will discuss priorities for improving health and health care in Maine, and significantly, what we all can do - providers, consumers and payers - to make Maine the healthiest state in the country.

With major support from the Maine Health Access Foundation, the "Tough Choices" meeting will be conducted in two sites, linked by videoconference technology. Participants from across the state will convene at the University of Maine in Orono and the University of New England in Biddeford. Through a randomized process, participants are invited based on their representation of key state demographics, such as gender and age. "'Tough Choices' is the beginning of a conversation with Maine people about how we can work together to improve our health and health care," said Governor Baldacci. "This discussion is the first step in a longer conversation. Importantly, feedback will inform development of the State Health Plan - to make health care work better in Maine and to make Maine the healthiest state." Maine is the first state in the nation to utilize this large-scale approach, which combines survey research methods with the "electronic town meeting" dialogue developed by AmericaSpeaks, a national nonprofit organization. The Federal Emergency Management Authority recently worked with AmericaSpeaks and Florida residents to develop a plan for reconstruction after devastating hurricanes in Florida last year. In an effort to assure that all voices are heard, the "Tough Choices" meeting introduces survey methodology as a basis for recruiting a demographically representative group at each site. Notices have been sent to the randomly selected representative group. Participants will sit at small tables, share and discuss their ideas and priorities, and vote electronically throughout the day on approaches for improving health. Results will be immediate and will further inform the discussion. The meeting was previously scheduled for March 12, but cancelled due to severe weather. The Maine Health Access Foundation has generously provided additional support to reschedule the meeting on May 21. Other funders include: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Jane's Trust, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Betterment Fund and the Maine Community Foundation. The partners in planning and implementing the process include the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, the Muskie School and its Survey Research Institute, the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Maine Extension Service, the National Academy for State Health Policy and AmericaSpeaks. For further information, please contact Adam Thompson, Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, 207-624-7445, adam.thompson@maine.gov

University of Maine Awards Degrees at Spring Commencement

07 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3571

ORONO -- Some 1,993 University of Maine degrees were awarded today at two commencement ceremonies. The Class of 2005 is the largest in UMaine's history. An estimated total of 11,000 graduates, family members and friends attended the events, which featured a commencement address by author and UMaine graduate Stephen King.

Cold, rainy weather caused UMaine to hold two commencement events inside Harold Alfond Arena, rather than the single, outdoor event that had been planned. Graduates from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; and the Division of Lifelong Learning received their degrees at a 10:30 a.m. event. The 2:30 p.m. ceremony was for graduates in UMaine's College of Engineering; College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture; and College of Education and Human Development.

King, who graduated from UMaine in 1970 and received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater in 1987, spoke at both events. In the fall of 2001 King spoke to UMaine's first-year students, at which time he offered to return for the class' graduation in 2005.

"I'm honored, I'm delighted, and I'm just about flattered out of my socks, but think about it," King said. "You've asked a man who's spent the last 30 years trying to scare the hell out of everyone in the English-speaking world to send you out into the 21st century."

King, who shook hands with each graduate as they crossed the Alfond Arena stage, encouraged the graduates to spend their lives in the state. He offered a list of ten pieces of advice. Numbers seven, eight, nine and ten were the same: stay in Maine.

"I was born here, I've lived my whole life here and I'll probably die here," King said. "It's Maine where I've spent most of my time and, except during black fly season, I can't imagine wanting to be anywhere else."

Calling Maine "the best place on earth," King said that the state offers abundant opportunities for members of the Class of 2005.

"Acknowledge your good fortune by sharing it, and show your good sense by sharing it in Maine," he said. "You'll never be sorry."

UMaine President Robert Kennedy presided over the ceremony, the first commencement since he was named UMaine's 18th president on April 15. He acknowledged the UMaine faculty members who received special university recognition at Friday's Academic Honors Convocation.

This year's Distinguished Maine Professor is Robert Strong, professor of finance and University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education. The annual award presented by the UMaine Alumni Association recognizes outstanding achievements in teaching, research and public service.

The 2005 Presidential Public Service Achievement Award winner is David Lambert, from the UMaine Dept. of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences. The recipient of the 2005 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award is James Acheson, professor of anthropology and marine sciences. The recipient of the 2005 Presidential Teaching Award is Patricia Burnes from the UMaine English faculty.

In keeping with UMaine tradition, Strong, the 2005 Distinguished Maine Professor, led the procession into Alfond Arena and spoke to the new graduates near the beginning of each ceremony.

"Don't be afraid to take risks," Strong said. "But remember, as someone once said, that the mistakes to avoid are those that eliminate the opportunity to try again. Be careful about burning bridges or rolling the dice with your career."

Lisbon Falls native Dusty Lavoie is the UMaine Class of 2005 valedictorian. An education major, Lavoie will teach English at Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield beginning in the fall. Engineering physics major Tyler Dunn of Skowhegan is the class salutatorian. He plans to enroll in a doctoral program at Boston University.

The graduating class included 316 people who earned graduate degrees, including 34 at the doctoral level.

Journalist Douglas Kneeland, a Lincoln native and UMaine graduate whose professional career included work as a reporter and editor at the New York Times and the Chicago Tribune, received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the morning commencement. An honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree was awarded to Andrew Shepard, the president/CEO and co-founder of the Maine Winter Sports Center, at the afternoon ceremony.

William Johnson, a 1956 UMaine graduate and a member of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, brought greetings from the board. Bion Foster, chair of the University of Maine Alumni Association, welcomed the graduates to the ranks of the more than 90,000 living UMaine alumni at the morning commencement. Alumni Association Interim President Donna Thornton filled that role in the afternoon.

UMaine History Professor Wins Award for Book on Napoleon

05 May 2005

Contact: Alexander Grab, 581-1928, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine history professor Alex Grab has been named the first prize winner in an international book competition of the International Napoleonic Society.

The award, which carries a stipend of \$2500, attracted 13 entries worldwide. Three were selected for the society's literary honors. Grab received the top award for his most recent book, "Napoleon and the Transformation of Europe," originally published in 2003 and now being reprinted by Palgrave MacMillan publishers in London.

The International Napoleonic Society is a Montreal-based organization dedicated to promoting the study of the Napoleonic Era. The society gathers leading thinkers, writers, academics and historians in the field to create, review, make awards to and financially support Napoleonic scholarship.

In addition to his book, Grab has written numerous articles on the Napoleonic rule over Italy. What is significant about "Napoleon and the Transformation of Europe," Grab explains, is that it is a manageable, 264-page book that tackles the transformation of Europe under the French general and later emperor Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821), from the perspective of the countries Napoleon occupied.

The 10 states that constituted the Napoleonic Grand Empire included France, Belgium, Germany, the Illyrian Provinces, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland. The Illyrian Provinces included parts of the former Yugoslavia.

"Most of the books on Napoleon," Grab explains, "focus on France and devote relatively short space to the rest of Europe. After all, Napoleon was a French emperor who conquered much of Europe. My book, on the other hand, focuses on Europe."

Historians estimate that more than 200,000 books have been written on Napoleon, the subject of more books than any other individual in history, according to Ben Weider, president of the International Napoleonic Society. Grab's book dedicates a chapter to each of the countries Napoleon occupied and shows how his rule affected those countries' economies, societies, militaries, governments, schools and tax systems.

Napoleon may be remembered for his military strength, but he also changed many aspects of life for the countries he ruled. He introduced the military draft, centralized governments, Code Napoleon, modern school system, and implemented other new policies and practices that were more efficient than those that had existed. At the same time, these policies meant the exploitation and subjugation of the occupied populations, according to Grab.

In his congratulatory letter to Grab, society president Weider says that the quality of Grab's book, "especially in the area of research, originality, style and analysis, represents a significant contribution to Napoleonic studies

UMaine Faculty Members Honored

06 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The four highest awards to University of Maine faculty were presented at the Academic Honors Convocation earlier this afternoon.

This year's Distinguished Maine Professor is Robert Strong, professor of finance and University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education. The annual award by the Alumni Association recognizes outstanding achievements in teaching, research and public service.

The Presidential Public Service Achievement Award was presented to David Lambert, from the UMaine Dept. of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences.. The recipient of the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award was James Acheson, professor of anthropology and marine sciences. Receiving the Presidential Teaching Award was Patricia Burnes from the UMaine English faculty.

Robert Strong has been a UMaine faculty member since 1983. He was recognized for outstanding commitment to each part of UMaine's mission: teaching, research and public service. Colleagues note his positive interaction with UMaine students throughout Strong's 22 years on the faculty, as well as his commitment to extending

teaching beyond the classroom. In 1993, Strong started the Student Portfolio Investment Fund (SPIFFY), through which students manage a University of Maine Foundation investment fund. SPIFFY began with a \$200,000 allotment and is now valued at more than \$1.1 million. He is also a recognized scholar in his field, having written three widely-used textbooks. Strong is very active in civic organizations and statewide commissions that benefit from his expertise.

David Lambert, a plant pathologist, has been on the UMaine faculty since 1986. His extensive efforts to inform and educate the potato industry about potentially damaging diseases, including potato late blight and potato mop-top disease, have had significant implications for potato growers in Maine and beyond. His award citation noted that his extensive research work involving potato diseases enables Lambert to bring the most current and informed perspectives to discussions with those who work in the potato industry.

A UMaine professor since 1968, James Acheson has focused his work in three areas: MesoAmerican ethnography, economic anthropology and maritime anthropology. His scholarly achievements include four books, including "The Lobster Gangs of Maine." The Baxter Society listed that book as one of the "One Hundred Distinguished Books" about Maine. In 2004, Acheson received the American Anthropological Association's Solon T. Kimball Award for Public and Applied Anthropology, the nation's highest honor in his field.

Patricia Burnes has been on the UMaine faculty for 33 years. An English composition specialist, she oversees College Composition, the writing course required of most first-year students. Burnes also teaches other English Dept. courses, and teaches graduate students how to teach college writing courses. She has been an active participant in departmental and university-wide faculty organizations throughout her UMaine career, and has extended her teaching ability and knowledge to benefit teachers and others throughout Maine.

Hunter Named to UMaine Undergraduate Post

05 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Susan Hunter, a University of Maine zoology faculty member since 1991, has been named associate provost for undergraduate education at UMaine. In her new role, Hunter will oversee academic and related programs that focus on undergraduates. She will succeed Douglas Gelinias, who is retiring after 37 years of service to UMaine.

"Sue is a highly respected leader in our academic community," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Undergraduate education is at the core of everything we do at UMaine, and I am confident that it will continue to be a real source of pride under Sue's leadership."

Hunter is a Bethlehem, Penn. native who earned a Ph. D. in physiology from Penn State University in 1980. After post-graduate study at Case Western Reserve University, she joined the UMaine zoology faculty. She has also served as chair of UMaine's Dept. of Biological Sciences and as Assistant Director for Life Sciences in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

"It's an honor to be chosen for the position that Doug Gelinias so capably filled.," Hunter says. "Undergraduate education is a cornerstone of the University of Maine and I am looking forward to working with the very talented professionals that direct all aspects of the undergraduate experience".

In her new role, Hunter will have overall responsibility for a number of critical areas, including undergraduate admissions, student records, student financial aid, the Academic Career Exploration (ACE) Program, the Center for Teaching Excellence, Institutional Studies and Technical Support Services, International Programs, and the First-Year Academy.

UMaine Composites Center Announces New \$6.2 Million U.S. Army R&D Program

04 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO-- In a move that will increase opportunities for Maine businesses and University of Maine faculty and students, the University of Maine will announce a \$6.2 million U.S. Army research program in the UMaine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWC) Center at 10:30 a.m. on May 6. The program takes advantage of newly expanded laboratory space financed with a voter-approved bond in 2004.

The research focus will be on studies of high strength structures for military applications, including advanced materials, tent protective structures, high-performance airbeams, rigidified inflatable structures, rapidly deployable bridges, and ballistic modular building components. AEWG engineers will work with the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Scheduled to speak at the May 6 event will be U.S. Senator Susan Collins and U.S. representatives Michael Michaud and Thomas Allen. U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe will be represented by Gail Kelly of the senator's Bangor office. Representing the U.S. Army will be Frank Kostka, director of collective protection, U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center; and Dr. Reed Mosher, technical director, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ERDC Center, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Jack Cashman, commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, will represent Governor John Baldacci. Tim Hodgdon of Hodgdon Yachts, Boothbay Harbor, will address benefits for Maine industry.

University of Maine President Robert Kennedy, University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal and Vice-President for Research Michael Eckardt will discuss the importance of the U.S. Army program.

Following the presentations will be a tour of AEWG's laboratory, including the \$4.5 million expansion. The 15,000 square-foot addition was a key part of UMaine's ability to meet the Army's research needs, says Habib Dagher, AEWG director. "The facilities investment by the voters, the Legislature and the Governor allowed us to taken on this large new R&D program."

The facilities include equipment and space to develop thick composites technologies, resin infusion processes and polymer extrusion. The space accommodates an anticipated 35 additional research personnel, including engineers, scientists and support staff who will be funded through the new research program.

"UMaine is looking forward to develop advanced lightweight construction materials and structures that will better protect our troupes from attacks, while providing unique learning opportunities for our students, and business procurement opportunities for Maine industry" says Dagher.

Leading the effort to demonstrate the AEWG's capabilities to the Army were President Kennedy, Chancellor Westphal, Vice-President for Research Eckardt and Dagher. Maine's congressional delegation played a crucial role in supporting the program.

"This announcement underscores our commitment to research that holds promise for Maine's economy," says Kennedy. "It's a natural marriage, with the Army and its critical needs for rapidly deployable, secure facilities on the one hand and UMaine's exceptional strength in this area on the other."

Before coming to UMaine, Chancellor Westphal was an Assistant Secretary of the Army in Washington D.C. "This program is a major accomplishment for UMaine, and the latest recognition of its national prominence in research and development. It will create many new educational and research opportunities for faculty and students as well as tremendous new economic benefits and potential for the State," he says.

Researchers in UMaine Composites laboratory develop and investigate the properties of synthetic and natural fiber based composites at scales from molecules to large structures. With eight different labs occupying 48,000 square feet, AEWG provides the only university-based research facility in the US where new Composites products can be taken from initial concept to prototype design and full scale production and testing under one roof.

New Lobster Model Provides Improved Basis for Management

03 May 2005

Contact: Yong Chen, School of Marine Sciences, 207-581-4303

ORONO- Scientists at the University of Maine and Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) have developed a new stock assessment model for the American lobster. The product of more than four years of work, the stock assessment model has been accepted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) as the basis for future population assessment of New England's most valuable fishery.

Yong Chen of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences (SMS), UMaine post-doctoral researcher Minoru Kanaiwa and Carl Wilson of the DMR developed the model with support from DMR and Maine Sea Grant. Larry Jacobson of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), an adjunct professor in SMS, also helped develop the new model which consists of thousands of lines of computer code reflecting the most up-to-date scientific methodology, information and data from government agencies and the fishing industry.

Over the last two decades, fishermen and federal scientists have been at loggerheads over the status of the Gulf of Maine lobster population. Fishermen have steadily increased the annual harvest, but the NMFS continues to list the lobster as "overfished." Fishermen also report that their traps catch an abundance of egg-bearing female lobsters which, by law, they must return to the sea. In 2000, the apparent contradiction between lobster abundance and "overfished" status led to a concerted effort to develop a new scientific model.

The ASMFC requires states to address overfishing in the lobster industry by 2008.

When Chen came to UMaine in 2000, one of his first tasks was to develop that new model. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto in 1995 and before coming to Maine, had done fisheries stock assessment modeling in Newfoundland, New Zealand and Australia. He brought experience in modeling rock lobsters, sea urchins, groundfish, crab and even the lowly sea cucumber. For lobster, his goal was to develop a model that "reflects biological realism", he says.

In an oversimplified view, assessing lobster stock status takes three steps, each of which can become complex. First, scientists develop a population dynamics model that accounts for fish life history processes such as growth and maturation and other biological factors as well as mortality from natural and human causes.

Second, they calculate a "biological reference point," a number that has been at the heart of the debate between fishermen and regulators. In lobster fisheries management, that point is known as "F10%." It gives an indication of just how much fish harvesting affects reproduction and thus the ability of a stock to sustain itself. Scientists estimate the F10% number by calculating the fishing mortality that would make the egg production drop to ten percent of the egg production that would be in an unharvested population.

In the third step, scientists compare fishing mortality, estimated in their population dynamics model, to the F10% number. If the mortality of a harvested population is above the F10% number, the lobster is declared to be overfished.

Problems with the previous lobster stock assessment model and approach are well known. For example, it assumes that natural mortality is constant over time and known. Abundance data used in the model only include data from the NMFS bottom trawl survey which is not efficient in sampling lobsters and does not have a good coverage of inshore areas. Over 75% of the lobster landings in the Gulf of Maine come from inshore areas. In addition, the previous assessment model used an out-of-date statistical method. It takes estimates of F10% and fishing mortality from different models with different data, making them incompatible.

The complex life history of American lobster makes it difficult to develop population dynamics models with biological realism, notes Chen. As lobsters molt, pass from one life stage to another and move between deep and shallow waters, the factors at work are poorly understood, as are mortality rates in the wild.

Finally, the composition of the lobster population by age and sex is not well known, nor is the efficiency with which federal agency trawling runs sample the lobster population. There are no abundance-based biological

reference points, which are required to decide if a fish population is "overfished," as opposed to using F10% to decide if the fishery is "overfishing" the lobster.

Since 2000, the DMR has been sampling the lobster population by trawling in state waters. Although controversial within parts of the lobster industry, that activity has generated data that can be compared directly with the NMFS trawls. According to a recent paper by Chen and Maine DMR scientists, state and federal trawl data underscore the relationship between lobster size and location. As with other marine species, small lobsters tend to stay closer to shore. Large animals tend to travel farther and to spend more time in deep water.

One explanation for the abundant harvests of the past decade, suggests Chen, is a high level of recruitment, an estimate of new individuals reaching harvestable size in a given year. "They're (fishermen) fishing hard. There're no doubts about it. But recruitment is very strong every year," says Chen. "So, although we are 'overfishing' the lobster population every year (with a high fishing mortality), the lobster stock abundance remains high and the stock is not 'overfished' because of strong recruitment."

Chen, Wilson, and Kanaiwa have tested their model, as well as four other models, against a simulation backed by actual harvest data. Last fall, Chen presented the Maine model to a team of scientific reviewers that was evaluating its performance. The reviewers suggested modifications, which Chen incorporated, and then recommended that ASMFC adopt the Maine model.

The focus of Chen's work this year will be to continue testing the model against the computer simulation. He will propose and test new biological reference points that can better reflect the status of the lobster fishery. He has received funding from ASMFC to adapt the model for use in managing lobster populations on Georges Bank and in southern New England waters.

Michael Errigo, a UMaine Ph.D. student in Chen's lab, has received a three-year fellowship to work on the model testing. The National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Sea Grant College Program and UMaine contributed a total of \$114,390 in stipend and tuition support. Errigo had the top ranked application for the annual fellowship program which focuses on fishery population dynamics.

UMaine Center on Aging Announces Spring 2005 Education Series

02 May 2005

Contact: Leah Ruffin, 581-2249, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Healthy Productive Aging is the theme of this year's University of Maine Center on Aging's Spring 2005 continuing education series, running May11-June 22 in Augusta, Belfast, Bucksport, Orono and Presque Isle.

This year the center is offering the Professional Excellence in Geriatrics Series (PEGS) in combination with the Geriatric Organizational Leadership Development Seminar (GOLD). In addition, the center is also offering three free workshops through the "Rural Social Work and Aging: The Skills You Need to Know" series, funded by Boston University's Institute for Geriatric Social Work (IGSW).

The continuing education series is geared to anyone with an interest in geriatric care who wants to learn about a multitude of new theories and clinical approaches to improve quality of life and care for the aging. Leah Ruffin, senior research associate at the Center on Aging and program coordinator, says the program will appeal to the public, in addition to professionals who work with aging populations.

The theme, she says, "parallels the center's mission in changing the way people in Maine view aging -- from people who are sick and frail to a new view of people living to their fullest and being healthy and productive members of our society."

Aging, she says, should be celebrated, not feared.

For anyone interested in rural gerontology, the three free IGSW Sessions 1, 8, and 10 will be particularly interesting, according to Ruffin.

The series' second session starts with a gala dinner at Dirigo Pines in Orono. The 2005 program also covers new geographic locations east and north thanks to community partners.

Participants receive a certificate of attendance for each individual session and they may register for this year's sessions by email, fax or regular mail. More information, including driving directions, is available on the Internet at www.mainecenteronaging.org.

Registrations should be sent to the attention of Robin Arnold, the University of Maine Center on Aging, 5723 Donald P. Corbett Business Building, Orono, ME 04469-5723. The center can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-3444.

Costs for PEGS and GOLD sessions are \$40 per session or \$70 per day. For partner agency employees and Maine Gerontological Society members, registration is \$35 per session and \$60 per day. The rate for students and retired or unemployed people is \$20 per session or \$35 per day. Walk-in registrations are welcome. Registration fees cover materials and a certificate of attendance, but participants should plan for their own lunches.

The schedule of programs is as follows:

Session 1

May 11, UMaine Presque Isle, 1-3:30 p.m., "Rural Aging: Social Work Practice Models & Intervention Skills," (a free IGSW program) with Kim Anne Perkins, director of the UMPI School of Social Work.

Session 2

May 12, Dirigo Pines, Orono, 5:30-7:30 p.m., PEGS Gala Dinner and "Healthy Productive Aging," with Katherine Musgrave, professor emeritus, UMaine Food Sciences and Nutrition. This event is the program's kick-off celebration, which includes a full dinner at Dirigo Pines, after which Musgrave will present an overview of this year's theme, Healthy Productive Aging.

Session 3

May 13, Dirigo Pines, 9-11:30 a.m., "A Community Response to Elder Abuse," with Francine Stark, community response coordinator at Spruce Run.

Session 4

May 13, Dirigo Pines, 1-3:30 p.m., "Healthy Maine People 2010," with Katherine Musgrave.

Session 5

May 18, Hutchinson Center, Belfast, 9-11:30 a.m., "Healthy Maine Partnerships," with Amy Wagner, community health improvement coordinator and director of the Waldo County Healthcare Inc. Healthy Living Project.

Session 6

May 18, Hutchinson Center, 3-5:30 p.m., "Hospice & Palliative Care," with Kandyce Powell, executive director, Maine Hospice Council and executive director, Maine Center for End of Life Care.

Session 7

June 13, the new Department of Health and Human Services building, Augusta, 9-11:30 a.m., "Health & Wellness for Older Adults: Exercise Programs that Work," with Jane Harris Bartley, director of RSVP of Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington counties.

Session 8

June 13, DHHS, Augusta, 1-3:30 p.m., "Empowering Older Adults in Rural Areas: Social Work Advocacy Techniques," (a free IGSW program) with Brenda Gallant, executive director, Catherine Valcourt, legal counsel, State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Nadine Grasso, director of communications, Maine Health Care Association, Tom Kane, former chair of the Maine House of Representatives' Health and human Services Committee.

Session 9

June 16, Jewett School Community Center, Bucksport, 9-11:30 a.m., "Differential Diagnosis in Dementia," with Amy Cotton, director, Rosscare Center for Healthy Aging, Eastern Maine Healthcare.

Session 10

June 16, Jewett School Community Center, 1-3:30 p.m., "Using Research in Rural Aging: Evidence-Based Social Work Practice," (a free IGSW program) with Len Kaye, director, UMaine Center on Aging.

Session 11

June 22, Dirigo Pines, 9-10:45 a.m., "For Supervisors: Strategies for Difficult Conversations," with Polly Moutevelis-Burgess, director, UMaine Employee Assistance Program.

UMaine Student, School Teachers Team Up to Win Award for Science Education Project

02 May 2005

Contact: Leigh Stearns, Climate Change Institute, 207-581-1491; Joe Carr, Dept. of Public Affairs and Marketing, 207-581-3571

ORONO--Learning how glaciers move could be like watching corn grow. Things don't happen very fast. However, University of Maine graduate student Leigh Stearns has found a way to make the learning fun and, in the process, help students understand how to do science.

She and four Maine teachers -- Margaret Morton of South Bristol Elementary School, Darrell King of Brewer High School, Diane Damone of Old Town High School and Stephen Dixon of Nobleboro Central School -- all participants in UMaine's NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellows Program, won an award at an international scientific conference in Beijing, China April 15 for their poster describing the use of "flubber" to study glacier movement. "Flubber" is a homemade concoction of glue, Borax powder and water that, when mixed to the right consistency, can be used to demonstrate the slow but inevitable movement of ice sheets and mountain glaciers.

Their poster was titled "Educating K-12 Students about Glacier Dynamics and Climate Change: an NSF Program." The international Climate and Cryosphere conference was sponsored by the World Climate Research Program April 11-15. The China Meteorological Administration was the host.

The purpose of the conference was to share information about the relationship between the climate and cold regions covered by ice, snow and permafrost. "The teachers were excited about what they heard and were taking pictures of presentations to take back to their schools," says Stearns. The NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellows Program supported the teachers' attendance at the conference.

In her research, Stearns studies the growth and decline of large ice sheets, such as those in Antarctica and Greenland. She uses data from satellites to determine changes in ice sheets over large areas. As an NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellow, she has visited the classrooms of teachers who attended the conference to conduct science lessons related to her field of study.

"My goal is to help students realize that there are many different factors affecting how glaciers flow," she says. "They often think there's only one factor, temperature. And some think that the colder it (the ice) is, the faster a glacier will move."

In fact, warmer temperatures can promote faster ice movement, she says. "The temperature range of 'flubber' greatly exaggerates the natural range of ice temperatures," notes the award winning poster, but Stearns' lessons using the material show that glaciers are subject to a variety of driving forces. Other factors at work include the slope, shape and texture of the ground over which the ice flows.

In the classroom, Stearns teaches students to make "flubber" and then carry out experiments in a plastic rain gutter. By varying the slope or changing the surface texture of the gutter with sandpaper, oil or aluminum foil, students can change how fast the "flubber" moves. They also freeze the material to see how that affects movement. By sticking toothpicks into it as it moves, they can see how forces acting on the material change its internal structure.

"'Flubber' will deform as it moves down the slope, and if you pull it fast enough, cracks will form, similar to crevasses in glaciers," says Stearns. Ultimately, Stearns hopes that by

Backyard Poultry-Keeping is Page Farm & Home Museum Lecture Topic

13 May 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581- 4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum is sponsoring a brown bag lunch lecture session May 25 on backyard poultry-keeping, with speaker Bob Hawes, a poultry expert and professor emeritus of animal veterinary and aquatic sciences.

The noon lecture is part of the museum's brown bag lunch series and is free and open to the public.

Hawes, a Hampden resident, currently keeps exhibition poultry and is a licensed poultry judge. He has been a member of the boards of directors for the Page Farm and Home Museum, the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy and the Kelmescott Rare Breeds farm.

His talk will be geared for small backyard poultry keepers and will include choosing a breed, ordering chicks, coop design, feeding methods and lighting systems. A question and answer period will follow his talk.

Hawes is a 1956 graduate of the University of Maine, where he earned a degree in poultry husbandry. He earned a Ph.D. from Penn State University in poultry breeding.

Beginning in 1962, he worked at MacDonald College at McGill University and as a commercial poultry breeder for the HyLine Poultry Breeding Farm in Johnston, Iowa. From 1978 to 1997, he was a member of the Animal and Veterinary Science Department faculty at UMaine.

For more information or directions to the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus, please call (207) 581-4100.

UMaine Alumni Office Offers FirstClass Email to Graduates

12 May 2005

Contact: Chris Corro, (207) 581-1142, Donna Thornton, (207) 581-2586, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- For recent University of Maine graduates, leaving campus no longer means losing touch with classmates, acquaintances and campus news.

For the first time since the FirstClass email and communications network was introduced to the campus in 1994, graduates will be able to retain FirstClass accounts similar to existing student FirstClass accounts. A pilot program for members of the Class of 2005 and 2004, the offer resulted from a partnership among the UMaine Alumni Association, UMaine President Robert Kennedy's office and the Office of Information Technologies. The feature is available to 2004 and 2005 UMaine graduates who accept an invitation for a complimentary membership to the alumni association and pay the \$10 annual licensing fee for FirstClass, according to Donna Thornton, interim president and CEO of the alumni association.

Thornton says response to the offer has been "terrific" since it was announced during commencement exercises May 7.

While it will differ slightly from the account students have used in terms of conferences and permissions, the Alumni FirstClass account still will offer many of the same features that make FirstClass a convenient communications tool, Thornton says. The 2005 graduates may keep their current FirstClass student account through June; the new Alumni FirstClass will become active July 1.

"This is a test right now," Thornton says. "Students have come to us and have been disappointed when they've been terminated from their FirstClass accounts. That's how they communicated for the last four years."

Depending upon its popularity, the alumni association may extend the offer to even more UMaine alumni. "Our goal is to offer this email service to all alumni," Thornton says.

Alumni FirstClass includes: email, using the same address graduates have now; personalized calendar, address book, links to public folders for many campus groups and organizations, including Greeks, student organizations and honor societies, plus links to folders with the latest UMaine news and alumni events. It also will provide chat capabilities. Participants must establish Internet connectivity through an independent ISP. Extending FirstClass to alumni serves multiple purposes, Thornton says. While it helps UMaine graduates stay in contact with one another, it also allows them to remain in contact with the university and the alumni association.

"From an alumni perspective, if someone is in California, they can access a class or a speech or a presentation that was held on campus, instead of connecting to UCLA," Thornton says. "They maintain a connection to us." The alumni association depends on graduates for several different kinds of support after they leave the campus with their degrees. Support, Thornton says, can range from financial contributions to the university to various forms of advocacy, including attending an event or being willing to call a legislator to, say, express support for UMaine research and development efforts.

"We are pleased to be able to respond to the demand from new graduates by establishing a convenient way for them to stay connected," says UMaine President Kennedy. "First Class is an important part of our campus communication system, and the participation of more alumni in its conferences and other features will enhance the service for all of us. At the same time, it will provide an effective way for the university to keep in touch with these valued members of our community."

To activate complimentary membership and Alumni FirstClass accounts, students can contact Chris Corro at 581-1142.

UMaine Hosts Second Annual State Laptop Learning Initiative Conference May 13

13 May 2005

Contact: Kelly Arsenault, Maine Learning Technology Initiative, (207) 592-1824; Bette Manchester, Maine Dept. of Education and MLTI, (207) 592-3993; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- More than 400 middle school students, teachers and parents from throughout Maine are on the University of Maine campus today for the second annual Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) iTEAM Conference -- a series of more than two dozen workshops and seminars about laptop computers, the Internet and education.

Co-sponsored by the Maine Department of Education, the University of Maine and other educational entities, the day is about professional development for school students and teachers to learn tips, tricks and educational concepts involved with the state's laptop initiative.

Kelly Arsenault of the state Department of Education's MLTI program says the conference is about more than laptops. It also is focused on using laptops as a tool through which students and their teachers can navigate educational goals through technology. The conference is held once a year.

Morning and afternoon sessions, being held throughout the Orono campus and ending at 2 p.m., include topics that range from setting up a local help desk to deal with hardware and software questions to using laptops for manipulating photographs, making movies and even "podcasting," one of the newest applications for computer users to create home-based Internet broadcasting programs, essentially a personal radio program.

Leading the sessions are representatives from Apple Computers, the Department of Education, various public schools and colleges in Maine and UMaine students and faculty from the New Media and other departments, including music, art, math and sciences, according to Owen Smith, associate professor of art history at UMaine

and a conference co-organizer.

Arsenault says that organizers want to include middle school students in the conference as they have a major role in the laptop educational initiative, now in place in Maine schools for about three years. "Kids have a role in learning about technology," she says, which includes troubleshooting and innovation when it comes to educational use of laptop computers.

She says the response to today's conference was overwhelming, with schools from throughout the state sending more than 400 students to Orono. Initially, about 350 were expected, she says.

A sample of the workshops includes: learning about individual school projects and software applications; screen recording and music technology; exploring digital art; creating digital video; Internet safety; computer-use and ergonomics; bringing Maine history to life; crating databases; GIS technology; web design and storytelling; email etiquette; and help desk management.

Many adults think that young people are well-informed and educated about computers, Arsenault says, but that isn't always the case. Hence, the department of education holds the annual conference to try to bring both students and their teachers up to date with the latest applications of laptop and digital technology. Holding the conference at UMaine provides another opportunity for young people to visit the UMaine campus and give them a friendly introduction to the University of Maine, says Smith.

The conference headquarters is in the atrium of the D.P. Corbett Business Building behind the Maine Center for the Arts. A scheduled of workshops is available by calling UMaine Office of Public Affairs at (207) 581-3756.

New UMaine Satellite Dish to Provide Window on the Earth's Changing Face

11 May 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

Note: News media representatives are welcome to cover the installation of the news satellite dish and its protective dome cover on Aubert Hall at 9 a.m. Thursday, May 12. Coverage will be conducted from the ground or from the upper floors of nearby buildings. Due to safety concerns, only construction personnel will be allowed on the roof.

ORONO, Maine -- For scientists, the view of Earth from space has never been better or more critical. Details about the planet's changing face are the raw material for monitoring the environment and anticipating the future consequences of human activity. With a \$330,000 equipment grant from the National Science Foundation, the University of Maine will become New England's window on the planet as seen through the eyes of new satellites.

The grant will pay for the purchase and installation of a new 2.4 meter (about 8 ft) diameter satellite tracking dish on the roof of Aubert Hall on the UMaine campus. According to Andrew Thomas, professor in the School of Marine Sciences and principal investigator for the project, the dish will enable UMaine to receive data from the latest generation of Earth observation satellites operated by NASA as well as those of other international space agencies.

"We have an established track record as Earth science satellite data providers here at UMaine with our existing satellite tracking dish," says Thomas. "This new larger, dish moves us into the next generation of very recent Earth Observation satellites which deliver higher spatial and spectral resolution, and a correspondingly larger data volume. These satellites will become the standard over the next 5 to 10 years. Directly receiving these data will allow us to address environmental issues closer to our coasts, in more detail, and with new approaches. Not only that, we'll be dealing with important problems in real-time, not waiting for delivery of data."

The closest existing system for receiving the information is at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Institutions already lining up to take advantage of UMaine's data receiving capabilities include the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth; Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in West Boothbay Harbor; and the Maine Department of Marine Resources.

At UMaine, more than 70 scientists in departments from forestry and marine sciences to electrical engineering and spatial information sciences and engineering have expressed interest in the new data for their research. These departments already have been designated as a NASA Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing.

By providing highly detailed views of the ocean, the new satellite information will also benefit scientists working on the new Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS), an ocean monitoring system of moored buoys, satellite data and numerical forecasting models in the Gulf of Maine. Combining the buoy-based data with the wide coverage of satellites, scientists will better understand how broad ocean changes affect the Gulf from top to bottom.

When it Comes to "Green" Vehicles, What do Consumers Want?

11 May 2005

Contact: Jonathan Rubin, Dept. of Resource Economics and Policy and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, 207-581-1528

ORONO, Maine -- Few consumers take environmental factors into account when they buy a new vehicle, according to early results of a University of Maine research project. With support from a \$399,979 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), researchers are meeting with consumer panels, conducting surveys and testing the effectiveness of vehicle performance information targeted at the public.

In particular, they want to know if an "eco-label," a sticker for cars and trucks that meet environmental standards, would help consumers make decisions.

According to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Maine cars and trucks are one of the largest sources of in-state air pollution. Nationally, the EPA says that car and truck tailpipe emissions account for about one third of the air pollution in the United States.

The research team includes Mario Teisl and Jonathan Rubin of the UMaine Dept. of Resource Economics and Policy (REP) and two REP students, Alice White-Cyr, an undergraduate from Parkman, and Caroline Noblet, a graduate student from Gardiner. Collaborating on the project are the Maine Automobile Dealers Association, Inc., the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the Natural Resources Council of Maine.

As a resource economist, Teisl analyzes consumer labels for clarity, credibility and the potential to affect markets for products and services. Rubin's research focuses on the economic hurdles faced by new technologies such as vehicles that use fuels other than gasoline.

Over the last year, Teisl, Rubin and their colleagues have conducted an opinion survey by mail in Maine and held six meetings with small groups of consumers in Portland, Lewiston and Orono. The results are being used to design an 18-week advertising campaign this spring by bft International, a public relations firm in Portland.

Using broadcast and newspaper advertising, the campaign encourages consumers to consider environmental attributes, such as air emissions and fuel economy, in their car and truck purchasing decisions. The researchers have a website with environmental information, lists of clean vehicles available in Maine and early research results.

Air emissions are related to a vehicle's fuel type and engine efficiency as well as to the fuel consumption rate per mile. Some pollutants, such as nitrogen oxides and other organic gases, can lead to the formation of smog. Smog and soot, or particulate matter, can impair health. In addition, all fossil fuel burning engines emit carbon dioxide which contributes to global warming.

Most participants in the consumer panels said they [do not use the air emissions and fuel consumption information that is available online](#) despite the fact that their search for a vehicle often begins on the Internet. Most participants said they assume that vehicles comply with government regulations that roughly equalize air emissions among different vehicles.

The U.S. EPA's "green vehicles" Website rates vehicles from 0 to 10 based on air pollution and carbon dioxide emissions. Fuel economy figures are also included. All information on the site is provided by auto

manufacturers.

Overall, says Teisl, consumers have more than 120 options for vehicles that achieve better fuel economy and lower air emissions than competitors within the same class.

The researchers have already produced a report, *Designing Effective Environmental Labels for Passenger Vehicle Sales in Maine: Results of Focus Group Research*, that is available as a publication from the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. See report number MR434 [here](#).

UMaine Offers Full Schedule for Summer Courses and Programs

10 May 2005

Contact: Lisa Daniel, (207) 581-3113, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- While thousands of graduating college students have moved off campus at the University of Maine, thousands are flocking back classrooms, summer camps and field seminars soon as part of the UMaine's ambitious Summer Session.

Summer programs involve all of the university's colleges and academic disciplines, from arts and humanities to business, science and technology, as traditional and non-traditional students of all ages pursue extra credit, bolster professional or technical career interests, or take a class just for fun in a subject they've always wanted to explore. "We have one of the most comprehensive summer programs in the country," says Robert White, dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning. More than 500 courses are available on the Orono campus, at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, on-line with a video-streaming option and on television, beamed to more than 100 centers and sites throughout Maine. "We're reaching out not only beyond the borders of the campus, but also beyond the borders of Maine," White says. While 79 percent of summer session registrants are degree-seeking students at UMaine, 21 percent are from other colleges and universities throughout the country, with many looking for professional development and career advancement. Between classes, summer camps and conferences, the Orono campus bustles with as many as 20,000 students and conference visitors. More than 5,200 students have registered for summer session so far -- a number White expects to rise above last year's record-setting 7,200 registrations. "All UMaine credit-bearing courses are offered in 18 different calendar sessions beginning the Monday after commencement through August," he says. Morning, afternoon and evening classes are offered in sessions of three, five, six and eight-weeks, staggered from May 9 to Aug. 19. Educational opportunities run the gamut from summer camps for young people in sports, adventure, arts, music and engineering to professional development courses for school teachers and specialty workshops and seminars in ecology, natural history and history-related arts. Some of the learning takes place on the coast, for instance, at the Darling Marine Center, the university's marine laboratory near the mouth of the Damariscotta Estuary or the Humboldt Field Research Institute in Steuben. Graduate and undergraduate courses are available. More information about the UMaine summer programs is available by calling the division in Chadbourne Hall on the Orono campus at (207) 581-3143 or visiting the web site at <http://dll.umaine.edu/summer>. Additional information also is available through the division on such things as career interest, research, study skills, tutoring information, time management and academic and educational counseling.

