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2018

## 2018 President's Report

University of Maine

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## President's Report 2018

The 2017–18 academic year was an important chapter in University of Maine history. It was the final year in the four-year term of President Susan J. Hunter. It was the first full year in the implementation of the Primary Partnership of UMaine and University of Maine at Machias, and a time of assessment following UMaine's five-year strategic plan that ended in 2017. In July 2018, we welcomed UMaine's 21st President Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

This 2018 *President's Report* reflects highlights of the breadth and depth of the exemplary work of Maine's flagship university and Maine's regional campus in enrollment; workforce development; service, community outreach and engaged learning opportunities; fiscal responsibility; research and economic development; and the culture of excellence, including our student services.

# Maine's land and sea grant university

The University of Maine's mission is to provide teaching, research and economic development, and engagement that serve the state

The most comprehensive academic offerings in the state

## Enrollment

Growing enrollment to meet Maine's needs is a top priority of the state's flagship university.

- The fall 2017 entering class was the largest in UMaine's history, with 2,999 first-year students enrolled at October census. The fall 2016 entering class had set the first-year enrollment record. The fall 2018 entering class is 2,248 at census — UMaine's second largest entering class.
- The quality of UMaine first-year classes is improving. The mean SAT score for the fall 2017 entering class was up five points over the previous year, and the mean SAT for the fall 2018 entering class is eight points higher than last year.
- The Think 30 initiative at UMaine continues to impact students' enrollment patterns. There was a 10 percent increase in the number of students entering their second year of study with 30 or more credit hours in fall 2017, as compared to before the launch of Think 30. That percentage is expected to continue to increase.
- Winter Session at UMaine continues to grow in enrollments. Enrollment in 2017 Winter Session (1,219) was 72 percent higher than in 2015, and up 27 percent over last year.
- UMM was awarded a total of nearly \$225,000 in MELMAC and Davis Foundation grants to further its student retention and success efforts in student academic supports and supplemental instruction.



- UMaine succeeded in securing a block grant from the University of Maine System to launch four new early college initiatives. UMaine's programs focus on preparing students to be successful in STEM disciplines.
- UMM's early college numbers also continue to rise, with several initiatives underway to support those students. New financial incentives and a series of certificates attract quality early college students to UMM.
- UMM reorganized its Admissions Office as part of the Primary Partnership with UMaine. The enhanced recruiting efforts are paying off with positive trends in all categories: in-state, out-of-state, transfer and first-year students.
- UMM significantly reduced its out-of-state tuition to attract and retain more international and out-of-state students. For fall 2018, there was an 80 percent increase in confirmed new out-of-state students.
- UMM launched a new initiative, the Downeast Promise, to support first-time, full-time Maine students. All eligible students will receive sufficient grant or scholarship funding to cover 30 credits a year of tuition and fees.

Students from every county in Maine, 49 U.S. states and territories, and 62 countries



## Workforce Development

UMaine and UMM are focused on meeting Maine's workforce needs

Students experience a distinctive array of research, scholarship and creative achievement opportunities

- The Life After UMaine survey of 2014–15 graduates shows that 95 percent of College of Engineering graduates are employed full time at an average salary of over \$60,000, or pursuing a graduate degree. About 60 percent work in Maine.
- An estimated 77 percent of UMM graduates are either employed in their fields or attending graduate school within a year of graduation.
- The legislature approved debt service to allow for approximately \$50 million to be used to build UMaine's Engineering Education and Design Center. Private fundraising has brought the total funds in hand to \$61 million of the \$75 needed to complete the building.
- The Foster Center for Student Innovation provided counseling to 67 students and business work space for seven companies/student entrepreneurship projects. A new student business accelerator course called StartUp Lab was piloted in spring 2018. The curriculum is based on Innovation Engineering principles and the Business Model Canvas. Students were matched with community mentors and exposed to workshops and learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Four student entrepreneurs completed the course and presented their tested business model at the Top Gun showcase.
- In the past year, the Innovation Engineering undergraduate curriculum underwent significant change. The new Create and Communicate courses were developed and taught for the first time in AY17–18. The Fundamentals of Innovation Engineering course saw continued enrollment growth with 225 students.



