

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

2017

2017 President's Report

University of Maine

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

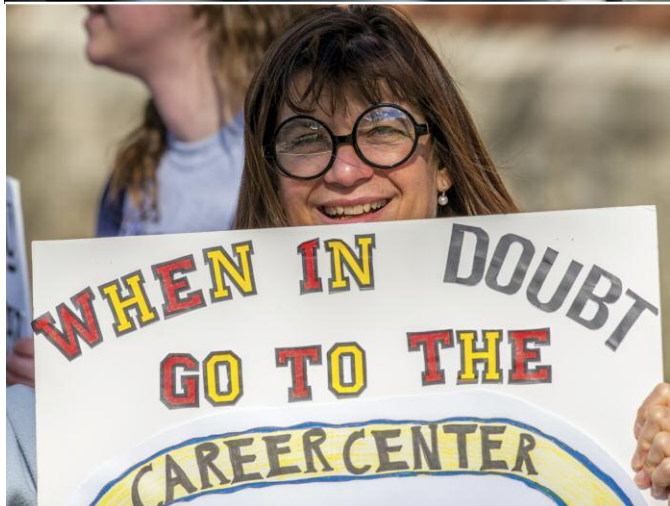
University of Maine, "2017 President's Report" (2017). *General University of Maine Publications*. 939.
https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications/939

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.



President's **Report** | *2017*





President's Report | 2017



President Susan J. Hunter

For more than 150 years ago, Maine's land grant university has had a statewide mission to ensure that its teaching, research and public service make a difference, border to border. The University of Maine is dedicated to accomplishing what matters to Maine communities and citizens, and is strategically focused on the state's future.

That stewardship takes many forms. It is found in UMaine's commitment to making higher education affordable for Maine families, and to recruiting the best and brightest students to help meet the state's workforce needs. It also is found in the breadth and depth of the UMaine experience, and the focus on being a student-centered university with a culture of excellence.

As Maine's public research university, UMaine pursues innovation and turns knowledge into economic development solutions. Just as important, UMaine partners statewide to help bring about the most efficient and effective advances possible to benefit Maine.

Whether as a vibrant cultural hub, a resource for lifelong learning or an advocate for community engagement, the University of Maine contributes to the quality of life in this state.

The highlights cited in this year's *President's Report* are representative — and among the countless examples — of UMaine's leadership in these areas, and are the solid foundation on which we will continue to build in the years ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan J. Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

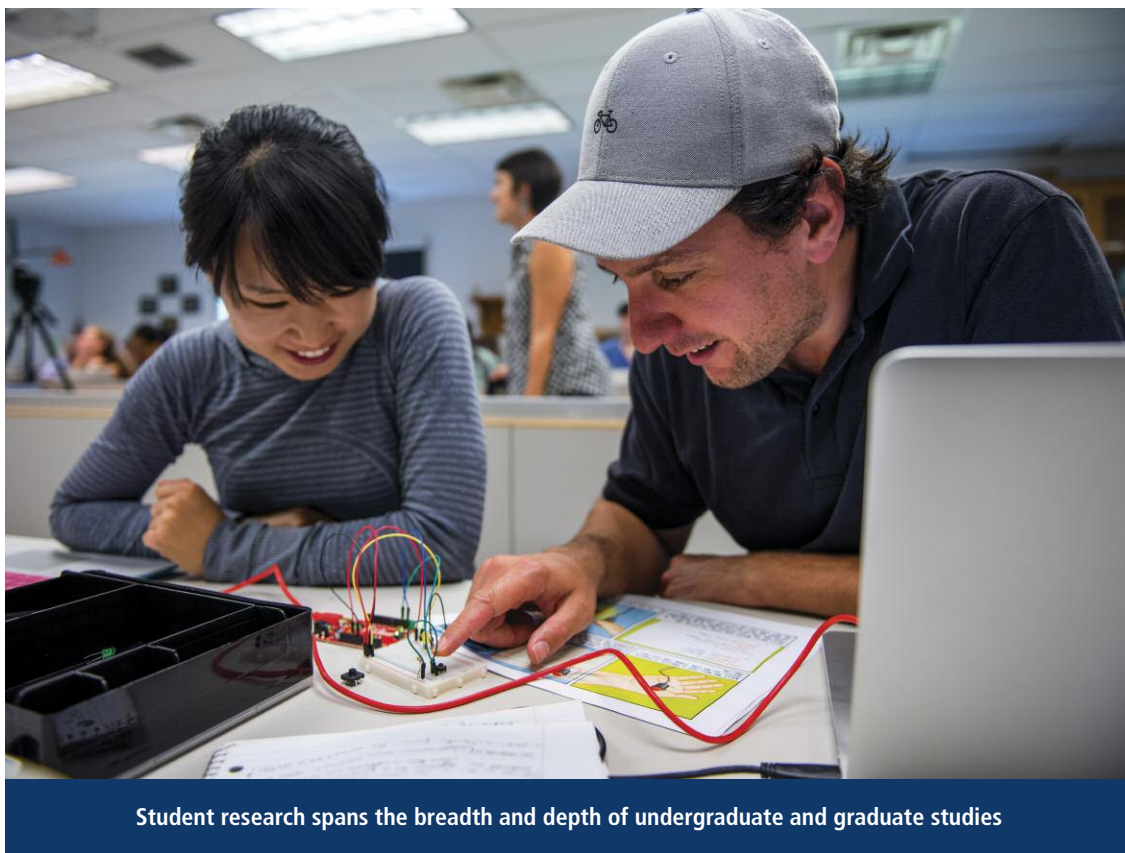
Maine's land and sea grant university serving the state