UMaine Teacher Education Programs Require Laptops for Students

10 May 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine has taken the lead in ensuring that the teachers it graduates are ready to appropriately and creatively use technology as they take on their own classrooms and increasingly computer savvy young pupils. The UMaine College of Education and Human Development is the first teacher preparation program in the state to require that students working toward Maine teacher certification have a laptop computer and specific educational hardware as part of their tools for learning. The College's Teacher Education Faculty recently approved the new policy, effective with incoming Fall 2005 students.

With Maine public schools wired for Internet access and laptops provided to seventh and eighth graders and their teachers through the Maine Learning Technology Initiative, the state has made the commitment to build

technology-rich classroom environments and instruction for its public school students, said College Dean Robert Cobb.

Education Week, the national newspaper for K-12 educators, noted in its May 5 Technology Counts report that Maine is one of just three states that have a state-sponsored student laptop program in place. The other two states are Michigan and New Mexico. The report also ranked Maine among the states that require technology coursework for initial teacher certification and that have technology standards for teachers and students.

"Nothing in our history has energized educational reform like the opportunities and possibilities of technology, and Maine is setting the standard," said Cobb. "Clearly, it is essential that aspiring teachers understand and know how and when to use wireless laptop technology in the teaching and learning process."

The Teacher Education Faculty has chosen Apple iBook as the designated computer and software because of Macintosh's commitment to technology designed for educational use and innovation, and to align with the laptops available through the Maine Learning Technology Initiative. In addition, Education faculty members say the Macintosh package is less vulnerable to viruses.

Beginning in Fall 2005, first-year students entering the College and planning to major in Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Early Childhood Education or the Kinesiology and Physical Education Teacher Certification Option, will be required to have the designated computer and software prior to the beginning of the 2006 academic year. Incoming Education majors in Fall 2006, including Master of Arts in Teaching degree students, must have an Apple iBook and specified software as first-year students.

The College has worked to gain a substantial iBook purchase discount for students. As a required component of the Education program, computer purchase qualifies as a "Cost of attendance," and various loan options exist through the Office of Student Financial Aid. Students may also apply for low-interest loans from the University of Maine Credit Union. The purchase discount on the Apple iBook is also available to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the College's non-certification programs.

"The Teacher Education Faculty, in recommending Macintosh products, believes they are best designed to fit the professional education needs of our students and to literally link them to the type of technology that seventh and eighth graders and many other students and practicing teachers in Maine public schools are successfully using," said Education faculty director James Artesani.

The College initiative also has a built-in professional development component to ensure that faculty integrate technology into their instruction and have the ability to assist students in using technology, according to Artesani. Students will use their laptops and Apple software in many methods classes, for conducting research, creating instructional plans and investigating curriculum, as well as for teacher candidacy portfolios and other functions, he said.

A recent survey of students in the College shows that 97 percent of respondents own a computer, and 39 percent own a laptop. Fifty-one percent responded that the College should require students to have a computer, and 61 percent said they would purchase a Macintosh laptop if a significant discount were offered. Thirty percent of undergraduates and 13 percent of graduate students in the College responded to the on-line survey.

More information about the laptop initiative is available on the College's website: www.umaine.edu/edhd.

UMaine Helps Middle School Girls Explore Math, Science Careers May 12

10 May 2005

Contact: Rani Gould, (207) 581-1259, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Hundreds of Maine middle school girls will spend a day at college May 12, learning about math- and science-oriented careers historically pursued by males.

Coming from all corners of the state, more than 300 girls will attend the University of Maine's 19th annual

"Expanding Your Horizons" program to get a look at more than a dozen math-science career fields. With fun, hands-on experiments, students will learn about the physical makeup of grease-fighting dish detergents, non-point source pollution; "stacking" liquids of different densities; art through CAD (computer-aided design) engineering modeling software; creating art with mirrors and geometry; discovering the beauty and diversity of "ocean flowers" -- seaweeds and phytoplankton; solar-powered, photosynthetic sea slugs, or "leaves that crawl;" and how astronauts handle water in space.

The day's events were rescheduled from March 1, when a snowstorm forced a postponement. "Expanding Your Horizons" has been coordinated for the past seven years by the University of Maine Women's Resource Center with support from the Office of Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. It is a one-day event designed to increase the interest of girls in mathematics and science through hands-on experiences, foster awareness of opportunities in math and science careers, provide young women opportunities to interact with positive female role models active in math and science careers, and provide opportunities for young women to explore gender socialization and equity issues in a supportive environment.

Visiting students can choose among a variety of 45-minute workshops and will have a chance to tour UMaine's new Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology, with a new state-of-the-art "clean room" laboratory so tidy that scientists wearing special white suits perform molecular research in a hyper-ventilated, dust-free environment.

The girls will be mentored by almost 200 teachers from their schools, professional women from UMaine and the community, as well as university students.

A keynote presentation and welcoming remarks by physics professor Susan McKay begins the day at 9:15 a.m. at Room 100 lecture hall in the D.P. Corbett business building behind the Maine Center for the Arts. Registration starts at 8 a.m.

Workshop sessions are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., with lunch available in the Memorial Union from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Ceremonies reviewing the day's activities are scheduled from 2:30-3 p.m. at Room 100, D.P. Corbett. Workshops will be held in classrooms and laboratories throughout the campus, but clustered around Jenness, Murray, Neville, Barrows and Sawyer buildings.

Visitors also will have an opportunity to tour university research facilities, including the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Laboratory, the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Electron Microscopy Laboratory in the Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology.

Schedule of Events:

Expanding Your Horizons (EYH)
University of Maine
May 12, 2005

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration/Check-In
Donald P. Corbett Atrium

9:15 --9:45 a.m. Welcome
Keynote- Susan McKay, UMaine Professor of Physics
Donald P. Corbett, Room 100

10:00- 2:15 Workshops (see workshop schedule)
Various locations on campus

11:00- 1:00 p.m. Lunch
Marketplace- Memorial Union

2:30- 3:00 p.m. Closing & Evaluations
Donald P. Corbett, Room 100

3:00 p.m. Conference ends

For questions pertaining to EYH, please call Rani Gould at 581-1259 (available prior to and during the day of the conference).

Expanding Your Horizons Workshop Schedule

May 12, 2005

Workshop & Presenter Location Time(s)

Bubble-ology

Alyse Volovick- Math Instructor at Warsaw Middle School

Students will learn the fighting action of everyday dish detergents based on principles of the scientific theory, data analysis, and the elasticity of bonds; all with an experiment of blowing bubbles. Tough on grease, not on your brains!

(103 Murray)

10:00 -- 11:00

12:00 -- 1:00

1:15 -- 2:15

Creative Design Using CAD

Karen Horton- Associate Professor at UMaine

Participants will use the CAD (computer-aided design) and modeling software MicroStation to create and color their own designs. They will be able to export an image of their design to email for themselves or for a friend.

(318 Boardman)

10:00 -- 11:00

12:15 -- 1:15

Going with the Flow

Laura Brothers- Graduate Student/Research Assistant, School of Marine Sciences at UMaine

The workshop will feature an introduction to the concept of density. Participants will identify factors that contribute to a liquid's density, then experiment by "stacking" liquids of different densities and observing the different outcomes. Students will then observe the circulation associated with density gradients in an aquarium. We'll briefly discuss where this type of density driven circulation might occur (anywhere in the ocean, estuaries, etc.).

(101 Bryand Global)

10:00 -- 11:00

11:15 -- 12:15

1:15- 2:15

Mirrors, Geometry and Art

Susan McGarry- Lecturer in Mathematics at UMaine

In this workshop, we will explore the mathematics of some popular art and use our discoveries to create some art of our own!

(131 Barrows)

10:00 -- 10:45

11:00 -- 11:45

Ocean Flowers: Exploring the Beauty and Diversity of Seaweeds and Phytoplankton

Jessica Muhlin- Ph.D. candidate in Marine Biology at UMaine

Participants will explore the world of marine algae (both microscopic and macroscopic) and have an opportunity to learn a few of the common seaweeds in the Gulf of Maine, as well as look at phytoplankton under compound light microscopes. There will be an opportunity to press a specimen of seaweed, starting your own algae collection.

TBA 10:00 -- 10:45

1:30 -- 2:15

Non-Point Source Pollution: A Little Goes a Long Way!

Jean MacRae- Assistant Professor at UMaine

We will "pollute" a model of the Penobscot watershed and have a rainstorm, then see what happens to the pollution. We'll discuss where it comes from, what it does in the environment, and what we can do to prevent problems. (17 Boardman)

11:00 -- 11:45

1:30 -- 2:15

Solar-Powered Sea Slugs

Mary E. Rumpho-Kennedy- Professor at UMaine
Dr. Farahad Dastoro- Research Associate at UMaine
Mr. Jared Worful- Graduating Senior at UMaine

The fascinating world of photosynthetic sea slugs, or "leaves that crawl", will be explored. These very green mollusks steal chloroplasts from algae and then live like plants using the energy of sunlight. Students will work in teams to isolate and separate the pigments from sea slugs and various algae and plants to determine a possible source of the stolen chloroplasts.

(184 Hitchner)

10:00 -- 11:00

12:00 -- 1:00

1:15 -- 2:15

Water is Essential in Space

Robin Kennedy- Challenger Learning Center

Victoria Baker- Flight Director

Water is essential for life on earth and in space. The students will learn about the process astronauts use to clean and store water in space. The students will create a filter and try and clean contaminated water. (180 Hitchner) 10:00 -- 11:00

1:20 -- 2:20

Tour of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center

Carmen Cherry & Olivia Sanchez

(Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center) 11:15 -- 12:00

1:30 -- 2:15

Tour of the Advanced Manufacturing Center

Scott Dunning- Professor & Coordinator of Electrical Engineering in School of Engineering Technology at UMaine

(Advanced Manufacturing Center) 11:00 -- 12:00

Tour of the Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology

George Bernhardt- Research Scientist & Radiation Safety Officer at UMaine

10:00 -- 10:45

1:30 -- 2:15

International Journalism at Home"--Noted Journalist David Lamb to Keynote Maine Center for Student Journalism's Newspaper Contest on May 11

09 May 2005

Contact: Shannon E. Martin at (207) 581-1281; Sundari Pai at (207) 581-1939

ORONO -- This year's keynote speaker at the 12th Maine Center for Student Journalism annual newspaper contest conference is international journalist and UMaine graduate David Lamb. The conference, sponsored by the Maine Daily Newspaper Publishers Association and the University of Maine Department of Communication and Journalism, hosts about 150 high school students from across the state. The conference this year will be held Wednesday, May 11, at the Donald P. Corbett Business Building on UMaine Campus.

David Lamb's travels as a journalist and author took him to more than 140 countries and to all seven continents. He covered the Vietnam War, the Iranian revolution, the overthrow of Idi Amin in Uganda, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the African famine, the Rwanda massacres, the Persian Gulf War, the popular uprising in Indonesia in 1998, the anarchy in East Timor in 1999, the war on terror in Afghanistan and Iraq and many of the other major stories of the past three decades. During a career with the Los Angeles Times that spanned 34 years, his reporting was nominated eight times for a Pulitzer Prize.

Lamb is the author of "The Africans," "The Arabs: Journeys Beyond the Mirage," "Stolen Season, A Journey through America and Baseball's Minor Leagues." "A Sense of Place: Listening to Americans," "Over The Hills: A

Midlife Escape Across America By Bicycle," and "Vietnam, Now: A Reporter Returns." His articles have appeared in numerous publications, including "National Geographic," "Readers Digest," and "Sports Illustrated."

Lamb was a Nieman fellow at Harvard, an Alicia Patterson Fellow, a writer in residence at the University of Southern California's School of Journalism and a Pew fellow. He now lives and works near Washington DC.

His topic for the 2005 conference is "The Foreign Correspondent: Making Sense of the World."

Class of 1934 Cultural Affairs Fund

23 May 2005

Contact: Heidi Carlow, 581-1512

Administered by the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee

Objective:

Income from the Fund shall be used to support cultural activities in arts, drama, literature, or music for the enjoyment of University students, faculty, staff, and friends.

Guidelines:

1. Who may submit applications? On-campus organizations. Proposals for events that showcase the creative work of students and/or faculty are especially encouraged. The committee may, at its discretion, restrict submissions from organizations that have recently received awards.

2. How does the proposal process work? The CA/DLS committee shall consider applications during its regular meetings. For the Fall 2005 competition, \$15,000 in Class of 1934 monies will be available for 1 or 2 awards.

3. Where will events take place? Campus locations, including the Maine Center for the Arts.

4. Amount of awards: No more than half of the total budget for an event.

5. Typical budget items: Honoraria; expenses to bring artists to campus and house them; production expenses; publicity.

6. Expenses not covered: Out-of-state travel or presentations; shipping costs; equipment purchases; salaries/stipends for on-campus personnel; receptions.

7. Mode of payment of award: Invoices to administrator (Heidi Carlow; 1-1512) of CA/DLS committee.

8. Acknowledgement: All printed materials used in association with activities supported by the fund shall acknowledge the Class of 1934 Cultural Affairs Fund.

9. Information and proposal guidelines for Class of 1934 Fund: available from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee by contacting Heidi Carlow, President's Office, 200 Alumni Hall , 581-1512; carlow@maine.edu or from FirstClass conference for the Committee. Co-chairs of the committee are Fran

Organic Herbalists to Speak June 1 at Page Farm & Home Museum

20 May 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-4100, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum brown bag lunch lecture June 1 will feature organic herbalists Nancy Lowry and Roseanna Rich from Indian Meadows Herbals, LLC, a small Downeast company that produces home-grown salves, balms and creams.

The one-hour program, which begins at noon, is free and open to the public.

Lowry and Rich founded Indian Meadow Herbals (<http://www.imherbal.com>) at their 102-acre farm in Eastport in 1994 and grow 90 percent of the organic herbs used in their skin-softening or medicinal products. They use no preservatives, isopropyl parabens or synthetics, they say.

"We engage in no practices that harm the environment," the women say in their promotional materials. "We actively cultivate endangered plant species for use in our products, and to replenish the supply in the wild."

In addition to producing commercially available skin-care products, five of which are designed to address symptoms of menopause and PMS, Lowry and Rich also offer public education about the nutritive value and proper use of herbs. They explain the herbal lore of more than a dozen herbs and berries, ranging from Echinacea, yarrow and golden rod to garlic, raspberries, blueberries and roses.

Information or directions to the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus is available by calling (207) 581-4100 or [visiting the museum website](#).

The museum also has its own herb garden, with more than 100 herbs, spices and flowers.

Sports Done Right Sessions Scheduled May 25, 26

19 May 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- More than 50 Maine school districts representing nearly 160 communities will send school-community teams to the University of Maine to learn more about the Sports Done Right interscholastic athletics reform initiative during a free training session on Wednesday, May 25. The workshop runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Wells Conference Center.

Through various activities, participants will become familiar with the Sports Done Right core principles and practices, receive ideas on how to develop a local sports philosophy and action plan, and discuss potentially controversial issues or concerns that might arise.

The special session is in response to the tremendous interest expressed by schools that couldn't make the time and staff commitments required of pilot sites but want direction on beginning the process to create and sustain positive sports programs. Schools from Alfred to Fort Kent, Bethel to Machiasport and all in between are sending teams to the May 25 meeting.

Pilot Site Meeting

The 12 pilot site teams will meet Thursday, May 26 for their second training session. This meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Maine Principals' Association Conference Center in Augusta. Pilot site teams will report on their first informative community event, discuss their action plans, and hear presentations on policy development and the initiative's research component.

Media are welcomed to attend both Sports Done Right sessions and are asked to contact Kay Hyatt so that packets and lunch will be available.

UMMA Summer Art Camp June 20 - Aug. 12, 2005

09 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

The Museum of Art is pleased to offer the 7th annual Summer Art Camp for students entering grades 1 through 8. Sessions run from June 20th through August 12th and are divided weekly by grade levels. Each camp session meets from 8:30 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and is taught by a certified art educator. The mornings will be actively spent creating art in the museum classroom as well as viewing and learning about the exhibited art in the galleries. The last day of each session will include an "Exhibit Opening" of the children's masterpieces!

CAMP INFORMATION:

Time: 8:30 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Dates: June 20 -- 24 1 & 2 Grade

June 27 -- July 1 3 & 4 Grade FULL

July 18 -- 22 5 -- 8 Grade

July 25 -- 29 5 -- 8 Grade

August 1 -- 5 1 & 2 Grade

August 8 -- 12 3 & 4 Grade

Tuition: \$115 (includes all materials); Members of the Museum of Art at the Family level and above will receive a discount.

Please call 561-3350 or visit www.umma.umaine.edu for more information. Sessions are limited to 9 children and fill up quickly, so register early!

University of Maine Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person.

No charge: Museum Members, UM students w/ ID.

Directions:

From the North

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 4th light (1.2 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185, Broadway (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15.

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2.

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street).

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Three Being Honored at 2004-2005 Daring to Dream Awards Ceremony May 19

18 May 2005

Contact: Alan Parks, 581-1236

ORONO --Three individuals will be honored Thursday, May 19, by the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies for outstanding vision and leadership that contribute to advancing the rights of people with disabilities and their families.

The Daring to Dream Awards luncheon will be held Thursday, May 19 in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The awards were initiated in 2002 as part of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies' 10th anniversary celebration. The first award recipients were recognized for their contributions in laying the foundation for the establishment of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies at UMaine. The

awards today recognize people who have made outstanding contributions toward making the dream of inclusive communities a reality for individuals with disabilities and their families.

Commemorative stained glass award displays are handcrafted each year by local artisan Lisa Raven.

The 2004-2005 award recipients and their awards are:

Mary McElroy, M.Ed., Lawrence High School (Fairfield) special education teacher, the Social Change Award for vision and leadership that promotes social change to advance the rights of people with disabilities. She is a resident of Palmyra.

Richard Aronson, MD, MPH, Maternal and Child Health medical director at the Maine Bureau of Health, Department of Health and Human Services in Augusta, the Public Policy Change Award for vision and leadership promoting public policy changes to advance the civil rights of people with disabilities. He is a resident of Hallowell.

And Rene Jahiel, MD, Ph.D., president of International Health Policy Research in Hartford, Conn., the Scholarship Award for vision and leadership in scholarship that formulates Disability Studies policies and practices.

Jahiel also is the keynote speaker for the event. A member of the American Public Health Association Governing Council, president of International Health Policy Research, lecturer in the University of Connecticut Graduate Program in Public Health and acting president at the Ecole Libres des Hautes Etudes in New York, Jahiel's address is titled "Dreaming In and Out of Public Health."

The Community Advisory Committee also will hold its 2005 Annual Meeting after the awards luncheon.

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies is Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research and Service. CCI assists people with disabilities throughout their lives, from early education to the elderly, in areas that include early intervention and education, childcare, health, employment, housing and other areas related to full community participation of individuals with disabilities.

UMaine's Danny Williams Wins 2005 Hartgen Award

16 May 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Danny Williams of Orono, a long-time and enthusiastic supporter of music and arts at the University of Maine, is the 2005 recipient of the annual Vincent A. Hartgen Award.

He has been involved in promoting the arts and music programs on and off the UMaine campus for many years, according to Leonard Minsky, chair of the University of Maine Patrons of the Arts organization. Williams, Minsky says, "is more than eminently qualified for the Vincent A. Hartgen Award. His enthusiasm for the arts is legendary."

The Hartgen award is an honor bestowed annually by the Patrons of the Arts since 1999 on individuals who distinguish themselves in advancing the community of the arts on campus. Hartgen, who died in 2002, founded the University of Maine Art Department in 1946 and co-founded the Patrons of the Arts.

Williams grew up in Bangor, earned a Bachelor of Arts in music and a Master's degree in higher education administration at UMaine and now is director of Annual and Reunion Giving at the UMaine Alumni Association.

An original advisory board member of the Maine Center for the Arts, Williams co-chairs the center's Gala Committee and has or continues to serve on several other MCA committees. He also is a member of the American Choral Directors Association, and has been the music director for several School of Performing Arts productions, including "Pump Boys and Dinnettes," "Kiss Me Kate," "Cabaret" (where he also played the role of

Herr Schultz), and "The Rocky Horror Show."

Williams was a founder of the University of Maine Black Bear Men's Chorus in 2001, of which he is music director. The chorus is composed of almost 50 men from the UMaine campus and surrounding communities and performs regularly as part of the School of Performing Art's annual concert series. Williams also directs "The Landlords," a small men's glee club, which performs regularly for area civic groups and community organizations. He also sings with the St. John's Chamber Choir in Bangor.

As an undergraduate at UMaine, Williams was in six different performing ensembles, and was among the original group of eight men who reintroduced the Maine Steiners to campus after a 20-year hiatus. For his involvement and contribution to UMaine in the performing arts, Williams received an Outstanding Achievement Award in Arts and Communications both as an undergraduate and graduate student. He remains the only UMaine student to have won the award at both degree levels.

For the past four years, with his colleague Liz Downing and wife Emily Cain, a state legislator from Orono, Williams writes and directs a show performed by UMaine students at the Stillwater Society Dinner -- which, through song, recognizes and honors up to four prominent UMaine alumni.

In program notes for the Patrons of the Arts annual awards ceremony in April, MCA director John Patches wrote that "Danny has been a valuable asset to the University of Maine arts community and the Maine Center for the Arts for close to a decade. In particular, his leadership and commitment to the area of arts outreach has allowed literally thousands of young people to have an artistic experience who may not otherwise have such an opportunity."

Last year's Hartgen award winner was Janet Rourke of Orono.

Graduate Student Focuses on More Accurate Fisheries Modeling

16 May 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, Michael Errigo didn't have many chances to fish. He tried his luck once at the end of a city pier but didn't catch a thing. Now, the tide may have turned for the University of Maine Ph.D. student in the School of Marine Sciences (SMS). Errigo has received a three-year fellowship from National Sea Grant and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to work on fisheries population dynamics, the science that underlies much of fishery management and regulation.

Errigo will work with SMS fisheries modeler Yong Chen on a new model that Chen, post-doctoral researcher Minoru Kanaiwa and Carl Wilson of the Maine Department of Marine Resources developed for lobster in the Gulf of Maine. He plans to expand his focus to include cod, herring and other commercial species. Larry Jacobson, adjunct professor at UMaine and a research fishery biologist at the NMFS office in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, will serve as a mentor on Errigo's project.

Errigo's proposal received the top ranking for the national fellowship program, says Chen. It addresses the potential management problems that can arise from systematic errors in environmental and fisheries data. Such data are a critical ingredient in models that assess the abundance and condition of fish stocks. Possible biases in the data can affect management plans, fishery quotas and other aspects of fishery regulation.

Sources of error include uncertainties in environmental trends and changing technologies used to monitor the environment and fish harvesting. Errigo will use computer simulation and analyses to understand how these so-called "structured errors" affect the results of fishery assessment models. He will also study data collection, modeling and policy approaches that reduce the risk associated with such errors.

Notice that his proposal was funded was music to Errigo's ears. "It was really exciting, almost like getting the word that I had received support for coming to UMaine a year earlier," he says. A graduate of the University of Rochester with a master's degree from Boston University, Errigo received a Provost Fellowship to come to UMaine in 2004.

It was a summer experience at the University of New Hampshire's Isle of Shoals marine research station during his undergraduate years that convinced him to pursue a career in marine sciences. "I was the only one who was excited to get up at 4 a.m. and go out into that cold water. I was having a great time," he laughs.

After receiving his master's in 2001, Errigo worked at the New England Aquarium in Boston, giving tours and presentations to school children and working on a sustainable fisheries initiative. When he initially considered graduate work in fisheries population assessment, he found that he lacked the background in mathematics and statistics. Prior to coming to UMaine, he spent a year taking math courses at Framingham State College.

Errigo sees computer programming as his biggest personal challenge. While he has become intimately familiar with the thousands of lines of computer code in the Gulf of Maine lobster model, he prefers to be on the front lines of fishery management, "working on applied problems and helping people," he says. Eventually, he hopes to work in a government agency balancing the health of fish stocks with the needs of the fishing industry.

"I don't think we should shut fisheries down completely in the name of preserving the stocks. We need to keep in mind the people who make their livings in the industry," he says.

Errigo plans to complete his degree program in 2008.

UMaine Student Newspaper Delivers Three Journalism Awards

16 May 2005

Contact: Rick Redmond, (207) 991-1543, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Campus, the University of Maine's student newspaper, recently collected a first place and two second place awards in a national collegiate competition in Stamford Conn. in April.

In the Society of Professional Journalists' Region 1 "Mark of Excellence Awards" competition, the UMaine twice-weekly newspaper picked up first place for Best All Around Non-Daily Newspaper and a pair of second place awards for Spot News and In-Depth Reporting for stories written in 2004. The Maine Campus shares Region 1 with colleges and universities in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Other Region 1 finalists included Penn State, Yale, Quinnipiac, Northeastern, Norwich, Boston, Syracuse, Hofstra, Fordham, Rowan and Southern Connecticut State universities, Emerson, Ithaca, Smith, Boston, Mercy Hurst, Lyndon State, Lebanon Valley and Washington and Jefferson colleges, and Indiana State University of Pennsylvania and University of Hartford. "There was some pretty stiff competition from some pretty big schools," says Rick Redmond, who was news editor last year at The Maine Campus. Prizes were awarded on articles and newspaper samples from 2004. "It doesn't matter how big the university is," Redmond notes. It's the talent and dedication of your staff. It's inspiring that we can compete and hold our own in the big leagues." The Maine Campus typically is staffed by 30-40 students serving as writers, editors, photographers, artists, production personnel and advertising salespeople. Many, but not all are journalism majors, according to Redmond. Some, for instance, bring skills from sales and marketing classes, or photography. The newspaper pays some staff members and others volunteer their services as a way to get experience in the newspaper business, Redmond says. Winning awards "looks great for the university and it's something writers can put in their resumes," Redmond says. "The writers and photographers work hard all year and it's rewarding to get some recognition for that." The newspaper is managed entirely by students. While there is an advisory board, which includes faculty from the UMaine Department of Communication and Journalism, there is no faculty or administration oversight. Students learn their journalism skills from journalism courses and from each other, says Redmond, a member of the Class of 2005 who most recently has been the news director for WMEB student radio on campus. The editor in chief for the 2005 fall semester is Matt Conyers. John Sherblom, chair of the communication and journalism department, says reporters and editors at the student newspaper learn the fundamentals of writing and reporting from classes that cover topics including ethics, fairness, accuracy and objectivity, in addition to basics of news reporting. "I'm impressed with the awards," Sherblom says, "but I wasn't surprised when I saw the names. They're all capable of producing good writing." The first place award for Best Newspaper was an overall award. The spot news award was for the story, "Bumstock Security Investigation," written by Redmond. A team effort led to the award for in-depth reporting for a series, "Race and Diversity at UMaine," by writers Tracy Collins, Jackie Farwell, Redmond and Matt Shaer. A list of award winners and categories is listed on the website. Regional finalists now advance to a broader national competition to be held in Las Vegas in October, Redmond says.

Maine Center for Student Journalism Newspaper Contest 2005 Winners

13 May 2005

Contact: Shannon E. Martin Ph: 207-581-1281; Sundari Pai Ph: 207-581-1939

ORONO -- The 12th annual student journalism conference organized by the Maine Center for Student Journalism was held on May 11 at the D. P Corbett Business Building on the University of Maine campus. The theme of the conference was "International Journalism at Home," with world renowned international journalist David Lamb delivering the keynote address. About 120 student journalists and advisors from across the state gathered at the University of Maine campus for the event.

The conference included 11 morning workshop sessions conducted by journalism professionals, and afternoon announcement of the winners of the newspaper contest for high school students of Maine. The ten contest categories were in news writing, editorial and opinion, feature writing, layout and design, photography, sports writing, writing for the arts (reviews), editorial cartoon, general excellence and a new entrant category for newspapers entering for the first time. Eleven schools from all over Maine participated in the conference and nine schools participated in the newspaper contest.

Award winners of the contest included:

General Excellence, judged by Andrew Russell and Dieter Bradbury of the Portland Press Herald, First, Casey Dunn & Kaitlin Walmsley of The Roar from Bangor High School; Second, Entire Staff of The Roar from Biddeford High School; Third, Entire Staff of Ramblings from Deering High School.

New Entrant, judged by Kathy Olmstead, Associate Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Kay Hyatt, Communications Coordinator from College of Education and Human Development, First, The Rampage from Bangor High School; Honorable Mention, entire sixth grade student body of Clipper Times from Thomaston Grammar High School.

News Writing, judged by Jeff Ham, Portland Press Herald, First, Zak Boisvert & Jess Maurice of Ramblings from Deering High School; Second, Kara Mackeil of The Roar from Biddeford High School; Third, Chris Ludden of Wells Street Journal from Wells High School.

Photography, judged by EJ Hersom of the Sanford News, First, Andrew Cadorette of The Roar from Biddeford High School; Elizabeth Mitchell of Latitude 44 0 from Edward Little High School; Tie on Third Place, Andrew Major of Inside from Orono High School and Tristan Taber of The Rampage from Bangor High School.

Editorial and Opinion Writing, judged by Mary K. Rust Rossi, retired consultant and Robert J. Rossi retired President of Park Newspapers, Virginia, First, Tasha Smith of Eagle Times from Bonny Eagle High School; Second, Christy Catsos of The Cape Insight from Cape Elizabeth High School; Third, Colleen Hagyard of Ramblings from Deering High School.

Writing for the Arts, judged by Christopher Smith, Bangor Daily News, First, Liz Michaud of The Cape Insight from Cape Elizabeth High School; Second, Alex Boutin of Ramblings from Deering High School; Third, Adam Davis of Inside from Orono High School.

Sports Writing, judged by Kevin Sjoberg, Star Herald, First, Laura Cluff of Wells Street Journal from Wells High School; Second, Mindy Meisner of Ramblings from Deering High School; Third, Casey Dunn of The Rampage from Bangor High School; Honorable Mention, Gordan McGrath & Reid Hansen of The Cape Insight from Cape Elizabeth High School.

Editorial Cartoon, judged by George Danby, Bangor Daily News, First, Pat Harpin of Inside from Orono High School; Second, Shawn Cole of Ramblings from Deering High School.

Feature Writing, judged by Robert Wallack, Farmington Chronicle, First, Clark Young & Ben Porta of Ramblings from Deering High School; Second, Sam Danis of The Roar from Biddeford High School, Third, Betsy Caron of Wells Street Journal from Wells High School; Honorable Mention, Kaitlin Walmsley of The Rampage from Bangor High School.

Layout and Design, judged by Brian Hewitt, York County Coast Star, First, Christy Catsos of The Cape Insight from Cape Elizabeth High School; Second, Daniel Murray & Ryan Cota of Inside from Orono High School; Third, Miranda Pollard of Wells Street Journal from Wells High School; Honorable Mention, entire staff of The Roar from Biddeford High School.

Batik, Collage Featured in Hudson Museum "Layer Upon Layer" Exhibit

27 May 2005

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1901, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The artwork of Jeanne Seronde Perkins, an artist from Mount Desert Island who works with batik, collage and primary shapes, is currently on exhibit at the University of Maine's Hudson Museum.

Working with hand-painted or dyed mulberry paper, hot wax, crayon, glue, silk, watercolor and materials collected from nature, including birch bark, Seronde Perkins reinterprets ancient primary shapes -- variations of circles, squares and rectangles that occasionally incorporate calligraphic forms. "Layer Upon Layer," which will be on exhibit until July 8, features 27 works.

Born and raised in New England, Seronde Perkins attended Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana from 1973-1975. She lived in Florence, Italy from 1979-1981 and spent four months in Japan in 1982. She has resided in Maine since 1982 and currently lives on Mount Desert Island.

Museum director Gretchen Faulkner says that Seronde Perkins' work fits within the themes of The Hudson Museum collections well.

"She draws inspiration from the cultural traditions that are represented in the museum's collections, and we're pleased to have her work at The Hudson Museum," Faulkner says.

Faulkner notes that, unlike busier times of the year when parking can be difficult, summer is a good time to visit the museum. There usually is plenty of convenient parking near the museum. Visitors can get temporary parking permits from a variety of locations on campus, including Public Safety, the campus Visitors Center, the Memorial Union and The Hudson Museum.

The museum can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-1901. The Hudson Museum is free to visit and is open Tuesday through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays.

Sea Kayak Visibility Studied

26 May 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571.

BAR HARBOR, ME-- A sea kayaker a mile out to sea is not clearly visible from shore. The same principle holds true on the water: if a lobsterman is working traps a mile away from where a kayaker paddles, chances are the lobsterman will not know the kayaker is there.

Beyond a mile, kayaks are hard to see, regardless of the wave height or weather conditions.

That was the most definitive result of a recent visibility study conducted on the Maine coast. Maine sea kayak guides joined with the U.S. Coast Guard and, with support from Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine, volunteer paddlers, and Coast Guard Auxiliary, tested kayak visibility. They did three trials in different locations under varied weather conditions and tested a dozen homemade and

commercially available radar reflectors on three different radar platforms.

The most important discovery was that kayaks one mile from the radar platform are rarely visible on radar, whether or not they have radar reflectors. However, results changed under a mile where the presence or absence of a radar reflector mounted on the kayak or kayaker made a difference. Considering that a motorboat traveling at 15 knots covers one-quarter nautical mile in 60 seconds, this may make the difference between boater safety and an accident.

Results show that radar reflectors need to have lots of angles in order to reflect radar signals. Typical reflectors have metal plates angled like a tetrahedral. This is an impractical shape for sea kayakers who are low on the water and risk injury from sharp objects attached to the boat. Reflective cloth material built into existing paddling equipment, such as the paddle float, yielded disappointing results.

According to Paul Travis of the Maine Association of Sea Kayak Guides and Instructors, "Kayaks by design present a low profile and are generally not detected reliably on radar. Reflector height is an important factor in generating quality returns."

For the kayaker, radar reflectors currently on the market are cumbersome at best, unsafe at their worst. So paddlers need to be creative in devising ways to be detected. The reflector yielding the best results (at one-eighth and one-half mile) was a homemade foil hat reflector.

While reflectors help make kayakers more visible on radar within the less-than-a-mile range, the responsibility for avoiding collision is a two-way street. Tuning the radar unit is an art in itself and radar, if the motor vessel has it, is only effective if it is watched.

"In the ocean environment," stresses Al Johnson, the First Coast Guard District's recreational boating specialist, "whether you're a commercial or recreational boater or sea kayaker, it is imperative to always know your location, the status of vessels in your area, and your course of travel."

For more information about the radar reflector study, visit [here](#).

Publication Honors Agriculture, Nutrition Advocate Anne Johnson

23 May 2005

Contact: Kathryn Olmstead, 581-3844, Patty Henner, 581-4100, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Middle schools throughout Maine recently received a booklet titled "Maine: A Place to Grow," a collection of articles about Maine agriculture released this month in memory of the author, Anne S. Johnson of Orono.

Johnson, who died in December, was a co-founder of the Orono Farmers Market, the Maine School Garden Network and was a constant advocate for small farms and alternative food production.

The booklet contains five articles originally published in the Bangor Daily News in 2003. The "Newspapers in Education" series contains historical, geographic, statistical and scientific information about the state's agricultural products -- from vegetables, fruits and berries to livestock. Two articles focus on buying locally and on creating school gardens. The booklet also contains five lesson plans prepared by instructor Mary D. Bird of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development.

The public is invited to a reception to celebrate the release of the booklet Wednesday, May 25, from 4-6 p.m. at the Page Farm and Home Museum at UMaine.

Anne Johnson was a former dietitian and manager of dining hall programs at the University of Maine who encouraged the use of local Maine produce and vegetarian offerings in the cafeterias. She was passionate about good nutrition for young people and sustainable farming.

A member of the Education Committee for the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, Johnson organized the Maine School Garden Network to give children hands-on experience in food production. When the Newspapers in Education program published the series in 2003, 40 educators were listed with the Maine School Garden Network. By the time "Maine: A Place to Grow" was published in 2005, that number had grown to 400.

"Anne was instrumental in mobilizing a very exciting garden movement in Maine schools and communities," Bird says. "She saw the need for kids to learn more about where their food comes from and also about how to make healthy choices about their food. She also saw that there is a lot that can be learned in a garden that can be useful in schools."

As of this year, the number of Maine schools with student-managed gardens had increased substantially, and gardens are being planted at five elementary or middle schools in Bangor, and in Bath, Belfast, Brunswick, East Corinth, Freeport, Islesboro, Machias, Old Town, Orono, Portland, Waldo, Waldoboro and Wiscasset.

School gardens are planted both indoors and out, and even in a greenhouse in a retrofitted school bus on Mount Desert Island, according to Bird. In Belfast, a student-managed garden yields about 4,000 pounds of produce annually and is sold to the local school cafeterias and also serves the local food ban.

The booklet is "a product of friendship," says Kathryn Olmstead, journalism professor and booklet project coordinator. "Anne was extremely dynamic and dogged about things. You knew when she knocked on your door you would be involved in something."

Mary Jo Sanger of Orono and a project coordinator with Olmstead, says the compilation of Johnson's articles provides teachers and students in the schools a permanent reference that can be updated as agricultural techniques advance.

"At least teachers have a starting point," Sanger says, "and hopefully knowledge about the past and inspiration for the future. And it's not just about agriculture, as such, but looking after the environment and the part students can play in it -- and not having to just depend upon what comes out of stores in plastic packages."

"Maine: A Place to Grow" will be available on the Bangor Daily News "Newspapers in Education" web site and on CD through the Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine, as well as in the booklets distributed to schools with Maine agricultural study projects.

Mary Bird will oversee the Maine School Garden Network, which now includes seasonal newsletters and semi-annual conferences.

The network has become "an opportunity for child health and nutrition advocates, teachers, gardeners and agriculture specialists and community leaders to collaborate," Bird says. "It's very exciting to attend the MSGN conferences and see this wonderfully diverse array of people all working together to make gardens healthy places for children to grow and learn. The energy when these people get together is truly amazing and it's all due to Anne's energy, imagination and commitment."

Spaghetti Bridge Breaking Competition at UMaine

23 May 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Students from Monmouth Academy will put spaghetti noodles -- Delverde perciatelli #6, to

be precise -- to the test during the third annual Spaghetti Bridge Breaking Competition at the University of Maine on May 25. The event will be held in Boardman Hall, room 8, from 9:15-10:30 a.m.

Thirty Monmouth students, including freshmen, sophomores and juniors, are working in pairs to design and build bridges, according to Jeff Gosselin, Monmouth Academy math teacher. Perciatelli is a thick hollow pasta, and students must use Elmer's glue to bond individual strands. Bridges must be at least three inches high and span at least five inches. They can weigh no more than one pound.

Last year's winning bridge held 6 tons before breaking, and the four runners-up held more than three tons. "These bridges were exceptional in that most bridges do not get to this level. I hope this year's constructions live up to their hype. I suspect a few definitely will," says Gosselin.

Bill Davids of the UMaine Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering Dept. will be the host.

The University of Maine Museum of Art celebrates Ansel Adams

23 May 2005

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352

ART EXHIBITION July 15 -- October 8, 2005

Bangor, Maine - Inspired by the 100th anniversary of Adams's birth in 2002, George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film revisited its extensive collection of Adams's work, creating a new exhibition of 150 photographs that reflects Adams's full career. Ansel Adams: Celebration of Genius will be on view at the Museum of Art from July 15 - October 8, 2005.

ANSEL ADAMS: Celebration of Genius

In December of 1955, Vincent Hartgen, the founding director of the museum had the prescient vision to organize an exhibition of Ansel Adams photographs. The Museum of Art was the first institution in Maine to exhibit Ansel Adams, long before he gained the reputation his work enjoys today. Fifty years later, the exhibition Ansel Adams: Celebration of Genius will be presented at the University of Maine Museum of Art from July 15 through October 8, 2005. The exhibition consists of over 100 works, including Adams lush early photographs of Yosemite, many of his most famous images, portraits, still lifes, and abstracts, as well as a portfolio of rarely seen parmelian prints.