UMaine offers nearly 100 undergraduate majors and programs, as well as master's and doctoral degree programs

- For the seventh consecutive year, the Innovate for Maine Fellows program continues to play a vital role in the talent pipeline for innovative companies in the state. Managed by UMaine's Foster Center, the program selects the best and brightest college students with ties to Maine who are interested in innovation and matches them with the state's most innovative, growing companies. This past year, 34 interns were placed in 39 company projects. To date, 181 companies and 187 fellows representing 33 colleges and universities have participated.
- More than 20 employers are now designated employers in the core cohort of UMaine's Flagship Internship Program, and nine students participated in a boot camp experience in May. With the addition of three UMaine internship programs, approximately 100 students participated in Flagship Internship programs this past year, up from the 17 students who participated in the first cohort last year.
- FocusMaine, a program started in southern Maine, strengthens the state's economy through workforce development in key sectors. In FY18, the program and opportunities for interns and companies expanded to the Bangor region with the help of UMaine's Office of Innovation and Economic Development. It is enhancing professional development opportunities provided to interns participating in the Innovate for Maine and Flagship programs.
- UMM has been working with six regional partners in the Family Futures Downeast program, which offers a certificate in family studies to qualified adult learners. This innovative program is a nationally recognized two-generation educational and workforce development program designed to help lift Washington County families out of poverty. The program continues to show impressive progress with 100 percent of the students in this year's cohort making the Dean's List, and 92 percent of them continuing beyond the certificate.
- The UMaineGOLD initiative was launched to grow online graduate professional programs and ensure the highest quality standards in online education.



## Service, Community Outreach and Engaged Learning Opportunities

Community engagement — from volunteerism to internships — ignite passion in students

UMaine and UMM hold Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation

- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism at UMaine engaged some 6,069 students participating in 268 projects for 100 community organizations, totaling more than 23,000 hours of service.
- UMaine's Engaged Black Bear digital badging program now includes UMM's new Engaged Clipper initiative, with a focus on career readiness. UMM's digital badges are modeled on UMaine's Engaged Black Bear credentials.
- UMM staff created a Veterans Committee to better understand and address student veteran needs. This group also will collaborate with student support staff focused on adult learner supports. A related goal is to encourage more veteran parents to apply to the Family Futures Downeast program, which provides wrap-around supports and barrier removal for those students.
- The UMM student group Food Recovery Network won the President's Campus Leadership Award through Maine Campus Compact. The group grew and donated hundreds of pounds of fresh produce for area food pantries, sponsored community meals for local families, and helped raise over \$30,000 toward mitigating food insecurity in the Down East region.
- The Cooperative Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory opened in June.
- Maine 4-H programs served more than 23,400 youth through 4-H camps and learning centers, 4-H community clubs, school, afterschool and special interest programs.
- Over 4,800 Maine people volunteered more than 91,000 hours with Cooperative Extension in a myriad of ways — from 4-H clubs and fundraising to growing foods.



- The University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias had balanced FY19 unrestricted (Educational & General, Auxiliary, and Designated) base budgets.
- The University of Maine Foundation reports total endowment of \$327.3 million for the University of Maine as of June 30, 2018. Fundraising for the year ended June 30, 2018 totaled \$36.9 million, including \$10 million committed to the Engineering Education and Design Center. The \$200 million Vision for Tomorrow comprehensive campaign reached 77 percent of its goal.
- UMaine continued development toward a long-term energy solution, with the goals of achieving low and stable costs of a reliable energy supply, and providing a path for meeting the university's climate commitment.
- The university has realized a 31 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the FY06 baseline.
- Dining Services increased local purchasing by 3 percent — more than \$935,000 spent locally — to bring the total to more than 20 percent.