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

Enrollment

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

- UMaine completed the second year of a new campaign to grow first-year enrollment. The campaign has resulted in back-to-back record incoming classes.
- The Maine Top Scholars Program was launched with the goal of attracting a group of 20 of Maine's strongest academic students. The program resulted in nearly twice the enrollment expected with 38 of the state's best and brightest choosing to attend UMaine.
- The Flagship Match Program finished its second year with an incoming, first-year out-of-state enrollment increase of 15% over fall 2016.
- The Maine Matters Scholarship Program continues to guarantee that all Maine students will receive some form of scholarship to attend the University of Maine.
- A Graduate Regional Scholarship was established, offering tuition discounting focused on students applying to professionally oriented master's programs in the Northeastern states. In this, the first year of the two-year pilot, there were 86 qualified applicants, 41 admissions and 12 confirmations by the end of the fiscal year.



Student research spans the breadth and depth of undergraduate and graduate studies

Think ³⁰

Cost Savings — Retention and Graduation

- The University of Maine is committed to providing high-quality education at a cost that is within reach of families with college-bound students. Think 30, an initiative launched in 2015, encourages students to complete 30 credits per year — and makes it easier for them to do that — so they can graduate in four years while saving money and reducing debt. Students are encouraged to take advantage of Winter Session, Summer University and year-round online courses.
- In fall 2016, 74% of first-time, full-time students attempted 15+ credits, up 14 percentage points from 2015, and among those continuing in the spring, the percentage attempting 15+ credits was up 16 points from the year before to 78%.
- At the start of the fall 2017 semester, an estimated 71% of the returning first-time, full-time students were expected to enroll with 30+ earned credits, up 6 percentage points from Think 30's inception.
- During year two of Winter Session, 933 students completed three-credit hour courses, representing a 38% increase over year one.
- Think 30 and the many initiatives helping students graduate in four-years are paying off. In 2016, 40% of students who started at UMaine in fall 2012 graduated — the highest percentage in 10 years.



Welcome weekend at UMaine includes a day of service for first-year students

Workforce Development

UMaine is focused on meeting Maine's workforce needs.

- Every year, the University of Maine graduates more students than any other institution in the state. And those students are prepared to succeed. Over 75% of students who earned a baccalaureate degree in 2014–15 are employed full time and another 7% are enrolled in graduate school full time. Almost 70% of the students employed full time are working in Maine, earning a median income of \$36,000 in their first jobs.
- The Graduate School continued to increase its student recruitment activities through the use of a new TargetX CRM, focusing on professional graduate programs — primarily in business, education, social work, communication sciences and disorders, and global policy. Graduate enrollment is 1,961 — up 3% (65 students) from last year.
- In UMaine's growing 4+1 programs, undergraduates can earn a master's degree in one additional year. Twenty 4+1 accelerated programs have been developed. Seven students will complete the master's degree this year; seven more are admitted.
- The Foster Center for Student Innovation provided counseling to 78 students and business work space for five companies/innovation projects. Through multiple revenue sources, the center continued the Innovate for Maine fellowship/internship program, placing 24 students in projects with 39 companies. In addition, the Innovation Engineering program graduated five minors and two graduate certificates.
- The pilot of the Flagship Internship Program launched with 19 students, introducing them to career opportunities in Maine. In a four-day bootcamp, they learned important career skills while touring Maine businesses and meeting young business leaders in the region.
- At the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research, workforce development was at an all-time high with eight student and industry interns working alongside 12 industry employees.
- The Hutchinson Center launched a portfolio of professional development programs and workshops for community members.