Ansel Adams (1902-1984), is among the few photographers in the history of photography whose name and work enjoys world-wide recognition. His stunning landscapes and intimate still lifes of nature continue to enthrall viewers. Many come to know his work through widely published books, postcards, posters and calendars. Relatively few have actually seen his exquisitely-printed images in the original. To do so is to see the genius in both his craft of printing and his artful composition. Adams is a master. Ansel Adams: A Celebration of Genius honors the man and celebrates that genius.

Adams has long been recognized as one of America's premier photographers. Born in 1902, he grew up in San Francisco and was introduced to the expanse of California's Yosemite Valley while on a family vacation at the age of fourteen. At this time he was given a No. 1 Brownie Box camera. These two events strongly influenced the course of Adams's life. Fascinated by photography and impressed with the beauty of the Sierra mountains, Adams worked with a photofinisher in San Francisco during the winter and returned to Yosemite every summer.

As a teenager, Adams worked towards becoming a concert pianist, but by 1930, after viewing negatives made by east coast photographer Paul Strand, he chose instead a career in photography. His decision to become a full-time photographer contributed to the formation of a new vision in photography in the West. Adams, along with other California Bay Area photographers such as Edward Weston, Imogen Cunningham, Sonya Noskowiak, Henry Swift, and John Paul Edwards, founded Group f/64 in protest to the sentimental and imitative style prevalent in the long-standing, turn-of-the-century, photographic trend of pictorialism. The name f/64 refers to the smallest lens opening on the camera through which light passes: images photographed at this setting yield

sharp focus and fine detail of subject matter.

This loose organization of photographers concentrated on exploring what they termed "straight" or pure photography. They emphasized form and texture, rather than soft focus and emotionalism, and translated scale and detail into an organic, sometimes abstract, design. By 1935, Adams published his first book, *Making a Photograph*, which was enthusiastically received. Six years later, his ground breaking Zone System was formulated, which introduced a way for amateur photographers and professionals alike to determine and control the exposure and development of prints for maximum visual acuity.

During this time Adams also became the custodian of the Sierra Club's LeConte Memorial Building in Yosemite. This experience introduced him to an arena that became a driving force throughout the rest of his life—the preservation and conservation of wilderness areas and national parks throughout the United States. He served as a board member and ultimately director of the Sierra Club and as an environmental spokesperson for land protection before Congress. He also conducted annual photographic workshops in Yosemite that combined the appreciation for the land's aesthetic beauty with technical instruction.

The exhibition was organized by the George Eastman House from the 200 Ansel Adams works in their collection.

For additional information please call Kathryn Jovanelli at 561.3350.

Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$5.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

UMaine Public Presentation: How Galaxies are Born

22 Apr 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO-- While telescopes provide new images of far away galaxies, scientists are learning what those galaxies have to tell us about how the universe evolved. On April 28, the public will get a chance to hear from an astronomer who studies galaxies that sometimes bear little resemblance to spiral shaped patterns like our Milky Way.

Debra Elmegreen, Maria Mitchell Professor of Astronomy and chair of the Physics and Astronomy Dept. at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, will give a free public lecture at 7 p.m. in room 101 Neville Hall. Her talk, *A Glimpse of Galaxies at the Dawn of the Universe*, is sponsored by the University of Maine Dept. of Physics and Astronomy and the UMaine Distinguished Lecture Series for the World Year of Physics, 2005.

Elmegreen will describe galaxies observed from a time when the universe was less than one-third its present

age. Such galaxies can have a variety of shapes, such as linear chains and tadpoles.

"Spiral galaxies like our Milky Way have a 2-dimensional pinwheel shape. In contrast, elliptical galaxies have 3-dimensional shapes, and irregular galaxies are less structured. When we view galaxies at high redshifts (farther back in time), we see them as they were when the universe was less than one-third its present age. Such young galaxies often have very different appearances and properties than present-day galaxies," she says.

Images from the Hubble and Spitzer Space Telescopes will be shown to illustrate how galaxies form and evolve, and how their build-up fits into the overall structure and development of the universe.

Elmegreen's research interests include star formation and the structure of spiral and interacting galaxies. She observes in optical, near-infrared and radio wavelengths. She is also the director of the New York Science Talent Search, a statewide spin-off of the national Intel (formerly Westinghouse) competition for high school seniors.

Public Lecture on Native American Origins

22 Apr 2005

Contact: Nick Houtman, Dept. of Public Affairs, 207-581-3777

ORONO--Archaeologist and author Stuart Fiedel will present a public lecture on Native American origins on April 29 at the University of Maine. His lecture, 'Clovis First': Still the Best Theory of Native American Origins, will be at noon in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

Fiedel is the author of Prehistory of the Americas (Cambridge University Press) and numerous articles on North American prehistory, particularly issues relating to the peopling of the Americas. He is most widely known for his commentary on research at Monte Verde, an archaeological site in southern Chile interpreted as showing evidence of human habitation as much as 15,000 years ago.

The UMaine Department of Anthropology is sponsoring the lecture.

Future Teachers Sought for UMaine Academy

14 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761 ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine Future Teachers' Academy is looking for a few Maine high school students who are passionate about mathematics and science and interested in teaching. The free academy takes place June 26-July1 on the UMaine campus. Sponsored by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, the goal of the Future Teachers' Academy is to spark and retain the interest of talented high school juniors and seniors in becoming secondary mathematics and science teachers. There are statewide and national shortages of highly qualified teachers certified in the areas of secondary mathematics and science, particularly the physical sciences. In addition to selected students from Maine, a small group of aspiring math and science teachers from Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy in the Bronx, N.Y., will participate in this fourth annual event. Workshops and discussions about the teaching and learning of math and science, a day exploring science on the Maine coast, a variety of campus experiences, and the opportunity to meet other aspiring teachers are highlights of the Academy. Motivated, in-coming high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply for the Academy and campus experience. The application deadline is May 13. Information and applications are available from UMaine Associate Dean Owen Logue, (207) 581-2485; oj.logue@umit.maine.edu. Students applying should include a recent transcript of grades, a personal essay indicating why they wish to become a teacher, and a letter of recommendation from the high school principal or designated administrator.

UMaine Faculty Member Honored for Scholarship

14 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761 ORONO, Maine -- Elizabeth Allan, assistant professor of Educational Leadership, was honored recently by the American Educational Research Association for her article

"Constructing Women's Status: Policy Discourses of University Women's Commissions." Allan is one of two recipients to receive the 2005 Outstanding Publication Award. The awards were announced April 13 at a reception held in connection with the 2005 AERA conference in Montreal. The national award recognizes publications for making a substantial contribution to the literature and/or practice of higher education -- scholarship that extensively revises knowledge and understanding of a particular problem in the study of higher education or looks at it in a new way. In her article, published in the *Harvard Educational Review* in Spring 2003, Allan explores how discourses -- language and images -- embedded in university women's commission reports position women as victims, outsiders to the structure and culture of the institution, and as being in need of professional development. Her research analyzes the text of 21 commission reports issued at four research universities from 1971 to 1996 and illustrates how discussions of femininity, access and professionalism contribute to constructing women's status in complex ways and may have the unintended consequence of undermining the achievement of gender equity. For example, such reports often refer to "women's issues, concerns and needs," but the perspective from which they are viewed and resulting language and images tend to come from the experiences of women who hold the most advantageous positions of power on a mixed-group committee. Ironically, Allan says, all women get subsumed and homogenized under these blanket terms. "Predominant women's issues," as defined by faculty and professional women, sometimes leave out or marginalize the concerns of the majority of women -- staff members and students -- according to Allan's research. "We should question discourse," Allan says, "because it can limit our thinking and viable solutions to social problems."

Stephen King to Address UMaine Graduates on May 7

21 Apr 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Stephen King, a 1970 University of Maine graduate who has become one of the world's best-known authors, will address graduates, family members and friends at UMaine's commencement, scheduled for Saturday May 7. The event is set for 10:30 a.m. on Morse Field at Harold Alfond Sports Stadium, weather permitting.

"We are so pleased that Stephen King will be with us for this year's commencement," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Not only is he a world-renowned UMaine graduate, he is a loyal and generous friend to this university. His incredible achievements make Stephen a real inspiration, and we all look forward to his participation in this event."

President Kennedy will preside over the ceremony, which will be the 203rd in UMaine history. Some 1,923 people are expected to graduate, including 33 at the doctoral level. This will be the largest commencement event in the university's history.

UMaine will award two honorary doctorates at the May 7 event. Douglas E. Kneeland, a Lincoln native and UMaine graduate whose distinguished journalism career included work as a reporter and editor at the New York Times and Chicago Tribune, will receive one honorary degree. The other will be presented to Andrew M. Shepard, the president/CEO and co-founder of the Maine Winter Sports Center. That organization works to promote Nordic and alpine skiing as a means help with economic development and more active lifestyles in rural parts of Maine.

Stephen King received an honorary doctorate when he addressed UMaine graduates in 1987. His wife, author Tabitha King, also received an honorary doctorate at that graduation.

Dusty Vincent Lavoie of Lisbon Falls is the Class of 2005 valedictorian. He will graduate with a degree in secondary education. Tyler Adam Dunn of Skowhegan, an engineering physics major, is the class salutatorian.

In the event of an untenable weather situation, two commencement ceremonies will be held inside Alfond Arena. A decision as to the venue will be made by 3 p.m. on Friday, May 6. The event will be broadcast live on the Internet at www.umaine.edu.

Operation Community Support at UMaine Baseball in May

20 Apr 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine Dept. of Athletics will welcome Maine citizen-soldiers and their families to a Black Bear baseball doubleheader on Saturday, May 14. As part of UMaine's contribution to Operation Community Support, a statewide effort to recognize and support those who have served during recent military conflicts, admission will be free for any person with a military identification and their spouses and children.

"We all appreciate the sacrifices made in recent times by Mainers who serve our country," says UMaine Athletic Director Patrick Nero. "We are happy to be able to welcome those who have served recently and to invite all current military personnel to join them as our guests for a fun afternoon of Black Bear baseball."

The Black Bears will square off with Northeastern at noon on May 14. In case of a weather postponement, the promotion will be moved to May 21 when Maine will play Binghamton, also at noon.

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Recognizes Outstanding Faculty, Students

19 Apr 2005

Contact: Kathryn Olmstead, (207) 581-3844, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present its 2005 faculty and student awards April 22 in the Buchanan Alumni House on the University of Maine campus.

Dean Ann Leffler will host the award ceremony, scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. in the McIntire Room. She also will introduce faculty members recently promoted to full and associate professor.

Faculty awards will honor outstanding achievement in three areas. Psychology professor Douglas Nangle will be recognized for teaching and advising, English professor Constance Hunting for research and creative activity and history professor Alexander Grab for service and outreach.

The college's Outstanding Graduating Senior Award will be presented to Dawn Norris of Hampden, a double major in sociology and psychology. Physics major Stefan Meister of Dortmund, Germany, will receive the Outstanding International Student Award, and Bethany Sallinen of Rockport will be honored as the Outstanding Graduate Student for her work in psychology.

Nangle, associate professor and director of clinical training for the Department of Psychology, receives high marks for teaching, despite the rigor of his courses. He teaches abnormal psychology, senior seminar, directed research and field experience courses at the undergraduate level and core courses for the doctoral training program, extending his teaching beyond the coursework in one-on-one work with students. A 1986 graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, he received his master's and doctorate degrees from West Virginia University, Morgantown.

Hunting balances her role as a teacher of creative writing with a career as an editor, publisher and literary scholar. Her poetry has been collected into volumes published by Scribner's, the University of Maine Press, the National Poetry Foundation and New York-based Moyer Bell. Choosing to focus on Maine, she founded the Puckerbrush Press in 1971, a one-person operation that has become a forum for Maine writers producing more than 80 books and a biannual magazine, Puckerbrush Review. Her critical essays reflect her interest in writers such as May Sarton and Virginia Woolf.

Grab's commitment to service springs from his specialties as a teacher and researcher, which focus on the history of Europe, the Middle East and the Holocaust. He has delivered more than 50 lectures on the Middle East on campus and throughout the state. An Israeli by birth, he is often interviewed by local media on tensions in the Middle East, as well as the Holocaust. A graduate of the University of Tel-Aviv, he earned his

master's and doctoral degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Norris was nominated by the Department of Sociology for her academic excellence and her talent as a researcher. Her senior thesis explores the political efficacy of individuals at a local homeless shelter, where she worked as a volunteer and conducted 30 in-depth interviews. Her professors praise her intellectual curiosity and eagerness to digest knowledge, as well as her commitment to sociology that extends beyond the classroom.

Meister will graduate with a major in physics and a minor in mathematics. He has done sophisticated experimental and theoretical studies in the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology and earned high praise for his work on a project at National Semiconductor in South Portland. A peer tutor for calculus and mentor for new international students, he led the department's Society of Physics Students, organizing help sessions for undergraduates and coordinating outreach to high schools.

Sallinen is a clinician-scientist whose research examines social anxiety in children and their parents. She has conducted innovative studies exploring the relationship between parental behavior and excessive shyness in children, the results of which have been presented at numerous conferences and published in several papers and a book chapter. Currently on an internship in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Florida Medical School, she has been an effective teacher, mentor and member of the Graduate Student Association at the University of Maine.

Dean Leffler also will announce faculty promotions effective Sept. 1, 2005. Promoted to full professor are Marie Hayes, psychology; Harvey Kail, English; Tom Mikotowicz, theatre; Eric Peterson, communication and journalism; Dan Sandweiss, anthropology; Sandra Sigmon, psychology, Phil Trostel, economics; and Anatole Wieck, music. Promoted to associate professor with tenure are Raphael DiLuzio, new media; Marcia Douglas, theatre; Steve Evans, English; Benjamin Friedlander, English; Jennifer Anna Gosetti-Ferencei, philosophy; Andrea Mauery, art; and Jane Smith, French.

"We welcome the occasion to celebrate these extraordinary members of the liberal arts and sciences community," Leffler says.

UMaine to Celebrate Economic Development Benefits of New Manufacturing and Student Innovation Facilities

19 Apr 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO-- Laying groundwork for Maine's future economy, the University of Maine will celebrate two new facilities that will spur innovation among manufacturers and budding student entrepreneurs on April 22. The university has invited legislators, business leaders and other officials to celebrate the grand opening of the Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) and the groundbreaking of the Student Innovation Center.

Activities get under way at 2 p.m. in a special tent set up beside the AMC which is located just north of the Memorial Union. Maine Governor John Baldacci is scheduled to give a keynote presentation, stressing the partnership between the university, state government and Maine's businesses and manufacturers.

"We are delighted that Gov. Baldacci will join us for this important event on Friday," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "The support we have received from the governor and the legislature in recent years is a key reason that UMaine has been able to make such significant progress in developing the new knowledge that is critical to Maine's economic future. The AMC is a wonderful example of a UMaine facility that has a real and positive impact on current Maine businesses. The Innovation Center will be a place where our student and faculty entrepreneurs can maximize the power of their ideas in a way that will no doubt lead to great things in the future."

Students, faculty members and staff members have been at work in the AMC building since last fall. AMC was created as the result of a \$6 million economic development bond issue approved by Maine voters in 2002 to support job creation and development in Maine. Using state-of-the-art manufacturing and testing equipment, the AMC staff works to support the Maine manufacturing industry, to encourage entrepreneurs by developing

their ideas through the prototype stage and by providing design/build engineering support for research laboratories involved in UMaine's research and development work.

"In addition to providing much-needed and valuable technical assistance in support of statewide economic development, the center creates outstanding opportunities for the students who supplement their studies by working here," says AMC Director Scott Dunning, a UMaine professor of Electrical Engineering Technology. "Those students get real-world experience solving problems typical in a manufacturing setting. They apply the skills they have learned in our programs while using up-to-date equipment to get a full work experience before they graduate." Seventeen students currently work in AMC; as programs expand that number will grow to 35 or 40.

AMC students and staff have completed 175 projects to date, with about half involving clients within Maine and half involving UMaine research facilities.

"Maine manufacturers and others can really benefit from the services we can offer through the AMC," says Larryl Matthews, dean of the UMaine College of Engineering. "Because we can help them through that critical stage where they are developing a new idea or improving on an existing process, the manufacturer can continue to concentrate resources on production. With the AMC's help, Maine manufacturers can simultaneously solve problems and increase their competitiveness."

Friday's event will also include a "virtual groundbreaking" for UMaine's Innovation Center, which is in the final design stages with a planned opening in January 2006. To be located near Jenness Hall, the facility will be funded by an economic development bond that was passed by Maine voters two years ago. The center, which will be unique in Maine, will give students and faculty members the knowledge and tools they need to become entrepreneurs and innovators.

"The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in our community," says Jake Ward, UMaine's executive director of research and economic development. "The Innovation Center will allow us to take a critical next step in helping individuals harness their creativity and develop the workable products and services that will help shape our future economy."

The Innovation Center will encourage entrepreneurship by creating an environment where new ideas and approaches to business can be developed in a supportive community where the necessary resources to facilitate innovation are readily available. The center's programming will include courses, workshops and seminars, some of which are already being taught through existing UMaine programs. It will also provide access to business development assistance and business-related resources both at UMaine and statewide. In addition, the building's design will facilitate creative thinking and the innovative thought processes that will lead to business success.

"Because this program will be interdisciplinary, it will lead to new ways of considering and solving problems," Kennedy says. "We will intentionally mix students from various academic disciplines, so that they can work together to develop ideas and relationships that will benefit from input from people with differing backgrounds and points of view."

Hope Festival Saturday at UMaine

19 Apr 2005

Contact: Ilze Petersons, Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine , (207) 942-9343

ORONO - The annual HOPE Festival, staged locally to celebrate Earth Day, is scheduled for Saturday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 4: p.m. at the University of Maine Field House. The new location will provide a larger venue for the growing number of organizations that wish to participate. It will also bring all the entertainment together on one stage, so that those in attendance can enjoy more of the storytelling, music and puppetry together.

The UMaine Student Environmental Action Coalition and the UMaine Sustainability Office will co-sponsor the event, along with the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine. The event is free and open to the public. Schedule of activities:

10 a.m. Opening with Penobscot Elder Arnold Neptune
10:15 a.m. Singer and Storyteller Jennifer Armstrong
11:15 a.m. Bangor Fiddlers from Bangor High School
12:15 p.m. Storyteller and Songwriter Phil Whitehawk
1:15 p.m. Musical duo Emma's Revolution
2:30 p.m. Juggler Zack Field
3 p.m. The Frog Mountain Puppeteers
3:45 p.m. Doug Crate and the Voices for Peace

The day will feature a variety of environmental craft and activity tables for children provided by the Maine Discovery Museum, Hudson Museum, Windover Arts Center and others. There will also be a 5K Fun Run beginning at 11 a.m., and the University of Maine's solar vehicle team will display their cars along with a hybrid car loaned by Hope Brogunier.

Participants will be able to pick up information from more than 75 organizations working for peace, justice and a sustainable environment. Organizations will sell t-shirts, bumper stickers, pins and crafts. Delicious food, most of it organic, will also be available for purchase.

Volunteers are needed to help with set-up (Friday 12 noon - 6 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.), clean-up (Saturday 4 - 5:30 p.m.), for food concessions and for children's activities (Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.). Call 942-9343 to volunteer.

April 29 Groundbreaking Planned for \$25 Million Student Recreation Center

15 Apr 2005

Contact: Kenda Scheele, (207) 581-1406, Bill Charland, (207) 581-2653; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will hold groundbreaking ceremonies at 1:30 p.m. April 29 in the Stewart Parking Lot for its planned \$25 million, state-of-the-art student recreation center.

University administrators, members of the boards of trustees and visitors, members of the architectural design and construction teams, students and area legislators will be among those on hand for the ceremony, to which the public is invited.

The 86,000-square-foot center is expected to open in 2007 and will "transform campus life for students and employees and the whole community," says Kenda Scheele, associate dean for students. "It's going to be a magnificent facility. This is going to be a one-of-a-kind recreational facility for the state of Maine."

The center will offer additional recreational space and new activities for students, who will no longer have to plan around the university's varsity sports teams which need field house, pool or court time for training. The center will be managed by UMaine Campus Recreation, which is administered through the Division of Student Affairs. Memorial Gym, the field house, pool and Latti Fitness Center are managed by the UMaine Athletic Department, whose priorities are competitive intercollegiate sports teams.

"This will be an exciting new place for students," Scheele says. "They will have an incredible resource available to them. Instead of hanging out in their rooms, we hope they'll be hanging out in the rec center."

The two-level facility, being built east of the Stewart Commons on Hilltop Road, will include:

- . A 12,500-square-foot fitness center, about three times the size of the Latti Fitness Center at Memorial Gym;
- . Three high-school-sized basketball courts and a multiple activity court with rounded corners, recessed goals and dasher boards so it can be used for floor hockey, modified indoor soccer and similar activities;
- . A leisure swimming pool with lap lanes, and amenities such as a spa, bubble bench and sauna;
- . An elevated indoor jogging track;
- . Two racquetball courts, one of which can be converted to a squash court;
- . Three multipurpose rooms suitable for aerobics, yoga, martial arts or Pilates classes;
- . An administrative office suite and a lounge area;
- . Men's and women's locker rooms and an "assisted changing room;"

. And equipment rental operation with gear for outdoor activities, including cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, since the center will be set at the edge of the university's extensive trails network.

Increased athletic and fitness opportunities on campus are expected to lead to healthier lifestyles all around, says Scheele, who refers to studies that show students who use the UMaine Adventure Center consistently tend to do better socially and academically than students who do not.

The new center "will hopefully address a lot of health issues, including obesity, which is a national concern. We're also hoping to make a big difference in the way people are looking at the University of Maine," says Scheele, formerly director of campus recreation. Campus recreational opportunities are among the things students consider when making matriculation decisions, she notes.

Planning of the facility is being done by Brailsford & Dunlavey of Washington, D.C., a national recreation facility planning firm. The design team is Cannon Design architects of Boston and Oest Associates engineers of South Portland and landscape designers Terrence J. DeWan & Associates of Yarmouth. Construction will be performed by Pizzagalli Corp. of South Portland as construction managers.

Brailsford & Dunlavey was the firm that surveyed UMaine students in 2001 and 2002 about what a new rec center should offer, according to Bill Charland, project manager and associate director of UMaine Facilities Management for Construction Administration. Charland says project managers will look to the project to provide jobs for Maine companies.

A scale model of the new center will be on display on April 29 in the FFA room in the Memorial Union.

Report Examines Athletics Enterprise/University Integrity Dilemma

25 Apr 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- How do institutions make decisions that yield the educational, social and economic benefits of a strong athletics program without costs to academic and moral integrity? That's the central dilemma explored in the book *Who Calls the Shots? Sports and University Leadership, Culture, and Decision Making*. The way university leadership pursues and manages this dilemma can either place an institution and its leaders in the forefront of reform or sabotage their credibility, cautions author Suzanne E. Estler, associate professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Maine.

Intercollegiate athletic programs -- fueled by and increasingly dependent on outside forces -- are growing to levels that challenge finances, facilities, reputation and ethics. As external forces such as commercialization, laws and regulations, and public obsession with sports escalate, the incentives to relax ethical and educational considerations also intensify. Too often, Estler says, this arms race to compete and win leads to uninformed decisions and unintended consequences. Even when the institution and its president are intellectually committed, they are still financially constrained, she explains.

Estler, a scholar of colleges and universities as complex organizations, served for a decade as UMaine's director of equal opportunity and Title IX coordinator. In *Who Calls the Shots*, she examines a large body of literature documenting century-long efforts to reform athletics and position them as a positive element of the overall institution. Taking the unique organizational environment of colleges and universities into account, Estler addresses leadership and policy implications from a clear understanding of the dynamics between intercollegiate athletics, campus governance and external factors.

The author doesn't exempt her own Division I-AA institution from being susceptible to the rising and fading of pride that saw the University of Maine win a national hockey championship in 1993, then through a series of unrelated but highly publicized allegations end up on NCAA probation the following year. The UMaine experience exemplified how external forces create what Estler describes as a kind of "invisible hand governing intercollegiate sports almost independently of the institutions they represent" -- a struggle shared with peer institutions across the country and on a much larger scale at bigger schools.

A primer on intercollegiate athletics and the institutions that house them, the goal of *Who Calls the Shots* is to

inform and empower stakeholders, from institution trustees to alumni. Estler approaches the challenge of reforming and "right sizing" intercollegiate athletics from four contexts.

-- Structural: The origins, purposes and politics of men's and women's sports; contemporary governing organizations such as the National Collegiate Athletic Association, National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics, and the National Junior College Athletic Association; and the unique role of football and its culture of masculinity in shaping the foundation and regulation of college sports.

-- Legal and Regulatory: The origins, impact and consequences of NCAA rules, university academic norms and policies, and state and federal laws, with special attention to Title IX prohibiting gender discrimination in education.

-- Social and Cultural: The issues of gender, race, power and privilege from the emergence of men's intercollegiate sports in the post-Civil War era to today's selective recruitment, lack of role models for black student-athletes on campuses, and the role of the media in escalating commercialization and making sports central to American life.

-- Economic: The commercialization of intercollegiate athletics, including how they brought entrepreneurial strategies to colleges and universities traditionally described as isolated ivory towers; pressure to find new revenue to pay for athletics; and the relationship of successful athletics to enrollment and financial giving.

The Title IX section explores the women's movement and debates leading to enactment of the law in the early 1970s. While women's participation in intercollegiate athletics blossomed and remains high, thanks to Title IX opportunities, there were unintended consequences, Estler says. Women's sports became subordinate to the expanding enterprise of men's athletics, and opportunities for women in coaching and athletic administration were reduced. In essence, according to Estler, accommodation to a male model transformed women's sports from its previous educational model and has slowed the progress of gender equity in many dimensions of athletics.

"The stakes are very high when things go wrong in athletics," says Estler. That's why the reporting line for athletics is crucial and complex. Reporting to the president can symbolize greater institutional integration and control. However, it may also communicate status and access elevated above programs more central to the institution's academic mission.

The size and complexity of intercollegiate athletics markets pose another leadership conundrum for campus decision makers to control. "External markets have been increasingly willing to respond to the financial needs of sports programs," Estler writes in the report. "As a result of increased financial autonomy, institutional control weakens even more over an enterprise that critics already view as out of control relative to the college or university's academic mission."

Estler concludes with a series of recommendations to strengthen campus and athletics alignment with the institution's academic mission. For example, campus leadership:

-- Must be clear and consistent in expectations and responses for the quality of the student-athlete experience, ethical conduct and behavioral standards at every level of intercollegiate athletics.

-- Involve athletics staff effectively in the every-day life of the institution, bringing members to see themselves as part of the institution as a whole.

-- Take advantage of key opportunities, such as budgeting and hiring, to articulate the proper place of sports in the institution.

-- Assure that student-athletes of color are an integral part of the institution beyond the athletics department.

-- Apply learning from athletics, such as recruiting a diverse student population or raising graduation rates, to the entire institution.

Estler frames the most important organizational question for campus leaders to keep in mind as they confront issues and choices generated by external forces: As the costs keep rising, how do we maintain the positives of intercollegiate sports without compromising or selling the integrity of the institution?

Campus leaders must be realistic about the increasing commercialization of sports, Estler says. Turning back the clock to an ideal that may well have never existed is not a likely option. Today's modern university must come to terms with the fact that forces supporting the current state of intercollegiate athletics are far more powerful than a single president, athletics director, or even a campus.

Who Calls the Shot s? was written with Laurie J. Nelson, a UMaine graduate student in Higher Education. It was published by Jossey-Bass as part of a series of reports on critical issues in higher education sponsored by the Association for the Study of Higher Education. The book is available from the publisher at www.josseybass.com.

Teacher Formation Gathering Scheduled

03 Oct 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- A workshop to help educators at all levels explore the intersection of life and work is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 4, in Poland, Maine. Led by Richard Ackerman, University of Maine associate professor of Educational Leadership, the daylong teacher formation session is for teachers and others working classrooms kindergarten through college.

"We Teach Who We Are: An Autumn Gathering for all Who Educate" will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hattie Ricker Conference Center, Poland Springs Museum.

Ackerman is a trained Courage to Teach facilitator through the National Center for Teacher Formation in Washington State. Educators from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the University of Maine at Farmington will also help facilitate the session.

Based on the work of Parker J. Palmer and the teacher formation principles outlined in his book, *The Courage to Teach*, the teacher formation program is rooted in the belief that good teaching flows from the identity and integrity of the teacher and makes connections between the renewal of a teacher's spirit and the revitalization of education. The work focuses on renewing the inner lives of teachers and leaders, not on techniques or strategies.

The fee for participation in the daylong gathering is \$30, which includes materials, refreshments and lunch. Scholarships are available on request. Registration deadline is Oct. 21.

For more information and registration, contact Ackerman at (207) 581-3170 or e-mail: Richard.ackerman@umit.maine.edu.

Energy Policies are Focus of 2005 Cohen Papers Forum at UMaine

03 Oct 2005

Contact: Paige Lilly, 581-2665; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Maine favorite son Bill Cohen, former U.S. Senator, Congressman and Secretary of Defense warned the nation more than 15 years ago about a self-indulgent energy policy that had all but forgotten lessons from the energy crisis of the mid-1970s.

His words are as relevant today as they were then.

"In 1973, we found ourselves stretched over an oil barrel - and we vowed to become energy independent," he told an audience during a September, 1990 ship launching at Bath Iron Works. "We preached and practiced conservation knowing that the cheapest barrel of oil was the one that never had to be produced. Within 10 years, our memory and will power faded. Tax incentives for conservation terminated. Big cars returned to our highways, speed limits increased. Consumption soared, discipline died.

"And now," Sen. Cohen continued, "our economy is once again tied to the wildly oscillating prices of foreign oil. . . . I would far prefer to make war on energy waste than war on Baghdad."

The senator's concerns about energy policy forms the basis of the University of Maine's 2005 William S. Cohen Papers Forum on Oct. 5, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House on College Ave. in Orono. The event is free, open to the public and includes lunch. Because space limits attendance to 120 people, reservations are required, according to Paige Lilly, UMaine's Cohen archivist and lead organizer. A few seats are still available by calling 581-2665 or emailing Lilly at paige.lilly@umit.maine.edu.

The Raymond H. Fogler Library, home of the Cohen Papers, has invited a panel of energy experts to discuss and debate the nation's energy policies, and to explore ways to establish energy security for Maine and the nation. The program, "The Promise of Energy Independence," includes a national perspective by speakers Susan Tierney, a member of the National Commission on Energy Policy and analyst for a Boston consulting firm; and Michael Pacheco of the National Bioenergy Center of the U.S. Department of Energy's National renewable Energy Laboratory.

Denis Bergeron, director of the Energy Programs Division at the Maine Public Utilities Commission, will address the Maine perspective on the energy situation with a talk titled "What more can we do with energy conservation?"

Gov. John Baldacci is the luncheon speaker.

A panel discussion, moderated by Charlie Slavin, dean of the UMaine Honors College, will include Beth Nagusky of the Maine Energy Resources Council and the governor's Director of Energy Independence and Security; Dave Wilby, executive director of the Independent Energy producers of Maine, an organization of renewable power companies; and Rob Gardiner of the Conservation Law Foundation and director of CLF's Maine Advocacy Center, a New England environmental advocacy organization.

The William S. Cohen Papers Forum, presented by UMaine's Raymond H. Fogler Library, is intended to raise awareness of the diverse research material in the library's William S. Cohen Papers collection and to provide a forum for public discussion of current affairs based on Cohen's political career.

Cohen, born and raised in Bangor, has been a fierce advocate of energy conservation, alternative fuels research and an aggressive national energy policy, particularly during his years as a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1970s.

Lilly notes that the nation is finding itself in much the same situation as it did prior to and during energy crises of the past. Thirty years since Cohen first made energy policy an issue, experts at the Oct. 5 forum will explore what compromises are needed to fuel the future and gain energy security today. Speakers will address reliable energy sources, biomass conversion and liquid natural gas terminal siting.

The forum is co-sponsored by the William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce, The Honors College, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, UMaine Corporate Affiliates and Duke Energy.

Award-winning Scholar to Lead Writing-Across-the-Curriculum Workshop

30 Sep 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

Writing is crucial and enriches all fields of academic instruction. That's the point that widely recognized teacher and author Patricia Lambert Stock will promote and demonstrate to University of Maine faculty during a writing-across-the-curriculum workshop on Friday, Oct. 21. Stock, professor of writing, rhetoric and American cultures at Michigan State University and founder of that institution's Writing Center, will also give the keynote address at a conference for high school and college writing teachers the following day in Augusta.

Stock's UMaine workshop, "From Experience to Exposition: Genres of Writing and Acts of Learning," is sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence and supported by the University of Maine System Chancellor's Office. It will take place in the main dining room of Stodder Commons from 1-4 p.m. The workshop is free to all UM System instructors and graduate teaching assistants and is open to other college educators for a \$15 fee. Registration should be made no later than Sept. 30 with the Center for Teaching Excellence, 581-3472.

The intent of the workshop is to help faculty improve the way they plan, assign and use writing to support goals in the classroom regardless of the subject being taught and to recognize how writing gets students more engaged in the subject and improves their learning.

"Professor Stock is an absolutely trustworthy theorist/practitioner; everything she supports grows out of her classroom experience, and she is incredibly good at getting dialogue going about important issues in the teaching of writing," says Patricia Burnes, UMaine associate professor of English and coordinator of the First-Year Writing Program.

Before joining Michigan State, Stock taught secondary school English in urban, suburban and rural schools in New York and Michigan and was a faculty member at the University of Michigan and at Syracuse University, where she was also associate director of the Syracuse Writing Program. Currently, she is serving as past president of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and on the Advisory Board of the National Commission on Writing for America's Families, School, and Colleges. Stock has received prestigious awards for her books and articles, including the James Britton Award for "The Function of Anecdote in Teacher Research," and the Conference on College Composition and Communication's Outstanding Book Award for "Moving a Mountain: Transforming the Role of Contingent Faculty in Composition Studies and Higher Education."

The Oct. 23 conference to be held at the University of Maine at Augusta is sponsored by the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Department of Education and the Center for Educational Transformation. Information about that event is available on the Web at <http://www.maine.edu/writers/index.htm>.

Contingent from Mexican University to Visit UMaine

28 Sep 2005

Contact: Joe Carr, 581-3571

ORONO -- Four students and an adviser from La Universidad de las Américas - Puebla (UDLA), a prominent Mexican university, will visit the University of Maine from Sept. 30-Oct. 6. This will be the third time that UMaine has hosted a group from that university, as part of an ongoing cultural exchange program. As a result of these visits, one student from UDLA is currently enrolled at UMaine. Gerardo Blanco, resident director of York Hall, is pursuing a master's degree in Higher Education Leadership.

"UMaine Associate Dean of Students, Angel Loredó, has made it possible for these exchange programs to continue to be so successful. His continued relationship with UDLA and the students here at UMaine is critical to the program's success," says Jose Cordero, interim director of Multicultural Programs and adviser to the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) at UMaine.

The visiting students will have a full six-day schedule of events ranging from experiencing a day in the life at UMaine to Bar Harbor sightseeing. MaineBound, UMaine's outdoor adventure program, will also sponsor a "day on the river."

The highlight for the week is the "Concert for the Americas" to be held in Minsky Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 4. Scheduled in collaboration with the UMaine School for the Performing Arts, the concert will showcase Augusto Bertado Cocotl playing violin and accompanied by Ginger Yang Hwalek on piano. Other students performing will be Angela Thompson and Jennifer Acosta.

UMaine Dean of Students Robert Dana will also host a dinner, which will include a discussion about UMaine's student-centered philosophy.

During their visit to Mexico in the spring, UMaine students will spend time touring UDLA's campus, museums, archeological sites, and will participate in university life in Mexico.

A full schedule of events is available upon request.

Nov. 10 Lecture to Apply Lessons from Vietnam to Iraq War

04 Nov 2005

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- Long time peace activist, attorney and author Jerry Elmer will discuss lessons learned from the Vietnam War that might help understand today's war in Iraq during a Maine Peace Action Committee lecture Nov. 10 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union at UMaine..

Elmer's talk is titled "Vietnam and Iraq: Some Lessons for Americans."

An activist since the 1960s, Elmer refused to register for the draft, a felony crime, during the Vietnam War, and subsequently served as co-director of the Rhode Island Office of the American Friends Service Committee from 1972 to 1987. He has engaged in decades of nonviolent antiwar resistance.

After receiving his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1990, he has served as a partner in a law firm in Providence, R.I. specializing in commercial litigation.

His publications include: "Power Plants and Weapons: The Nuclear Connection"; "Limited Nuclear War"; "Physician-Assisted Suicide: Controversy at the Intersection of Law and Medicine"; "Human Genomics"; and his recent book "Felon for Peace."

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Renowned Eco-Philosopher to Speak in Camden

29 Sep 2005

Contact: Laura Sebastianelli, Adult Program Coordinator, 207-789- 5808; Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center
One Tanglewood Road, Lincolnville, Maine 04849

CAMDEN, ME. --- Eco-philosopher and activist Joanna Macy will speak at the Camden Opera House on Thursday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. A scholar of Buddhism, general systems theory, and deep ecology, Macy will talk about "Taking Heart in Tough Times," focusing on hope and action in a troubled world.

The event is sponsored by the Maine Earth Institute, Audubon Institute at Lesley University, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center. Admission is \$5 and open to the public.

Joanna Macy is a leading voice in movements for peace, justice, and a safe environment. Interweaving her scholarship and four decades of activism, she has created both a ground-breaking theoretical framework for a new paradigm of personal and social change, and a powerful workshop methodology for its application. Opening prior to Macy will be music by Maine performers.

Tickets are available at the door, or in advance at Wild Rufus and Harbor Audio Visual in Camden; Fertile Mind Bookstore in Belfast; and the Second Read Bookstore in Rockland.

Cooperative Extension to Offer Farm Marketing and Promotional Materials Workshop

20 Sep 2005

Contact: Contact: Gleason Gray, Extension Educator
University of Maine Cooperative Extension Penobscot County
942-7396 or 1-800-287-1485(in Maine)

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension of Penobscot County and Coastal Enterprises, Inc. will host "Farm Marketing and Image Building" a three-hour workshop for farmers and value added agriculture producers. The workshop will be offered Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Extension county office, 307 Maine Ave., Bangor.

The workshop will provide information on things like ideas for marketing farm products and the development of farm logos, brochures and product labels.

Participants will learn basic marketing terms and concepts; the value of developing a business and marketing plan; the importance of planning and designing farm promotional materials; and exercises and tools to develop an effective farm image and related promotional materials.

Marketing and promotional materials planning is fundamental for direct sales farm businesses. A well planned marketing strategy along with a professional farm logo and related promotional materials help build and maintain a consistent and positive farm image, resulting in greater consumer loyalty and increased sales.

Gabe McPhail of the Maine Farms Project, a program of Coastal Enterprises, Inc, will facilitate the workshop. McPhail coordinates Image Building Concepts, a program that provides farms with graphic design, logo illustration and other promotional materials.

"Farm Marketing and Image Building" workshops are offered for a materials charge of \$3 per person. The workshops are funded by a grant from the Harvest Fund at Maine Initiatives.

Light refreshments will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring to the workshop: their farm promotional materials and marketing plan. Limited space available; pre-registration is strongly advised. To register for either workshop date or to receive further information, please contact the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Penobscot County at (207) 942-7396 or (in Maine) 1-800-287-1485.

Extension's Annual Beef Conference will Focus on Quality

07 Oct 2005

Contact: Dee Potter, Extension educator, (207) 834-3905 or (800) 287-1421

University of Maine Cooperative Extension
22 Hall St., Suite 101, Fort Kent, ME 04743-7131

PRESQUE ISLE, Me.