## Financial Responsibility

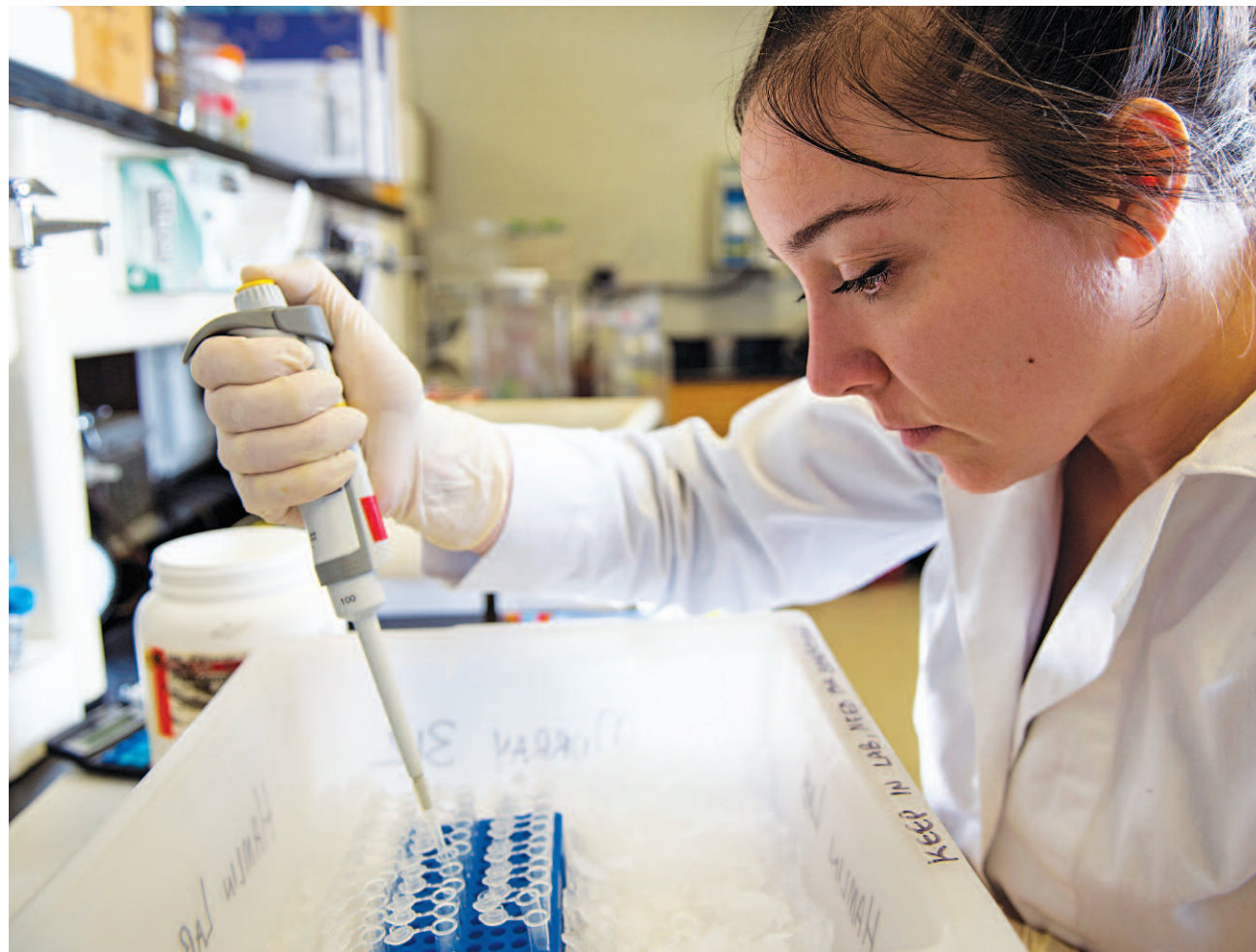
Stewardship is at the core of Maine's largest public university

UMaine faculty — leading researchers and scholars in their fields — mentor students

