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UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export 2007

Legislator Bus Tour at UMaine on Wednesday

08 Jan 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A group of 75 Maine legislators will visit the University of Maine on Wednesday, Jan. 10. Their visit is part of a Maine Development Foundation bus tour highlighting important elements of Maine's economy and culture.

The group includes senators and House members from all over Maine. It will arrive at UMaine's Student Innovation Center at 3:10 p.m.. UMaine President Robert Kennedy will greet the lawmakers, who will break into four smaller groups for specific facility tours related to UMaine's economic development and research capacity.

Tours will begin at 3:35 p.m, continuing until 5 p.m. at four UMaine locations:

Jeness Hall (forest bioproducts research)

Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (composite materials)

Science and Engineering Research Building (Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology)

Student Innovations Center (entrepreneurship and commercialization)

UMaine Offers Camden Conference Companion Course on Evolution of Europe

08 Jan 2007

Contact: Howard Cody, 581-1868; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- How do modern European politics, economics, currencies, cultures, religions and languages affect Americans? How is the development of the European Union influencing the evolution of Europe, and -- more importantly -- why should the United States care?

Those questions surround some of the issues to be raised at the 2007 Camden Conference in February and also in an intensified companion course being offered through the University of Maine's Division of Lifelong Learning. The course focuses on developmental and evolutionary trends in Europe, and what Americans can learn from them.

The 20th annual Camden Conference, "Europe: Old Continent in a New World," is being presented at the Camden Opera House Feb. 23-25. With a look at Europe's current trends, complexities and global relations, the conference will highlight some of the lessons Americans might learn from European experiences and perspectives.

The conference is the centerpiece of the UMaine course, being taught by seven professors at locations in Orono, Belfast and Camden on three Saturdays, Feb. 17, March 24 and April 21. According to Robert White, dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning, the UMaine-Camden Conference partnership, established in 1996, has provided students and faculty with extraordinary opportunities to become engaged with internationally recognized speakers.

Members of the public, in addition to current college students, are invited to register. Students may take the course for credit in English, political science, history, peace studies, modern language and classics, university studies or

international affairs. Course tuition includes the fee for attending the three-day Camden Conference.

The 2007 Camden Conference speakers include respected international scholars, diplomats or former diplomats who will delve into the legacy of the old Europe and the challenges of the new from a perspective that considers culture, ethnicity, immigration, national identities, gender issues and demography.

Central to the UMaine course will be issues confronting the membership and policies of the European Union, language policies in Europe and politics and economics, according to Howard Cody, professor of political science and Canadian studies and director of International Affairs at UMaine.

"This course is going to cover a tremendous amount of material," says Cody, who is coordinating this year's curriculum. The course is intended to provide students with a solid knowledge base for understanding issues to be discussed at the Camden Conference.

"It's exciting," Cody says. "In February, we'll deal with themes that will be in the conference. We'll also have people in class discussing things that may not be useful in terms of the conference, but will be very useful in understanding Europe."

UMaine faculty members co-teaching the course, and their topics, include: Richard Blanke, professor of history, ("The Old Europe and the New: The Recent Historical Background"); James Warhola, professor of political science, ("Expansion of the European Union and the Identity of Europe"); Howard Cody, ("The European Union Today" and "Politics in Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain"); Tony Brinkley, professor of English, ("Artistic and Literary Impressions on the Old and New Europe"); Kathleen March, professor of Spanish, and Madelon Kohler-Busch, professor of German, ("Language Policies in Europe"); and Tina Passman, professor of classical languages and literature, ("Cosmopolitanism: An Ancient Way to Look at the New Europe").

Presenters at the Camden Conference include keynote speaker Stanley Hoffmann, professor and director of the Center for European Studies at Harvard University. Other speakers include the European program director of the International Crisis Group in Brussels, a diplomat in residence at the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University, and the senior associate and deputy director of the Moscow Center, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, in addition to several esteemed university scholars.

For further information, call Marlene Charron at (207) 581-4095 or visit the Division of Continuing Education website. To register, call CED at (207) 581-3143.

More information about the Camden Conference, speakers, exhibits and related programs are available at the Camden Conference website (www.camdenconference.org).

Grad Student Seeks Volunteers for Cereal/Appetite Research

08 Jan 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine graduate student Megan Blackmore is looking for volunteers for a research project. A master's student in Food Science and Human Nutrition, Blackmore is looking into the effects of different types of breakfast cereal on appetite.

Participants must be between the ages of 20 and 30 and have a Body-Mass Index (BMI) between 25 and 30. BMI is a widely accepted measure of a person's relative level of body fat. A BMI calculator is online at <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/bmi/>.

Participants must also be in good health, regularly eat breakfast. Those who are trying to lose weight or are in a vigorous athletic training program are not eligible. Pregnant or lactating women, smokers and people who have an allergy or intolerance to gluten, lactose, soy, corn or orange juice are also ineligible.

Those involved in the study will be asked to come to the UMaine campus one morning per week for four weeks to consume a different cold breakfast cereal and answer several questions about the cereal and their appetite. Each session should last one hour. Participants will also be asked to record everything they eat and drink, along with information about their appetite, on the testing days. All the information will remain confidential.

Those who complete the study will receive \$40, along with a free breakfast on the testing days. The information gained from the study may lead to the development of new breakfast cereals that aid in weight loss. For more information please contact: Megan Blackmore, 581-1733 or via email (Megan_Blackmore@umit.maine.edu).

UMaine Accepting "ArtWorks" Registration for Children's Spring Session

09 Jan 2007

Contact: Constant Albertson, 581-3251
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Art is accepting applications for the spring 2007 after school ArtWorks classes for area children, kindergarten through grade 7.

ArtWorks classes are held on consecutive Friday afternoons, from 3:30-5 p.m., March 23-April 20 at Lord Hall on the Orono campus. ArtWorks is a longstanding program that gives UMaine art education students classroom experience with children while providing art lessons for community youngsters. Classes are supervised by program director and art Professor Constant Albertson.

Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, and a waiting list of alternates will be kept in the event of cancellations. Students are grouped by age for classes and will have an opportunity to work with a variety of art materials.

A \$25 course fee covers the cost of materials. A limited number of scholarships are available.

The application deadline is Feb. 26. For more information or to obtain registration forms, please contact Constant Albertson at constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu or call 581-3251.

UMaine Offers New China Travel-Study Course

09 Jan 2007

Contact: Tai Cheng, 581-3155 George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine is offering a unique travel-study course this spring on China, a 6,000-year-old country of 1.3 billion people that has transformed itself in less than 30 years from a third world communist nation to an increasingly capitalistic superpower. The course, available to current college students and also members of the public, is offered through the UMaine Continuing and Distance Education Division. It includes two Saturday classes, April 21 and 28, and a 10-day trip to China, May 15-25. It is expected to be an annual course, offering students an examination of one of the world's most intriguing countries. The focus of the China travel-study course will change each year. In this first year, students taking "Business/Agribusiness in China" will see three major cities, Beijing, Shanghai and Suzhou. The class will concentrate on visiting multinational companies, industrial areas and key cultural and historical sites. Students also will study China's growing political,

business, academic and cultural frameworks. Three professors are leading the course: Hsiang-Tai Cheng, professor of resource economics and policy, Donglin Zhang, professor of plant, soil and environmental sciences, and Vivian Chi-Hua Wu, professor of microbiology and food safety. Academic credit will be awarded in any one of four academic disciplines: business; resource economics and policy; economics; or food science and human nutrition. Hsiang-Tai Cheng says the course will provide a view of China that clarifies Western perceptions about the massive country, which had been off-limits to Westerners until the early 1970s. "Almost every day we hear news about China, about either people's lives or economics," says Cheng. "You can read all about how to do business in China, but when you get there and experience it and see it with your own eyes, you can add some substance to your perceptions." For Westerners planning business careers that most likely will involve China, it is essential to understand cultural nuances that influence business relationships, Cheng says. China currently produces the majority of household and other items found in homes around the world and, at current growth rates, it is expected to have the world's largest economy within just a few decades. Western businesses are looking to balance lop-sided trade scales through increased access to a burgeoning Chinese consumer base. China's population grows by about 12 million people per year. "Students will have first-hand experience of China and can see how fast it is growing and how China is managing this," says Donglin Zhang, who also is a guest professor at Central South Forestry University in Changsha, Hunan, China. In spite of its isolationist past, China more recently has realized that it must open its doors to global trade to sustain itself economically. The country now welcomes tourism and business opportunities, particularly as it prepares for the Beijing-based 2008 summer Olympics. The UMaine travel-study course will include visits to famous sites including the Great Wall, Beijing's Forbidden City and celebrated gardens and temples. It also will include conversations with students at Beijing University of Technology's School of Economics and Management, a tour of the city of Suzhou's industrial park and a visit to the Beijing Botanical Garden and Conservatory, Asia's largest botanical garden research center. Robert White, dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning, which oversees the university's continuing and distance education programs, says the addition of China to the existing international travel-study courses reflects the institution's ability to develop curricula in response to new global opportunities. The division also has travel-study courses scheduled in 2007 that involve visits to Alaska, Panama, Europe, Quebec and Greece. The cost of the China travel-study course is \$2,500 for travel and accommodations, plus tuition and fees, as well as the textbook, Harvard Business Review on Doing Business in China. Information about the China course and others is available on the Continuing and Distance Education website or by calling (207) 581-3414.

UMaine Engineering Students Unleash Creativity through Art

11 Jan 2007

Contact: Edwin Nagy, 581-2981; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Never let it be said engineering students are all about just mathematics, mechanics and structural theory. The University of Maine Engineering Art Club, unveiling its third annual "Art by Engineers" competitive art exhibit Feb. 5, is offering a glimpse of just how creative engineers can be. The show at UMaine's Engineering and Science Building at Barrows Hall will feature artwork of all types by students, faculty and others from the science and engineering world on campus. In the first two years, students and engineering faculty have exhibited works ranging from a cardboard chair, concrete piano and precision-machined aluminum mazes to paintings, photography and computer-designed images. The annual exhibit was established to give students a chance to exercise their creative sides and demonstrate to the public that engineering and art can and do coexist, says exhibit co-founder Edwin Nagy, a Ph.D. candidate and design instructor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering. "Engineering is a creative profession -- every day brings new problems to the designer's desk, the solutions of which must often be original creations," Nagy says. "Students in engineering and the sciences need to be rewarded for their creative abilities, not just their skills at crunching numbers through formulae." The artwork will be exhibited Feb. 5 through March 2. An opening reception and awards ceremony, with refreshments provided by the College of Engineering, is planned from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Feb. 15. Show sponsors will award prizes for student art in categories that include Best Environmentally Inspired Art (sponsored by Woodard and Curran Engineering) and Best Transportation Inspired Art (care of Gorrill-Palmer Engineering). Nagy expects the show will consist of between 50 and 60 pieces of art submitted by about 25 students.

Maine Tree Club Offers Outings and Education

11 Jan 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND -- Maine citizens and visitors can learn more about one of the state's greatest resources by joining the Maine Tree Club, an educational project designed for people of all ages to learn about trees. The club is organized by University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service, and the Pine Tree State Arboretum.

The annual registration fee for the Maine Tree Club is \$20 per person, \$30 per couple, \$35 per family, and \$65 for a group of up to 15. A limited number of Maine Tree Club scholarships are available for those in need. There is no deadline for registration. Request a free informational brochure by calling University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 800-287-1471, e-mailing treeclub@umext.maine.edu, or visiting the Maine Tree Club website.

The Maine Tree Club is planning at least three outings around the state in 2007 to get people into the woods for hands-on learning and enjoyment. These outings, guided by experts, are planned for the mountains and coastal regions as well as other parts of Maine. Through these outings and twice-monthly fact sheets featuring different Maine tree species, club members will learn to recognize 50 different types of trees over a period of two years and gain skills that can be applied in their own yards and communities.

Participants receive additional materials including a magnifying lens for close-up viewing of tree parts, an attractive notebook for the tree species fact sheets, a pocket guide to Maine trees, and several practical guides related to tree growth and care.

Maine's trees attract tourists by the thousands, support the state economy, and deliver constant inspiration to area artists, poets, naturalists; they are at the root of Maine's identity. As one Maine Tree Club member states, "the Maine Tree Club has been a great way to reacquaint myself with the trees I grew up with and for so many years was distant from."

School of Performing Arts Announces Spring 2007 Schedule

17 Jan 2007

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704

ORONO -- The University of Maine's School of Performing Arts has announced its spring 2007 music, performance and dance events scheduled at Minsky Recital Hall or Hauck Auditorium.

Admission is \$6 and UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard, unless otherwise noted. Exceptions may occur. For more information, please call the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755 or check us online at www.umaine.edu/spa.

The schedule is as follows:

MUSIC

Saturday, Jan. 20
Cadenzato Faculty Ensemble
Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 31
Faculty Recital -- Trumpet/Piano
With Jack Burt and Laura Artesani, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3
Silver Duo - Faculty Piano/Cello Recital

Featuring Phillip and Noreen Silver, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Music Student Showcase

A Family & Friends Weekend celebration, Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Faculty Violin Recital

Featuring Anatole Wieck & friends. Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 23

Faculty Piano Recital

Featuring Baycka Vroniety. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 22

Faculty Piano/Voice Recital

With Phillip Silver and Ludlow Hallman. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 24

University Singers Concert

After their spring break tour throughout the northeast, the singers perform this concert for friends back home. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27

Three Bands Concert

A local middle school, a high school, and the UMaine Concert Band will join together on the Hutchins Concert Hall stage, under the baton of a guest conductor in a benefit for Acadia Hospital. Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 3

Chamber Jazz Concert

Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 4

Student Composers Concert

Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10

Chamber Music Concert

The concert is the culminating activity for our chamber music course. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

April 12 & 13

Opera Workshop

In Opera Workshop, students perform music from the standard opera, operetta and musical repertoire, as well as chamber operas and experimental works in a workshop setting. Minsky Recital Hall, April 12 at 12 p.m. and April 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 14

Collegiate Chorale

The 50-plus voice Collegiate Chorale's repertoire is drawn from all style periods from the middle ages to the present. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 17

Brass Night

Presenting the UMaine Brass Ensemble, as well as the UMaine Trumpet Ensemble, Horn Quartets, Trombone Quartets, Brass Quintets, and any other possible combination of brass instruments. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 19

Symphonic Band and Concert Band

The two bands play separately, then together, for this concert at Maine Center for the Arts. Maine Center for the Arts, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 21

School of Performing Arts Gala

Hauck Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 22

Athena Consort/Black Bear Men's Chorus

Sing into spring with the unique sounds of UMaine's women's and men's choruses. Minsky Recital Hall, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 24

Percussion Ensemble

This ensemble draws its literature from a wide variety of styles from transcriptions to contemporary music for percussion. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 26

Jazz Ensemble

Big band at its best! The ensemble is devoted to performing a wide variety of challenging, significant, diversified and contemporary literature within the genre. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 28

Orchestra Concert

The UMaine Orchestra will perform works from a standard repertoire. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 29

University Singers, Oratorio Society and Bangor Symphony Orchestra

Maine Center for the Arts, 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 29

Guitar Ensemble

Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 30

Music of Iosif Andriasov

Anatole Wieck, Victor Romasevich and Arshak Andriasov bring the music of this 20th century master to the University of Maine. Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 2

Broadway Nights

Students perform a selection of songs straight from Broadway stages of yesterday and today. 7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall

THEATRE

Bat Boy

Based on a story in The Weekly World News, "Bat Boy: The Musical" is a musical comedy-horror show about a half boy-half bat creature who is discovered in a cave near Hope Falls, W.Va. For lack of a better solution, the local sheriff brings Bat Boy to the home of the town veterinarian, where he is eventually accepted as a member of the family and taught to act like a "normal" boy by the veterinarian's wife and teenage daughter. Bat Boy is happy with his new life, but when he naively tries to fit in with the narrow-minded people of Hope Falls, he faces hatred, fear and jealousy. Directed by Marcia Douglas. Hauck Auditorium. Intended for mature audiences. Feb. 16-17, 22-24 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb 18 and 25 at

2 p.m.

Betty's Summer Vacation

Looking for a little rest and time by herself, Betty rents a summer share at the beach. But Betty's luck turns to delicious lunacy when she gets drawn into the chaotic world of some very unsavory housemates - her friend Trudy, who talks too much; the lewd, semi-naked Buck, who tries to have sex with everyone; and Keith, a serial killer who hides in his room with a mysterious hatbox. With sand between her toes, walking a thin line between sanity and survival, poor Betty will leave her summer vacation more terrorized than tan. Death, destruction, mayhem -- Betty finds it all in her seaside retreat. This is the annual Maine Masque production, designed, directed and acted by students in the play, April 11, 12, 13, 14, 7:30 p.m. and April 15, 2 p.m. - Hauck Auditorium.

Readers' Theatre -- productions to be announced

Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m.

March 28, 7:30 p.m.

DANCE

May 4 & 5 Dance Concert, Hauck Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Admission \$8

UMaine Delegation Works to Boost Native American Enrollment

17 Jan 2007

Contact: John Bear Mitchell, 581-1417; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Since 1935, members of Maine's Native American Indian tribes have been offered free tuition at the University of Maine, but historically, very few have taken advantage of the offer.

In the last 20 years, 402 Native American students from 23 tribes nationwide have graduated from UMaine, according to John Bear Mitchell, associate director of University of Maine's Wabanaki Center, a support center for Native students.

Educators at UMaine have begun a major initiative to identify and eliminate social, economic or other barriers between Native young people and success at college.

A delegation from UMaine that last week made its second visit to Aroostook County to meet with tribal officers and young people to discuss new relationships that can result in more of the tribes' youth enrolling at UMaine and succeeding. Representatives from more than a half dozen departments or colleges spent the day with representatives of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians near Houlton discussing barriers that can prevent Native young people from getting to college, and also sharing a traditional Native American meal of hulled corn soup, moose meat and fiddleheads.

"The visit went better than planned and we had a great discussion about the next steps between the UMaine delegation and the tribes," says David Slagger, an education major in the College of Education and Human Development and a member of the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians. "We want our tribal youth to feel embraced when they come here."

Being accepted at UMaine is just the first step toward a college education, Slagger says. It's a big difference between life in rural Northern Maine, for instance, and the university community in Orono, where more than 10,000 young people from throughout the world bustle about at any given time.

"A lot of times, when our youth come to the Orono campus, they bail," Slagger says. "They say, 'Wow, look at all the people. Am I going to fit in?'"

Last August, the UMaine delegation visited the Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians and a group of young people from that tribe toured the Orono campus in October. Slagger and O.J. Logue, associate dean for academic services in the College of Education and Human Development, are enthusiastic about the outreach.

"The students really felt welcome and were really impressed with the campus," Logue says. "We hope that we will create a strong dialog with the Micmac and Maliseet communities about making higher education more accessible and attainable. We're feeling really good about how it's going."

Members of the UMaine delegation who went to the Maliseet tribal offices in Littleton were from the College of Education and Human Development, Native American Studies, the Wabanaki Center, the ALANA Center, the UMaine Folklife Center, Peace Studies, and the English, history and New Media departments.

In spite of the low number of Native students graduating from UMaine, the Orono campus saw more Native students graduate in the last two decades than all of the other University of Maine System campuses combined, says Mitchell. He says the Wabanaki Center provides critical support for Native students.

While Maine has two other Native American tribes, the Passamaquoddy and the Penobscots, both are geographically closer to the Orono campus than tribal youth in Aroostook County, and they traditionally have had closer relationships with the university.

Maliseet Chief Brenda Commander says the visit opened the door to better communication between her tribe and the university.

"I thought it was very, very positive," she says. "We were really happy to host the event."

It was helpful to talk about how to improve college enrollments and retention rates for tribal students, she says.

In February, the university will host a visit from tribal leaders and several Maliseet high school students interested in getting a closer look at the university. In the meantime, the university delegation members will discuss what can be done to increase the number of Native student applicants and improve the environment for Native youth once they arrive.

UMaine Announces Socialist and Marxist Studies Spring 2007 Lecture Series

18 Jan 2007

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The Socialist and Marxist Studies' Spring 2007 Lecture Series at the University of Maine once again takes up a host of thought-provoking questions and controversial issues, ranging from domestic politics and oil profits to immigration policies and college students.

Philosophy Professor Doug Allen, coordinator of Marxist-Socialist Studies program, says the speaker series brings to campus both world authorities with challenging insightful perspectives on global issues and UMaine faculty members, all recognized experts on their topics.

Lectures are free, open to the public and held on Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor and co-sponsored by Maine

Peace Action Committee (MPAC), Campus Activities and Events, and is supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints.

For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen at (207) 581-3860 or e-mail douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 1

"Should President George Bush Be Impeached?" with Naval Academy graduate and Vietnam War veteran Dud Hendrick, a board member of Maine Veterans for Peace, who teaches Peace Studies, and Pat Wheeler, artist and peace activist from Deer Isle, who teaches painting workshops and organizes and participates in nonviolent antiwar protests

Feb. 8

"China in Africa," with Professor Ngo Vinh Long, history

Feb. 15

"Immigration Issues and University Students," a panel discussion led by University of Maine students who are members of the Student Heritage Alliance Center (part of Human Rights Awareness Week)

Feb. 22

"U.S. Imperialism in Latin America," with Ph.D. history student Stefano Tijerina, who was born in Bogota, Colombia

March 1

"Human Rights Abuses, Indigenous Communities, Women and Economic Justice," with speakers presented by the Mexico Solidarity Network; speakers are from Red de Defensores Comunitarios por los Derechos Humanos (Community Human Rights Defenders Network), an indigenous human rights observation group from Zapatista communities in Chiapas, Mexico

March 22

"The Iraq War: Lessons Four Years after the U.S. Invasion and Occupation," with Doug Allen, philosophy professor, presenter and discussion facilitator

Mar. 29

"Primary Health Care and the Market Mechanism," with Iwao Hirose, Japanese philosopher and research fellow at University College, Oxford University, and now at Harvard University. Hirose also will also give a talk on "Rawls's Notion of the Separateness of the Person" at 4 p.m., March 29, in the Maples Building.

April 5

"Politics and Poetry in the 1930s: Three Women Poets (Dorothy Livesay, Laura [Riding] Jackson, Muriel Rukeyser)," with professors Sandra Hutchison, (women's studies/English), Carla Billitteri (English) and Burt Hatlen (English)

April 12

"Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx," with Bhikhu Parekh, the 2007 Philosophy Distinguished Scholar who was educated in India, serves as a member of the House of Lords and is influential public figure in the United Kingdom. He is author of numerous books, including *Rethinking Multiculturalism*, *Global Terrorism* and *Gandhi's Political Philosophy*. He also will lecture at 7 p.m. in 100 D.P. Corbett Business Building on "Gandhi's Legacy: Is Gandhi's Philosophy Still Relevant?"

April 19

"Record Profits at Any Cost: Exxonmobil, Hyper-Capitalism and the Destruction of the Ecosystem," with Tom Jackson, an independent filmmaker who has produced four documentary films, including the widely-acclaimed Iraq film "Greetings from Missile Street." He will show his latest film, "Out of Balance," at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall. (Jackson's website is www.joepublicfilms.com)

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Series arranged for calendars and postings:

UMaine Socialist and Marxist Studies Series

(Controversy Series) -- Spring 2007

Thursdays 12:30-1:45 P.M.

Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Feb. 1

"Should President George Bush Be Impeached?" Dud Hendrick, a Naval Academy graduate and Vietnam War veteran, is a board member of Maine Veterans for Peace and teaches Peace Studies. Pat Wheeler, an artist and peace activist from Deer Isle, teaches painting workshops and organizes and participates in nonviolent antiwar protests. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

Feb. 8

"China in Africa," Professor Ngo Vinh Long, history. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

Feb. 15

"Immigration Issues and University Students," a panel of University of Maine students who are members of the Student Heritage Alliance Center (SHAC.). (Part of Human Rights Awareness Week.) Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

Feb. 22

"U.S. Imperialism in Latin America," Stefano Tijerina, born in Bogota, Colombia, is a Ph.D. student in history at the University of Maine. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

March 1

"Human Rights Abuses, Indigenous Communities, Women and Economic Justice," the Mexico Solidarity Network presents speakers from Red de Defensores Comunitarios por los Derechos Humanos (Community Human Rights Defenders Network), indigenous human rights observers from Zapatista communities in Chiapas, Mexico. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

March 22

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"Primary Health Care and the Market Mechanism," Iwao Hirose, Japanese philosopher, is a research fellow at University College, Oxford University, and is now at Harvard University. He will also give a talk on "Rawls's Notion of the Separateness of the Person" at 4 p.m. in the Maples Building. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 5

"Politics and Poetry in the 1930s: Three Women Poets (Dorothy Livesay, Laura [Riding] Jackson, Muriel Rukeyser)," Professor Sandra Hutchison, Women's Studies/English; Professor Carla Billitteri, English; Professor Burt Hatlen, English. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 12

"Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx," Bhikhu Parekh, 2007 Philosophy Distinguished Scholar, was educated in India, is a member of House of Lords and influential public figure in the United Kingdom, and is author of numerous books, including *Rethinking Multiculturalism*, *Global Terrorism*, and *Gandhi's Political Philosophy*. He will also give a lecture at 7 p.m. on Gandhi's legacy and relevance today. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 19

"Record Profits at Any Cost: ExxonMobil, Hyper-Capitalism, and the Destruction of the Ecosystem," Tom Jackson is an independent filmmaker who has produced four documentary films, including the widely-acclaimed Iraq film, *Greetings from Missile Street*. He will show his latest film, "Out of Balance," at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall. His website is www.joepublicfilms.com. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

Sponsored by Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor. Co-sponsored by Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC) and Campus Activities and Events, with support from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies, The Maples, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469. Phone: 581-3860. E-mail:

douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

Women in the Curriculum/Women's Studies Announces Spring 2007 Speaker Series

18 Jan 2007

Contact: Mazie Hough, 581-1225; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program has announced its spring lunchtime lecture series, which covers a range of topics from women's rights to education, with student speakers and faculty from the Orono campus and other universities.

All lectures are free and open to the public. They are held from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted. Further information is available by calling 581-1228.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

"Singing Girls, Mystics and Aristocrats -- A Survey of Women's Roles and Their Influence on Western Art Music,"

with Tina Nielson, Graduate Student, IPHD, ethnomusicology; This performance and talk will explore the influence of women from the East and West on music during the Middle Ages, and also will look at key Western women whose influence promoted the musical forms and poetry that provided the foundation for Western high art music.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

"The Politics of the 'Boy Crisis': A Case Study of the Maine Task Force on Gender Equity in Education," with Lyn Mikel Brown, professor of education and human development, Colby College, and Mary Madden, assistant UMaine research professor of Education and Human Development

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Maine Women's Basketball (free tickets available for WIC attendees, 581-1228) National Girls and Women in Sports Day; Alford Arena 12 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

"From Chiapas to Orono: Women's Rights as Human Rights," with Sarah Bigney, undergraduate in international affairs with a concentration in Peace Studies, Ashley Miller, undergraduate in history, and Tiffany Warzecha, undergraduate in anthropology

(Part of Human Rights Awareness Week)

Wednesday, Feb. 21

"Gossip and Spies in the Forest: Women's Role in Mediating Resource Management Activities in an Amazonian Forest," with V. Constanza Ocampo-Raeder, assistant professor of anthropology; Coe Room, Memorial Union

Visiting Diversity Libra Professor Radha Hegde, associate professor of culture and communication, New York University; 3:30 p.m., 115 D.P. Corbett Business Building

Wednesday, Feb. 28

"The Most Significant Feminist Thinker of the Twentieth Century: Have We Regressed or Progressed since Simone de Beauvoir?" with Doug Allen, professor of philosophy

Tuesday, March 20

"Supporting Gender Equality: Policies that Work," with Anita Nyberg, Distinguished American Scandinavian Visiting Professor

Tuesday, March 27

"'Something to Prove': If a Man Can do It, We Can Do It Better!" with Pauleena MacDougall, associate director, Maine Folklife Center, and Amy Stevens, graduate student in history

Visiting Diversity Libra Professor Radha Hegde, associate professor of culture and communication, New York University; 7:30 p.m., 100 Neville Hall

Wednesday, April 4

"Kathe Kollwitz (1887-1945): Representations of Loss," Madelon Kohler-Busch, assistant professor of German

Wednesday, April 11

"Reinventing Disability and Sexuality," with Liz Depoy, professor of social work and coordinator of interdisciplinary

education, Center for Community Inclusion, and Stephen Gilson, professor of social work

Tuesday, April 17

"Education Anytime, Anywhere, for Anyone: Radical Teaching and Technology in the 21st Century," with Sandra Haggard, associate professor of biological sciences, University College, Bangor, Tina Passman, associate professor of classical language and literature, and Yvonne Thibodeau, adjunct faculty, Continuing and Distance Education

Wednesday, April 25

"Investigating the Role of the German Soldiers' Wives during the American Revolution," with Anette Ruppel Rodrigues, adjunct faculty

Tuesday, May 1

"Franco-American Women Leadership: Effecting Change and Creating Knowledge," with Laurie Meunier Graves, editor of Wolf Moon Journal, Marie-Ann Gauvin, editor of Fanal, Club Francais, and Ann Roy, Acadian Village and bilingual educator; co-sponsored by the Franco American Women's Institute

UMaine Offers Spring 2007 Philosophy Colloquium Series

19 Jan 2007

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The University of Maine Philosophy Department has announced speakers and topics for its spring 2007 Philosophy Colloquium Lecture Series, a semi-annual program that invites leading authorities to lecture and discuss philosophical theory, analysis and practice.

Lectures are free, open to the public and held Thursdays at 4 p.m. in the Levinson Room of The Maples building on the Orono campus, unless otherwise noted. The 2006-2007 Philosophy Colloquium Series is funded in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, colloquium coordinator, at douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu or at 581-3860.

The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 1

"Aesthetics and Community," with Arnold Berleant, professor emeritus at Long Island University and Castine resident who is active in both philosophy and music; he is a past president of the International Association of Aesthetics, editor of the journal Contemporary Aesthetics and author of six books and numerous scholarly articles.

Feb. 8

"Gandhi's Philosophical Approach: Violence, Nonviolence and Peace Education," with

Doug Allen, professor of philosophy at UMaine, past president of the International Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy, author of eleven books and editor of forthcoming The Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi for the Twenty-First Century (November 2007).

Feb. 22

"The Experience of Home and the Space of Citizenship," with Kirsten Jacobson, assistant professor of philosophy at

UMaine, a specialist on 19th and 20th century continental philosophy and environmental philosophy; her lecture will draw on the works of philosophers Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari.

March 29

"Rawls's Notion of the Separateness of the Person," with Iwao Hirose, Japanese philosopher and research fellow at University College, Oxford University who has recently moved to Harvard; Hirose specializes in ethical theory, political philosophy and philosophy of economics, and also will speak on "Primary Health Care and the Market Mechanism" on March 29 at 12:30 p.m. in Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

April 12

"Gandhi's Legacy: Is Gandhi's Philosophy Still Relevant?" with Bhikhu Parekh, Indian philosopher and political theorist who is the 2007 Philosophy Distinguished Visiting Scholar. A member of the House of Lords and an influential public figure in England, he is world-renowned author of numerous books, including *Rethinking Multiculturalism*, *Global Terrorism*, and *Gandhi's Political Philosophy*. This program is at 7 p.m. in 100 Donald P Corbett Business Building. Professor Parekh also will speak on "Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx" on April 12 at 12:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

UMaine to Announce Policy School

19 Jan 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Recognizing existing faculty strength in academic areas related to policy and international affairs, the University of Maine has created a new interdisciplinary structure to foster and encourage increased collaboration and scholarly activity in those fields. The School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) will be formally unveiled on Wednesday, Jan. 24 during a 4-5:30 p.m. reception at the president's house on the UMaine campus. "Changes in the worldwide economy have had a significant impact on Maine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Our state's future will depend on leaders who understand the ways in which policy changes of all kinds affect Maine's role in international affairs and business. The School of Policy and International Affairs will improve UMaine's ability to apply its collective expertise to helping define the relevant issues and create solutions." SPIA will include faculty members from a broad range of academic disciplines, bringing expertise in areas including international policy, economic policy, environmental policy and international relations. UMaine has had significant recent success in developing similar interdisciplinary organizations where faculty members with similar interests can share ideas and collaborate in teaching and research. Examples include UMaine's Climate Change Institute, School of Marine Sciences, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Honors College. Prof. John Mahon, the John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy at UMaine, has been named SPIA's director. "UMaine is always looking for ways to maximize its positive impact on its students and the state we serve," Mahon says. "SPIA will provide a strong foundation on which we can develop a higher national profile in policy studies while increasing opportunities for externally funded research. Our students and the people of Maine will benefit in tangible ways." UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce will be a cornerstone of SPIA. In March, the Cohen Center will co-host, with the National Defense University, a Washington, D.C. conference on the subject of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. Named for the former U.S. Senator and Secretary of Defense from Bangor, the Cohen Center is now in its tenth year at UMaine. "As we approach this milestone anniversary, I am very pleased that the Cohen Center will occupy a central role in the new school," Kennedy says. "It is a significant asset which helps set UMaine apart from other institutions, and it has vast potential to help us achieve our goal of developing one of the top international affairs and policy schools in the U.S.. Our faculty have that level of expertise, and this new structure will help us move forward very quickly." SPIA will also complement ongoing work at UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, which is very involved in state policy development and its Sen. George Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research, where environmental policy expertise exists.

Tanglewood 4-H Camp Receives ACA Accreditation

19 Jan 2007

Contact: Corey Pickett, 207-789-5803

LINCOLNVILLE, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, an organization that works with more than 3,000 Maine young people every year, has been granted a national accreditation from the American Camp Association. Accredited camps must meet more than 300 standards and safety guidelines set forth by the ACA, going beyond local and state requirements. Staff qualifications, training, emergency management, building conditions, and hundreds of other aspects of Tanglewood passed an extensive inspection last August.

"ACA accreditation is a mark of distinction for camps," said Bette Bussel, executive director for ACA New England. "We strongly encourage parents to pay attention to the ACA-accredited camp status of camps during the camp search process."

Tanglewood, a 4-H youth development program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is one of the most affordable camps in the state and it has been teaching youth and adults to live harmoniously with the earth for 25 years.

"This accreditation made us take stock of what we do and how we do it," said camp director and Tanglewood co-founder Cindy Dunham. "These kids mean the world to us. Knowing that what we have been doing for the last 25 years is worthy of this accreditation makes it that much better, both for us and the kids who come here."

Tanglewood has announced its 2007 programs, which will include day camp and residential camp for younger children, and discovery trips and leadership training for older children and teens. Tanglewood also invites adults over the age of 55 to participate in Elderhostel, a series of college-level courses on topics such as natural history and discovering the Maine woods and coast. For more information on Tanglewood and its programs, visit www.tanglewood4h.org.

Note: a Tanglewood photo is available upon request.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Hosting Potato Conference and Trade Show in Caribou

19 Jan 2007

Contact: Steve Johnson, 207-764-3361; Pamela Hickey, 207-764-3361

Caribou, ME -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the 2007 Maine Potato Conference on January 24 and 25 at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. Registration at the door is \$7 per day, or \$12 for both days; no preregistration is necessary. For more information contact Pamela Hickey at 207-764-3361 or phickey@umext.maine.edu.

The conference will feature presentations on insect, disease and weed pests. Speakers from the USDA, the Maine Potato Board, McCain Foods, and specialists from UMaine Extension and other universities will present sessions on potato agronomy, varieties, food safety and other timely topics, with a particular focus on potato storage management to produce a quality product. Credits will be available for those holding a valid pesticide applicator license or CCA license. A complete conference schedule is available online on the UMaine Extension potato site at <http://www.umaine.edu/umext/potatoprogram/>.

Registration includes entrance to the trade fair sponsored by the Young Farmers Organization. More than two dozen

exhibitors will be displaying the latest in storage technology, agricultural chemistry, machinery, crop insurance, and much more.

Employers Flocking to UMaine Career Fair Jan. 31

22 Jan 2007

Contact: Patricia Counihan, 581-1355; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- This year's annual University of Maine Career Fair, scheduled Jan. 31 at the fieldhouse, has attracted more employers from Maine and throughout the country than ever before, and they represent an ever-expanding variety of career choices, from engineering to retail management, and even the FBI and Department of Homeland Security. "We're up to 111," says UMaine Career Center Director Patty Counihan. "We're always thrilled if we get 100." Now what's needed is the student component. "That's our challenge," Counihan says. Previously, 800-1,000 students have turned out for the annual career fair. That's a number Counihan would like to see rise, particularly among liberal arts majors, who may be under the misperception that jobs are scarce for them. The annual Career Fair, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., is probably the state's largest assembly of prospective employers looking to meet college students from all disciplines who are interested in possible internships or jobs after graduation. Students can come to browse the flyers and brochures or they can bring along resumes for impromptu interviews that just might lead to an internship before graduation or a job afterward. Most major companies in Maine will be there, and though many will be looking for young engineers or healthcare workers, the retail industry will have a bigger presence this year, Counihan says. Wal-Mart, Kohl's, Target, The Home Depot and Shaw's are five new retail participants joining long-time exhibitors, all looking for more than cashiers, according to Counihan. "These are management trainee positions," she says. "This is the entry point into the retail field." In fact, Hannaford Brothers, in conjunction with UMaine marketing Professor Kim McKeage, has organized a retail reception for students following the Career Fair. Other employers looking to hire UMaine graduates include organizations like the Peace Corps and KidsPeace, in addition to representatives from well-known research facilities, banks and insurance companies, surveyors, hospitals, shipbuilders, landscapers, news media, construction companies, schools, government, military and law enforcement agencies and event planning fields. Two UMaine graduates working for a Texas oil company will be here looking for employee prospects, Counihan adds. She attributes the increasing attendance to an improving job market and the growing reputation of the annual Career Fair. "It's a combination of things," she says. The Career Center website (<http://www.umaine.edu/career/>) has a complete list of participating companies. While the Career Fair is open at no cost to the public, most company representatives will be looking for students currently in college or those expecting to graduate, according to Counihan. Underclass students and graduate students are equally encouraged to attend. The Career Fair is sponsored by the UMaine Career Center, a member of the Division of Student Affairs. For more information, contact the Career Center at 581-1359 or visit its offices on the third floor of the Memorial Union.

UMaine Peace and Justice Film Series Schedule Announced

22 Jan 2007

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The Maine Peace Action Committee at the University of Maine has announced the spring 2007 schedule for its Peace and Justice Film Series.

Films, with discussions to follow, are screened Thursdays at 7 p.m. in Room 140, Little Hall on the Orono campus. Participation is free, and the public is welcome, says Anna Sweeney, MPAC treasurer and one of the coordinators of the film series.

Jan. 25

"Hearts and Minds," an Academy Award-winning documentary and best film available on Vietnam War and lessons for

future, this incredible film is shown every year in the series and is always followed by very emotional and informative discussion;

Feb. 1

"The Torture Question," a history of how decisions made in Washington in immediate aftermath of Sept. 11 led to a robust interrogation policy that laid groundwork for prisoner abuse in Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay and Iraq;

Feb. 8

"The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," a depiction of how, on April 12, 2002, the world awoke to news that Venezuelan President [Hugo Chavez](#) had been removed from office and replaced by a new interim government; documentarians [Kim Bartley](#) and [Donnacha O'Briain](#) suddenly find themselves in the heart of a coup d'etat, and capture those dramatic moments and days in which a nation's political future hung in the balance;

Feb. 15

"Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers," by acclaimed director Robert Greenwald (*Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price, Outfoxed, Uncovered*), who takes you inside lives of soldiers, truck drivers, widows and children changed forever as a result of profiteering in the reconstruction of Iraq; "Iraq for Sale" uncovers the connections between private corporations making a killing in Iraq and the decision makers who allow them to do so.

Feb. 22

"I Know I'm Not Alone," by [Michael Franti](#) -- a multifaceted artist known for fusing diverse sounds -- who takes his camera and guitar to the war-torn Middle East in this thought-provoking film that captures costs of global conflict; Franti ventures on his own into chaotic neighborhoods in Iraq, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories;

March 22

"To Disobey," the story of career soldiers who defy orders to follow their consciences: Israeli Igal Vega refuses to fire upon unarmed Palestinians; Colonel Efrain Ja

UMaine Schedules March Stallion Clinic

24 Jan 2007

Contact: Donna Coffin, 800-287-1491

ORONO, ME-- University of Maine

UMaine Announces Statewide Forest Bio-Products Business Plan Competition

26 Jan 2007

Contact: Renee Kelly, 581-1141, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine Student Innovation Center (SIC) is seeking participants for the 2007 statewide Forest Bio-Products Research Project (FBRP) small business development awards competition this spring.

Prospective participants are asked to describe the commercialization of a product or service for use in the fields of forestry, pulp and paper, engineering, chemistry, nanotechnology, wood science, biology, ecology, environmental studies, physics, material science, math, earth and soil science or resource economics and policy that have relevance to forest bio-products.

Prizes, to be awarded April 6, include: \$5,000 for first place, \$2,500 for second place, \$1,000 for third place and a \$500 encouragement award. To be eligible, participants must be full or part-time undergraduate or graduate students registered for 2006-2007 academic year at any college or university in Maine.

Commercialization plans may be submitted by individuals or teams of up to five students. Teams may include non-students, as long as at least one student member is an integral partner in the project.

Commercialization plans must be for start-up businesses and not for an existing business.

Teams may submit plans for their own product ideas or one provided by the FBRP.

Information about product ideas provided by the FBRP will be presented at a Feb. 6 workshop being held at the new Student Innovation Center on the Orono campus.

Several workshops are scheduled over the next few months to assist prospective team members in preparing business plans and with other competition requirements.

They are:

Feb. 6, 3 -- 5 p.m.: Forest Bio-Products Business Opportunities Workshop at the SIC;

Feb. 14: How to Write the Plan Workshop at the SIC;

Feb. 26: Notice of intent to compete due by 4 p.m. at the SIC (National Entrepreneurship Week);

March 28, 2007: Competition plans due by 4 p.m. at the SIC;

April 3, 3 -- 5 p.m.: Oral Presentations;

April 6: Winners Announced and Awards Given.

Additional support for the business plan and bio-products business opportunities will be provided from Feb. 6 through March 15. Prize money must be used for eligible business expenses as defined by the FBRP.

Further information is available by contacting Karen Lidral at 581-1484 or Abbe Jacobs at 866-6500, or by visiting the innovation center website (www.umaine.edu/innovation).