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



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

Service, Community Outreach and Engaged Learning Opportunities

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

- Student Life entered into a partnership with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences through the Leadership Institute and Student Organizations and Leadership Development Office to incorporate large service-learning projects into the classroom experience.
- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism engaged some 5,285 students participating in 245 projects for 103 community organizations totaling more than 21,000 hours of services. The Black Bear Exchange houses the campus food pantry to support our community and address food insecurities.
- The Honors College sponsored the 2017 Hungry 100K: Maine Day Meal Pack-out, where more than \$25,000 was raised to allow the more than 250 volunteers to pack over 107,000 meals.
- For the second consecutive year, UMaine was selected as one of 38 institutions nationwide to partner with the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. Extensive engagement with the local community is a hallmark of this program. In 2017, UMaine hosted 25 emerging public management leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa for a six-week academic and leadership institute, sponsored by the U.S. State Department.
- The Engaged Black Bear program was launched with seven learning pathways and 28 badges developed. Eighty-four e-badges were issued in this first year of this innovative student engagement initiative funded by the David Foundation.
- In 2016, donations of 257,195 pounds of fresh produce in the University of Maine Harvest for Hunger program went to 142 hunger alleviation distribution sites in the state. Over 620 volunteers in 14 counties logged over 5,000 hours; the value of the produce was over \$434,660. Since 2000, Maine Harvest for Hunter participants have distributed over 2.4 million pounds of food to citizens in need.



Community service opportunities build a strong culture of engagement

Financial Responsibility

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

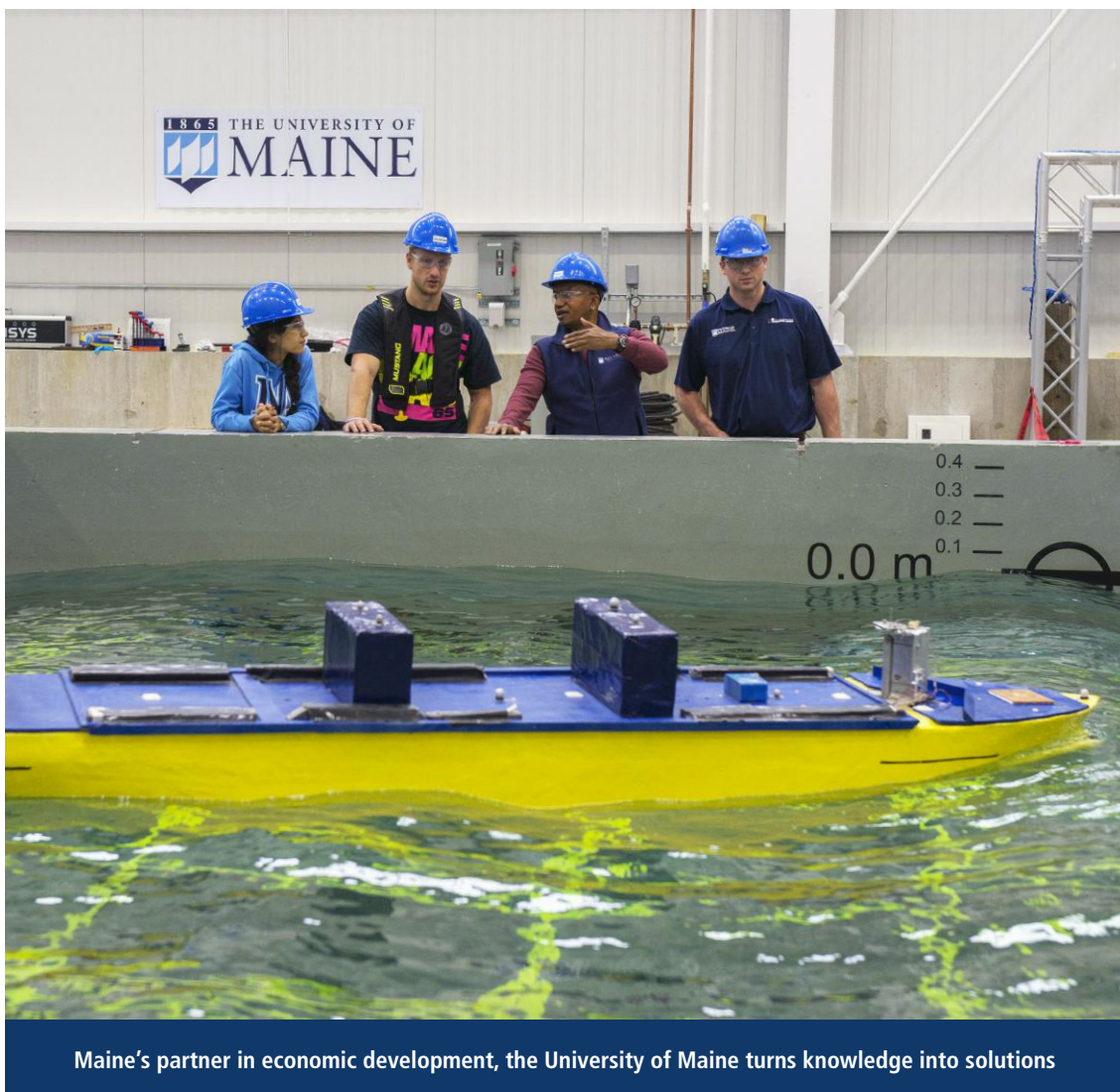
- Just as it did in FY16 and FY17, UMaine has balanced the FY18 unrestricted (Educational & General, Auxiliary and Designated) base budgets.
- UMaine has made an award to commence negotiations for a long-term energy solution that will provide low- and predictable-cost, reliable energy supply in support of the institutional mission, and a path to meeting the university's climate commitment.
- Members of the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias communities partnered throughout the year to successfully bring about the July 1 transition of UMM to its new role as a regional campus of UMaine. The Primary Partnership is part of the UMS One University initiative.



