Correspondence from a UMaine Alumnus

Name Redacted

Howard R. Neville
*President, University of Maine*

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March 27, 1974

Gentlemen,

For many years I contributed to the Alumni Fund but I find it impossible to do anymore. Although I have not lived in the state since graduation, I have been kept informed. What I have heard, I do not agree with. The policy changes at the U of M, during recent years, are not ones I can support.

The Homosexual Convention was the last straw. You can cross me off your list and save postage because my money will never be used for or connected with a university that sanctions what has been going on at Maine. I'm sure that many Alumni feel as I do. over
And when the University
— forget it —
you will note that I used
my own stamp. Wouldn’t
want more taxpayer money
spent on unsolicited comments.

Kendeen Dr.
Grace Date, 20 Le, Michigan
48138
April 9, 1974

Knudsen Drive
Groose Ile, Michigan  48138

Dear Mr. [redacted]:

Mr. Lester Nadeau, Executive Director of the General Alumni Association, has given me a copy of your letter to the GAA on March 24, 1974. I have read it with more than casual interest and I am much distressed with what it says—for our alumni are terribly important to the University and, if we are going to continue to be the kind of University that most people in Maine and our alumni want us to be and if we are going to continue to build the University to what we can be, we will need your help and that of all alumni.

As a new President who came in September and found a lot of what you are concerned about, I, too, am concerned. Somehow or other we must all work together to do what is right not only for the University but for all the people in Maine and the students at the University. It is a fast moving world and in many respects is not what any or each of us would like it to be. We are trying to make some changes but as you know they come ever so slowly, especially if they are in the "right direction."

I hope that you will take another look at what we are trying to do and what we are trying to bring about and continue in some way to give us your moral and psychological support.

For your information, attached is a copy of the Trustees' action and my statement immediately thereafter relating to the issues you raised in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Howard R. Neville
President