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers Sheep Shearing School

29 Jan 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

CUMBERLAND, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Sheep Breeders Association (MSBA) will offer a hands-on sheep shearing school on Saturday, March 24 at Sunrise Acres Farm, 42 Winn Road in Cumberland. It will begin at 8 a.m. and will continue into the early afternoon. There is space for 22 participants with pre-registration recommended. Those who are interested should call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 for registration and information.

The course fee is \$20.00 per participant and includes lunch. The public is invited for free to watch sheep being shorn. Participants should be in good physical health as shearing sheep takes leg, back and upper body strength.

Shearing instructor David Averill and Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski will lead the workshop. Joan Rolfe of the MSBA will demonstrate table shearing, proper wool handling, and the procedure for skirting raw wool, in order to prepare sheep owners for Maine's traditional spring shearing and pasture season.

Courses for Small-Scale Poultry Owners

30 Jan 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

MONMOUTH, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Alternative Poultry Association (MAPA) will sponsor the 2007 Maine Poultry School for small-scale poultry producers. The poultry school will be held at UMaine's apple, small fruit and vegetable research facility at Highmoor Farm in Monmouth, in two parts--one specifically for turkey producers and one for a general audience of poultry producers. The Turkey Production Short Course is scheduled for 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 16 and will cover turkey care and marketing. "What Makes Poultry Tick?," a practical anatomy and physiology workshop, will be offered from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 17. Pre-registration is required for each session, as space is limited.

The turkey short course is \$10 per person and includes refreshments and a reference manual on small-scale turkey production. The poultry anatomy/physiology session is \$30 per person, which includes lunch and a reference manual. Discounted fees are available for MAPA members. For registration and other course information, please contact UMaine Extension at 800-287-1471 or visit extension.umaine.edu.

Mike Darre, Extension poultry specialist from the University of Connecticut, will lead the workshops. UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, the course coordinator, called Darre an expert poultryman, remarking that "folks who raise poultry will gain the skills and knowledge from Dr. Darre to become better managers of their poultry--whether they raise laying hens, broilers, game birds, or turkeys."

Brzozowski further commented that "poultry are one of the most efficient producers on the farm. They can convert feed into eggs or meat with ease under the proper management. These fresh products can be marketed locally and there is a growing demand for them."

UMaine International Dance Festival Feb. 10 Offers Insight to Cultures

01 Feb 2007

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-2905; George Manlove, 581-3756

Note to editors: Students will rehearse Saturday, Feb. 3, from 3-5 p.m., in the dance studio on the second floor of the Class 1944 Hall and plan a full dress rehearsal Friday, Feb. 9 from 7-9 p.m. at the MCA.

ORONO -- Using the overwhelming success of last year's International Dance Festival as a barometer, UMaine's international students organizing this year's performance of music and dance from around the world expect to pack both the house and the stage at the Maine Center for the Arts on Feb. 10.

This year's production, involving as many as 70 performers, opens at 7 p.m. in the MCA's Hutchins Hall on the Orono campus. It is free, and members of the surrounding communities, in addition to students, friends and families visiting for Friends and Family Weekend are invited.

Students from nearly a dozen countries, from the Far East, Middle East, Europe, Africa and North and South America,

have been rehearsing traditional dances that reflect much more than a desire to entertain. Dance is an important component central to many cultures around the world, according to Senthil Sockalingam of Malaysia, a co-organizer of the event with Bangor native Jessica Bishop, a graduate assistant with Campus Activities & Events.

"For 80 percent of any culture, dance is a part of it," says Sockalingam, who will be among the dance performers. "I'm pretty much positive that the show is going to be awesome."

Bishop says both UMaine students and area residents will have a rare opportunity to see the depth of cultural traditions expressed through traditional music, costumes and dance.

"It's going to be something probably most have never experienced before," she says.

Because almost twice the number of students from last year's show wanted to participate in this year's festival, coordinators working under the auspices of the Office of International Programs and with support from several campus organizations, created larger groups of dancers of similar cultural backgrounds. That adds up to more energy on stage, Sockalingam and Bishop say.

Student performers, many of who have trained for years in dance at home, are enthusiastic about sharing their traditional, ceremonial dances with area audiences, according to Sockalingam and Bishop.

Students also are preparing for record audience attendance this year. The festival outgrew its first venue, the 276-seat Minsky Recital Hall, and moved last year to Hutchins Hall, with more than 1,000 orchestra seats on the first level. Sockalingam says he and Sarah Joughin, international student advisor, were stunned when the hall filled to capacity.

"I've never seen that wave of energy in my life," says Sockalingam, recalling last year's audience. "To just see this sea of people, I felt like I belonged, like someone actually cared to see what we were doing. To see a bunch of dancers do what they love to do and show their cultures to an audience in a frenzy of appreciation

Concert to Benefit Michele Alexander Scholar Award Fund

01 Feb 2007

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 Sunday, Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. in Room 100 of UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Proceeds 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."

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.

Feb. 8 Presentation on School Administrative Efficiencies

01 Feb 2007

Contact: Owen Maurais (207) 581-3651

ORONO -- Gordon Donaldson, professor of educational leadership in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development, will present the findings from his study of Maine school administrative efficiencies in next week in Bangor.

The forum is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. at Bangor High School's Peakes Auditorium. Following Donaldson's presentation, Owen Maurais, executive director of the Penobscot River Educational Partnership, will provide an overview of five initiatives currently focusing on restructuring central office administration in Maine schools. Time for questions will follow.

Feb. 7 Conference on Global Warming and Greenhouse Gases

02 Feb 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci and some of Maine's leading experts on environmental policy will participate in a Wednesday, Feb. 7 Augusta conference on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Seven northeastern governors, including Baldacci, signed onto the initiative in 2005. RGGI aims to reduce greenhouse gases in the region to ten percent below 2009 levels by 2019.

Wednesday's conference will feature an 11:00 a.m. panel discussion about how to implement RGGI in Maine. Panelists will include Commissioner David Littell of the Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection. Kurt Adams from the Maine Public Utilities Commission, Steve Ward from the Maine Office of the Public Advocate and Colby College's Tom Tietenberg.

The Wednesday conference will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the St. Paul Center in Augusta. The governor's remarks are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. John Rankin, United Kingdom Council-General to New England, will give the keynote address at 12:15 p.m.

Faculty members at the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service have helped arrange the forum. Those research and outreach centers worked together in 2006 to produce a comprehensive primer on RGGI and the related issues.

The Feb. 7 conference will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the St. Paul Center in Augusta. The governor's remarks are scheduled for 10:30 a.m.

UMaine Musical Comedy 'Bat Boy' to Transfix Hauck Audiences

02 Feb 2007

Contact: Marcia Douglas, 581- 1846; George Manlove, 581-3756

High resolution photos are available upon request.

ORONO -- The director of the next student production opening Feb. 16 at UMaine, "Bat Boy: The Musical," expects audiences in Hauck Auditorium to be transfixed by a suspenseful comedic horror story emboldened by creative costuming, staging and live musical accompaniment.

"Bat Boy," running Feb. 16-18 and Feb. 22-25, also delivers a serious message about snap judgments, says director Marcia Douglas, theater professor in the UMaine School of Performing Arts.

Douglas expects "Bat Boy" to captivate audiences from the outset, beginning with dramatic set designs, music and its opening scene, in which three spelunkers rappel from the rafters onto the stage -- the dark West Virginia cave and home of a boy who is half human and half bat.

A contemporary musical based on a story in *The Weekly World News* tabloid, "Bat Boy" is the story about what happens when a family tries to integrate the boy-bat creature into a judgmental rural community. A work that perhaps falls visually and conceptually between "The Rocky Horror Show" and "My Fair Lady," "Bat Boy" is about the consequences when good intentions tangle with deceit and misplaced aggression.

"It's very comic book-like," says Douglas, who also chairs the theater program. "It's very bold and very dramatic, and poignant. It has a really good message and the songs are funny and entertaining."

The main characters in the production include: Jacob Cayouette, a first-year theater major from Rockport, who recently returned to college after two tours with the U.S. Army in Iraq, as the bat boy; Hans Stefan Ducharme of Kennebunk as Dr. Parker; Rebecca Bailey of Orono as Parker's wife Meredith; Whitney Blethen of Appleton as Parker's daughter Shelley; and Tom Sagona of Camden as the sheriff.

Adding vibrancy to the production are several guest designers, including: Lex Liang, costumes; Matt Guminski, lights; Art Rotch, scenic; and Meridith Perry, props. Josh Schmersal, a Bangor native, is music director and Brianne Beck of Hampden is the choreographer.

Douglas says the production includes a cast of 21 students and a talented stage crew. As the production is set in a family home, a slaughterhouse, a town hall, a revival tent, a hospital room, a forest and the bat cave, it demands complex costumes, props and lighting.

"The prop design is interesting," she says, "since we have prop birds filled with 'blood' and a realistic-looking cow's head filled with 'blood.' There is a lot of blood."

"Bat Boy: The Musical" performances are Feb. 16-17 and Feb. 22-24 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 18 and Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. General admission is \$12; students with a MaineCard are admitted free. The show is intended for mature audiences.

-30-

Diplomats to Address Middle East Issues Feb. 13 at UMaine

05 Feb 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two U.S. diplomats with deep knowledge of contemporary issues in the Middle East will visit the University of Maine for a Tuesday, Feb. 13 forum, "The Middle East Conundrum: Diplomacy or Military Solution?" Presented by UMaine's new School of Policy and International Affairs and its William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce, the session is scheduled for 3-5 p.m. in UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Ambassador Marcelle M. Wahba, the State Department's foreign policy adviser to the Air Force Chief of Staff and

Ambassador and Philip C. Wilcox, Jr., president of the Foundation for Middle East Peace, will provide perspectives on current issues and potential solutions to some of the most vexing problems facing world leaders today.

"Ambassador Wahba and Ambassador Wilcox have more than five decades of combined experience in high-level diplomatic posts around the world," says Prof. Bahman Baktiari, Director of Research and Academic Programming at the Cohen Center. "They will bring informed insights to this important discussion, which will provide an outstanding opportunity for our students and others to broaden their perspectives on the Middle East."

Baktiari will moderate the discussion, which will follow brief introductory remarks by UMaine President Robert Kennedy.

Wahba began her government career in 1986. She has held posts in Egypt, Cyprus, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, where she was U.S. Ambassador from 2001-2004. Wilcox retired from government service in 1997 after 31 years of service, including duty in Laos, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Israel. Wilcox' State Department roles included service as Director of Regional Affairs in the Bureau of Middle Eastern and South Asian Affairs, Director of Arab-Israeli Affairs and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs. The Foundation for Middle East Peace, which Wilcox currently heads, is a Washington, D.C.-based foundation devoted to fostering peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Wahba and Wilcox will both be available for interviews Tuesday, Feb. 13, beginning at approximately 5 p.m.

Exhibit at UMaine's Lord Hall Explores Photography as Documentary

07 Feb 2007

Contact: Michael Grillo, 581-3252; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A new art exhibit opening Feb. 9 at the Lord Hall Galleries on the University of Maine's Orono campus uses work by seven internationally renowned photographers to assess the meaning and objectivity of the camera as a means of documentation.

"Documentation: Photography as Witness" brings together the work of Christina Anderson, Cella and Klaus Knoll, Annette Fournet, Bob Kiss, Barbara Kossy and Flounder Lee "to explore the broad range of possibilities that documentation, in its myriad possibilities, can suggest about the relationship among events, witnesses, photographic media and audience expectations," according to Michael Grillo, professor of art and exhibit curator.

The show runs Feb. 9-March 16, with an opening reception Feb. 9, from 5-7 p.m. at Lord Hall. The reception and the exhibit are free and the public is welcome to view it during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

The show, Grillo explains, "asks just what do we mean by documentary photography?" He seeks an answer by featuring seven photographers with very different understandings of what it can mean.

Grillo selected six entries from each of seven photographers after soliciting entries through a nationwide search. The exhibit is intended to evoke an analysis of photography, from the equipment and technical processing of photographic images, to the intention of the photographer and the perceptions of the audience.

"Think of all the great events we have photographed as if a particular perspective could cover the complexity in understanding any situation," says Grillo. "Because of its shared optical technology with microscopes, telescopes and other scientific instruments, photography has claimed the role of objective witness. Yet, from its inception, photography has called attention to how it actively shapes its subjects through selective framing, focusing, highlighting and other compositional means."

A practicing professional photographer and Medieval and Renaissance art historian, Grillo lectures on photography, film studies and new media. Through his work, he seeks to explore how aesthetic theories play out directly in application in the world, particularly how photography operates as a social process.

For further information, Grillo can be reached at 581-3252 or by email at: grillo@maine.edu.

Cruikshank Explores Vitality of Aging through New Literary Anthology

07 Feb 2007

Contact: Peg Cruikshank, 581-1228; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The title of her newly revised anthology, *Fierce with Reality: An Anthology of Literature on Aging*, embodies the paradoxes that come with the consideration of aging for Margaret "Peg" Cruikshank, author and lecturer in women's studies at UMaine.

So does the frustration Cruikshank feels when doctors or others address the 66-year-old skier, hiker and kayaker from Corea, near Gouldsboro, as "young lady." However innocent, the greeting is categorization all too common and subtly offensive to people who are, indeed, proud of their age.

"What about all my other identities?" asks Cruikshank. "Identities are like a mobile in relation to one another."

For millions of older people entering an age of new realities, spirits are high, health is good, and patronizing clichés to raise the spirits of the aging are unnecessary, even "toxic" to a woman's psyche, says Cruikshank, who holds a master's degree in gerontology, a doctorate in English and is a faculty associate with the Maine Center on Aging at the university..

Fierce with Reality,

originally published in 1995, is a new collection of essays, short stories, poetry and parables about the aging process as related by those of advancing years contemplating new realities and society's perceptions of them. It includes the writing of young Asian-American students in Cruikshank's English language classes from her days teaching at City College of San Francisco. They observed the isolation of many institutionalized elders.

A common perception about older people is disparaging: failing health, depression, stubborn, demented, Cruikshank writes. She hopes *Fierce with Reality*, published by Nancy Randolph of Just Write Books in Topsham, Maine, begins to dispel those myths. It is a particularly significant book in a state like Maine, with the largest demography of older people than any other state in the nation.

Cruikshank asks readers to consider "the dozens and dozens of interesting people who are vital and enjoy a good quality of life."

She believes the essay, "Who Says an Older Woman Can't/Shouldn't Dance?," reprinted in *Fierce with Reality* from author and Spelman College professor Gloria Wade-Gayles's book *Rooted Against the Wind* captures the theme of the anthology.

"It's a powerful piece," Cruikshank says.

The titles of Cruikshank's chapters suggest a revision of a common portrayal of an expanding generation being pushed aside by the world's infatuation with youth, wealth and beauty: "A Kaleidoscope of Images," "Homage to Grandmothers," "Strength and Wisdom," "Aging Is Not for Sissies," "Growth and Change," "Defiance & Self-Determination," "Loss," "Humor," "Ageism," "The Fountain of Youth: Two Asian Versions" and "Reflections."

Cruikshank sets the tone of the anthology with its title. "Fierce is never a quality you would ever associate with older people, so right here I was trying to break a stereotype," she says.

Fierce with Reality

includes works by celebrated authors, unknown authors, and men, women and the ethnically diverse. It also includes writers from Maine, including Lisa Asnis of Orono, a nontraditional student pursuing a master's degree at UMaine.

"I'm trying to raise consciousness about the differences in aging," Cruikshank says. The experience of aging for the poor is different from the wealthy, she says. It is different for black people, for Native Americans, for Asians and for those from the Middle East. *Fierce with Reality* provides a sampling of some of those experiences.

Considered appropriate reading for all audiences, including college courses of multiple disciplines, *Fierce with Reality* can be ordered through local bookstores, including BookMarcs Bookstore & Cafe in Bangor, Borders, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Amzon.com and Just Write Books (www.jstwrite.com).

Cruikshank is the author of several other books, including *Learning to be Old: Gender, Culture and Aging* and *Thomas Babington Macaulay*. In addition to teaching women's studies courses, she also has taught courses on aging and women at City College of San Francisco.

She will present a public reading of *Fierce with Reality* at 6:30 p.m., April 25 at the Bangor Public Library, and in June, Cruikshank will appear with Anita Hill and Dolores Huerta in an AARP panel discussion on diversity and aging. She also intends to offer a course titled "Women and Aging" at UMaine in the fall.

UMaine Greeks to Take the Plunge for Penobscot Boys and Girls Club Fundraiser

08 Feb 2007

Contact: Michelle Morneault or Dylan Moody, 581-4162; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Dozens of UMaine fraternity and sorority members will doff their duds at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 10, for the first Greek Life polar bear dip to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of the Penobscot Nation.

Forecasters are predicting Saturday's highs to reach only 20 degrees, but Michelle Morneault, president of the Greeks' Panhellenic Council at UMaine, expects as many as 60 to 75 fraternity and sorority members will be willing to take the plunge on the UMaine Mall on Saturday. Students have been collecting pledges throughout the week in anticipation of the bone-chilling event, but since this is the first Greek Life polar bear dip, neither Morneault nor Dylan Moody, a graduate assistant in the Greek Life Office, know how much money will be raised.

"We're hoping for a big crowd," says Morneault, a junior elementary education major from Madawaska. "We welcome all sponsors, certainly, to help benefit the Boys and Girls Club. "We're doing all we can to get word out there to all the Greeks and we'll see how it goes."

They would like to make the polar bear dip an annual event.

On Indian Island, Carla Fearon, director of the tribe's Boys and Girls Club, says any help is greatly appreciated.

"I am extremely grateful," Fearon says. "There were a lot of nervous looks at first, but when they got back to me collectively, they decided that this would be one of their projects for nonprofits. What they're doing for the children here, to me, is a huge gift. I hope they continue to do it. I hope they have fun."

Moody and Morneault say the Orono Fire Department will fill a portable pool at the top of the Mall, near Fogler

Library, about noon. Supporters will set up a changing and warming tent with hot chocolate for the dippers. Campus emergency safety personnel will be standing as a precaution, adds Morneault, who plans to be among those making a splash.

UMaine has a total of seven sororities and 15 fraternities with a total membership of about 700 students. Those taking a dip on Saturday will generate points that go toward a friendly rivalry among the fraternities and sororities that have been celebrating Winter Carnival this week. The fundraiser on Saturday comes at the tail-end of the carnival and in the middle of Family and Friends Weekend.

The Boys and Girls Club serves 75-100 children daily, from kindergarten through grade 12, with a variety of free educational, nutritional and recreational activities, according to Fearon. More than 200 youths from many area communities are members of the club.

"The Boys and Girls Club serves all children who want to participate and is 100 percent free," she says. Participation is not limited to tribal members.

The center, adjacent to the Penobscots' elementary school on Indian Island, provides meals, arts and crafts, a computer lab, game room and a gymnasium. Students learn about cooking and nutrition, career choices and fitness, among other life skills, Fearon says.

Morneault says the idea for the polar bear dip originated with a batch of about 40 letters she recently sent out to area nonprofits, offering the services of the Greeks at UMaine to help with charitable events.

For more information or to make a pledge for a polar bear dipper, Morneault or Moody can be reached at 581-4162. Anyone is welcome to participate and contribute a donation to the cause, Morneault says.

'Hotel Rwanda' Hero to Speak at Black History Month, Human Rights Week Events at UMaine

08 Feb 2007

Contact: Jose Cordero, 581-1425; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Paul Rusesabagina, hero of the film "Hotel Rwanda," is among the speakers coming to the University of Maine for Black History Month and Human Rights Week events this month.

He is scheduled to speak Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Maine Center for the Arts. The lecture is free, although campus sponsors will accept donations, according to co-organizer Jose Cordero, interim director of the Office of Multicultural Programs and the ALANA (African, Latino, Asian, Native American) Center at UMaine.

Black History Month events include a range of activities scheduled for Human Rights Awareness Week, Feb. 13-19. The month of February is filled with lectures, discussions, theatrical performances, films and a hunger banquet, all aimed at helping to promote a better understanding of black history in the United States and related human rights issues from around the world, including Africa and the Middle East.

Paul Rusesabagina's lecture and book signing is set for the day after the screening of "Hotel Rwanda" at 8 p.m. in Feb. 18 in Room 100 in the D.P. Corbett Business Building.

Rusesabagina is the former assistant manager of the hotel Les Mille Collines in Kigali, Rwanda who saved the lives of more than 1,000 Rwandan refugees targeted for extermination by Hutu government militia members during 100 days of Rwandan genocide in 1994. He received several humanitarian awards for his heroic actions stalling government militia members who had surrounded the hotel with the intention of executing refugees inside. Rusesabagina called in favors, solicited international intervention and managed to keep the militia at bay until the genocidal attacks ceased.

"Hotel Rwanda" is the award-winning docudrama credited with bringing worldwide attention to the atrocities in Rwanda. During the so-called 100 days of genocide, Hutu militia slaughtered more than 800,000 members of the minority Tutsi ethnic group.

Black History Month and Human Rights Awareness Week activities are designed to raise awareness of some of the general issues of diversity, says Cordero, whether that involves a subject like interracial dating at UMaine or the politics of social subjects not commonly discussed openly.

"Being a predominantly white campus, it's about being more aware of all cultures," Cordero says. "It's a great way to bring people together and talk about issues that don't get talked about a lot. The goal is to talk about issues and awareness. I think we should understand that UMaine is a very diverse place."

Subjects like religious beliefs and sexual orientation, in addition to ethnicity, raise issues of social concern, he adds.

"Dominant populations should know about their privileges and know how they are being perceived," he says. Cordero says the issue of "privilege" plays an important and often overlooked role in both human relationships and policies.

Jim Varner, advisor to the UMaine Human Rights Coalition and president emeritus of the Greater Bangor-Area Chapter of the NAACP, says it's important for Maine residents, in addition to UMaine students, to understand how black people have helped build and lead the nation.

"I think Black History Month is especially important here in Maine, seeing as Maine is the whitest state in the country with less than 2 percent of the population being black, Native American, Hispanic, Asian or other," Varner adds.

It's an important slate of events for students at UMaine, says Gimbala Sankare, a secondary education major from the Bronx, N.Y. and president of the Black Student Union.

"Black History Month is a chance for Africans and African Americans to show what their culture is all about, a chance to show how their culture influenced the history of this country, a chance to show the other cultures here at the University of Maine and the surrounding the community what our culture is all about," he says. "It's been a while since the university has seen events of this magnitude, and hopefully there are more events of this caliber for years to come."

Black History Month (BHM) and Human Rights Awareness Week (HRAW) events are supported and organized by many different organizations and academic departments on campus and are free unless otherwise noted. For more information about events, Cordero can be reached at 581-1428.

A schedule of activities follows.

Monday, Feb. 12

Panel Discussion: "Interracial Dating at a Predominately White Campus"; sponsored by Multicultural Programs, BSU and the College of Education & Human Development, 2 p.m., 120 Little Hall (BHM)

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Hunger Banquet, sponsored by Pi Beta Phi InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Catholic Campus Ministry (Newman Center), Coe Room, Memorial Union, 5-6:30 p.m.

(HRAW)

Wednesday, Feb. 14

"From Chiapas to Orono: Women's Rights as Human Rights"

Women in Curriculum Luncheon Series, Bangor Room, Memorial Union, 12:15-1:30 p.m. (HRAW)

Open Mic/Spoken word cafe, "Love of Humanity," Bear's Den, 8-10 p.m. (HRAW)

Thursday, Feb. 15

"Immigration and University Students," Socialist-Marxist Studies lecture series, Bangor Room, 12:30-1:45 p.m.; sponsored by SHAC & the Philosophy Department (HRAW)

"Iraq for Sale"

Maine Peace Action Committee Movie, 140 Little Hall, 7 p.m. (HRAW)

Friday, Feb. 16

"Invisible Children" screening

Coe Room, Memorial Union, 12 p.m., with post movie discussion, with soup and bread, sponsored by the Peace Studies Dept (HRAW)

Saturday, Feb. 17

Community Service Volunteer Projects to assist Cross Roads, Big Red Redemption Center and Rag Dolls 2 Love Inc. (HRAW)

Sunday, Feb. 18

African artifacts display and Black History Month discussion, with Jim Varner, who helped found the Greater Bangor-Area Chapter of the NAACP, and professor Forrest Pritchett of Seton Hall University, New Jersey; 12-3 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union (UMaine Human Rights Coalition sponsors)

"Hotel Rwanda" screening, D.P. Corbett Business Building, Room 100, 8 p.m., followed by discussion (HRAW)

Monday, February 19

Human Rights Week Keynote Speaker: Paul Rusesabagina, former manager of the Rwandan hotel featured in the film "Hotel Rwanda," about Rusesabagina's courageous harboring of more than 1,000 Rwandan families targeted by government Tutsi militias for extermination during 100 days of genocide in 1994; Maine Center for the Arts Hutchins Hall, Doors open at 6:30PM to be followed by a book signing; donations accepted (BHM/HRAW)

Wednesday, Feb. 21

"OM! A Street Corner Griot's Comedy" by the Black Theatre Company, sponsored by BSU and Multicultural Programs, 101 Neville Hall, 3 p.m. (BHM) Sponsored by Multicultural Programs and the University College Bangor

"Why Is Black History Month Important and Who Benefits?" a discussion with Bernice M. Brown of Hampden and James Varner, 7-8:30 p.m., 101 Neville Hall (Black Student Union and UMaine Human Rights Coalition sponsors)

Sunday, Feb. 25

Princely Players -- "On the Road to Glory," 3 p.m. at the MCA; for tickets call 581-1755; students admitted free with a MaineCard (BHM)

African-Theme Dinner, 6 p.m., Bodwell Lounge, MCA; tickets \$50; call 581-1755 (BHM)

Wednesday, Feb. 28

Solidarity Jazz & R&B Concert, featuring Jimmy "Fingers" Varner from Los Angeles, Calif., 7 p.m., Hauck Auditorium

(sponsored by the UMaine Human Rights Coalition, WMEB and other campus organizations)

Ted Ames, Recipient of a 2005 MacArthur "Genius Grant", to Give UMaine Lecture in April

08 Feb 2007

Contact: Judy Round 581-5104

ORONO, Maine -- Ted Ames, member of Stonington Fisheries Alliance (SFA) and captain/owner of the FV Mary Elizabeth in the Zone C lobster fishery, will give the 2007 University of Maine Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture. The lecture is scheduled for 3 p.m. April 11 in the McIntire Room of UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Ames has fished for ground fish and scallops for 24 years, lobsters for 26 years, and has extensive additional fisheries experience. He has authored several peer-reviewed articles on fisheries. Ames has a master's degree in biochemistry from UMaine with a specialty in tissue culture. He has six years research experience. Ames also developed and was director of an environmental and water quality laboratory, Alden-Ames Laboratory in Stonington, for three years. He spent ten years as an instructor/teacher of chemistry, biochemistry and environmental science. He was vice-chair of the Maine Department of Marine Resources Hatchery Technology Association for five years, chair of the Stonington Harbor Committee for 10 years, and executive director of the Maine Gillnetters Association for four years.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation named Ames as a new Fellow in 2005. MacArthur Fellows are appointed based upon their outstanding accomplishments and continued potential to make creative and important contributions to their fields. Because Fellows are named without any application on their part, and because of the size of the awards, these fellowships are often called the "genius grants." Ames received the coveted award for his groundbreaking studies of spawning, habitat and fishing practices in the Gulf of Maine.

The family of Geddes Wilson Simpson established the Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Series Fund at the University of Maine Foundation in 2001. Simpson was a well-respected University of Maine 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.

UMaine Alumni Association Announces 2007 Alumni Award Recipients

08 Feb 2007

Contact: Bob Potts, Alumni Programs & Marketing; (207) 581-1149 / 1 (800) 934-2586

ORONO, Me. --The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced the recipients of its 2007 Alumni Awards. They are as follows:

Alumni Career Award (UMAA's highest honor): Col. William Smullen '62, Fayetteville, New York

(Retired Colonel, United States Army; former Chief of Staff for Secretary of State, Colin Powell. Currently serves as Director of the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse University.)

Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award (in recognition of graduates who distinguish themselves in humanitarian service): Pamela White '71, Dulles, Virginia (Mission Director of USAID, currently serving in Tanzania. Pamela works with HIV/AIDS prevention, malaria control and primary education.)

Fogler Legacy Award (presented to families with multi-generation graduates of the University of Maine): Freeman Family; Patriarch: George Freeman, Class of 1903

Pine Tree Emblem Alumni Service Award (alumni service award given in recognition and appreciation of outstanding service in promoting alumni work): Bion Foster '68, 70G, Hampden, Maine

Black Bear Award (presented in appreciation of outstanding service to the University of Maine):

UMaine Fraternity Schedules Fundraiser to Benefit Rape Response Services

09 Feb 2007

Contact: Andrew DeFillipp at (207) 581-4161

ORONO - Beta Theta Pi, the University of Maine's oldest fraternity, will hold its 14th annual sleep-out to raise money and awareness for Rape Response Services of Bangor on Friday, Feb. 23. Rape Response Services of Bangor helps to educate the community about the issues surrounding sexual assault, while also providing education and support services.

Feb. 19-23, the brothers of the Beta Eta chapter of Beta Theta Pi will sell raffle tickets in UMaine's Memorial Union to raise money for the organization. They are also selling sponsorships to go on their sponsorship wall, which will face College Ave. throughout the night to recognize those who support the cause.

At the end of the week of fundraising, the brothers will all participate in a 12-hour sleep-out, from 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 23 to 6 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24. During this time, all 37 active brothers will be locked out of the fraternity house and will not be allowed back in until the following morning. Brothers will stay on the front lawn of Beta Theta Pi, 12 Munson Road.

Brothers will continue raffle ticket sales that evening and will draw the winners for various prizes, all donated by greater Bangor area businesses. A bonfire will burn throughout the night as the central symbol of this annual tradition.

Rape Response Services provides crisis intervention, support groups and community education in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. The organization's efforts are essential in preventing rape and counseling those affected by the crime. Last year's Beta Sleep-Out raised \$2,200. This year's goal is \$3,000.

Members of the university and surrounding communities are encouraged to come and show their support. Donations are strongly encouraged. For more information, please contact Andrew DeFilipp at (207) 581-4161 or e-mail at andrew.defilipp@umit.maine.edu or write to Beta Theta Pi, 12 Munson Rd., Orono, ME. 04469 attn: Sleep-Out.

UMaine Recognized for Groundbreaking Organic Dairy Research

12 Feb 2007

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, (207) 342-5971; Jen O'Leary (207) 581-3106

ORONO, Maine--A team headed by Rick Kersbergen, University of Maine Cooperative Extension professor, has received the Northeast Extension Directors' Award of Excellence 2006 for "Building an Organic Dairy Research and Extension Program." The award was presented during a recognition dinner last month in Washington, DC.

Kersbergen presented the results of the program to the Northeast Extension regional leadership and carried home

citations for team members Mia Morrison, dairy farmer and executive director of Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP); Timothy Griffin, agronomist at USDA/ARS New England Plant Soil and Water Lab; and Chris Reberg-Horton, organic cropping specialist at North Carolina State University, as well as a check for \$1,000 to support future related programming in Maine.

Maine has the highest percentage (20%) of organic dairy farms in the nation, thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of Kersbergen and his team. Kersbergen is leading efforts to research alternative cropping systems to feed organic herds, expand grain production and usage on organic dairies in Maine and Vermont, and reduce dependence on grain brought in from the Midwest and Canada. His three-year alternative forage project has resulted in double cropping systems that produce quality forage with significantly reduced weed pressure.

Data from the UMaine team

Maine Water Conference Set for March

12 Feb 2007

Contact: Ruth Hallsworth (207) 581-3196; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at UMaine has announced that the 2007 Maine Water Conference will be held Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at the Augusta Civic Center.

This year's conference will feature keynote speaker M. Gordon "Reds" Wolman Wolman, a National Academy of Sciences member, is a pioneer in studying water quality issues and how surface waters influence the shape of landforms.

Wolman is internationally known for his research on how rivers and other surface water systems evolve and how they modify the landscape. A central theme of Wolman's research has been the relative roles of human and natural forces in shaping the land and waters of the Earth. Wolman has been a member of the Johns Hopkins University faculty for 44 years, and chairman of the school's Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering for several decades

Registration for the conference made before March 3 is only \$38 and includes all conference sessions, breaks, and lunch. Registration is limited to 350 attendees (late registration fee after March 2 is \$50. Registration forms are available online at http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/mwc/Registration_07.htm. If you would prefer to have a registration form faxed or mailed to you, please call (207) 581-3244.

UMaine Grad Named NH Young Engineer of the Year

12 Feb 2007

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Sean T. James has been selected as New Hampshire's Young Engineer of the Year by the New Hampshire section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (NHASCE). James received both his bachelor's degree and master's degree in civil engineering from UMaine, completing his master's degree program in 1995.

While at UMaine, James assisted civil engineering professor Habib Dagher in the design of a 70-foot covered bridge that is now a popular attraction at the Cole Transportation Museum in Bangor. James also helped to develop strategies for reducing bridge construction costs for the Maine Department of Transportation as part of his master's thesis project.

Recognized for his work ethic, communication skills and engineering ability, James will be presented the award at the NHASCE Engineer's Week Banquet in February. He is currently employed by Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, Inc in Manchester, New Hampshire, where he specializes in timber bridge construction

Dunn Receives National Engineering Service Award

13 Feb 2007

Contact: Philip Dunn Jr., 581-2326; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Philip Dunn Jr., professor of construction management in the UMaine School of Engineering Technology, has received the American Society of Civil Engineers' 2006 Citizen Engineer Award for Region 1, which includes New England.

The national award is one of nine presented nationally to a member of the engineering society in recognition of outstanding accomplishment in public service. Region 1 includes all of New England plus New York, New Jersey and Puerto Rico.

Jalal Vahabnezhad of Los Angeles, chair of the ASCE Committee on Volunteer Service, praised Dunn in a congratulatory letter, saying that Dunn has established himself as a dynamic leader who promotes civil engineering to citizens and, in particular, youngsters who might consider a career in civil engineering.

Dunn recently directed and assisted civil engineering students at UMaine who built new ramps at the Good Samaritan Agency in Bangor, painted the interior of the facility and led efforts to provide holiday gifts for teenage mothers served by the agency. The Good Samaritan Agency provides adoption services and social services for single mothers and their children.

The citizen engineer award criteria includes recognition for accomplishments that promote community volunteerism, influence local public policy or legislative affairs and improve the image of the civil engineering profession through personal involvement in public service endeavors.

A resident of Old Town, Dunn has been teaching at the University of Maine since fall 2003. He received the award at the ASCE's Zone Leadership Award Conference Jan. 27 in Princeton, N.J.

UMaine Accounting Students Offer Free Help with Tax Returns

13 Feb 2007

Contact: Steven Colburn, 581-1982; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- University of Maine Business School accounting students under the supervision of accounting professor Steven Colburn are offering free income tax assistance to the public on Mondays and Thursdays.

While the UMaine Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) is designed for low- to moderate-income taxpayers, people with disabilities, the elderly or students who need help, the service is available to anyone on campus or in surrounding communities with basic tax assistance needs. It is sponsored by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

Taxpayers will be assisted on a first-come, first-served basis Mondays, from 2-4 p.m. in Room 215, and Thursdays, from 3:30-5 p.m. in Room 109, of the D.P. Corbett Business Building, behind the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus.

Filers should bring W-2 forms from all employers, Forms 1099 (for dividends and interest), if applicable, and any other forms or information regarding income, deductions or credits. Volunteers can download tax forms from the IRS website, if needed, and also can file returns electronically. ~

All of the student volunteers have taken tax preparation courses and are up to date on the latest tax law changes and Colburn double-checks each return. 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.

Between 100 and 150 people from the Old Town-Orono communities, including students, usually come for assistance each year, Colburn says.

For further information, Steven Colburn can be reached at 581-1982.

Two University of Maine Programs Win Excellence Awards

14 Feb 2007

Contact: Charlotte Stratton, New England Board of Higher Education (617) 357-9620 ext 125 BOSTON-- Both the University of Maine's Frederick Hutchinson Center and Onward Program have won 2007 New England Higher Education Excellence Awards, the honors bestowed annually by the interstate agency, the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). Commenting on the honorees, NEBHE President and CEO Evan S. Dobelle said: "The Hutchinson Center and UMaine's Onward program both illustrate the university's commitment to college readiness and success for all." The Frederick Hutchinson Center, located in Belfast, Maine, was selected to receive the regional Robert J. McKenna Award for Program Excellence named after the former Rhode Island state senator, Newport mayor and NEBHE chair. The center provides residents of Maine's growing Midcoast area with opportunities to pursue a college degree, professional development and lifelong learning. The center currently serves more than 20,000 citizens annually with on-site courses and distance-learning programs, educational outreach initiatives, professional development opportunities, and cultural enrichment experiences designed to respond to the learning needs of local citizens, businesses and public agencies. The Onward Program was selected to receive NEBHE's State Merit Award for Maine. For 36 years, the Onward Program has provided academic skill development and placement into developmental courses in English composition, analytical reading, algebra and biology, zoology or chemistry for students who come from low-income families. They are the first in their families to attend college or face other college readiness challenges that are different from those of traditional students. Upon completion of the program, students may transfer to the major of their choice anywhere in the university. Former four-term Maine state Sen. Mary R. Cathcart, who chairs NEBHE and works as a senior policy fellow at the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, described the winning programs as "The very best examples of higher education reaching out to state residents to ensure they have the opportunity to pursue the American Dream." Each year, NEBHE presents four regional awards to individuals and organizations that have shown exceptional leadership on behalf of higher education and the advancement of educational opportunity. In addition, the organization presents six "merit awards" to honor the innovative work of organizations, institutions or individuals in each New England state. The 2007 New England Higher Education Excellence Awards ceremony will take place on Friday, March 9, at Boston's Fairmont Copley Plaza. Additional information about NEBHE's New England Higher Education Excellence Awards is available online at <http://www.nebhe.org/programs-overview/nebhe-excellence-awards/overview/>

UMaine Training will Help Ellsworth Area Residents Clean Up Lakes

14 Feb 2007

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971

ELLSWORTH, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer its Watershed Stewards program Ellsworth-area residents who want to keep pollution out of their water supply. The training begins March 19, Monday

evenings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Hancock County UMaine Extension office on Boggy Brook Road.

UMaine Extension has joined Branch Pond Association and the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District to offer this training, which will focus on the Branch Pond watershed area in Ellsworth. Branch Pond provides the area's water supply as well as fishing and recreational resources.

UMaine Extension's Watershed Stewards program provides 20 hours of training designed to help local citizens recognize threats to their lakes, and gives them the tools needed to reduce or eliminate those threats. In turn, stewards complete at least 20 hours of service to their watershed, which can include projects such as cataloguing pollution sources and working with state agencies to reduce the impacts of these sources. There is no cost to participate, and all stewards receive a comprehensive resource notebook at no charge.

"The majority of topics we'll be covering are relevant to any local lake or pond--so if you're on Green, Toddy, or one of the other area lakes, you are welcome to join us," says Extension Assistant Scientist Laura Wilson. There are many sources of pollution in this area--commercial sites, driveways, logging roads, private roads, and residential properties--that threaten the health of this particular watershed.

"It is up to us, Maine's citizens, to recognize these sources of pollution and correct these problems," Wilson says.

For more information or to register, call at 800-870-7270. Registration deadline is March 12.

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For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

Spanish Professor Named Senior Fulbright Specialist

15 Feb 2007

Contact: Kathleen March, 581-2088

Kathleen March, professor of Spanish, has been named a Senior Fulbright Specialist, a designation that places her on a list of specialists selected to receive financial assistance for special teaching projects, typically in a foreign country.

The award requires a rigorous application and selection process. Though the five-year designation period does not include an immediate assignment, it positions a candidate for one, usually of two to six weeks. Specialists can propose a consulting project or they can be contacted by a foreign institution interested in a specialist's area of expertise.

Fulbright Senior Specialist projects are designed to provide U.S. faculty and professionals with opportunities to collaborate with professional counterparts at non-U.S. post-secondary academic institutions on curriculum and faculty development, institutional planning and a variety of other activities. The program, according to the Fulbright Scholar Program website, seeks to increase the participation of leading U.S. scholars and professionals by enabling new activities that go beyond the traditional Fulbright activities of lecturing and research, and to promote increased connections between U.S. and non-U.S. post-secondary academic institutions.

March anticipates using her expertise to assist in the creation or improvement of language-teaching programs in a Spanish-speaking country. Many countries can benefit from the adaptation of traditional language-teaching techniques to more interactive communicative learning, and by utilizing newer technologies that deliver the most effective instructional material, March says.

March has taught at UMaine since 1984, was a Fulbright scholar in Spain in 1977-1978 as a graduate student at State

University of New York in Buffalo, and routinely leads UMaine students in service-learning or volunteer visits to Central American towns and villages.

Embroidered War between Mary, Queen of Scots and Queen Elizabeth I Is Subject of UMaine Museum Talk

15 Feb 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- "Subversive Stitches: the embroidered war between Mary, Queen of Scots and Elizabeth I" is the subject of a special lunch-time lecture Feb. 22 at the Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine.

Michele Goldman, sociologist and needleworker, will present the talk. The public is invited to the free event. Guests are invited to bring a bag lunch.

Goldman will explore how the two monarchs expressed their animosity toward one another through needlework. Of particular interest is the needlework created by Mary, Queen of Scots while in jail awaiting execution at the hand of England's Elizabeth I. Mary Stuart, though Queen of Scotland, had a bloodline interest in the English throne, which was occupied by her more powerful cousin Elizabeth I. After years of animosity between the two and particular distrust of Mary by Elizabeth, Mary Stuart ultimately was convicted of treason and beheaded.

In her days awaiting execution, Mary created artful and historically symbolic embroidery. Both Mary and Elizabeth were needlework and embroidery enthusiasts. Goldman will have photographs of some of the needlework.

Goldman has been doing needlework for 39 years, professionally and as a means of artistic expression. She owns and operates her own needlework and knitting store, Fiberphilia on Mill Street in Orono, and is past president of one of the largest chapters of the Embroiderers Guild of America, the Constellation Chapter in Baltimore.

Goldman began studying the history of embroidery when she discovered ornate embroideries could be purchased for little or nothing from second-hand shops. She has studied both embroideries and the women who produced them with some of the best scholars on the subject in the world.

More information is available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100 or Michele Goldman at 866-3423.

Collins, Michaud, Libby at UMaine Demonstration Event Thursday

21 Feb 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Sen. Susan Collins, U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud and Maj. Gen. William Libby, Maine's adjutant general, are scheduled to be at the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWC) Center on Thursday, Feb. 22, for a demonstration of a new product designed to protect U.S. soldiers in combat situations.