Research and Economic Development

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

- In FY17, research proposal and extramural award activity exceeded activity during FY16. The number of proposals reviewed and submitted was 573 (a 15% increase over the previous year); cumulative funding sought by UMaine was \$179 million (a 22% increase over last year). There were 353 funded awards (an 8% increase) totalling \$57 million (a 13% increase over last year).
- FY17 saw an overall increase in activity throughout programs led by the Office of Innovation and Economic Development. As part of OIED's work with organizations to leverage UMaine assets to build and grow Maine's economy, contractual activity with business and industry saw a more than 8% increase in the numbers of projects, while overall funding increased by more than 2.5%.
- A \$7 million award to establish the statewide Alliance for Maine's Marine Economy was led by co-PIs Jake Ward, Vice President for Innovation and Economic Development, Darling Marine Center Director Heather Leslie and Paul Anderson, then director of Maine Sea Grant.



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

- Legislative support for research, development and commercialization continues with the passage of LD 1053 Research and Development Bond. The \$50 million bond was approved by voters in June 2017, and will provide Maine Technology Institute funds to run a process allowing UMaine and other institutions to submit competitive proposals for R&D infrastructure and equipment.
- In FY17, the UMS Research Reinvestment Fund (RRF) Program received 130 proposals from researchers spanning all seven campuses. Of these, 56 projects were competitively selected for awards totaling \$1,456,200. Since June 2015, the RRF Program has received 298 proposals from UMS researchers spanning all seven campuses. Of these, 97 projects have been competitively selected for awards totaling \$3,496,900 in grant funding. UMaine researchers have had considerable success with this program.
- UMaine partnered with the Maine Development Foundation, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Congressional Delegation in the federal Economic Development Assessment Team (EDAT) process to address the crisis in the forest products industry caused by the closure of several paper mills in the state. In addition to the Maine Forest Economy Growth Initiative, UMaine also partnered in the Roadmap for Maine's Bioproducts Sector Bio-Based Maine to advance biobased assets marketing and manufacturing, and assist Maine forest products manufacturers and biobased technology users.
- The Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research (CCAR) welcomed three new industry partners in FY17, while continuing partnerships with five other companies from previous years.
- Auxiliary Services increased its local food purchases by 4% with the addition of 15 more Maine businesses. Currently, more than 17% of the university's food served through Dining Services is Maine-based and local, approaching \$1 million annually in state-based food purchases.