New curriculum targets 'girlfighting,' builds allies

06 Oct 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

Orono, Maine -- A new research-based curriculum is targeted to help middle schools change the subtle -- but hurtful -- ways girls fight and bully one another. The goal of "From Adversaries to Allies: A Curriculum for Change," designed by researchers and students at the University of Maine and Colby College, offers strategies for girls to relate to one another and better understand stereotypical messages that often lead to behaviors such as betrayal, exclusion, rumor mongering, teasing and harassment.

The curriculum will be piloted in 10 Maine schools, then evaluated and refined. It is available to any interested school, according to Mary Madden, assistant research professor at the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. Madden and Lyn Mikel Brown, professor of Education and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Colby, are co-authors of the curriculum. They will present a workshop on the project at the October 22 "Girls Will be Girls: A Curriculum for Change" conference at UMaine.

The curriculum is the result of two years of development based on research not only by Madden and Brown, but also on the work of others over the past 25 years who examined the ways adolescent girls interact and express themselves as they struggle to find a place in a culture that overvalues beauty, romance and perfection.

"Girls too often come to see themselves and each other as bodies to be looked at or as girlfriends of popular boys," Madden and Brown point out in the curriculum. "It's not surprising, then, that adolescent girls are most likely to compete and fight with other girls over boys, sexuality, attitude and appearance."

While the subtly of "girlfighting" is often under the radar screen of educators, the pain of targeted girls is obvious to their parents, Madden believes. "What girls do to one another can be awful," she says. "We want girls to understand how the culture sets them up to be cruel to one another through unrealistic images and expectations. This causes insecurity, which girls often divert from themselves by targeting another more vulnerable girl."

This negative cycle can be broken, Brown and Madden say, and that's the goal of the activities presented in the eight-unit, step-by-step curriculum, which begins with creating a facilitated group where girls meet once a week, become an active alliance and learn to challenge damaging attitudes and assumptions about girls and their behavior.

While girls who are allies aren't necessarily friends who hang together outside the curriculum group, they are willing to value differences, understand experiences girls share in common and support the right of girls to be all they can be, according to Madden and Brown. This taking control, they say, is an important social action goal of the curriculum.

The curriculum is intended to run through the school year. More information about "From Adversaries to Allies: A Curriculum for Change" is available from Madden mary.madden@umit.maine.edu, Brown imbrown@colby.edu, or Hardy Girls Healthy Women at www.hardygirlshealthywomen.org. Information about the October 22 conference is available from the UMaine Women's Resource Center, (207) 581-1508.

Video on History of Old Town Showing at Page Farm & Home Museum

06 Oct 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Oct. 12 lunch lecture at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum will feature a video and discussion of the social and economic history of Old Town as told through the memories and experiences of local residents.

"In Their Own Words: Personal Reflections on the History of Old Town" is a 29-minute documentary produced by Old Town resident and video producer Virginia Fortier and UMaine folklorist and Honors College instructor Melissa Ladenheim.

The presentation is free and open to the public. People are welcome to bring along a bag lunch. The program runs from 12 p.m. to about 1 p.m.

Fortier, who was raised in Great Works and serves as a member of the Old Town Museum's Board of Trustees, was the impetus behind the project. Ladenheim wrote the exhibit script and helped produce the video. Kim Mitchell of the Office of University Relations at UMaine provided editing assistance.

The film is interspersed with historical images and 22 hours of filmed interviews with community leaders and long-time residents. Fortier and Jamie Moreira, director of the Maine Folklife Center, videotaped interviews with residents Beverly Spencer, Anna Griffith, Kenneth DeWitt, Herbert Sargent, Joseph Sewall, Ruth Gray, Ruth Littlefield, Eugene Paradis, Howard Merrill, Ted Mitchell and Benoit Bouchard - representing French Island, Indian Island, Academy Hill, Great Works and Old Town proper.

A grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation helped defray the cost of producing the video history.

Copies of the video and DVDs will be available for purchase the day of the lecture.

For further information, please call Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director, at 581-4100.

How Henry Ford's "Village Industries" Helped Michigan Farming Communities is Lecture Topic

06 Oct 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 591-4100, Howard Segal, 581-1920

ORONO - How Henry Ford created a new model of small-scale industrial production, designed in part to help part time farmers in rural Michigan, is the subject of a lecture by UMaine history professor and author Howard Segal at 7 p.m., Oct. 27 at the Page Farm and Home Museum.

Segal will discuss his latest book, "Recasting the Machine Age: Henry Ford's Village Industries." Segal's book recounts the history of Henry Ford's efforts to shift the production of Ford cars and trucks from the large-scale factories he had pioneered in the Detroit area to 19 decentralized, small-scale plants within 60 miles of Ford headquarters in Dearborn.

The visionary who had become famous in the early 20th Century for his huge, technologically advanced and heavily centralized Highland Park and River Rouge complexes gradually changed his focus beginning in the late 1910s and continuing until his death in 1947.

Segal will discuss how and why Ford decided to create a series of "village industries," each of which would manufacture one or two parts for the company's vehicles.

Although he intended that the rural setting of these decentralized plants would also allow workers to become part-time farmers, Ford's plan did not represent a reaction against modern technology. His idea was to continue to employ the latest technology, but on a much smaller scale.

For the most part, it worked. All 19 of the village industries helped save their communities from decline before and during the Great Depression. The majority of workers in the village industries, moreover, appear to have preferred their working and living conditions to those in Detroit and Dearborn.

Segal, a former UMaine Bird and Bird professor, has taught history at the university 1986. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton University and specializes in the history of technology. In addition to "Recasting the Machine Age," his books include "Technology in America: A Brief History," (with Alan Marcus), "Technological Utopianism in American Culture," and "Future Imperfect: The Mixed Blessings of Technology in America." He has also written many articles and essays for both scholarly and popular publications.

Copies of the book will be available for sale at the lecture. Segal will be available for a signing after the lecture.

More information about the free event can be obtained by calling museum director Patricia Henner at 581-4100. The museum is on the Orono campus, just south of the Maine Center for the Arts building.

Art Exhibition Oct. 21, 2005 - Jan. 14, 2006

04 Oct 2005

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352 kj@umit.maine.edu

The University of Maine Museum of Art presents two new exhibitions.

Bangor, Maine - Two exhibitions open the fall season at the University of Maine Museum of Art. No Two Alike ... focuses on quilts created between the 1960s through the 1990s and based on the "Square-in-a-Square" pattern. Created and pieced by artisans from throughout the south, all are part of the 2500 piece collection of quilt collector and scholar Eli Leon. Melonie Bennett features the black and white images of the Gorham, Maine photographer that document the exploits of her extended family with humor and wit.

No Two Alike: African-American Improvisations on a Traditional Patchwork Pattern

Improvisation is a defining and intriguing characteristic of the province of African-American quilting that suggests its African roots. Only in the last quarter of the 20th century has this art form received scholarly and critical attention while much of the genre remains to be explored. No Two Alike: African-American Improvisations on a Traditional Patchwork Pattern features 18 quilts from the extraordinary collection of Eli Leon, a quilt scholar and resident of Oakland, California.

African-American improvisational style is an overall approach to organizing visual space and elements such as color, line and shape - an approach based on cultural preferences and tradition infused with a sense of impromptu innovation. The artists in No Two Alike, 20th century African-American quiltmakers, speak of making the quilts "something of your own," of piecing "something different from somebody else." Each quiltmaker is talking of style, of the individuality and personality expressed through her work. Style as an individual expression is even more pronounced in this exhibit where the organizational focus is on specific improvisations in the "Square-in-a-Square" pattern. The exhibition catalog for No Two Alike includes an essay by Eli Leon which addresses the concept of improvisation, with careful analysis of the design and individual inventiveness of each quilter. His interviews with the quilters also inform the biographies he has written of each of the artists.

No Two Alike, comprised of show quality African-American "Square-in-a-Square" quilts displaying varying forms and degrees of improvisation, is intended as both an exposition and a celebration of African-American improvisation. The quilts in No Two Alike were made in the 1960s through 1990s by 20 quilters, most of whom grew up in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Many of them currently live in San Francisco Bay area, Texas, and Louisiana.

Beginning in 1988, Eli Leon has loaned works from his collection and curated notable exhibitions including Who'd A Thought It: Improvisation in African-American Quilting, Models in the Mind: African Prototypes in American Patchwork, and Something Else To See: Improvisational Bordering Styles in African-American Quilts.

MELONIE BENNETT

Melonie Bennett is a Maine born photographer who has watched her family and friends through the lens of her camera for over 15 years. "My photography is an ongoing visual diary of my family and friends and the times we share together," she writes in an artist's statement. "I developed my point of view growing up on a dairy farm in Gorham, Maine." The humor in her work, along with the deep affection she feels for her subjects, sets

Bennett's candid, black and white photographs apart from those of her documentation peers. These images are intimate invitations into the daily lives of one big and boisterous rural Maine family. Bennett, who emerged on the Maine art scene in the mid-1990s, has exhibited throughout the state, in galleries in New York City, and around the Northeast.

Image Information

Gladys Henry (1906 - 1996)

SQUARE-IN-A-SQUARE, Pieced by Gladys Henry, Freestone County, TX, 1993. Quilted by Irene Bankhead, Oakland, CA, 1994.

Lee Wanda Jones (b 1934)

ROAD TO NOWHERE, Pieced by Lee Wanda Jones, Emeryville, CA, 1988. Quilted by Willia Ette Graham and Johnnie Wade, Oakland, CA, 1988.

Bessie Mae Frost (b 1920)

SQUARE-IN-A-SQUARE, Bessie Mae Frost, Oakland, CA, 1984

Melonie Bennett (b 1969)

BRIDGET, BRITTANY AND WALDO, HALLOWEEN, 2000

Gelatin silver print

For additional information please call Kathryn Jovanelli at 561.3350.

Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. Sunday 11 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

Kathryn Jovanelli

Administrative Associate

University of Maine Museum of Art

40 Harlow St.

Bangor, ME 04401-5102

207.561.3350

www.umma.umaine.edu

Recipients of First President Abram W. Harris Award Led "Sea Change" in Public Support of University Research

05 Oct 2005

Contact: Amos Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, 207-581-5100

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine Foundation will present the first President Abram W. Harris Award to

the "Faculty Five": George Jacobson, Stephen Norton, George Markowsky, Malcolm Hunter and David Smith at the Foundation's Annual Meeting Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005 at Wells Commons. A \$5,000 prize will be shared among the five individuals whose impact on the University of Maine reflects the transformational change made by former President Abram W. Harris who served the University from 1893 -- 1901.

The group, made up of five esteemed UMaine professors, undertook a grassroots campaign, beginning in 1995, to travel across Maine spreading the word about the need for greater state investment in university research.

"The words 'sea change' come to mind when I think of the shift in attitude that came about in Maine regarding the importance of university research and development to Maine's economy. The shift in attitude can be traced back to the efforts of Jacobson and his four colleagues," says Bruce Wiersma, dean of UMaine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

"They had a very strong message that we have a good flagship land grant University, but the state was not making an investment in research and therefore we were not able to bring in enough federal funds to increase the research that could help start up new companies," says former State Senator Mary Cathcart, who credits the work of the Faculty Five for helping the public recognize the university's potential.

In December 1996, George Jacobson met with State Senate President Mark Lawrence and laid out his vision for how university research could help improve the state's economy.

"Maine was not a state that recognized R&D as a valuable expenditure of state government, Lawrence says. "Over the course of time, we were able to persuade the legislature and change this culture to where they saw it not as an expenditure but an investment in economic progress in the state."

The legislature's creation of the Maine Economic Improvement Fund allowed the university to hire world class faculty, graduate assistants and provide seed money for a variety of research projects focused on areas that could have the greatest impact on the Maine economy. In all, between 1998 and 2003, the voters of Maine approved bonds totaling \$204 million directed toward higher education, and particularly research and development.

As a result of the Faculty Five efforts, external research and development funding has increased dramatically at the University of Maine from \$23 million to more than \$50 million dollars - creating research jobs and fledgling companies that will fuel Maine's economic growth into the future.

"University research pays off. People who are entrepreneurial, with great forward thinking ideas, start these companies and succeed. That's what we need," says Cathcart, noting the commercialization activities at UMaine's Target Technology incubator in Orono, a facility that exists to support high-tech entrepreneurial ideas.

The most significant element of Abram Harris' presidency was said to be the long and ultimately successful fight to broaden the scope of the institution and change the name from the Maine State College to the University of Maine. He faced a great deal of opposition, both from influential members of the statewide community and from the legislature to his proposals, but won over both to his vision.

"We would be a very different institution today if it were not for the work of the Faculty Five," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Like President Harris in his time, their efforts really were transformational. We have more patent activity, more license activity, more economic development than all the other research institutions in the state combined. That's enormously important. It is helping the citizens of the state both in terms of practical economic development and keeping young people who are starting their own companies in Maine. The efforts of the Faculty Five to shift the attitudes about the importance of university research and development parallel the impact made by President Harris. George, Steve, George, Mac and David are most appropriate recipients of this award."

The \$5,000 prize will be awarded annually and was established in memory of Dr. Abram Winegardner Harris, with an endowed gift to the University of Maine Foundation from his grandson A. W. "Pete" Harris, III '50 and family friends. A.W. "Pete" Harris, III, UMaine Class of 1950 says his motivation for establishing the award was out of respect for his ancestor, who died when Pete was twelve, and to draw attention to President Harris' impact on the history of the institution. Pete Harris, a resident of Williamsport, PA, will attend the annual meeting of the University of Maine Foundation on Thursday, and be available for comment.

March Joins National Effort to Combat Crimes of Violence Against Women

04 Oct 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Chief Noel March, director of public safety at the University of Maine, has been chosen as one of 30 law enforcement executives from across the country to participate in the National Law Enforcement Leadership Institute on Violence Against women hosted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). this important opportunity will focus on crimes of violence against women high on law enforcement's agenda and institutionalizing exemplary responses by officers at UMaine.

During the three-day institute taking place in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, March, along with other selected participants, will explore innovative approaches for investigating crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking. Additional attention will center around assessing agency performance and sharing challenges and solutions with colleagues.

"This will represent an outstanding opportunity to participate in discussions and learn about the current thinking on issues that are of concern all over the U.S.," March says. "I expect to return better able to help people in our community educate themselves about the law and resources that are available to them."

In an effort to help law enforcement agencies enhance their response to crimes of violence against women, the institute will focus on methods for effective resource allocation to help crime victims and hold perpetrators accountable. the participating law enforcement executives will be engaged in the development of an action plan throughout the institute experience in order to employ new strategies for proactive, coordinated collaboration with their communities upon returning to their departments.

the expenses for participants to attend the institute are covered under a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to the IACP.

ASTROFEST 2005 Saturday at Jordan Planetarium

04 Oct 2005

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341

Title: AstroFest 2005

Event Date & Time: October 8, 2005 - 2PM-11PM

Sponsor: University of Maine Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium and Penobscot Valley Star Gazers

Audience: Families, General Public

Admission: FREE

Location: Wingate Hall University of Maine

ORONO -- ASTROFEST 2005, a free event presented by the University of Maine's Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium and the Penobscot Valley Stargazers, is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 8 at UMaine. Activities begin at 2 p.m. and continue into the evening. Those who are interested in participating should go to the planetarium on the third floor of Wingate Hall. Directions and a full program of events will be available there.

Free Sky Tours offered at the Maynard Jordan Planetarium will offer a look at the splash of colors in the Crab Nebula, take visitors out under the night sky and see what deep space objects look like through binoculars and telescopes.

The amateur astronomers of the Penobscot Valley Star Gazers club will offer a telescope clinic at the Jordan Observatory through the day.

Other activities include a Phun with Physics demonstration show at the UMaine Physics Department, the Solar

Walk through the solar system model, the 3D slide show of the planets, and activities for little hands to explore and discover interesting facts about the space and the sky. There will be free refreshments t at various locations throughout the tour.

The Maynard Jordan Observatory will also be open throughout the day for tours, and host a Star Party in the evening, with several telescopes open to curious observers. The Star Party lasts from 7 p.m.-11p.m if the sky is clear.

Visitors do not have to own a telescope to enjoy the telescope demonstrations. And some topics discussed at telescope talks will be the power and uses of a telescope, how to choose the best telescope for you, and how to shop for one. The club members will gladly offer advice to those who want to better understand their own instruments.

For more information, call 581-1341 or surf the Web to www.umainesky.com/astrofest.htm. Email info@umainesky.com

ASTROFEST 2005

Sponsored by
the Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium
and the Penobscot Valley Star Gazers
Schedule of Activities and Events

SCHEDULE of EXPLORATION:

New Segal Book Explores Henry Ford's "Village Industries

04 Oct 2005

Contact: Howard Segal, (207) 581-1920; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571 (Ed. note: Toward the end of this article, author Howard Segal briefly addresses how Henry Ford's concept of decentralized "village industries" - autonomous components of a much larger entity - could apply to economic development in Maine, New England and similar regions. He is available to discuss these concepts further.)

ORONO, Maine -- History often paints industrialist Henry Ford as the pioneer of highly centralized mass-production in auto manufacturing. A new book by University of Maine history Professor Howard Segal, however, explores the automobile magnate's desired decentralization of his production operations, as represented by Ford's 19 "village industries" outside Detroit.

"Recasting the Machine Age: Henry Ford's Village Industries" recounts the history of Henry Ford's efforts to shift the production of Ford cars and trucks from the large-scale factories he had built in the Detroit area to 19 small-scale plants within 60 miles of Ford headquarters in Dearborn. The visionary who had become famous in the early 20th Century for his huge and technologically advanced Highland Park and River Rouge complexes gradually changed his focus beginning in the late 1910s and continuing until his death in 1947. Although the Rouge plant was a huge complex that was still winning him enormous fame and fortune, Ford became less obsessed with bringing raw materials like iron ore from the Great Lakes into one end of the complex and producing finished cars and trucks at the other. The different village industries were integrally important to Ford's overall operation, Segal observes, as each plant often would be the exclusive manufacturer of a specific part for the company's vehicles. While Ford may well have been motivated to spend great sums of money on village industries in part to prevent unionization at his company, these industrial experiments represented much more than "union busting," says Segal, who first visited Ford's village industry sites in the early 1980s while teaching the history of technology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Village industries were significant examples of profound social, cultural and ideological shifts in America between the World Wars that were not limited to this one notable industrialist, according to Segal. But unlike most others seeking alternatives to large-scale and heavily centralized operations, Ford alone had the money to effect his scheme, which he wished to duplicate elsewhere in America but never did. Segal's book chronicles the development of the plants, their fate after Ford's death, their recent revival as part of Michigan's renewed appreciation of its industrial heritage, and their connections to contemporary efforts to decentralize high-tech working and living arrangements. Although Ford imagined that the rural setting of these decentralized plants would allow workers

to become part-time farmers, his plan did not represent a reaction against modern technology. Instead, the idea was to continue to employ the latest technology, but on a much smaller scale. For the most part, it worked. All 19 of the village industries helped save their communities from decline before and during the Great Depression. The majority of workers in the village industries, moreover, appear to have preferred their working and living conditions to those in Detroit and Dearborn. University of Michigan business history professor David L. Lewis, author of "The Public Image of Henry Ford: An American Folk Hero and His Company," calls Segal's treatment of the subject "the best I have read, going far beyond anyone else's work and being as definitive as we likely shall see. (It) is fair, objective, scholarly and up-to-date." Iowa State University associate history Professor Amy Sue Bix, author of "Inventing Ourselves out of Jobs?: America's Debate over Technological Unemployment," says Segal's book makes a "significant impact on our understanding of Henry Ford's auto industry, America's machine age and patterns of industrial decentralization." Segal became interested in why Ford became so invested, financially and psychologically, in a new model of small-scale industrial production as represented by the village industries, while researching Henry Ford at the Ford Archives in Dearborn. "In the last part of my book I draw many parallels between Ford's plans and those of others -- such as ("Living the Good Life" authors) Scott and Helen Nearing of Vermont and Maine -- in seeking a medium between technological advance and other aspects of 'the good life,' " he says. "I also draw many parallels between Ford's plans and those of decentralization schemes generated by high-tech developments and living and working at home or making large-scale projects into smaller-scale ones, as in Maine." However defined, "the way life should be" is surely a draw for many Mainers and non-Mainers to live and work on a smaller scale than in contemporary large cities," Segal adds. "It is certainly a key component of efforts to lure businesses, industries and well-to-do retirees 'from away.' " Howard Segal joined the UMaine history department in 1986 and also is director of the University of Maine Technology and Society Project and cooperating professor of Engineering. He also is the author of "Future Imperfect: The Mixed Blessings of Technology in America" and "Technological Utopianism in American Culture." "Recasting the Machine Age," published by University of Massachusetts Press, is available in a \$34.95 cloth edition. The book jacket can be seen on the Web http://www.umass.edu/umpress/fall_04/segal.html. Media review copies and requests for printed catalogs should be directed to: Carla J. Potts at potts@umpress.umass.edu.

CBS Correspondent Dan Rather to Present Cohen Lecture at UMaine

07 Oct 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Note: a photo of Dan Rather is available upon request.

ORONO, Me. -- Dan Rather, the CBS News correspondent who served as anchor and managing editor of the CBS Evening News for nearly a quarter century, will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday, Nov. 1 to deliver a William S. Cohen Lecture. The talk is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. in the Maine Center for the Arts.

Cohen, the Bangor native who represented Maine in Congress for 24 years and served as Secretary of Defense in the Clinton administration, will also participate in the event, making introductory remarks before Rather's lecture.

"Dan Rather is one of the giant figures of modern American journalism, and we are pleased that he will visit UMaine next month," says UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy. "Because of the nature of his role during more than four decades in network news, Dan Rather has reported on as many historic and fundamentally significant worldwide events as any journalist ever has. His insights on world events are both timely and informed, and our students, faculty members, staff members and people from the community will benefit from the opportunity to hear his perspectives."

Rather is a Texas native who joined CBS News in 1962, serving first as chief of the network's Southwest Bureau in Dallas. His early assignments included coverage of the John F. Kennedy assassination and Martin Luther King's civil rights crusade. Rather has served as CBS News bureau chief in London and Saigon, and was White House correspondent during the Johnson and Nixon administrations. Since moving to the CBS Evening News in 1981, he has been on the scene at innumerable national and international news events, and has secured some of the most important television interviews of that time. Rather has received nearly every possible broadcast journalism award, including a Peabody Award and several Emmys.

The lecture series is a function of UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce,

established within UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health in 1997. Cohen, who is a former faculty member in the College, donated his collection of papers chronicling his Congressional career to UMaine's Fogler Library when the center was established. In January of 2001, Cohen gave the papers from his time as Secretary of Defense to the university.

Cohen delivered the first lecture in the series in March of 1998; Madeleine Albright, then Secretary of State, followed in October of 1999; retired U.S. Senator and former astronaut John Glenn delivered the Cohen Lecture in May of 2001. Two years later, former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney presented the most recent Cohen Lecture.

The Cohen Lecture was established to bring to UMaine a distinguished speaker with informed perspectives on matters related to international policy and commerce.

Free tickets to the event are available. Those interested in attending should contact the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or 1-800-MCA-TIXX.

Long-time NASA Official to Speak at UMaine Friday; Will Discuss State of the U.S. Space Program

14 Oct 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Aaron Cohen, a long-time NASA administrator who managed the early design and development of the space shuttle, will visit the University of Maine on Friday Oct. 21, as the guest of his friend and former colleague, UMaine President Robert Kennedy. Cohen will present a public talk at 4 p.m. in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, located in UMaine's Engineering and Science Research Center (attached to Barrows Hall).

Cohen worked at NASA from 1962 through 1992. During the Apollo program, he served as manager of the Command and Service Module, among other significant roles that were critical to the success of all six lunar landings. In 1972, he was named Space Shuttle Orbiter Project Manager, a position that gave him key responsibilities in the earliest stages of the space shuttle program. By 1986, Cohen had become Johnson Space Center Director, in charge of approximately 3,600 NASA employees and 14,000 contractor employees. After his 1992 retirement from NASA, Cohen returned to his alma mater, Texas A&M University, as Zachary Professor of Engineering. That's where he met Kennedy, who was vice president for research at Texas A&M.

"Aaron is one of the key behind-the-scenes figures in the history of the U.S. space program," Kennedy says. "He played an important role in helping move the space program through its various stages of development over three decades, as manned space travel became more routine and more scientifically significant. His perspectives on the current state of the space program are timely and are informed by an historical perspective that can be matched by very few people."

Cohen plans to discuss "Apollo 13 and the Space Shuttle," in the context of recent news related to NASA. A new exploration initiative to the Moon and Mars is planned, and NASA Administrator Michael Griffin recently characterized the shuttle and the International space station as "mistakes."

"It is apparent that the U.S. space program is at a crossroads, and it will be interesting to see how events transpire over the coming months," Kennedy says. "Aaron is certain to have interesting insights, and I look forward to hearing what he has to say."

Cohen will travel to Maine from Massachusetts, where he is currently serving as a guest lecturer at MIT. While at UMaine, he will also visit with undergraduate and graduate students, along with faculty members, in the College of Engineering. His 4 p.m. talk is free and open to the public.

UMaine Athletic Training Program Gains National Accreditation

13 Oct 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO-- The University of Maine's new curriculum-based Athletic Training Education program has earned national accreditation ensuring that its graduates are both prepared and eligible for the final step in becoming certified athletic trainers. The designation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), Division 1 status and a planned modern classroom and laboratory facility position UMaine to become a regional player in preparing highly qualified and experienced students for the growing professional athletic trainer job market.

Completion of a CAAHEP-accredited program provides the demanding academic and broad clinical experiences required to take the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) Board of Certification exam. Once graduates of four-year programs pass the skills and knowledge exam, they earn the professional credential of Certified Athletic Trainer. Previously UMaine offered athletic training through an extensive internship program culminated by sitting for the Board exam. However, the NATA determined in 2004 that the accredited curriculum route would be the only way to gain eligibility for the exam.

The Athletic Training Education program is offered through the UMaine College of Education and Human Development. "National certification in any health-related field is a particularly demanding process and properly so," says College Dean Robert Cobb. "This recognition signifies that our program has met those precise standards and stands ready to serve students in an exceptional way."

The anticipated Fall 2006 completion of the Wes Jordan Athletic Training Education Complex will also enhance the quality of the program, according to Cobb. This state-of-the-art teaching and lab facility, housed in Lengyel Hall, will include state-of-the-art classrooms, labs and equipment.

The College began the process of developing coursework and clinical experiences geared to specific NATA requirements and proficiencies five years ago. Sherrie Weeks, Athletic Training program director and instructor, spearheaded the process, working with Associate Dean Anne Pooler. Submission of an extensive self-study and visit by a national review team were also part of the process.

"We took the program through a huge educational reform," Weeks said. "Like other nationally accredited programs, we now have a common curriculum and standards that each student must meet."

Weeks describes the curriculum as progressive, rigorous and science-based. As a Division 1 university with a variety of sports and many athletes, UMaine offers athletic training students excellent opportunities to see and learn how to treat and prevent injuries, Weeks says. Students also gain clinical experience in other settings, such as high schools and allied health care practices.

"The program is a big commitment for students who must spend a lot of time at clinical sites on a daily basis, in addition to coursework" says Weeks.

Thirteen approved clinical instructors -- all certified athletic trainers -- have been trained to oversee the clinical experiences and evaluate students. The program currently has 60 students.

Margaret White, a senior from Harpswell, has seen the changes in the program and its requirements during the past few years. "Classes focus on all aspects of athletic training, including people skills, professionalism, and clinical and assessment skills, as well as current events within the field," she says. "These are all key components for preparing students to not only take the exam but also for experiences once they leave the university."

White, who is president of the Athletic Training Student Organization at UMaine, says she is confident that as a result of the national accreditation, athletic training at UMaine will become one of the more competitive and prestigious programs available on the east coast. While graduate school is an option for White, she is looking forward to obtaining her certification and working "hands-on" in the profession for a while.

The process to meet the national standards has greatly improved the program, and not having to go to another institution to specifically prepare for the exam after graduation is a great relief to students, according to senior Joshua Holman of Island Falls, whose goal is to work with a professional baseball team.

"I know this can be the best athletic training program in the northeast because of the staff and the professional

resources available to students," Holman said. "This program is definitely meeting my needs as a student and is preparing me for a career."

The UMaine Athletic Training Education program's initial certification runs through Sept. 30, 2010.

Writing Center Tutors to Attend National Conference; Peer Tutor Receives Scholarship

12 Oct 2005

Contact: Harvey Kail at 581-3829 or 581-3828;
Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- From October 19-22, representatives from the University of Maine Writing Center will attend an annual conference hosted by the International Writing Center Association and the National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing in Minneapolis, Minn. While there, the contingent will host a workshop entitled "Sex and the Writing Center: Exploring Gender Dynamics in Tutorials." The group, composed of Prof. Harvey Kail, and students Emily Morrissette, Michael King, Christie Nold and Ernest Scheyder, will present findings from an informal study conducted at the writing center this semester. The study analyzed ways in which both tutors and tutees perceive and react to gender differences while engaged in peer tutorials. The workshop will be divided into two segments: A presentation on findings, and small-group sessions to discuss effective methods to address the role gender plays in tutorial sessions.

"The UMaine peer writing tutors are putting together a first rate interactive workshop on gender dynamics in writing tutorials, and we have been given a prime place on the conference program," said Kail, professor of English. "It will put the spotlight on the University of Maine as a leader in writing center theory and practice."

Scheyder, who is from Berwick, Me., was recently honored by the conference organizers with a scholarship to offset travel costs. It was one of five given nationwide.

"I am honored to have been chosen by the selection committee and look forward to representing the University of Maine in Minneapolis," Scheyder said. "Writing is important, and it is encouraging to see UMaine

New UMaine Course Jump-Starts Microelectronics Careers

11 Oct 2005

Contact: Contacts: David Kotecki (UMaine), 581-2248; Penny Collins (NSC), 541-6141; George Manlove, 581-3756

High resolution photos available upon request.

ORONO - Microchips -- the microscopic circuitry that makes iPods, cell phones, computers and cameras work or that can be used for parcel tracking purposes and inventory control -- are hard to see much less design and build.

Because of the complex demands of the job, microelectronics is a challenging, high-pressure field with a shortage of trained electrical engineers in the United States.

A new UMaine College of Engineering undergraduate course in integrated circuit (IC) design, developed cooperatively with National Semiconductor Corporation of Santa Clara, California and South Portland, Maine, will help bridge that gap. "ECE 498, Integrated Circuit Design" gives electrical and computer engineering students unusually early experiences in a field starved for trained personnel while at the same time stocking the labor pool for companies that need them.

"It's a very unique program," says Bijoy Chatterjee, director of Virtual Laboratories at National Semiconductor Corporation in California. "There may be another 10 schools in the world that can do this kind of work at the undergraduate level."

Typically, electrical engineering students are offered the course as graduate students; what is unusual at UMaine is offering such sophisticated training and industry experience to undergraduates.

The new course in integrated circuitry (IC) trains a dozen or more engineering students as juniors and seniors each year in analog design and testing. National will fabricate their designs for them at their South Portland fabrication facility and then return the assembled units to the students for testing. Students in the class also are eligible for paid co-op internships with semiconductor product developers like National Semiconductor and a possibly a job there after graduation.

Participation not only gives UMaine's electrical engineering graduates a leg up on their peers from other institutions; it also helps keep microelectronics jobs in the U.S., Chatterjee says.

"If a student wants to go to work in the industry, it's hard to find somebody with an undergraduate degree who clearly understands what a chip is," Chatterjee says. "It's a plus for us to have students with this kind of training and good for students who have these marketable skills."

The new IC course began this spring.

"If you talk with some of the students, I think you'll find they are fairly positive and they got more out of their theoretical experience by having the practical design experience at the same time," says David Kotecki, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and one of the architects of the program.

The program helps National Semiconductor because it has access through internships to some of Maine's top engineering students, says Steve Swan, operations engineering manager at National Semiconductor in South Portland. He particularly likes Maine students to be a part of that labor pool, since they know what it's like to live and work in Maine.

"Our interest, really, is developing talent locally. We can take a University of Maine graduate and now they can be about two years ahead of their peers," he says.

The work experience gives students exposure to varied career opportunities within the field before they make final career decisions, says UMaine junior Lucas DeLong from Ludlow, Maine, currently an intern at National Semiconductor.

"The co-op has let me get an up close view of thin films process engineering," DeLong says. "I've also been able to learn a bit about other departments so I have the ability to decide that maybe thin films isn't for me and maybe I'd like to give integration or design a try, or maybe work my way up to development. It's a great way to see what you do or don't want to do."

The collaboration also addresses a national issue.

"A lot of chip design is moving slowly outside of this county," says Chatterjee. Engineering students from overseas are filling the limited number of graduate school slots in the U.S., he says. "If our children are going to have those seats, they need to have better skills," he says.

The course and work experience for undergraduates produces better trained, more committed and more marketable engineers sooner, Chatterjee says.

"I know this experience will help me compete," DeLong says. "It's experience in the industry, and that's key to landing any job. It also gives me access to people I can use as contacts or references that I wouldn't have otherwise."

National Semiconductor is a member of the UMaine Microelectronics Consortium, along with Tundra Semiconductor, Fairchild Semiconductor, Analog Devices and Texas Instruments, which provides \$1,500 scholarships for first-year students and \$7,500 scholarships for upper-level students studying science and engineering and who have an interest in pursuing careers in the microelectronics industry.

UMaine's AEWC Center Names Program Manager for Army R&D

12 Oct 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, or Roberta Laverty (roberta_laverty@umit.maine.edu)

ORONO -- Larry Parent, a licensed professional engineer with over 20 years of experience in project management, research and development, and team leadership, has recently joined the University of Maine's AEW (Advanced Engineered Wood Composites) Center as Senior Research and Development Program Manager.

Parent, who has extensive R & D experience, has been awarded three patents and has seven other patent applications pending. He most recently worked with a multinational company engaged in developing processing equipment and systems for the paper industry.

Prof. Habib Dagher, director of the AEW Center, says, "We feel very fortunate to have Larry Parent as the Program Manager for Army R & D. He brings not only strong technical credentials in R & D and process engineering, but he also has a depth of experience in leadership and policy making, goal setting and strategic planning, budgeting, and laboratory facilities management. Larry possesses a unique set of skills that fit perfectly into the AEW Center's Army R & D project".

A 1982 UMaine graduate, Parent will manage a team of UMaine faculty, research associates, graduate and undergraduate students who are working with the Natick Army Soldier Center and the Army Corps of Engineers developing new technologies for U.S. Army force protection.

The center has been awarded a \$6.2 million contract to do R & D to fulfill army needs for protection against rocket attacks, mortar rounds and car bombs. The center is developing composite materials, which provide superior ballistic properties, durability, speed of construction, and detection avoidance. These new materials will be used for affordable lightweight ballistic panel tent inserts, rapidly deployable modular bridges and bunker systems, and rigidified airbeam structures.

In addition to direct Army funding to UMaine, Maine's economy will benefit from this research and development as the project includes composite material suppliers and panel manufacturers from the region as partners. In turn, these local companies will link into the Department of Defense supply chain.

Parent says, "I look forward to working with the Army to identify needs that aren't at this time fully realized and to promote the use of composite materials to meet those needs. I also look forward to leading the AEW team in providing the Army with exceptional quality that will exceed expectations."

Parent, who will be relocating to the Orono area, currently resides in Westbrook with his wife Jennifer and two children, Joel who attends Westbrook High School and Mary Beth who attends UMaine.

UMaine ROTC Heads to Fort Devens' Annual Brigade Ranger Challenge

12 Oct 2005

Contact: Capt. James C. Moreno, Enrollment Officer,
UMaine Army ROTC, Room 112, Armory, 581-1125; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Rangers rank among the most elite pieces of the Army's fighting force. Soldiers talented and driven enough to be part of the group routinely overcome physical and mental challenges to accomplish missions.

A team of cadets from UMaine's Army ROTC program will join dozens of cadets from New York, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island colleges and universities Oct. 14-16 to discover part of what it takes to be one of those special soldiers when they compete in the Eastern Region (ROTC) 1st Brigade's Ranger Challenge at Fort Devens, Mass. The annual event pits 20 schools in a competition aimed at fostering camaraderie and testing individuals' leadership abilities.

Ranger Challenge features the best cadets from participating schools. It covers eight events: the Army physical fitness test, basic rifle marksmanship, construction and execution of a one-rope bridge, patrolling, weapons assembly, orienteering, hand grenade assault course and a 10K road march.

The focus is not so much about individual achievement as it is about team success. Team scores for most events will be the average of individual performances; other events will be based solely on group times.

The Ranger Challenge plays an important role in furthering cadets' development as leaders and future Army officers, says Eastern Region Commander Col. Robert Frusha.

UMaine's Ranger Challenge Team commander is Cadet Michael Keighley, a senior in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health from Wyoming, Ohio. He will have 12 other cadets accompanying him.

Learn about Homemade Master Mixes at Page Farm and Home Museum Oct. 21

07 Oct 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- If daily food preparation is eating up time outside the workplace, the Page Farm and Home Museum has a lunchtime discussion Oct. 21 that might help.

The brown bag lunch session, which is free, open to the public and begins at noon, will feature Susan Henner of the Piscataquis County Extension Office discussing homemade "master mixes."

Master mixes are premixed packages of seasonings, flour, spices and other ingredients that can be apportioned into anything from bread, rolls, biscuits or pancakes to salad dressings or rice seasoning, says Patty Henner, museum director.

"It's very versatile. It's time-saving," Henner says. "One mix can make up to two dozen recipes."

Master mixes can be purchased in various forms and packaging in the supermarket, Henner notes, but a homemade master mix is cheaper and includes only the ingredients the cook wants in it. Having a few master mixes around the kitchen can save time in pulling together a meal quickly with a minimum amount of fuss after a hard day at work, she says.

Presenter Susan Henner has 12 years' experience as an extension service nutrition aide in Piscataquis County, where she works with the "Eat Well Program" and integrates child development and nutrition into educational programming. She brings a creative approach to teaching by making learning fun for both parents and children, Patricia Henner says.

Susan Henner's artistic skills and personal rapport enable her to address the needs of families in a fun, friendly and professional way. Henner also expanded her programming efforts recently to include diabetes education for seniors and the learn-by-mail nutrition series.

The Page Farm and Home Museum is located on the UMaine campus in Orono. Call 581-4100 for more information.

UMaine College Hosts Fourth "Great Conversations

10 Oct 2005

Contact: Kathryn Olmstead at (207) 581-3844

ORONO, Me. -- Memorial Union at the University of Maine will be buzzing with Great Conversations Oct. 22.

Animated conversations will be led by faculty members from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences on topics ranging from the creative economy to the effect of seasons on mood and behavior. Alumni and friends of the university are invited to join one of seven concurrent roundtable discussions. The discussions will start after a light lunch at noon in the Bangor Room.

"Homecoming 2005 is the first anniversary of Great Conversations, and we are delighted it has grown in popularity since Homecoming 2004," said Dean Ann Leffler. Since Homecoming 2004, the college has partnered with the Penobscot Valley Senior College and the UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast to offer Great Conversations in Orono and Belfast.

"Each gathering has generated more enthusiasm for the opportunity to talk informally with liberal arts and sciences faculty members about subjects that inspire their teaching and research," Leffler said. "Great Conversations gives people from the community a taste of the intellectual energy students experience in the classroom."

Topics for the Oct. 22 event are:

The Impact of the Changing Seasons on Mood and Behavior

Sandra Sigmon, Professor of Psychology

Over the past 20 years, considerable research has been conducted examining how the changing seasons affect our mood and behavior. In particular, the interest has been on Seasonal Affective Disorder, a clinical syndrome in which individuals are extremely impacted by the changing seasons. The most common depressive pattern is observed in the fall and winter months with complete recovery in the spring and summer months. What are the symptoms? How can you tell if your experience falls within the normal range or if it is more severe? What kind of changes might you observe? What are the treatment options? How can you cope more effectively with such a cyclical stressor, even if you do not meet clinical criteria for the disorder?