Known as the Modular Ballistic Production System, the UMaine-developed materials fit inside tents, protecting troops from mortar fragments and other dangers. UMaine engineers have developed the lightweight, portable technology and the systems to make it workable in remote areas. The materials are now ready for pilot manufacturing and demonstration to the U.S. Army, AEW's partner in this project.

On Thursday, the first 20'x32' up-armored tent kit will be shipped to the U.S. Army for use in Afghanistan. The kit was requested by the 10th Mountain Division, which includes members of the Maine National Guard.

The event is scheduled for 10-11 a.m. It will include brief remarks by Collins, Michaud and Libby along with UMaine President Robert Kennedy and AEWG Director Prof. Habib Dagher. In addition to being adjutant general, Libby is also commissioner of the state Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

Following that program, UMaine students will demonstrate part of the fabrication process, followed by demonstration of how the ballistic panels are actually installed in tents. Then, the kits will be loaded onto a truck for shipment to the Army.

Register Early for Maine Garden Day

21 Feb 2007

Contact: Frank S. Wertheim, 207-324-2814

AUBURN, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension has scheduled the 14th annual Maine Garden Day on Saturday, April 14 at Central Maine Community College in Auburn. The event will feature more than 30 dynamic workshops from renowned horticulturists. In addition, there will be educational displays and a gardening trade show. Check-in will begin at 7:15 a.m. and the last event will end at 3:15 p.m. As seating is limited, attendees will need to register in advance by calling UMaine Extension at 800-287-1482 or 207-743-6329--or by following the registration instructions on the Maine Garden Day Web page, available at [the Cooperative Extension website](#).

"Many workshops fill up early," says UMaine Extension Prof. Frank Wertheim, who advises early registration. "Where else can you get 450 enthusiastic gardeners together on a Saturday with over 30 workshops to choose from? The energy of the day is unbelievable."

New workshops this year include: "Orchids Made Easy;" "Build a Bird Abode;" " Gardening Like the Forest: Ecosystem Agriculture for Home and Farm;" "Ornamental Grasses for Maine Landscapes;" "How to Make Gardens Weed-Free (Almost);" "An Exploration of Medicinal Herbs;" and "Creating Japanese-Inspired Gardens in Maine." Other workshops will cover topics such as starting plants from seed, dealing with diseases and pests, and selling the products of small gardens. Workshop durations are either quarter-day or half-day, so people can register for between two and four workshops, with lunch and the trade show in the middle of the day.

The first 450 registrations will be accepted. The cost is \$40, which includes breakfast, lunch, and a choice of workshops. Workshop slots are filled through registrations on a first-come, first-served basis.

UMaine's Ice Age Trail Map Wins National Award

23 Feb 2007

Contact: Michael Hermann, 581-4228; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine Canadian-American Center cartographers have won a top award in the nation's premier map design competition for their recently published Ice Age trail map of Maine's Downeast area.

The American Congress on Surveying & Mapping (ACSM) gave its Best of Category award in the contest's Recreational/Travel Map Professional Division to the "Maine's Ice Age Trail Down East Map and Guide." ACSM is a Gaithersburg, Md.-based non-profit educational organization created in 1941 to advance surveying, mapping and related

fields.

More than 5,000 surveyors, cartographers, geodesist and other spatial data information-related professionals from private industry, government and academia throughout the world are affiliated with the ACSM. More than 2,000 individuals are expected to attend this year's annual awards ceremony in March in St. Louis, Mo.

The Ice Age trail map is an assemblage of geological information from the Ice Age as it affected the Maine coastal region, from the Bangor area to Lubec, 12,000-16,000 years ago. The full-color, glossy map outlines significant geological regions and highway vantage points, and explains the origins of hundreds of glacial moraines, deltas and eskers left behind as the last great North American continental glacier, the Laurentide Ice Sheet, receded southeast across Maine. The glacier covered the state with a sliding ice sheet 1.5 miles deep, gouging mountains and valleys, and depositing regions of sand, gravel, clay and bedrock.

The map, which is being promoted on the sides of thousands of U-Haul vans and trucks nationwide and in Canada, is an educational aide for tourists, school groups and in-state travelers, providing a scenic route that explains the evolution of the geology that influenced subsequent plant and human habitation -- and the significant physical characteristics of Maine as we know it today. It includes 46 historic or scenic stops illustrating geological features created by the glacier.

The map resulted from collaboration over a six-year development period by members of an advisory team representing scientific concerns, regional tourism interests and climate change issues. Collaborators included the UMaine Climate Change Institute and the Canadian-American Center, in addition to the Maine Geological Survey within the Maine Department of Conservation, Maine Global Climate Change, LLC, Down East Resource Conservation and Development Council and the National Science Foundation.

Harold Borns, professor emeritus of glacial and quaternary geology, was the project manager and Michael Hermann, senior cartographer at the Canadian-American Center, was the lead designer for the map and trail guide. Woodrow Thompson of the Maine Geological Survey assisted with the project.

Further information about the map can be found on a dedicated website (<http://iceagetraill.umaine.edu>). Ice Age Trail Maps can be obtained through the publisher, the University of Maine Press in Orono, by calling 866-0573. A second-edition printing of the maps is planned for this spring and the map and guides will be available for retail sale.

The ACSM competition presented seven awards, for Best of Show and Best of Category with specific recognitions for best reference, thematic, book/atlas, recreational/travel, interactive digital and an "other" category for entries fitting outside the main five map types.

Hermann has submitted map work to the ACSM on several previous occasions and has won Honorable Mention 1997 and 2004.

"It is personally satisfying to claim top honors with this one," Hermann says. "It also is a solid endorsement on a national scale of the quality of the maps produced at the Canadian-American Center and the University of Maine."

Maine Sea Grant and Partners to Research Tools for Preserving Access to the Coast

27 Feb 2007

Contact: Natalie Springuel, 207-288-2944 x298; Kristen Whiting-Grant, 207-646-1555, x115

ORONO, Me.-- Maine's coastal communities recently have acquired two legal tools to protect public access for traditional marine resource uses, or working waterfronts. While current use taxation and the working waterfront land bond are significant steps forward, they are only a fraction of the legal or policy options available to protect coastal access for fishermen, boaters, beachgoers, and other users.

Recognizing the tremendous need for additional ways to protect coastal access, the National Sea Grant Law Center has awarded Maine Sea Grant, Maine Coastal Program, Marine Law Institute at the University of Maine School of Law, and the Island Institute \$54,531 to research legal and policy tools available for protecting coastal access in Maine and across the country.

Some of the tools include: cooperative agreements between coastal property owners and waterfront users; land conservation; zoning options; tax programs; and Maine's Right of Way Discovery Grants program. At the national level, Maine Sea Grant is leading an inventory of coastal access issues throughout the country. The new funding will allow case studies of best practices identified during this inventory to be converted into legal templates. The research will be conducted during the summer; in the fall, the project partners will use the research findings to develop published materials and training programs for citizens. "As a result of this legal research and outreach effort, we hope that citizens in Maine will improve their capacity

to address local access issues. Ultimately, building this type of local capacity could result in a reduction of the number of court-litigated coastal access conflicts," said grant recipient Kristen Whiting-Grant, a marine extension associate with Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Whiting-Grant is based at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Maine is among only five states in the U.S. where coastal property owners hold title to the intertidal zone. In addition, of Maine's vast coastline, only 25 miles remain available for working waterfront access. "Shorefront land use and development trends are changing the character of the coast, affecting both people involved in traditional fisheries who need places to moor their boats or access the mudflats, as well as residents and visitors who have long benefited from open access to the shore," said Natalie Springuel, a Maine Sea Grant extension associate in coastal community development based at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor.

Springuel and Whiting-Grant, along with other partners at Maine Coastal Program, Marine Law Institute and the Island Institute, applied for the grant to research legal and policy tools for the protection of coastal access in Maine and the nation, which was one of 11 projects nationwide selected to receive funding. The grant competition is funded by the National Sea Grant College Program and administered by the National Sea Grant Law Center at The University of Mississippi. The National Sea Grant Law Center was founded in 2002 to provide legal research and outreach services to the Sea Grant community and its constituents.

UMaine Offers International Exchange for Young People

28 Feb 2007

Contact: Jill Coffren, 207-645-3248

ORONO, ME. -- Maine 4-H International Exchange, a program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is offering Maine families the chance to host a Japanese student for a month this summer, between July 27 and August 22. This program is open to families with same-gender children close in age to the Japanese students, who are between 12 and 18 years old. Those who are interested are asked to contact Jill Coffren by phone at 207-645-3248 or by e-mail at jcoffren@umext.maine.edu for an application or for more information. Application deadline is April 1.

The program is a true exchange, as there is an opportunity for host siblings to later travel to Japan for a month, with the option of staying with their Japanese student's family. Year-long exchanges are also available for the children of qualifying host families. Host families need not be involved with 4-H; they just need a willingness to share their lives with a young person from Japan.

Japanese delegates coming to Maine want to experience everyday life in America and build English skills. The Japanese youngsters are happy to share a room with their host sister or brother, and they bring their own spending money and

insurance. Delegates look forward to doing family chores, learning new games, shopping, trying new foods, and sharing their own Japanese culture with their host family. Participants are matched with hosts based on similar interests, and they often comment that being a part of the family is the best part of their stay. Host family applications include a background check and a visit from a representative in the home before approval.

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UMaine Researcher Opens New Doors for Sea Vegetable Aquaculture

05 Mar 2007

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - Nic Blouin, a doctoral student in UMaine's School of Marine Sciences, is pursuing a ground-breaking research project focused on the reproductive biology of the red alga *Porphyra umbilicalis* -- also known as nori to the sea vegetable gourmand. Working with UMaine marine science professor Susan Brawley, Blouin is taking a multifaceted approach to nori research, combining cutting-edge laboratory research with hands-on field trials that he hopes will jump-start a new economic engine in Maine: sea vegetable aquaculture.

Maine's potential as a provider of sea vegetables has remained largely untapped, due at least in part to the average American's lack of familiarity with the ocean garden.

"Sea vegetable aquaculture is a \$6 billion industry worldwide. Nori alone is nearly \$2 billion of that, and that comes entirely from Asia. Nori and other algae are high in protein. They're also a good source of omega-3 fatty acids. They're a very healthful food; we're just not used to eating them. Because there are so few people working on this in the U.S., and because there is so little known about its basic biology, you have to spread yourself around a little bit," said Blouin, whose lab and field schedules combine to create a very demanding schedule. "I have projects going on both sides -- in basic research and in economic development."

As part of his master's thesis, Blouin worked to develop reliable techniques that could be used for cultivating *P. umbilicalis* commercially. With funding from Maine Sea Grant, Maine Technology Institute and the Environmental Protection Agency, Blouin gathered the initial data that could provide the foundation for large-scale cultivation of native nori in Maine waters.

"A lot of what we are doing with *P. umbilicalis* involves adaptations of other technologies - bringing them together in one uniform way," said Blouin.

"The idea is to streamline the process so that we can transfer that technology to future sea vegetable farmers."

A native of the North Atlantic, *P. umbilicalis* has a potential advantage over Pacific species of nori such as *P. yezoensis* that are currently used in Asia's large-scale aquaculture operations: it reproduces exclusively asexually along the northeast coast. Currently, commercial nori farmers spend more than half of the yearlong growing season coddling the tiny, inedible filamentous phase of the alga's complicated life cycle. In China, Japan and South Korea, gigantic warehouses shelter shallow tanks filled with billions of clamshells, each one tinted with the pink stain of nori in its filamentous state. *P. umbilicalis* produces asexual spores that begin their lives as tiny versions of adult blade, effectively pressing fast-forward on the algae's life cycle.

By utilizing the asexual spores of *P. umbilicalis*, Maine nori farmers could bypass the expensive filamentous phase, speeding production, eliminating seasonality and reducing overhead costs.

The cultivation of nori and other marine algae could prove to be the perfect compliment for other forms of aquacultural enterprise. Preliminary studies conducted by Blouin near salmon pens in Cobscook Bay suggest that net-grown nori could be incorporated into multicrop aquaculture. Dubbed Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (ITMA), this approach to ocean farming is critical to the development of stable and sustainable food production in the Earth's oceans.

Blouin's doctoral research is now focused on unraveling the mysteries of reproduction in this red alga at the genetic level. Identifying the genetic triggers for asexual reproduction in *P. umbilicalis* may offer important insights into similar mechanisms in other species, providing researchers with a better understanding of the evolution of sex and greater control over the cultivation of sea vegetable varieties chosen for size, speed of growth, flavor or other traits.

Researchers Say Climate Change Caused Ecosystem Shift in Atlantic

05 Mar 2007

Contact: Ben Slayton (207) 228-1638; David Munson (207) 581-3777

PORTLAND, Maine -- In a paper published in a recent issue of the journal *Science*, Andrew Pershing, of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, and Charles Greene, of Cornell University's Ocean Resources and Ecosystems Program, state that significant changes in the marine ecosystems of the Northwest Atlantic are the result of a significant increase in meltwater entering the ocean due to climate change.

Pershing and Greene suggest that the increase in low-salinity water entering the Atlantic from the Arctic altered circulation and stratification patterns, resulting in what they refer to as an ecosystem regime shift: a large, relatively rapid alteration in the ecosystem at multiple levels. The shift was marked by significant changes in the abundances and seasonal cycles of phytoplankton, zooplankton, and fish populations.

"Around 1990, the abundance of small copepods--rice grain sized crustaceans that are food for small fish--increased a hundred fold", said Andrew J. Pershing, Ph.D., Ecosystems Modeler at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and Professor at UMaine School of Marine Sciences. "Our work suggests that the increase in copepods was caused by an increase in the amount of freshwater entering the Gulf of Maine. When saltier conditions returned around 2001, the changes we saw reversed."

Dramatic changes in the abundance of herring, shrimp and other species in the 1990s have been attributed by some to the reduction in predation by cod and other large fish following the collapse of groundfish populations in the 1980s. Pershing and Greene suggest that a bottom-up change in the populations of a variety of North Atlantic species would have occurred with or without the collapse of cod, due primarily to significant changes in climate.

"Climate scientists are predicting that the North Atlantic will get fresher, due to more precipitation and ice melt. While we can't say that conditions in the 1990s were caused by global warming, our work suggests a new way that global warming could impact marine ecosystems."

Pershing, who received his Ph.D. in ecology from Cornell in 2001, is a leader in the use of computing technology to model and visualize how the ocean environment influences fish and mammal populations over time and to predict potential future population changes.

Pershing is a faculty member at the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, which is based in Orono and has a statewide teaching, research, and outreach presence. He is stationed at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's laboratory on Portland's working waterfront, as part of a unique partnership between the two institutions. At GMRI, he serves on an interdisciplinary research team, which has expertise in fishery ecology, oceanography, ecosystem modeling, fishing gear technology, and resource economics. This research team works collaboratively with the fishing community and other marine stakeholders to undertake strategic research initiatives in the Gulf of Maine.

About the UMaine School of Marine Sciences

Formed 10 years ago, the School of Marine Sciences offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the marine sciences, conducts research worldwide on all aspects of the oceans, with particular emphasis placed on interdisciplinary problems. The School aims to develop specific scientific understanding of the marine environment that is Maine's heritage, to integrate and communicate that knowledge through educational programs and to apply it toward stewardship of sustainable marine resources. The school is comprised of some 55 faculty members from various academic disciplines, and has facilities in Orono, Walpole and Franklin, Me.

About Gulf of Maine Research Institute

The Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) was established in 1968 to develop pragmatic solutions to complex problems to support the evolution of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the human community that depends on it. GMRI accomplishes this by convening the public to discuss, debate and resolve aquatic resource conflicts, conducting unbiased scientific research to improve public understanding of the Gulf of Maine and its watershed, and educating Maine residents and visitors about fresh and saltwater ecosystems.

GMRI's hybrid marine research and education facility, located on the Portland waterfront, provides a neutral, collaborative platform for research partnerships among leading research organizations, the fishing community, and private industry with a focus on fishery ecosystem research. GMRI is closely linked to the community, strategically focused on the Gulf of Maine bioregion, and complements its research programs with a unique education program that engages Maine's middle school students with marine science.

UMaine Discovery Spices Up Ancient Menus

05 Mar 2007

Contact: Dan Sandweiss (207) 581-1889; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Ancient food remains discovered in Peru by UMaine anthropologist Dan Sandweiss are helping not only to push back the frontiers of agriculture in the Americas, but to further our understanding of how humans ate as much as 8000 years ago. Cutting edge microfossil analysis performed by Smithsonian archeobiologist Linda Perry and her team on samples collected by Sandweiss and his students at a dig site near Wynuna, Peru suggest that ancient cultures were growing chili peppers, in addition to corn and other staples, to spice up their diets thousands of years ago.

A study by Perry, Sandweiss and others, recently published in the journal *Science*, traces the history of the cultivated pepper through seven archeological sites around the world. Sandweiss's samples from Peru were the spark that inspired the project, and were the only hot peppers in the study that could be identified to the species level.

"What we are seeing is a consistent association between corn and hot peppers in ancient agriculture, creating what is really a plant complex," said Sandweiss, who collected the microparticles of starch that that revealed the presence of cultivated peppers at the site. "Analysis of the starch particles gives us the ability to extend the record of pepper cultivation where there are no preserved dry remains."

Sandweiss has made microfossil collection an important part of his research since the late 1990's, working closely with Delores Piperno and Linda Perry of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History to unravel the often-complex microscopic record hidden in ancient middens and the pores of grinding tools. His collaborative, multidisciplinary approach has led to several important discoveries related to early agriculture in the Americas, helping scientists and historians better understand the roles played by peppers, gourds and corn in world agriculture.

"A tremendous amount of return has come from an excavation that was only 14 days long. The dig site itself was only 1.5 square meters, but it has been very productive," said Sandweiss. "I think that the ongoing success of the project

really underscores the fruitfulness of an interdisciplinary approach. It can often be the discoveries you don't expect that can be most important."

Maine Sea Grant and Partners to Research Tools for Preserving Access to the Coast

05 Mar 2007

Contact: Natalie Springuel (207) 288-2944 x298; Kristen Whiting-Grant (207) 646-1555 x115

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Researchers at Acadia Trace Mercury Through Forests, Streams

08 Mar 2007

Contact: Sarah Nelson, 581-3254

While Acadia National Park is often perceived as remote and pristine, the park's fish, wildlife, and human visitors are vulnerable to mercury contamination that persists throughout North America. New research has documented that fish, amphibians, and even tree swallows from Acadia carry heavy burdens of mercury.

Now, in a series of papers published in a special issue of the journal *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, a group of researchers from the University of Maine, Plymouth State University, the U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service, and Harvard University have revealed why concentrations of mercury in the environment are higher in some places than in others.

Using Acadia National Park as an "outdoor laboratory," the ten lead scientists were able to trace mercury as it moves from the sky to the mountains of Acadia, down through the forest canopy, and into streams and lakes, where it builds up in zooplankton, insects, fish and fish-eating wildlife. The research was conducted over seven years by scientists from a number of institutions, making Acadia one of the most intensively studied areas for mercury in the United States.

"These research projects demonstrated that the forested landscape and its history play a role in the cycling of mercury and nitrogen through the environment. This means we need to consider land cover type when assessing contaminants like mercury in our environment," said Sarah Nelson, co-editor of the special issue and an assistant scientist at Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at the University of Maine.

Evergreen forests of spruce, fir, and pine act as air filters, raking mercury from the air; as a result, the amount of mercury that falls through the canopy of these forested areas is much higher than that detected in rain alone. The mercury is washed to the ground with rain, snow, and falling needles and twigs, where it collects in the soil, and eventually moves into streams and lakes. Evergreen forests capture more mercury from the air than hardwood forests, because needles have more surface area to grab the mercury than leaves. Forests that are located on southwest-facing slopes are hardest hit, because they directly intercept polluted air masses drifting eastward across the United States.

Events such as fire can have tremendous influence, even decades later, on an area's susceptibility to mercury and other air pollutants. Reconstructing the history of Acadia's landscape, the UMaine team showed that the southeast slope of Cadillac Mountain, which burned during a major fire in 1947 (which covered nearly a third of Mount Desert Island) and was re-vegetated by hardwoods, is much better at retaining mercury than other areas of the park that have remained undisturbed for hundreds of years. The unburned areas are "leaky," and flush more mercury and nutrients into streams. As evidence of this, salamanders living in unburned forests had higher levels of mercury in their bodies than those in the burned areas.

These results may cause park officials, who are charged with protecting ecosystem health in Acadia National Park for both current visitors and future generations, to wonder whether they should perform controlled burns on more areas of the park to keep mercury out of streams and soils, but this would be taking too simple a view. Burning a forest would release mercury back into the atmosphere, and eventually the mercury held by all vegetation will make its way into soils and streams, fish and other animals. The problem is further amplified at Acadia because of the large extent of wetlands in the park, which are very effective at converting mercury to its more toxic form. Instead, managers are focusing on controlling the major source of mercury in the park, air pollution. "We can use the information from this study, in cooperation with our federal, state, and local air quality partners, to look for ways to reduce deposition and impacts of mercury," said David Manksi, chief of the resource management division at Acadia National Park.

The research was funded by U.S. EPA, in collaboration with the National Park Service's Northeast Temperate Inventory and Monitoring Network, Schoodic Education and Research Center and North Atlantic Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, the U.S. Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center-Orono, and Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

UMaine Combines Departments, Creates School of Economics

08 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Combining two departments with complementary expertise, the University of Maine has created a new School of Economics. The new structure is intended to enhance UMaine's ability to serve contemporary student interest and to address statewide needs.

Formed by merging the Dept. of Economics and the Dept. of Resource Economics and Policy, the school became an official UMaine unit when approved by the University of Maine System on Feb. 26.

"As separate departments, these faculty groups have educated thousands of students and provided invaluable research contributions, while extending their expertise statewide to help individuals, communities and the state deal with any number of critical issues," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Working together as one school, they will be able to expand on that record of accomplishment, to the benefit of our students and our state."

The new organizational structure will include scholarship and teaching in a wide range of fields including international economics and development; public policy economics; business and financial economics; health, labor, and demographic economics; urban and regional economics and development; economic growth and macroeconomics; marine, forestry, agricultural, and related resource economics; and environmental economics and policy. Students in the School of Economics will earn bachelor's and master's degrees in economics, financial economics, resource economics and environmental economics.

While such schools are typically part of one of a university's colleges, the UMaine school will operate under a different model which is unique in the northeast. The school will be part of UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health and its College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. The deans of those two colleges will share oversight of the school.

"The innovative cross-college structure will provide timely opportunities for teaching, research and outreach synergies between the two colleges, while providing some administrative savings through the creation of one larger academic unit," says Edna Mora Szymanski, UMaine's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "Collaboration between the two colleges has already produced some great results, including the Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) and a tourism certificate program."

Additional benefits are expected through collaboration with the recently formed School of Policy and International Affairs in the areas of international economics and development.

Those involved in creating the new structure point to the importance of teaching, research and outreach in areas of contemporary concern, including issues related to understanding Maine's current and potential role in the North American and global economies.

"Maine is an ideal state to have a School of Economics at the intersection of business, the North American and international economies, and the environment," says Daniel Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health. "Examples of how business and natural resource issues overlap are ever-present in Maine as are matters of international economics and business. Faculty in the school will work on issues related to creating the best balance between economic development and the environment."

Innis pointed to examples including urban sprawl, business and economic sustainability, human capital development and retention, land use issues, and the relationship between economic activity and human health.

"The School of Economics will continue to serve traditional natural resource and agricultural clients, but will bring these industries closer to businesses and entrepreneurs and provide more insight into the effects of increasing trade and globalization," says Edward Ashworth, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. "In addition,

the new school will serve as a research catalyst as it will bring together the diverse areas of research specialization currently existing in the two colleges.

UMaine Co-Sponsors Washington Conference

12 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Some 150 diplomats, scholars and military analysts participated in a March 6-7 conference, co-sponsored by the University of Maine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce and the National Defense University (NDU). The conference addressed a wide range of issues related to nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. The NDU facility at Fort Leslie S. McNair in Washington, D.C. was the conference site.

Prof. Bahman Baktiari of the UMaine political science faculty, director of research and academic programming at the Cohen Center co-organized the conference agenda with NDU's Judith Yaphe, distinguished research fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies. Baktiari's and Yaphe's international reputations allowed the conference to draw recognized expert presenters to the meeting. Baktiari himself gave a well-received talk on the psychological factors that affect Iran's national leaders.

Former U.S. Defense Secretary William S. Cohen, for whom UMaine's Cohen Center is named, gave the keynote address to open the meeting. A Bangor native and former Maine U.S. Representative and Senator, Cohen taught business law at UMaine while he was a practicing attorney, before he launched his political career.

The Cohen Center is a cornerstone of UMaine's new School of Policy and International Affairs.

Other notable participants included Ambassador Marc Grossman, who recently retired from the State Department as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs (the department's third-ranking official); Ambassador Marcelle Wahba, foreign policy adviser to the Air Force Chief of Staff; retired Israeli Army General Sholomo Brom; Mohamed Abdel Salam, senior researcher at the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo, Egypt; Peter Lavoy, director of the Center for Contemporary Conflict at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif.; Kongdan (Katy) Oh Hassig, researcher at the Institute for Defense Analyses and Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution; Murhaf Jouetjati, distinguished professor at NDU's near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies; Robert Litwak, director of the Division of International Studies at the Smithsonian Institution's Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; and Gary Samore, vice president, director of studies, and Maurice R. Greenberg Chair at the Council on Foreign Relations.

"One of the most important purposes of a university is to foster public discussion and objective analysis on important events to our country and society. The NDU-UMaine conference accomplished this goal at the highest level and on one of the most important topics facing our world" says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This conference brought high-level recognition of UMaine's considerable academic and research expertise in international policy studies."

"UMaine's faculty is not only an important resource for Maine, but for the nation and the world. UMaine serves Maine people when it furthers constructive dialogue on policy issues of national and International importance. Our students benefit from UMaine's engagement, as do our faculty and our political leaders," Kennedy says.

"We take great pride in the fact that the School of Policy and International Affairs and the Cohen Center encourage policy analysis and generate ideas that promote a greater understanding of the complex factors that influence world affairs," says Prof. John Mahon, the School of Policy and International Affairs director.

UMaine and NDU are in early discussions relative to a follow-up conference on other topics of national importance at UMaine, most likely in 2008.

UMaine Bureau of Labor Education Paper Reveals High Cost of Misclassified Workers in Maine's Construction Industry

12 Mar 2007

Contact: Bill Murphy, 581-4124; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Problems resulting from construction employee misclassification as independent contractors are highlighted in a briefing paper released recently by the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education, titled "Stretching the Law, Stressing the State - Misclassified Workers in Maine's Construction Industry."

According to one of the studies cited in the paper, an estimated 11 percent of Maine's construction workers are routinely misclassified as independent contractors -- a practice that, while saving some employers money, is illegal and raises employee-related costs for other companies who obey the law and classify their employees properly. State employment law definitions of independent contractors are based on the degree of control an employer has over the individual when performing work for the employer.

The bureau recently compiled information from a 2005 Harvard University study of the Maine construction workforce, and state and federal labor departments, to produce a report assessing the impacts of improperly classifying workers as independent contractors. The briefing paper concludes that the problem is not only widespread, but is more prevalent that can be accurately documented because of the scope of the underground economy in construction.

For example, a number of employers and employees working "under the table" on a cash-only basis do not leave a paper trail. Thus, as the Harvard study observes, the full extent of the problem is difficult to document. Independent contractors technically are self-employed. They are responsible for paying their own health insurance, income and social security taxes, and taking care of all employment-record documentation.

Companies that classify workers incorrectly as independent contractors can lower their own expenses since they can avoid paying workers compensation insurance premiums, unemployment taxes and employee benefits. However, the practice deprives employees of protections normally afforded through unemployment and workers compensation coverage, as well as health insurance and other benefits usually provided to employees, according to William Murphy, director of the University of Maine Bureau of Labor Education.

Misclassification of employees also harms construction contractors who obey the law. In this industry, contractors rely on bids to win contracts. Employers who misclassify their employees can have much lower labor costs than contractors who obey the law, thereby enabling contractors who misclassify to gain an unfair economic advantage in the contract bidding process.

The Harvard study revealed that "during the years 1999 through 2002, at least one in seven, or 14 percent annually, of Maine construction employers are estimated to have miscalculated workers as independent contractors." The study also found such employee misclassifications to be extensive, with "over 4 in 10 workers (45 percent) misclassified annually in construction employers found to be misclassifying" during this period. So, while the percentage of employers misclassifying (14 percent) is relatively low, this is offset by the extent of infractions (45 percent) by individual employers within this group who do misclassify.

The Harvard report research found that an average of 3,213 construction workers in Maine were misclassified as independent contractors in each year between 1999 and 2002. This misclassification produced the following losses during this four-year period:

UMaine Cooperative Extension Activities for Living Well Week

13 Mar 2007

Contact: Louise Kirkland, 207-942-7396, 1-800-287-1485

ORONO-- During Extension Living Well Week, March 11-17, University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a variety of workshops statewide, including "Parenting Through Separation and Divorce" in Oxford County, "Home Budgeting" in Franklin and Piscataquis counties, "Creating Nutritious Low-Cost Meals" in Aroostook County, and an eating healthy session for parents and preschoolers in Kennebec County.

In 2005, the United States Senate passed a resolution designating the second full week of March as Extension Living Well Week. During this week many county UMaine Extension offices offer special Living Well activities. The emphasis is on healthy lifestyles, nutrition and food safety, financial management, safety in the home and work environment, and relationship and parenting skills.

UMaine Extension educators provide newsletters, short courses and fact sheets on many health- and family-related topics. To connect with your local UMaine Extension office, please visit www.umext.maine.edu or call 1-800-287-0274. The Living Well campaign is sponsored by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Gray Company Donation Funds Lab Upgrade

13 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine civil engineering students will have better access to state-of-the art laboratory equipment thanks to a \$75,000 pledge from a Gray company co-founded by the son of a professor who taught at the Orono university for close to 40 years.

The gift from Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers will be put towards an endowment to maintain and upgrade the Soil Mechanics Lab in Boardman Hall where each year approximately 100 students in civil engineering and construction management technology receive training on how to investigate subsurface conditions and materials.

"This is one way to give back to the university. It will help establish a predictable funding stream that's independent of the legislative process," says Thomas Gorrill, son of UMaine civil engineering professor William Gorrill who retired in 1986. Thomas Gorrill and his partner, Al Palmer, founded the engineering company in 1998.

The gift will help ensure that the UMaine students the company regularly hires are prepared for the workforce, says Palmer. "We'd like to see that graduates out of UMaine have a thorough knowledge of the fundamentals in geotechnical engineering because it's the basis of all civil engineering projects," he says.

In honor of the firm's generous contribution the facility will be named the Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers Soil Mechanics Laboratory during a dedication ceremony at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 19. UMaine President Robert Kennedy will be on hand to thank the company and its 24 employees, many of them UMaine engineering graduates.

"This is really a wonderful example of how companies in Maine can step up to the plate and make a lasting difference to the College of Engineering," College of Engineering interim dean Dana Humphrey says. Gorrill-Palmer is highly regarded in Maine and throughout northern New England for its transportation engineering work, he points out.

The gift comes as part of UMaine's recently launched \$150 million capital campaign -- the most ambitious in the history

of the state's flagship university -- and makes the third named laboratory in the civil engineering department and the tenth in the College of Engineering.

Endowments are more important than ever because technology becomes obsolete so quickly, according to Humphrey. "We have to replace our equipment on a much more frequent basis and we need to have endowments like Gorrill-Palmer to provide that critical level of support," he says.

A faculty member in UMaine's civil engineering department for nearly 40 years, William Gorrill taught soil courses and was instrumental in hiring Humphrey as his replacement, the interim dean recalled.

The gift "is just a wonderful connection between father and son," Humphrey says.

His father "probably would be very pleased" about the gift, said Gorrill, who has maintained close ties with UMaine over the years. He is a member of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering advisory board. And he has been a guest speaker at UMaine on numerous occasions.

"The gift is going to be huge for us," says Eric Landis, interim chair of the civil engineering department, noting that a first-rate lab would help recruit top faculty and students.

"We want to be a state-of-the-art facility and this will help us do that," he says.

Blueberry Expert Klimis-Zacas Named to Senior Fulbright Specialist List

13 Mar 2007

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, 581-3124; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, UMaine professor of food science and human nutrition, has been named a Senior Fulbright Specialist, and plans to spend part of a semester-long sabbatical at the University of Milan's Department of Food Science and Nutrition in Italy studying the health benefits of blueberries.

From April through June, she anticipates presenting lectures and graduate seminars, and assisting the Department of Nutrition with curriculum development and assessment. She also intends to solidify collaborative research opportunities with colleagues at the University of Milan.

A leading authority on the health benefits of wild blueberries, Klimis-Zacas will expand her research in Italy to studying the effects of wild blueberry compounds on DNA degradation in cell cultures and animals, and also on diabetic microangiopathies at Medica Hospital and Medical Research Institution in Milan.

She also will strengthen research collaborations begun in September 2005 during a trade mission to Italy lead by Gov. John Baldacci, Michael Eckardt, UMaine vice president for research, and others. Since that trip, Klimis-Zacas has worked with colleagues at the University of Milan to set goals and objectives for common research projects, which she'll pursue during her sabbatical.

"I will explore possibilities that graduate and undergraduate students complete internships and or field experiences at the University of Milan and other institutions in the area," she says.

Klimis-Zacas sees herself in an ambassadorial role for the University of Maine and hopes her work in Italy can benefit the university in several ways.

Her Italian connections will be valuable to UMaine "since they may translate into student and faculty exchanges, student recruitment, extramural funding, original research publications, exposure of our students and faculty to other cultures,

and will help fulfill some of the mission statements of UM," she says. "Additionally, it will aid in implementing one of the goals of the governor's trade mission to Italy, that of the academic partnership and eventually foster trade and agricultural partnerships."

Klimis-Zacas has taught at UMaine since 1988, and also was a Senior Fulbright Fellow in 1995, when she conducted research and taught at the National School of Public Health in Athens, Greece.

Water, Climate Change to be Featured at Maine Conference

15 Mar 2007

Contact: Ruth Hallsworth, 207-581-3196

ORONO - The myths and realities of our water supplies will be the feature presentation at the 2007 Maine Water Conference at the Augusta Civic Center on March 21. M. Gordon "Reds" Wolman, professor of geography and international affairs at Johns Hopkins University, will deliver the plenary presentation on that subject. Wolman is an award-winning scientist and National Academy of Sciences member, and a pioneer in the study of how rivers influence the landscape.

Wolman's presentation on humankind's relationship with water will provide background for a talk on climate change in the northeast by Cameron Wake. Wake, a research associate professor at the University of New Hampshire, is reconstructing climate change from ice cores recovered from glaciers, as well as investigating the links between air quality and human health in New England. As part of the Northeast Climate Impact Assessment, he co-authored two research papers and a series of reports detailing past and future climate change in the Northeast.

These lunchtime presentations will serve as a link between morning and afternoon sessions covering topics from volunteer river monitoring, climate, landscape change, and toxic contaminants, to sustainable water use, current legislative issues, municipal planning, and water science education.

The annual Maine Water Conference is sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at the University of Maine, with support from various state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Maine businesses.

For more information, visit <http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/mwc/index.htm>.

UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum Offers Maple Syrup Season Activities

15 Mar 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4115; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum is hosting two public events, March 23 and March 25, to acknowledge the sweetest sign of spring -- maple syrup season.

On March 23, Kathryn Hopkins, a UMaine Cooperative Extension horticulturalist and expert on maple trees and syrup production, will deliver a talk at noon titled "Backyard Sugaring." She'll review the sap-to-syrup process, and will share tips and advice for amateur syrup makers. Hopkins has worked in the Cooperative Extension's Somerset County office for 14 years and regularly consults with maple tree growers and syrup producers in Maine. The lecture is free and participants are invited to bring along a bag lunch.

On March 25, from 1-3 p.m., the farm and home museum will entertain children and adults with its annual Maine Maple Sunday program. Activities begin with a short video, "The Maple Sugaring Story," at 1 p.m., followed at 1:30 p.m. by learning activities, game-playing and stories about one of Maine's oldest industries -- the gathering of sap from sugar and black maple trees, and the production of maple syrup. Children will be grouped by age, from kindergarten through grade 6, for activities, says Patricia Henner, museum director.

The afternoon also includes a trip to the University of Maine's nearby maple sugaring operation in the University Forest on College Avenue Extension. Participants will get a guided walking tour of the sugar bush -- tree stands where the maple sugaring story begins -- and then will tour the demonstration sugarhouse, where sap is simmered into syrup. One gallon of syrup requires the distillation of 40 gallons of sap. Children can sample fresh maple syrup, straight from the evaporator, poured over ice cream.

"It is a maple syrup sundae on Maine Maple Sunday," Henner says.

The event is a popular, interactive celebration for children to learn about the history of Maine maple syrup, meet other youngsters, and get some fresh air in the process, Henner says.

Northern New England's Indians taught colonists about making maple syrup and maple candy, and Maine remains one of the world's largest maple syrup producers.

Because of space limitations at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus, pre-registration is advised, and all children must be chaperoned. Henner expects the Maine Maple Sunday event to fill up quickly.

"I've already had people calling to make reservations and I haven't even put out an announcement yet," she says.

A \$4 per child reimbursement fee for materials used in the exercises is requested. For registration and other information, please call the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100.

UMaine Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert April 3

16 Mar 2007

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The University of Maine's Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present its annual spring concert -- a program of rich jazz standards -- on April 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Leonard and Renee Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall.

The program includes great jazz classics from Duke Pearson ("Big Bertha"), Juan Tizol ("Caravan and Perdido"), Jerome Richardson ("Groove Merchant"), Duke Ellington ("In a Mellow Tone and Just Squeeze Me"), Nat Adderley ("Jive Samba"), Cedar Walton ("Midnight Waltz" and "Short Stuff"), John Coltrane ("Mr. P.C."), Wes Montgomery ("Road Song") and Charlie Parker ("Yardbird Suite").

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble, created in the fall of 2006 as a major component of the School of Performing Arts' new minor in jazz studies, is a group of soloists or small ensembles with piano accompaniment. This semester's group consists of 17 musicians, representing a variety of instruments: not only trumpet, trombone, saxophone, piano and guitar -- which are normally associated with a jazz big band -- but also flute, clarinet and vibraphone, which all have a rich history in jazz, says music professor Karel Lidral, Chamber Jazz Ensemble director and advisor for the jazz studies and music minors at UMaine.

The piano in the Chamber Jazz Ensemble replaces the standard jazz rhythm section -- often piano along with bass and drums -- in the same spirit that orchestral reductions are used by recitalists in the classical realm, Lidral says. Orchestral reductions are re-arrangements of orchestral scores when the piano is used in place of an orchestra.

Ensemble membership includes major emphases on the development of skills in the art of jazz improvisation, as well as in the development of a jazz swing feeling, Lidral says. The group is not auditioned, so instrumentalists at all ability levels are able to participate. This semester's organization ranges from first-year students to those in graduate school, and represents a wide variety of majors.

Tickets are \$6, although students are admitted free with a MaineCard. For more information, call the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755 or visit the School of Performing Arts Website (www.umaine.edu/spa).

The chamber jazz ensemble also will perform for the University of Maine Open House on April 16, in the Maine Center for the Arts, 8:30-9:15 a.m., and April 25, in the Bear's Den in the Memorial Union, 11 a.m. to noon. Both events are free and open to the public. Another performance is scheduled to take place at the Bradford Elementary School in late April.

Members of the ensemble include: Rebecca Bosworth-Clemens of Shoreham, Vt., clarinet; Gary Craig of Oakland, alto saxophone; Ray Delear of East Corinth, alto saxophone; Richard Dort of Plymouth, clarinet; Zachary Duren of Blue Hill, trombone; Charity Harmon of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, flute; Scott Horey of West Bath, vibraphone; Anna-Marlies Hunter of Eastport, clarinet; Kevin Judkins of Mt. Vernon, guitar; Steve Kane of Merrimack, N.H., alto saxophone; Zachary Keenan of Bangor, trumpet; Jason Knowles of Bass Harbor, guitar; Chris Malm of Caribou, trumpet; Michael Nokes of Dexter, trumpet; Michael Puleo of Belmont, N.H., piano; Danielle Sullivan of Saco, alto saxophone; and Karl Varian of Brandon, Vt., trumpet.

UMaine Celebrating 100 Years in the Federal Depository Library Program

19 Mar 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, (207) 581-1696

ORONO, Me. -- The Russians were newly experimenting with parliamentary democracy, the British Army was withdrawing from a foreign country, a senator resigned his seat, and the Maine Legislature hassling over the University of Maine budget allocation. Yesterday? Last week? No, all this happened in early March 1907 when Congress directed something of benefit to the University of Maine and to the state as a whole.

The Norton Amendments enacted on March 1, 1907 designated all Land Grant Colleges -- including the University of Maine -- as federal document depositories. To bolster scientific and political research and to assist in building an informed citizenry, from then on, UMaine's library would receive, free, all new government publications as they were issued in Washington.

Fast forward to 2007. The University of Maine's Raymond H. Fogler Library has recently been recognized by the Government Printing Office (GPO) in Washington for its commitment to 100 years of service as a depository library. To commemorate the milestone, the GPO has sent a crystal plaque to honor the library's participation. The plaque will be part of a display that can be viewed at the library through the end of March.

"The University of Maine Library had actually been serving as a depository library prior to 1907, receiving a small selection directly from GPO and members of Congress in the late 1800s," explains Frank Wihbey, Head of the Department of Government Publications, Maps, GIS & Microforms. "The act of 1907 significantly boosted our acquisitions, at no cost. So 1907 remains a historic milestone for our library and the federal program," Wihbey said.

Joyce V. Rumery, Dean of Libraries at the University, added, "There is a synergy of Land Grant College membership and the Federal Depository Library Program which aligns with the mission of the University. This is one of many federal-state partnerships that have benefited UMaine and the State."

"Libraries designated as depositories provide local, no-fee access to anyone. We are quite pleased with this recognition from Washington for our library's commitment to providing public access to government information," Wihbey stated.

Wihbey further explains that most depository libraries, then and now, are selected through Congressional privilege. Senator William P. Frye of Lewiston nominated the University of Maine library, and it was officially declared a depository in 1897. But in 1907, under the provisions of the Nelson Amendment to the First and Second Morrill Acts, 43 land-grant colleges were simultaneously declared to be a part of the depository program. This allowed Senator Frye to make another selection for Maine, the Dyer Library of Saco.