World class faculty — leading researchers and scholars in their fields — mentor students



Culture of Excellence

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

- UMaine continues to be ranked among the nation's top universities by U.S. News and World Report, and Princeton Review. The latter also cites UMaine as one of the nation's top green colleges.
- Working with the Graduate Student Government and the Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR), the Office of the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School held the second, highly successful combined graduate and undergraduate student research symposium at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor in April. The Student Symposium featured the work of over 1,200 undergraduate and graduate student authors — more than twice as many as the previous year. In addition, students from the Maine Business School presented their capstone International Trade Show at the symposium.
- The University of Maine graduate student body includes seven NSF Graduate Research Fellows, three NIH F31 Awardees, one Switzer Environmental Fellow, and nine Fulbright and USAID Pretasi Fellows, including Ian Jesse, a Ph.D. student in the history program who recently received a Fulbright award to study in Canada.
- Allyson Eslin of Bangor was named the valedictorian and Joshua Patnaude of Sanford the salutatorian at the University of Maine for 2017. Between them, the two top students received a total of four degrees at UMaine's 215th Commencement. Eslin, who also was an honors student, received a bachelor's degrees in economics and a bachelor's degree in political science with an additional major in psychology; Patnaude, who also was the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Engineering, received two degrees in computer engineering and electrical engineering. Both studied at UMaine for four years.
- UMaine's top faculty awards in 2017: *Presidential Public Service Achievement Award* Marcella H. Sorg, Research Professor in Anthropology, the Climate Change Institute and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center; *Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award* Harvey A. Kail, Professor of English; *Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award*, Daniel H. Sandweiss, Anthropology and Professor of Climate Studies; *Distinguished Maine Professor Award* John F. Mahon, John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy
- UMaine's overall student-athlete GPA was above 3.0, with 273 achieving a 3.0 or higher. Among the other outstanding academic highlights of student-athletes, Jake Osborne (track and field) and Sigi Koizar (women's basketball) were the Outstanding Graduating International Students in their colleges.

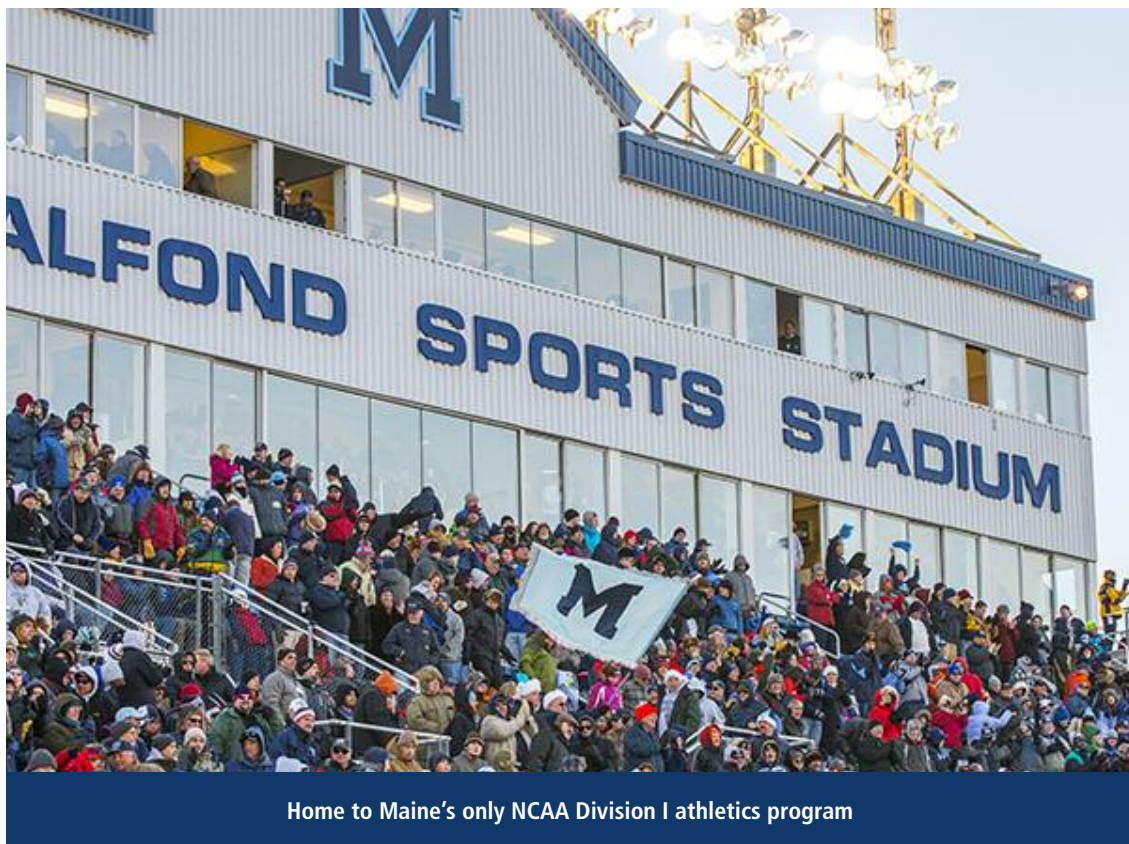
- UMaine student-athlete successes included: women's soccer advanced to the America East playoffs for the 13th time in 14 years; field hockey spent five weeks in the national top 20 poll; men's swimming and diving had 14 ECAC Championship qualifiers and the women's 200 free relay team finished second in America East Championships; Jesse Orach won the America East Cross Country