## Research and Economic Development

UMaine faculty and students conduct research in every county in Maine, and help build the state economy

- Awards managed through the Office of Research Administration increased by more than \$1 million over FY17 for a total of \$57.8 million. Similarly, Indirect Costs increased from \$8.8 million in FY17 to \$9.9 million in FY18. The top four funding agencies: National Science Foundation, USDA, Department of Defense and Department of Commerce.
- UMaine is consistently ranked among the top third of public universities engaged in research through the NSF Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey, and is classified as a Higher Research Activity Institution by Carnegie.
- The Office of Innovation and Economic Development organized a commercialization summit in January 2018 to report on the findings of the Commercialization Working Group; to share proposed strategies for strengthening innovation and economic development activities; and to get feedback on those strategies from key stakeholders, including faculty and staff, UMS partners, current and potential industry collaborators, and partners such as the Maine Technology Institute (MTI). The summit served as a kickoff for the new Innovation and Economic Development Council chaired by the Provost. The Innovation and Economic Development Council



focuses on enhancing and enabling commercialization of research as an economic driver for the state.

- As part of the Research Reinvestment Fund, the first Maine Innovation, Research and Technology Accelerator (MIRTA) cohort of faculty innovation teams was named in spring 2018. Five teams were selected to advance their projects from basic and applied research and development stages to commercialization. Each team significantly advanced its commercialization readiness level and developed a commercialization plan for innovation, with two teams now planning to pursue startups, two teams developing partnerships for licensing opportunities and the fifth team planning to start with direct licensing from the university to end users that may lead to a startup company.
- UMM's marine biology research faculty are collaborating with Passamaquoddy tribal members to cultivate seaweed as a cash crop and boost the shellfish industry through affiliation with the Downeast Institute. These projects have been supported by Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF) grants.
- The UpStart Center for Entrepreneurship in Orono has eight tenant companies and two affiliate companies, out of which two graduated from the incubator. Collectively, the companies raised \$2.25 million in MTI grants and equity funding. The business incubation staff also provides support at the Union River Center for Innovation incubator in Ellsworth and the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center to help support its business incubation activities at UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR) and the Darling Marine Center.
- In FY18, the CCAR in Franklin worked with three companies on aquaculture commercialization projects and with two others on research projects.
- In FY18, UMaine research centers and institutes supported 445 undergraduate and 239 graduate students.

Maine's partner in economic development, the University of Maine turns knowledge into solutions



## Culture of Excellence

The breadth and depth of a research university is reflected in the UMaine and UMM student experience



- UMaine continues to be ranked among the nation's top universities by U.S. News and World Report, Fiske Guide and Princeton Review. The latter also cites UMaine as one of the nation's Top 50 Green Colleges.
- More than 1,300 undergraduate and graduate students presented their work during the third annual University of Maine Student Symposium in April. The annual event, organized by UMaine Graduate Student Government and the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) as part of Maine Impact Week, provided an opportunity for community members to meet student researchers and scholars, see their posters and exhibits, hear their presentations, and view short performances and art. The 2018 UMaine Student Symposium was made possible by 37 members of the organizing committee, 64 volunteers and 164 judges.
- The University of Maine graduate student body includes seven NSF Graduate Research Fellows, three NIH F31 Awardees, and 10 Fulbright and USAID Pretasi Fellows. Skylar Bayer, who received her Ph.D. in May 2017, has been in Washington, D.C. on a Knauss Fellowship funded through NOAA.
- The University of Maine's 2018 valedictorian was Graham Van Goffrier of Norwell, Massachusetts and the salutatorian was Brianna DeGone of Turner, Maine. Van Goffrier received a bachelor's degree in physics, with minors in electrical engineering, mathematics and nanotechnology, and a master's degree in electrical engineering — both earned during his four years at UMaine. DeGone, who also was the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering, received a bachelor's degree in bioengineering, with a minor in business administration.
- UMaine's top faculty awards in 2018:
  - *Presidential Public Service Achievement Award*  
Ivan Fernandez, professor of soil sciences and forest resources
  - *Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award*  
Senthil Vel, the Arthur O. Willey Professor of Mechanical Engineering
  - *Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award*  
Yong Chen, professor of fisheries population dynamics
  - *Distinguished Maine Professor Award*  
Frank Drummond, professor of insect ecology; and the insect pest management and wild blueberry pollination specialist in University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- UMM's top faculty awards in 2018:
  - *Arthur S. and Frances A. Buswell Academic Enhancement Award*  
Tora Johnson, associate professor of geographic information systems
  - *Frederic A. Reynolds Faculty Award*  
Sherrie Sprangers, professor of biology