Another milestone in Fogler Library's history came in 1962 when the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) sought libraries in each state--to be called "Regional Depositories"--which would volunteer to receive all official publications and offer permanent access to the public. Coincidentally and fortunately, UMaine had just installed a new and energetic library director, James MacCampbell. Thinking broadly, MacCampbell conceived the idea of building on an established spirit of cooperation among the three northern New England states and proposed the Tri-State Regional Document Depository, which would fulfill the role for Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. This relationship was realized in December 1963.

Typically a Regional serves only a single state. However, within the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, Fogler Library is the designated location committed to permanently housing every United States document that has ever been distributed by the FDLP program. The collection at Fogler Library now totals 2.2 million documents, including some in paper, microform, floppy disk, map, videocassette and CD-ROM formats. The URSUS online catalog lists hundreds of thousands of federal publicatio

Award-winning Water Scientist to Speak at UMaine

20 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --M. Gordon "Reds" Wolman, professor of geography and international affairs at Johns Hopkins University, will present a seminar on environmental geography and policy at the University of Maine at noon on Thursday, March 22 in Norman Smith Hall.

Wolman, a National Academy of Sciences member, pioneered the study of how rivers influence the shape of the earth's landforms. Many of his professional and policy interests have been fostered by field work and exposure to resource issues in the American West. A central theme of Wolman's research is the relative roles of human and natural forces in shaping the land and waters of the earth.

"I have heard Reds speak before, and just his presence is inspirational, he has seen it all. He is one of the great grandfathers of water management," says Dave Courtemanch, director of the environmental assessment division of Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Land and Water Quality.

Wolman is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades for his contributions to modern water resource management, most recently the Benjamin Franklin Medal from the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia in 2006, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Council for Science and the Environment in 2004. Wolman has served on numerous national, international, and regional committees and panels concerning water policy, water quality, and the management of surface water processes.

Wolman will present a talk entitled, "The Truth About the Environment III: The Adaptable Frog," from noon to 1:00 p.m. in Room 107, Norman Smith Hall at The University of Maine. Wolman's visit is sponsored by the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research.

The seminar is free and open to the public. For more information, visit http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/outreach/lecture_series.htm

UMaine Symphonic Band Begins State Schools Concert Tour March 28

21 Mar 2007

Contact: Curvin Farnham, 581-1254; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 65-member Symphonic Band will take to the road March 28 as it begins its annual Maine public schools spring tour and concert series.

The band will make seven appearances and will share the stage with young public school musicians in some of the performances. For Curvin Farnham, director of bands, the tour is an opportunity to renew old acquaintances with former students.

UMaine student musicians under the guidance of Farnham, who also is coordinator of the School of Performing Arts, and Chris White, director of sports bands, will begin a four-day tour March 28 with a visit and concert at the Hancock Grammar School in Hancock. It will end at with a concert March 30 at the University of Maine at Farmington, whose Concert Band will share the stage with the UMaine Symphonic Band.

The annual tour usually includes schools where former UMaine music majors now are music teachers. Introducing elementary, middle and high school musicians to college-level musicians is inspiring for students, says Farnham, and also is an excellent recruiting method for UMaine.

Members of the symphonic band at UMaine must audition to join. Not all are music majors, but Farnham says all are committed instrumentalists. Some perform with several bands at UMaine -- the pep band, concert band, marching band, or one or more of the university's jazz ensembles or choruses.

In addition to Hancock and Farmington stops, the Symphonic Band tour itinerary also will take members to Searsport, Belfast and Camden on March 29, and Acton and Saco on March 30.

Hancock Grammar School music teacher Dean Paquette's sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students, plus members of the Hancock community, are looking forward to the UMaine band's visit, says Paquette, a UMaine alum and former band member. They'll have a chance to see the UMaine band play a concert at 7 p.m., and the grammar school musicians will be invited to join UMaine band members for one of the final works of the evening.

"They're a little nervous," Paquette says of his 27-member band. But they also are looking forward to working with the college musicians in small groups prior to playing together.

Paquette, a saxophonist, recalls his days in the UMaine music program fondly, he says. He and his wife Cathleen Paquette, a flute player, played in bands here, and they continue to renew old friendships with music department faculty, as adjunct instructors at the annual Maine Summer Youth Music Camp at UMaine. Farnham was Paquette's mentor, with whom he student taught at Hampden Academy when Paquette was a student in 1980, he says.

Paquette says he looks forward to the band's visit, and remembers previous UMaine band visits to his school.

"I think it's absolutely good PR for them, but the hard fact to get across to the public is that they sound so good," Paquette says. "The kids are awesome. They're really good kids, too."

Music for the tour includes the piece, "The Passing of the Torch," written by UMaine band member and music arranger Seth Morton of Lewiston.

The schedule is:

March 28,

Concert at 7 p.m., Hancock Grammar School;

March 29

Morning assembly and concert at Searsport High School, afternoon assembly performance at Belfast Area High School and an evening concert at 7 p.m. at Camden Hills Regional High School, during which high school musicians will join the UMaine band on stage;

March 30

A morning concert at Acton Elementary School in Acton and an afternoon concert at the C.H. Burns Elementary School in Saco; music teachers at those schools also are UMaine alumni; and a 7:30 p.m. concert at First Parish Congregational Church in Saco, at the invitation of the Southern Maine Chapter of the UMaine Alumni Association.

March 31

Concert at 7:30 p.m. with UMF Concert Band members and UMaine Symphonic Band members combined in the gymnasium at UMF.

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Rehearsal schedule:

Wednesday, March 21, and Monday, March 26: 4:10-5:30 p.m.

& Sunday, March 25, 7-8:30 p.m.

Room 100, Class of 1944 Hall, UMaine

National Experts Explore Cutting-Edge Computing Models at UMaine Conference

21 Mar 2007

Contact: Prof. Kate Beard (207) 581-2188; Joe Carr (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Some 30 national-level experts gathered in Portland Jan. 24-26 to discuss current thinking about ubiquitous computing, the idea that computers embedded in our environments can react to human preferences and adjust accordingly. One commonly used example is a system that knows when an individual has arrived at a location through sensors embedded in their clothing. When that person arrives home or at the office, locks open and lights, temperature, and music change to his or her preferences. The concept pre-dates the Internet, having been first suggested by XEROX's Mark Weiser some 20 years ago. This capability is much closer to reality today as numerous technologies are now capable of being integrated to allow pervasive sensing as individuals travel throughout buildings, in cars, and throughout natural and urban environments.

The University of Maine's National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) hosted the January meeting, which included participants from academics, industry, and government who explored research directions and research challenges related to making ubiquitous computing fully real.

Weiser called ubiquitous computing "roughly the opposite of virtual reality," and pointed out the challenges related to integrating "human factors, computer science, engineering and social sciences."

"Ubiquitous computing is becoming possible, and the issues Weiser identified still loom large," says Kate Beard,

director of NCGIA and professor in UMaine's Dept. of Spatial Information Science and Engineering. "Not surprisingly, space and time are major factors in the development of a ubiquitous computing environment. Our world is becoming more and more full of small but powerful computing devices and of sensing instruments in cars, warehouses, appliances, passports, subway turnstiles, credit cards and even clothing. These devices must be able to 'know' where they are located in space and time, where the people or phenomena they monitor are located in space and time, and whether objects are in motion or staying in one geographic location. Devices must also be able to

interact effectively with each other without human intervention."

Prof. Harlan Onsrud, also with UMaine's Dept of Spatial Information Science and Engineering, points out that "the ubiquitous computing environment these devices make possible must respect and serve the rights and principles we value, even as they make our lives easier and more convenient."

Those attending the conference represented a wide range of academic disciplines, including computer science, law, geography, engineering and social sciences.

"We worked to outline a set of research priorities to help build a ubiquitous computing environment that serves human needs, rather than the other way around," Onsrud says.

The researchers initially focused on spatial-temporal (space and time) issues in four areas key to building an integrated ubiquitous computing environment: modeling spatial and temporal elements of a ubiquitous computing environment; sensor networks and active information processing; the interaction of humans

with computing devices, including devices humans might not even be aware of; and how to respect and protect personal privacy in a world of ubiquitous computing.

Some key research areas that the conference participants identified as crucial for building an effective and efficient ubiquitous computing environment included:

June Conference to Examine Communication Issues

21 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Rethinking the role of communication in a post 9/11 world will be the focus of a three-day conference at the University of Maine, June 28-30, sponsored by the National Communication Association.

Highlighting the conference will be keynote addresses by Constance Penley, director of the Center for Film, Television and New Media at the University of California-Santa Barbara, and Kuan-Hsing Chen, coordinator of the Center for Asia-Pacific Cultural Studies at National Tsing-Hua University in Taiwan.

Penley's talk is "Melrose Space: Art, Politics, and Agency in an Age of Global Media"; Chen will speak on "Modes of Knowledge Production in the Contexts of Neo-Liberal Globalization."

A plenary workshop, "Science, Journalism and Cultural Politics," will feature leading writers, scientists and scholars discussing the cultural effect of the journalistic dissemination of scientific knowledge. Among the participants will be Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute; Deborah Blum, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist now at the University of Wisconsin; and science writer Chris Mooney, author of the forthcoming *Storm World: Hurricanes, Politics, and the Battle Over Global Warming*.

The keynote addresses and plenary session are open to the public.

Science communication is an understudied yet critical component of our changing global context, says Nathan Stormer, a UMaine professor of communication and journalism who is coordinating the conference with Professor Kent Ono at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Today, it's important to examine the effectiveness of science communication, how people comprehend the messages and what difference that understanding can make in individual lives or public policies.

Among the questions, says Stormer: How does information on issues moving and shaping society enter public consciousness? And how do media representations impact public understanding.

One of the goals of the conference is to interest graduate students in pursuing research on critical and cultural communication issues. Seminars for conference participants will explore more of these issues, including the current "security society," globalization and media, intercultural politics and communication; cultural influences on political participation; and transnational feminism.

A similar conference focused on critical and cultural studies in communication, one of the fastest growing divisions in the discipline, was held in 2000 at the University of Iowa. The conference sparked a new NCA journal, *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, in 2004.

UMaine's conference also is part of a 600-level distance education summer course enrolling students from more than 10 universities across the country.

Future Math, Science Teachers Invited to UMaine Conference March 24

22 Mar 2007

Contact: Amie Gellen, 581-1021; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Organizers of a day-long conference March 24 at UMaine hope to attract promising new teachers to science and math fields, and also to help make the subject matter more interesting for tomorrow's classrooms.

The conference is UMaine's student-run Mathematics and Science Future Teachers Club's (MSFTC) Seventh Annual Spring Conference, co-hosted by the University of Maine's Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research.

Event coordinators expect college students will be most interested in the conference, but they also hope to attract middle and high school students who might consider science and math teaching as a career, according to Katie Martin, president of MSFTC, and Amie Gellen, assistant director of the Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research and advisor for the student future teachers club.

Workshops will: involve active learning; provide resources; include ideas for teaching with technology; and will be in alignment with national science and mathematics education standards and the State of Maine Learning Results. Topics include ideas for ensuring gender equality in the classroom, global citizenship, forest bioproducts technology and life cycle-based sustainable consumption -- topics closely related to Maine's changing forest-based industries.

Though young people are the focus of the conference, Gellen says, it also is designed for anyone in Maine with an interest in becoming a science or math teacher, including people considering a change in careers.

Nine exemplary, award-winning Maine math and science educators will share their expertise and experiences, and furnish lesson ideas that pre-service teachers can readily implement in their prospective classrooms, Gellen explains. The conference is a showcase for best practices in math and science teaching, she notes.

The conference is cosponsored and supported by an Education Outreach Award from the Maine NSF EPSCoR Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative, which seeks to "engage Maine teachers and students in learning activities that have

relevant connections to the use and health of Maine's forests." Presentations will address that theme, and also will include teaching strategies for encouraging participation by underrepresented groups in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

Martin, of Mashpee, Mass. and a fourth-year elementary education major with a science concentration, says she is excited about conference topics because they will bring additional relevance to the fields of science and math -- a relevance geared toward teaching those subjects more effectively in Maine.

Gellen says the event is unique and worthwhile because it offers prospective teachers a rare opportunity to interact with some of Maine's most outstanding mathematics and science classroom educators at a professional conference created and implemented solely by students for their peers.

Additionally, Gellen says, this year's conference "is special because of our connection to the Maine NSF EPSCoR Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative."

The conference provides a natural vehicle for bringing the excitement of forest bioproducts research to the classroom, she says.

"With its mentoring and networking opportunities, the event has the potential for playing a long-term role in increasing the number of well-prepared math and science teachers in Maine classrooms, who will effectively pass their knowledge and enthusiasm on to future Maine scientists, mathematicians and engineers," Gellen says.

State Rep. Emily Cain (D-Orono) is the scheduled keynote speaker. Susan McKay, professor of physics and director of the Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research, Vicki Nemeth, director of research administration and Maine NSF EPSCoR associate project director, and Nicole Gillespie, senior program officer, Science

Knowles Science Teaching Foundation, will deliver opening remarks following a welcome by Martin, Sarah Desjardins and Tim Brown, officers of the Mathematics and Science Future Teachers Club.

The conference opens with registration, a poster session and continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Building on the Orono campus and ends at 3 p.m. Lunch at the Memorial Union, a conference tee-shirt, door prizes and a certificate of attendance also are provided for participants. Advance registration is required through the club at the UMaine WADE Center in the Union or, for people who are off campus, by calling Gellen at 581-1021. WADE Center registration hours this week are March 22, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and March 23, 9-11 a.m. A \$10 registration fee will be refunded the day of the conference.

Conference speakers and topics for the day include:

Patricia Bernhardt, 21-year veteran science educator currently teaching grade 7 life sciences at James F. Doughty Middle School, Bangor, "Overcoming Gender Issues in the Classroom";

Steve DeAngeles, Presidential Award winner for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching 2005, who currently teaches physics at Maranacook Community High School, Readfield, "The Science and Art of Teaching Science";

Jon Doty, K-12 coordinator of Gifted and Talented Services, Old Town School Department, "Differentiation Strategies for Mathematics and Science";

Donald R. Sprangers, Presidential Award winner for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching in 2003 and the 2007 Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year, who teaches biology, environmental science and field ecology at Washington Academy, "Best Practices: Batching Biodiesel";

Todd Zoroya, a part-time math instructor at UMaine, "Can Smart Boards Make Our Students Smarter?"

Pat Maloney, Maine Project Learning Tree coordinator since 1999 and former science teacher, "Project Learning Tree Integrates Math & Science with the Outdoors for grades K through 5";

Tad Johnston, mathematics specialist and acting science specialist for the Maine Department of Education and a Presidential Award winner for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching in 2000, "Outside Influences Coming through Your Classroom Door";

Michele Mailhot, GRACE Master Teacher for NASA, currently teaching mathematics at

Messelonskee Middle School, Oakland, "Literacy for Understanding across the Content Areas";

And Greg Norris, founder and director of Sylvatica, a life cycle assessment research consulting firm in North Berwick, and founder and executive director of New Earth, a global network and foundation for community-based sustainable development and continuous environmental and social improvement, "Sister Schools Project, Latin and North America, for Life Cycle-Based Sustainable Consumption."

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UMaine Doctoral Program to Benefit Community Colleges

22 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine and the state's two southernmost community colleges have crafted an innovative plan aimed at expanding doctoral education opportunities for community college faculty and leaders. Starting in Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 Southern Maine Community College and York County Community College administrators and faculty members will enroll in UMaine's nationally recognized Higher Education Leadership doctoral program. UMaine will tailor specific work for these students in the context of a program serving college and universities in every corner of the state, so they can work together over a five-to-six-year period to earn their degrees.

Staff and faculty members at other Maine community colleges, including Eastern Maine Community College, will also have access to the program and opportunities to join their southern Maine colleagues as part of a statewide student group. The doctoral experience will help build networks across higher education sectors in the state facilitating long-term collaboration.

"UMaine and the state's community colleges are key partners in educating Maine citizens and preparing them for a brighter future," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "By providing doctoral-level education to these talented and dedicated higher education professionals, UMaine can assist them in further enhancing the community college experience for large numbers of Maine people."

Kennedy points out that this arrangement grew from discussions initiated last year by Southern Maine Community College President James Ortiz. He says that this initiative shows UMaine's ability and willingness to respond to a state need.

"As community colleges work to increase access to higher education for more Mainers, we are developing more partnerships with the state's universities," Ortiz says. "Arrangements like this will help our state move toward having more citizens with college degrees, increasing aspirations and setting the stage for further developing Maine's economy."

UMaine will deliver the program through a combination of distance education classes and on-site courses taught by UMaine professors with supplemental coursework through universities in other parts of Maine.

"Extending university expertise for positive statewide impact is an important part of what UMaine does as the state's flagship university," says Robert Cobb, dean of UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. "The

Education Leadership program has allowed us to provide doctoral education to dozens of educational leaders around Maine, and this new initiative represents a natural next step to focus on the state's growing community college system."

Cobb points out that community college leaders have long been interested in promoting the UMaine doctoral program as a means for advancing community college faculties and staffs. Eastern Maine Community College President Joyce Hedlund and Kennebec Valley Community College President Barbara Woodlee were involved in planning the UMaine program's original curriculum.

The UMaine doctoral program began in 1999. Twenty students are currently enrolled in it.

Charles Lyons, the York County Community College president and former University of Maine at Fort Kent and University of Maine at Augusta president, has a unique perspective on this new arrangement. He says that more than half the students at his institution are studying arts and sciences, with plans to move into university baccalaureate programs. Lyons sees an increasing need for community college faculty members who have doctorates.

"The university system and the community college system are working together to meet an important need," Lyons says. "Maine's taxpayers expect us to collaborate in this way, and cooperative programs of this nature really distinguish Maine higher education."

"One of UMaine's unique characteristics is its capacity to offer doctorates in a wide range of fields, and to deliver them in innovative ways," says Edna Mora Szymanski, UMaine's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "In educational fields, this has a real impact because educators and educational leaders with doctorates can help to increase student achievement while influencing positive educational outcomes at all levels."

Reporter and Author Hedges at UMaine April 3

22 Mar 2007

Contact: Lauren Marshall at (207) 581-3201; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Chris Hedges, a former New York Times war correspondent and author of "War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning," will give a talk on his book at the University of Maine on Tuesday April 3. Hedges' 4:30 p.m. presentation, which is the 2006 Rezendes Ethics Lecture, is scheduled for Room 100 of UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Hedges is this year's UMaine John M. Rezendes Visiting Scholar in Ethics. That program, which UMaine's Honors College coordinates, is supported by the John M. Rezendes Ethics Initiative and the Cultural Affairs and Distinguished Lecture fund. The April 3 lecture is free and open to the public.

"War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning" is this year's UMaine Honors Read book, meaning that it was chosen by a tutorial class and that incoming first-year Honors College students read it before beginning classes last fall. UMaine professors Burton Hatlen (English) and Amy Fried (political science) nominated Hedges' book to be the Honors Read.

Hedges' controversial memoir describes his experience reporting on conflicts in the Balkan region and makes the claim that the idea of war forms an integral part of the American psyche.

UMaine Student Organizes Chic Fashion Show to Benefit United Way

23 Mar 2007

Contact: Jessica Richards at 207-941-2800, ext 220; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A UMaine student who is organizing and coordinating a charity fashion show hopes the project will bring a little unusual entertainment to the area, while at the same time raise money for the United Way of Eastern Maine.

Jessica Richards of Orrington, a journalism major with a concentration in advertising, has organized a spring styles benefit fashion show March 30 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor. Proceeds will benefit the United Way, where Richards is completing an internship this semester.

Emceed by Kristen Andresen, a Bangor Daily News reporter and "ShopGirl" columnist, the event will showcase 10 local models from UMaine or area high schools wearing Macy's daytime, business and nighttime spring junior fashions and chic big-city styles.

Music for the event will be donated by Michael Strout of Music Central DJ Services.

Richards conceived the idea last spring, while transitioning into the position of community service director for the UMaine student chapter of the American Marketing Association, affiliated with the Maine Business School at UMaine. It has taken her almost a year to make connections and arrangements for the "Rendezvous Fashion Benefit" and learn html computer language and build a website to promote the show.

Richards says the project is giving her an opportunity to fulfill one of the goals of the AMA chapter, to work with area businesses in a volunteer or charitable capacity. It also has been an invaluable learning experience, she says.

"I knew with this event I'd be getting a whole lot of practical experience, mostly in event planning, and certainly event planning goes along with the marketing I will be doing in the real world," she says. Some of the work she has done has included recruiting and photographing models, creating advertisements, contacting area businesses in search of financial and in-kind services support, working out details with Macy's store managers and securing space at the Spectacular Event Center, located at 395 Griffin Road in Bangor.

"Right now things are looking really good," says Richards, who last year collected "Dress for Success" business clothing for students of the Penobscot Job Corps in Bangor. She expects there will be substantial community interest in this year's project, the fashion show.

"I know so many young girls in the area and they watch TV and they see all these fashion shows and we really don't have this kind of event in the Bangor area for junior women," she says, "so I wanted to offer something really original that we hadn't done before."

Young women from area high schools and colleges will model the clothing. The show also will feature local model Victoria Lee Fuller, who has walked the runways of two New York City designer fashion shows. She also has photographed for the cover of *Nylon Magazine* and Simply Chic's store website at www.ShopSimplyChic.com.

Tickets are \$12 and include appetizers. A cash bar will be available to those with proper identification. The cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m.; the fashion show begins at 8 p.m. Anyone over the age of 21 who attends the benefit fashion show is invited to celebrate afterward at the Sea Dog Brewery and Restaurant, a show co-sponsor.

Tickets also can be purchased through the Rendezvous website (www.myspace.com/rendezvousfashion) or by sending a check payable to the United Way, care of Jessica Richards, United Way of Eastern Maine, 24 Springer Drive, Suite 201, Bangor, 04401. Richards also can be reached for more information by email at Jessica.Richards@umit.maine.edu or by telephone at 941-2800, extension 220.

For details about how the United Way of Eastern Maine helps the people in the community, visit its website (www.unitedwayem.org).

Richards says she has received generous assistance from former Macy's manager William Kearns and current Macy's

manager Anthony Paratore, who is providing 30 outfits for the young women to model. Crystal Small of Dej

Volunteers Sought for UMaine Binge Eating Research

26 Mar 2007

Contact: Stephanie LaMattina, 581-2031; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Young women who are subject to stress and binge eating are being sought for a University of Maine study.

Volunteers between the ages of 18 and 28 will have an opportunity to receive free treatment and a chance to win a \$100 bonus for their participation.

The study is being conducted by clinical psychology Ph.D. candidate Stephanie LaMattina. LaMattina says the research she is doing will help researchers and members of the public understand more about binge eating and ways to address the urges.

Some of the symptoms of binge eating include frequent episodes of eating large amounts of food in a relatively short period of time and feeling an inability to stop eating or control what or how much is being eaten.

If people eat until they are uncomfortably full, eat alone because they are embarrassed by their eating habits or feel guilty or disgusted after eating because of how much they eat, they could be binge eaters, says LaMattina.

"If you often experience overeating episodes like those just mentioned, and you do not engage in self-induced vomiting, excessive exercise, fasting or other extreme ways of getting rid of the food you eat, you may qualify to participate," LaMattina says. "All information will be kept confidential."

The study involves volunteers coming to the UMaine campus on two occasions. The first visit is to fill out a questionnaire and do a short interview. The appointment takes about an hour, and can be scheduled any time of day. In a second visit, volunteers participate in lab tasks while completing a few short questionnaires. Second appointments are scheduled between 3-7 p.m. and take about two hours.

LaMattina also is looking for healthy volunteers who do not engage in binge eating to participate in the same study. For more information, please contact LaMattina at Stephanie.Lamattina@umit.maine.edu. The study already has begun and is expected to continue for the next few months.

Stressed at Work? Volunteers Sought for UMaine Study on Workplace Stress

26 Mar 2007

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- If work is stressing you out, causing anxiety, depression, nervousness, headaches, stomach and back problems or an inability to sleep well, a University of Maine research project could provide some solutions.

Adult volunteers are being sought for a study on workplace stress. Barbara Hermann, a Ph.D. candidate in clinical psychology, is asking interested individuals to contact her by email at barbara.hermann@umit.maine.edu to learn more about the study.

Hermann and her advisor for the research, Sandra Sigmon, professor of psychology, say most people are affected at some point by stress in the workplace. For many, it can be an unmanageable, life-affecting experience, while for others

it represents an everyday hassle.

Studies show that several different methods of dealing with stress can be effective in mitigating the detrimental effects. Hermann's study will compare two different programs for work stress to see which skills help individuals most. The study groups will meet at the Orono campus for 2 hours per week, one for four and one for six weeks. There is no cost to participate and volunteers can leave the study at any time.

Both programs are designed to help volunteers understand how becoming aware of and changing their responses to stressors can help reduce the negative symptoms of stress and its impact on their lives.

"We have demands at work and we can approach those demands in different ways," Hermann says. "Some work and some don't. We can become aware of whether our approach is working for us, and, if it isn't, learn alternative ways of responding."

After the program ends, Hermann says, "We expect individuals to be able to have a greater sense of well-being at work, even with the continuing stresses that they are faced with."

Hermann can be reached for more information at barbara.hermann@umit.maine.edu.

Student Volunteer Recognition Dinner Wednesday

26 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --University of Maine students who volunteer to mentor area school children will be recognized for their altruism on Wednesday, March 28. For information about news coverage possibilities, please call Lyn Dexter at 581-1349.

UMaine alumni Russell and Barbara Bodwell of Orono plan to host a dinner at the University's Heritage House to thank the 50 or so students who participate in the Black Bear Mentors program, one of a number of volunteer projects they support on campus.

"We just wanted to do something special for them. They're doing something great," said Russell Bodwell, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in 1946 and 1947. He and Barbara, who graduated in 1945, have donated generously to their alma mater over the years, establishing scholarships and funding building projects, among other things.

Through the mentoring program, each student volunteer is matched with a pupil from Helen Dunn School in Greenbush, Old Town Elementary School, Indian Island School or Viola Rand School in Bradley. They spend time together one afternoon a week at school, working on academics and crafts projects and playing board games and basketball.

Everyone benefits. Students enjoy spending time with young children and gain valuable experience if they decide to go into teaching, social work, or child care. Meanwhile, the children get an opportunity to participate in after-school activities and to establish a bond with an older student. In addition, the UMaine students may help to raise the children's aspirations and motivate them to attend college.

Established four years ago by UMaine and the River Coalition -- a group of residents from Alton, Bradley, Greenbush, Milford and Old Town who foster and support strong, caring communities -- the after-school mentoring program is one of a number of projects coordinated through UMaine's volunteer center which is funded in part by the Bodwells and was dedicated to Barbara Bodwell in 2005.

"I honestly don't know how we would function without the Bodwells. We would not be thriving the way we are," said

Mary Skaggs, director of the Barbara Higgins Bodwell Class of '45 Center for Service and Volunteerism, located in the Memorial Union.

The center works with the surrounding community to create volunteer opportunities for UMaine students who gain immense personal satisfaction by helping to improve the lives of area residents, she said. Students have arranged blood drives, organized activities for Special Olympics and the Salvation Army, worked at food pantries, cleaned trails at Acadia National Park and visited with senior citizens, among many other things.

"The program we get the most volunteers for is the Black Bear Mentors," Skaggs said.

Since the mentoring project was created, more than 200 University students have established relationships with 150 area children.

When UMaine students volunteer in the community, they enhance the reputation and visibility of the University, according to Bodwell. He said he hopes the service opportunities they receive will motivate them to become lifelong volunteers.

Volunteering has played a major role in his life and in that of his wife, he said. Over the years they have lead church groups, served on school committees and parent-teacher organizations and raised money for the Salvation Army.

By helping to ensure that UMaine provides volunteer opportunities, he said he hopes students will "get in the habit of assisting others and recognize the rewards that come from such activities.

"It gives you a lot of satisfaction," he said.

Tanglewood 4-H Camp Offers Home-School Program

26 Mar 2007

Contact: Corey Pickett (207) 789-5803

LINCOLNVILLE, Me.-- Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, a program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, has announced a special series of environmental education programs for home-schooled students aged 7 through 12. The program will be at Tanglewood's Lincolnville campus and will consist of three consecutive Monday sessions on April 30, May 7, and May 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

The cost is \$45 for all three sessions; some financial aid is available. For more information or to register, contact School Program Director Heather Francis by phone at 207-789-5805 or by e-mail at hfrancis@umext.maine.edu.

Participants will experience forest, freshwater, and marine habitats through hands-on activities, music, art and drama. They will work cooperatively in group situations to develop life skills, a sense of community spirit, and an awareness of their connection to the natural world.

Tanglewood's mission is to teach Maine youth and adults to be effective and caring citizens through affordable environmental education and nature-based experiences. Its vision is to create a place where people learn to live responsibly and in balance with the earth. Tanglewood programs encourage reflection and respect, while inspiring change within participants and their communities.

Tanglewood sits on the Ducktrap River in a forested 940-acre section of Camden Hills State Park and offers a diverse range of year-round learning opportunities. For more information visit www.umaine.edu/umext/Tanglewood4H.

A photo is available upon request.

For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

Raymond H. Fogler Library to Participate in National Survey

28 Mar 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller at (207) 581-1696

ORONO, Me. -- Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine will soon have an opportunity to gather opinions from those who use their collections. Through April 15, the library will be administering the LibQUAL+ survey, an international level program designed by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and Texas A&M University Libraries with support from a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education.

Since the year 2000, nearly 1,300 libraries have participated in LibQUAL+, including colleges and universities, public libraries, law libraries, and various other museums and collections in the United States, Canada, and England. Data gathered at each library can therefore be compared with responses at peer institutions. The primary goal of the survey's design is to assess whether services are meeting user expectations.

"We have gathered some great prizes," says Gretchen Gfeller, Web and Public Relations Specialist for Fogler Library. "To encourage participation, we will be giving away two iPod Shuffles (donated by the Computer Connection), a sweatshirt (donated by the University Bookstore), and a variety of gift certificates."

The library will be hosting a "LibQual Day" on Monday, April 9, beginning at 10 a.m. Gfeller explains, "This will be a day when students can come right into the library and take the survey using the computers in our classroom. We will be thanking them with a variety of goodies including soda, popcorn and candy."

The web based survey takes approximately ten minutes to complete. UMaine's students, faculty and staff members will be receiving an emailed invitation to participate. All interested library users are welcome to complete the survey and provide feedback for the library. The web URL will be prominently posted on the library's web site and on posters around the building.

"We sincerely hope that everyone will take a few minutes to complete the survey," says Gfeller. "As we plan for the future of the library, it is important that we understand our users' perceptions and expectations. We're asking everyone to 'help your library.' In responding to this survey, our patrons are making their voices heard."

UMaine Offering Conference on Changes in Geriatric Mental Health Care March 30

28 Mar 2007

Contact: Marjie Harris, 581-3570, or George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The field of geriatric care is changing rapidly, especially as the last few decades have introduced new ways of detecting mental health issues, new medications, innovative therapies and recognizing early signs of worsening health conditions affecting older people. A conference designed to address and explore some of those changes is being held March 30 at the University of Maine in Orono. The event, titled "What Not to Forget in Geriatric Mental Health, a Special Clinical Colloquium Program of the University of Maine Center on Aging, School of Social Work, and the Maine Geriatric Practicum Partnership Program," is designed for physicians, psychologists, nurses, social workers and any other professionals working with the geriatric population. The day-long program -- from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Buchanan Alumni House -- will feature speakers and

an expert panel discussion. Two keynote speakers are Robyn Golden, LCSW (licensed clinical social worker) and the director of Older Adult Programs at the Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, and Barry J. Jacobs, PsyD., a clinical psychologist, family therapist and author of *The Emotional Survival Guide for Caregivers: Looking after Yourself and Your Family While Helping the Aging Parent.*" The day's agenda includes discussions about:

- Identifying current trends and initiatives in mental health services for older adults in the United States, and in Maine;
- Differential diagnoses in evaluating mental status of older adults;
- Identifying the recommended treatments for the most common mental health problems of an aging population;
- Developing an understanding of the usefulness of neuropsychology in the assessment of mental status in older adults;
- Learning how to most effectively deal with the challenges of involved with working with overstressed family caregivers;
- Identifying the most commonly prescribed psychotropic drugs used to treat older adults;
- And understanding the changes in mental status that some frequently prescribed non-psychotropic medications may cause in the aging population.

The program will gather more than a dozen authorities in the field on national, state and regional levels to bring participants up to date with the latest in treatments, advisories and educational issues surrounding the complexities of geriatric care. Advancements in evaluating and treating aging adults for physical and mental health conditions are becoming more important, particularly as the aging population expands in Maine, says Marjie Harris, LCSW and conference planning committee chair. The state already has the highest median age of its citizens in the nation. No longer the minority population it once was, the rising number of aging baby boomers and their parents in Maine are presenting new challenges to both professional and non-professional care-givers, says Harris. "I think, in general, working with older people is overlooked in our society," Harris says. "Our society doesn't spend enough time looking at the unique needs of older adults. It's really necessary to start treating this age group with the attention it deserves." For instance, she adds, it can be easy to mistake an older patient's symptoms of depression, forgetfulness or confusion as just a normal part of aging. However, conditions that may appear to be age-related could be caused by something as simple as an adverse reaction to medication, according to Harris, since older people metabolize medicines differently from younger people. "The population is certainly going to be changing in the next 10 years and also, as more knowledge becomes available, education becomes critical" Harris says. "We've really started becoming keenly aware and are looking at opportunities for infusing our curriculum with information on older adults at many levels. In the past, very few Schools of Social work as well as other professional programs included any focus on gerontology in their course work. This conference is an attempt to help fill this gap in training by providing professionals with the latest information on the mental health issues facing today's older adults. Presenters at the conference also will include: Kathy Caliendo, LCSW and senior clinician, Acadia Hospital, Bangor; Dr. Niamh Holohan, geriatric and adult psychiatrist, Bangor; Lenard Kaye, social work professor and director, UMaine Center on Aging; Nancy Kelly, co-director, Maine Geriatric Practicum Partnership Program; Larissa Mead-Wescott, Neuropsychology Service, Bangor; Dr. Janis Pretzel, geriatric and adult psychiatrist, Hallowell, and research and development coordinator, Veterans Affairs Center, Togus; Robin Russel, professor and director UMaine School of Social Work; Diane Scully, director, Office of Elder Services, Maine DHHS, Augusta; and Phil Walton, psychiatric social work supervisor, Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center, Bangor; Kathryn Pears, director of public policy and advocacy, Maine Alzheimer's Association; and Jason Charland, graduate research assistant, UMaine Center on Aging. A program brochure, including the schedule and speakers, can be found on the Maine Center on Aging website.

New England Farmers Reap Big Savings from UMaine Training

28 Mar 2007

Contact: John Jemison, 207-581-3241

NEWCASTLE, N.H.--The recent New England Regional In-Service Training for Agricultural Providers saved New England farmers a lot of money: more than \$1.7 million, according to participant surveys. The 2007 training, held in

Newcastle, N.H. on Febr.7 and 8, was attended by nearly 60 agricultural professionals and agency representatives.

University of Maine Cooperative Extension staff have been conducting this annual training for over ten years. Participants are people who directly advise farmers, whether as private consultants, fertilizer dealers, pest control industry representatives, university Extension staff or Natural Resources Conservation Service staff. Cutting-edge sessions are provided by research scientists from the USDA Agricultural Research Service, and researchers and Extension faculty from regional land-grant universities such as the University of Maine.

A key component of the annual training is the opportunity for participants to earn credits for Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) certification, which is administered by the American Society of Agronomy. CCAs help farmers remain profitable while optimizing and protecting natural resources. Training organizer John Jemison, Extension water quality and soil specialist at UMaine, explained that the certification process also "helps agricultural industry professionals stay abreast of current methods and research, and provides them with a level of credibility."

Jemison continued, "While the money savings is important, another significant benefit of this training is the sharing of applied research across the region. Participants learn about various projects going on in the region and they can apply the results in their daily work. What good is applied research if it just goes into a journal article that farmers might not see?"

Several recent conference sessions have focused on nonchemical control methods and lower inputs, and program evaluations from repeat attendees showed that they have significantly influenced farmer practices: most have reduced fertilizer applications, improved manure management practices, implemented nonchemical pest control methods, and reduced pesticide applications. The reported savings--increase in profit--for farmers ranged from \$25 to \$50 an acre, accompanied by a significantly reduced cost to the New England environment.

The USDA-backed New England Regional Water Program provides additional support for the annual training.

Museum Seeks Submissions

28 Mar 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207) 561-3352

BANGOR, Me. -- Would you like to show your work at the University of Maine Museum of Art? Send UMMA your photographs!

The Museum of Art is currently accepting submissions for *Millions Taken Daily* Photographs from Everyone and Everywhere on exhibit July 13 to October 6, 2007. The exhibition explores the idea that photographs are an integral part of daily life and that we all have a hand in creating and collecting them. *Millions Taken Daily* will display photographs from all over the globe, submitted by anyone (yes, anyone). There is no particular theme or subject and individuals may submit up to 20 photographs. Images will be installed from floor to ceiling in the museum.

Submission Rules and Guidelines are available on the UMMA website:

<http://www.umma.umaine.edu>

Address entries to: University of Maine Museum of Art

MTD Exhibition
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401

On-Campus Frozen Four Activities Scheduled

28 Mar 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine has scheduled a series of activities related to the Black Bear hockey team's upcoming appearance in the NCAA Frozen Four tournament.

"These events are intended to celebrate the team's achievement and provide the community with opportunities to enjoy this success in a safe, healthy and enjoyable atmosphere," says Robert Dana, UMaine's dean of students. "UMaine students and others have set the standard for appropriate behavior during recent events of this nature, and we look forward to another series of memorable activities."

A send-off rally is scheduled for 12 noon on Tuesday April 3 at Memorial Union's Maine Marketplace. The UMaine band will provide entertainment and speakers will include President Robert Kennedy, Athletic Director Blake James, Coach Tim Whitehead and members of the team.

The Black Bears depart for St. Louis Tuesday evening. They will play Michigan State in a national semifinal game at 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 5.

UMaine students and community fans are invited to Memorial Union to watch the Thursday game on big-screen televisions. Food will be available, and fans will have the opportunity to enjoy the game with fellow Black Bear supporters.

A similar plan is in place should the Black Bears advance to the national championship game, scheduled for Saturday April 7 at 7 p.m. Memorial Union will be open that evening for fans who wish to watch the team play for UMaine's third national title.

UMaine Faculty Promotion and Tenure Announced

02 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- At its Friday March 23 meeting, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees approved promotion and tenure for 33 University of Maine faculty members.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy praised the faculty members for their achievements and recognized their important roles in the UMaine community.

"Promotion and tenure are significant milestones in a professor's career, achieved by demonstrating extraordinary accomplishments in teaching, scholarship, and service," Kennedy says.

"I am sure that each member of the campus community joins me in congratulating these faculty members on their commitment to the University of Maine, their service to the State of Maine, and their dedication to higher education."

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

College of Engineering

- Vincent Caccese, Mechanical Engineering
- Raymond J. Hintz, Surveying Engineering Technology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Howard H. Cody, Political Science and Canadian Studies
- William A. Halteman, Mathematics
- Elizabeth McKillen, History

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Yong Chen, Fisheries Population Dynamics
- Neal R. Pettigrew, Oceanography
- Frederick A. Servello, Wildlife
- Mario F. Teisl, Resource Economics and Policy
- Huijie Xue, Marine Science

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

College of Business, Public Policy and Health

- Nory B. Jones, Management Information Systems
- Ann E. Sossong, Nursing

College of Education and Human Development

- Dianne L. Hoff, Educational Leadership

College of Engineering

- Paul J. Millard, Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology and Chemical Engineering
- David J. Neivandt, Chemical Engineering
- Silvia E. Nittel, Information Science and Engineering
- Judith E. Pearse, Electrical Engineering Technology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Constant K. Albertson, Art
- Stephen M. Miller, History
- Jennifer J. Moxley, English
- Richard J. Powell, Political Science
- Tod L. Shockey, Mathematics
- Michael C. Wittmann, Physics

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Andrei V. Alyokhin, Biological Sciences
- Kathleen P. Bell, Resource Economics and Policy
- Brenda L. Hall, Earth Sciences and Climate Change Institute
- Michael T. Kinnison, Biological Sciences

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Cynthia S. Loftin, Wildlife Ecology

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR

College of Education and Human Development

- Mary L. Madden, Center for Research and Evaluation

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Laurie B. Connell, School of Marine Sciences

PROMOTED TO EXTENSION PROFESSOR AND PROFESSOR

- James C. McConnon, Cooperative Extension and Resource Economics and Policy

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE EXTENSION PROFESSOR WITH CONTINUING CONTRACT

- Peter J. Sexton

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE EXTENSION PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH CONTINUING CONTRACT

- Mark G. Hutton, Cooperative Extension and Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences

Ted Ames, Recipient of a 2005 MacArthur "Genius Grant," to Give UMaine Lecture in April

02 Apr 2007

Contact: Judy Round 581-5104

ORONO, Maine -- Ted Ames, member of Stonington Fisheries Alliance (SFA) and captain/owner of the FV Mary Elizabeth in the Zone C lobster fishery, will give the 2007 University of Maine Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture. The lecture is scheduled for 3 p.m. April 11 in the McIntire Room of UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Ames has fished for ground fish and scallops for 24 years, lobsters for 26 years, and has extensive additional fisheries experience. He has authored several peer-reviewed articles on fisheries. Ames has a master's degree in biochemistry from UMaine with a specialty in tissue culture. He has six years research experience. Ames also developed and was director of an environmental and water quality laboratory, Alden-Ames Laboratory in Stonington, for three years. He spent ten years as an instructor/teacher of chemistry, biochemistry and environmental science. He was vice-chair of the Maine Department of Marine Resources Hatchery Technology Association for five years, chair of the Stonington Harbor Committee for 10 years, and executive director of the Maine Gillnetters Association for four years.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation named Ames as a new Fellow in 2005. MacArthur Fellows are appointed based upon their outstanding accomplishments and continued potential to make creative and important contributions to their fields. Because Fellows are named without any application on their part, and because of the size of the awards, these fellowships are often called the "genius grants." Ames received the coveted award for his groundbreaking studies of spawning, habitat and fishing practices in the Gulf of Maine.

The family of Geddes Wilson Simpson established the Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Series Fund at the University of Maine Foundation in 2001. Simpson was a well-respected University of Maine 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 public is invited.