The Necessity of Utopia

Naomi Jacobs, Professor of English

Human beings, always and everywhere, have envisioned a "good place" of peace, plenty, and happiness. But the process of imagining utopias has been dismissed as escapism at best, totalitarian hubris at worst. I would argue that what one philosopher has called "the principle of hope" is necessary to all human progress. Only by envisioning seemingly unattainable ideals can we come to see what's missing in the real and move toward something better. A map of the world that does not include utopia is not worth even glancing at . . . ---Oscar Wilde.

Can We Be Nonviolent In These Times of Terror and Terrorism?

Douglas Allen, Professor of Philosophy

Have violent responses since 9/11 and the Iraq War increased violence and terrorism? Do Mahatma Gandhi and other proponents of nonviolence offer us effective alternative ways of analyzing and dealing with terror and terrorism.

Are we Alone in the Universe?

David Batuski, Professor and Chair of Physics and Astronomy

Astronomical instruments like the Hubble Space Telescope have advanced us from "fuzzy cosmology" to "precision cosmology." For example, we now know that 95 percent of the universe is invisible "dark matter" and "dark energy." What else do we know about the universe that we didn't 40 years ago, and what are the implications of this new knowledge for intelligent life -- both earthlings and all those others who may be out there?

The Creative Economy, Sustainable Development and the Liberal Arts

Tony Brinkley, Associate Professor of English

The strength of the creative economy reflects a community's power to create a prosperous cultural and economic future for itself and for its heirs. The liberal arts are central to this project, to the cultural and economic future of Maine. To link the two is to recognize that economic development without cultural development is soulless, and that cultural development without economic development is impoverished.

The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality: My Research with Healers, Monks, Mystics and Hermits of Eastern Christianity

Kyriacos C. Markides, Professor of Sociology

Is there a Christian spirituality that is mystical, experiential and focused on the fundamental and existential healing of the self? Does this forgotten spiritual tradition that has survived in ancient monasteries of the Christian East share similarities in method and worldview with the spiritual traditions of India and Tibet? What is the relevance of this spiritual tradition for contemporary living? Why has the West ignored this cultural and spiritual tradition?

Living with More than One Language
Kathleen March, Professor of Spanish

Our brains are wired for language, so we are all born ready to talk. Knowing more than one language opens many doors and can take us on many journeys. Yet for some people, bilingualism seems impossible, while for others it happens 'naturally'. Why are some people successful at learning another language while others are linguistic wallflowers? And what happens to those who do assimilate another way of talking? Does something about their way of thinking and acting start to shift? What do second language acquisition, playing the guitar, shooting foul shots and being a star of stage or screen all have in common? (Hint: It's not grammar!)

Admission is free, but reservations are recommended, as seating is limited. Call Kathryn Allan at 207-581-1954 or e-mail kathryn.allan@umit.maine.edu. Detailed descriptions may be found on the following web sites: www.umaine.edu/las and www.mainealumni.com/GreatConversations.htm

UMaine Peer Education Program to "Spread the Word, Not the Virus"--HIV/AIDS Awareness Initiative

10 Oct 2005

Contact: Angela Fiandaca at 581-1397

ORONO- The University of Maine's Peer Education Program, as part of the University Counseling Center, will sponsor a large HIV/AIDS testing awareness event Wednesday Oct. 12 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the University Mall.

Approximately 400 wooden stakes with varying signs attached to them will be placed in the ground throughout the entire length and width of the Mall. The stakes have signs with red AIDS ribbons and a slogan "Spread the word, not the virus" on them; facts about Sexually Transmitted Diseases/Infections (STD/Is) and HIV/AIDS; and headstones constructed on cardboard with red ribbons and terms such as "roommate," "friend," "partner," and others written on them.

This is a kick-off event for the university's first HIV Testing Campaign.

"Because of ongoing issues related to sexually transmitted diseases, we encourage sexually active students to get tested for HIV and other STD/Is," says Angela Fiandaca, a UMaine graduate student who works in the Peer Education Program.

From 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday Oct. 12, Peer Educators will staff a table in front of Fogler Library on the Mall. They will provide free pamphlets, testing information, AIDS ribbon pins, free condoms and personal lubricants, etc. Three Peer Educators will walk around Memorial Union and outside on campus dressed in condom suits/costumes, passing out free condoms and information to encourage students who are sexually active to get tested.

Train-the-trainer workshops are scheduled for the week following the kick-off event with the purpose of encouraging as many student leaders as possible to receive the knowledge necessary to help "spread the word, not the virus." Cards will be handed out on campus. People will write their names on them by encouraging other students to get tested. When students get tested, they can turn in their cards at Bangor STD Clinic, Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN), and Cutler Health Center. The people who encourage others to get tested the most will be eligible to win prizes.

The Peer Education Program is overseeing this project with help from Sigma Epsilon Fraternity brothers, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity brothers, EMAN, Cutler Health Center, and GLBT Services.

UMaine Hosting Creative New Media Science, Art, Technology Collective from Slovenia

07 Oct 2005

Contact: Raphael DiLuzio, 299-0730, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The collective BridA, a Slovenian team of new media artists, will spend two weeks on the UMaine campus, Oct. 13-31, creating a new work as they conduct workshops and public lectures, and creating art from campus resources in science, art and technology, as well as the immediate geographic area and culture of the university.

"The University of Maine is excited to have the Slovenian Artists Collective 'BridA' on campus creating a unique artistic work that combines scientific data and methods, new media technology and aesthetic form," says Raphael DiLuzio, associate professor of new media and coordinator of the event. "As 'New Visualizers,' their focus is to creatively combine and convert methods, data and other aspects of science, art and technology into an engaging aesthetic visual art form."

BridA will give two public presentations, one as an introduction, and the other showing the results of their work. Their work manifests itself as both digital video and audio and analog painting, determined by the data the four-person group assembles. They also will do a gallery presentation of their final work, which includes analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog paintings, at the Clark House Gallery at 128 Hammond St. in downtown Bangor.

Their first public presentation will be Tuesday, Oct. 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Room 165 of the Engineering and Science Research Building. The presentation will introduce the collective BridA, their work and process to the university community and general public.

Their second presentation will be Thursday, Oct. 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium. This presentation will show the results of their two-weeks work on a new creative project. BridA will work with data and information gathered from engineering, atmospheric and quaternary studies, spatial information and astronomical sciences disciplines.

Researchers from these university programs will meet with members of BridA during their stay to provide data sets that BridA will use to "visualize science." According to DiLuzio, one example of BridA's work is converting scientific data to mathematical equations, then using a computer to designate how paint will be applied to canvas.

"It's a truly unique approach to human-computer interface," says DiLuzio. BridA also converts analog information, that which can be seen, sensed or heard, to digital format, an electronic system of code that represents and reproduces sounds, sights or sensations.

Depending on the outcome of the work, the artists plan to present a second exhibit at the Clark House Gallery on Friday, Oct. 28, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Members of BridA are Jurij Pavlica, Klemen Brun, Sendi Mango and Tom Kersevan, who met as students at the Academy of Fine Arts of Venice in the mid-1990s.

BridA describes its artwork this way: "The sense of transforming gathered information into codified notes or modules is the research of new idiomatic expressions. The sources that would generally be used to form an artwork are mathematically converted into sketches, which are not dependant of our temporary perception and instead are a standardized copy of a chosen source.

"The main objective of the research is to intentionally alienate ourselves as artists from the direct construction of the art piece by using different intermediaries, in this example they are measurement instruments and certain scientific methods of statistical gathering of data from the surroundings," the group says. "Even though this system might seem limited basing only on the readings we get from the instruments, on the contrary, it gives a completely different view, ultimately the data gathered and elaborated end up forming the artwork that would not be possible in a more classical manner.

UMaine Specialists to Discuss Energy Forages and Oilseed Crops

19 Oct 2005

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, 207-342-5971

ALBION--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will co-sponsor the 2005 Fall Forage Conference in the Besse Building (Town Office) in Albion on Oct. 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference will include an on-farm demonstration of soybean harvesting, drying and processing.

UMaine Extension Dairy Specialist Gary Anderson will explain the energy components of forage or grain analysis. Anderson will talk about TDN, NEL NSC, fats and oils and what they mean to cows, their rations and related economic issues. UMaine Extension Crops Specialist Peter Sexton from Presque Isle will host a discussion on growing oilseed crops in Maine--soybeans and canola. There has been a lot of interest in these crops, both as a feed source and as a fuel alternative. Pesticide recertification credit is anticipated for this session.

In the afternoon, participants will travel to Henry Perkins' farm to witness organic soybeans being harvested and examine some grain harvesting, drying and processing equipment that Perkins has recently installed. The grain drying system is part of a Conservation Partnership Initiative and Community Food Project being led by the Unity Barn Raisers.

This conference is cosponsored by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP) and the Unity Barn Raisers, through a NRCS/Conservation Partnership Initiative Grant.

Pre-registration is requested and there is an \$8 cost per person for lunch. Lunch will include a going-away party for Chris Reberg-Horton, UMaine Extension

Symposium will Address Drinking Water Contaminants

14 Oct 2005

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971; Alyson McCann, 401-874-5398

PORTSMOUTH, N.H.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will sponsor a symposium on reducing pollutants in well water on Monday, Nov. 14 in Portsmouth, N.H. The New England Private Water Well Symposium is scheduled for 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Portsmouth Hotel.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, approximately 2.3 million people, or 20 percent of New Englanders, rely on private wells for drinking water. This percentage increases to more than 40 percent in the rural states of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. Because water in private wells is not regulated by government agencies, it is up to citizens to make sure that their well water is safe. The ground water in wells is affected by geology, weather, and land-use practices. Contamination of well water is not immediately obvious.

The one-day symposium will open with a talk by Robert Varney, regional administrator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Boston. A keynote presentation by Susan Seacrest, executive director of The Groundwater Foundation, will follow. Seacrest served as consultant to Erin Brockovich, a film in which a single mother stumbles upon a cover-up involving toxic groundwater.

The symposium agenda includes new research on contaminants of special concern in New England including health effects, contaminant analysis, water treatment systems and best practices. There will be three in-depth workshops on groundwater hazards, an interactive session on risk communication strategies, and updates from the New England state drinking water agencies. Continental breakfast, refreshment breaks, lunch and conference materials are included in the registration fee of \$40.

Professionals engaged in research, regulation, Extension, and education on drinking water contaminants are encouraged to attend. The symposium is sponsored by the New England Private Well Initiative, a partnership effort with U.S. EPA-New England, the USDA Cooperative Extension New England Water Quality Program, New

England

County Jail Uses UMaine Extension Training to Reap Savings

14 Oct 2005

Contact: Jennifer O'Leary, (207) 581-3106; Kyle McCaskill (207) 581-3185

AUGUSTA -- Under a warm October sun, Officers John Matthews and Michael Gagnon of the Kennebec County Correctional Facility are supervising inmates in an unusual work project. The inmates are harvesting their own food.

It all started in 1996, when a single acre of land was donated to the correctional facility for inmate projects. Inmates are rewarded for public works projects, earning a one-day sentence reduction for every 16 hours of work. By 2004, inmates tilling a now-15-acre tract produced enough of their own food to save the jail \$8,000 and donate 8,000 pounds of potatoes to local soup kitchens.

While the energies of the county jail staff were instrumental in the development of the food garden project, they also knew when to seek expert assistance. With the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Kennebec County office right across the street, a connection was made. In 2003 Extension Programs Director Marsha Page signed up Chief Randall Liberty and Officers Matthews and Gagnon for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Master Gardener training.

UMaine Extension Master Gardeners receive at least 40 hours of instruction, learning the fundamentals of plant biology, soil composition, insect and disease control, etc. Page believes it was time well spent. Liberty, Matthews, and Gagnon began teaching inmates what they had learned, in the process expanding work program options and reducing the jail food budget.

Joel Seraph, horticultural aide for UMaine Extension Kennebec County office, was one of the officers' Master Gardener instructors, along with university horticulture and agriculture specialists. Seraph says of UMaine Extension's ongoing relationship with the jail, 'They call if they need advice, but the help goes back and forth. Sometimes inmates will come over and take care of our display gardens.'

UMaine Workshop to Explore Working with Culturally Different Families

20 Oct 2005

Contact: Lenard Kaye, 581-3444; Noreen Peters, 941-2347

ORONO - For Maine children being raised by grandparents or relatives other than biological parents, cultural differences can seriously affect the quality of a family's experience with community support services such as schools or social service providers.

How social workers, guidance counselors, teachers and family members respond to and appreciate cultural differences - whether ethnic, racial, generational, geographic or even economic - can be either very helpful or very harmful.

The Maine Center on Aging at the University of Maine and the Relatives As Parents Project (RAPP) Task Force are holding a special workshop Friday, Nov. 4 to raise awareness of familial cultural differences with professionals, parents and relatives involved with what are called "kinship families."

The free all-day workshop, from 9:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bangor Room in the Memorial Union at UMaine, will be of interest to social workers, parents, grandparents and other stakeholders who work closely with children being cared for by relatives when biological parents cannot do so.

Expert speakers and panel discussions will challenge participants to think about how they approach their working relationships with relatives as surrogate parents, says Len Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging.

"We have a growing number of minority cultures here in Maine," adds Barbara Kates, director of Family Connections of Families and Children Together in Bangor, a cosponsor of the workshop. The Washington, D.C.-based Generations United, a national intergenerational membership organization, is funding the workshop.

"Maine children grow up in many different cultures all existing right here in Maine," Kates says. "For example, it is likely that someone growing up in Aroostook County in a high income family where French is the first language will have somewhat different family experiences than someone who grew up in downtown Lewiston in a low income family. Incorrect assumptions about family structure and cultural traditions by social service agency employees working with such families, where relatives are raising the children, can result in miscommunication and inaccurate assessments of parenting effectiveness, according to Kates and Kaye.

"By increasing awareness, participants at this workshop can strengthen their ability to work effectively within the context of each client's values and beliefs towards healthier family relationships," he says. "As a result, participants will increase the cultural competency through which they relate to 'grandfamilies' from diverse backgrounds and build much needed trust and rapport."

Speakers for the workshop, titled "Grandfamilies and Cultural Diversity: Building Cultural Competency," include John Bear Mitchell, a member of the Penobscot Nation, associate director and Native Program Waiver Coordinator for the University of Maine System at the Wabanaki Center at UMaine. Mitchell also teaches introductory courses in Wabanaki history and contemporary issues of human diversity. His workshop talk is titled "Cultivating Diversity in Families: An Understanding of Human Diversity."

Susan Nichols, executive director of the UMaine Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, will moderate an afternoon discussion with panelists Claire Bolduc, Amy Cooper, and Lorraine Haynes - all area grandmothers or aunts with parenting experiences to share - and members of the Relatives As Parents Program (RAAP) Task Force.

"When outsiders are unfamiliar with a particular family's unique cultural identity, the likelihood of assisting those families in meaningful ways is dramatically reduced," Kaye says.

The workshop is part of the RAPP Task Force initiative co-chaired by the University of Maine Center on Aging and Families and Children Together, and funded by a grant from Generations United. The RAPP Task Force is dedicated to making it easier for grandparents and other family members raising relatives to access the same state support services as unrelated foster parents currently do.

To register for the Nov. 4 workshop, contact Noreen Peters at Families and Children Together, (207) 941-2347 or (npeters@familiesandchildren.org).

UMaine Teachers' Conference to Explore Biographies as Insights into the Past

18 Oct 2005

Contact: Liam Riordan, 581-1913; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Sometimes we learn as much about history by looking at details of the personal lives of historic characters as we do from cold, hard facts about historic events.

The University of Maine History Department's 11th annual conference for Maine middle and high school teachers on Oct. 28 will explore that concept as part of its day-long program, "Biography and the Past: Interdisciplinary Approaches and Teaching Strategies."

The annual event, held since 1995, is expanding its scope this year to include a variety of disciplines beyond social studies, the traditional focus. Conference presenters include specialists in American studies, English and literature, folklore, fine art, Native American studies and history, says Liam Riordan, associate professor of history and conference organizer.

The conference draws roughly 100 teachers to campus to participate in a variety of presentations about how to use recent scholarship in the classroom. The conference will be in Wells Conference Center on the UMaine

campus in Orono.

Registration is \$30, which includes morning coffee, tea and refreshments and a buffet lunch at noon. Participants can also receive 0.6 CEU credits for attending the conference by filling out a form the day of the conference and paying a \$5 fee.

On-site registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The first formal event will be a keynote lecture starting at 9 a.m. by scholar Daniel Horowitz, professor of American studies and history at Smith College, whose talk is titled "The Historian's Craft and the Writing of Biography." Horowitz has won prizes for two books with a biographical focus on the 20th century United States.

Afterwards, three concurrent morning panels will address different issues related to biography and how to use biographies in the classroom. Discussion panels are: "Literary Biography in the Internet Age: Bringing Dickinson, Longfellow and Mary Ellen Chase into the Classroom;" "Good and Bad Political Biography: The Pulitzer Prize, Vietnam and Japan;" and "Maine People as Living Archives: Oral Interviews and Biographical Evidence."

The luncheon speaker is James E. Francis, the Penobscot Nation Tribal Historian.

An after lunch poster session from 1:15-2:45 p.m. includes brief presentations and small group discussions on such topics as: "How Teachers Can Use Biographies in the Classroom," "Penobscot Nation Educational Resources," "Culturally Appropriate Wabanaki Classroom Curriculum," "Napoleon," "Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary," "The Stories of Holocaust Survivors," "Living History Museums and the Classroom," "Women Reformers in the Antebellum U.S.," and "Founding Fathers: Great Men and Commoners in the American Revolution."

Classroom resources to examine and purchase will be displayed.

The day ends with an artist-led tour of Robert Shetterly's exhibit "Truth-tellers," [currently at the UMaine Carnegie Hall Galleries](#), at 3 p.m.

Free parking will be reserved in the Corbett Lot near Memorial Gym and Wells Conference Center. Advance on-line registration information can be found at: www.umaine.edu/history/TeachHTYinME.htm. For more information, contact Riordan at 581-1913.

Kyriacos Markides Continues Spiritual Sojourn with "Gifts of the Desert," Third in Trilogy on Christianity's Mysticism

20 Oct 2005

Contact: Kyriacos Markides, 581-2390; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- A chance meeting by young sociologist Kyriacos Markides in the late 1970s with a Christian shaman in Cyprus halted research for a book on international terrorism but ignited a personal passion that has made the UMaine professor of sociology an internationally recognized authority on healers and mystics of Eastern Christianity.

After witnessing several "healings" by what Markides calls a Christian lay shaman or "medicine man," including an accurate diagnosis of an illness accomplished merely by rubbing a photograph of an afflicted woman 7,000 miles away in New York, Markides abandoned the book on terrorism and began a study that has changed his life and academic orientation in the years that followed.

Markides, author of five previous books on the culture of healers, mystics and spiritual elders of Eastern Orthodoxy, has just published his sixth -- the third in a trilogy that explores both the divisions and bridges between Eastern and Western Christianity. Critics say Markides' newest work offers readers an intriguing and accessible examination of the mystical side of Christianity little known to the West, a path to a Christian life that is a balance of the worldly and the spiritual.

A reception and book-signing is being held Friday, Oct. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the University of Maine

Bookstore, which this week received copies of "Gifts of the Desert," published Oct. 18 by Doubleday/Random House. Additional book-signings are scheduled Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. at Borders in Bangor, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. at Borders in the Maine Mall in South Portland and Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Harvard Coop.

"Gifts of the Desert: The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality," is a combination of travelogue, dialogue, social commentary, personal reflection and religious history glued together by Markides' personal 25-year exploration of knowledge and understanding of the mystical traditions and practices of Eastern Christians often overlooked by Western academics and theologians. Using methods of participant observation, Markides has studied Christian mystics and healers since the 1970s, including prolonged stays in monasteries in Greece, Cyprus and the Southwest.

Markides' newest book comes at a time when catastrophic events of recent years, from 9/11 to the tsunami in Indonesia, Hurricane Katrina and the looming threats of new disasters force people from all walks of life to face difficult questions about religion. Additionally, Markides says, political turmoil in the Mid-East raises new questions about the role of religion in a world in which fundamentalists pushed it to dogmatic extremes.

Markides would have us step back and appreciate the foundation of religion and its mystical and spiritual roots. He believes many people in the West, dissatisfied with exoteric forms of religion, are in search of a deeper spirituality.

"I think modern Americans who now are interested in religion and spirituality are really searching for a direct religious experience more so than just learn about ethics. They are craving for direct contact with the divine," he says. "The excessive dominance of rationalism and scientific materialism is no longer satisfying to them, so they yearn for a more experiential path to reality, to God.

"Thanks to the triumph of rationalism the mystical pathways in the western world have been repressed and gone underground and they need to be resuscitated and brought to the surface for a more balanced approach to life," he says.

Markides, who studies and teaches sociology of religion, sociological theory, sociology of mental illness and sociology of violence and international terrorism, began his trilogy with "Riding with the Lion: In Search of Mystical Christianity," (Viking/Penguin, 1996) the beginning of his research into Mount Athos in northern Greece, the legendary and inaccessible peninsula of 20 monasteries and a score of hermitages. It is the home of 2,000 monks and hermits, a place Markides likens to a "Christian Tibet."

"Riding with the Lion" was followed by "The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Orthodox Spirituality" (Doubleday/Random House, 2001) in which he introduces the charismatic Father Maximos, an elder at the young age of 32 and former abbot from Mount Athos. Taking a sabbatical in 1997 to live with and study the ways of the monks of the Panagia monastery in Cyprus, Markides developed a close friendship with Maximos, who agreed to become Markides' mentor, spiritual guide and informant. The book is a chronicle of conversations between himself, Father Maximos and others, including skeptical American scholars who wanted to see for themselves what attracted Markides to this line of exploration and research.

"Gifts of the Desert" picks up where "The Mountain of Silence" leaves off. Markides' pursuit of an even deeper understanding of Orthodoxy takes him to the desert of Arizona, where he stays at a new monastery not far from Phoenix. He also goes back to Cyprus for a reunion with Father Maximos, on a pilgrimage with Father Maximos and other pilgrims to holy shrines aboard a cruise ship on the Aegean Sea, to Oxford University to meet with a revered bishop and academic, and finally to Mount Athos.

In addition to his second trilogy, Markides has written "The Magus of Strovolos: The Extraordinary World of a Spiritual Healer," "Fire in the Heart: Healers, Sages and Mystics" and "Homage to the Sun: The Wisdom of the Magus of Strovolos," all published by Viking/Penguin. Several of his books have been published in 10 other languages.

UMaine Students from 76 Countries Showcasing Tradition at Culturefest 2005

17 Oct 2005

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The 2005 edition of Culturefest, the University of Maine's annual celebration of international and cultural diversity, is set for Saturday, Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the UMaine Field House.

Culturefest activities are designed to provide the community with opportunities to learn about and enjoy cultures from many of the 76 different countries represented by UMaine's student body.

The day includes cultural exhibits with posters, maps, videos, music, art, clothing, games and an international food court where students sell homemade ethnic food. Students from a variety of countries will answer questions about their cultures and traditions.

Visitors also can expect to see a style show featuring students modeling traditional clothing, a talent show including performances of song, dance and various other demonstrations, and even a children's exhibit with activities. Cultures from Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas will be represented.

"This is the biggest international event on campus," says organizer Sarah Joughin of the UMaine Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange. "So often we only hear about countries because of disaster... such as when a tsunami or earthquake hits or in times of famine and war. Culturefest is a great way to learn about the rich cultural traditions behind the faces we see on the news."

Joughin expects more than 1,000 visitors will again come from as far away as central and eastern Maine and beyond.

"As we become a more global society, the public is realizing more and more the need to learn about cultural differences," she says. "This is a unique and rare opportunity to travel around the world in a single day."

The event is free and open to the public. For more information about the 17th annual Culturefest, contact the UMaine Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905 or visit www.umaine.edu/international.

UMaine Homecoming Oct. 21-23

17 Oct 2005

Contact: Bob Potts, Alumni Programs & Marketing
(207) 581-1149 / 1 (800) 934-2586
bob.potts@umit.maine.edu

Welcome Back!" theme captures essence of Homecoming celebration Oct. 17, 2005

ORONO, ME. The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced their schedule of events for their 130th Homecoming Weekend at the University of Maine, Oct. 21- 23, 2005.

Highlights of this year's Homecoming include the Black Bear football game vs. UMass, Saturday at 2 p.m. at Alford Stadium. Two hockey games are also scheduled for Homecoming weekend, Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. Tickets for all athletic events may be purchased by calling (207) 581-BEAR or 1-800-756-TEAM.

Alumni and friends are invited to join the Alumni Association in the "GO BLUE" tailgating tent, located between Dunn & Corbett Halls, Saturday from 11 a.m. through halftime of the football game. Concessions and refreshments will be on sale, as well as face painting and music by the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band. Admission to the "GO BLUE" tent is free and open to the public and all alumni.

A popular attraction each year is the annual Alumni Association Craft Fair & Food Cafe in the UMaine Fieldhouse. Hours are Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-4. Admission is \$1.00; under 12 FREE. UMaine student may enter for free using their MaineCard ID. The Craft Fair, northern New England's largest, features more than 220 vendors offering only Maine-made crafts.

Friday, October 21, the Alumni Association will be presenting the 2005 Spirit of Maine Achievement Award to

Denis Cranston, classes 1990 & 1995. Denis, former executive director of the Eastern Maine AIDS Network, is being honored for his work as a humanitarian.

The Spirit of Maine Achievement Award is given annually to an alumnus/a who has graduated in the last fifteen years and whose "accomplishments, commitment, and initiative in a profession, business, or public service arena reflect the high standards and vitality of the University of Maine." This is the fifth year the Alumni Association has presented the award.

For additional information on UMaine's Homecoming weekend, visit www.mainealumni.com

Forest Hart Sculpture Centerpiece of Nutting Hall Courtyard; Dedication Saturday

18 Oct 2005

Contact: Judy Round, 581-3229

ORONO --The Forest Hart sculpture "Cub Scouts" will be the centerpiece of the renovated Nutting Hall Courtyard at the University of Maine. The revitalized courtyard, which will be dedicated on Saturday morning, is part of a three-year celebration of the 100th anniversary of UMaine's forestry program.

The nine-foot bronze sculpture of three Maine black bear cubs was chosen because it symbolizes forest resources, youth and promise for the future. The base of the sculpture was donated by FreshWater Stone and Brickwork, Inc. from Orland. The family of Earle Bessey, Jr., a 1940 forestry graduate and owner of E.D. Bessey and Son in Hinckley, gifted the placement of the sculpture in his honor. The family has also created a scholarship in Mr. Bessey's name to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the forestry program. Both Bessey and his son Chip are expected to speak at the dedication, which is scheduled as part of UMaine's Homecoming, this weekend.

The courtyard project was funded through private donations from alumni, faculty, students, Maine's natural resources industries and other Maine-based companies. The courtyard will be dedicated on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 9 a.m., in honor of all those who have passed through the University of Maine to study, teach, and advance the fields of forestry and wildlife.

The event is open to the public.

Children and Teens Who Stutter Invited to UMaine "Fluency Fun Day" Workshop

17 Oct 2005

Contact: Marybeth Allen, 581-2403; Nancy Hall, 581-2404

ORONO -- The Stuttering Clinic at the Conley Speech and Hearing Center at UMaine is hosting a workshop and activity day Saturday, Nov. 5 from 1-4 p.m. for children and teens who stutter and their parents.

"Fluency Fun Day" is a free afternoon program designed to promote self-esteem and communication skills for students who stutter and education and support for their parents. Board-recognized specialists in the treatment of stuttering will work with all participant groups, according to workshop coordinator Marybeth Allen, a UMaine speech pathologist and lecturer in Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Activities will be held in the FAA Room in the Memorial Union on the Orono campus.

The event is co-sponsored by the National Stuttering Association. For more information, contact: Marybeth Allen at 581-2403 or Nancy E. Hall, 581-2404.

UMaine Theater Offers "Blithe Spirit" in Renovated Hauck Auditorium

27 Oct 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - For the first performance in the newly renovated Hauck Auditorium, the UMaine School of Performing Arts has conjured up an enchanting play for Halloween weekend, complete with seances, ghosts and mischievous mayhem.

Written in 1941 by British playwright Noel Coward and directed by Marcia Joy Douglas, associate professor of theater, "Blithe Spirit" was the longest-running comedy in British Theatre for three decades. Plotted around the central role of a spirit medium Madame Arcati, one of Coward's best-loved characters, the play is an escapist comedy about relationships on both sides of the grave.

The play runs Oct. 28, 29 and Nov. 3-5 starting at 7:30 p.m., and Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. Prior to curtain time on Sat., Oct. 29, there will be a short ceremony to commemorate the refurbished auditorium.

Speakers delivering short remarks at the 10-minute ceremony preceding the Oct. 29 performance include Douglas, who also chairs the theatre and dance division of the School of Performing Arts, Kathryn Olmstead, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Doug Gelinias, former associate vice president for academic affairs and associate professor of botany, since retired, who was instrumental in acquiring funding for renovation. Emily Gammon, student president of Maine Masque, also will offer a brief statement as a ceremonial ribbon is cut to mark a new era for the 41-year-old Hauck Auditorium.

Admission is \$8 for the general public. UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard. Please call 581-1755 for more information.

Maine Spruce Gum Industry Poised for a Revival?

26 Oct 2005

Contact: Kathryn Hopkins, 207-474-9622 or 800-287-1495; or Dave Fuller, 207-778-3892 or 800-287-1478

SKOWHEGAN--Next time you

Maple Products Featured in Orono

26 Oct 2005

Contact: George Criner at (207) 581-3150; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, ME.--- As part of a research project aimed at increasing demand for Maine maple syrup, a local restaurant will offer special maple syrup-based menu items this weekend. Researchers in the University of Maine's Dept. of Resource Economics and Policy, Cooperative Extension, Maine Agricultural Center and Canadian-American Center are overseeing the project, which will demonstrate partnership marketing between Maine maple producers and Maine-owned restaurants.

"Maine trails only Vermont in the production of maple syrup," says George Criner, a resource economics and policy professor at UMaine. "Weather conditions in the northeast are favorable to sap production, and maple syrup plays a significant role in our state's economy."

Criner and his colleagues believe that opportunities to expand the industry exist. Their research involves marketing, an examination of production costs, and the impact of a syrup quota in Quebec.

The Bear Brew Pub, at 32 Main Street in Orono, has designated Friday Oct. 28-Sunday Oct. 30 as "Maine Maple Weekend." The event will feature a full range of items made with pure Maine maple syrup. UMaine researchers

have arranged this project, which is sponsored by Maine Maple Products, Inc. and the restaurant.

Menu items will include Cedar Plank Salmon roasted in a brick oven and finished with maple glaze, maple BBQ glazed baby back ribs, maple marinated Pork Tenderloin with caramelized maple onions, and more. Desserts will include maple cheesecake with blueberry sauce, maple walnut ice cream sundae with warm maple cream sauce, and maple walnut cake with maple frosting.

Information on Maine Maple Syrup and its uses, see the Maine Maple Producers Association webpage at www.mainemapleproducers.com. For more information on Maine Maple Weekend at the Bear Brew Pub in Orono, contact Criner at 581-3150, or Bear Brew Pub owner, Matt Haskell at 866-2739.

Annual Children's Book Drive Gears Up

04 Nov 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, in partnership with the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis Club, has launched the 28th annual drive to collect books for needy youngsters. The public is invited to join in the tradition by donating new books suitable for toddlers to teens.

Established by College Dean Robert Cobb, the community book collection has made thousands of books available to deserving area children. Over 400 books were donated in last year's effort. The College takes the lead in collecting the books, and Club members distribute them at the service organization's annual holiday party for area children.

Books, gift wrapped if possible and marked for a particular age level, may be brought to Cobb's office, 151 Shibles Hall, through Friday noon, Dec. 9.

The UMaine Bookstore in Memorial Union is again joining the College to boost the number of books collected and children served. The Bookstore will be collecting books for the drive starting Nov. 14. During Children's Book Week, Nov. 14-20, children's books will be 25 percent off, and the Bookstore will contribute a book of equal value for each book purchased for the children's book drive.

Composer Jan Gilbert Bringing Music, Poetry, Indian Dance to UMaine Nov. 9-13

04 Nov 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

Composer and poet Jan Gilbert, a music lecturer at Macalester College in Minnesota, an authority on the music of Africa and Asia and a former UMaine faculty member in the 1980s, is visiting campus classrooms and performance halls Nov. 9-13.

Gilbert, appearing at the invitation of UMaine music professor and mezzo-soprano Nancy Ogle, will be working with faculty, students and community musicians in four days of lectures, classes and performances, beginning Wednesday, Nov. 9 with a program from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge in Memorial Union titled "Circling Katahdin." It is a discussion of poetry and music collaborations with Gilbert, poet Kathleen Lignell and Ogle.

The public is invited to join the university community in attending these events.

Gilbert is an internationally recognized composer whose interest in experimental and non-western music has led her to create many works centering on African and Asian cultures. Among her choral works are "Let that Day be Darkness" (set in Krio), "Nightchants" (settings of Native American, African and Sanskrit poetry), "One Evening" (a setting in Tamil for South Indian dance and choir), and two recent orchestral works - "Nine in One"

(a setting of a Hmong folktale) and "Khoj: the Search for Light" (a collaboration with Asian Indian story teller Gita Kar).

Chanticleer recently featured selections from NightChants in a concert titled "Sound in Spirit," released on Warner Classics this fall. Gilbert has worked collaboratively with Ogle, who has performed Gilbert's work at the last four American Composers Alliance Festivals in New York City.

Gilbert has received commissions from the Dale Warland Singers, Ars Nova Singers, LISTEN, the American Guild of Organists and the St. Paul Civic Symphony, in addition to Chanticleer. Her work has received support from the National Endowment of the Arts, McKnight Foundation, Jerome Foundation and Northwest Area Foundation. She has also completed several residencies at the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, N.H.

Following her noontime program Nov. 9 in the Memorial Union, Gilbert will lead a discussion titled "through the looking glass. . . .," a showing of multi-media work and a discussion of Gilbert's music, in Room 102, Class of 1944 Building, from 5:30-7 p.m.

On Thursday, Nov. 10, Gilbert will lead an improvisational workshop from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall. Musicians are invited to bring instruments and participate.

On Friday, Nov 11, a special evening concert and tribute to Gilbert, "Gitanjali" (song offerings), will feature compositions by Gilbert, with performances by the Orono String Quartet, the University Singers and students, faculty from the School of Performing Arts and Indian dancer and choreographer Raneer Ramaswamy, founder of the Ragamala Music and Dance Theater in Minneapolis, Minn. The performances start at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, with a \$6 admission charge. Students with a MaineCard are admitted free to all Minsky recitals and concerts, unless otherwise noted.

Gitanjali combines traditional western instruments with South Indian musical elements, dance and poetry. Gilbert, who has studied Indian music extensively, composed and dedicated one of her works to Ramaswamy, a leading presenter in Indian dance in the United States. Ramaswamy will help present the piece, incorporating poetry, music and dance.

On Sunday, Nov 13, the University Singers will perform a concert featuring "Circling Katahdin," a new work written for the UMaine singers by Gilbert. It starts at 2 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, with a \$6 admission charge.

Gilbert received her DMA in composition from the University of Illinois in Urbana, where she specialized in experimental and electronic music composition. She has also taught at Middlebury College, St. Olaf College and at the University of Maine, Orono from 1983-1986. Gilbert also is a former music curator at Intermedia Arts in Minneapolis.

Further information is available by calling Karen Cole in the School of Performing Arts at 581-4704.

Army, Navy ROTC Cadets to Honor Military's Service on Veterans' Day

04 Nov 2005

Contact: Capt. James C. Moreno, enrollment officer, University of Maine Army ROTC, (207) 581-1125

Cadets from the Army and Navy ROTC programs at the University of Maine will participate in the annual Veterans' Day Vigil on Friday, Nov. 11.

The solemn event will occur from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the steps of the Fogler Library in front of the University Mall. A lone cadet will stand at attention in dress uniform in honor of the service members of all America's wars. Through a meticulous changing of the guard ceremony similar to the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington, Va., cadets will relieve the lone guard and stand their post in honor.

Congress enacted Veterans' Day into law on May 24, 1954. Prior to the law, Nov. 11 was celebrated as Armistice Day. This was the day in 1918 when the Germans signed the Armistice to cease all hostilities and end

the First World War.

UMaine November '05 Calendar Highlights

04 Nov 2005

Contact: None

Nov. 4

Blithe Spirit, 7:30 p.m., Hauck Auditorium

Part of the School of Performing Arts theater; also Nov. 3-5, 7:30 p.m. &

Nov. 6, 2 p.m.

Sweet Honey in the Rock, 8 p.m., MCA (Admission)

Nov. 5

17th Annual Culturefest, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Memorial Gym, featuring exhibits, games, food court, music, art and fashion show with representatives from many of the 76 countries whose students attend UMaine

Nov. 6

Marsh Island Adventure Race, mountain biking, paddling, walking or running five miles, solo and team competition; sponsored by Campus Recreation (581-1081) (Fee & Nov. 4 registration deadline)

Collegiate Chorale, 2 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall (Admission)

A German Trio, 3 p.m., MCA

A Bangor Symphony Orchestra concert, with guest soloists Phillip and Noreen Silver, and Trond Saeverud (Admission)

Nov. 7

Crossing Into Maine: Old and New Immigration Stories, 12:10 p.m., Bodwell Lounge, MCA, with actress, oral historian and audio artist Judith Sloan, coauthor of "Crossing the BLVD" currently on exhibit at Hudson Museum to Nov. 23

Nov. 8

The Plum Creek Alternative: Pursuing the Economics of Conservation, 12-1 p.m., 105 Norman Smith Hall, with Sandy Neily from the Moosehead Region Futures Committee, offered by the Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research

Women, Girls and Immigration: Crossing the BLVD, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Memorial Union, with actress, oral historian and audio artist Judith Sloan; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program

The Plum Creek Alternative: Pursuing the Economics of Conservation, 12-1 p.m., 105 Norman Smith Hall, with Sandy Neily from the Moosehead Region Futures Committee, offered by the Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research

Women, Girls and Immigration: Crossing the BLVD, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Memorial Union, with actress, oral historian and audio artist Judith Sloan; part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program

CHI - A New Era in Acrobats, 7 p.m., MCA (Admission)

Nov. 9

Political Controversy and Academic Freedom in the Classroom, 12:10-1 p.m., Bumps Room, Memorial Union, a panel discussion facilitated by UMaine political scientists Amy Fried and Richard Powell, offered by the Center on Teaching Excellence

Circling Katahdin: A Discussion of Poetry/Music Collaborations, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Memorial Union, with poet

Kathleen Ellis and Macalester College music instructor Jan Gilbert, co-sponsored by the School of Performing Arts and Women in the Curriculum/Women's Studies Program

20th Annual Maryann Hartman Awards, 5 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House, honoring Judith Isaacson, Jean Lavigne, Dorothy Schwartz and Brooke Hayne; sponsored by the Women in the Curriculum/ Women's Studies Program

Nov. 10

Salt and Pepper, 10-11 a.m., MCA, performed by the Metro Theater Company for ages 8 to adult; part of the MCA Class Acts season (Admission)

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Nov. 10

Salt and Pepper, 10-11 a.m., MCA, performed by the Metro Theater Company for ages 8 to adult; part of the MCA Class Acts season (Admission)

The Dialectics of the African Peace Movement, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union with Akwasi Aidoo, director of TrustAfrica; part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

Poetry Reading by Kasey Mohammad and Stephanie Young, 4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall; part of the New Writing Series

Nov. 11

Tribute to Janet Gilbert

Legal Reference Book for Maine Educators Expanded, Updated

02 Nov 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761 ORONO, Maine -- Keeping up with changing state and federal regulations is a constant struggle and huge responsibility for Maine public school administrators. Now busy K-12 school leaders can find the latest updates on school law and liability in the recently released second edition of "Legal Issues for Maine Educators," co-authored by Dianne Hoff, University of Maine assistant professor of Educational Leadership, and Marcia Diamond, principal of All Saints Catholic School in Bangor. The expanded new edition of the book, first published in 2002, covers more than 90 topics with new sections on discrimination, use of school facilities, the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the 2004 Reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, and even regulations and policy in transition or development such as certification and assessment systems. The authors plan to update the book every two to three years, to provide the latest synthesis of legal issues drawn from Maine and national legislation and court cases. Crafted as an essential guide, the book will help Maine practitioners make decisions that are both wise and legally defensible, according to Hoff who teaches graduate courses in school law and does research in the social, political and legal context of public education. "Our goal is to keep Maine schools out of the court room and focused on the important business of schooling," Hoff says. The book is designed to be a quick reference but also provides in-depth information to enhance understanding of complex legal issues. The seven major chapters span the broad complexity of constitutional, statutory and case laws as they apply to Maine schools, including basic school law, personnel, students, curriculum, family and community, special populations and tort liability. The Annual

School Law Checklist section is a handy reminder of the annual tasks Maine schools are required by law to fulfill. "As a practicing administrator, I like the fact that the book is organized by hot topics in today's educational environment," says Diamond, who also is an adjunct instructor of school law at UMaine. "While the Maine statutes book is important, it is sometimes difficult to find an explanation or information needed quickly," she adds. The authors point out that the book does not provide legal advice, nor is it a substitute for legal counsel. Rather its intent is to help educators recognize and react to real or potential litigation situations, and more importantly, to prevent them. The book is also a good source for administrators needing a refresher in school law, the authors say.