- The Association of American Colleges & Universities recognized UMM's Psychology and Community Studies Program for its community engagement and featured the program on its website as a case study in civic learning.
- UMaine student-athlete successes included women's ice hockey nationally ranked in the top 10 and field hockey nationally ranked in the top 15 in 2017–18. In addition, women's basketball went to the NCAA tournament.
- In the 2017–18 academic year, 268 UMaine student-athletes were recognized for achieving a GPA of 3.0+.
- At UMM, 21 student-athletes were named to the Yankee Small College Conference (YSCC) All-Academic Conference Team and 10 student-athletes were named All-Academics by the U.S. Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA). Ten student-athletes were named Athlete of the Week by the YSCC and six were named All-Conference.

### Spotlight on Students

UMaine is a student-centered university, supporting and preparing them to succeed

- The Student Behavior Review Team was established.
- The Office of Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention with a Deputy Title IX Coordinator was developed and staffed.
- The Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program was reorganized into a full-service resource center.
- The Commuter and Nontraditional Student Office was upgraded to a new facility.
- The Veterans Education and Transition Services was established and staffed.
- The First-Year Center was reorganized to become the First-Year and Transfer Student Center.
- Residence Life, and Campus Activities and Student Engagement merged to become Campus Life.
- A Bias Response Team was established.
- The Office of Student Accessibility Support Services was brought into Student Life.
- The Office of Multicultural Student Life brought the LGBTQ Rainbow Resource Center under its auspices and was up-staffed to accommodate growing interest and student demand.

UMaine is home to the state's only NCAA Division I athletics program





## Points of Pride

The University of Maine, the state's land grant and sea grant university, is student-centered, with a focus on undergraduate and graduate research throughout Maine and around the world. UMaine's teaching, research, scholarship, innovation and public service are recognized for excellence statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally.

The University of Maine at Machias is Maine's coastal university. Through its environmental liberal arts core, distinctive baccalaureate programs and student-centered community, UMM creates enriching educational opportunities that prepare graduates for professional success and lifelong engagement with the world.

UMaine has:

- Partnerships in innovation and economic development statewide, helping turn knowledge into solutions to benefit Maine.
- 109,000 alumni worldwide.
- Students from every county in Maine, 49 other U.S. states and territories, and 62 countries. (2018–19)
- An enrollment of 11,404. (2018–19)
- The most comprehensive academic offerings in the state with nearly 100 undergraduate majors and academic programs.
- More than 100 degree programs through which students can earn graduate certificates, master's, doctoral or professional science master's degrees.
- Maine's only NCAA Division I athletics program.
- Statewide presence with 16 UMaine Cooperative Extension offices, five research field stations, a marine sciences research facility in Walpole and incubation facility in Franklin.
- One of the nation's longest established honors programs.
- World-class faculty committed to mentoring and actively engaging students in research and scholarship.
- Community engagement opportunities — from the Maine Hello tradition to volunteerism, internships, travel-study courses and study abroad — igniting passion in students, and helping address issues locally and globally.
- More than 200 student clubs and organizations.
- The state's largest library.

UMM has:

- Community partnerships throughout Down East Maine.
- An enrollment of 800 students from across New England, the United States and the world; 14 percent are from beyond Maine.
- Eleven majors and 28 minors.
- Five intercollegiate athletic teams.

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