2007 Student Art Exhibition

02 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

2007 UMaine Juried Student Art Exhibition

Department of Art
Lord Hall Galleries
University of Maine

April 6 to May 4, 2007 (exhibition dates)

Friday, April 13, 2007, 5:30 to 7:30 pm--Opening and Awards Ceremony

Campus community, family, and friends welcome

ORONO -- The 2007 Student Art Exhibition in the Department of Art at the University of Maine will be on view from Friday April 6 - Friday May 4 in the Lord Hall Galleries on the university campus. This splendid new venue provides the opportunity for undergraduate students at all levels to exhibit their work. This year the annual juried exhibition presents over eighty works of art in a range of media. Selected two-dimensional work includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, and design. Three-dimensional work in sculpture, design, ceramics, and installation, as well as new media is also represented. In addition, this year's selection includes a variety of subject matter from landscape, the figure, and still life to political and social commentary.

As in the past, approximately forty awards will be given in studio, art history and art education areas. These include scholarships, travel funds, and recognition, book, and exhibition awards to students who have excelled in their work.

The campus community, family, and friends are all welcome to attend the opening on Friday, April 13, 2007, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. At that time the annual student awards ceremony will also take place. The Student Art Exhibition opening is one of the liveliest events of the year.

University of Maine Museum of Art Exhibition April 27 - June 30, 2007

02 Apr 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli 207.561.3352

Bangor, Maine -- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present two exhibitions at the Museum beginning April 27.

Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath The Lake Photographs by Linda Butler portrays the massive cultural change in rural China prompted by the construction of the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River and explores daily life in a fragile landscape of tradition and change, where more than a million people were moved, and cities, towns, ancient temples, burial grounds, and other historic sites are now submerged. In conjunction with this exhibit, the museum is co-sponsoring an April 2007 exhibit at the Bangor Public Library. *CHINA: Exploring the Interior 1903-1904* features photographs that were collected during a Carnegie Expedition to China in 1903/04. These two exhibitions illuminate the

regional changes that occurred in China during the dawn of two different centuries. In *Barbara Sullivan Repair: The Workshop*, Barbara Sullivan creates life-size objects and scenarios to design narratives of our everyday tasks. Maine's foremost fresco artist, Barbara Sullivan's bas relief installations use this traditional age old medium in a contemporary and amusing way.

Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake Photographs by Linda Butler

From April 27 to June 30, The University of Maine Museum of Art will present a major exhibition of 56 documentary photographs by Linda Butler portraying the massive cultural change in rural China prompted by the construction of the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River.

The Yangtze has inspired poets, writers and artists for centuries by its power and changing moods. *Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake* explores daily life in this fragile landscape of tradition and change, where more than a million people were moved, and cities, towns, ancient temples, burial grounds, and other historic sites are now submerged.

On eight three-week trips to the Yangtze between 2001 and 2003, Linda Butler photographed the people and their surroundings, as well as the river and its grandeur, before it was changed irrevocably by the designs of man.

Astonished by the transformation of the region, Butler documented the dismantling of dense cities brick by brick, while new cities sprang up on the hillsides high above the river. Tunnels were blasted out of the mountains, modern roads were constructed, and enormous suspension bridges were built to span the Yangtze's expanse.

Yet in the middle of all this change, some families continued to farm, cook, fish, and dig for coal as they had for centuries. To record the change, Butler's photographs focused on the specifics: the textures of history and the evolving way of life in the villages and towns. Since foreign journalists had been given only restricted access to the river, she knew that many of her photographs were to become the last visual record of river life.

When she returned in the fall 2003 for her final trip, Butler found the river that had once been a great highway transformed into a silent lake, and much of the human activity had shifted to the hills above. Container vessels had replaced the barges and charming individual fishing boats, and the economy of the new cities suffered as tourism and business declined. When the Three Gorges Dam's reservoir reaches its full height in 2009, only time and hindsight will reveal whether the project is determined to be a tragedy, a comedy of errors, or a triumph of technology.

Linda Butler has worked as an independent photographer for more than 25 years and is known for her explorations of other cultures. She has had more than 40 one-person exhibitions in the United States, Canada and Japan. Her photographs have appeared in exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, and the Yokohama Museum of Art in Japan.

Major funding for *Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake Photographs by Linda Butler* is provided by significant grants from the Davis Family Foundation and the Fisher Charitable Foundation. Generous funding is also provided by Merrill Bank, Bangor Daily News and WBRC Architects and Engineers.

Barbara Sullivan Repair: The Workshop

Barbara Sullivan's work draws from the Renaissance medium fresco (the art of painting on freshly spread moist lime plaster with water-based pigments) to portray everyday objects in a slightly humorous and thoughtful manner. Sullivan's quirky, cartoon like depictions of domestic bliss usually celebrate the mundane world we all inhabit. The works are essentially paintings in low-relief with the colorful objects in the installation playing off of each other.

Repair: The Workshop contains familiar objects such as tools, a chainsaw, a deer trophy and an oversize ball of twine. The depiction is at once painterly yet at the same time a celebration of the rituals of everyday life revealing a certain magic in the commonplace.

Barbara Sullivan currently teaches at University of Maine at Farmington and resides in Solon, Maine. Her work has been included in exhibitions at the Portland Museum of Art, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Colby College Museum of Art, and the L.C. Bates Museum. She holds an MFA from Vermont College and a BA from University of Maine at Farmington.

UMaine Faculty and Students Going (G)Local at Fogler Library

04 Apr 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller at (207)581-1696

ORONO, Me. -- Several members of the University of Maine community will get together to share readings focused on the earth, fair trade, and the environment. The event, titled "Going (G)Local: writing and reflecting on the earth," is part of the campus "Works in Progress" series, a cross-disciplinary program that features writers reading and discussing their work.

Previous "Works in Progress" readings have included "The Open Road: travelers and their journeys, and Weather Words -- Weather Wise: a celebration of the winter season." This year, organizers Kathleen Ellis, Gretchen Gfeller, and Tina Passman thought it would be fun to focus on the earth itself.

"The idea of "(g)locality" is one that comes to us from Africa, and has resonated across the world," notes Passman, associate professor in the UMaine Department of Modern Languages and Classics. "It emphasizes community and commonality, while celebrating our differences. It is a 21st century idea, and I'm glad we are bringing it to the University of Maine."

Passman will read with Kathleen Ellis, poet and adjunct faculty in English and the Honors College, from Gary Snyder's acclaimed epic poem, "Mountains and Rivers Without End." They will be joined by several English department students, including David Attean, Alyssa Franzosa, Matt Kaczowka, Ben Lizanecz, Tricia Lyons, Nate Rutter, and Jennifer Smick.

Additional readings will include those of undergraduate student Sarah Bigney, who spent last semester in Chiapas, Mexico, working on research for her honors thesis on the impact of fair trade on coffee farmers.

UMaine Peace Studies instructor and Zen Buddhist monastic, Hugh Curran, will share some of his work, as will Mimi Killinger, Honors College instructor and author of the recently published book "The Good Life of Helen K. Nearing."

Going (G)Local will be held in the Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department on Thursday, April 5, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

New Director Takes Over at Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center

04 Apr 2007

Contact: Glenn Beamer, 581-1648; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Glenn Beamer, a former Robert Wood Johnson Scholar, author and political science professor at Rutgers University, recently was named director of the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

The Bethlehem, Pa. native holds an undergraduate degree in economics from the College of William and Mary and a

Ph.D. in political science from the University of Michigan. He took over from Interim Director Charles Morris in January.

Beamer previously was as assistant professor, teaching public policy and research methods, at The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers. Beamer also has been a visiting professor in the Department of Government at William and Mary, assistant professor in the departments of politics and health evaluation sciences at the University of Virginia from 1995 through 2003, with a two-year hiatus to serve as a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health, Policy Research at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of California at San Francisco.

His research interests include community development and political institutions.

Among the list of honors and awards Beamer has received are the University of Virginia's All-University Outstanding Teacher Award, 2001. Beamer served as the Academics & Athletics Partner for the University of Virginia's Men's Tennis Team, 1999-2002, and he has worked with University of Virginia students on an Alternative Spring Break project creating housing for the homeless and conducting a seminar in the Bronx on welfare to work.

Beamer also is the author of numerous journal articles and serves as a journal referee for eight national political science or policy journals. He is the author of *Creative Politics: Taxes and Public Goods in a Federal System*, published by the University of Michigan Press. He currently is at work on a book, *From Welfare to Anywhere*, a look at divergence and state support for working families since welfare reform in 1996.

He also has written on such varied subjects as children and poverty, children's health insurance, and labor politics.

Beamer was attracted to the director's position at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center because of its diverse interdisciplinary research, and the impressive collaboration between the center and various state and municipal governments, he says.

He looks forward to assisting the center in expanding research opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students at UMaine.

"The center has begun to develop programs that engage undergraduate research, as well as graduate research," he says. "I had missed the interdisciplinary collaboration in previous positions."

Beamer also is anxious to strengthen connections between UMaine's Smith policy center and the Margaret Chase Smith Library in Skowhegan, Smith's home town. Through the creation of an online historiography, currently in the planning and development stage, UMaine researchers may develop more of a sense of the personality, in addition to the celebrated ethics and political legacy, of Smith, the first woman to serve in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, and the first woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate.

The collaboration will make more reference materials available to student and staff researchers in Maine and nationally, and also will serve as a visible tribute to the late senator, says Beamer.

The Smith policy center was established in 1989 as a nonpartisan, independent research and public service unit of the University of Maine. It is dedicated to improving and promoting the quality of public dialogue about state, regional and national policy issues through applied policy research and projects that seek innovative solutions to practical problems. Center research cuts across departmental lines and brings together faculty and external policy experts to address issues confronting the state and nation.

Margaret Chase Smith, who was in her early 90s when the policy center opened, served in the House from 1940 to 1948 and the Senate from 1948 until she retired in 1972.

She gained particular national prominence in 1950 by standing up to and hastening the end of McCarthyism. After retiring from Congress, Smith began a second career in education at the national level. She died in 1995 at age 97.

Information about the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Smith's career can be found on the center website

<http://www.umaine.edu/mcsc/>).

Women's Symposium at UMaine April 28

04 Apr 2007

Contact: Angel M. Loreda, Associate Dean of Students, at (207) 581-1406; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will host its second annual Women's Symposium Saturday, April 28 from 8 a.m. 12:30 p.m. This year's symposium, "Tipping the Scales, A Balance Between Career and Family," aims to inspire discussion about the obstacles women overcome as mothers, wives and professionals and to honor women for their strength and dedication to the many roles they play. Donna Gormley, the 5 and 6 p.m. news anchor for WLBZ 2 will be the keynote speaker. Last year's keynote speaker, State Rep. Meredith Burgess, a UMaine graduate and CEO of Burgess Advertising in Portland, will return to address the group again this year. Other session speakers include Orono Town Manager Catherine Conlow and Elaine Clark, UMaine's associate vice president for Administration and Finance, along with several other session speakers and panel members. After the success of UMaine's first Women's Symposium last year "A Celebration of Mind and Body", aims to celebrate women in a similar way by bringing these women of character to UMaine as positive and energizing role models. The goal is to create an awareness and motivate women on campus and in our community. Sponsored by the Deans of Students Office, the symposium is open to both men and women inside and outside the university community. For more information, contact Caitlin Sanborn at caitlin.sanborn@umit.maine.edu.

Hosmer Design Engineering Center Dedication April 13

04 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine Mechanical Engineering seniors have a place where they can design and construct real projects thanks to an alumnus who says this type of hands-on experience enables students to hone their creative skills and to better understand the manufacturing process.

"If you design something and it can't be readily made, it's useless," says Thomas Hosmer, 71, of Concord, Mass., who earned a Mechanical Engineering degree in 1958. It was his idea in 2004 to establish a design engineering center in Crosby Hall and he has been supporting the facility ever since through an endowed fund that enables the department to upgrade and maintain the equipment and purchase supplies to enhance students' experience.

In recognition of Hosmer's generous contributions, the Thomas P. Hosmer '58 Design Engineering Center will be dedicated during a ceremony at 2 p.m. Friday, April 13.

After opening last fall, the Center has been a constant beehive of activity, providing students with a well equipped, up-to-date space where they work in teams to make sure that a particular machine functions the way it's supposed to. Students may be required to improve the device or even develop a brand new contraption, all the while testing, critiquing and evaluating its performance.

"Engineers solve problems for a living, so it's absolutely vital that students have this experience," says Dana Humphrey, interim dean of the UMaine College of Engineering.

At one time, students had to work on their senior projects wherever they could find room, he recalled.

"Now here's this wonderful space where they can go to work both on the design and the fabrication of a project and to enhance their team building skills."

Don Grant, chair of the Mechanical Engineering department, says students enjoy doing analytical analyses with state-of-

the art computers.

"This facility allows them to excel," he says.

A consulting engineer for Arthur D. Little in Cambridge, Mass., from 1965 to 2000, Hosmer has maintained ties with UMaine over the years, serving on the Mechanical Engineering department's advisory committee and speaking regularly to students about projects he has designed and about his career.

UMaine prepared him well for the future, he tells students.

"I worked for an internationally famous firm, full of graduates from prestigious schools and I never had any trouble keeping up with them," he likes to point out.

Hosmer says he was spurred to establish the center at UMaine after seeing one at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"UMaine needs one of these," Hosmer recalled thinking.

After learning that the College of Engineering had, in fact, set aside space for just such a facility, he decided the time had come to furnish it so UMaine Mechanical Engineering seniors could have the opportunity to apply the principles they learned in their first three years and gain a working knowledge of manufacturing processes and equipment.

"Maine engineers have always had a reputation for a practical, competent approach," he says. "We've never hesitated to reach out and get our hands dirty. We've never been timid about walking into a machine shop or fabrication shop and talking to the machinist and welder.

"This is the kind of experience it takes so that can continue."

Yangtze Remembered: Using Photographs to Teach Cultural Change

04 Apr 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3352

EDUCATOR CONFERENCE April 26 - April 27, 2007

BANGOR -- This two-day conference will explore the ways in which teachers of all grade levels and disciplines and can use visual art to enrich curriculum. Content areas addressed include: Visual and Performing Arts - Creative Expression, Cultural Heritage, and Criticism and Aesthetics; and Social Studies - Economics, History, and Geography. Speakers will include photographer Linda Butler, curator Robert Sargent, and China scholars Margaret Maurer-Fazio of Bates College and Nancy Riley of Bowdoin College.

From April 27 to June 30, 2007 The University of Maine Museum of Art will host a major exhibition of documentary photographs by Linda Butler portraying massive cultural change in rural China prompted by the construction of the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River. *Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake* explores daily life in a fragile landscape of tradition and change, where more than a million people were moved, and cities, towns, ancient temples, burial grounds, and other historic sites are now submerged.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the museum is co-sponsoring an April 2007 exhibit at the Bangor Public Library. *CHINA: Exploring the Interior 1903-1904* features photographs that were collected during a Carnegie Expedition to China in 1903/04. Each exhibit will illuminate the regional change that occurred in China during the dawn of two different centuries.

Co-sponsored with Primary Source, the Bangor Public Library, and the Five College Center for East Asian Studies.

Major funding for *Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake*, Photographs by Linda Butler, and *CHINA: Exploring the Interior, 1903-1904* is provided by significant grants from the Davis Family Foundation and the Fisher Charitable Foundation. Generous funding is also provided by Merrill Bank, Bangor Daily News, and WBRC Architects and Engineers.

UMaine Awarded More Than \$1.5 Million for Wood Bioproduct Research

05 Apr 2007

Contact: Sandra Neily (207) 581-2831; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The Department of Energy (DOE) has awarded more than \$1.5 million in federal funding to the University of Maine to advance the university's ongoing efforts to develop methods for converting biomass from Maine's forests into fuels and valuable chemicals. The state will contribute 50 percent in matching funds to the multi-faceted project through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund.

The money, which was awarded through the DOE's Experimental Programs to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), will be added to the \$6.9 million the Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative (FBRI) received as part of the National Science Foundation's EPSCoR award in 2006.

The UMaine initiative is a truly collaborative, multidisciplinary effort that brings together scientists from educational institutions and businesses across the state to develop effective and efficient methods for transforming waste products from paper processing and other wood-based enterprises into fuels, plastics, and other materials.

"This project adds the thermal conversion pathway to our earlier biochemical conversion focus for the utilization of woody biomass to produce biofuels and other co-products," says Hemant Pendse, chair of UMaine's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. "Together these projects put UMaine in the position of strength to deal with the entire spectrum of technical issues involved in biomass conversion."

Supporting 12 researchers from across the state, the new research cluster will allow UMaine to expand its efforts to overcome the technological barriers faced by Maine companies currently working to develop effective techniques for producing wood-based fuels and chemicals within the wood products industry's existing infrastructure.

"Forest biomass, including logging residue, pulp mill residue and spent liquors from pulp mills, hog fuel and sawdust, represents a significant renewable resource in Maine. Efficient use of this resource using our existing forest products industry manufacturing assets will help us save Maine jobs and build new businesses," said Pendse. "New technologies coming out of university laboratories will help us advance forest biorefinery deployment in Maine."

By using the funding to create a highly integrated and focused infrastructure for research, the project promises rapid advances in the area of bioproducts for Maine businesses and will help to establish Maine as a leader in bioproduct research and production.

This year, the Department of Energy awarded grants totaling \$7.5 million to universities in Maine, New Hampshire, Delaware and Kentucky for research ranging from biofuels to nanomaterials, with states matching at least 50 percent of the awarded funds. The grants are part of an experimental program to improve the capability of universities to conduct nationally competitive, energy-related research in states that have historically received less federal research and

developmentfunding.

UMaine Alumni Association Announces Second Annual Black Bear Online Auction

06 Apr 2007

Contact: Todd Saucier, President/Executive Director, and Bob Potts, Marketing & Creative Services Manager, (207) 581-2586 / 1 (800) 934-2586

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced the opening of its second annual Black Bear Online Auction. Proceeds benefit Alumni Association programs that serve 95,000 alumni worldwide.

The auction, which went live on April 3, features dozens of unique and valuable items donated by alumni, supporters and business sponsors. Among the many items up for bid are:

- One week vacation in Abaco, Bahamas
- White water rafting trip courtesy of North Country Rivers Rafting Company
- Weeklong vacation at Pemaquid Point, Maine
- Black Bear athletics tickets
- Overnight stay at a Blue Hill, Maine Bed and Breakfast
- Assorted Maine-made jewelry
- Handcrafted UMaine chess set
- UMaine clothing

The Black Bear Auction will be open through 5 p.m. Thursday, May 3, 2007. To view the catalog of items and make your bid, visit www.mainealumni.com and click the link for the *BLACK BEAR AUCTION*.

Renowned Authority on Minorities, Aging and Health to Speak April 20 at UMaine

09 Apr 2007

Contact: Kyriacos Markides, 581-2390
[George Manlove](mailto:George.Manlove@umaine.edu), 581-3756

ORONO -- One of the world's leading authorities in the field of minorities, aging and health will be on the Orono campus of the University of Maine for a special guest lecture on April 20.

Kyriakos S. Markides, Ph.D., author, researcher and professor of sociology and gerontology at the University of Texas, Galveston -- and cousin to University of Maine sociology professor Kyriacos C. Markides -- will deliver a talk, "Minorities, Aging, and Health: An Overview of the Field," from 3:15-4:45 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge of the Memorial Union. The talk is free, open to the public, and sponsored by the UMaine Department of Sociology.

Markides is the Annie & John Gnitzinger Distinguished Professor of Aging Studies, and director of the Division of Sociomedical Sciences, Department of Preventative Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas. The author or coauthor of several books and more than 250 journal articles on aging and health issues in the Mexican American population, as well as minority issues in general, Markides serves on the boards of five professional journals, including Research on Aging and Gerontologist. He also is editor of the Journal of Aging and Health, which he founded in 1989.

Markides also is currently the principal investigator of the Hispanic EPESE (Established Population for the Epidemiological Study of the Elderly), a longitudinal study of the health of more than 3,000 Mexican American elderly from the five Southwestern states.

He is credited with coining the term "Hispanic Epidemiological Paradox" with J. Coreil, which is the leading theme in Hispanic Health. Markides also is in the process of editing the Encyclopedia of Health and Aging, to be published by SAGE Publications this month.

The Institute for Scientific Information recently listed Markides among the most highly cited scientists in the world. He is the 2006 recipient of the Distinguished Mentorship Award of the Gerontological Society of America, Behavioral and Social Sciences section.

Visiting U.K. Scholar to Discuss Gandhi's Legacy on April 12

09 Apr 2007

Contact: [Doug Allen](#), 581-3860
[George Manlove](#), 581-3756

ORONO -- "Gandhi's Legacy: Is Mahatma Gandhi's Philosophy Still Relevant?" is the subject of a lecture on April 12 by Bhikhu Parekh, a professor of political philosophy and the University of Maine 2007 Philosophy Distinguished Visiting Scholar.

The talk is free and open to the public. It will be held at 7 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union on the Orono campus. The lecture is sponsored by the UMaine departments of Philosophy, History and the Peace Studies Program.

Parekh also will deliver a lecture, "Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx," in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, earlier in the day, at 12:30 p.m.

Parekh is professor of political philosophy at the University of Westminster, emeritus professor of political theory at the University of Hull, U.K., and was until recently Centennial Professor at the London School of Economics. He has been a visiting professor at several universities, including McGill, Harvard, the Institute of Advanced Study in Vienna, the University of Pennsylvania and Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. He delivered Litowitz Lecture at Yale University in 2003, and was recently invited as distinguished visitor by the Cardozo Law School in New York. He is a former vice-chancellor of the University of Baroda in India.

Parekh was educated in India and is a world-renowned author of numerous books on philosophy. A member of the British House of Lords, he also is an influential public figure working on issues of multi-ethnic relations, violence and mutual understanding.

In the U.K., he has been deputy chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality and chaired the Commission on the Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain, whose report (called the Parekh Report) was published in 2000. Parekh received the BBC's Special Lifetime Achievement Award for Asians in November 1999, and was appointed to the House of Lords in March 2000. Last year, he received the Sir Isaiah Berlin Prize for Lifetime Contribution to Political Philosophy and the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman from the president of India. He is a fellow of the British Academy, president of the Academy of Learned Societies in the Social Sciences, and he has received nine Honorary Doctorates from British Universities.

Parekh's appearance at UMaine is part of the 2006-2007 Philosophy Colloquium Series, which is funded in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, Philosophy

Colloquium Coordinator, at douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu or at 581-3860.

Page Farm and Home Museum Offers 'History Fun Day' April 19

10 Apr 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Learning about history can be fun and also long-lasting, particularly if the process is an immersive, hands-on experience. That's exactly what the Page Farm and Home Museum hopes its annual "History Fun Day" will be on April 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The annual public event is geared for children, from kindergarten through grade 5, and is timed over April vacation to provide some educational activities of a different nature in a venue that replicates the environment of the period preserved through the university's farm and home museum's exhibits and educational programs.

Children can roll up their sleeves and participate in some of the historically significant activities in vogue from 1865 through 1940, the time period kept alive throughout the year by museum Director Patricia Henner, her staff and volunteers.

"History Fun Day" activities include food preservation, ice cream making, fiber arts and weaving, paper making, maple sugaring and raising poultry. Other activities offered through the museum's various programs have included stenciling, making clothes pin dolls, spinning and weaving, seed-starting in a terrarium, butter-making and holiday wreath construction.

A \$4 per-child fee covers the cost of History Fun Day materials.

The non-profit Page Farm and Home Museum is located in the last original agricultural building on the University of Maine campus. The museum houses a large collection of farm implements and household items from the period 1865 to 1940. Some of the many exhibits include ice harvesting, a blacksmith shop, a Victorian parlor, a one-room schoolhouse and a haying exhibit, complete with a hayrick and restored John Deere tractor.

Advance registration is requested and can be done by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100. The museum is accessible to people with disabilities.

Maine Masque Presenting 'Betty's Summer Vacation,' a Comedic Social Commentary at Hauck Auditorium

10 Apr 2007

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO

Hoff Presidential Portrait Event April 17

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Peter Hoff presidential portrait will be unveiled on Tuesday, April 17 at 3:30 p.m. in Fogler Library's Presidents Room.

The University of Maine's 17th president, Hoff served in that role from 1997-2004, the longest UMaine presidential tenure in nearly 40 years.

Hoff, whose presidential achievements included managing significant enrollment growth and unprecedented infrastructure development, currently serves on the UMaine faculty as a University of Maine System Professor.

UMaine Honors 24 Student Employees for Service, Professionalism

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Mary Skaggs, 581-1349; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine honored 24 of its more than 2,000 student employees on campus April 9 for exceptional professionalism, responsibility and service to their departments and the university.

The students were selected after being nominated by supervisors from two dozen offices or departments. During the annual Student Employee of the Year Reception, an undergraduate student and a graduate student were named as the top two employees of the year, chosen by a campus selection committee.

One of the two top employees also was selected by a statewide panel to go forward to the National Student Employee Association's Northeast Region competition. The nomination of Gabriel Belanger, a senior in a dual degree program, zoology and psychology, will be considered among other college and university nominees from the Northeast, one of four regions in the country. The regional winner competes in the national competition.

Belanger, a Moscow, Maine native, has been a work-study student at Fogler Library for four years. He has been accepted into the Dartmouth Medical School program for the fall.

The graduate student employee of the year award went to Marie Dubord, formerly of Lewiston, who works at the Women's Resource Center on the Orono campus and is scheduled to receive a master's degree in higher education in May.

Held at the Bodwell Lounge in the Maine Center for the Arts and organized by the Student Employment and Bodwell Volunteer Center, the ceremony also included congratulatory remarks by center director Mary Skaggs, a proclamation by Provost Edna Szymanski, and a presentation of awards by Dean of Students Robert Dana and Mary Young, a student employment and volunteer assistant in the Bodwell Center.

All of the student employees were praised for their dedication, integrity, motivation and positive approach to their work.

April 9-13 is Student Employee Appreciation Week at UMaine and includes several free events for the campus community.

On Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Walker Room on the third floor of the Union, free massages are being offered. On Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free caricatures will be drawn in Totman Lounge in the Union and on Friday, from 11 a.m. on, free hot fudge sundaes will be given away in the Student Employment Office and Bodwell Center. The center also is offering free coffee, doughnuts and popcorn for students and UMaine employees.

This year's student nominees were: Kimberly Almeida, Science & Engineering Center, Fogler Library; Bethany Asquith, Cutler Health Center; Emma Banks, Student Employment; Gabriel Belanger, Fogler Library; Keith Berube, AEW Center; Ashleigh Briggs, Campus Activities; Shannon Coyle, Office of Student Records; April Davis, Bodwell

Volunteer Center; Marie Dubord, Women's Resource Center; Louis Fortin, Anthropology; Keenan Goslin, AEWC Center; Amy Mason, Department of Residence Life; Jennifer McCurry, Modern Languages & Classics; Sarah Michaud, Cooperative Extension 4-H Foundation; Naomi Muhlberg, Franco-American Centre; Mande Nadeau, Modern Languages & Classics; Emin Okutan, Maine Business School; Kelly Pelc, Connections Program; Lauren Reich, University Bookstore; Kristen Sutherland, Bodwell Volunteer Center; Katie Wing, Maine Folklife Center; Lynn Wolfe, Campus Recreation-MaineBound; Stephen York, Maine Christian Association; and Jennifer Young, Department of Residence Life.

Page Farm and Home Museum Offers Spring Gardening Workshop

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- As the ground thaws, the air warms and the sun shines longer, the Page Farm and Home Museum at UMaine is offering a free lunchtime workshop on spring gardening -- providing tips for backyard gardeners.

On April 26 at noon, the museum will host a presentation, "Getting Ready for Spring Gardening," by UMaine Cooperative Extension's ornamental horticulture specialist Lois Stack. Participants are invited to bring a brown bag lunch.

Stack is an expert in the field and consults for nurseries, greenhouses, garden centers and other businesses that depend upon healthy, hearty plants. She also contributes to the Master Gardener program, and speaks frequently to gardening groups. In her own home garden, Stack and her husband Phil grow most of their own food, and enjoy landscaping with native plants.

For more information, the museum can be reached by telephone at 581-4100.

UMaine Professor Receives \$1.28 Million for Tendon Research

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Clarissa Henry (207) 581-2816; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine Department of Biological Sciences professor Clarissa Henry was recently awarded more than \$1.28 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute for Child Health and Human Development to study how tendons develop inside zebrafish embryos. The research could help scientists develop better treatment methods for everything from muscular dystrophy to tendonitis.

Exploring tendon formation and attachment in the embryo is the next step in Henry's pioneering efforts to describe the complexities of early development in vertebrates using zebrafish. Her previous research, funded by the Muscular Dystrophy Association, looked at how embryonic muscle cells develop. Her pioneering work in the use of the tiny fish as a model organism offers significant advantages in the study of cell development.

Henry's early work uncovered extensive data regarding muscle cell development, laying the foundation for further research related to tendon attachment and other processes. The new research path funded by the NIH has already led Henry and her team to some important discoveries.

"Tendons are incredibly important structures, but exceedingly little is known about tendon development," said Henry.

"Traditionally, developing tendons in embryos are thought of as relatively homogenous structures, with similar protein structure throughout. We have found that that is decidedly not the case. Tendon structure is spatially and temporally dynamic. We're very excited about looking further at how the type and location of tendon proteins change over time."

Recent studies have shown that many of the processes that occur during zebrafish development are very similar to the developmental changes that occur in mammals, including humans, making Henry's discoveries particularly important in the treatment of injuries and disease.

UMaine Researchers Assess Impacts of Environmental and Energy Technology Sector

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Todd Gabe (207) 581-3307; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Researchers from UMaine's newly formed School of Economics recently completed the first comprehensive report regarding the economic significance of Maine's environmental and energy technology sector. Based on a survey completed in 2006 and statistics from government and industry sources, the report outlines a growing sector that includes nearly 700 Maine business and organizations.

Funded through a cluster enhancement award from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) and conducted in cooperation with the Environmental and Energy Technology (E2Tech) Council of Maine, the study provides a clear definition of the sector, allowing

MTI and E2Tech to track its growth. From solid waste management companies to non-traditional energy start-ups, environmental and energy technology businesses and organizations directly generated \$574 million in sales, supported 5,269 jobs and provided \$222.8 million in employee earnings in 2006.

"This is a very diverse sector," said UMaine School of Economics Associate Professor Todd Gabe, who co-authored the report with UMaine researcher Caroline Noblet. "There are over a dozen industry categories that make up the sector. It was a challenge simply to define what's included in that group."

Although businesses in the sector can be found throughout Maine, Cumberland and York Counties are home to a combined 45 percent of environmental and energy technology industry establishments. "Like the overall Maine economy, the sector is populated by lots of small businesses," added Gabe. The study finds that over one-half of the establishments employ two or fewer workers.

With the first phase of the study already complete, Gabe and Noblet are finalizing their analysis of the 2006 survey results, which will provide additional data regarding operating conditions in the state for businesses in the sector.

"The survey gets at how members of this sector perceive the overall experience of doing business in Maine," said Noblet. "We can use it to identify the advantages and the restraints that will have an effect on the future of the sector and its role in the Maine economy."

According to the report, which is available from the authors, Maine ranked fourteenth nationally in 2004 according to the percentage of businesses in the state that are part of the environmental and energy technology sector.

AEWC Center Assists Boatbuilders in Gaining Funding for Innovative Projects

11 Apr 2007

Contact: Roberta Laverty (207) 581-2110; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The AEW Center recently assisted five Maine boatbuilders in developing successful funding proposals for product research and development. AEW is aggressively working to identify and assist innovative Maine companies with funding and technical assistance as part of its commitment to the North Star Alliance, the State of Maine's workforce and economic development initiative targeting the boatbuilding, composites and marine trade industries.

The following companies were awarded seed grant funding for product development from the Maine Technology Institute and the North Star Alliance Technology Fund with assistance from AEW:

The Hinckley Company in Trenton will work with the AEW Center to optimize the design of resin-infused composite laminates used in the production of boat hulls and deck parts.

Maine Timberworks in Rome will work with AEW to develop a glue-laminated (glulam) composite beam using locally grown wood.

Seaway Boats in Oxford will develop and test new composite materials lay-ups that will optimize their line of composite boats.

West Bay Boats of Steuben will work with the AEW Center to design and develop a closed-molded, lightweight composite dashboard for their Down East-style custom cruising boats.

York Marine Inc. of Rockland is developing preliminary designs for a composite Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) in anticipation of solicitations from the United States Coast Guard and Special Operations Forces for vessels of this type. Working with Chuck Paine Yacht Design to develop the initial plans for the vessel, the company will utilize expertise and equipment at the AEW Center to develop and test a closed-molded laminate prototype of the vessel.

UMaine Phi Beta Kappa Ceremony Monday April 16

13 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Rosanna Warren, Metcalf Professor of Humanities at Boston University, will be the guest speaker at the 2007 University of Maine Phi Beta Kappa annual initiation. The event is scheduled for Monday, April 16, at 3 p.m. in Buchanan Alumni House.

Warren, a highly-regarded poet, is this year's UMaine Phi Beta Kappa national visiting scholar. Her talk is entitled "Arts and Letters: Conversations Between Poems and Paintings." It is open to the public, as is her poetry reading at 8 p.m. Monday in Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall.

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and best known scholastic honor society in the United States, having been founded in 1776. It recognizes academic excellence in the arts and sciences, broadly conceived. UMaine has one of only four chapters in Maine (the others at at Bates, Bowdoin and Colby).

Trade Policy Analyst to Speak April 23 at UMaine on Global Free Trade and the U.S.

16 Apr 2007

Contact: Valerie Carter, 581-4124; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Alan Tonelson, noted trade analyst and published author in the field of global labor policy, is scheduled to speak at the University of Maine April 23 on international trade policies and the economies of the United States and international communities.

The talk, titled "Trade Policy - A Race to the Bottom for U.S. Industry?" is free and open to the public. The talk is at 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 D.P. Corbett Business Building. A reception will follow in the D.P. Corbett Atrium.

Tonelson is a research fellow with the U.S. Business and Industry Council's Educational Foundation, which focuses on issues of protecting the domestic economy. He also is the author of *The Race to the Bottom: Why a Global Worker Surplus and Uncontrolled Free Trade are Sinking American Living Standards*. Tonelson is coming to Maine to address the Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission and will speak to other groups during his stay.

Sponsors of his visit to the Orono campus include the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education, Maine Business School, UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning, Sociology Department, Eastern Maine Central Labor Council, Southern Maine Central Labor Council and individual citizens interested in trade issues and the MBA Association.

In a recent National Public Broadcasting System interview, he explained how recent international trade agreements -- particularly with China -- have sent many American manufacturing jobs offshore, and created a massive trade imbalance that threatens the future of the American economy.

The U.S. Business and Industry Council Educational Foundation is a research organization concerned with the welfare of America's domestic family-owned and closely held firms -- the nation's "Main Street businesses," which create new products, jobs and growth here in the United States, according to its website.

The council's mission is to expand the U.S. domestic economy, with particular emphasis on manufacturing, processing and fabricating industries, and, through the resulting growth, to extend a high standard of living to all Americans, according to its website.

The Educational Foundation's mission is to provide research and support for the council and to extend the message of the small business community to the nation's supporters, elected leaders, journalists and college campuses.

Tenth Birthday Celebration Planned for UMaine Racehorse

16 Apr 2007

Contact: Melanie Brooks at (207) 581-1700; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Witter Farm and the University Bookstore will host a birthday celebration for UMaine's own racehorse, One Vine Lady, on the Mall outside of Fogler Library at 1 p.m. Wednesday April 25.

Lady's birthday celebration will include a demonstration by the UMaine drill team with the other standardbreds who live at Witter Farm.

Foaled in Adrian, Mich. on April 6, 1997, Lady has been trained and raced by the Valerie Grondin Stable at Bangor Raceway for the past five years. Grondin is a UMaine graduate who studied in the pre-veterinary and veterinary tech assistant program. She was named Maine Harness Horseman's Association Trainer of the Year in 2005 and 2006.

"Since 2001, One Vine Lady has been an ambassador for UMaine at Bangor Raceway, the Maine Fairs, and Scarborough Downs," says Prof. Robert Causey, director of UMaine's equine programs. "Through her we have

established working relationships with Maine's standardbred industry, leading to educational opportunities for our students, especially those in the pre-veterinary program."

Lady's first race came in 1999 when she was two years old. She has raced every season since. In 146 lifetime races, an average of about 18 per season, she has 27 wins, 35 places and 19 shows. Her lifetime earnings of \$47,500 help to support UMaine's equine program and cover the cost of her training, boarding, feed, vet and all other expenses associated with harness racing.

Commissioner Susan Gendron at UMaine Thursday

16 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine education commissioner Susan Gendron will visit the University of Maine on Thursday, April 19 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program.

Gendron will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows program brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Gendron has been the state's education commissioner since February 2003. Before joining Gov. John Baldacci's cabinet, she had a distinguished career as a teacher, principal and superintendent in southern Maine.

Commissioner Gendron's full schedule for the day is available upon request.

February Sleep-Out Termed a Success

16 Apr 2007

Contact: Andrew DeFilipp, Public Relations, Beta Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi, (207) 581-4161

ORONO - Beta Theta Pi, the University of Maine's oldest fraternity, held its 14th annual Sleep-Out on February 23, 2007 to raise money and awareness for Rape Response Services of Bangor.

On that frigid Friday night, the 37 brothers of the Beta Eta chapter of Beta Theta Pi participated in their 12-hour sleep-out. They spent the night on the front lawn of Beta Theta Pi, 12 Munson Road. The event was the culmination of weeks worth of fundraising. The brothers grossed \$4,100 in donations. \$800 of which was prizes for their raffle, which included a UMaine hockey autographed jersey, a Brian Urlacher autographed Chicago Bears hat; and \$3,300 in cash.

Robert Dana, UMaine's dean of students, opened the event.

Rape Response Services is an organization that helps to educate the Maine community about the issues surrounding rape, while also providing services to counsel and prevent rape cases.

Brothers sold tickets to hockey fans coming and going from the game that night. Also, a bonfire burned throughout the

night as the central symbol of this annual tradition.

Rape Response Services provides crisis intervention, support groups and community education in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. The organization's efforts are essential in preventing rape and counseling those affected by the crime. The 2006 Beta Sleep-Out raised \$2,200. This year brothers surpassed the fraternity's goal of \$3,000.

Beta Theta Pi recently donated the check to Rape Response. Rape Response Service Executive Director Kim Roberts-Fer said that the money given to them from the fraternity goes into a fund they use at their discretion, and that the money is counted on year after year.

UMaine Observing Earth Day with Climate Change Film, Discussions and Return of 'Green Bikes'

16 Apr 2007

Contact: Leigh Stearns, 581-1491; Susan Kaspari, 288-2046

ORONO -- The UMaine Sustainability Alliance has organized a slate of Earth Day activities for April 18, which include environmental and conservation discussion groups, the screening of Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" and by releasing 50 "green bikes."

The day also will feature Maine-produced foods in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union.

Susan Kaspari, a Climate Change Institute Ph.D. candidate, Alliance member and an event organizer, says activities are designed to educate and raise awareness on campus about environmental and conservation strategies.

"This is the first time for Earth Day to be sponsored by the Sustainability Alliance," Kaspari says. "There are a lot of people on campus who already are doing good things, but we can definitely do a lot more to improve the dialog between the different groups and individuals."

The day begins with booths and displays in Union Central in the Memorial Union and free bike tune-ups on the patio outside Starbucks, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Significant events are scheduled 2-4 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Union, says Kaspari. Refreshments will include samples of Maine-produced cheeses, salsa, bread and smoked salmon, prepared by Auxiliary Services' Executive Chef Glen Taylor.

At 2 p.m., UMaine President Robert Kennedy will offer his thoughts on sustainability in a university environment.

From 2:15-2:30 p.m., the UMaine Sustainability Alliance is scheduled to explain the university's environmental footprint from 1990 to today.

From 2:30-3:30 p.m., a community dialog is to cover increasing public awareness of energy conservation measures and sustainability on campus; ways to encourage car-pooling, use of public transportation, bicycles and walking on campus; incorporating sustainability into the curriculum; and how to secure funds to promote sustainability.

From 5-6 p.m., rain or shine, sustainability alliance members invite everyone with a bicycle to join them for a "critical mass bike ride" around campus, Orono and Old Town to promote alternative modes of transportation. Members of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity will make available 50 newly reconditioned "green bikes," to be used randomly around campus by members of the student body, faculty and staff.

The day's events wind up with a screening at 7 p.m. of Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" in the Bangor Room, to be followed by a discussion afterward lead by researchers from UMaine's Climate Change Institute.

"I really hope people who doubt the existence and or causes of climate change will come to the showing of 'An Inconvenient Truth' with an open mind and some good questions for the researchers from the Climate Change Institute who will be available for questions and discussion," adds Joshua Parada, coordinator of the UMaine Green Campus Initiative, part of Property Management for Auxiliary Services.

Free pizza will be available during the 2-hour evening event, and a free raffle will take place after the discussion.

Kaspari says the sustainability alliance is working on a variety of ways to promote sustainability, energy conservation and environmental improvement measures at a local level. They include consideration of the university buying renewable energy credits.

The UMaine Sustainability Alliance website (www.sustainability.umaine.edu) has more information.

Child Welfare Conference to Explore Adolescent Sexuality, Gender Issues April 26

17 Apr 2007

Contact: Nancy Kelly, 581-2378, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The 13th Annual Child Welfare Conference, organized by the University of Maine School of Social Work and Eastern Maine Medical Center's SCAN committee, is bringing together experts in adolescent sexuality on April 26 to discuss facts and dispel myths about young people, sex and gender issues.

Titled "Adolescent Sexuality: What We Still Aren't Talking About," the conference is attracting social service professionals, educators, nurses, law enforcement officers, parents, foster parents, medical professionals and caregivers. Members or the public also are invited.

The conference is from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Bangor Civic Center. Registration information, including conference fees, is available by calling Robin Arnold in the School of Social Work at (207) 581-2398. The registration deadline is April 22.

Three motivating speakers include Jenny Boylan, author (*She's Not There, A Life in Two Genders*) and transgender English professor at Colby College; Jane Woody, certified sex therapist, author (*How Can We Talk About That? Overcoming Personal Hang-Ups So We Can Teach Kids the Right Stuff about Sex and Morality*) and professor of social work at the University of Nebraska-Omaha; and Diane Elze, associate professor of social work at the University of Buffalo, who has spent most of her career working with and on behalf of gay, lesbian and transgender youth.

Boylan has been a frequent guest on a number of national television and radio programs, including the "Oprah Winfrey Show." She also has appeared on "The Larry King Show," "The Today Show" and has been the subject of a documentary on the CBS "48 Hours."