Students to Learn about Courage and Change

02 Nov 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Students from 11 Maine high schools will sharpen their leadership and mediation skills during The Courage to Create Change Conference, taking place Friday, Nov. 4 at the University of Maine.

One hundred students and 20 advisors will attend the daylong conference to learn how to deal with tough dilemmas that call for ethical decision making, to resolve conflicts, and how to be inclusive leaders who can bring about change at their schools. The conference is co-sponsored by the National Center for Student Aspirations (NCSA) and the Peace Studies Program at UMaine. Both the NCSA and Peace Studies work with Maine school leadership and peer mediation teams.

Brooksville artist Robert Shetterly will set the tone for the conference with a presentation of his Americans Who Tell the Truth

Page Farm & Home Museum Luncheon Lecture Takes Up Raising Tomatoes

02 Nov 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4401, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum is offering home gardeners a chance on Nov. 8 to learn all they ever wanted to know about growing tomatoes. "Tomato City" co-owner Tom Roberts of Snakeroot Organic Farm in Pittsfield is the scheduled guest speaker at the museum's continuing brown bag lunch series.

Roberts and his partner Lois Labbe have maintained Tomato City, the rubric under which they market an extensive variety of heirloom tomatoes and seeds at Snakeroot Organic Farm, for 14 years. They produce 20 varieties -- hybrids and open pollinated, cherries, standards and paste, reds, pinks and yellows. About half of the varieties are heirlooms and half modern hybrids.

Roberts will share the triumphs and tribulations of running and marketing an organic farm, with a particular focus on heirloom varieties of tomatoes.

The discussion begins at noon, is open to the public and is free.

Roberts joined Peacemeal Farm in Dixmont in 1981 with almost no farm experience. But with a willingness to learn, he helped start many central Maine food co-ops in the 1970's, helped start a statewide produce delivery business and has marketed his own produce at farmers' markets continuously since 1983. He is a member of the Orono Farmers' Market.

Call 581-4100 for further information about the lecture and discussion on Nov. 8 or about the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus.

Blueberry Hill Farm Open House Set for Nov. 9

31 Oct 2005

Contact: Charlene Herrick, 581-3204 or 800-648-0597 (in Maine)

JONESBORO -- The University of Maine's Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station is hosting a public open house at the university's new Wild Blueberry Research Facility at Blueberry Hill Farm on Route 1 in Jonesboro on Wednesday, Nov. 9.

A ceremony begins at 11:30 a.m., to be followed by lunch and a tour of the new building.

The new laboratory building includes two labs, one to enable researchers to examine plant specimens for diseases and growth characteristics and the other to house insect and fungi research activities.

Funding for the building comes from \$600,000 in a jobs bond approved by Maine voters in 2003 as well as two federal grants totaling \$330,000.

Further information is available by calling Charlene Herrick at 581-3204.

Esteemed Cognitive Neuroscientist Named Visiting Professor at UMaine

14 Nov 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Cognitive neuroscientist and clinical psychologist Herbert J. Weingartner will bring his extensive experience in mind/brain research to the University of Maine as the 2005-06 Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College of Education and Human Development.

An acclaimed researcher who has held top leadership positions at the National Institutes of Health, Weingartner will work with UMaine faculty to develop a blueprint for applying basic cognitive neuroscience knowledge to practical problems associated with development and education and to build an interdisciplinary approach to investigating the various psychological and neuroscience bases of human intelligence.

During his visits to UMaine over the next 18 months, Weingartner will be highly influential as he works with faculty, students, educators and policymakers, according to Robert A. Cobb, dean of the College of Education and Human Development.

"We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Weingartner help us advance our neuroscience initiative," says Cobb. "He has vast experience in cognitive science and its relevance for teaching and learning. This expertise will galvanize interest on campus from faculty in various disciplines about research in the cognitive neurosciences."

The cognitive neuroscience initiative within the College of Education and Human Development focuses on emerging brain research and its implications for teaching and learning. Employing the latest in brain imaging technology, faculty researchers and students will observe cognitive functioning and development in children and adults and determine what adaptations need to be made in pedagogy to effect growth and development of one's cognitive abilities, Cobb explains. The initiative will feature interdisciplinary approaches among faculty from Child Development, Education, Psychology and the biological sciences. External funding will be sought to support both basic and applied research.

"Dr. Weingartner will not only assist the campus in shaping interdisciplinary efforts, but also in helping UMaine become an active member of national networks in this field," Cobb says.

The director of cognitive neuroscience programs at several National Institutes of Health institutes since 1977, Weingartner retired briefly last year, then returned to the NIH to create a program to train both junior and senior science fellows to become managers, facilitators and process leaders for large-scale interdisciplinary science projects. He also retains an academic association as Professor of Cognitive Science with Johns Hopkins University where he earned his Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology and was a member of the faculty in the School of Medicine.

Weingartner says he is looking forward to working with faculty and students at UMaine and to sharing some of his new interests that apply cognitive neuroscience knowledge in education and the workplace. Among these interests are using what is known about the learning process to improve translation and communication across science cultures, as well as with the public, and developing new strategies for enhancing learning, particularly in science and mathematics.

Another area of activity is to develop training that would enable teachers to be researchers, as well as practitioners.

"By researcher, I mean someone who can systematically consider and evaluate the effectiveness of his or her teaching," Weingartner says. "The teacher-researcher would also learn to be comfortable in accessing and using new basic and applied knowledge relevant to teaching."

An accomplished artist, Weingartner blends his love of science, writing and art to create stories and visual presentations as a context for expressing scientific ideas and brain science themes. Working in a variety of styles and mediums, Weingartner says he wants his paintings and drawings to help viewers access knowledge dismissed to some far corner of the mind and to rediscover the creative imagination that most children leave behind when they grow up.

Fleeing Nazi Germany and coming to New York as a child just months before the outbreak of World War II, Weingartner has used art to deal with his own early childhood experiences of fear and searching for safety. "In both science and art we attempt to find and bring structure to the uncertainty in dealing with the problems before us," he says. However, he has found that in order to successfully deal with problems in the present, individuals must appreciate their past along with their abilities.

The Shibles Distinguished Visiting Professorship is named for Mark R. Shibles who served as dean of the College of Education from 1947-71. Shibles professors -- all renown for their scholarship and research -- bring intellectual and professional stimulation to students and faculty, and broad perspective and experience to the College's professional programs, as well as to its response to the state's educational issues and needs. Candidates are recommended by the College of Education and Human Development and approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

UMaine Art Exhibit Highlights Faculty Creativity

09 Nov 2005

Contact: MaJo Keleshian, 581-3264; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The annual University of Maine Art Department faculty exhibition is up in the Carnegie Hall galleries, showcasing some of the favorite works by 17 of the department's professors and lecturers.

The exhibit opened Nov. 4 and runs through Dec. 2, with an artists' reception from 5-7 p.m. Nov. 11. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

For friends, colleagues and students, the annual exhibit is an opportunity to see the work of art department faculty members, most of whom are working artists often showing their work across the country and in some cases across the globe.

Also, adds department chair James Linehan, who has four pieces in the show, "the annual faculty show is to keep people posted on what we're up to. If people have been coming to the annual faculty shows, they'll see some changes" in motif and materials, he says.

The work includes photography, painting, ceramics, mixed media, fabric, drawing, wood sculpture and new media.

While Linehan says there is no concerted theme to this year's art show, nature and natural environments are solidly represented in a majority of works, from Andy Mauery's depiction of wild birds with free-flowing nesting materials sewn into the carpet wall coverings of the galleries to painted landscapes by Alan Stubbs, Michael

Lewis, Nina Jerome or photographs by Judith Sasso Mason, Susan Camp and Michael Grillo. Raphael Diluzio, an associate professor of new media, and Owen Smith use new media to express themselves.

Other artists whose work is part of the faculty exhibit include Ed Nadeau, Wayne Hall, MaJo Keleshian, Dennis Harrington, Constant Albertson, John Eden and Gay Kempton.

Carnegie Galleries are open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fall is a Great Time to Have Trees Pruned

19 Oct 2005

Contact: Lois Berg Stack, 207-581-2949

PORTLAND--All around Maine, arborists are at work in trees --utility company pruners are out in force along the state's roads.

Wes Davis, manager of Vegetation Management Operations at Central Maine Power, says that his crews are focused on pruning trees to clear utility lines in preparation for winter storms.

"The utility arborists are very busy," reports Davis, "doing routine work, and getting ready for winter."

The ice storm of January 1998 continues to provide a vivid reminder of the good reasons for property owners to assess their trees, and have any necessary pruning done in the fall.

"This is an excellent time to prune," says Ted Armstrong, a consultant with Whitney Tree Service in Gray. "The trees have finished photosynthesizing and are less active now. Leaves are falling, making it easier to see structure and determine what cuts to make. And there is less risk of disease infection at this time."

Consulting Arborist Tish Carr, with Skyline Tree Services in Belgrade, agrees.

"Almost any kind of pruning can be done on ornamental trees at this time of year," she says. "Proper pruning cuts can open the crown a bit more and thus allow wind to go through the canopy more easily, to help lower the probability of a tree failure in the windy late fall months. This is a also great time to remove dead, dying, and diseased branches to prepare a tree for a good start in the spring."

Lois Stack, ornamental horticulture specialist with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, says that while many pruning tasks can be done by homeowners, climbing trees is different.

"Tree work requires specific skills and experience, and should not be considered a do-it-yourself weekend project,

Planning Can Keep Family Farms Alive

14 Nov 2005

Contact: Gary Anderson, 207-581-3240 or 800-287-7170

PORTLAND--Any one of the four Ds

Commissioner Spear to Address Cooperative Extension Meeting Before Stepping Down

08 Nov 2005

Contact: Esperanza Stancioff, 207-832-0343 or 800-244-2104

WALDOBORO--Robert W. Spear will deliver one of his last speeches as commissioner of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Three UMaine Cooperative Extension Educators Earn National Honors

07 Nov 2005

Contact: Louise Kirkland, 207-942-7396 or 800-287-1485

ORONO --Three University of Maine Cooperative Extension educators captured national awards at a conference held in Philadelphia earlier this fall. They were honored by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) on Sept. 28.

NEAFCS, responsible for such high-profile national campaigns such as Living Well,

Honors College Group Returns from St. Louis

08 Nov 2005

Contact: Emily Ann Cain at (207) 581-3308

ORONO -- Twenty-three students, three faculty members, and five staff members from the University of Maine Honors College returned home on Sunday after enjoying five days in St. Louis, Missouri at the National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference. This year's conference theme, "Gateway to Exploration and Discovery," paved the way for exciting keynote sessions from a St. Louis historian and a ragtime band. The group also visited the St. Louis Arch and the courthouse where the Dred Scott decision was made. Both venues were open exclusively to conference attendees on Friday night free of charge. The visit to the arch was especially meaningful because it was the 40th anniversary of the arch's opening on October 28, 1965. Another highlight of the conference was the Presidential Luncheon, where UMaine's Honors College accepted a second place award for Minerva, the annual Honors College magazine.

Presentations from UMaine students, faculty, and staff included:

"Honors Histography: The Process and Methodologies for Creating a History of Honors"
Rachel Snell, James Redstone

"A Cultural Odysseysy - Student Facilitated Gateway to the Arts"
Sarah GAamble, Michael King, Emma Wojtal, William Beaudoin

"International Students in Honors"
Marianne Schneider

"Gateways to Medical Schools: Is Honors the Key?"
Michelle Ouellette, Alia Whitehead

"Living Learning Communities in Honors"
Jack Cohen, Brigham McNaughton, Matthew Dube

"Ties to Home - An Exploration of American Family Values"
Samantha Foster, Brittany Cheney

"Development in Honors: A Generational Model"
Charlie Slavin, Emily Cain, Jessica Lukas, David Lapointe

"Faculty Gateways to Honors"
Mark Haggerty, Kathleen Ellis, Paul Grosswiler

Student "Idea Exchange" participants included:

Honors and Peer-Tutoring
Elizabeth Morse, Yen Nguyen

The Last Lecture Series: Fresh Ideas from Familiar Places
Seth Robertson, Jack Cohen

Student Poster Session participants from UMaine included:

The Combined Effects of Cyanobacterial Lipopolysaccharids and Heavy Metals
Cassandra Patenaude

A Fellow Disciple: The Faith of John Adams
Rachel Snell

Examining Isolates of Streptococcus Zooepidemicus in Equines
Anne Wyllie

School Laptops Initiator Seymour Papert to Discuss \$100 Laptops Worldwide

08 Nov 2005

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940; George Manlove, 581-3756

Rescheduled for Wed. Nov. 15, 2:10 p.m., Corbett Business Building

We apologize for any inconvenience that was caused by the cancellation of the 11/14/05 lecture.

ORONO -- Famed mathematician, author and computer science pioneer Seymour Papert will be on the UMaine campus Nov. 15 to discuss the implications of making cheap laptop computers available to children throughout the world - a concept that is well on its way to being implemented.

Papert is considered the first educator to advocate the use of personal computers in learning and was a motivational force in convincing former Maine Gov. Angus King to champion the Maine school laptops initiative several years ago. His talk is titled "The Hundred Dollar Laptop: How Every Child in the World Can Have a Laptop and What This Means for the Global Economy."

At the invitation of the UMaine Computer Science Department, Papert, professor emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and once named by Newsweek as one of ten national innovators in education, will speak at 2:10 p.m. in Room 105 in the D.P. Corbett Business Building, behind the Maine Center for the Arts. The talk is free and open to the public.

"His talks are always engaging," says George Markowsky, professor of computer science and long-time colleague of Papert, who has served as a Distinguished Visiting Professor of computer science at UMaine. "We really do want to encourage the public to come. It's significant. It's also significant to see what's going on in the rest of the world."

Papert lives in Blue Hill and consults with businesses and government agencies on projects to apply new computer technologies to education. He is one of the founders of the Media Lab at MIT and of several educational websites for children. He continues to conduct research with MIT and UMaine faculty members.

He is the author of: "Mindstorms: Children, Computers and Powerful Ideas" (1980); "The Children's Machine: Rethinking School in the Age of the Computer" (1992); and "The Connected Family: Bridging the Digital Generation Gap" (1996).

Papert is internationally recognized as the seminal thinker about ways in which computers can change learning.

In 1995, he testified before Congress on the need to change education through the use of technology.

"He's a very knowledgeable person right in the middle of this very significant movement," Markowsky says.

Papert has traveled the world consulting with education ministries in countries including Russia, China, Brazil, Cambodia, among others, about the prospects of government or institutional purchases of large numbers of laptop computers for school children worldwide. "He's probably been in every major country in the world talking about laptops," Markowsky says.

Markowsky expects Papert also to discuss some of the political developments that affect the availability of laptop computers for school children across the globe. Since the success of the Maine laptop initiative, through which all of Maine's public school seventh- and eighth-grade students are assigned free laptops, other states are considering similar programs. The concept also is of interest in other countries at a time when the price of computers is coming down and benefits are rising.

UMaine Students Excel in Northeast Regional Dairy Challenge

16 Nov 2005

Contact: David Marcinkowski, 207-581-2740

Editors' note: Release contains names of students from Bangor, Berwick, China, Eliot, Orono, Sebec and New Gloucester.

ORONO -- Ten animal science students from the University of Maine recently brought home gold and platinum awards after competing in the Northeast Regional Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Norwich, New York.

UMaine student Mike Brown of China, Maine, competed on a team that received the highest award, platinum. Emily Hastings of Bangor and Josh Bergstrom of Orono competed on teams that won gold awards, the second highest.

They and fellow students Emily Hastings of Bangor, Matt Rolleston of Sebec, Kara Pietroski of Thomaston, Ken Hoyt of Eliot, Tom Lund of New Gloucester, Stephanie Beamish of Berwick, Jennianne O'Connor of Middleboro, Mass. and Katelyn Romano of Rowley, Mass. are students in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. Associate professor and extension dairy specialist David Marcinkowski coached the students, who are now looking forward to the national competition in Twin Falls, Idaho in April.

All together, 110 students from 13 agricultural universities throughout the Northeast competed in the contest, which was hosted by SUNY Morrisville. Students from the different universities were assigned randomly to nearly 30 teams.

The Dairy Challenge is a two-day competition that enables students to apply theory and learning to a real-world dairy, while working as part of a team.

Teams of four students each received production and farm management data from a real working dairy. After an inspection of the farm, participants interviewed the farm manager and then developed a farm analysis and presentation, including recommendations for nutrition, reproduction, milking procedures, animal health, housing and financial management. On the second day, team members presented recommendations to a panel of judges and fielded questions from the judges. Presentations were evaluated, based on their analysis and recommendations.

The challenge was held in late October.

VeriSign Internet Security Expert to Speak at UMaine

16 Nov 2005

Contact: Nory Jones, 581-1995; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Internet security is the subject of a free public talk Friday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m. at the University of Maine by a senior vice president at VeriSign Security Services -- the company that authenticates secure connections for million's of consumers logging into sensitive websites, including credit card or home-banking sites.

Maria Cirino has been invited to speak to UMaine Business School students and the public by the business school's Management Information Systems Association. The lecture will be held in the D.P. Corbett Business Building lecture hall, located behind the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus.

As senior vice president of VeriSign's Security Services and head of VeriSign Security Services Indirect Channel Organization, Cirino is responsible for setting channel strategy, driving channel development and the sales of VeriSign's security services through its indirect channels.

Previously she was CEO and co-founder of Guardent, Inc., an early entrant and leading Managed Security Services (MSS) provider, acquired by VeriSign in February 2004. Cirino also has served as a key member of the executive teams at Shiva Corporation (now Intel Corporation) and i-Cube, Inc. (now Razorfish, Inc.).

A frequent industry speaker, Cirino has received numerous industry awards and recognition. In addition to Bit9, Inc., Cirino is a member of the board of directors for Keane (NYSE: KEA), the board of governors for the Entrepreneurs Foundation of New England, the board of trustees for the Massachusetts Software and Internet Council, and is a trustee at Mount Holyoke College.

She will be available for questions after her talk.

The Management Information Systems Association represents a student organization within the Maine Business School that promotes leadership in the application, use and management of information systems and technologies to help companies gain or maintain a sustainable competitive advantage.

UMaine's Memorial Union to Hop Nov. 17 with Dance, Dance Revolution

16 Nov 2005

Contact: Paul Stern, Campus Recreation sports club coordinator, 581-1081; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- It started in Japan and quickly became one of the most popular crazes to sweep shopping malls and college campuses around the world. Now, Campus Recreation in conjunction with the Division of Student Affairs at UMaine is holding a DDR Tournament Thursday, Nov. 17, from 4 p.m. to midnight in Room 135 in the Memorial Union.

DDR, or Dance, Dance Revolution, is a highly athletic, rhythm and dance game that flashes colored lights through a platform of about nine floor pads and a screen that instructs the player which pads to dance on and when - all to the blaring beat of popular dance music. It might be called the pop culture's answer to computer gamers' addiction to testing hand and motion dexterity in a very physical way - a mixture of disco and high-intensity aerobics.

As players pick their levels of expertise, the music changes to accommodate either beginners or experts. Some DDR machines even have calorie counters, as many young people use their DDR experiences for fitness. It's fast and can seem chaotic as players jump, spin and tap their way through the songs and trying for a near-perfect routine.

Paul Stern, Campus Recreation sports club coordinator at UMaine and the Division of Student Affairs decided to hold a DDR tournament as a healthy alternative to just another night in front of the TV, a break from studying

and just because of the sheer popularity of DDR among young people. It's also a way to inspire community youth to join the fun while visiting the campus, he says.

Stern says that research shows a majority of participants have seen extreme health benefits from DDR.

While there is a nominal competition fee, Stern will hand out prizes for winners and T-shirts for the first 50 registrants. Free soda and pizza also will be available. Prizes include an evening of free dancing for the winner and a companion, gift certificates to local music stores and the EB Games store in Bangor.

More information about the DDR Tournament Nov. 17 is available by calling Stern at 581-1081 or visiting the Campus Recreation website at: <http://www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation>.

Lewiston-Auburn Businesses Offer Discounts to UMaine Students

15 Nov 2005

Contact: Jonathan LaBonte, 581-1976, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- More than 400 UMaine students who live in Androscoggin County have been added to the list of college students eligible for "L-A Express" student discount shopping cards just in time for the holidays.

The University of Maine's Corporate Affiliates program through the Maine Business School has partnered with the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce to promote the new initiative. Now in its second year, the L-A Express Student Discount Card program has attracted a growing number of Androscoggin County chamber members who are offering discounts of 5-50 percent to students attending six local colleges or medical schools in the Lewiston-Auburn area. Androscoggin County residents attending UMaine were added this fall.

The idea is to give students incentives to patronize and get to know local and downtown businesses, in addition to getting a break on shopping, says Jonathan LaBonte, assistant to the dean for external relations in the Maine Business School at UMaine, who oversees the program on campus.

The cards are distributed free to students by the UMaine Corporate Affiliates program. LaBonte says more than 400 cards and letters explaining the discount program were mailed in late October to UMaine students from Androscoggin County.

The card allows students to receive discounts at nearly 60 participating establishments listed in a program brochure and on a continually updated page at www.androscoggincounty.com. The businesses range from salons, restaurants and other shops to financial institutions, travel agencies and service providers.

"Given the Governor's RealizeME initiative, we feel it is worthwhile to ensure students from Maine get exposed to their hometowns and its businesses while studying here," said chamber President Chip Morrison and Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, in a recent letter to UMaine students.

For more information on the program, contact Jonathan LaBonte at (207) 581-1976 Jonathan.LaBonte@maine.edu or Jennifer Moulton of the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce at (207) 783-2249 (Jenniferm@androscoggincounty.com).

UMaine Symphonic Band Hosting Greenville Musicians Nov. 21

14 Nov 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Symphonic Band and the Greenville High School Band will present a concert in Hutchins Concert Hall of the Maine Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 21.

The Greenville High School Band under the direction of Ron Dobra will present a program of traditional band music including, "On a Hymnsong of Lowell Mason" by David Holsinger and "The Lord of the Dance" by Ronan Hardiman. After a short intermission, the University Symphonic Band will perform works selected from traditional and contemporary band literature.

Curvin Farnham, director of bands at the University of Maine, with assistant conductor Gina Provenzano of Blue Hill, a graduate conducting student, will present a program that includes "The First Suite in Eb" by Gustav Holst, "Fantasia (on Black Is the Color Of My True Love's Hair)" by Mark Camphouse and "Whirr, Whirr, Whirr!!!" by Ralph Hultgren.

Admission is \$6 for the public. Admission is waived for students with a university MaineCard.

The UMaine Symphonic band is one of 12 musical ensembles within the university's Division of Music in the School of Performing Arts. Its approximately 60 members audition for membership, which includes class instruction, in addition to performing.

The band is scheduled to perform a dual concert Nov. 17 at Greenville High School, beginning at 7 p.m.

Maine Students Tell Their Stories about Place on New CD

15 Nov 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt at (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- Start with the familiar

Hutchinson Center Conference to Take Up Permaculture, Sustainability

28 Nov 2005

Contact: Hugh Curran, (207) 667-7170/581-2609; George Manlove, 581-3756

BELFAST -- ESTIA, an international eco-peace community, will host its second annual eco-village conference on "permaculture" at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, Friday, Dec. 2, from 1-6 p.m.

Permaculture involves the design and harmonious integration of landscapes and people in order to provide sustainability in food, energy and shelter. The conference will include teleconference links as well as talks, discussions and videos about the role of permaculture in eco-village design. Topics include designing homes for energy efficiency, water conservation, forest gardening and multi-storied orchards, composting and wastewater treatment, soil building and organic gardening, in addition to the role of permaculture as an integral aspect of eco-village education, according to Hugh Curran, adjunct professor of Peace Studies at UMaine, which is cosponsoring the conference with the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center. ESTIA is an acronym for European Solar Thermal Power Industry Association

Presenters are: Daniel Greenberg from Living Routes in Amherst, Mass.; Julia and Charles Yelton, former residents of Crystal Waters, a permaculture eco-village in Queensland, Australia, and designers of Humustacia Permaculture Gardens in Whitefield, Maine; and Richard Graves, chair of the Maine Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council promoting leadership in energy and environmental design standards.

The cost of the conference is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis; only 132 seats are available. For registration information, please call 1-800-753-9044.

Page Farm and Home Museum Plans Old-Time Holiday Celebration Dec. 2

23 Nov 2005

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- For people who think the holiday season has become a little too commercial, Page Farm and Home Museum director Patricia Henner at the University of Maine says this year's annual holiday party Dec. 2 is intended to bring back a little old-fashioned appreciation for hands-on creativity and celebration.

The public is invited to visit the farm and home museum on the Orono campus at 6:30 p.m. to trim the tree, sing carols and enjoy light refreshments as children make ornaments and tree decorations with popcorn, cranberries and string, among other materials. The annual party has attracted as many as 200 people in past years, Henner says. "It's always been a nice time for families to get together and have some fun," she says. "Children have a grand time -- they make ornaments, they trim the tree." The museum also is hosting two public wreath-making workshops, under the direction of Claire Ackeroyd, on Nov. 29 and Dec. 1, from 5:30-8 p.m. A \$15 fee covers the lesson and cost of materials. Also, from Nov. 29 through December, the Page Farm and Home Museum shop will feature holiday crafts, in addition to the regular inventory of home-made items that include Elm Street pottery by Sandy Houtman, Barbara Guidotti's "Naturescan Artwork" greeting cards and framed art, hand-made candles, soaps and holiday wreaths, cooking aprons, old-fashioned wooden toys, clothing, hand-knit mittens and hats, all made by local artisans. The shop is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. The mention of this article entitles visitors a 10 percent discount, Henner says. The Page Farm and Home Museum offers exhibits, tours, special events and information about agricultural and rural living in Maine between 1865 and 1940. Further information is available by calling (207) 581- 4100. The museum website, with museum hours, other events and a virtual tour, is at: <http://www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/>.

Native American Activist, Author Winona LaDuke to Deliver UMaine Schonberger Lecture Dec. 6

23 Nov 2005

Contact: Ann Schonberger, 581-1229; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Native American activist, environmentalist and author Winona LaDuke from the White Earth Reservation in northern Minnesota will be on the UMaine campus Dec. 6 to deliver two public presentations as the 2005 Howard Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecturer.

Both lectures are free, open to the public and handicap accessible.

LaDuke's first talk, titled "Motherhood, Politics, and the Environment," is scheduled from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. The Schonberger Memorial Lecture takes place at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

A graduate of Harvard and Antioch universities and two-time vice presidential candidate for the Green Party with Ralph Nader, in 1996 and 2000, LaDuke has written extensively on Native American and environmental issues. Her books include "Last Standing Woman," fiction, "All Our Relations," nonfiction, "In the Sugarbush," children's nonfiction, and "The Winona LaDuke Reader." Her most recent publication, "Recovering the Sacred," was released by South End Press this year. A reception and book-signing will follow the evening lecture at UMaine.

An enrolled member of the Mississippi Band of Anishinaabeg (Ojibwe), LaDuke currently is program director of Honor the Earth, a Native American foundation working primarily on environmental and energy policy issues, and is the founding director of White Earth Land Recovery Project, the largest reservation-based non-profit organization in Minnesota. She has worked for two decades on the land issues of the White Earth Reservation, including litigation policy, and creation of a land trust.

The White Earth Land Recovery Project was partially funded by the Reebok Human Rights Award she received in 1989. LaDuke and the project recently received the International Slow Food Award from the Italian-based association that promotes food and wine culture and defends food and agricultural biodiversity worldwide for the project's efforts to protect wild rice and local biodiversity. LaDuke also has received the Thomas Merton Award and was named one of "Time" magazine's 50 most promising leaders under 40 in 1994, "Ms." magazine's Woman of the Year award in 1997 and the Global Green award among others.

LaDuke also is the parent of five children.

For more information about LaDuke's lecture schedule or the Howard Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecturer, please call 581-1228.

Sea Vegetable Celebration Planned for December 7

22 Nov 2005

Contact: Dawn Aubrey, director of Dining Services, at (207) 581-4408

ORONO -- University of Maine diners will have the opportunity to "sea" what they've been missing on Wednesday, Dec. 7. UMaine's Black Bear Dining will host a celebration of sea vegetables from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on that day.

Sea vegetables are wild ocean plants, popular in coastal areas around the world, and can be used in a variety of delicious recipes. Menu items including Nori-Stuffed Manicotti, Norikopita, Roasted Vegetable and Nori Wrap will be available to those who visit the Maine Marketplace in Memorial Union.

Coordinators for this event are Dawn Aubrey, director of Dining Services at UMaine and Susan Brawley, professor of Plant Biology and cooperating professor of Biological Sciences in the School of Marine Sciences. The sea vegetables will be supplied by Maine Coast Sea Vegetables (www.seaveg.com) in Franklin, Maine.

"Our goal is to educate the campus population on the nutritional value of sea vegetables as well as to show their versatility in a variety of recipes", says Aubrey. "We hope to raise awareness among the students, staff, faculty and guests who visit the Marketplace." Carl Karusch from Maine Coast Sea Vegetables will also be on hand for the occasion. The Sheep Island Rovers, a contra-band from Winter Harbor, will provide music in Union Central, just outside the Marketplace.

Benefit Bottle Drive at Sunday Hockey Game

22 Nov 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- Thanks to the initiative of a UMaine student, Black Bear hockey fans will have the opportunity to donate to a worthy cause when they arrive at the Sunday University of Maine hockey game against Vermont.

"Fans with Cans," the brainchild of UMaine student Drew Borkovitz, will raise money for the social service agency Youth AIDS.

"This is a great cause," Borkovitz says. "I know that hockey fans have a lot of enthusiasm, and I hope they'll apply it to helping us raise money for Youth AIDS."

Borkovitz and other students he's recruited, many of whom are fellow residence hall Resident Assistants (RA's), will collect returnable cans and bottles outside Alford Arena before the game, which starts at 2 p.m. Students from UMaine's Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and Peer Educators group are also involved. The UMaine Deans of Students office has donated hot chocolate, to be distributed as a token of appreciation to those who contribute.

Wreath-Making Offered at Page Farm and Home Museum Workshop

18 Nov 2005

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum will hold its annual wreath-making workshops Nov. 29 and Dec. 1, from 5:30-8 p.m., offering participants an opportunity to enjoy a hands-on start to the holiday season.

Local craftsperson Claire Ackeroyd, who has been conducting wreath workshops at the museum for nearly 10 years, will offer both novice and expert wreath-makers the materials and instruction necessary to take home a decorative wreath to last for months, says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director.

A \$15 charge covers the cost of materials -- one 12-inch ring, balsam fir, cedar and white pine boughs, pine cones, berries and colored ribbon, in addition to light refreshments.

Because space limits participation to groups of 15 people for each of the two evening workshops, Henner encourages early registration.

"We already have several people signed up," she says. "These workshops always fill up quickly. They're very popular because people can create their own wreaths to hang over the holiday season or give as gifts."

For people who wish to buy a locally made holiday wreath, Henner says the museum will be selling completed wreaths beginning Nov. 22 for \$15, of which \$6 is donated to help support the non-profit, educational museum's programs. The prepared wreaths are made at local farms with five pounds of fresh, fragrant and hand-wrapped fir bough tips and are decorated with pine cones, berries and ribbon. They can be picked up at the Museum or delivered locally for free.

Call 581-4100 for reservations or more information.

UMaine Senior Artists Show Set; Opening Reception Dec. 16

18 Nov 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --In The Road, an art exhibition of work by emerging artists from the University of Maine senior capstone class, opens on Dec. 9 at UMaine's Carnegie Hall. This show will include a variety of mediums from painting, sculpture, photography, installation pieces, interior design as well as furniture design. The diverse exhibition showcases the variety of talents among the student artists. It will feature the artists' most recent works.

An opening reception is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. on Dec. 16. The exhibition runs from Dec. 9-Feb. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. It is free and open to the public.

In conjunction with the art exhibition a silent benefit auction will be held with proceeds of works sold designated to help re-establish artists sidelined by Hurricane Katrina.

For more information on the exhibition, call (207) 581-3245

UMaine Extension Offers Workshop for Farmers Facing Nutrient Management Recertification

18 Nov 2005

Contact: Mark Hutchinson, Extension Educator, 1-800-244-2104

ORONO -- Dec. 1 is the registration deadline for University of Maine Cooperative Extension's nutrient management workshop. Farmers who had nutrient management plans certified in 2000 must be recertified by

December 2005. The event is scheduled for Dec. 8 in Albion.

Since 1998, Maine has had a nutrient management law to reduce pollution of surface and ground water from farming activities. This legislation was widely supported by both farmers and environmental organizations. Maine farmers understand the need for good manure management techniques, and the success of this program can be attributed to the involvement of the agricultural community from the beginning. UMaine Cooperative Extension was also there from the start, developing training materials for farmers, planners, and agency staff; devising requirements for certified planners; and creating software and record keeping materials.

Extension's workshop will focus on the changes that have occurred in nutrient management planning at the state and federal level since 2000, and how these changes can be incorporated in a plan. Topics include off-farm residuals, compost operations, the use of technical service providers, and CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation) permitting, among others.

his one-day workshop will be held on December 8 at the Bessey Municipal Building in Albion, Maine. For more information or to request a brochure, please contact Extension Educator Mark Hutchinson at 1-800-244-2104 or e-mail markh@umext.maine.edu. The training costs five dollars per person including lunch. Pre-registration is required for an accurate lunch count.

Lifelong Learning at your Fingertips Via UMaine Cooperative Extension

18 Nov 2005

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185 or 800-287-0274

ORONO, ME--There is still an affordable way to get practical education that will help you at your job, in your business and in your home. The U.S has a national system for lifelong learning, based within its 100-plus land-grant colleges and universities: Cooperative Extension. Extension represents the largest publicly supported organization devoted to adult education in the world. And it

UMaine Jazz Ensemble at Hauck Auditorium Dec. 1

21 Nov 2005

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256, Karen Cole, 581-4704

ORONO -- The University of Maine Jazz Ensemble concert Thursday, Dec. 1 in Hauck Auditorium will feature 18 student musicians, with associate music professor and jazz performer Karel Lidral directing, to offer a repertoire of favorite jazz standards as well as newly composed works.

The jazz ensemble, an auditioned group, has been studying a varied program of works this semester. The fall concert is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their mastery of the material. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. General admission is \$6; students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

The evening program includes: Mark Taylor's arrangement, in ballad form, of "After You've Gone" by Henry Creamer and Turner Layton; Kenny Dorham's Latin favorite "Blue Bossa"; "Boplicity (Be Bop Lives)" from the Miles Davis album "Birth of the Cool"; "Business As Usual," a medium-tempo swing style original from well-known jazz composer Dave Berger; an arrangement of Ann Onimus' original "Li'l Liza Jane" by Doug Beach and George Shutack; composer, trumpet player and Kendor Music president Jeff Jarvis' hard-driving shuffle original, "Firestorm"; another Miles Davis standard, "Milestones"; Count Basie's immortal "One O'Clock Jump," arranged by Mark Taylor; "Saralon Blues," a great offering from Tom Frederickson, which was commissioned by the Illinois Music Educators Association for the 2005 All-State Jazz Ensemble; and a Mike Tomaro original, "Scott Free," written in a relaxed samba style.

Student soloists include Steve Barter on tenor saxophone, Jenna Hartung on alto saxophone, Laura Zukowski, baritone saxophone, Jarrod Bishop, James Hebert and Rodger Wong on trombone, Alex Cardamone, Beth Rucci and Karl Varian on trumpet, Ashley Drew, piano, and Scotty Horey on drums.

The concert will feature small ensembles within the big band and some great solos, says Lidral, director of jazz studies.

On Friday, Dec. 2, the newly formed Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present an informal concert in the Bangor Rooms of the Memorial Union from noon-1 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

More information is available by calling the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755 or visiting www.umaine.edu/spa.

UMaine Hudson Museum Plans 11th Annual Maine Indian Basket Sale, Demonstration

21 Nov 2005

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1901; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Hudson Museum at the University of Maine will host its 11th annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration on Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The day is a celebration of traditional arts and cultures of the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot people of Maine. More than 30 Maine Indian basketmakers, selling hand-made, one-of-a-kind, ash splint and sweet grass basketry customarily come from all corners of the state to display and sell their authentic crafts, baskets and art work. With friends and family members often joining them, the annual sale and demonstration at the Hudson Museum is one of the largest Native gatherings in the state and a rare opportunity to see the work of members of all four of Maine's Indian tribes.

The event draws hundreds of visitors and basket collectors from throughout New England and beyond, coming to the Orono campus each year to buy work baskets, such as creels, pack and potato baskets, fancy baskets, ranging from strawberry and blueberry shaped-baskets to curly bowls, along with quill jewelry, wood carvings, birch bark work, paintings, photography and Native jewelry made during the year by members of the Wabanaki tribes.

The day also features traditional foods, music, a children's workshop and demonstrations of brown ash-pounding and basket-making. Allen Sockabasin, author of "Thanks to the Animals," a book based on a story told to him as a child by his mother Molly Zoo Sap, will host a book-signing. Also, renowned Passamaquoddy basket maker Jeremy Frey will demonstrate his technique. One of Frey's baskets will be raffled off in a special Hudson Museum Friends Maine Indian Basket Raffle.

The event is free and open to the public; early bird shopping for \$10 is from 9-10 a.m. For more information, call 207-581-1901 or visit the museum's website at <http://www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum>.

A schedule of events follows:

9-10 a.m. - Early bird shopping;

10 a.m. - Opening welcome by the Penobscot Nation, the event's host tribe and the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance;

10:30-11 a.m. - Brown ash pounding and work basket demonstration by Eldon Hanning, Micmac;

11-11:30 a.m. - Fancy basket demonstration by Jeremy Frey, Passamaquoddy;

11 a.m.-1 p.m. - Traditional foods, Bodwell Lounge area, featuring hull corn soup, fry bread and blueberry desserts. Food sales benefit the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club.

Noon-1 p.m. - Children's workshop with Pam Cunningham, Penobscot, making candy baskets. For ages 6 and up, limited to 16 children, with pre-registration required. A \$15 charge covers materials for each child for one activity. Call 207-581-1901 to register.

1-2 p.m. - Book signing with Allen Sockabasin, Passamaquoddy storyteller and author of "Thanks to the Animals."