Individual Championship, Rachel Bergeron (hammer) and Kelby Mace (javelin) qualified for NCAA Track and Field Regionals, and Grace MacLean won the America East Indoor Pentathlon and Outdoor Heptathlon; women's basketball and softball played in their second consecutive America East Championships; and baseball played in the American East Championship.

Spotlight on Students

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

- Veterans Education and Transitions Services assisted and supported student veterans and their families. UMaine continues to be recognized as a Veteran Friendly University by the Military Friendly Schools Guide.
- To serve students best, Residence Life, First Year and Transfer Student Programs, and Campus Activities and Student Engagement have combined to form the Department of Campus Life.
- Multicultural Student Life designed in-house programs to raise awareness about diversity, inclusively and multiculturalism.
- UMaine's Division of Student Life conducted a national best practices-based review of the university's alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and research programs.
- UMaine's Office of Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention is a systemwide resource, providing oversight of student gender discrimination claims.

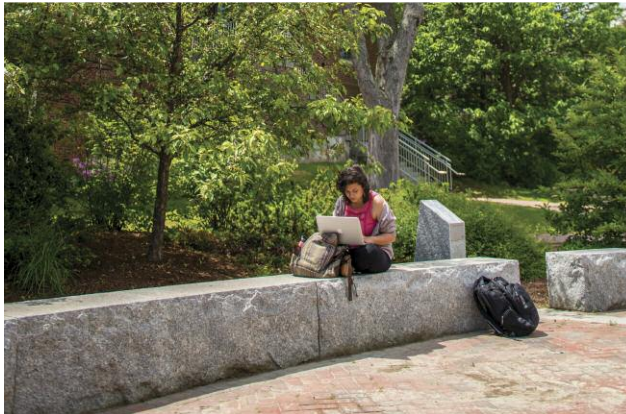


Home to Maine's only NCAA Division I athletics program

Points of Pride

Maine'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. UMaine has:

- Partnerships in innovation and economic development statewide, helping turn knowledge into solutions to benefit Maine.
- 107,000 alumni worldwide.
- Students from every county in Maine, 49 U.S. states and territories, and 63 countries. (2016-17)
- An enrollment of 11,219. (2016-17)
- Nearly 100 undergraduate majors and academic programs.
- 85 master's degrees and 35 doctoral degrees.
- Maine's only NCAA Division I athletics program.
- Lowest in-state tuition of New England flagship universities.
- Student research spanning the breadth and depth of undergraduate and graduate studies.
- 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 oldest honors programs.
- 15 Signature and Emerging Areas of Excellence.
- The most comprehensive academic offerings in the state.
- 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.
- 2015 Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation.
- Consistently ranked among the top 125 public universities for research through the National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development Survey. UMaine's Carnegie Classification remains in the High Research Activity category.
- More than 200 student clubs and organizations.
- The state's largest library.



The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. Contact the Director, Equal Opportunity, 5754 North Stevens Hall, Room 101, Orono, ME 04469-5754 at 207.581.1226 (voice), TTY 711 (Maine Relay System), equal.opportunity@maine.edu with questions or concerns.