The conference opens at 7:30 a.m. with registration. Susan Savell, executive director of Communities for Children and Youth, will offer opening remarks at 8:15 a.m., to be followed by Jane Woody at 8:30 a.m. and Megan Williams, executive director of Hardy Girls, Healthy Women in Waterville, at 10:15 a.m. The documentary "Ugly Ducklings" will be shown with a guided discussion following.

At 12:45 p.m., Boylan will discuss her experiences in a trans-gendered life and adolescent life in two genders.

Elze, a former Maine resident and founder of the Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance, now called Equality Maine, and OUTRIGHT, speaks at 2 p.m. about responding to sexual minority youths in the child welfare system, progress that's been made and goals yet to be reached.

At 3:30 p.m., workshops will explore putting ideas into action.

The topic of the conference was selected to address important issues affecting youth today, specifically sexual practices, the high suicide and homeless rates of GLBT youth, the harassment that many GLBT adolescents in foster care and in high schools face, and how professionals can address these issues.

The conference is co-sponsored by Eastern Maine Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program, EMMC SCAN Committee, EMMC Family Support Team, EMMC Women's and Children's Services, Bangor Police Department, Maine Department of Health Human Services, Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, Penobscot Community Health Center, Shaw House and the UMaine School of Social Work.

The conference is partially funded through Title IV-E Training Grant funds from the Maine DHHS, the Child Welfare Training Institute and the UMaine School of Social Work.

Hearing Expo at UMaine May 2

18 Apr 2007

Contact: Amy Engler Booth, 581-2009; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - The 9th Annual Hearing Expo at the University of Maine May 2 offers adults free hearing screenings, all the bells, whistles and advancements in "assisted listening devices" and other hearing aid technology, and an opportunity to have hearing aids checked and cleaned at no cost.

Among the demonstrations being featured are "assistive listening devices" and an examination of the potential dangers of iPods. Manufacturers also are loaning the latest assisted hearing devices, including vibrating alarm clocks to be placed under a pillow, and information on amplified telephones.

Sponsored by the UMaine Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and staffed by graduate students in the department, the annual Hearing Expo helps celebrate Better Hearing and Speech Month in May. It is scheduled from 5-7:30 p.m. in Dunn Hall on the UMaine campus. The Expo is free to the public, but those interested must register by calling (207) 581-2009.

The event is an evening of education, prizes and fun, says Amy Engler Booth, the department clinical audiologist and lecturer.says. More than 150 guests are expected to attend.

The UMaine Hearing Expo is believed to be the only one of its kind and has been featured in national trade publications, according to Booth.

Research shows that nearly 100,000 Mainers have a hearing loss. Nationally, that number is 22 to 28 million Americans, 37 percent of whom are over age of 65. What is disturbing to physicians and audiologists is that only 20 percent of those with a hearing loss use a hearing aid. Students at the University of Maine in Orono hope the services and education offered through the annual Hearing Expo on campus will help change that national trend.

A unique aspect of this year's Hearing Expo is the inclusion of a demonstration of the hazardous effects of too much noise from iPods, according to Booth. The Hearing Expo typically is tailored to older adults, but the iPod demonstration is expected to generate interest among parents and younger adults, she says.

The expo is not just for those with a hearing loss, but for people who have family members or friends with hearing loss. "It is for anyone who wishes to communicate better with others," she says.

While students assisting with Hearing Expo activities are studying to become speech language pathologists -- a field closely associated with audiology -- "they do a wonderful job fulfilling the role of audiologic rehabilitation specialists," Booth says.

Students begin planning weeks in advance for the expo, putting together poster presentations and researching topics such as tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and how much noise is too much. Some students have spent time learning the pros and cons of complicated audiological diagnostic computer programs, and they can help hearing aid users quickly determine whether their aids are helping them hear, and by how much.

Members of the public interested in attending are urged to register by calling (207) 581-2009. The news media is invited and previews may be made by appointment. There will be excellent live-shot and photo opportunities, according to Booth, who can be contacted for additional details at the number above.

Maine Sea Grant Receives Top Rating in National Review

19 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Maine Sea Grant College Program at the University of Maine has been rated in the top tier of Sea Grant programs nationwide, according to a recent review by a national assessment team.

"Maine Sea Grant has made significant contributions to science, technology, and society within the state and region," concluded the National Sea Grant Office, based on the review findings that Maine Sea Grant meets the highest performance standards of the Sea Grant network.

The National Sea Grant Office is charged with evaluating all Sea Grant programs on a five-year rotating basis. The program assessment team, which consisted of six representatives from across the country with expertise in coastal and marine resources, visited UMaine last year to evaluate Maine Sea Grant's performance in several areas. The team came away impressed with the program's effectiveness, and the National Sea Grant Office awarded the program a final rating in Category 1, making Maine among the highest performing of the 32 Sea Grant programs in the nation.

"The value of Maine Sea Grant is its ability to reach constituents and have an impact on their lives. This ability benefits from the numerous partnerships that Maine Sea Grant has developed to enhance its reach in serving Maine's citizens," the National Sea Grant Office stated in its final evaluation. "Through its extension programming, Maine Sea Grant has served as a catalyst for discussion among stakeholders, helping to resolve conflicts." The final evaluation also noted the impact of Maine Sea Grant's research investments in addressing challenging problems.

The high rating not only confirms the value of Maine Sea Grant to the state and region, but also puts the program, and its constituents, in a position to benefit from future funding increases. "It's apparent that the needs for marine and coastal research and educational outreach programs exceed the resources of Maine Sea Grant, but this rating may provide opportunities for the program to attract more funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to help meet these needs," said Paul Anderson, director of Maine Sea Grant.

Established in 1980, the Maine Sea Grant Program has a mission to play a leadership role in marine science and education and to promote their use in the sustainable development, management, and stewardship of marine and coastal resources. For more information, visit www.seagrants.maine.edu.

UMaine Plans Whistle Test Saturday

23 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine staff members plan to test the university's long-dormant steam plant whistle on Saturday, April 28 at 12 noon. It has not been used for at least a decade, and Saturday's test will determine if it is still functional.

The whistle, if it works, is likely to be audible throughout the entire UMaine campus and in many parts of Orono and Old Town.

Mahon Appointed Dean, Effective July 1

24 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- John Mahon, the John M. Murphy Chair of International Business Policy and Strategy at the University of Maine, has been appointed dean of UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health, effective July 1. The appointment is subject to ratification by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, which will take up the matter at its May meeting.

Mahon's appointment will be for two years. He will succeed Daniel Innis, who is leaving to become a dean at the University of New Hampshire.

Mahon currently serves as founding director of UMaine's new School of Policy and International Affairs. From 2004-2006, he was UMaine's interim vice president for academic affairs and provost.

"John has served this university with distinction, in a variety of roles," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He is a gifted teacher, a noteworthy scholar and a leader in our community. I am certain that the college will thrive under his leadership."

An internationally recognized scholar in his field, Mahon has published more than 120 papers and book chapters. He was also co-founder of the International Association for Business and Society, serving as its second president. Mahon is one of only three professors to be elected a fellow in that organization.

VIA Group Founder Receives Maine Business School Award

24 Apr 2007

Contact: Wendy Haehnel, 581-1926; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Business School at the University of Maine recently presented its 2007 Achievement in Business Award to UMaine alum John Coleman, co-founder and CEO of The VIA Group advertising agency in Portland.

The award is given annually to an individual who demonstrates leadership and outstanding achievement in their field of endeavor, service to UMaine and the community, and commitment to and demonstration of lifelong learning. Coleman

was selected by the business school's Executive Advisory Board, composed of presidents, CEOs and senior executives of successful companies from Maine and throughout the region.

"We are proud to honor John Coleman with this important award. John and The VIA Group are an incredibly successful representation of the creative economy that Gov. Baldacci speaks about," says Dan Innis, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health at UMaine. "John has raised the visibility of the state of Maine nationwide and attracted professionals to the state as both employees and business partners. He has created jobs that have helped to retain some of the state's most talented individuals and has been a proud supporter of the University of Maine."

VIA is one of New England's largest independent advertising agencies, with 82 employees and offices in Portland, Boston and New York. Major clients include TD Banknorth, HP Hood, Monster, Uno Chicago Grill, Cleveland Clinic, Analog Devices, Maine Readiness Council/Kick Start, Dunkin' Donuts, DuPont, Parametric Technologies Corporation and CBS RADIO.

Coleman, who co-founded the company in 1993 with Rich Rico, has extensive business-to-business marketing and sales experience, beginning as a sales and marketing executive at the Z

Robert Edwards, Tess Gerritsen UMaine Commencement Speakers

24 Apr 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will award approximately 1,950 degrees at its 205th Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 12 at Alford Arena.

UMaine is in the second year of a new graduation format that calls for two separate indoor ceremonies. During the 10:00 a.m. ceremony, degrees will be awarded to graduates from the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning. An afternoon ceremony, to begin at 2:30, will be for graduates from the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering (including the School of Engineering Technology); and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

Robert Edwards, president emeritus of Bowdoin College, will address graduates at the morning ceremony. The afternoon speaker will be best-selling author Tess Gerritsen.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy will preside over the ceremony. William Johnson will represent the University of Maine System Board of Trustees at the ceremony, and he will assist UMaine senior vice president for academic affairs and provost Edna Mora Szymanski in awarding honorary doctorates to Edwards, Native American Studies scholar Nicholas Smith of Brunswick, and Richard and Mildred Giesberg of Los Angeles, Calif., noted for their international humanitarian efforts.

As Commencement generates a good deal of traffic, UMaine will operate a continuous shuttle bus service from the Steam Plant Parking Lot, Belgrade Lot, Maine Center for the Arts Lot and Hilltop Lot to Alford Arena, both before and after the ceremonies. Those traveling to UMaine are encouraged to allow plenty of time, and to expect traffic delays of up to 60 minutes. Those accessing UMaine via Interstate 95 should consider using Exit 197 and traveling through Old Town to the university's Park St. entrance, if traffic is significantly backed up at the exits closer to Bangor.

Cruikshank Named Senior Fulbright Specialist

26 Apr 2007

Contact: Peg Cruikshank, (207) 581-1228; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Margaret "Peg" Cruikshank, lecturer in women's studies and faculty associate of the Center on Aging, has been awarded a senior specialist Fulbright grant for fall 2007.

Cruikshank will conduct aging research on Canadian women at the Centre on Aging at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. She also will conduct seminars, give public lectures and mentor junior faculty.

Cruikshank has written many articles and two books on aging, including *Learning to be Old: gender, culture, and aging* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003) and *Fierce with Reality: an anthology of literature on aging* (Just Write Books, Topsham, 2007).

A Orono, Maine resident, she has been a member of the University of Maine faculty since 1997, and taught previously at City College of San Francisco.

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. Over its 60 years of existence, thousands of American 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 United States.

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.

The Fulbright Scholar Program website (www.cies.org) has additional information about its programs and scholarships.

Disability Studies Students to Present Final Projects at Tuesday, May 1 Event

26 Apr 2007

Contact: Alan Parks at (207) 581-1236; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- UMaine undergraduate and graduate students will present their innovative work on Tuesday, May 1 during the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies' annual year-end ceremony. Students, who have completed concentrations in Interdisciplinary Disability Studies (IDS) will discuss and demonstrate their important work. UMaine student Chelsea Carbone will be the featured speaker at the event, scheduled for 4-6 p.m. in Memorial Union.

These research and theory-based projects demonstrate students' mastery of disability studies theory and the application of universal access and social justice principles to advancing new knowledge and improving environments and the lives of all people.

The following projects span a wide range of interests: Lesson Planning for the Inclusive Classroom; Universal Accessibility and Adaptive Skiing; Universal Accessibility: Study of the Marketplace; Accessibility in Education: Curricula and Lesson Planning; Je ne parle pas American Sign Language?; The Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Child Abuse Curricula; Narrative Video; Disability: Epistemological Shapes; and Student Insights, Learning, and Activity: Examples During the Spring 2007 Semester.

Students present their projects in multiple formats to anticipate and meet the needs of a diverse audience. There will also be a listening station where visitors can hear audio descriptions of the content of the projects.

The following sixteen students will be recognized for completing the concentration : Bracey Barker, Chelsea Carbone, Linda Coro, Julie Feigenbaum, Jillian Higgins, Emily Jenkins, Jennifer Kelleher, Catherine Kotredes, Kassie Levesque, Sarah Mallon, Kylee McAvoy, Caitlin Meyer, Kathleen Norman, Andrea Squires, Erin Woodbury and Kevin Adair.

The public is invited and welcome to attend the recognition ceremony and view the projects. Please call 581-1207, or e-mail sandra.horne@umit.maine.edu, for information.

Sherman Farm to Host First of Seven UMaine Cooperative Extension Goat Enterprise Tours

26 Apr 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471

FAIRFIELD, Me. -- The first of University of Maine Cooperative Extension Goat Enterprise Farm Tours will take place on Saturday, April 28 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Pirri family's Sherman Farm, located off of Route 139 (Norridgwock Road) at 56 Sherman Lane in Fairfield (e-mail shermanfarmgoat@aol.com). This small, licensed goat dairy sells raw goat milk and soft cheese, and provides replacement does for breeders as well as male goats for meat. Cheeses will be available for tasting and purchase.

UMaine Extension's series of goat enterprise tours will take place from late April through September at farms around the state. Designed for anyone who wants to learn more about raising goats for meat, milk or fiber, these tours aim to teach sound goat husbandry and help support the growing Maine market for local cheese and meat. All tours are free and open to the public. No registration is required, but people should arrive at the designated tour start times.

The six remaining tours will take place at farms in Warren, Bradford, Newry, Starks, Dresden and Saco. Call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 1-800-287-1471 for details.

Goats have been a traditional farm animal around the world for centuries. Considered browsers rather than grazers as they prefer leaves over grass, goats are known for their productivity and resourcefulness in grazing brush land. Raising goats is becoming increasingly popular in Maine, and it's not hard to understand why. According to the American Dairy Goat Association, the fat and protein in goat milk is more easily digested than that in cow milk, and goat milk is often tolerated by people allergic to cow milk. Goat milk is also naturally homogenized. Goat meat, called chevon, is low in fat and calories compared to beef, and is one of the most commonly eaten meats worldwide.

For more information about raising goats, contact UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, at 1-800-287-1471 or rbrz@umext.maine.edu. To be placed on UMaine Extension's statewide goat mailing list, contact Melisa Potts at 1-800-287-7170 or mpotts@umext.maine.edu.

Center on Aging Wins EPA Grant for Pilot Drug-Return Program

27 Apr 2007

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 581-3483; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- The UMaine Center on Aging has received a \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to launch a first-in-the-nation pharmaceuticals-return program to help keep tons of medications out of rivers, streams and groundwater.

According to the EPA, the UMaine pilot will start, implement and evaluate a mail-back plan to remove unused over-the-counter and prescription medications from homes. Typically, unused, unneeded or expired medications are flushed down toilets or thrown in the trash, and ultimately can make their way into the environment. Since compounds in many medications can be destroyed only through incineration, they often pass through landfill and wastewater treatment plants and end up in rivers, lakes and streams.

In the United States and in England, studies have shown that pharmaceuticals and common personal health care products in the environment can cause genetic changes in fish and wildlife. For instance, male carp living downstream from or near municipal wastewater treatment plants in a Las Vegas reservoir, the Potomac River in Washington, D.C. and in England have developed female sex organs, according to a September 2006 article in "Governing Magazine."

Unused, unneeded or unwanted drugs stored in homes also can wind up in the hands of children exploring medicine cabinets, or thieves who steal and sell pain medications, muscle relaxants and other drugs, says Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, which serves as administrator for the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG). The study group is a consortium of lawmakers, policy makers, and professionals in health care, geriatric care, law enforcement, social work, private industry and other disciplines pressing for new ways to curtail the storage or casual disposal of potentially dangerous medications. The group has been awaiting the EPA funding, which will enable the implementation of the Maine Unused Pharmaceutical Disposal Project adopted by the legislature in 2004.

"We're extremely pleased to receive word that our grant application has been approved by the EPA," says Kaye, who also is the principal investigator for the EPA grant. "Now we can take steps to eliminate some of these medications from the waste stream and keep them out of the hands of people who should not have them. It's been a very serious problem with established detrimental effects on the environment and wildlife."

Dr. Stevan Gressitt, medical director of the Northeast Occupational Exchange in Bangor, is the co-principal investigator for the grant and a co-founder of the MBSG.

In addition, the pilot project will test the effectiveness of an educational campaign about the hazards to life, health and the environment presented by improper storage and disposal of unused medications. In the next few weeks or months, 6,000 mailers will be available to the public through participating pharmacies in four counties, Aroostook, Penobscot, Kennebec and Cumberland.

The EPA provided a second non-profit organization in St. Louis with a similar grant to approach the problem in a slightly different way. Area Resources for Community and Human Services in St. Louis, in conjunction with the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, will have community grocery stores serve as collection sites for unwanted medications over an 18-month period, covering a 2.7-million population base.

In both projects, older adults will be involved in the design and implementation of the programs. These grants are part of EPA's larger effort to protect the health of older adults, who may be more susceptible to environmental hazards, through its Aging Initiative. The Aging Initiative encourages civic engagement to recognize and reduce environmental hazards in their communities.

The Maine project also will include an inventory of the types and quantities of drugs being returned. Inventory data could prove useful to the medical community in changing its prescribing practices to reduce the incidence of unused medications.

EPA Project Officer Kathy Sykes says that while some states have held one-day drug-return programs, the Maine initiative and the St. Louis program both are the first pharmaceutical return programs of such proportion. The Maine mail-back and inventory aspects of the program are firsts in the country, she adds.

Kaye estimates that, in Maine, the pilot project will remove 1.5 tons of unwanted medications from homes or the waste stream.

More information about the project can be found on the Center on Aging website at www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging.

In addition to the Center on Aging, the EPA and the MBSG, other project partners include the Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety, Maine departments of Environmental Protection and Health, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, Maine offices of Elder Services, Substance Abuse and Attorney General, the Maine Pharmacy Association, Maine RSVP Programs, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at UMaine, National Council on Patient Information and Education, Northern New England Poison Center, Northeast Occupational Exchange and the Villanova University

Center for the Environment.

UMaine to Honor David Veverka

30 Apr 2007

Contact: Frederic Beaudry, UMaine Dept. of Wildlife Ecology, (207) 581-2895; Joe Carr, Dept. of University Relations, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A Sunday May 6 University of Maine ceremony will honor the memory of former UMaine student David Veverka, killed in Iraq last year while serving in the Army National Guard. The May 6 event, scheduled for 10 a.m. between Nutting Hall and Hitchner Hall, will include a tree planting and the unveiling of a memorial.

"David left a lasting impression on all who knew him," says Frederic Beaudry, a UMaine student and friend of Veverka's. "He was a determined and successful student who inspired students and faculty alike."

Veverka was a senior studying wildlife ecology when he was deployed to fight in the war as part of Bravo Company 3-172nd Infantry (Mountain). At UMaine, he was president of the student chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology, vice-president of The Wildlife Society student chapter, a NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellow, and a recipient of a College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture undergraduate research grant.

He was awarded a posthumous UMaine degree at the university's May 2006 commencement.

UMaine New Media Group 'Still Water' Wins \$300,000 Research Grant

01 May 2007

Contact: Jon Ippolito, 581-4477; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Still Water, a research and development arm of the University of Maine New Media Department, has received a \$300,000 research grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study the preservation of digital art in a world of changing technologies.

The grant, the largest NEH grant UMaine has ever received, according to the UMaine Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, will fund a two-year project called "Forging the Future: New Tools for Variable Media Preservation." It assumes that the equipment and techniques that work today to preserve and store digital music, art, video or text documents may not work tomorrow because of the obsolescence of the media, according to Jon Ippolito, associate professor of new media and a co-founder with associate professor Joline Blais of Still Water new media research lab at UMaine.

Consider music stored on vinyl record albums or reel-to-reel tape recordings, movies stored on 8-millimeter film, and digital files stored on old floppy disks. Turntables, movie projectors and 8-track tape players are mainly collecting dust - if they have survived at all -- and today's computers no longer have floppy disk drives. CDs and DVDs are predicted to become obsolete within a few decades as technologies change. Advances like the conversion of analog signals to digital ones, a recent milestone for telephones and television, present yet another challenge to the preservation of constantly evolving data.

The issue becomes even more complex when considering the storage and preservation of photographs, gallery installations, and other art forms, says Ippolito, the former associate curator of media arts at the Solomon R.

Guggenheim Museum in New York.

Through "Forging the Future," Ippolito, with a consortium of authorities from five other institutions across the country, will explore new methods of preserving and storing digital and cultural art. They also will delve into a larger issue: What happens to art when its original medium becomes obsolete, and who decides?

"The tools produced by the Forging the Future consortium will go beyond the default storage paradigm to include the full range of preservation techniques explored by a related Still Water project, the Variable Media Network," Ippolito says in a statement. "These include the powerful technique of emulation, a process by which a new computer can impersonate an older one."

Ippolito has been studying the issue of digital file preservation for nearly a decade and says it is becoming a universal concern among those responsible for the preservation of art and culture.

Forging the Future "is the most recent initiative in a current of parallel efforts by the Variable Media Network," he says. "If you think about bank data, government reporting or scientific data, that information can often be morphed from one medium to another, which helps solve the problem caused by the limited life span of any one preservation medium. Art, on the other hand, is the acid test, because it typically depends very much on the look and feel of its medium. If you can preserve art, then you can pretty much preserve anything."

The NEH grant also will provide for a questionnaire for museum curators and artists about how artwork might be altered through new preservation techniques and which of those techniques is acceptable for a given work.

The grant is "a wonderful recognition" of the leadership role of Ippolito and his colleagues, says Owen Smith, director of the New Media Department.

"The nature and the size of this grant is just reinforcement of what we in new media already know -- Jon, as well as our other faculty, are all world-class leading researchers in their respective areas of emphasis," Smith says. "A grant of this nature and visibility is another highlight of the work of the faculty in the New Media Department in exploring the future possibilities and potentials of new media, information technology, art and culture."

Founding members of the Variable Media Network include: the Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archives, Berkeley, Calif.; Franklin Furnace, New York; Guggenheim Museum, New York; Daniel Langlois Foundation for Art, Science and Technology, Montreal; Performance Art Festival + Archives, Cleveland; Rhizome.org, New York; and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.

The Variable Media Network (<http://variablemedia.net>) is coordinated by Ippolito, Alain Depocas, director of the Centre for Research and Documentation (CR+D), the Daniel Langlois Foundation, and independent curator Caitlin Jones.

For background on the initiative or Still Water's other projects, please visit <http://newmedia.umaine.edu/stillwater/> or contact Jon Ippolito at jippolito@maine.edu.

Concrete Canoe Team Scores Big Win in Regionals

02 May 2007

Contact: David Munson, 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The UMaine concrete canoe team earned top honors for the second year in a row at the American Society of Civil Engineers New England Regional Concrete Canoe Contest. Facing 12 teams from colleges and universities across New England, the UMaine team and their latest canoe ranked first overall after placing second in all categories.

"This year's team was definitely the most dedicated team I have ever seen. Everyone really pulled out all the stops for this one," said ASCE Student Chapter President and team captain A. Riley Adams. "We faced some outstanding competition this year, but with a combination of incredible dedication, incredible preparation and a little luck, we were able to pull off our second regional win."

The team designed, built and raced their own custom canoe made entirely of concrete.

The team will go on to compete in the concrete canoe national competition in Seattle on June 14. Team members will be actively seeking sponsors to help cover the costs of the trip. Businesses or individuals interested in supporting the team should contact Adams at (207) 735-5630.

Students from UMaine's College of Engineering have competed in the concrete canoe competition since the 1970's. UMaine teams won first place in regional competition in 2006, 1992 and 1991.

UMaine Alumnus Pledges Scholarship Funding

02 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Studying wasn't the only activity that kept Thomas Laskey busy as a mechanical engineering major at the University of Maine more than 50 years ago.

Growing up in Old Town, one of eight children whose father worked at the pulp mill in the Great Works area, he spent much of his time at UMaine juggling his studies with an assortment of odd jobs.

"Money was tight," Laskey says.

Now the 1953 graduate who lives in Woodstock, Conn., is hoping to ease the way for other needy students. He has pledged \$100,000 to Campaign Maine, UMaine's comprehensive fundraising campaign, for scholarships to benefit undergraduates who have exhibited leadership potential in high school or been involved in community service.

First preference for the Thomas P. Laskey '53 Family Scholarship Fund will be given to students who are residents of Penobscot County or graduates of a Penobscot County high school.

"I want to help as many Penobscot County students go to college as possible. This school was good to me and I'm trying to give back," says Laskey, who received a number of scholarships when he was an undergraduate.

Eric Rolfson, UMaine's associate vice president of development, says Laskey's gift will have a lasting effect. "There is nothing more important to the future of our state than to guarantee our young people's access to college," he says. "Mr. Laskey's thoughtful and generous scholarship will impact the lives of Penobscot County students for generations."

UMaine has become a tradition in his family, said Laskey, whose brothers Henry and Harold also earned degrees at the state's flagship university.

Laskey, who lived at home for most of his UMaine years and often would ride his bike or hitchhike to campus, says his parents encouraged their children to excel in college.

"My older brother got all A's and they expected me to get all A's, too," he recalls.

Even though his free time at UMaine was limited, Laskey made room in his schedule to participate in the cross country

and track teams. In his senior year he lived at Phi Eta Kappa fraternity where he served as vice president and "had lots of close friends."

His hard work at UMaine paid off. After graduating, he was employed at companies including Pratt & Whitney and Chandler Evans. Then, in 1984, ready to spread his wings, he started his own construction company -- Key Builders LLC.

Designing and building condominiums, apartment houses and single family homes, Laskey found his calling. "It was a lot of fun. I like the feeling of accomplishment when you see them put up," he says. Although he retired 10 years ago, he continues to be involved in the business and works as a general contractor on one house each year.

Laskey, who has been an active volunteer with Connecticut's Republican party, made it a point to maintain close ties with UMaine over the years. For his class' 50th reunion he helped raise approximately \$180,000 that supported various projects on campus.

Since then, he has established yet another tie with Maine. He recently purchased a summer home in Camden. "It's a nice old 1840's farmhouse," he says, "but it needs a lot of renovation."

Always mindful of his own civic responsibilities, Laskey says he wants recipients of his scholarship to also be enthusiastic and committed citizens, active in politics, entrepreneurial pursuits and other activities.

"I think it's nice when young people get involved with different things in school, whether sports or band," he says.

Frank Pickering, formerly of Deer Isle, another mechanical engineering major from the Class of 1953 who still keeps in touch with Laskey, praised his friend's civic mindedness.

"I know he had been thinking about what he could do for UMaine for some time," says Pickering, recalling that Laskey has been "very generous with his time and his money."

"He's a loyal Black Bear," says Pickering.

The Laskey family scholarship will enable the university to make 50 or more "substantial awards" over 25 years says Gianna Marrs, associate director of student aid.

"It's a wonderful gift," she says. "It epitomizes the goals and spirit of Campaign Maine because it provides direct support to Maine students. It also recognizes not just the aspirations of students, but also their leadership efforts in service to their own communities and to the university community."

Kevin Frazier, director of finance and administration at the University of Maine Foundation, says the scholarship will "be a great help in reducing students' debt as they leave UMaine."

Meanwhile, at age 76, Laskey still is a civic leader. "I try to volunteer as often as I can," says the father of three and grandfather of eight who, along with his family, has donated to his hometown hospital and high school. Determined to nurture his grandchildren's community spirit -- as well as their business acumen -- he gives each one \$1,700 as a 17th birthday gift.

"They have to put \$1,000 into a mutual fund and use the other \$700 to contribute to a charity or help their parents with their education," he says.

Laskey's desire to assist others has taken him to far flung places. He has helped build an orphanage in Honduras, a community center in Costa Rica and a kiosk at a zoo in Hawaii. In September he hopes to travel to Mississippi to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"It's enjoyable working with people in different places and you can see that you are accomplishing something," he says.

Students to Launch Apartment-Search Internet Site

03 May 2007

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Finding an apartment in a college community where 7,000 students live off campus usually promises to be a labor-intensive and time-consuming process, but a group of Information Systems Engineering seniors at UMaine have applied their computing skills to simplify things.

For their senior Capstone project, seven students have created an interactive "UMaineRents" website for students and area landlords. Landlords are invited to list their properties, along with descriptions, amenities, terms of rental agreement, location, price and answers to commonly asked questions. Students, identified through their FirstClass email addresses, can search the database for suitable apartments before even picking up the telephone. The service is free and will be managed under the auspices of the Office of the Dean of Students.

The students began introducing area landlords to the concept last week and are meeting today at 3 p.m. in Room 315 of the Memorial Union with Angel Loredo, associate dean of students, and Orono municipal officials to explain the service. Jay Kinzer, a co-creator of the site (<http://www.umaine.edu/UMaineRents/>), hopes it will contain enough listings to open to the public on May 4.

Kinzer says finding suitable off-campus student housing often is a labor-intensive process for both students and landlords. The majority of UMaine's more than 11,000 students live off campus. That means thousands of telephone calls to landlords. The UMaineRents website can streamline that process substantially, Kinzer says.

"This program will take some of the stress out of finding apartments, especially for those students who are coming from out of state," Loredo says.

Creating UMaineRents calls into play skills the students learned as part of their academic discipline, and then some, according to Kinzer, who also works as a student employee in the Department of University Relations, where he helps to design or modify university-related websites.

Creating the rental property portal employed a variety of complex computer code writing and database creation, plus an assemblage of advanced computer skills.

For instance, UMaineRents includes special mapping technology linked to a Google mapping program, so browsers can quickly see where apartments are located.

"This is definitely relevant to the database side of the discipline," Kinzer says.

Professor Harlan Onsrud, who oversees the project, speaks highly of the student initiative and the application of their academic skills to immediate needs of the surrounding communities.

"High level information technology skills are in high demand both in Maine and around the nation," Onsrud says. "Team projects like this force students to pull all their past course work together as well as learn on-the-fly as they are confronted with myriad practical problems in designing and implementing a realistic and useful system.

"It truly caps off their education and skills. If they have done their job well, all the technological sophistication should be hidden to the typical user and it should be simple and obvious to use," Onsrud says. "Whether you are a landlord, a student looking for an apartment, or the information system administrator, judge for yourself whether they have achieved this objective."

Students who designed and created UMaineRents, in addition to Kinzer, are Kevin Ballew, Travis Buuck, Chris Currier, Jon Dearborn, Gabriel Irvine-McDermott and Ben Sweeney.

Landlords or tenant leaseholders interested in listing property to rent or sublet can go to the site at <http://www.umaine.edu/UMaineRents/> to start entering information, or send inquiries to UmaineRents@gmail.com.

Education Professor Kent Wins National Book Award

03 May 2007

Contact: Richard Kent, 581-2746; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine literacy education professor Rich Kent has received a national best book for 2006 award for his latest work, *A Guide to Creating Student-Staffed Writing Centers, Grades 6-12*.

The International Writing Centers Association, an assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, awarded Kent its 2006 Outstanding Scholarship in a Book Award at its recent international convention in Houston.

Kent's *Guide* is "an important contribution to writing center studies," the International Writing Centers Association states in a news release. "Drawing upon his experiences as a teacher, scholar, and high school writing center director, Kent offers the reader not just a comprehensive treatment of how to establish a high school writing center, but a compelling argument for doing so."

In a recent review in *The Writing Center Journal*, Catherine Oriani, past president of the Northeast Writing Center Association, notes that Kent "presents wide-ranging and even inspiring material (that) will prove helpful to would-be, novice and veteran writing center directors."

The Outstanding Scholarship Committee says it concurs with that assessment. The Outstanding Scholarship in a Book Award subcommittee consisted of Melissa Ianetta of the University of Delaware, Wayne Robertson of Oregon State University and Elisabeth-Piedmont Marton (chair) of Southwest University.

A Guide to Creating Student-Staffed Writing Centers: Grades 6-12

was published in 2006 by Peter Lang Publishing of New York City.

Kent, a resident of Rumford, has been teaching in the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development since 2003. He is also the director of the Maine Writing Project, a site of the National Writing Project.

Kent is the author of many education journal articles and six books, including two on educational pedagogy, theory and practice. A seventh book co-edited with Thomas Newkirk of the University of New Hampshire, *Teaching the Neglected "R": Rethinking Writing Instruction in Secondary Classrooms*, will be published this fall.

According to Kent's colleague Harvey Kail, professor of English and UMaine Writing Center coordinator, *A Guide to Creating Student-Staffed Writing Centers* "opens a new door into the world of writing centers for teachers of writing from grades 6-12.

"This book is meant to invite, instruct, prepare and inspire teachers of writing to start writing centers in today's middle school, junior high or high school, and it does these essential, frontier tasks with a winning combination of hands-on experience, contemporary scholarship, and chutzpah," Kail says.

Smith, Edwards to Receive UMaine Honorary Degrees

04 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two men with connections to Brunswick are among four who will receive honorary doctor of humane letters degrees at the University of Maine's May 12 commencement.

Native American Studies scholar Nicholas Smith of Brunswick will be honored for his work documenting the history of Native peoples in Maine and neighboring states and provinces. Smith's scholarly record includes more than 60 publications, numerous translations and the development of a widely used bibliography related to Wabanaki studies. He is a 1950 UMaine graduate.

Robert Edwards of Edgecomb, president emeritus of Bowdoin College, will also receive an honorary doctorate. An educational leader who also served as president of Minnesota's Carleton College, Edwards also has broad experience working in developing nations around the world. Edwards is a member of the UMaine Board of Visitors, and he was the featured speaker at UMaine President Robert Kennedy's September 2005 installation.

Humanitarians and community leaders Richard and Mildred Giesberg of Los Angeles, Cal., both UMaine graduates, will also receive honorary doctorates.

"We are pleased to be able to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of these remarkable individuals," Kennedy says. "In each case, they have applied their talent, intellect and compassion to making the world a better place. Their lives serve as great examples for our graduating students."

Edwards will be the commencement speaker at UMaine's 10 a.m. commencement ceremony on May 12. Mystery writer Tess Gerritsen of Camden will address the graduates at the 2 p.m. ceremony. UMaine holds two separate ceremonies inside Alford Arena, to accommodate the large number of graduates and visitors. An estimated 1,950 people will graduate from UMaine in the Class of 2007.

Albion Native Named UMaine Valedictorian

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

RONO -- Erik Perkins of Albion is the Class of 2007 valedictorian at the University of Maine.

Perkins will graduate from UMaine on Saturday May 12, with a degree in physics and mathematics. He plans to enroll in graduate school at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he will pursue a Ph.D. in theoretical physics. The son of Henry Perkins and Henrietta Beaufait, Perkins graduated from the Maine School of Science and Mathematics in 1998.

There are approximately 1,950 graduates in the UMaine class.

Perkins, who is graduating from UMaine's Honors College, shares credit for his success with others in the UMaine community.

"Professors Bill Bray, Neil Comins and Bob Franzosa, along with my friend Kevin Roberge, collectively have informed my view that mathematics and physics are essentially aesthetic pursuits," Perkins says. "They showed me that these fields are not cold and austere, but rather are vibrantly alive and bursting with colors."

At UMaine, Perkins received a prestigious Barry M. Goldwater scholarship for math and science. He is also the member of several honor societies: Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Mu Epsilon (mathematics honor society) and Sigma Pi

Sigma (physics honor society).

Durham Native UMaine Salutatorian

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- David Lapointe of Durham is the Class of 2007 salutatorian at the University of Maine.

Lapointe will graduate from UMaine on Saturday May 12, with a degree in mechanical engineering. He plans to begin his engineering career with a job at Goss International, a manufacturing company that serves the printing industry, in Dover, N.H. The son of Richard and Carol Lapointe, Lapointe graduated from the Freeport High School in 2003.

There are approximately 1,950 graduates in the UMaine class.

Lapointe, who is graduating from UMaine's Honors College, shares credit for his success with Prof. Donald Grant, the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering chair who is retiring this year after five decades on the UMaine faculty.

"Even though he has tremendous responsibilities taking care of the department, he always takes time to talk with the undergrads and listen to their opinions to help improve the program," Lapointe says.

At UMaine, Lapointe is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and three honor societies: Pi Tau Sigma, Tau Beta Pi and Phi Kappa Phi.

Dvorak Receives Fulbright Scholar Grant

07 May 2007

Contact: David Dvorak, 581-2341

George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO

Somerville Student Top Graduate in UMaine College

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Danielle Jonassen of Somerville has been selected as the top graduating senior in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. She will carry the college's banner into UMaine's Alford Arena at the beginning of the university's Saturday, May 12 commencement ceremony.

Jonassen, who will receive an education degree on Saturday, plans to move to Virginia after graduation. At UMaine, she is a member of the education honor society Kappa Delta Pi and the international honor society Phi Kappa Phi, from which she received the Marcus Urann Award for scholastic achievement in 2006. Jonassen also received special recognition for having an outstanding score on Praxis II, a standardized test for prospective teachers, the Presidential

Academic Achievement Award from the College of Education and Human Development and a Top Scholar tuition award.

She shares credit for her UMaine success with others in the UMaine community, including an education professor.

"Prof. Jan Kristo sparked in me a passion for children's literature," Jonassen says. "She gave me the opportunity to explore this passion with an independent study on the art of picture books."

Jonassen, who graduated from Erskine Academy in 2003, is married to Keith Jonassen. Her parents are Christopher and Valarie Johnson.

Mt. Desert Student Top Graduate in UMaine College

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Benjamin Briggs of Mt. Desert has been selected as the top graduating senior in the University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He will carry the college's banner into UMaine's Alfond Arena at the beginning of the university's Saturday, May 12 commencement ceremony.

Briggs, who will receive a chemistry degree on Saturday, plans to enroll in medical school at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine following graduation. At UMaine, he is a member of the Senior Skulls Honor Society and a brother of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

He shares credit for his UMaine success with others in the UMaine community, including two chemistry professors.

"I have been influenced positively by the support and guidance of my research advisors Alice Bruce and Mitchell Bruce," Briggs says. "They have helped me develop into a true 'scientific thinker.'"

The son of Daniel and Florenda Briggs and Suzanne and J.F. Burns, Briggs graduated from Orono High School in 2002.

South Portland Student Top Graduate in UMaine College

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Mikaela Martin of South Portland has been selected as the top graduating senior in the University of Maine College of Engineering. She will carry the college's banner into UMaine's Alfond Arena at the beginning of the university's Saturday, May 12 commencement ceremony.

Martin, who will graduate from UMaine's Honors College and will receive a civil engineering degree on Saturday, plans to enroll in graduate school at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst following graduation. At UMaine, she has served as chapter president of the local chapter of Chi Epsilon, the national civil engineering honor society. Martin is also a member of Tau Beta Pi, a national engineering honor society; Pi Mu Epsilon, a mathematics national honor society; and the honor society Phi Kappa Phi.

The daughter of Jane and Stephen Martin, she graduated from South Portland High School in 2003.

Nominations Sought for Third Annual President Abram W. Harris Award

07 May 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, 207-581-5100

ORONO -- A \$5,000 prize will be awarded to an individual or team of individuals whose impact on the University of Maine reflects the level of advancements made by former President Abram W. Harris, who served the university from 1893

Salem, N.H. Student Top Graduate in UMaine College

07 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Ashley Dzioba of Salem, N.H. has been selected as the top graduating senior in the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. She will carry the college's banner into UMaine's Alford Arena at the beginning of the university's Saturday, May 12 commencement ceremony.

Dzioba, who will receive a microbiology and biochemistry degree on Saturday, plans to apply to medical schools and aspires to become a pathologist. At UMaine, she is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Phi Beta Kappa honor society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the international women's fraternity Alpha Phi. Dzioba has also volunteered in community service activities through Alternative Spring Break and Habitat for Humanity.

She shares credit for her UMaine success with others in the UMaine community, including a microbiology professor.

"My sophomore year I had a very enthusiastic and caring professor, Anne Hanson," Dzioba says. "She made microbiology interesting and was a main reason that I switched my major to that field of study."

The daughter of Chester and Lisa Dzobia, Ashley graduated from Salem High School in 2003.

UMaine Student Receives Udall Scholarship

08 May 2007

Contact: Mark Anderson (207) 581-3198; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The Morris K. Udall Foundation has named UMaine student Ben Wasserman as a recipient of the prestigious Udall Scholarship in recognition of his commitment to environmental study.

One of only 80 college students to receive the award nationwide, Wasserman is the second UMaine student to receive the award in recent years. Scholarship recipients are chosen based on their academic strengths, their interest in environmental issues and their commitment to community service.

Wasserman, from Wantagh, N.Y. is entering into his third year at UMaine, pursuing a double major in wildlife ecology and math. His research interests focus largely on population ecology and conservation. He has been involved in research

projects examining a broad range of wildlife species, and will be working in Oklahoma this summer modeling the population dynamics of reptiles and small mammals. A student in UMaine's Honors College, Wasserman is a student leader in a variety of environmental organizations and serves on the Dean's Advisory Committee for the College of Natural Science, Forestry and Agriculture.

In addition to receiving a cash award, Wasserman will participate in an upcoming environmental policy conference in Washington, D.C.

University of Maine's Army ROTC Plans May 11 Commissioning Ceremony

08 May 2007

Contact: Contact: Maj. James C. Moreno, Enrollment Officer, University of Maine Army ROTC, Room 112, Armory, (207) 581-1125

ORONO -- The University of Maine Army ROTC's Black Bear Battalion will hold its Spring Commissioning Ceremony on May 11 to commission Heather Adams of Plymouth, Mass.; Christopher Byrnes of Enfield, Conn.; Jacob Flagg of Winterport, Maine; Mark Mancini of Avon, Conn.; George Ouellette of Clinton, Maine; and Winfield Swanton of Bangor, Maine into the United States Army as second lieutenants.

The ceremony will occur at Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall, adjacent to the Maine Center for the Arts, at 4 p.m., with distinguished guests Maine Gov. John Baldacci and the Maine's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. John Libby.

Cadets will receive their oaths of office from current or retired commissioned officers, with some even being members of their own families. As part of the ceremony, the new second lieutenants will take part in the time-honored tradition of presenting a silver dollar to the first non-commissioned officer that renders them a salute. All of the new officers will attend their officer basic courses in the upcoming months and return to Maine to serve with the Maine Army National Guard or report to their first duty stations in the active duty Army.

Bucksport Woman Top Graduate in UMaine Division

08 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Barbara Vittum of Bucksport has been selected as the graduating senior to represent the University of Maine Division of Lifelong Learning at UMaine's Saturday, May 12 commencement. She will carry the division's banner Alfond Arena at the beginning of the ceremony.