1:30-2:30 p.m. - Burnurwurbskek Singers, drumming, singing and dancing;

Highlights of the day include:

A Hudson Museum Friends Maine Indian Basket Raffle that offers a chance to win an original Passamaquoddy fancy basket made by Jeremy Frey. The drawing will be held during the sale and demonstration at the Hudson Museum. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and are on sale at the Hudson Museum Shop.

Frey draws on his family's tradition of basketmaking through his grandfather Fred Moore as well as traditions passed on to his mother Gal Frey by Sylvia Gabriel, a master Passamaquoddy basket maker. Frey harvests his own basketmaking materials, going into the woods to harvest brown ash trees, pounding the logs to separate the growth rings to produce splints for baskets. He weaves baskets from the brown ash he prepares.

Frey is best known for his intricate fancy baskets, featuring braided ash weavers, very fine splint work, porcupine quill decorative treatments and the use of porcupine and curly weaves. He has demonstrated his craft throughout the state in museums and at festivals and shows his work at the Native American Festival in Bar Harbor, the Hudson Museum Holiday Show and the Common Ground Fair. His work is among the collections of the National Museum of the American Indian.

Allen Sockabasin's new book "Thanks to the Animals" comes from a story that his mother Molly Zoo Sap told him as a child. It's a family story set around 1900, in which Little Zoo Sap and his family are traveling to their winter home when Zoo Sap falls off the sled unnoticed. The forest animals hear his cries and keep him safe until his father comes back to find him.

Sockabasin was born in 1944 at the Passamaquoddy village of Peter Dana Point, the tenth of eleven children, with eight brothers and two sisters. He was tribal chief for more than four years and has served as the director of child welfare, a substance abuse counselor, a builder, logger, landscaper, health educator and activist. For the past 25 years, he has taught and promoted the Passamaquoddy language to keep it alive in his tribe.

UMaine Museum of Art Hours

21 Nov 2005

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3350 kj@umit.maine.edu

The University of Maine Museum of Art will be closed November 24 - 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The museum will reopen on Saturday, November 26 at 9:00 am.

Museum of Art

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of 40 Harlow St.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of 40 Harlow St.

UMaine December 2005 calendar

06 Dec 2005

Contact: None

Dec. 6

Motherhood, Politics and the Environment, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m., Memorial Union, with Winona LaDuke, program director of Honor the Earth and member of the Mississippi band of Anishinaabeg, part of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Lunch Series

Scottish Christmas, 7 p.m., MCA, featuring fiddler Bonnie Rideout (admission)

Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecture, 7:30 p.m., "Indigenous Holy Lands and Sustainability in North America" with Winona LaDuke, Devino Auditorium, D.P. Corbett Building.

Dec. 7

Kwanzaa, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., MCA/Hudson Museum, a Hudson Museum cultural celebration of a traditional African American holiday

Sea Vegetables Celebration at the Marketplace, Memorial Union, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Menu items including Nori-Stuffed Manicotti, Norikopita, Roasted Vegetable and Nori Wrap for those who stop by

Dec. 8

Tourism Stakeholders Envision a Sustainable Tourism Path: Strengthening Maine's No. 1 Industry Though the Blaine House Conference Recommendations, 11 a.m., 204 Nutting Hall with Elizabeth Munding, candidate for master's degree in forestry

Show Me an Angel (Investor), 12-2 p.m., Target Technology Center, Bennoch Road, Orono, with Mark Waite, sponsored by Target Technology Incubator and Eaton Peabody (admission)

Poetry Reading by David Kress, 4:30p.m., part of the New Writing Series, Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall.

Dec. 9

In The Road, an art exhibition of work by emerging artists from the University of Maine senior capstone class, opens Dec. 9 at UMaine's Carnegie Hall. Show will include a variety of mediums from painting, sculpture, photography, installation pieces, interior design as well as furniture design. Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Opening reception Dec. 16, 5-7 p.m.

Dec. 10

11th Annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Hudson Museum, featuring more than 30 Maine Indian basketmakers, traditional foods, storytelling, music and children's workshops

Dec. 11

Kayak Rolling, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Memorial Gym: Get a jump on the spring paddling season by learning to roll your kayak from our excellent instructors. (admission)

Yuletide Concert, 2 p.m., MCA, part of the School of Performing Arts season. (admission)

Dec. 15

Dance Showcase, 7:30 p.m., Class of 1944 Hall, part of the School of Performing Arts season (admission)

Dec.16

Go Blue Friday

Classes end for final exams (Dec. 19-23) and winter break

Dec. 18

The Full Monty, 7 p.m., MCA, musical comedy, part of the Maine Center for the Arts season (admission)

Ongoing events

Season of Light, Jordan Planetarium, 7 p.m., Dec. 2-23

Melonie Bennett, Gorham Maine photographer, University of Maine Museum of Art, Bangor, Oct. 21-Jan. 14, Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

No Two Alike: African-American Improvisations on a Traditional Patchwork Pattern, a University of Maine Museum of Art exhibit, Bangor, Oct. 21-Jan. 14

In The Road, an art exhibition of work by emerging artists from the University of Maine senior capstone class, Dec. 9-Feb. 3, UMaine Carnegie Hall. Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Students Restore Family's Tractor for UMaine Museum

02 Dec 2005

Contact: George Manlove at (207) 581-3751

If farm equipment could talk, a 1944 John Deere tractor donated to the University of Maine and restored by students might have family stories to tell that would be suitable for a Currier & Ives lithograph.

Retired math teacher Worth Noyes of Orrington, age 100, bought the green and yellow, twin-piston tractor in 1951 to use on his 20-acre farm on the River Road. He taught his four children to drive it as soon as they could stay on the contoured metal seat.

"We started driving it when we were seven or eight," recalls Melanie Noyes, who now is 45 and holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in social work from UMaine. "Mum would have a fit. I remember trying to get it started. That flywheel was pretty rugged."

"Mum," is 87-year-old Sarah Noyes, who says she was never quite comfortable on the machine, in spite of Worth's attempts to get her on it now and then.

Five members of the Noyes family - Melanie, Worth, Sarah, son Michael Noyes, 52, and grandson Chris Noyes, 19 - were at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the UMaine campus Nov. 29 to see the restored tractor. It was a part of their family for 50 years before Worth donated it to UMaine, from which he received a forestry degree 76 years ago.

The family used the old John Deere to plow the farm for crops that included potatoes, assorted vegetables and, of course, green peas, which Worth planted early in the season on a high patch of ground so he could present fresh peas to his wife for the traditional Fourth of July salmon and peas meal.

Worth Noyes, who worked days as head of math program in the Bangor school system and taught math at Bangor High, didn't farm all 20 acres, says son Michael. But his three gardens were "just big enough to keep me weeding all summer," Michael recalls. Worth grew plenty more vegetables than the family needed. He donated the surplus to children's homes and nursing homes in the area, Sarah says.

Worth's old John Deere became a legendary gauge for locals monitoring the annual evolution of spring, as Worth would begin plowing the wet ground as early as possible, customarily getting it stuck in the mud for a few days before the ground dried enough to move the tractor forward to continue its work.

"Everyone used to say down there that it was a sign of spring" to see Worth's tractor mired in mud, Sarah says. "The farm was under water in the spring but it was beautiful in the summer."

Worth, who turns 101 in February, used the family tractor well into his 90s, until it broke down and he couldn't find a replacement part. Finally, in 2001, he decided to donate it to the university. That's when Kenneth "Ben"

Dresser, a lecturer and laboratory coordinator in the Department of Forestry, recruited students to help begin the restoration of the Noyes' John Deere in the Perkins Hall shop.

Over the next four years, three different students worked under Dresser's supervision to fix up the 61-year-old tractor, repaint it and get it running again as part of their agricultural engineering capstone projects. It now sits in the Page Farm and Home Museum's collection of antiques from early rural life in Maine.

"It looks twice as large as I thought it would be," said a pleased Worth Noyes when he the restored tractor Nov. 30.

The Noyes family has been well invested in the University of Maine. Several family members in addition to Worth and Melanie Noyes graduated from UMaine. A second daughter, Mollie Noyes of Belfast has a BA in education from UMaine, and Sarah, who spent 28 years as the director of public health nursing for the city of Bangor, attended UMaine for a summer before enrolling at Boston University. Grandson Chris, who finished his freshman year studying financial economics at UMaine, interrupted his college education this fall to serve in the U.S. Marine Corp. He expects to ship out to Iraq in March. The Noyes family has a third daughter, Jennifer Noyes, who lives in Albuquerque, N.M.

UMaine Researchers Release Impact Study Regarding Proposed LNG Facility

02 Dec 2005

Contact: David Munson at (207) 581-3777; Todd Gabe at (207) 581-3307

Please note: The full study is available on-line at: www.umaine.edu/mcsc/

ORONO -- Researchers from the University of Maine's Department of Resource Economics and Policy and the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy have released their findings regarding the projected fiscal and economic impacts of a proposed \$400 million liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility in Washington County. Downeast LNG hopes to build the LNG import terminal in the town of Robbinston.

UMaine researchers Todd Gabe, Jonathan Rubin, Charles Morris, and Lisa Bragg were contracted by Downeast LNG to conduct the study, which focuses on both the long and short-term effects of the proposed facility, considering such factors as employment, wages, and tax impacts at both the state and local levels. The study was conducted during the late summer and fall of this year.

The study found that the proposed project would substantially increase the local tax base, lowering current tax rates for the Town of Robbinston by approximately 69 percent. According to Gabe, an Associate Professor of Resource Economics and Policy, the projected decrease in taxes takes into account not only the proposed facility's contribution to the town's tax base, but the increases in county taxes and reductions in state education contributions that would affect the town as well.

"During the three year construction phase, the project would create 1,053 jobs per year statewide according to our model. These jobs would provide \$42.9 million annually in wages and benefits," said Gabe. "Of that, there would be approximately 375 jobs in Washington County, which would result in \$15.3 million per year in income."

After the construction phase is completed, the study determined that operations of the facility would create 253 jobs statewide, amounting to \$10.7 million per year in wages and benefits. A projected 187 of those jobs would be in Washington County.

Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Publication Wins Education Award

02 Dec 2005

Contact: Kathryn Hunt, 581-1553; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at UMaine is to receive the 2006 Maine Merit Award from the New England Board of Higher Education for Maine Policy Review, the center's policy-analysis journal published three times yearly.

Founded in 1991, Maine Policy Review "provides relevant, in-depth analyses of state and regional policy issues for decision-makers at all levels of government and interested Maine citizens," says Kathryn Hunt, editor for the last 11 years.

The journal is available on-line at <http://www.umaine.edu/mcsc/mpr.htm>. It is overseen by a board of 23 members representing private, nonprofit and government sector organizations, policymakers, and citizens across the state. It is published jointly by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at UMaine and Margaret Chase Smith Library in Skowhegan.

The next issue, due out in December, will feature articles on healthcare, tax reform, teacher certification in Maine, forest ownership trends, and community development.

The New England Board of Higher Education was formed in 1955 to promote greater educational opportunities and services for the residents of New England. It works across the six New England states to: engage and assist leaders in the assessment, development, and implementation of sound education practices and policies of regional significance.

An awards ceremony is scheduled for Feb. 24 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston.

Building a Better Bangor: UMaine and City of Bangor Put Put Federal Funds to Work Advancing Downtown Revival

02 Dec 2005

Contact: David Munson at (207) 581-3777; Kathryn Hunt at (207) 581- 1553; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Rod McKay (City of Bangor) (207) 992-4240

ORONO -- They are the inescapable questions that plague nearly every downtown district in Maine: How does a city make its youth feel welcome downtown while avoiding conflicts with downtown businesses and residents? How does a community provide enough affordable housing to meet the needs of its elderly and lower income residents? How do the people of a community build and maintain the level of connectedness that fosters a vital and dynamic downtown?

These questions, in various forms, have been on the lips of legislators, activists, and everyday citizens in Bangor for decades, and, with the help of a battery of newly funded and far-reaching community programs, some of the answers may soon be forthcoming.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently awarded nearly \$400,000 in grant monies to the University of Maine for the establishment of the UMaine-Bangor Community Outreach Partnership Center (UMB-COPC), a collection of people and programs aimed at fostering a positive environment for all in Bangor's downtown neighborhoods. This grant was supported by the city council of the City of Bangor, and the city will provide substantial in-kind support throughout life of the program.

"We're very fortunate. This is one of the bigger grant programs in HUD, and one of the most competitive," said Kathryn Hunt of the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. "We've been awarded \$396,281 to be distributed over three years, which will fund a broad range of projects in downtown Bangor."

Leading the project since its inception nearly two years ago, Hunt has attended scores of meetings and fielded hundreds of phone calls, establishing goals and setting up lines of communication between the university and the more than 20 different downtown organizations that will be involved in UMB-COPC projects. Distributed over a three-year period, the federal funds will be used to support three main initiatives.

Through work skills training, life-planning, and educational guidance, the Community Inclusion Project is

intended to help homeless teens reconnect with school, work and community in positive ways. In addition, through facilitated dialogues involving disenfranchised, disconnected young adults, downtown residents and downtown business owners, the project will focus on creating an atmosphere downtown that is welcoming to all residents and visitors.

UMB-COPC will also take an active role in the development of the Salvation Army's Powerhouse Teen Center. From providing engineering expertise for the renovation of the center's future location to assisting Salvation Army staff with fundraising and development, UMaine students and faculty will assist the Salvation Army in achieving the project's full potential. Through a partnership with the Bangor Daily News, the Bangor Public Library, the Powerhouse Teen Center, and the UMaine Department of Communication and Journalism, UMB-COPC funds will also help to jumpstart a community newsletter for and about Bangor's downtown created by the young adults that live there.

Some of Bangor's housing issues will be addressed through the UMB-COPC project as well. In an attempt to help downtown neighborhoods better serve the area's elderly and special needs residents, program participants will conduct a needs assessment with regard to housing and special services, leading up to the establishment of recommendations and the development of informational workshops that will help residents in need find and maintain decent, affordable housing.

At the heart of many of the UMB-COPC initiatives is service learning: UMaine students applying their skills "in the field" for the benefit of the community. From building assessments carried out by undergrads in engineering to fine arts programs led by student instructors, the project promises to strengthen the University of Maine's connection to the city of Bangor while providing students with opportunities in their fields of study that can't be duplicated in the classroom. A truly interdisciplinary endeavor, the UMB-COPC project will combine the enthusiasm of dozens of UMaine students with the expertise of 27 faculty members representing all six of the university's colleges.

According to Bangor City Manager, Ed Barrett, "This cooperative venture between the City and the University will allow both organizations to focus their efforts to build upon the progress that has been made in recreating downtown Bangor and will work closely with groups and organizations with an interest in our downtown. It will expose students to real life issues and problems, challenge their creativity, and further strengthen the growing relationship between the university and the city."

By creating new avenues of communication between the university and the larger community, the project will allow residents of Bangor and other Maine communities to access university resources more easily than ever before. Hunt hopes that, by streamlining the process through which students and faculty connect to the community, the UMB-COPC project will provide many more opportunities for communication and cooperation between the university and the cities and towns of Maine.

"We will essentially be creating a new front door to the university that will help people reach into the university more effectively," said Hunt. "It will help the community access information and services. It will help the faculty integrate service learning into their programs. It's really exciting."

CONTACTS: Kathryn Hunt, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, 581-1553; Rod McKay, Director of Community and Economic Development, City of Bangor, 992-4240.

Small-business Consultants to Walk, Meet and Greet Eastport Entrepreneurs

30 Nov 2005

Contact: Louis Bassano, Extension Educator, (207) 255-3345 or (800) 287-1542

EASTPORT, ME.--On Dec. 13 the Down East Micro-Enterprise Network, in conjunction with Eastport for Pride, will be walking through downtown Eastport to support, meet and learn about Main Street business owners and their operations.

Lora Whelan, director of Eastport for Pride, will lead the walk and introduce Louis Bassano, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator; Extension Business Specialist Emeritus Lew Wyman; and Harold Clossey, small business coordinator for the Down East Business Alliance of the Washington Hancock Community Agency.

The goal of these face-to-face meetings is to acquaint downtown businesspeople with the resources and services these business educators can offer to support them.

Eastport for Pride is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation

UMaine Researcher Using \$615,155 Grant to Fight Flu Virus

30 Nov 2005

Contact: Sam Hess, 581-1036; George Manlove, 581-3756

[View a UMaine Feature of the story here.](#)

ORONO -- A University of Maine researcher recently has been approved for a five-year \$615,155 grant from the National Institutes of Health to try to find a way human cells might reject invasions by influenza, HIV and Ebola, among other viruses.

Assistant professor of physics and astronomy Sam Hess, whose work prior to joining the faculty at UMaine included biomedical research at the NIH, has received a "career award" to study how viruses penetrate cellular membranes and what might be done to block infection.

Hess is doing the research under the guidance of UMaine physics professor R. Dean Astumian and former colleague Joshua Zimmerberg at the NIH. Using laser-scanning fluorescence microscopes in Bennett Hall, Hess is studying how cholesterol and lipids play a role in assisting viral proteins to bond to the surface of cells, penetrate and infect them.

He specifically is looking at hemagglutinin, the protein from influenza virus that opens a hole, or fusion pore, in the membranes of host cells and allows the virus to enter and infect the cell. If he can determine, by watching protein grouping patterns under a microscope, how that happens, Hess believes he or other scientists will be able to figure out how to interrupt the process.

The title of an article Hess co-authored and which is the basis for the research is "Quantitative Electron Microscopy and Fluorescence Spectroscopy of the Membrane Distribution of Influenza Hemagglutinin," which appeared in the June issue of The Journal of Cell Biology.

Rafts are controversial protein and lipid clusters that are thought to be used by cells for many biological functions. Rafts also contain high concentrations of cholesterol and saturated lipids. Removal of cholesterol from membranes appears to have inhibitory effects on hemagglutinin.

Many researchers currently are studying viruses, particularly in view of new mutant forms of common viruses, like influenza, and less common but potentially catastrophic viruses like Asian bird flu, Ebola, SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), Hess says. "But we're doing something that hasn't been done, I think, which is using these lasers and spectroscopy to see what's going on in a virus," he says. "If we can find out why influenza needs cholesterol, it may be the same reason HIV needs cholesterol, or some other virus."

An Orono resident originally from Stillwater, Hess has taught physics and conducted biomedical research at UMaine for about a year and a half. The grant will be used to upgrade research equipment at UMaine and provide staffing necessary for Hess to continue his cell membrane and virus research.

Dec. 8 Concert Commemorates Music of Famous Composer

07 Dec 2005

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The melody for the first piece to be performed Thursday, Dec. 8 at the University of Maine in a concert commemorating the life and works of composer Iosif Andriasov came to him in a dream 50 years ago.

Originally a piece for flute and piano, Andriasov rearranged it several times to suit different performance

scenarios, one for flute and string orchestra and another for viola and piano, this titled "Musical Sketch for Viola and Piano, Opus 4A.

UMaine music professor Anatole Wieck will perform the piece and other music by Andriasov when he performs with several friends, including Andriasov's son, pianist Arshak Andriasov, and violinist-violist and former student of Andriasov, Victor Romasevich. Wieck, an accomplished violinist and violist who has performed and taught throughout North and South America and Europe, also studied with Andriasov after Wieck graduated from Julliard School of Music in New York City in the 1970s.

The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall. Admission is \$6 and students with a MaineCard are admitted at no cost.

Andriasov was a respected, award-winning composer, humanist and philosopher who lived from 1933 to 2000. In the 1960s, celebrated composer Dmitri Shostakovich said that Andriasov not only maintained his sense of harmony, but had added a new quality to harmony at a time "when the entire world lost a sense of harmony."

Wieck, who considers Andriasov a genius, says the music for the program "is lofty and spiritual and will have an uplifting effect on the audience."

Works to be played in ensembles consisting of piano and violin or viola, or both, include "Musical Sketch for Viola and Piano, Op. 4A," "Concertino for Trumpet and Orchestra, Op. 14," "Meditation for Viola and Piano, Op. 30E," "Concertino for Clarinet and Symphony Orchestra, Op. 27," "The Fallow-Deer" for Tenor and Piano, Op. 9," "Sorrow in My Melody" for Tenor and Piano, Op. 11," "Apple Tree" for Tenor and Piano, Op. 13," "The Street Song" for Bass and Piano, Op. 10," "Ave Maria," "Duet for Soprano and Tenor with Piano," "Passacaglia for Trumpet, Trombone and Organ, Op. 22B" and "To The Mother-Earth," Op. 25."

Following the concert, Andriasov's widow, Marta Andriasova, will answer questions from the audience.

Marta Andriasova is a musicologist, teacher, music producer and founder and owner of the IMMA Publishing Company. She was born in Moscow and graduated from the Moscow Conservatory with honors, studying musicology. She was married to Iosif Andriasov for 37 years. Until 1978, Andriasova formerly taught at the Moscow Conservatory. Her research was published by the "Muzyka Press" and Moscow Conservatory Publications. She was not re-elected to teach at the conservatory for publicly refusing to attribute Iosif Andriasov's philosophical ideas to Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Performer Victor Romasevich was born in Minsk, Belarus. Following his emigration to the United States in 1977, he became a violin and viola pupil of Iosif Andriasov. He was a winner of the Gina Bachauer Prize at the 1985 J.S. Bach International Competition, and from 1996 to 2003 was the concertmaster of the California Symphony Orchestra. He has performed as violinist, violist and keyboard player in various chamber music and SF Symphony concerts during the last 15 years.

Arshak Andriasov was born in 1980 in New York City and began to play piano at the age of three. By age six, he entered the Lucy Moses School of Music, began composing at 14 and studied with his father, Iosif Andriasov, and other gifted music instructors and composers. Arshak Andriasov also studied piano, ear training, solefege, harmony, theory and form analysis, as well as piano, orchestration, polyphony and conducting.

Since coming to the United States in 1979, Marta Andriasova has written many works, including "The Six Concerti Armonici are returned to their genuine author, the great Italian composer-violinist Pietro Locatelli." Andriasova writes extensively on the music of her late husband. She is in the International Who's Who in Music and Musicians' Directory, Cambridge, England, and has won numerous awards, including the Fellowship from the Italian Government for Music Research, Milan, Italy.

Maine Tree Club Accepting New Members

06 Dec 2005

Contact: Amy Witt, Horticulturist University of Maine Cooperative Extension PO Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104

Tel. 780-4205 or 1-800-287-11471 PORTLAND, Me. -- They attract tourists by the thousands, provide the foundation for the state economy, and deliver constant inspiration to area artists and poets. Trees are at the root of Maine's identity. Now, Maine citizens and visitors have a chance to learn more about the habits and the needs of trees. They can join the Maine Tree Club, an educational project of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed for people of all ages to learn about trees. Participants will be equipped with the skills to recognize 50 different types of trees over the next two years. Every month, participants will receive mailings that highlight two species of Maine trees. At least four outings are scheduled around the state in 2006 to get people into the woods for hands-on learning and enjoyment. These outings, guided by experts, are planned for the mountains, coastal regions and other parts of Maine. "As a kid, I learned a bit about trees, but there is so much more to know," says UMaine Cooperative Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski of Cumberland County. "Trees are a magnificent part of nature! UMaine Cooperative Extension presents the Maine Tree Club so that anyone, from kids to grandparents, can learn how to identify trees and understand their importance." In addition to the 24 monthly mailings and the outings, participants will receive a hand lens for a close-up look at tree parts and pieces, an attractive notebook, a pocket guide to Maine trees, and several practical guides related to tree growth and care. Much of what people will learn as members of the Maine Tree Club can be easily applied in their own yard and community. The annual registration fee for involvement in the Maine Tree Club is \$15 per person, \$25 per couple, \$30 per family and \$60 per group (plus the costs of the hand lens). A limited number of Maine Tree Club Scholarships are available for those in need. Request a free informational brochure by calling the University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 1-800-287-1471, emailing treeclub@umext.maine.edu, or visiting the Maine Tree Club website at www.umaine.edu/umext/mainetreeclub.

Calendar Makes Perfect Gift for Gardeners

06 Dec 2005

Contact: Lois Berg Stack, (207) 581-2949 or (800) 870-7270

ORONO, Me. --The 2006 North Country Garden Calendar is hot off the press, just in time for holiday giving. Developed every year by Extension specialists from the University of Maine, the University of Vermont, and the University of New Hampshire, this beautifully illustrated wall calendar contains daily garden-related tips specifically timed for New England. The 2006 edition includes information about using water to attract wildlife, protecting plants from deer, using native trees and shrubs, and watching wildlife. There is also information about how to access Extension publications, soil testing labs and plant diagnostic services.

To order the 2006 North County Garden Calendar, send a check or money order payable to University of Maine Cooperative Extension to Garden Calendar, UMaine Extension, 495 College Avenue, Orono, ME 04473. Calendars are only \$6 each for 1

Legendary" UMaine Teacher/Coach to Receive National Award

13 Dec 2005

Contact: Joe Carr 207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine professor and former Black Bear football coach Walter H. Abbott is being recognized for distinguished service by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. Abbott, whose teaching and coaching at UMaine since 1960 has trained and influenced thousands of students, will be honored Dec. 18 in Orlando during the annual National Conference of High School Directors of Athletics. The conference is conducted jointly by the National Federation of State High School Associations and the NIAAA.

The Distinguished Service award is presented annually to recognize length of service, special accomplishments and contributions to interscholastic athletics. Nominated by the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, Abbott is one of 14 individuals nationwide and one of four from outside the field of athletic administration to receive this year's award.

The nomination describes Abbott as a role model and mentor who has dedicated his life to helping others achieve their goals. It notes that "No single person has impacted as many coaches and teachers in our state as Walter Abbott. Even after 45 years of teaching, he still has the energy and passion to give to any student, athlete or coach in Maine. Whether at a school, a community or a state event, he has always given of himself.

This gentleman is a living legend."

Abbott is associate professor of Kinesiology and Physical Education in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, where he specializes in the areas of the coaching profession, physical fitness, and outdoor leadership, safety and rescue. He has been a Registered Maine Guide since 1974.

"I am so pleased that the NIAAA has chosen Walt Abbott as a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. It couldn't be more fitting," says College Dean Robert A. Cobb. "Over the years, the strength of his influence in developing coaches has earned him a veritable legion of coaching proteges across the northeast who still contact him regularly to discuss all aspects of coaching and of sports in general. Whether it concerns player development or team tactics and strategies, he has seen it all and done most of it. He has learned from his vast experience as a coach and a trainer of coaches and has been ever so willing to share that expertise with anyone and everyone."

A Rumford native, Abbott was an outstanding high school football player and at the University of Maine gained a reputation as a strong offensive guard and defensive linebacker. Abbott graduated from UMaine in 1958 with a degree in Resource Economics and also earned a master's degree in Education. He started his career at his alma mater in 1960 as an instructor in physical education and assistant football coach. Abbott became the Black Bears' head coach in 1966 at age 30, one of the youngest collegiate gridiron coaches in the nation. He led the team through the 1975 season, when he relinquished the post to devote full time to teaching and to building a campus-wide physical fitness program. Abbott's experience, leadership and statewide respect twice - in 1991 and 1994 --prompted UMaine presidents to call on him to serve as acting athletic director with full authority and responsibility of the position.

Convinced that quality athletic and recreation programs at all levels are a vital part of the total educational experience, Abbott, throughout his years at UMaine, has continued to be actively involved in improving high school athletics statewide. Most recently, he led the development of an online coaching education course for the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching, and as part of a statewide select panel helped craft the *Sports Done Right* report, a national model for shaping and sustaining the best possible learning environment for interscholastic and youth sports.

Abbott's commitment and service have been recognized with awards such as the UMaine Alumni Association Block M Award, the Maine Association of Health Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Highest Praise Award, and the National Football Foundation State of Maine Chapter Contribution to Amateur Football Award. Abbott and his wife, Carol, live in Orono. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Engineering Students to Compete in Bridge-breaking Tuesday

12 Dec 2005

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571
Karen Horton, School of Engineering Technology, (207) 581-2340

ORONO -- Freshman in UMaine's College of Engineering will get a chance to put their skills to the test on Tuesday Dec. 13, when they compete in the School of Engineering Technology's fifth annual File Folder Bridge Competition.

Scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.. in the basement of Boardman Hall, the contest pits student against student in a test to see whose two-foot-long bridge can support the most weight. Crafted entirely of glued-together paper tubes made of file folder stock, the bridges are the manifestation of a broad range of skills that their student creators acquired in Prof. Karen Horton's Mechanical Engineering Technology class. As the weight on the bridges increases, so will the suspense as each bridge is tested to the point of failure.

Requiring hours of mathematical analysis, design, and fabrication to complete, each bridge represents an important hands-on learning sequence that culminates in a few moments of engineered endurance. The competition provides the students with an opportunity to see their thoughts and ideas put to the test in a three-dimensional setting, helping them to make the connection between theory and practice.

'Rexford St. John Boyington' Walking Stick Passes to Stephen Hornsby

21 Dec 2005

Contact: Nancy Strayer, Canadian-American Center, (207) 581-4220

ORONO -- "Rexford St. John Boyington" is the ideal professor. He starts class on time, his students love him, and he is always well dressed, carrying a silver-tipped cane around with style and elegance. He's brilliant, friendly and articulate. What's stopping him from having his courses full the first night of class sign-up and being the next recipient of the Distinguished Professor Award? He's too good to be true.

Edward "Sandy" Ives, folklorist, scholar and professor emeritus at the University of Maine, created the character to symbolize the perfect professor that the faculty in the anthropology department strives to be. Whenever a member of the department publishes a book, Boyington's walking stick -- a silver-tipped cane that has been passed around UMaine's anthropology department since 1987 -- comes to them in honor of the achievement. Ives also wrote a short story to be read during the small celebration that marks each passing of the cane.

"We all know the man doesn't exist," explains Stephen Hornsby, associate professor of anthropology and Canadian studies and the most recent recipient of the award named for Boyington. However, Hornsby is pleased to receive it. "It's a fine cane," he says.

Hornsby, who also is director of the Canadian-American Center, received the cane recently for publishing a new book, "New England and the Maritime Provinces," an examination of the relationship between New England and its neighbor to the north. "New England and the Maritime Provinces" discusses the relationship between the two regions have had for the last 10,000 years and the evolution of the area through border changes. It also addresses common themes throughout the area's history.

Ives has an essay in the book about the folklore of Maine and the Maritime Provinces, specifically in the logging camps. Loggers sang ballads called "Come-all ye's," and Ives explores the works and their meanings.

The cane is passed around only within the anthropology department, which includes the Maine Folklore Center. It is passed from author to author in a ceremony hosted by the present holder. There also is a plaque in the department office, to which the newest recipient's name is added with each ceremony.

Hornsby also was a previous caretaker of the Boyington walking stick for an earlier book, "British Atlantic, American Frontier: Spaces of Power in Early Modern British America." Previous recipients include professors Alaric Faulkner, Paul Roscoe, Kristin Sobolik and James Acheson.

The goals of the Canadian-American Center, since its establishment at UMaine in 1967, include teaching Canadian studies, conducting research on Canada, making Canadian information available to academic and business communities, and providing Canadian speakers and performers to the general public. In 1979, the U.S. Department of Education designated it a National Resource Center on Canada. The Canadian-American Center coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate courses, promotes cross-border research in many disciplines, provides outreach nation-wide to K-12 teachers, publishes Canadian-American Public Policy and occasional scholarly papers, and supports a major research library on Canada. The Center also houses a cartography lab currently producing the Historical Atlas of Maine and the Ice Age Trail Map. For more information, visit the website at www.umaine.edu/canam.

UMaine Faculty Contribute to New Book Comparing Early Life in Canadian Maritimes and New England

21 Dec 2005

Contact: Nancy Strayer, Canadian-American Center, (207) 581-4220

ORONO -- Smuggling, fisheries, Paleo-Indians and folklore are only some of the topics covered in a new book, "New England and the Maritime Provinces," which was co-edited by Stephen Hornsby, director of the Canadian-

American Center at the University of Maine.

The book is a compilation of a variety of essays discussing many aspects of life in the Maritime Provinces of Canada and New England over the last 10,000 years. The essays, written by leading scholars from both sides of the border, including six from UMaine, reflect the historical cooperation between the two regions.

"We have set the standard for these regional comparisons across the continent," says Hornsby, also an associate professor of geography and Canadian studies. Hornsby hopes to see more books like this in the future, examining the relationship between other United States border regions and their Canadian counterparts.

"The book is accessible to the general public," Hornsby says. "It's not jargon-filled."

"New England and the Maritime Provinces" is available through the McGill-Queens University Press.

The Northeastern United States and Canadian Maritimes have held the interest of fishers, merchants, explorers, missionaries, settlers, soldiers, monarchs and farmers throughout history. An article by Elizabeth Mancke, associate professor of history at the University of Akron, explores what drew so many people to these regions.

Only in the last hundred years has the border between Canada and the United States been truly defined. How does an arbitrary border, drawn across a region with so much in common, affect both regions? What does the regional definition mean to groups like the Passamaquoddy, whose territory has traditionally straddled both sides of the border? An article by William Wicken, associate professor of history at York University in Toronto, discusses this and whether the Passamaquoddy can maintain a political and cultural identity that supersedes the identities created by the formation of Canada and the United States.

Another group that was affected strongly by the border dispute was the French of Madawaska. Though their customs and lifestyles were very different from the rest of the people of Maine, they became citizens of the United States and Maine and had to acclimatize themselves. In "Before Borderlands," Beatrice Craig, an associate professor of history at the University of Ottawa, discusses this faction of Maine society.

"More Buck for the Bang," by UMaine history professor Richard Judd and Bill Parenteau, associate history professor at the University of New Brunswick, discusses the beginnings of tensions between the locals and tourists, a topic that is still vital today as Maine changes from a manufacturing economy to one that leans towards tourism.

An article describing the area around the Bay of Fundy as "one of the great smuggling centers of the Atlantic world" in the first decades of the 19th Century explores who participated in illicit trade -- from politicians to poor farmers.

"Variations on a Borderlands Theme: Nativism and Collective Violence in Northeastern North America in the Mid-Nineteenth Century" by UMaine history professor Scott See describes the tension in the region as Irish Catholic immigrants arrived during the great famine. The article compares the reaction of the Protestants in the majority of the region, and the French Catholics in the Quebec region to the newcomers.

Other topics include: out-migration from the regions to find jobs, the relationship between Nova Scotia and the U.S.; the Shaw family's contributions to the region; a case study between Portland, Maine, and St. John, New Brunswick; the interaction between Acadian settlers and English soldiers in the St. John Valley; and life in the region before the Europeans arrived.

Other contributors from the University of Maine include Robert Babcock, professor emeritus of history, Betsy Beattie, Canadian studies librarian at Fogler Library, Jacques Ferland, associate professor of history and David Sanger, professor emeritus of anthropology and climate studies. Deborah Trefts, a public policy consultant and independent scholar from Stillwater, also contributed to the book. John Reid of Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia was co-editor with Hornsby.

"New England and the Maritime Provinces" was put together after a conference in 2000, which the Canadian-American Center held in conjunction with the Atlantic Canada Studies Program and Gorsebrook Research Center of St. Mary's University.

The goals of the Canadian-American Center, since its establishment at UMaine in 1967, have been teaching Canadian Studies, conducting research on Canada, making Canadian information available to academic and business communities, and providing Canadian speakers and performers to the general public. In 1979, the U.S. Department of Education designated it a National Resource Center on Canada. The Canadian-American Center coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate courses, promotes cross-border research in many disciplines, provides outreach nation-wide to K-12 teachers, publishes Canadian-American Public Policy and occasional scholarly papers, and supports a major research library on Canada. The center also houses a cartography lab currently producing the Historical Atlas of Maine and the Ice Age Trail Map. For more information, visit the website at www.umaine.edu/canam.

Center on Aging to Oversee Consortium on Anti-Anxiety-Drug Misuse

21 Dec 2005

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 581- 3483, Dr. Stephen Gressitt, (207) 568-7599, George Manlove (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- When it comes to abuse or misuse of prescription drugs, usually OxyContin, Oxycodone or Percocet come to mind.

But a potentially more dangerous family of drugs, benzodiazepines, often causes more overdoses and serious accidents than people realize, according to a Maine-based consortium that is working to increase awareness about the abuse and misuse of benzodiazepine drugs.

Benzodiazepines, called "benzos" for short, include drugs like Ativan (generically called Lorazepam), Xanax (alprazolam) or Valium (diazepam), which are commonly prescribed for anxiety, stress and insomnia.

"Benzos have been around for so long as 'mother's little helpers,' that people tend to forget the abuse that can take place and, with the elderly, they can be responsible for hip fractures," says Bangor psychiatrist Dr. Stevan Gressitt. He is the founder of the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG), which is leading a consortium of agencies, individuals and organizations, including the UMaine Center on Aging, to raise public awareness of the abuse and misuse of benzodiazepines.

"They've been 40 years on the market, but we haven't paid attention to their role in motor vehicle accidents or hip fracture incidents," Gressitt says. "It's not that it's not been studied, but it's sort of under the radar since OxyContin tends to get the headlines. Benzos as a family are a significant cause of death, as opposed to a single drug."

The Center on Aging recently received a \$25,000 grant to organize and coordinate a two-day, international conference on the topic in Bangor, with people coming from the United States, Canada and Great Britain. As the initiative to collect information about and recommend solutions to benzodiazepine misuse grows, the Center now is poised to sponsor and administer the MBSG from the Orono campus.

The group includes representatives from healthcare, pharmaceuticals, law enforcement and social work. Its mission is to document problems caused by benzodiazepine drugs, create a directory of preferred prescribing practices and recommend effective alternative treatment for anxiety, stress or other symptoms for which benzos are commonly prescribed. Another goal is to expand Maine's new drug return program, a mail-back opportunity for people who no longer need the benzodiazepines or other prescription drugs to safely mail them to state drug enforcement agencies for incineration.

In most cases, prescription drugs that are no longer needed are flushed down the toilet and into municipal sewage systems. But Jennifer Crittenden, research associate at the Center on Aging, says that causes environmental problems for fish and wildlife, as narcotics flush through treatment plants and into rivers.

In an effort to reduce improper disposal of drugs, law enforcement officials in some communities have agreed to collect unneeded prescription drugs and see that they are destroyed properly, Gressitt says.

"We're already making an impact," Gressitt says. Law enforcement agencies have collected more than 44,000

pills from Mid-Coast area patients who no longer needed them, he says. The Penobscot County Sheriff's Department also has picked up a significant amount of prescription drugs from Penobscot County, he says.

Those are drugs that won't be taken accidentally by children, stolen from medicine cabinets for sale or use at parties, Gressitt says, or mixed inappropriately with other prescription drugs by people who may not realize the combinations can be dangerous.

"Every doctor can tell stories about a patient bringing in a paper bag filled with pills and saying 'I don't know which ones I'm supposed to be taking,' " he says.

For older people, adds Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, overuse or misuse of benzodiazepines can put such persons at greater risk of serious falls.

Additionally, the medical community is expecting difficulties in January when Medicare ends coverage for benzodiazepines. Many of the estimated 1.7 million Americans who take benzodiazepine drugs are low-income and many have developed addictions to them.

"Cold turkey is not the way to go," says Kaye, who worries that people will substitute alcohol or other drugs that are not designed to treat symptoms for which benzos are prescribed. The Center on Aging is currently conducting research on alcohol and substance abuse by elders in Maine supported by a grant from the Maine Office of Substance Abuse.

The MBSG, now almost four years old, hopes to address benzodiazepine misuse by promoting alternative treatments whenever possible and encouraging other measures aimed at keeping prescription drugs out of the wrong hands.

"We're beginning to bump into public policy issues and possibly can get more into practical drug policies as opposed to theoretical," says Gressitt. "Over the last year, the Center on Aging has gotten more and more involved and has produced some research on it own."

Kaye says Maine can be proud that a much-needed initiative to both study and reduce prescription drug misuse started here. "It's the only group of its type known to exist," he says. "We're extremely pleased to be working with other individuals and organizations in the state, throughout the United States, and internationally, to address this important issue."