Vittum, who will receive a psychology degree on Saturday, plans to continue her UMaine education, pursuing a master's degree in Public Administration, focusing on non-profit health care systems. She would like to work with cancer survivors. At UMaine, Vittum is a member of three honor societies: Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and Psi Chi. She also earned a Presidential Pin, the Dawn Allenwood Award demonstrating the spirit of UMaine's Onward Program, the Gerry Herlihy Perseverance Award, the Division of Lifelong Learning Outstanding Achievement Award and the Ryckman Psychology Award.

Vittum shares credit for her UMaine success with the staff at UMaine's Onward Program, which helps prepare students for academic success, and with several professors.

"I have been heavily influenced by June Carter as my English teacher, Linda Yelland as my academic advisor, and Stephen Gilson and Liz Depoy in Disabilities and Interdisciplinary studies," Vittum says. "These professors have gone out of their way to help, encourage, and inspire me".

Vittum, who grew up in Ellsworth and has lived in Bucksport for 20 years, is the daughter of Kenneth and Eleanor Vittum of Ellsworth. She has friends and family members in several Penobscot and Hancock County communities.

Orono Woman Top Graduate in UMaine College

10 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Amy Kirk of Orono has been selected as the top graduating senior in the University of Maine College of Business, Public Policy and Health. She will carry the college's banner into UMaine's Alford Arena at the beginning of the university's Saturday, May 12 commencement ceremony.

Kirk, who will receive a nursing degree on Saturday, completed her studies in December. She works as a registered nurse in Eastern Maine Medical Center's Rosen Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. A former high school science teacher, Kirk also earned a UMaine zoology degree in 1994.

Kirk also earned a Gladys Folster Crocker Memorial Scholarship, an Auxiliary to the Penobscot County Medical Society Scholarship, an Omar F. and Lenora L. Tarr Memorial Scholarship, the UMaine Dept. of Zoology Academic Achievement Award and the UMaine Presidential Academic Achievement Pin.

She shares credit for her UMaine success with others in the UMaine community, including two professors.

"Zoology professor Mary Tyler was a significant influence, because she always believed in my abilities," Kirk says. "So was nursing professor Mary Brakey. If I ever get sick, I want her to be my nurse."

Married to Matthew Kirk, she has two children: Riley and Charlotte. Kirk's parents are Dennis Cox and Elizabeth Downing of Brewer and Katherine Wood and Ralph Yehle of Minneapolis, Minn. Dennis Cox is a UMaine music professor.

Class of 2007 Graduates at the University of Maine

12 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- With a total of approximately 11,000 family members and friends looking on, the University of Maine's Class of 2007 graduated today in a pair of ceremonies inside UMaine's Alford Arena. Some 1,958 people received UMaine degrees at the university's 205th commencement ceremony, with 298 of them earning graduate degrees, 33 at the doctoral level.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy presided over the ceremonies, extending a congratulatory handshake to every graduate as he or she was announced to the audience and crossed the stage.

"Use (your education) to make the most of your life, to enrich the lives of those around you, and to return the gifts that

have been bestowed on you to the society that bestowed them," Kennedy said in his charge to the graduates at the end of each of the ceremonies.

Students receiving degrees from the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning participated in the 10 a.m. ceremony. Those graduating from the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture received their degrees in the afternoon, during the ceremony that started at 2:30.

The class valedictorian is Erik Perkins of Albion, a physics and mathematics major who plans to enroll in a University of California Santa Barbara Ph. D. program in theoretical physics. Salutatorian David Lapointe of Durham received a mechanical engineering degree. He has accepted a job with Goss International, and will join the workforce as an engineer.

Robert Edwards, Bowdoin College's president from 1990-2001, delivered the morning commencement address. An Edgecomb resident and member of UMaine's Board of Visitors, Edwards spoke of Maine's "particular linguistic tradition," noting that UMaine's new graduates are part of that tradition that includes the likes of Henry David Thoreau and E. B. White.

"Language and thought, their quality and precision, are closely allied, and this clear, robust use of the English language has been at the core of the peculiar contribution the people of New England have made to American democracy," Edwards said. About White, Edwards noted: "To read E.B. White is to scrape the most cherished barnacles from one's writing and sand down to the wood any glossy varnish of attempted eloquence."

He discussed the importance of language, and pointed out the detrimental impact of "careless, inaccurate and cheap" language in the public arena.

"Think of the rudeness and put-downs on many broadcast news and much talk radio and television that replace discussion with the amusement of the dog-fight," Edwards said.

He encouraged the graduates to take seriously the importance of clear language, in professional situations and in raising children, to "train their ears to recognize beauty and honesty."

"To speak clearly, rejoice in articulate, witty argument and delight in the fresh, flexible use of English is good for the civility and vitality of our democracy," Edwards said.

In her afternoon commencement address, best-selling novelist Tess Gerritsen, who lives in Camden, began by telling graduates, "I live in a world of ghosts." A California native, Gerritsen described her mother, an immigrant from China who believed in a "supernatural world" and had an affection for horror films. Gerritsen, has said that this background inspires her writing -- which often features dark, frightening villains. She used a series of "creepy facts" to outline her commencement address and to illustrate her central themes.

For example, Gerritsen described her research, which determined that there are numerous reports of people who appear to have been dead, but were really alive. She told one story of a man who suddenly awoke on the autopsy table just before the pathologist was about to make his first cut. This, she said, illustrates that "yes, sometimes you do get a second chance at life," and she encouraged graduates to keep an open mind about the way their careers and lives will play out.

"Life can change, in ways you can't predict" she said, pointing out that people change courses for various reasons. "I'm here to tell you that it is not impossible to change"

Edwards also received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the morning ceremony, as did Native American Studies scholar and Wabanaki historian Nicholas Smith of Brunswick. In the afternoon, UMaine presented honorary doctorates to alumni Richard and Mildred Giesberg of Los Angeles, Calif. Community leaders and humanitarians, the Giesbergs are particularly well-known for their work in helping Ethiopian Jews emigrate to Israel.

Four UMaine faculty members were also honored. Zoology professor Irving Kornfield, winner of the 2007 Presidential Teaching Award; Prof. Elizabeth DePoy of the School of Social Work and Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, winner of the 2007 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award; and mechanical engineering technology professor Herbert Crosby, winner of the 2007 Presidential Public Service Achievement Award, were all recognized during the ceremonies.

Prof. Ivan Fernandez from UMaine's Dept. of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, named on Friday as the 2007 winner of the UMaine Alumni Association's Distinguished Maine Professor Award, addressed the graduates during the ceremonies.

"I submit to you that we all need to make our decisions, both big and small, more thoughtfully," said Fernandez, himself a UMaine graduate. "Be careful of the influence of our hectic pace on how well we truly think about the choices we make every day. Your generation will indeed make America the 'superpower' of the 21st century, not by armaments, but by solving the problems of today and leading the world by example for a future that offers sustainable prosperity, environmental quality, clean energy and social justice."

University of Maine System Board of Trustees member, and 1956 UMaine graduate, William Johnson of Saco brought greetings from the board to the morning ceremony, and assisted in the conferral of degrees. System Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart assumed that role for the afternoon event. University of Maine Alumni Association officials welcomed graduates to that group at both ceremonies. Suzanne Hart, alumni association vice chair, brought that greeting in the morning while Alumni Association President and Executive Director Todd Saucier spoke in the afternoon.

Justing Zang, Class of 2010, Winner of Alumni Association Tuition Raffle

14 May 2007

Contact: Bob Potts, Marketing & Creative Services Manager, (207) 581-2586

ORONO, ME--The University of Maine Alumni Association is pleased to announce that Justin Zang, class of 2010, is the winner of the 2007 Alumni Association tuition raffle.

The UMaine Alumni Association sponsors the raffle in support of the many programs and services the organization provides to the University as well as its 95,000 alumni.

Justin, son of Lynne & Warren Harbison of Wiscasset, Maine, is a first year Music Education major with a vocal concentration. He is a member of the Black Bear men's chorus, the Maine Steiners, and University Singers. He is also involved in many local theatre groups.

As winner of the Alumni Association Tuition Raffle, Justin will receive 24 in state paid credit hours to the University of Maine, valued at approximately \$4775.00. This is the 13th year the Alumni Association has sponsored the tuition raffle.

Justin plans to spend his summer working at a sandwich shop in his hometown and will return to his studies at the University of Maine this fall.

Maine Wilderness Photographic, Paintings Exhibits Opening at UMaine Hudson Museum May 31

15 May 2007

Contact: Hudson Museum, 581-1901

ORONO -- Two new exhibits on the Maine north woods wilderness and Mount Katahdin open May 31 at the University of Maine's Hudson Museum.

"Wildness within, wildness without," features a photographic exploration of Maine's Thoreau-Wabanaki Trail with images by prize-winning photographer Bridget Besaw, a former Bangor Daily News photographer. A collection of rich, bold paintings, titled "My Katahdin Lake Story," by artist and art teacher Michael E. Vermette of Indian Island, is a continuation of Vermette's deep reverence for Mount Katahdin.

The exhibits and opening reception May 31, from 5-7 p.m., are free and open to the public through June. The Hudson Museum is located in the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus.

Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner says the museum is pleased to offer the exhibits as part of its mission and programming.

"We celebrate the traditional art forms of the native people here, and the forests are integral to their art forms," Faulkner says. "Katahdin is a sacred mountain to the native peoples of Maine."

"Wildness within, wildness without" celebrates the wilderness spirit and recreational heritage of the north woods by depicting some of the ways people recreate and enjoy the route that Henry David Thoreau traveled 150 years ago. Besaw's photographs are part of a larger project begun two years ago to promote and draw attention to the ancient Wabanaki canoe routes and trails that Thoreau explored in 1846, 1853 and 1857 with Penobscot Nation guides Joe Attean and Joe Polis.

The project was commissioned by the group Maine Woods Forever, whose members share an interest in the historic, cultural and recreational value of the north Maine woods. The trail begins in Bangor and extends north through Greenville Eagle Lake before returning south via Chamberlain Lake, past Mount Katahdin and along the East Branch of the Penobscot River through Medway, Lincoln and Indian Island to Bangor.

An award-winning newspaper photographer, New Hampshire native Bridget Besaw is an environmental photojournalist who has worked in the United States and abroad for magazines such as U.S. News and World Report, National Geographic Adventure and Newsweek, in addition to three books, including broadcast journalist Peter Jennings' book *America*. Her coverage of the World Trade Center attacks in September of 2001 earned cover placement in Life magazine's 9/11 issue.

Besaw's current focus is on creating imagery for use as an advocacy tool for environmental protection. She views environmental photojournalism as a combination of nature and story, "to tell the story of the human experience in nature," she says in her artist's statement.

"In each image I hope to tell both the physical tale of how one can experience the North Woods (canoeing, swimming, hiking) as well as the emotional tale of how one can connect with the spirit of the north woods," her statement says. "As a story-teller, my quest is to illustrate the many human powered ways one can enjoy the region. As an artist, I chose to interpret each scene in a way that might evoke mood and memory of something common to all human experience in nature. I hope this collection becomes not only a document of these activities, but a powerful testament for the value of the region

Educational Consortium Gets \$100,000 Grant for Area School Efficiencies

15 May 2007

Contact: Owen Maurais, 581-3651; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Penobscot River Educational Partnership (PREP), which includes the UMaine College of Education and

Human Development, has received a \$100,000 state grant to help area school districts operate more efficiently.

Owen Maurais, executive director of PREP, says the Maine Municipal Bond Bank "Credit Quality Improvement Grant" will help partnering school districts -- serving 9,000 children -- to streamline operations in business and accounting, food service, environmental health and safety and an online substitute teacher call system.

"This is the largest grant that we have received," says Maurais, a former Old Town schools superintendent. "In the past, we've received grants for \$10,000 to \$15,000. This grant is a reflection of where we are as an organization. Success breeds success."

The grant will allow partnership schools to consolidate certain operations, starting in the 2007-2008 school year, or even sooner, Maurais says. The funding has allowed PREP to hire UMaine adjunct business professor Paul Myer on a part time basis to serve as project director. A student intern from the UMaine Masters in Business Administration program also will be hired part time. They'll study the member schools' operations and recommend further efficiency measures.

Measures, Myer says, "are not going to be quick fixes, but things that will produce some long-term benefits for the schools and, in turn, the taxpayers."

Partnership schools include Brewer, Bucksport, Alton, Bradley, Greenbush, Milford, Indian Island, Old Town, Orono, Orrington, Orland, Veazie, Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, Holden, Eddington and Clifton, in addition to United Technologies Center in Bangor and Maine Child Development Services/Penobscot County. The University of Maine lends its expertise to the consortium through participation by the College of Education and Human Development, College of Business, Public Policy and Health and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"This fits quite nicely with where the state is going," Maurais says. "We were going this way before the governor's proposed regional consolidation ever became an issue. This simply is about efficiency."

By hiring a region-wide health and safety expert to oversee inspections, policy enforcement and maintenance of PREP members' buildings, schools can avoid higher consultant costs now paid on an individual school-by-school basis for those services.

A common accounting system also will create efficiency savings, as will a planned four-district food service program to help coordinate menus, achieve bulk purchase savings and reveal other efficiency steps, Maurais says. A new Web-based district-wide substitute teacher pool and standardized salary system will reduce both costs and labor.

Myer says that while reallocating human resources promises productivity, major savings also can be achieved through PREP's benefiting from the university's huge purchasing power. For instance, partner schools will be able to realize discounts through UMaine's Computer Connection, a discounted-price computer and software store, he says.

"The results of this project will show clearly the efficiencies and savings achievable when business operations people from the University and the K-12 schools put their heads together," says Robert Cobb, dean of the College of Education and Human Development.

School districts, the university and other members of PREP formed the consortium eight years ago to collaborate on common goals and services ranging from student services and curriculum development to staff development and management techniques. Not only has the organization saved money through efficiency measures, according to Maurais, but it has allowed for improved services throughout the member school districts, including some of the smaller, more rural schools bound by tight budgets.

Richard Lyons, superintendent of the SAD 22 in Hampden and fiscal agent for the PREP grant, says PREP has already established itself as a learning community for the school districts it serves by focusing on staff development and educational programming.

"The future goals of the organization are to focus on those professional development initiatives to enhance instruction and leadership, and ultimately enrich student learning opportunities," Lyons says. "This \$100,000 grant will allow the

school districts to research joint initiatives to deliver services effectively and efficiently. When the governor and legislature talk about collaboration, they only need to look at PREP for a model that is effectively working for the betterment of children, employees, and taxpayers."

-30-

Pressure on Coastal Waterfronts Increasing on U.S. Shores; Communities Turn to Creative Solutions

16 May 2007

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, 207-581-1434; Kristen Whiting-Grant, 207-646-1555, ext. 115

ORONO, Me. - People forced off fishing docks in Alabama. Waiting lists for moorings in Massachusetts. Public paths to the beach blocked in California. Commercial waterfronts eclipsed by private residences in Maine. Coasts transformed by condominiums in North Carolina. Marinas and boat ramps crowded in Florida. These scenes are not featured on the postcards of today, yet they are real and they are happening all around the U.S. coastline, according to a report released today by Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine.

The report, "Access to the Waterfront: Issues and Solutions Across the Nation," contains the results of a survey of over 140 coastal managers and extension agents conducted by Maine Sea Grant, Hawaii Sea Grant, the National Sea Grant network and Coastal Zone Management programs. The survey found that access to and from the ocean is a challenge in many communities. With nowhere to swim and nowhere to land, recreational, commercial, and industrial users of the coast are competing for access, placing pressure on America's shorelines as a tide of demographic and economic change sweeps through coastal towns, harbors and communities.

Respondents to the survey cited multiple reasons for these changes, including increasing population and development, rising coastal property values, declines in fishing and other industries and shifting land ownership patterns. Resulting pressure on remaining public areas and infrastructure also means increased pressure on fragile coastal habitat, and coastal managers have limited resources to address these challenges. Disasters like hurricanes magnify and exacerbate conflicts, as detailed in a special section of the report about access issues in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

According to Natalie Springuel of Maine Sea Grant, lead author of the report, one of the main goals of the survey and report was not only to cover the scope of the issue nationwide, but also to highlight the various solutions that communities are developing throughout the country.

"This report is full of stories from places around the country where specific tools have been used with great success, so there is a good news message, too," said Springuel. Private entities are preserving land, people in the fishing industry are partnering with land trusts, and citizens are voting for bonds to protect working waterfronts. States are implementing tax relief programs, while towns are revising zoning ordinances and mapping access points, as Sea Grant and Coastal Zone Management programs are responding to the needs of coastal residents.

"It is evident that these issues are of critical importance to people all over the country, and we hope this project helps communities, businesses, and individuals to respond to these challenges more effectively," says Maine Sea Grant Director Paul Anderson, who presented the survey results May 9 in Norfolk, Va., at Working Waterways and Waterfronts 2007, a symposium hosted by Virginia Sea Grant.

"We hope this report prompts discussion of a nationwide strategy to address coastal access conflicts at the local, regional and national level," Springuel concludes, "Open access to and from the water, supported by a national strategy, will ensure that our nation is vibrant and diverse, and that the delicate ecosystems where land meets water continue to sustain and inspire future generations."

The full report is available at <http://www.seagrants.umaine.edu/index.htm>, or in hard copy from Maine Sea Grant, 207-

581-1435, kvillarreal@maine.edu.

UMaine Commencement Program Correction

17 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Due to a production error, 36 Class of 2007 University of Maine graduates were not properly recognized in the May 12 Commencement printed program. Students from various programs in UMaine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, all 36 graduated with honors. The program failed to note that noteworthy designation. The affected graduates are:

Bryan S. Adams--cum laude

Bethany Caitlin Asquith--magna cum laude

Timothy John Avery--cum laude

Evan Thomas Barden--magna cum laude

Gabriel Vital Belanger--summa cum laude

Misty Lynn Bennett--cum laude

Andrea Bonatakis--summa cum laude

Ashley Rose Brann--summa cum laude

Melissa Ann Bubar--magna cum laude

Amanda M. Caldwell--summa cum laude

Brittany L. Cheney--summa cum laude

Bethany Lynn Couturier--cum laude

Shannon E. Coyle--cum laude

Amy Jean Gagnon--cum laude

Jessica Lynn Gilbert--magna cum laude

Amanda Lee Goodell--summa cum laude

Emily Elizabeth Harris--magna cum laude

Erin Elizabeth Hatch--summa cum laude

Allison M. Heinbach--summa cum laude

Lindsey Rae Hugstad-Vaa--cum laude

Christy Renee Knights--magna cum laude
Catherine Elizabeth Kurr--summa cum laude
Tracy L. Legee--cum laude
Jessica Erin Lukas--summa cum laude
Heather Jean Lyford--cum laude
Nichole Lea Lyons--summa cum laude
Kimberleigh Adriana Martul-March--magna cum laude
Reva Leigh Mathieu--summa cum laude
Hannah Marie Miller--cum laude
Abigail Maytan Mills--cum laude
Ellen E. Newell--magna cum laude
Jonathan Schell--magna cum laude
Barbara A. Vittum--summa cum laude
Christine Elizabeth Walters--magna cum laude
Amanda Rae Welch--magna cum laude
Cassandra Eleanor Worcester--summa cum laude

UMaine Sponsors Tree Tour of Historic Portland Cemetery

18 May 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205 or 800-287-1471 (in Maine)

PORTLAND, Me. -- Ken Canfield, district forester with the Maine Forest Service, will lead a tree tour of the historic and beautiful Evergreen Cemetery in Portland, on Friday June 8 from 10 a.m. to noon.

The tour is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested: call the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Cumberland County at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, June 4.

This tour is an organized outing of the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Extension, the Maine Forest Service, and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to teach people young and old how to identify 50 trees of Maine, over a two-year period.

Evergreen Cemetery, at 672 Stevens Avenue, was bought by the City of Portland in 1854 when this property was in Westbrook. The active cemetery is around 100 acres and the accompanying woodlands comprise about 130 acres. The cemetery contains a large number of old sugar maples, white oak, European beech and some very large hemlock. The woodlands contain a wide variety of species, including a 30' American chestnut.

Conference to Highlight the Changing Future of Maine's Beaches; South Portland Event to Feature Climate Scientist Cameron Wake

18 May 2007

Contact: Kristen Whiting-Grant, 207-646-1555 x115

ORONO--From global climate change to increasing population pressure, Maine's beaches will confront many changes in the coming decades. Public officials, coastal property owners, tourists and businesses each have a different interest in the beach, but a common desire for sustaining these valuable natural resources. Ways to achieve this common goal, and the changes facing Maine's beaches, will be discussed at the 2007 Maine Beaches Conference on June 22 in South Portland.

Cameron Wake, a research associate professor with the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space at the University of New Hampshire, will present an overview of climate change in the Northeast. Wake authored two research papers and a series of reports detailing past and future climate change in the Northeast as part of the Northeast Climate Impact Assessment. He is currently researching regional air quality issues.

Margaret Davidson, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center, will discuss the concept of resiliency as applied to southern Maine beaches and lessons learned from other regions where the Coastal Services Center is working with communities to help them cope with climate change and adapt to risks from coastal hazards.

Other presentations throughout the morning will cover trends in beach erosion, coastal water quality, and coastal laws and regulations. Participants will also have the chance to discuss issues of concern and work out possible solutions to resolving these concerns and conflicts.

Afternoon field trips will visit the Portland Harbor Museum, explore rocky intertidal ecology, view a dune restoration project at Willard Beach, demonstrate how to measure beach erosion and take a tour of stormwater management methods. Indoor activities include showings of the films "An Inconvenient Truth" and "Coastal Clash." The conference concludes at 4 p.m. with an open reception at the Portland Harbor Museum.

The Maine Beaches Conference is sponsored by Southern Maine Community College, Maine Coastal Program, Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, SOS Maine, Maine Geological Survey, Surfrider Northern New England Chapter, and Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

For more information call Kristen Whiting-Grant at 207-646-1555 x115.

UMaine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center Recognized for Outstanding Use of Wood

18 May 2007

Contact: Joseph E. Phaneuf, Executive Director, jphaneuf@northernlogger.com

(The following is a Northeastern Loggers' Association press release.)

Bangor, ME - The Northeastern Loggers' Association (NELA) recently honored the UMaine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center of Orono, ME as the recipient of its 2007 Outstanding Use of Wood award. NELA President John Caveney honored the AEWCC Center at the Annual Loggers' Banquet in Bangor, ME in a ceremony attended by over 300 members of the Northeast's forest products community.

"Paper, lumber, and energy are some of the traditional uses for the forest resource here in Maine and throughout the northeast" Caveney told the assemble crowd in his comments. "But over the past sixteen years the University of Maine's AEWCCenter has been working hard to develop new uses for our precious resource. The AEWCCenter is a globally recognized leader in composites research and development, and their research often leads to the commercial development of next generation, cost-effective, high-performance, wood and nonwood composite materials."

"The work they are doing at the Center is truly groundbreaking" Caveney continued, "and it's really beyond my capabilities to describe it. However, I think it's enough to say that for every new use for pulpwood, for every development that upgrades the structural performance of a wood-based product, for every new commercial use for wood that the Center develops -- that's another reason for a logger to get up in the morning and to get out into the woods."

"Truly, the Center's goal *to actively pursue commercialization, entrepreneurship, and job creation in Maine and beyond* provides us a good reason to be optimistic about the wood industry. For this reason, we're proud to recognize the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center as this year's recipient of our Outstanding Use of Wood award" Caveney concluded. The AEWCCenter's Director Professor Habib Dagher was present to accept the award.

The Northeastern Loggers' Association, headquartered in Old Forge, NY, is a trade group representing over 2,000 members of the Northeast's logging, sawmilling, and paper industry. The Loggers' Banquet is held each year immediately prior to the Northeastern Forest Products Equipment Expo.

Kreutz Set for Climate Change Presentation

18 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Prof. Karl Kreutz of the University of Maine's Dept. of Earth Sciences and Climate Change Institute will present a lecture, "Climate Change in Maine: Past, Present and Future," on Friday May 25 at UMaine.

Kreutz' 12 noon lecture is set for UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum, as part of the museum's Brown Bag Lecture Series.

Kreutz will address historic climate changes and current efforts to modify future outcomes, with a focus on the relevance of these changes to Maine.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Mid-20th Century Maine Labor Movement Documented in New Book

21 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- In the years during and immediately following World War II, organized labor in Maine was at its peak, with upward of 95,000 men and women -- nearly 37 percent of the state's nonagricultural workforce -- resoundingly supporting the war effort by helping build "the arsenal of democracy," according to University of Maine labor historian Charles Scontras. Newly created collective rights for workers, appeals for cooperation and unity in a time of war, and the war-induced demand for labor produced a surge of growth in the labor movement. Despite lingering antiunion sentiments from some quarters, the late 1930s to early 1950s was an era when a rejuvenated organized labor force was afforded an unprecedented measure of recognition and status. Even government war posters promoted labor's efforts as indispensable to victory. The importance of labor to the war effort reinforced

workers' claims to their historic role as the "producers" of wealth, says Scontras in his new book on the subject. "More than ever, the labor movement in Maine had become part of the established order of things," Scontras writes in *Labor in Maine: Building the Arsenal of Democracy and Resisting the Reaction at Home, 1939-1952*, published by the Bureau of Labor Education at the University of Maine. The newest volume on Maine's organized labor history by Scontras is a timely look at the societal, political and economic factors that brought the state's union activism to its height. The book details Maine's preparation for global conflict, the role and contribution of its workers -- including more women and persons with disabilities than ever before -- to the war effort, and organized labor's participation in a variety of war boards, agencies and commissions helping to orchestrate the war effort. This latest book, one of a series by Scontras related to Maine labor history, also traces the struggles between the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and the American Federation of Labor (AFL) for the hearts and minds of Maine's textile, shoe, and paper workers. The legislative history of organized labor outlined in the book includes the reforms achieved amid national and local reactionary efforts to hobble the movement. Particularly inspiring is a chapter on Maine's version of Rosie the Riveter, part of the aggressive campaign to recruit women into the workforce and the myriad of issues they faced in their new role as defense workers, including the struggle for equal pay for equal work. The 400-page volume is being released at UMaine in conjunction with an 11-page essay by Scontras, "Requiem for the Labor Movement? A Perspective." The essay draws on Maine's labor history as a resource for understanding contemporary labor issues and the possible direction of the movement in the state and nation. Taken together, the book and essay provide a unique perspective on what difference organized labor, at the height of its strength, made in Maine, and the conditions for workers in the state and nation today amid declining union activity and widespread antiunion policies and philosophies. Despite the "ideological echoes of the antiunionism of the past," especially in the Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush administrations, Scontras says there is a glimmer of hope for workers and their eroding rights in today's global economy. "The sense of urgency triggered by the unbridled growth of capitalism that provided the impetus for the growth of organized labor may be returning," Scontras writes. "Economic anxieties that were once viewed exclusively as blue collar phenomenon in the past now embrace these (white collar) workers of the 'new economy,' and experience may teach them that collective action to secure a measure of dignity, security and a greater share of the wealth they help to create is no longer a foreign idea which is beneath them."

UMaine Cooperative Extension Schedules Parasite Detection Workshops for Goat and Sheep Producers

21 May 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

TLAND, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will present workshops for sheep and goat producers at locations around Maine this spring and summer. Participants will learn how to perform a FAMACHA test, a relatively new on-farm technique to determine the degree of internal parasite infestation in sheep and goats.

The cost to receive the training, including the FAMACHA color scoring card, is \$20 per farm.

Register for specific trainings by calling the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County at 1-800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205, or e-mailing Andrea Herr at aherr@umext.maine.edu. Include name(s) of person attending, mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number.

"FAMACHA was developed in South Africa to help control *H. contortus* (barber's pole worm) in sheep and goats, and is specific to this parasite," explained Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski. The trainers for these workshops include Brzozowski and Dr. Tom Settlemire, professor emeritus of Bowdoin College. Attendance at only one session is necessary to receive the FAMACHA training. Workshop participants will learn how to recognize the parasite, how to test with accuracy, and why the test works.

Remaining workshop locations and dates:

Sunday, June 24, 2:00 p.m., Garden Path Farm, Newry (this site is also hosting a farm tour for goat producers that day.)

Saturday, July 28, 2:30 p.m., Stoneheart Farm, South Paris (this site is also hosting a sheep field day from 9:00 a.m. to

3:30 p.m.)

Bowdoin, UMaine Join Forces for Engineering Education

22 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr (UMaine) at (207) 581-3571; Doug Boxer-Cook (Bowdoin) at (207) 725-3964

AUGUSTA, Me. -- Bowdoin College and the University of Maine today announced an innovative new engineering education partnership. The arrangement, announced in Augusta by Maine Gov. John Baldacci, creates a five-year program of study, with the first three years at Bowdoin. Students who complete the program will receive degrees from both Bowdoin and UMaine, and they will be prepared for engineering careers or graduate school. The goal of this exciting new program is to help address Maine's need for engineers by educating well-rounded graduates with an excellent broad-based education and outstanding engineering training.

At Bowdoin, the students will acquire the math and science skills necessary to succeed in engineering, and they will complete the coursework necessary to complete UMaine's General Education requirements.

Initially, students will be able to specialize in one of three engineering disciplines: biological engineering, civil engineering or engineering physics. Eventually, the program will be expanded into UMaine's other four engineering disciplines.

The program's structure is in place, and officials from both institutions hope that the first Bowdoin students will be ready to enroll at UMaine as soon as Fall 2008.

Engineering Firm Establishes Scholarship at UMaine

24 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Aiming to make it easier for University of Maine students to pursue a career in construction management, the well known Brewer building firm of Nickerson & O'Day has established a scholarship in the name of its immediate past president, John F. "Jack" Kelley III.

Kelley, who led Nickerson & O'Day for the past 25 years, helped the company establish a strong reputation for quality construction of schools, nursing homes, churches, hospitals, offices, community centers and commercial buildings throughout the state. Signature projects during his tenure include Hermon High School, Camden Public Library and UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Now, thanks to the scholarship, eligible undergraduate students can receive financial help as they earn a bachelor's degree in Construction Management Technology and learn to oversee all aspects of civil construction projects.

Kelley, who was on hand when the scholarship was awarded for the first time in April during a ceremony at the School of Engineering Technology, says he is honored to have the scholarship in his name and that it's crucial to help the next generation of engineers.

"We have a responsibility as practitioners to invest in the future of our industry," says Kelley, who recently stepped down as president of Nickerson & O'Day.

Times have changed in the construction management field, he points out. It used to be that people could "learn by doing.

"Now, a formal education is basically a necessity in our industry."

Well-known in state and national constructor organizations, he served as president of the Associated Constructors of Maine in 1987 and earned ACM's highest individual honor, the Major Achievements in Construction Award. He was elected president of the Associated General Contractors of America in 2003 and was a founding member of the AGC of the Maine Education Foundation, which provides college scholarships to Maine construction students.

Kelley established ties with UMaine several decades ago and continues to support and advocate for the flagship university. He has served on the Construction Management Technology's industrial advisory board for many years and was presented with the university's Francis Crowe Award which honors outstanding contributions by alumni and others to the several disciplines of engineering. He frequently is on campus as a guest lecturer on construction ethics -- a topic that never fails to generate stimulating conversations among students. Over the years, he has hired dozens of UMaine engineering graduates.

"The University of Maine Construction Management Technology program has been very responsive to the needs of the industry," he says. "Students who have gone through the program have a great work ethic and a commitment to excellence in their profession as well as loyalty to the State of Maine."

The new scholarship not only will be a boon to those currently enrolled in the College of Engineering, but also will attract more students, says Dana Humphrey, interim dean.

"This is absolutely vital. We need more graduates from Construction Management Technology and from the entire College of Engineering," he says. "There's a great demand for graduates and we need to be able to attract more students into the program. Scholarships are one way to do that."

Calling Kelley "a longtime friend and supporter" of the Construction Management Technology program, David Dvorak, director of the School of Engineering Technology, says he is "pleased that Karl Ward and Nickerson & O'Day have chosen to honor Jack in a memorable way that directly benefits our excellent students."

Establishing the scholarship "recognizes Jack's contribution in a lasting way to the Maine construction industry," says Ward, who recently succeeded Kelley as president of Nickerson & O'Day.

"Jack guided the company through good times and bad," he says, noting that the hallmarks of his leadership were frugal fiscal management, conservative business strategy and "insistence on the highest level of ethical practice in construction."

The company continues to follow Kelley's lead and is passionate about bolstering the strength of the construction industry in Maine and supporting youth sports and education activities, according to Ward, a graduate of UMaine's Construction Management Technology program.

Journalism Fund Established at UMaine

25 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine journalism students will be able to get the inside scoop from veteran reporters thanks to a new fund established by alumna Anne Lucey in memory of her late husband, Alan Miller, who taught journalism at

UMaine for more than two decades.

The Alan Miller Fund for Excellence in Communication and Journalism will revive a lecture series from the 1970's and 1980's in which outstanding journalists came to UMaine to give talks, attend classes and offer valuable career advice and insight. Students were able to hone their craft with journalistic icons such as Rushworth Kidder, then editorial page editor for the Christian Science Monitor, and David Lamb, then foreign correspondent for the Los Angeles Times.

A member of the faculty from 1967 to 1991, Miller was chair of the journalism department and advisor for the student newspaper. He was an enthusiastic supporter and coordinator of the lecture series which enabled experienced journalists to motivate and excite aspiring reporters.

Lucey, who earned a degree in journalism from UMaine in 1982, recalls how students looked forward to hearing the reporters reminisce about their journalistic exploits.

"Interacting with working journalists who go into the classroom, help with writing skills and tell war stories can be a powerful thing," she says. "It was for me."

Senior vice president for regulatory policy at CBS Corporation in Washington, D.C., Lucey says her goal now is to celebrate her husband's love of journalism and teaching.

"UMaine brought together everything he loved."

Lucey's generous gift will "develop a new tradition for a new generation of journalism students, maintain and strengthen the Communication and Journalism Department's connection to the Maine Press Association, and keep alive Professor Miller's work of connecting students with successful professionals," says John Sherblom, chair of the department.

Noting Miller's "enormous impact on the lives and careers of his students," UMaine President Robert Kennedy says he is "delighted and tremendously thankful that Anne Lucey has chosen to honor her late husband with a gift that will benefit our journalism students for many generations to come."

Journalism Professor Kathryn Olmstead, who helped coordinate the visiting writer program, says she is pleased that it's making a comeback because it had been a valuable addition to the curriculum.

"These successful journalists were extremely inspiring. They would talk about their achievements and serve as professional role models for students who would ask questions about their work and their experiences."

Author of "The History of Current Maine Newspapers," Miller was familiar with almost every daily and weekly newspaper in the state and so was able to help students obtain summer internships and jobs after they graduated, Olmstead says.

He was committed to staying in touch with real-world journalism himself, she adds. Long after he was a full professor he continued to work in newsrooms during the summer and on sabbaticals.

"He believed he should keep up with a profession transformed by technology in order to be an effective teacher."

Stories about Miller still circulate, according to Ann Leffler, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "What I hear was how he mentored students and encouraged them to become journalists and to believe they had stories to tell. He reminded them journalism was a calling and encouraged them to heed that calling and its high standards."

Miller was indeed a guiding force, former students agree.

"He's the reason I'm now into journalism," says Steve Betts, who grew up in Stonington, earned a journalism degree from UMaine in 1981, and is now editor of the Courier Gazette in Rockland.

"He was passionate about his profession and transferred that passion to me."

Steve Olver, a Hampden native who also graduated in 1981 with a degree in journalism, says Miller was a gifted teacher who enjoyed working one on one with his students.

"He was such a pro -- he'd go over everything and really explain the craft of writing," says Olver, design editor at the Colorado Springs Gazette.

Her late husband was the quintessential newsman, says Lucey. Publisher and editor of the Amherst (Massachusetts) Journal which he purchased after graduating from Boston University in 1952, he subsequently worked for a number of other newspapers including the European edition of Stars and Stripes. An overseas correspondent for the Springfield (Massachusetts) Union Leader, he covered the fall of the Berlin Wall.

As advisor for the UMaine student newspaper, he loved editing students' writing and "probably knew more about what was happening on campus than anybody," Lucey says.

"He read all these stories from all these kids who were out reporting, whether their articles made the newspaper or not."

A lover of words, her husband often perused the dictionary for entertainment and was rarely without a notebook and a pen to record observations about the world around him.

"The written word was his life," she says. "He was always leaving me notes. I'd wake up and there would be a note on the counter. It was his way of starting and ending the day."

MSAD 51, Winthrop Gain Sports Done Right Accreditation

29 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

AUGUSTA, Me. -- The Sports Done Right Board of Directors has granted full accreditation to MSAD 51 (Cumberland, North Yarmouth) and the Winthrop School department. The board took this action at its May 23 meeting in Augusta.

Accreditation is a milestone that signifies significant progress by these school districts, two of the 12 school communities around Maine that are piloting efforts to develop sports offerings that are positive, healthful and safe for everyone involved. Participants work on the premise that learning and personal growth for the foundation for interscholastic and intramural sports. Organizers aim to include every student who meets eligibility requirements in athletic activities that complement and support what they learn in their academic programs.

"The work in these two school communities has been exemplary," says Karen Brown, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching at UMaine, which administers Sports Done Right. "Organizers have made great strides in community outreach and they have reported significant improvements in various areas, including those related to student-athletes and spectators."

Sports Done Right was co-founded in June, 2003 by Robert A. Cobb, dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, and J. Duke Albanese, senior policy adviser for the Great Maine Schools Project at the Mitchell Institute and former Maine Commissioner of Education. More information is available by calling the Center at (207) 581-2443 or online at www.sportsdonerightmaine.org.

UMaine Researcher Chosen to Assist with Homeland Security

29 May 2007

Contact: Darrell Donahue (207) 581-2728
David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has selected UMaine engineering professor Darrell Donahue to receive a Science & Technology Policy Fellowship beginning in September. During his yearlong appointment, Donahue will provide technical and engineering expertise for policy development and implementation to officials in the Department of Homeland Security's Animal Health Agrodefense Program in the Weapons of Mass Destruction Division.

Donahue is one of nearly 160 scientists and engineers to receive a 2007-08 AAAS fellowship. The fellowships were created more than 30 years ago to provide scientific and technical expertise to legislators and policymakers to support well-informed decisions and improved policies, while educating scientists about policymaking at the federal level. Donahue is a leading researcher in the areas of quantitative risk assessment and process sensor development.

The prestigious Science & Technology Policy Fellowships place leading experts from the academic, nonprofit and industry sectors, in Congressional offices and in more than a dozen federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Coleman Pond Erosion Survey June 2

29 May 2007

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu

LINCOLNVILLE, Me.--A dozen local volunteers will walk the area around Coleman Pond on June 2, looking for soil erosion problems. The survey area will include portions of State Routes 52 and 173, parts of Slab City Road, and most of Chester Dean Road, as well as the smaller roads that surround the pond.

Those who live in the area and do not want volunteers surveying your property, or who would like more information about the survey, should contact Laura Wilson, assistant scientist for University of Maine Cooperative Extension, by May 31. She can be reached at 581-2971 or lwilson@umext.maine.edu.

Soil is the greatest threat to lake water quality in Maine (and the U.S.). Eroded soil is easily transported downstream into lakes and ponds, carrying the algae-feeding nutrient phosphorus with it.

This volunteer watershed survey, coordinated by UMaine Extension

Yard Sale to Recycle Discarded UMaine Student Property

30 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- When the University of Maine's nearly 4,000 residence hall students moved out for the summer this month, they left behind seven tons of furniture, electronic equipment, appliances, clothing and other miscellaneous items.

Rather than take this material to landfills or burn it, UMaine hopes to recycle it at this year's UMaine Black Bear Clean Sweep Yard Sale. The event is scheduled for Thursday May 31-Monday June 4, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day, at UMaine's Knox Hall.

UMaine Property Management is partnering with the Bodwell Volunteer Center to dispose of these items, with the proceeds benefiting student volunteer programs and activities.

"The goal is to try and recycle as many of the resources as possible," says Lyn Dexter, assistant director of Student Employment and the Bodwell Volunteer Center.

As much as 1,000 pounds of non-perishable food items are being donated to Crossroads Resource Center in Old Town, which maintains a soup kitchen and food bank. What the university can use - the equivalent of nearly 100 gallons of laundry detergent, for instance - is separated out and used by university staff for institutional purposes. Hundreds of articles of clothing, some still new, previously have been donated to thrift stores from one end of the state to the other, says Dexter.

Eastern Fine Paper Mill Project Presentations June 14

30 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BREWER -- The Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine will present its new DVD, "The Writing on the Wall: Stories and Pictures from the Eastern Fine Paper Mill," on Thursday June 14 at Brewer Middle School. The event, set for 6:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium, will also feature a BMS student presentation on the companion project, "Mill Town -- The Eastern Fine Paper Company and Brewer, Maine." The latter project, a Save Our History project funded by the History Channel, was a collaborative effort between the Maine Folklife Center and the school. Student Sonia Biswas, with assistants Anthony Jackson, Jacob Joy, Rowan Bost, Wyatt Tulloss and Olivia Cohen created the 20 minute documentary under the supervision of teacher Rich Kimball.

The DVD project, funded by the Maine Humanities Council, is a collaboration of the Maine Folklife Center, photographer and UMaine New Media professor Bill Kuykendall and the City of Brewer. It represents the culmination of more than two years of research into the history and culture of Brewer's Eastern Fine Paper mill, which closed in January 2004. The student video project compiles historic video footage with recent interviews with former employees, a historian and retailers and city officials.

Pauleena MacDougall, Maine Folklife Center associate director, came up with the idea for "The Writing on the Wall" in 2004, following a tour of the abandoned Brewer mill.

"A few months after it closed, I toured the mill with engineer Richie Smith, Brewer's [then] Economic Development director Drew Sachs and Bill Kuykendall," MacDougall says. "We were especially intrigued with the signs, pictures and graffiti on the walls of the mill. As I began planning the project, I seized upon the phrase 'the writing on the wall' as a title for the project, partly because of the pictures and partly because many former Eastern employees said they 'could see the writing on the wall,' fearing that the mill would soon close."

The purpose of the ongoing oral history project is to interview men and women formerly employed at Eastern Fine Paper to learn more about Maine's pulp and paper industry in general, and the lives and culture of Eastern Fine Paper mill workers. Information gathered from these oral histories, coupled with historic and contemporary photographs of the mill, documents, drawings and other materials are on the DVD. MacDougall says she hopes it will become the basis of an exhibit in the future. The goal of the DVD and larger oral history project is to document the culture and history of the paper industry and its role in the community.