Mt. Ararat Grad Helps to Design a New Future for Maine's Boatbuilding Industry

21 Dec 2005

Contact: Dave Munson at (207) 581-3777

Covert military operations can be a pain in the neck -- and in the back, shoulders, and legs as well. Known for its speed and maneuverability, the Mark V Special Operations Craft gets U.S. Navy SEAL teams in and out of sticky situations fast, but the aluminum insertion vessel's speed and durability come at a cost: repeated impact strain created as the lightweight craft skips across the waves can mean injuries for the sailors on board. 2001 Mt. Ararat high school graduate Kate Stephens is out to change all that, and she may help to point Maine boatbuilding in a whole new direction in the process.

An excellent student with a talent for math and an interest in design, Stephens' decision to pursue engineering was a natural one. After graduating from Mt. Ararat, she went on to complete her bachelor's degree in civil engineering at the University of Maine in Orono, graduating near the top of her class last May. Now a graduate student in the university's mechanical engineering program, Stephens is taking the reins on a project aimed at improving the Navy's Mark V.

Stephens is a key player in a cooperative effort involving UMaine, the Office of Naval Research (ONR), and the boatbuilding team at Hodgdon Yachts in East Boothbay. The project brings together cutting-edge composites technologies spearheaded by UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center (AEWC) and the long tradition of quality boatbuilding at Hodgdon Yachts. Its success could mean hundreds of millions of dollars in

contracts for Maine's boatbuilding industry.

"This is a great project," said Stephens during a recent brainstorming session with Hodgdon engineers and Navy representatives in Boothbay. "I'm just beginning my master's program, and I'm really excited about the opportunity to work on this."

While the project is aimed at improving the original Mark V wherever possible, the primary goal is to use specialized composite materials in the hull and elsewhere that can absorb the shock created by high-speed travel across the water's surface. By dampening the affects of the boat's repeated impacts as it skims across the waves, the new materials can help to protect the crew from back, neck, and joint injuries. Working with her advisor, AEW technical services manager Bob Lindyberg, Stephens has developed and refined an innovative impact test that was used to select the composite material with the greatest shock-absorbent properties. Ultimately, the ONR believes that Stephens' test will be of great value when designing new composite boats.

"There has been a lot of positive feedback on this project," said Jim King of the ONR. "The methods and materials being used here have a lot to offer."

Maine has a long history of building military vessels, but contracts for smaller, high-tech designs have largely been awarded elsewhere. By combining the facilities and expertise at Hodgdon Yachts with the technological advances being made at UMaine, the project has the potential to open up a whole new market for the state. The project has already resulted in the creation of a new company. Maine Marine Manufacturing, LLC is the prime contractor for the construction of the full-scale technology demonstrator called the Mark V.1, and plans on competing for the contract to replace the Mark V fleet.

"Through collaboration with the university, our team is able to compete for the Mark V replacement contract, which is in the range of \$200 million. We didn't have that opportunity before," said Steve Von Vogt, President of Maine Marine Manufacturing. "Bob and Kate's work in the composites lab has played an important part in the project all along. This is not just theoretical research that they are doing, this is about putting a deployable, high-tech design in the water for actual use by the military."

For Stephens, a native of Harpswell, the Mark V project is a way to not only get some valuable, hands-on experience in her chosen field, it's an opportunity to give something back to her home state as well.

"This is a great opportunity for Maine's boatbuilding industry," said Stephens. "The lab work that we have done shows real progress. We're setting milestones with every test."

The University of Maine Museum of Art Presents Three New Exhibitions January 20 - April 8, 2006

19 Dec 2005

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352 kj@umit.maine.edu

Bangor, Maine - Three new exhibitions will be presented by The University of Maine Museum of Art during the winter season. Maine artist Michael Alpert's photographs portray the often harsh, unadorned beauty of the state in Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs. Lauren Fensterstock features conceptual sculptures by this Portland artist and curator which uniquely twist nature with the manmade. Reminding us of distant summer days, Five Landscape Paintings brings welcome warmth to winter's cold with this exhibition of large, summer landscape paintings by five acclaimed artists: Lois Dodd, Rackstraw Downes, April Gornik, Vaino Kola and Neil Welliver.

Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs

Michael Alpert: Recent Photographs are black and white images which record an unvarnished Maine. Ralph Waldo Emerson's dictum, "Pictures must not be too picturesque" has resonance in these spare, detailed photographs which are rendered with unsentimental precision.

Taken during the past two years, Alpert's photographs often depict places people drive by daily, often without consideration. Frequently, Michael Alpert has been there as well, recording the built Maine environment for our closer inspection. His timeless images are less concerned with the natural beauty of the landscape but concentrate instead on the houses, barns, factories and monuments - portraying these signposts of our history with an awful, quiet beauty.

Michael Alpert is a Bangor resident. His work was the subject of a solo exhibition at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in 2004, which also published a book of his photographs entitled, A Maine Portfolio.

Lauren Fensterstock

Lauren Fensterstock is a Portland artist and curator. She trained as a painter and jewelry maker at Parsons School of Design, New York City, and further refined her talents in graduate school at the State University of New York at New Paltz. Her recent work embraces a perceived conflict, twisting nature with the manmade, the uncommon with common objects. Fensterstock's influences range from 16th Century portraits of Anne Boleyn to Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter." Each of these delicate pieces is a conceptual inquiry into the relationship between aesthetics and morality. A menacing spider's shadow is cast in tiny rubies: is it beautiful or lethal?

Five Landscape Paintings

Five Landscape Paintings will bring warmth to winter's cold days by presenting large landscape paintings of summer. In these paintings, each of the five artists, Lois Dodd, Rackstraw Downes, April Gornik, Vaino Kola, and Neil Welliver, is engaged in recording the landscape in a singular way.

Lois Dodd was born in Montclair, New Jersey in 1927. From 1945 to 1948 she attended The Cooper Union in New York. In 1952 she was one of five artists to establish the Tanager Gallery, where she exhibited until 1962. From 1971 to 1992 Dodd taught at Brooklyn College, and has, since 1980, served on the Board of Governors of the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. She is an elected member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters and National Academy of Design.

Rackstraw Downes, a native of Kent, England, earned his BFA and MFA at Yale. He spent twelve years as a professor of painting at University of Pennsylvania, and in 1999 was inducted into the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Downes lives and works in New York.

April Gornik, born in Cleveland in 1953, is a painter and printmaker currently living and working in New York. She has shown extensively, in one-person and group shows, in the United States and abroad. Her work is owned by many museums including the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Vaino Kola was born in Finland in 1937. He was educated in the US, receiving his BFA from MA College of Art and his MFA from Yale. His work has been shown extensively in the United States and in Europe. Kola retired from Wheaton College in 1994, Professor of Art, Emeritus. In 1995 he became a year-round resident of Deer Isle.

Neil Welliver (1929 - 2005), a Pennsylvania native, graduated from the Philadelphia College of Art (now part of the University of the Arts) and later received his MFA from Yale University, where he studied with the noted abstract artist Josef Albers. From 1956 to 1966 Welliver taught at Yale, and from 1966 to 1989 at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Fine Art despite having moved to Lincolnville, Maine in 1970. A memorial exhibition was recently held at the Alexandre Gallery in New York City.

For additional information please call Kathryn Jovanelli at 561.3350.

Museum of Art

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm.

Admission: \$3.00 per person. No charge for Museum Members and UM students with Maine Card.

Directions

From the North

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light onto Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 4th light (1.2 m), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 m), turn right on to Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

From the South

I-95, Exit 185 (formerly 48) - Broadway, (Bangor, Brewer)

Turn left at light on to Broadway, Rt. 15

At the 3rd light (1.1 mi), turn right onto State St., Rt. 2

At the light at the bottom of the hill (.1 mi), turn right onto Harlow St. (a one-way street)

Merge into left lane, turn left into parking lot of Norumbega Hall.

UMaine Wins \$829,000 Grant to Study Organic Dairy Cropping Systems

19 Aug 2005

Contact: Chris Reberg-Horton, (207) 581-2942, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- University of Maine researchers have received an \$829,000, four-year grant to develop ways to reduce costs and increase the quality of feed for organic dairy farms.

The grant is part of a new emphasis on organic dairy research that UMaine is pursuing in conjunction with the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the University of New Hampshire and the Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP).

The research will consist of a cropping systems experiment at the Witter Research Farm in Stillwater, Maine and feeding trials with dairy herds at UMaine and the University of New Hampshire. The experiment is expected to establish the most productive and profitable organic feed crops, according to Chris Reberg-Horton, assistant professor of sustainable agriculture and specialist with the UMaine Extension Office.

"I would say this is certainly the most comprehensive research on organic dairy rotations that has ever been done," says Reberg-Horton.

The research is particularly important now, as New England organic dairy farmers look for ways to capitalize on a boom in consumer interest in organic dairy products. In Maine, which has the highest percentage of organic dairy farms in the nation, according to Reberg-Horton, grocers have complained that the demand for organic milk has exceeded the supply. Of Maine's 380 dairy farms, 315 are conventional dairy farms and 65 are organic, with dozens more "in transition," the three-year period in which no pesticides, chemical fertilizers, antibiotics or growth hormones can be used before cows and farms are certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as organic.

The small rural farms that mark the pastoral character of New England also create a niche market for organic dairy farmers. To be certified as organic, dairies must allow their cows to graze during the summer. Grazing has remained a standard practice on many small New England farms but has all but died out in other regions of the country.

The short summers in New England, however, mean a long season of feeding stored forages and grain. Feed is the largest single expense for organic dairy farmers, averaging 44 percent of the annual operating expenses, according to a study of Vermont farms. New England farmers can grow grains, but traditionally have imported grain from the Midwest and Canada. With the cost of organic grain continuing to skyrocket, farmers are evaluating whether it pays to grow their own grains.

The Witter experiments will test four basic cropping scenarios, each of which could affect an organic dairy farmer differently, depending upon the size of the farm, the resources available to the farmer and the risk the farmer can afford to take.

For farmers, the experiment will provide information that "comes down to what should their cropping system be like to maximize on-farm production of energy and protein?" Reberg-Horton says.

The project will contrast four cropping systems for growing feed for an organic dairy herd. The four systems characterize farmers with different answers to two important questions: "Should I grow grain?" and "Should I grow corn silage?"

The systems were chosen by a team of organic dairy farmers, processors and non-profit farm organizations to represent the cropping systems and rotation sequences typical in New England. An interdisciplinary team of farmers and researchers will analyze the systems for their impact on profitability, risk management, herd nutrition, nutrient cycling and weed management.

"This research is going to help not only organic farms but conventional farms," says David Marcinkowski, dairy specialist at the University of Maine. "I think overall it would help a lot of Maine farms, whether organic or conventional, be more competitive regionally and nationally."

Researchers will discuss results as they are obtained with organic dairy farmers at annual field days each summer, alternating between UMaine Witter Farm and a private organic farm nearby that raises organic dairy cows.

\$75,000 Grant Broadens Geriatric Social Work Experience for Students

19 Aug 2005

Contact: Len Kaye, 581-3483, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Issues facing today's aging baby boomers are more diverse than those of their generational predecessors, and the UMaine Center on Aging and the School of Social Work have received a three-year, \$75,000 grant to prepare new social workers to address more of those issues.

The grant from the John Hartford Foundation in New York, under the New York Academy of Medicine's Practicum Partnership Program, will allow UMaine to significantly increase the range of practical or clinical experiences for a select number of graduate students in the social work program.

The new practicum opportunities, says Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging and co-director of the new Practicum Partnership Program, will allow students who will work with older adults to "hit the ground running" as they enter the workforce as certified social workers.

"This new funding will allow us to significantly expand the range of front line community programs that UMaine's graduate social work students will be exposed to during the course of their professional education," Kaye says.

Traditionally, students studying for masters degrees in social work spend about a third of their time working in the field with various agencies in Maine, applying what they've learned in class to work experiences in the field, working under the supervision of agency professionals. Students typically are assigned to one agency for a nine-month practicum.

Three graduate students this fall and four students in each of the next two years will be assigned to specific agencies for concentrated clinical work two days a week during their nine-month internships and they'll spend the third day rotating among as many as 10 social service agencies that, in this case, work specifically with older people. The rotation exposes the students to more issues affecting the care of elders, ranging from legal, mental health, planning and advocacy, wellness and health promotion.

"This will result in a new generation of students who are extremely well prepared to deal with the challenges facing Maine's elders," Kaye says. "The more our students know, the better older Mainers will be served. Students, armed with an expanded range of professional skills, will be exceedingly well prepared to deliver high quality social work services and we hope they will spend their careers right here in the communities in which they are so badly needed."

The grant was one of only 10 awarded throughout the country to universities with well-established reputations in social work education. Nancy Kelly, the School of Social Work's field coordinator and program co-director

with Kaye, will oversee student placements. She observes that the selection of the UMaine School of Social Work, along with schools of social work at Fordham, Ohio State, Pittsburgh, Utah, St. Louis, Louisville, Missouri and Washington universities and Fordham University and the Virginia Commonwealth School of Social Work puts UMaine in excellent standing with some of the nation's best programs.

"It's certainly a very prestigious opportunity we're being given here," she says.

Marjie Harris, clinical associate at the Counseling Center at UMaine and Practicum Partnership Program coordinator under the grant, notes that the fact that as many as 10 social service agencies have signed on to accept UMaine students for practical clinical experiences speaks to the trust and respect community agencies have for the UMaine social work program.

Geriatric social work is an understaffed field in need of many more social workers than are being graduated nationally. The extra training will give the UMaine graduates an advantage in the job market.

"Clearly, this will put them beyond the traditional starting point when it comes to a career in geriatric practice," Kaye says.

That's important, adds Harris, because today's elders have substantially different values and needs from their generational predecessors who grew up during the Great Depression. As the baby boom generation approaches retirement age, this new population is healthier, more active and more inquiring than many in older age groups.

Geriatric care, says Leah Ruffin, senior research associate at the Center on Aging, "is not just about the sick elderly. It also is about aging gracefully with changing needs."

Students in the new program must apply for the limited number of practicum placements created by the grant. They will spend more time working in clinical situations and will be paid a stipend for the extra effort. Students not part of the new expanded practicum will maintain their on-the-job learning under existing requirements, but they will benefit from the experiences of the students in the expanded practicum partnership through seminar discussions and workshops that will include representatives from the cooperating social work agencies in the community.

Student Wins National and Regional Awards for Farm Thesis

18 Aug 2005

Contact: Tim Dalton, 581-3237

ORONO -- A former UMaine master's student recently was awarded a first place national award and a second place regional award for her thesis on the effectiveness of new federal farm legislation.

It is the first time a UMaine student has won such an honor, according to Timothy J. Dalton, associate professor of Resource Economics and Policy and advisor to student Kelly Cobourn.

Cobourn, a Virginia native, received the first place award from the American Agricultural Economics Association and second place in a separate Northeast regional competition held by the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association for her thesis assessing the effectiveness of new federal farm bill provisions as they affect farmers and land use.

Titled "Environmental Conservation on Agricultural Working Lands: Assessing Policy Alternatives Using a Spatially Heterogeneous Land Allocation Model," Cobourn found that using new federal farm subsidies and other programs to keep agricultural land in active farming increased environmental benefits but resulted in a decrease in land value. Her thesis suggests that alternative federal programs be considered to help preserve working farms and improve environmental outcomes. The research was based on land-use patterns in Iowa.

After two-and-a-half years at UMaine, Cobourn now is pursuing a doctorate degree at the University of California at Davis.

Page Farm & Home Museum Offers Downeast History Tour Sept. 15

26 Aug 2005

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4115, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum's annual fall field trip will explore Downeast Maine on Sept. 15, with visits by motor coach to the University of Maine's Blueberry Hill Farm research station in Jonesboro and Burnham Tavern Museum, the site of the first naval battle of the American Revolution.

The tour also will stop for lunch at Helen's Restaurant on the tidal Machias River in Machias, designated recently by Life magazine as having the finest blueberry pies in the nation.

The tour bus leaves the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus at 8 a.m. and will return about 4:30 p.m., according to Patricia Henner, museum director. A fee of \$18 covers transportation, museum fees and snacks en route.

The tour is part of the Page Farm and Home Museum's tour program. Twice a year, the museum organized trips to different parts of Maine to learn about history and agriculture.

"We're very excited about this Downeast tour," Henner says. "We think we've picked out two relevant and historically significant places for this year's field trip."

Participants will get a tour of Blueberry Hill Farm, the university's 60-acre blueberry research farm and an explanation of related research focusing on disease, weed and insect control, pollination and honey bees, plant growth and nutrition, produce development and quality, breeding and mechanization and harvesting.

The Tap Room in the Burnham Tavern, built in 1770 in the center of Machias, was the gathering place for townspeople in 1775, when they decided to attack and capture the British war ship Margareta anchored in the harbor. Plans to arrest the ship's commander in church, however, went awry as the commander, having a window seat in church, spotted the villagers, armed with farm implements and a few muskets, approaching. The commander escaped through a window to get back to his ship, which ultimately was chased down and captured in what was the first battle of the Revolutionary War. The tavern museum, which also served as a hospital in the aftermath of the battle, is designated as a National Historic Site by the U.S. Department of the Interior and remains one of the 21 homes in the nation with the most significance to the American Revolution.

The motor coach from Cyr Bus Tours is fully equipped with comfortable seating and restroom facilities, Henner notes. It has room for 46 people. Reservations are requested by Sept. 9 and registration cutoff date is Sept. 12.

The tour will take place rain or shine as the majority of the activities will be indoors, Henner says. The itinerary also includes a stop for coffee at the Hungry Bear Cafe in Cherryfield, the wild blueberry capital of the world, Henner says.

Please call the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100 for reservations or information.

UMaine Student Wins Internship at Smithsonian's American Indian Museum

26 Aug 2005

Contact: David Slagger, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A background in teaching, volunteering, theater and Native American art has placed UMaine student David Slagger, a member of the Micmac Indian Nation, in the right place at the right time for a prestigious

internship at the Smithsonian Institute's new National Museum of the American Indian.

Slagger, a 43-year-old non-traditional student now in his sophomore year in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, recently was selected from a field of 40 applicants nationally for a fall internship in the museum's Public Programs Department. The department plans, coordinates and presents Native theater programs, among other things, at the museum on the Mall in Washington D.C. In addition to receiving a \$1,500 stipend, the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) will provide travel expenses and housing on Capitol Hill.

The independent study internship runs from Sept. 26 to Dec. 2, although he starts his work in Washington Sept. 5. To qualify for the section process, Slagger submitted an essay, letters of recommendation and had to maintain a 3-point grade average. He is the first UMaine student to work at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

Slagger grew up in Aroostook County and now lives in Dedham, and says he is consumed by both excitement and awe over his selection.

"This is one of the greatest accomplishments I've made in getting this internship," Slagger says. "I'm very honored to represent the University of Maine and The Wabanaki Center and my tribe, the Aroostook Micmac Nation."

Slagger has been involved with the Wabanaki Center at UMaine, the American Indians at the University of Maine club and he has displayed some of his Native American art and crafts at the Hudson Museum's annual art and basket sale. His artwork includes painting nature scenes on large fungi he finds in the forest, weaving sweetgrass baskets and using bird feathers and wood to craft dreamcatchers and ceremonial talking sticks.

His theater studies at UMaine include working and participating with a production last fall of a play by Native American playwright William Yellowrobe, taking a class in Native American theater with Sherman Alexis, another Native American playwright who spoke and taught at UMaine last year and working with UMaine's intertribal theater.

Slagger is a veteran of the U.S. Marines and has worked as a volunteer with Native American veterans in Maine for three years, helping them get medals earned but not received during their military service.

He decided to apply for the Smithsonian internship after attending the grand opening last September of the National Museum of the American Indian.

"I was just fascinated with the museum and seeing 20,000 Native people on the Mall was just an unbelievable sight," he says.

Slagger also has worked as a volunteer in area schools, teaching children about Native American culture and he plans to continue his teaching when he graduates from UMaine. He looks forward to working with non-Native teachers who will be adding more Native studies to public schools' curricula, as required under a new state law, LD291.

"What I'm trying to do is set an example for my community and show that Native Americans can step out of the community and succeed in a place like Orono," he says. "The road to success will take us as far as we want to go. There's so much we can do and it's up to us to get there. That's how I got my internship.

UMaine Students Employ Woods Challenge Course to Develop Business Acumen

25 Aug 2005

Contact: Rich Grant, 581-1971, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Self-confidence, teamwork and networking are among the critical but sometimes overlooked interpersonal skills for business men and women, and nearly 50 candidates for UMaine graduate degrees in business will begin their semester Aug. 26 with some unusual activities designed to enhance those skills.

Candidates for the Master's in Business Administration and Master of Science in Accounting at the Maine Business School will undergo a week-long residency week, or "business boot camp," Aug. 26-30. The week includes lectures on various business topics, work sessions at Bangor Savings Bank, where students will assist the bank with a "live case" analysis and assessment of an actual corporate project, and team-building exercises at the university's MaineBound Challenge Course.

Residency week helps the graduate students get to know their classmates, themselves, their professors and some real, as opposed to hypothetical, business challenges. The week is designed to give students hands-on experiences in a real-world business environment, opportunities for group decision-making and a memorable, energetic start to their studies.

On Sunday (Aug. 28) afternoon students, ranging in age from early-20s to mid-50s, will work on communication and team-building exercises, starting about 2:30 p.m. with warm-up drills in Bumstock Field before tackling physical and logistical challenges beneath or among cables, tires and high walls on a woods course designed to test the strongest and boldest of athletes. Students will begin challenge course activities between 3:30 and 4 p.m.

"Our intent is to give incoming graduate students a 'basic training' experience that will help them achieve success in their impending studies, as well as in their careers after earning master's degrees," says Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and a participant in residency week activities.

"Skills such as working well in teams, making effective decisions under fire, and dealing with ambiguity are important ones for our future business leaders to develop," he says.

Students include those with a variety of undergraduate degrees in engineering, education, forestry, liberal arts, math and sciences and business administration, coming from India, Bulgaria, China, Russia, Armenia, Africa and the United States. Some have recently graduated from college and others are experienced professionals returning to academia for an MBA or MSA degree.

"Interpersonal skills, networking and working cooperatively in teams are among the most critical skills a business person can develop and will always use," says Rich Grant, director of graduate programs and executive education at the Maine Business School. "These skills are just as important to career success as knowing how to do a cost benefit analysis and are transferable to anything from contract negotiations to purchase and sales agreements."

Editors' note: Class activities start in Bumstock field at 2:30 p.m. and after warm-up and field exercises, will move to the woods challenge course between 3:30 and 4 p.m. The challenge course is located a short way into the woods behind the Bumstock stage, accessible by a dirt road. Please call 581-3756 if further directions are necessary. The challenge course activities will wrap up about 6:30 p.m., when students and professors relocate to the MaineBound building for a cookout.

Eastern Fine Mill Workers' Stories Wanted

25 Aug 2005

Contact: Amy Stevens, 581-1891

The Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine is seeking former Eastern Fine Paper Inc. workers to discuss their experiences for an oral history project.

The purpose of the project is to document and preserve the history and culture of the mill and its workers through a series of tape-recorded interviews. Starting immediately, the Folklife Center is looking to interview men and women who worked at the Brewer mill in any capacity to share their experiences.

Interviewers would like to hear workers' accounts of the jobs they performed and how they learned their skills, stories they may have about the mill, its people or events that occurred in the mill, including rituals and pranks, and feelings workers had about their jobs, both before and after the mill's closing.

The information will be included in an exhibit titled "The Writing on the Wall: The Twentieth Century Culture of a Maine Paper Mill," which will open in the Brewer mill and then travel throughout the state, so that Mainers can learn more about the culture of paper mills and the lives of mill workers.

Anyone interested in assisting the Folklife Center with this important project or getting more information may contact Amy L. Stevens at the Maine Folklife Center, 5773 South Stevens Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5773; or call (207) 581-1891.

Smithsonian Sept. 11 Exhibit Honors Victims, "Impoverishes" Public

23 Aug 2005

Contact: Amy Fried, 581-1797, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Smithsonian Museum's exhibit commemorating the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in 2001 reveres victims and their families but may shortchange the public, according to an assessment of the exhibit by a UMaine political science professor.

After visiting "September 11: Bearing Witness to History," in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in 2003, Amy Fried, associate professor of political science, concludes in a paper to be published in an upcoming issue of the journal "Political Communication," that the decision to omit historical perspectives deprives the public of an understanding of the significance and consequences of the terrorist attacks. "Political Communication" is an official publication of the American Political Science Association and the International Communication Association.

"I have to say, personally, the exhibit is very moving," says Fried, who undertook the research project because of her interest in studying how people commemorate the past or reinvent it through memorials. "It was extremely emotional, especially having it open a year afterwards."

Curators designed the exhibit as a temporary commemorative project reflecting the nature of the attacks, accompanied by witnesses' reactions. It initially was to run four months but the exhibit is now in its third year. To the frustration of several curators, the exhibit is now a traveling display, being shown well beyond its intended shelf life and without the historical companion programs curators created to add historical perspective.

"September 11: Bearing Witness to History" is a collection of artifacts collected from Ground Zero and the Pentagon. Displayed items include a twisted steel I-beam from the Trade Centers, articles of clothing left behind by fleeing victims, American flags, cell phones, photographs and audio-video clips of 25 witnesses telling their own stories. The exhibit includes booths for visitors to contribute to the exhibit by filling out cards expressing additional personal reflections. The exhibit has more than 20,000 cards.

Fried contends that the exhibit is successful as a powerful and poignant memorialization of the nation's shock and grief. Immediately after the attacks, Americans felt united and shared in their love of country, and this was well-represented by the exhibit, she says.

But the exhibit does little to explain how and why the terrorist attacks happened or what led up to them. There is no mention, for instance, of the hijackers who commandeered passenger airlines to use as navigable bombs, their ideology or an assessment of the aftermath. Curators told Fried in confidential interviews that the exhibit, void of historical context, was meant to be apolitical and never a final representation of the Sept. 11 event.

"Most people said this is fine for what it was," Fried says, "but it was not supposed to last a long time." Curators and Smithsonian researchers also objected to the decision to go on the road with it, she says.

Museums, Fried argues in her manuscript, "The Personalization of Collective Memory: The Smithsonian's September 11 Exhibit," are designed to be informational archives of history and interpret historic events. But, Fried explains in the article, the complexion of museums have changed over the last five or six decades as the focus shifted away from spotlighting politicians and decision-makers to showcasing events as seen by the layperson. Museums lately have become more susceptible to the wishes, even mandates, of the public at the

expense of detailed and rigorous historical analysis, she says.

"History museums communicate the past and thereby contribute to a society's collective memory," Fried writes. "In the past, curators used their professional standing to convey information and analysis. However, history museums increasingly take account of individuals' and groups' views of the past, and are ever more wary of politically charged criticism."

Fried says curators were gun-shy after the controversy over the Smithsonian's exhibit in the 1990s of the Enola Gay, the World War II airplane that dropped the atomic bomb on Japan. After searing criticism from veterans groups, the museum cut from that exhibit a discussion of the effects of the atomic bomb. So, a politically safe 9/11 exhibit can be understood, she says. By making personal recollections from witnesses the major focus of the exhibit, the museum averted political pressure.

Curators told Fried that families of Sept. 11 victims played a significant role in determining the content of the exhibit. Smithsonian administrators and curators insisted that the exhibit was non-political. Yet, Fried argues, "a political perspective could be discerned."

For instance, an exhibit placard states that President George W. Bush and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani helped the nation mourn and galvanized national pride. Fried writes, "These interpretive statements have the effect of portraying the American public in a way that burnishes the leaders' reputation. Perhaps this is why, as several NMAH staff told me, Smithsonian administrators and political officials are pleased with the exhibit. 'It will keep the this message about Bush going and keep the public's paranoia and anxiety going through the 2004 election,' said one NMHA staff member."

Curators' choice to avoid larger geopolitical contexts to Sept. 11 "shows how a personalized approach seems to respect citizens, but ultimately impoverishes public knowledge and collective memory," Fried concludes.

Extension Watches Sea Water Quality through Healthy Beaches Program

19 Aug 2005

Contact: Esperanza Stancioff, 1-800-244-2104, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

WALDOBORO -- Local officials in seaside resort communities have a tough decision to make if they have to close a public beach because of a threat to public safety. It can affect local business.

So, sometimes a few of the municipal officials participating in the Maine Healthy Beaches program Maine don't want to hear from Esperanza Stancioff, associate professor with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Sea Grant and state coordinator for Maine Healthy Beaches.

Response to the program, nevertheless, has been huge and the program has enjoyed 100 percent participation and cooperation, in spite of the frustration when water-quality test results are unpleasant.

Stancioff, also a marine educator and Keri Lindberg, a Maine Healthy Beaches professional also with Cooperative Extension, train and oversee as many as 85 volunteer water-quality monitors on the Maine coast. Findings are reported through an on-line database to local officials, who may be advised to either close public beaches or post water quality advisories if unhealthy water conditions exist. With funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the program is now in its third year tracking water quality and sanitation issues on 42 of Maine's 46 public beaches.

"The towns are participating in the program and we've had great success," she says. Water testing volunteers include citizens, lifeguards, firefighters, park rangers and local conservation commission members.

Their work is particularly important this summer, which has seen increased incidences of water pollution. Maine Healthy Beaches is about educating people about water quality and also about ways to maintain healthier beaches.

"To me, one of the most important opportunities in doing this work is in educating the public about land use

and best practices at the beach," Stancioff says from her Waldoboro office. "What we encourage is protection of public health. The other important outcome from the program is that we are finding that we have some pollution issues we didn't know we had before and are beginning to work together to identify and remediate sources."

In the past, Maine hasn't had any structure in place to monitor coastal beach water quality to protect public health, nor an education effort for best practices at the beach by the public. The Healthy Beaches program, funded this year by a \$259,000 EPA grant, has a long list of collaborators including Maine Sea Grant/UMCE, Maine Coastal Program, Maine departments of Health, Planning, Marine Resources and Conservation; in addition to nonprofits, municipalities, state parks and citizen volunteers.

In 2003, a Quality Assurance Project Plan and Notification System were developed, regional laboratories were set up, training programs and educational programs initiated and feedback mechanisms were designed into the program. In the past year, eight new state parks or municipalities were added, bringing the total to 15 state parks or towns with 30 beach management areas involved in the program.

"It's grown exponentially. Some of these areas have never been monitored before," Stancioff says.

The program now covers 85 percent of the beaches in southern Maine with high usage, which are monitored systematically, using quality control and quality assurance methods. As a result, Maine's coastal beaches are safer places to recreate, Stancioff says.

Fecal contamination that can cause water to be unsafe for swimming can come from humans or wildlife, whether it is caused by an infant's dirty diapers to failing septic systems seeping into the sea or excrement from seals, birds or pets on the beaches. In essence it comes from non-point source pollution -- including as a partial list sources as yet unidentified from failing septic systems, agriculture runoff, and rotting seaweed on the beach.

"Non-point source pollution is fairly ubiquitous," Stancioff says. "We can't actually point to it and say 'that' is the unidentified source."

There are, however, patterns that can suggest the source of coastal pollution. For instance, after a heavy rain, if the pollution levels rise, the cause might well be coming from storm water overflows, occasionally dumping raw sewage into rivers and streams in towns that have not upgraded or separated their septic or storm water collection systems. In a busy harbor with lots of pleasure boats and yachts, a cause of high bacteria counts might be logically assumed to come from overboard discharges of sewage from yachts. A systematic approach in determining sources needs to be taken, including conducting sanitary shoreline surveys and intensive monitoring of target areas, Stancioff says.

Maine Healthy Beaches website, <http://www.mainehealthybeaches.org>, explains the program and steps the public can take to keep beaches cleaner, along with a new feature added recently -- a beach status list showing which beaches are open and which may have advisories up.

"We've had 2,409 hits in the last two days and 46,579 in July," Stancioff says.

UMaine Folklife Center Offering Preview of Brewer Paper Mill History

28 Dec 2005

Contact: Amy Stevens, 581-1891; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- An effort to collect and preserve the stories of generations of former workers at Eastern Fine Paper Mill in Brewer is entering a new phase, as the Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine has received renewed funding from the Maine Humanities Council to sustain the project.

Researchers are inviting Brewer city officials and all interested members of the public to a meeting at Brewer Auditorium on Jan. 18 in the conference room, from 6-8 p.m., to preview a pilot DVD showing video-taped

interviews with former mill workers, along with photographs of a century of work at the mill. The mill operated under several different owners from the late nineteenth century to January, 2004.

The Folklife Center has interviewed about 20 people and wants to contact more of the people who either worked at the mill or who were affected by its operation -- or closure -- including local families and merchants, according to Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the center and a faculty associate in anthropology.

"Some people have families who worked for generations and it's very important to them that the history of the mill is saved," she says. "Some very interesting stories have come up about the sense of community among the people who worked there, and their sense of loss."

MacDougall says researchers want to show the community how the project is progressing and also to gather feedback from the public. School teachers, for instance, could offer ideas about how the project can be used in the classroom. The DVD to be shown at the meeting will be representative of the project, although the Folklife Center will create a finished product after more interviews. The Folklife Center recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Maine Humanities Council to continue their work.

Interviewers are recording workers' accounts of the jobs they performed, how they learned their skills, stories they may have about the mill, its people or events that occurred in the mill, including rituals and pranks, and feelings workers had about their jobs, both before and after the mill's closing.

The information will be included in an exhibit titled "The Writing on the Wall: The Twentieth Century Culture of a Maine Paper Mill," which will open in the Brewer mill and then travel throughout the state, so Mainers can learn more about the culture of paper mills and the lives of mill workers.

Photographer and New Media lecturer Bill Kuykendall is overseeing the DVD production.

More information about the project or the meeting Jan. 18 is available by contacting Pauleena MacDougall or Amy L. Stevens at the Maine Folklife Center at (207) 581-1891.

Early Literacy Educators to Hear Specialist on Diverse Learning

29 Dec 2005

Contact: Kay Hyatt, (207) 581-2761

ORONO, Maine -- International literacy consultant Blair Koefoed of New Zealand will be the featured speaker and group leader at the annual Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Institute sponsored by the Center for Literacy at the University of Maine. The Saturday, Jan. 7 conference takes place at the Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield.

More than 125 Reading Recovery and early literacy educators from around the state are expected to attend the daylong professional development event. The theme is "Dealing in Diversity: The teacher, the child and their lesson," which focuses on understanding differences in learning and optimizing learning for each child.

Reading Recovery is a research-based, early intervention that can bring the lowest-achieving first graders up to the average reading and writing level of their classmates, avoiding years of more expensive remedial services and a lifetime of academic failure. The progression takes place within 12-20 weeks through one-on-one instruction by highly trained Reading Recovery teachers during daily 30-minute tutorials.

Koefoed studied and trained at the University of Auckland with Reading Recovery developer Marie Clay during the early 1980s. The success of the program in detecting children's early reading and writing difficulties and accelerating their literacy growth soon led to the nationwide adoption of Reading Recovery in New Zealand. It was introduced to the United States in 1984 at The Ohio State University, and the University of Maine has been a Reading Recovery Training Center since 1992. The UMaine site serves approximately 200 schools statewide.

A specialist in literacy practices in modern education systems, Koefoed has been actively involved in the implementation of Reading Recovery in New Zealand, Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom and

Bermuda. At the Jan. 7 conference, he will help Maine educators better understand what individual children bring to the classroom in terms of literacy knowledge and skills and how to more effectively match text to those needs and competencies.

Koefoed's presentation to Maine teachers is particularly timely as new Reading Recovery materials focusing on individual learners will be published in the spring of 2006, according to Mary Rosser, University of Maine Reading Recovery Training Center director.

The institute runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in KVCC's Carter Hall. Media are welcome to attend. Contacts at the institute include Mary Rosser, University trainer; and the Reading Recovery regional site Teacher Leaders; Whendy Smith, Benton; Nancy Todd, Caribou; Anne Jordan, Dexter; Janelle Burgoyne, Enfield; Debra LaRoche, Machias; Sharon Greaney, Old Town; Cindy Kirchherr, Oxford; Marge Ryder, South Portland; Sue Lander, Westbrook; and Mona Schlein, Wiscasset.

Maine's "Brownie" Brown Inducted into 4-H Hall of Fame

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Note: a photo is available on request.

CHEVY CHASE, Md. -- Harold "Brownie" Brown has devoted the bulk of his working life to youth education, much of it to Maine 4-H. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, Brown, the current president of the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation board was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame at an event in Maryland in October.

Brown grew up in the mountains of Rumford, and served in the Korean War before beginning his long career in youth education. In 1967 he left his position as a high school principal in Hermon and began working with the Maine Talent Utilization Project, helping young people plan for their post-high school futures. He has spent 33 years as a UMaine Extension 4-H educator and was Maine state 4-H program coordinator for 17 years. Brown led the development of Maine 4-H's international program, facilitating exchange experiences with Costa Rica and Japan for Maine young people. He established a travel award program to fund overseas experiences for youth, and the Harold H. Brown International Travel Awards are presented each year at the 4-H Foundation's annual meeting.

Brown is a former state president of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents and a recipient of their Achievement and Distinguished Service Awards. On a national level, he has been known to some as the face and the voice of National 4-H Congress. At home in Maine, Brown's professional affiliations have included service as chair of the Governor's Advisory Council for Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, chair of the UMaine President's Advisory Council for Retirees; as a board member of Maine's Youth Fish & Game Association, and membership on the Task Force on Fish Hatcheries.

4-H grew out of boys and girls clubs of the early 20th century organized for agricultural education. Today's 4-H is part of the national Cooperative Extension System, which is operated through each state's land-grant university. In Maine, 4-H programs focusing on leadership, citizenship and life skills are offered for young people aged five to 18 through University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Brown has helped Maine 4-H remain relevant for kids in the 21st century. Agriculture, he commented, while vital, is now "just a piece of what 4-H is. 4-H is moving into school-based programming, because we have to reach young people where they are. So many things compete for kids' time and attention . . . what we offer is really quality, the very best we can offer." Brown's commitment to the value of 4-H is such that he has pledged support for Maine 4-H through his membership in the University of Maine Foundation's Charles F. Allen Society. ". . . I wanted to say, in effect, 'thank you,' and that I believe in the program. I have been enriched as a person by 4-H for the past 30-plus years, he says."

Hall of Fame inductees are chosen by a committee consisting of past inductees and representatives from

national 4-H organizations.

UMaine will Introduce New Hay Rebalancing Technology at AG Trades Show

29 Dec 2005

Contact: Associate Extension Professor Donna Lamb, (207) 564-3301

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine's J. Frank Witter Center has developed hay rebaling technology that promises to raise profits for Maine hay producers and increase hay availability for livestock owners.

Hay producers like to harvest hay in large round bales, rather than small rectangular (known as "square") bales, because round bales allow them to harvest and store hay with minimal cost and labor. A single person can often bale and store all of the hay grown on an average Maine farm with round bale harvesting. The drawback is that these large bales average about 750 pounds, making them difficult to handle, transport, sell, and use as feed.

Small-scale livestock owners who buy hay like small, square bales averaging around 40 pounds, even though they cost more per pound, because these bales can be picked up and handled manually. Yet it costs hay growers an estimated 60 percent more to bale hay in this manner.

The technology being tested at UMaine's Witter Center is used in feeding the farm's horses. It allows easily harvested and stored large round hay bales to be remade into small square bales as needed. Preliminary trials suggest that the rebaling process costs considerably less than baling square bales in the field, and could result in a projected increased revenue for hay growers of about \$105 an acre.

James Leiby, University of Maine, and Donna Lamb, UMaine Cooperative Extension, will discuss this new "value-added" hay marketing concept on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. in the Androscoggin Room at the Agricultural Trades Show at the Augusta Civic Center. All interested people are welcome to attend.