Designed by Adam Kuykendall, the DVD includes:

- map of the mill
- historical timeline
- historic photographs, circa 1900 through 2004
- photographs of the mill's interior following its closure
- more than 30 typed interview transcripts
- video footage from several meetings with former Eastern employees
- audio interview with David Morrison, third generation papermaker at Eastern
- glossary of terms

The presentation is free and open to the public. Students from Brewer Middle School will be on hand to talk about their experiences of learning about the paper mill and its role in the community. Copies of the DVD will be available, and refreshments served.

"We welcome everyone--former Eastern employees, students, parents, family, friends, neighbors--to come and show their support for local history and the hundreds of men and women from Eastern who, during the last century, produced some of the finest paper in the country," MacDougall says.

For more information, please contact the Maine Folklife Center, (207) 581-1891 or the Brewer Middle School 989-8640

560 Middle School Students, Teachers at UMaine Friday for Laptop Conference

30 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) and the University of Maine's Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering will host Maine's fourth annual MLTI Student Tech Team Conference on Friday, June 1 at UMaine. The conference will feature a variety of hands-on activities related to the MLTI iBook laptops used at Maine's middle schools. Some 560 participants are expected for the conference, which runs from 8:15 a.m.-2:40 p.m at various UMaine locations. Participants will learn about how to organize or improve Student Tech Teams, which many schools use to support laptop-related teaching and learning activities. They will also gain opportunities to network with other students from around Maine, to acquire specific technical and interpersonal skills related to participation in Student Tech Teams and they will have the opportunity to access resources that are unique to UMaine. Some 44 schools, representing all parts of Maine, are registered for the conference. Twenty-seven different sessions are on the schedule, and students will have the opportunity to participate in three sessions each. One example is "Oh My Goodness! I blew up the Screen!" with Prof. Bruce Segee from UMaine's Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering. In this session, participants will team up to collectively use their laptops to display large images in a tiled display, using high resolution visualization. This session is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., 10:40 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Room 133 Barrows Hall. Other workshops focus on specific uses for the Apple software and products related to the student laptops. A full schedule with session descriptions is online.

New Fund to Spur Student Innovation

31 May 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A University of Maine alumnus and savvy business operator with a penchant for tinkering has established a fund to support creative students who are developing new products.

"I want students to think of new inventions," says Perry Hunter, who graduated in 1952 with a degree in economics. "There's so much opportunity in this world. Every day there are new things that can be developed -- inventions that people can dream up to make life easier and better."

The Perry Hunter Product Development Fund will provide awards to innovative undergraduate and graduate students who are putting their ideas and insight to work and creating new goods and services. The money may be used to cover research, marketing and prototype expenses, and will be awarded by the director of UMaine's Student Innovation Center where students gain the knowledge, tools and inspiration to help them become successful innovators and entrepreneurs. First preference will be given to students working on products related to enhancing the lobster industry or those designed to protect the marine environment.

The idea is to help young people capitalize on their ingenuity so they can remain in Maine and start their own businesses.

"All you have to do is find a need to fill," says Hunter, who did just that in the late 1960's. A self-described "tinkerer," he began experimenting with a hand-operated machine used for tapping into water mains to expand service. He ended up creating a hydraulic-powered unit that could operate the equipment faster and more efficiently and allow service to continue uninterrupted to existing customers.

"It was all done by hand initially," he explains. "It was a long drawn out process that took hours and hours. I said to myself, there's no sense doing it by hand when you can do it by power. Why do backbreaking work when you can use mechanical gearing to make it easier?"

It wasn't long before he developed his own pipe tapping company in Connecticut.

Now he wants Maine to benefit from students' entrepreneurial talent.

Robert Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute, an organization based at UMaine that focuses on protecting, conserving and enhancing the lobster industry, praised Hunter for "giving back to his community" by directing his gift toward students whose innovative projects could benefit the lobster industry.

"This fund will allow UMaine students working with the Lobster Institute to also find ways to contribute to these communities -- by using their creative ideas and energy to find ways to get the most out of the lobster resource, or perhaps to improve the safety of people fishing for lobster out on the ocean, or any of a number of innovations that might advance the lobster industry," said Bayer, UMaine professor of animal and veterinary sciences.

Hunter credits the University of Maine with nurturing his creative spirit and "giving me the desire to get ahead."

Always on the look out for jobs that would help pay tuition, he decided as a first year student to open a concession business and sell hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks and cookies to students in the residence halls.

The Dean of Men heartily endorsed the idea, Hunter recalls.

"Go for it!" he told the young entrepreneur.

Hunter subsequently "did anything and everything" to put himself through school, including cleaning Fogler Library, scrubbing pots and pans at a camp on Sebago Lake, measuring tree growth in the Colorado forests and staffing a fire look out tower in Washington State.

"I never had any trouble finding work," he says.

UMaine gave him "a great opportunity to go out and present myself to the world, work hard, be diligent and give back," says Hunter, who held a number of jobs to support his wife and four children. Before he started his own company he worked as a technical representative for Union Carbide Corporation and as a sales-service representative at American

Cast Iron Pipe Co. He also bought and repaired old houses, made weathervanes and restored antiques. He still enjoys reconditioning old items and this summer he plans to open a business called "Antique Hunters."

"I like to work all the time. I'm a workaholic," he says.

Class agent for at least a decade, Hunter helped organize his 55th class reunion. Aiming to raise \$55,000 for scholarships, he spent hours on the phone talking to classmates all over the country, making sure they planned to attend the reunion and to make a financial contribution.

Meanwhile, his next creative endeavor is just around the corner.

"I'm always waking up in the middle of the night with another idea," he says. "Something else to do. It's just so much fun having a challenge."

Buchanan Alumni House 5th Anniversary Celebration Highlighted with Gift from Rudy Vallee's Widow

31 May 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, (207) 581-5100

Todd D. Saucier, (207) 581-1138

ORONO -- Buchanan Alumni House, which celebrates its fifth anniversary as part of Reunion Weekend 2007, has set a new standard for excellence at the University of Maine. An architectural gateway to the campus, it is a signature building that displays outstanding alumni and their achievements, providing inspiration to current and prospective students.

"The building demonstrates excellence, which is what the University of Maine is all about," says Amos Orcutt, president of the University of Maine Foundation. The Foundation and the UMaine Alumni Association are both housed in the facility.

Buchanan Alumni House was designed by WBRC Architects/Engineers of Bangor. It won the 2003 American Schools and Universities Interior Design Award. The general contractor was Nickerson and O'Day of Brewer.

Since its opening during Reunion Weekend in 2002, Buchanan Alumni House has been an exceptional resource for the University of Maine. Over 90,000 people have attended functions at the facility, not including casual "drop in" visits, which number in the hundreds each year. Buchanan Alumni House also serves as the University's "front door" to potential students and their guests. In the past three years, over 15,000 students and guests have begun and ended campus tours at the building.

Through this partnership between the Alumni Association and the University of Maine Foundation, over 14,000 alumni and friends have given to construct and/or endow Buchanan Alumni House. The facility was built exclusively with private contributions, making it the most successful private fundraising project in UMaine's history. No tax dollars or tuition money were involved in the project.

A special fifth anniversary program and champagne reception are planned for Saturday, June 2, 2007 at 4 p.m. at Buchanan Alumni House. A special highlight of this event is the presentation of Rudy Vallee's saxophone to the Alumni Association by his widow, Eleanor Vallee. The Maine Stein Song, which was made popular by Rudy Vallee of UMaine's Class of 1925, is one of the most recognized collegiate songs in the United States.

The public is invited to participate in Saturday's celebration located at the Buchanan Alumni House, 160 College Avenue, Orono, Maine.

Maryann Hartman Award Nominees Sought

05 Jun 2007

Contact: Regina Rooney, 581-1296 ORONO--The University of Maine's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Study Program is seeking nominations for the 22nd Annual Maryann Hartman Awards. The award is named for the late Maryann Hartman, associate professor of speech and communication at UMaine who was regarded as a distinguished educator, feminist, scholar and humanitarian. Her research included comparisons of language patterns of Maine women and men born before 1900, oral autobiographies of Maine women born before 1900, and the use of oral interpretation to influence public policy. Hartman died of cancer in 1980 at the age of 53. Each year UMaine's WIC/WST honors three women whose achievements in the fields of the arts, sciences, education, athletics, politics, business or community service show their commitment to the spirit Maryann Hartman embodied. The work of the women selected provides inspiration to others and demonstrates the levels of attainment now possible for women. Presented annually, the awards increase campus and community awareness of contemporary women's accomplishments. The program also awards the Maryann Hartman Young Women's Social Justice Award to one young woman between the age of 12 and 18 who shows a commitment to service and the ideals of equality, diversity and tolerance. Neither nominees nor nominators need to be affiliated with the University of Maine. "The awards are open to any women with a connection to the state of Maine," says Regina Rooney of the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program. The deadline for nominations is July 2. For more information on the distinguished history of the Maryann Hartman Award is available on the WIC/WST website at <http://umaine.edu/wic/public-events/maryann-hartman-awards/>, or by calling Rooney at 581-1296 or emailing regina.rooney@umit.maine.edu. Nomination forms are available at 101 Fernald Hall on the Orono campus or they can be emailed or mailed directly to nominators. -30-

Arline Thomson Receives 2007 Hartgen Award

06 Jun 2007

Contact: Karen Cole, 581- 4704

ORONO -- Local artist Arline K. Thomson is the recipient of the 2007 Vincent A. Hartgen Award, presented by the University of Maine Patrons of the Arts in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the advancement of the arts at the university.

The Hartgen Award is an honor bestowed annually since 1999 on individuals who distinguish themselves in advancing the community of the arts on the UMaine campus.~

Hartgen was the art professor who founded the University of Maine Art Department in 1946 and, with former UMaine president Lloyd Elliott, the Patrons of the Arts in 1963. Hartgen earned respect and recognition for extending the visual arts beyond the UMaine campus and into Maine schools through the traveling art exhibits. The traveling art exhibits continue today, reaching nearly 15,000 people every year, and remains one of the Patrons' major endeavors. Hartgen died in 2002.

Danny Williams, chair of Patrons of the Arts, says the patrons are extremely pleased to bestow the Hartgen award on Thomson this year.

"In her own quiet, mild mannered way, Arline has had a profound impact on our community," he says. "It is a testament to her artistry that work she did as a graphic designer years ago is still being used today. She's a treasure."

Thomson began her professional career at the Massachusetts School of Art, working in the field of advertising in Boston and New York City before moving to Maine in 1953.

For nearly a decade, Thomson designed and illustrated 10 children's books. In 1962, she became the University of

Maine's first graphic designer. She retired from UMaine in 1985, but continued working part-time for the university until 1992. Through the years, her fine art was exhibited at the University of Maine Museum of Art and throughout the state.

As Thomson was capturing the character of the campus and the state, she became fascinated with historic London. Her collection of 160 sketches, diary entries and maps were incorporated into a book, "Discovering Elizabethan London."

Formerly a long-time resident of Old Town, Thomson now lives in Orono and Port Clyde.

She received the award during ceremonies held in late April.

UMaine Police Involved in Torch Run Friday

06 Jun 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine Police Department and 13 other public safety agencies will participate in the Special Olympics Torch Run on Friday, June 8. The officers will take Leg 11 of the State of Maine Torch Run, beginning in Millinocket at 7 a.m. and finishing at the UMaine campus around 4 p.m. The torch will be part of the Maine Special Olympics opening ceremonies, scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday at UMaine.

The full Special Olympics Summer Games schedule, detailing all the events from Friday-Sunday at UMaine, is online.

Runners on Leg 11 will travel the 67 miles along Route 2 during the day on Friday. More information about the Torch Run and law enforcement officer involvement is online. Those who wish to make a donation to support Maine Special Olympics can find details on that website.

Bradford Farm to Host UMaine Cooperative Extension Goat Enterprise Tour June 16

06 Jun 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471 BRADFORD —The third farm tour in University of Maine Cooperative Extension's series of Goat Enterprise Farm Tours will take place on Saturday, June 16 from 10 a.m.-12 noon at Leanne Waters' Cedar Run Farm on the Hudson Road in Bradford. Waters raises full-blood and percentage Boer goats, and the topic of this tour will be goat facilities and crossbreeding for meat production. UMaine Extension's series of goat enterprise tours are taking place through September at farms around the state. Designed for anyone who wants to learn more about raising goats for meat, milk or fiber, these tours aim to teach sound goat husbandry and help support the growing Maine market for local cheese and meat. All tours are free and open to the public. No registration is required, but people should arrive at the designated tour start times. The remaining tours will take place at farms in Newry, Starks, Dresden and Saco. Visit extension.umaine.edu or call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 1-800-287-1471 for details. Goats have been a traditional farm animal around the world for centuries. Considered browsers rather than grazers as they prefer leaves over grass, goats are known for their productivity and resourcefulness in grazing brush land. Raising goats is becoming increasingly popular in Maine, and it's not hard to understand why. According to the American Dairy Goat Association, the fat and protein in goat milk is more easily digested than that in cow milk, and goat milk is often tolerated by people allergic to cow milk. Goat milk is also naturally homogenized. Goat meat, called chevon, is low in fat and calories compared to beef, and is one of the most commonly eaten meats worldwide. For more information about raising goats, contact UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, at 1-800-287-1471 or rbrz@umext.maine.edu. To be placed on UMaine Extension's statewide goat mailing list, contact Melisa Potts at 1-800-287-7170 or mpotts@umext.maine.edu.

Great Minds Think Alike; Scientists Establish Statewide Neurogenetics Consortium

08 Jun 2007

Contact: Karen Sanborn, EMHS (207) 973-6164

Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems News Release

(Brewer, Maine)- This past week researchers, scientists, and geneticists from various institutions, universities, and colleges in Maine gathered together at the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health to discuss the formation of the first ever Maine Neurogenetics Consortium. During this next year, those within the consortium will share knowledge, expertise, and resources to help to identify common links across many levels of analysis in the neurogenetics field, and to become more competitive in grant applications through collaborations.

Janet Hock, PhD, director of the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, greeted the members of the consortium, including Jackson Laboratory, with enthusiasm for what the consortium may bring, "The Neurogenetics Consortium is a dream of researchers and geneticists in Maine. With Maine's large concentration of neuroscientists, diverse expertise in the area of neurogenetics, and potential in cross-institutional collaboration, we can use the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health as a statewide hub to develop a comprehensive neurogenetic research program to study mental health problems that are of great interest to people in Maine."

The Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health challenged the group to start thinking of how to kick start collaborations and be creative, by offering a seed grant competition to determine how to use the money in the best interest of Maine people. Together, the consortium will determine the rules for the competition and how it will be run. Researchers from all over Maine will be bringing their ideas to the table and will have the opportunity to collaborate with other institutions with whom they otherwise may have not had the opportunity to work.

"Neurogenetics is one of the leading edge disciplines in the neurosciences. Through the seed grant competition, we are looking for people to be creative in their ideas of where they think neurogenetics will be in the future. For example, we know very little about the side effects of chemotherapy on the brains of cancer patients, a condition that has been called 'chemobrain.' Patients complain of memory loss, difficulties in learning or a sensation that their brain has to work harder. This condition is an area for cancer researchers and neuroscientists to come together to investigate what the problems are, and how can the risk of those problems be reduced," explains Maries Hayes, PhD, professor, University of Maine, and allied senior scientist at the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, "All individuals in the consortium have different neuroscience expertise; what unites everyone is the common thread of neurogenetics and what many consider to be the next wave in neuroscience."

In September, a neurogenetics conference is planned. During the conference all researchers competing in the seed grant competition will have the opportunity to present their work. The institute will invest \$200,000, received from an anonymous donor, in this seed program to provide the winning research groups with funds needed to get enough preliminary data and test creative ideas to help obtain federal grant funding.

Young Designers Can Get Creative at UMaine's CAD Camp

08 Jun 2007

Contact: Karen Horton (207) 581-2136; General Questions (207) 581-CAMP

ORONO, Maine -- High school students interested in exploring the creative and dynamic possibilities of computer-aided design (CAD) can learn the latest techniques in 3D design at UMaine's CAD Camp. Guided by UMaine's unparalleled faculty and MaineBound staff, students in grades 9 -- 12 use cutting-edge CAD software and UMaine's extensive computing facilities to create their own unique designs.

The camp will be held July 8 -- 13, providing participants many great opportunities for learning and fun. In addition to personalized instruction in CAD, participants enjoy dormitory housing, meet new friends, and participate in exciting recreational programs including canoeing, climbing and rope courses. UMaine CAD Camp is a great way for students to combine their interests in design and computers, learn new skills and meet new friends along the way. For more information, visit UMaine CAD Camp on the web.

New UMaine Rec Center Memberships Go On Sale June 19

13 Jun 2007

Contact: Visit www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation for more information!

ORONO -- Membership enrollment for the University of Maine's new Student Recreation and Fitness Center begins on Tuesday, June 19. Full memberships and specialty passes will go on sale to members of the UMaine community and the general public.

The state-of-the-art facility will open on Aug. 31. With 87,000 square feet of space, it will feature the latest in exercise equipment and facilities, along with access to health and wellness programming. Highlights include a leisure pool with hot tub and sauna, a large fitness areas with weight and cardiovascular training equipment, basketball/volleyball courts, squash and racquetball courts and an elevated 1/10 mile track. The building will also provide easy access to UMaine's vast trail system for various outdoor recreational pursuits.

Membership enrollment begins June 19, both in in Room 140 of UMaine's Memorial Gym, and in the Spirit Room at UMaine's Memorial Union. Call 581-1082 for hours of operation. Those who sign up for a full membership before Aug. 17 will receive a discount equal to one month's fee.

John and Claire McDonough Establish UMaine Scholarship

14 Jun 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- John McDonough, former associate dean of the University of Maine College of Engineering, spent more than 30 years providing students with the knowledge and skills to go out into the world and be successful. With characteristic kindness and patience he also offered academic and career guidance that helped them lay the foundation for a thriving professional life.

But before retiring in June, 2007, he gave UMaine students one final gift.

Along with his wife, Claire, a former nurse and UMaine graduate, McDonough provided scholarship aid to undergraduate students enrolled in the School of Engineering Technology and the School of Nursing who demonstrate excellent academic performance and exhibit outstanding personal characteristics that promise successful careers.

The decision to establish the John and Claire McDonough Scholarship Fund came easily to the couple who say they wanted to honor their careers and pay tribute to the University that has given them so much.

"It's been a wonderful life here and I wanted to give back," says McDonough, director of the School of Engineering Technology from 1983 to 2001.

"We are both firm believers in higher education and we wanted to help somebody who's going to go on and earn a degree," says Claire, who received a bachelor's degree in University Studies in 2001. She recently retired after 24 years as a nurse with the American Red Cross in Bangor.

The couple's generous gift received a boost at Prof. McDonough's retirement party when friends, family and colleagues contributed towards the fund. They raised more than \$3,000.

"It was a great addition," he says.

A professional engineer, he is a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a fellow of the American Society for Engineering Education. His career took an unexpected turn in the 1970's when he taught for two years in Afghanistan and one year in Algeria. He remembers his stint in Afghanistan -- where he helped establish a college of engineering -- with particular fondness.

"We loved the country and the opportunity to travel to other parts of the world," he says. "I also enjoyed working with the local people to try and get the college up and running."

Residents of Orono, the McDonoughs are the parents of four adult children, two of whom are UMaine graduates.

With their professional lives behind them, the couple say they look forward to traveling, golfing, gardening and spending time with their nine grandchildren.

But John McDonough admits that it won't feel quite the same without UMaine in the picture.

"I'll definitely miss everyone -- the students, my colleagues, the staff," he says.

A Semblance of Resemblance: Art and the Nature of Image

14 Jun 2007

Contact: Krista Molnar Smith at the UMaine Dept. of Art: 207-581-3245

Lord Hall Gallery, University of Maine

June 18 - August 3, 2007

Opening reception - June 28 from 6 - 8 p.m.

Gallery hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., M-F

A Semblance of Resemblance

brings together the work of three Maine artists, Andrew Hurtt, Owen Smith and Alan Stubbs in a provocative new show that leads the viewer to come away with more questions than answers. But this is just the intent of the artists in the show. Questions such as, what is art?, how is art made?, what is art made from?, why is art important and how does it relate to other parts of life?, what is meaning and how is it "made"?, how do we understand what the artist is saying?, and what is the role of the viewer in the interpretation of the artwork?

What is interesting about the selection of these three artists is that even though they ask many of the same questions they are in no way uniform in their approach or interests. Andy Hurtt has included some 20 digital photographic prints that are from a series in which he seeks to explore the basis of images and how we create or assign meaning. These large colorful images are layered with semi-translucent words playing with the nature of the visual and the verbal as they "hide" and "reveal" the potential meanings of what we see. Alan Stubbs, a perceptual psychologist by training, has 10

photographic images that play with our senses. Our disquieted familiarity acts to draw the viewer in, wondering what it is that we are looking at, something that we recognize, but can't really make out. The images seem abstract, but simultaneously photographically real and we are left to question what it is that we are perceiving. The third artist in the exhibition, Owen Smith, is represented by a wide variety of media types - painting, sculpture, digital print, video and net art. Although his work seems at first to be so widely varied in media it might be hard to understand, what is key is that it is ultimately not the media that is central but how the media is used to ask questions about art and art making. Ultimately the art is united by its ideas and the questions it asks rather than by the media in which it is made. So the specific media utilized in the work is not just a given based on the artist's habitual choice of materials, but is central to the meaning Smith is exploring and thus varies as he considers different ideas or topics.

The wide variety of work in the show offers multiple investigations initiated by the artists but left for us to ponder. A rich feast for the eye and mind, and a trip well worth taking to the Lord Hall Gallery on the University of Maine Campus. The exhibition is open Monday through Friday 9-4 through August 3, 2007.

National Science Foundation's Sensor Science and Engineering Program Summer Institute at UMaine June 21/22

14 Jun 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will host the second annual two-day sensor science and engineering summer institute on Thursday, June 21 and Friday, June 22.

Part of the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Program in Sensor Science Engineering and Informatics at the University of Maine, the institute is scheduled for St. John Hill Auditorium on the first floor of the Engineering and Science Research building (attached to Barrows Hall) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.

The event's theme is "The Need for Sensor Systems in Different Technology Sectors." The program will allow participants an opportunity to explore possible needs and applications for sensor systems in different technology sectors - including the seven targeted sectors identified by the Maine Legislature for research funding through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund.

Several of UMaine's interdisciplinary research centers and initiatives will be highlighted throughout the two-day event.

Featured speakers on Thursday include Robert Lad, director of the UMaine Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology (LASST), Erich Osterberg of the Climate Change Institute at UMaine, Habib Dagher, director of the UMaine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC) and Nick Brown, operations manager at UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research.

Friday's agenda will include talks on environmental sensors in watershed management from John Peckenham of UMaine's Sen. George Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research and the need for sensors in the forest bioproducts industry by Steve Shaler of the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute at UMaine.

A new component of this year's institute will be student-led discussion panels. Pairs of IGERT students have been assigned to each of the program's speakers. The students will serve as moderators for a discussion at the conclusion of each talk. Students will provide background on current sensors

and sensor system applications in their assigned field. Faculty members and other representatives from each area will also contribute to the discussion.

"I think it will be a very interesting and informative program, and will be a pivotal step toward initiating new

collaborative work among several disciplines," says Lad, one of the event's organizers.

The Sensor Science Engineering and Informatics (SSEI) IGERT program is a Ph.D. training program in the multidisciplinary area of sensor systems: ranging from the science and engineering of new materials and sensing mechanisms to the interpretation of sensor data.

Funding for the Summer Institute comes from the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program, designed to train Ph.D. scientists through interdisciplinary programs that address pressing global needs.

Note: An agenda is available upon request.

Page Farm & Home Museum Offers 'Pathways to the Past' Day Camp June 25-29

18 Jun 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Page Farm and Home Museum is offering its first

"Pathways to the Past" day camp for kids June 25-29, providing a chance for area children ages 6-12 to learn about what it was like to grow up in rural Maine from the 1865 through 1940.

Children will spend mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. learning about a very different era in Maine, pre-Industrial Revolution, when most tasks were done by hand. They will make cheese and ice cream from scratch with organic ingredients and other healthy snacks, says Patricia Henner, museum director.

Hands-on activities include creating folk art like decorative stenciling, learning about gardening and worm composting, having a "sugar on snow party" and seeing a blacksmithing demonstration.

"It's a unique and fun way to introduce children to the past," says Henner, who will lead the activities with Mary Bird, instructor in science and environmental education in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development and chair of the museum's programming committee.

Children also will learn about wool production -- "From Sheep to Shawl" -- through a visit to the university's sheep pens at the university's Witter Farm.

"This event focuses on what it was like for a child growing up in rural Maine during that earlier time period," Henner says. The non-profit museum is dedicated to preserving artifacts, customs and traditions in Maine between 1865 and 1940.

A nominal \$65 fee for the five-day camp covers the cost of materials for children's activities.

The museum's community outreach activities and programming are designed to educate the public -- young people in particular -- about early life in Maine. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends for individual visits, group tours, special hands-on programs and other interactive educational events.

More information about the Page Farm and Home Museum and "Pathways to the Past" day camp is available by calling (207) 581-4100.

UMaine Announces Million-Dollar Gift; Prominent Alums Receive Stillwater Society Presidential Awards

18 Jun 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine announced a million dollar gift on Friday night at its annual recognition dinner for top philanthropic donors. The Stillwater Society Dinner, held at Buchanan Alumni House, also featured the recognition of four distinguished alumni couples for their dedication and long-term support of their alma mater.

President Robert Kennedy announced the new \$1 million gift from UMaine alums H. Allen (Class of 1954) and Sally (Class of 1955) Carroll Fernald of Camden, co-chairs of Campaign Maine, UMaine's largest-ever private fundraising campaign. The Fernalds' gift, which will support the arts and academics at UMaine, brings the campaign total to over \$60 million in just two years. UMaine's goal is to raise \$150 million by 2011.

"(Allen and Sally's) long-term generosity has positively affected this university for many years, and their great accomplishments -- and the way they live their lives -- have brought honor to their alma mater," Kennedy said.

"Sally and I first met at the University of Maine and all three of our children have UMaine degrees, so it is a place that means a great deal to us," says Allen Fernald. "Like so many of our friends, and countless others we have encountered in our personal and professional lives, we know that this wonderful university helped put us on a path to a successful and rewarding life. We continue to gain great satisfaction from watching UMaine grow and adapt to meet the needs of its students and our state, and we are pleased to participate in helping the university's leaders chart the course for UMaine's future."

The alumni couples receiving UMaine's prestigious Stillwater Society Presidential Awards were:

- Richard (UMaine Class of 1959) and Anne (Class of 1961) Collins of Key Largo, Fla.
- William and Betsy (Class of 1955) Leitch of Newtonville, Mass.
- Philip (Class of 1964) and Susan (Class of 1964) Morse of Glens Falls, N.Y.
- Thomas (Class of 1968) and Sally Savage of Key Largo, Fla.

"Each of these individuals represents what is best about our university, and each has made a personal commitment to its greatness," said UMaine President Robert Kennedy in announcing the awards before an audience of 225. The Fernalds received Stillwater Society Presidential Awards in 2005.

The Stillwater Society was created in 2000 to recognize people who have made significant financial contributions to UMaine. Currently there are 525 individuals in the society, including 21 new members inducted Friday evening.

What Does the Future Hold for Southern Maine's Beaches? Friday Event to Feature Climate Scientist Cameron Wake

18 Jun 2007

Contact: Kristen Whiting-Grant, 207-646-1555 x115

SOUTH PORTLAND -- The southern Maine coast is the most populated and most frequently visited region in the state. Sandy beaches are a major attraction for residents and visitors alike, fueling the economy. Yet Maine's beaches face an uncertain future, as climate change and population pressure will present many challenges in the coming decades. Public

officials, coastal property owners, tourists, and businesses each have a different interest in the beach, but a common desire for sustaining these valuable natural resources. Ways to achieve this goal, and the changes facing Maine's beaches, will be discussed at the 2007 Maine Beaches Conference on Friday, June 22, in South Portland.

Cameron Wake, a research associate professor with the Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space at the University of New Hampshire, will present an overview of climate change in the Northeast. Margaret Davidson, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coastal Services Center, will discuss the concept of resiliency as applied to southern Maine beaches and lessons learned from other regions where the Coastal Services Center is working with communities to help them cope with climate change and adapt to risks from coastal hazards.

Public officials, coastal property owners, and beach users all have different priorities when dealing with Maine's changing beaches. Will beach erosion affect homes and businesses? Is coastal water quality getting better or worse? What regulatory or legislative changes are on the horizon? Conference participants will have the chance to discuss these questions and possible solutions to potential conflicts.

In the afternoon, participants will have the chance to visit the Portland Harbor Museum, explore rocky tidepools, view a dune restoration project and methods to protect water quality at Willard Beach, or learn how to measure beach erosion. Indoor activities include showings of the films *An Inconvenient Truth* and *Coastal Clash*. The conference concludes at 4 p.m. with a reception at the Portland Harbor Museum.

The Maine Beaches Conference is sponsored by Southern Maine Community College, Maine Coastal Program, Maine Sea Grant, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, SOS Maine, Maine Geological Survey, Surfrider Northern New England Chapter, and Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

For more information call Kristen Whiting-Grant at 207-646-1555 x115.

UMaine Alumni Association Launches New Alumni Interest Group--Senior Skull AIG

19 Jun 2007

Contact: David Mitchell '87, President/Senior Skull Alumni Interest Group, (207) 807-8526; Bob Potts, Adviser/Senior Skull Society, (207) 581-2586 or 1 (800) 934-2586

ORONO, Me. -- In an effort to reach out to more alumni worldwide, the University of Maine Alumni Association has announced the creation of a new kind of alumni community - the Senior Skull AIG (Alumni Interest Group).

The Senior Skull AIG will serve to reconnect alumni who were members of the Senior Skull Society while they attended the University of Maine.

"The Senior Skull AIG provides us, as fellow Skulls, a way to remain connected beyond graduation and give the current class access to mentoring and networking opportunities", said David Mitchell, Senior Skull from the Class of 1987, and president of the newly formed Senior Skull AIG Board of Directors. "We think it is important to keep our brotherhood connected and provide opportunities for those who wish to reach out to other Skulls from years past, as well as the current undergraduate class."

Established in 1906, the Senior Skull Society is the University of Maine's highest all-inclusive honor society for male students, and its members represent the top 1% of incoming senior men. Members are chosen on the basis of leadership, integrity, role model and service to the University of Maine. The group's alumni typically continue as leaders in their professions and communities.

Groups like the Senior Skulls are fairly rare; fewer than 30 groups of its kind exist at colleges and universities today. The Senior Skull AIG's hope is to get the organization's alumni connected with the current group and work together to create a dynamic community that will benefit both the AIG members and UMaine. The Alumni Association's new on

line community, UMaine InCircle, (incircle.mainealumni.com) already offers a convenient and easy way for alumni to connect on line. By using InCircle and formulating a formal AIG organization, the Senior Skulls now feel like they have the tools to achieve their objectives.

Todd Saucier '93, '97G, President of the Alumni Association, is pleased to see the new Skull AIG take shape.

"Since being appointed president a year ago my philosophy is and has been to reconnect as many alumni to their alma mater as possible. The Senior Skull AIG is the perfect vehicle for Senior Skull alumni to become engaged with the undergraduate class, the institution, and with one another," he says.

To learn more about the Senior Skull AIG, visit the Senior Skulls website.

UMaine Offers Workshop on Problem-Solving in the Garden

19 Jun 2007

Contact: Gleason Gray, Extension Educator, 207-942-7396

STILLWATER, Maine--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host a panel of university and other local experts to help gardeners identify bugs, weeds and diseases they may encounter while gardening. The rain-or-shine meeting begins at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26 at the University of Maine

National Pollinator Week: New Buzz About the Birds and the Bees

22 Jun 2007

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185

ORONO, Me--The first annual National Pollinator Week, June 24-30, will promote awareness of the importance of bees, birds, bats, butterflies, beetles, and other pollinators.

The pollinator garden--an evolving project--will be open at the University of Maine

UMaine Ambulance Service Receives Service Upgrade Recognition

22 Jun 2007

Contact: Dennis Russell, 581-4017; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Voluntary Ambulance Corps (UVAC) recently received an upgraded competency rating from a consortium of emergency care and health organizations in Maine, recognizing the 30-year-old service for its advancement.

The Maine Center for Disease Control's Cardiovascular Health Program and Maine Emergency Medical Services' "Maine HeartSafe Communities" upgraded the UMaine ambulance corps from a "basic" to "silver" rating as a result of its continued expansion and improvement of services.

Dennis Russell, paramedic and chief of service for UVAC, says the academic-year service offers emergency medical assistance that is comparable with many municipal ambulance services in Maine. The service is run primarily by student volunteers trained as emergency medical technicians under the guidance of a small professional staff at Cutler Health

Center.

"We have the same level of services as many ambulance services in the state," says Russell. "We have the same license level as any municipal ambulance services in the state."

With about 24 EMTs, and a fully equipped ambulance available 24 hours a day on campus during the academic year, the service was elevated in status this month because of two essential program advancements that can improve survival rates for stroke and heart-related emergencies.

Within the last two years, UMaine's Public Safety dispatchers have been trained as emergency medical dispatchers, enabling them to advise callers on basic emergency care techniques while an ambulance is en route. Also, because of UVAC's mutual aid relationship with Orono and Old Town fire departments and Capital Ambulance Service in Bangor, a paramedic, in addition to UVAC EMTs, is dispatched to all priority medical emergencies.

Many of UVAC's member volunteers come to the service to be trained and sometimes they bring previous training. Students come from a wide array of academic majors, from English to engineering; they take EMT training in addition to their academic workload.

"It's professional development for the students, but it's also an emergency rescue service," says Russell. "There are very few colleges or universities in the nation that have an Advance Life Support ambulance service."

UVAC members can obtain advanced training and certifications, allowing them to administer advanced life support measures, including controlled drugs and IVs and advanced airway management techniques. The UVAC ambulance has a cardiac monitor with an AED (automated external defibrillator) aboard.

"We're a teaching service," Russell says. "A lot of students who are members later go on to medical school, nursing or pursue a career in pre-hospital emergency medicine."

Serving the university community of more than 14,000 people, UVAC received 574 calls last year, up from 453 the prior year and far more than the 367 it received in 2004, according to Russell. Calls included first response to medical emergencies, patient transports, standby medical coverage on and off campus, fire alarms and special events on campus.

Danielle Louder, a cardiovascular health specialist with the Maine CDC's Cardiovascular Health Program in Augusta, says the UMaine ambulance service has done an excellent job of upgrading its levels of service, in addition to promoting public awareness of the signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest, heart attacks and stroke.

"I think they offer the most CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation) classes of any local EMS service in the state," she says. "It's amazing."

Russell says UVAC trains approximately 400 people a year. CPR has changed in the last few years and now includes training on AEDs, which are available at seven locations around campus. Anyone who is trained and certified to use the devices may do so in an emergency.

The Maine HeartSafe Communities program, which also includes participation from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, began recruiting emergency medical service providers into the program in 2005. HeartSafe Communities participants track requirements for providing basic, silver, gold or platinum levels of emergency services and note advancements.

Russell says reaching the gold level may take time for UMaine's ambulance corps, since it requires an expensive piece of heart-monitoring equipment, an electrocardiogram. But he's gratified with the silver level recognition, and praises Janet Waldron, vice president for finance and administration, and Robin Toderian, assistant vice president of Auxiliary Services, for their continuing support of UVAC.

UMaine Organist to Lecture on Historic Hook Organs in Maine at German Organ Festival

22 Jun 2007

Contact: Kevin Birch, 581-6941

UMaine music faculty member Kevin Birch, director of music and organist at St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Bangor, will lecture on historic E. & G. G. Hook organs in Maine later this month at the International Organ Festival in Berlin, Germany.

The organs were selected to illustrate key developments in organbuilding in New England during the 19th century. Maine is an important area for the study of these historic American pipe organs. Many beautiful instruments have been carefully restored, and many remain essentially unchanged today.

Birch plays every day on one of E. & G. G. Hook's masterpieces -- the Opus 288 -- built in 1860 for St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Bangor. It is a large organ with three manuals and pedal, and is housed in a room with some of the finest acoustics in New England.

In addition to the lecture, Birch will perform the festival's opening concert on the 1870 Hook Organ -- recently relocated to the Heilig-Kreuz Kirche (church) in Berlin. The Berlin Hook had previously served in a church, now closed, in Woburn, Mass.

Birch has served as director of music at St. John's Catholic Church in Bangor since 1992. In addition to choir training and service playing, he directs the St. John's Organ Society, an organization dedicated to the preservation of the church's historic E. & G. G. Hook organ built in 1860.

More information about the Hook Opus 288 can be found at the website www.hookopus288.org, or by calling Kevin Birch at (207) 942-6941, (cell phone: 207 974 9380).

University of Maine to Offer Greater Access to Rare Materials through Digital Partnership

26 Jun 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, Web and Public Relations Specialist, 207-581-1696

ORONO -- The University of Maine has reached an agreement with BookSurge International to make available out-of-print books in Fogler Library through Amazon.com's print-on-demand services. This partnership will allow Fogler Library to achieve partial cost recovery of its efforts to digitize books, the products of which will be freely available to the public for online reading through its website.

The book digitizing project uses a cutting-edge book scanner, developed by Kirtas Technologies, that facilitates large-scale scanning of bound volumes by virtue of its automated page-turning technology. Fogler Library envisions using this technology to create digital collections of public domain publications with full-text searching and online access. The collections now planned include: University of Maine publications, historical Maine town reports, local Maine histories, and publications relating to Wabanaki peoples. The library is only able to digitize materials out of copyright (published before 1923), in the public domain (government documents) or for which the University of Maine owns the copyright (university publications).

"This project will dramatically enhance our ability to support research in history, the social sciences, the environment, genealogy, and on various public policy issues, " explained Fogler Library Dean Joyce Rumery. "It will also make a significant contribution towards our goal of making our holdings available to all Maine residents, since researchers will no longer have to come to Orono to use them."

Fogler Library anticipates that the first digitized materials will be publicly available by September 2007.

UMaine Gives 4-H Teens a Taste of College

28 Jun 2007

Contact: Christy Fitzpatrick, 207-532-6548

ORONO, Me. --University of Maine Cooperative Extension brought 41 Maine 4-H members aged 11-15 to campus for a UMaine experience May 19-20. Through a collaborative effort of faculty members, staff members and graduate students, participants attended activities to learn about UMaine and its many possible courses of study. For parents, there were sessions on admissions and college readiness, scholarship candidacy and all aspects of financial aid.

Teens attending the event, which was called "EDGE: Engagement, Direction and Goals in Education," said they got "a really great view of what college would be like." One participant "learned about programs in animal science that I could come here to study," and many hoped they could return next year.

Students were able to choose from hands-on activities like creating digital photo stories, designing Web pages, programming robotics, tracking seals using Geographic Information Systems software, preparing healthy snacks and visiting calves and other members of the animal science program at Witter Farm. To experience some of the recreational opportunities on campus, participants enjoyed the climbing walls at the Maine Bound Outdoor Education Center, swam at Memorial Gymnasium and did a GPS scavenger hunt. They also completed a community service project as a part of the national "Operation: Military Kids" program, putting together "Hero Packs," backpacks filled with games, school supplies, writing paper and other items for "suddenly military" youngsters whose National Guard parents have been deployed.

4-H had many partners in this effort including the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation, Dead River Company, Bangor Savings Bank and Eaton Peabody. The adult sessions were offered by the Office of Admissions, the Office of Student Financial Aid and the Maine Community Foundation, among others.

4-H "EDGE" weekend was designed to help youth make decisions about their future college careers: the teens "engaged" with areas of study at the university and the faculty who teach them, found "direction" toward future college experiences, and set "goals" for future success in "education."

Wiemann Opera Scores Well in National Competition

28 Jun 2007

Contact: Beth Wiemann, 581-1244; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A two-act, contemporary opera composed by UMaine School of Performing Arts Professor of Music Beth Wiemann placed fourth out of five semi-finalists in the 2007 Opera Vista Competition in Houston.

Excerpts from the five selected works were presented to a live audience on June 22 and June 23.

"I'm actually OK with my being a semi-finalist, because a lot of people got to hear my work. I'm especially pleased that the singers of the company enjoyed the piece," Wiemann says. "The voting was all done by audience vote, which was very close. It turned out that there was a tie between the top two selections."

The title of Wiemann's opera, originally composed in 2003 for the UMaine ensemble Opera Workshop conducted by UMaine music professor and soprano Nancy Ogle, is "Deeds," an operatic comedy in English about the owners of a lobster shack on the Maine coast, struggling to prevent outsiders from buying the property on which the shack sits.

Wiemann composed and scored the opera, to be performed in two 30-minute acts, and the libretto, or text, was written by New York librettist Ron Singer. Wiemann and Singer were originally introduced by the late Connie Hunting, a former UMaine English professor and poet.

Wiemann is a nationally known clarinetist and composer who has recorded her work and the works of other contemporary composers on five CDs and various sampler CDs.

The 2007 Vista Competition is an annual event that receives dozens of entries. Only a few are selected for the prestigious competition each year.

The Vista Opera Competition hired professional musicians and vocalists to perform the opera excerpts for the competition.

Wiemann, who was in the audience for the performances, says that the singers involved in the production came from throughout the western United States, and "were really committed to presenting the excerpts as complete musical and dramatic showpieces."

Art Exhibition July 13 - October 6, 2007

02 Jul 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3352

Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present two exhibitions beginning July 13. *Being Where Looking Into Landscape* offers a wide variety of approaches to the ideal associated with landscape while stretching the traditional definition of what we hope a landscape is or really looks like. *Millions Taken Daily Photographs from Everyone and Everywhere* explores the idea that photographs are an integral part of daily life and we all have a hand in creating and collecting them.

Being Where Looking Into Landscape

Being Where: Looking Into Landscape presents a wide variety of approaches to the ideal associated with landscape. Through various mediums including painting, printmaking, and photography, the landscape is seen from 1860 to the present as anywhere from a place to record and cherish, to a sublime ideal or even a place to be pitied. The exhibition includes work by Eugene Atget, Emily Muir, Ralph Blakelock, Paul Caponigro, Stephen Etnier, John Marin, Frederick Childe Hassam, Marsden Hartley, Neil Welliver, Andrew Wyeth and Marguerite Zorach as well as many younger, contemporary artists.

Throughout the history of art, work that deals with landscape has usually been two-dimensional and representational: paintings of fields, forests, or other types of scenery. The outcome of looking at a landscape painting, print, or photograph can often result in an episode of self-inflicted questioning. Much like the tenets of a journalist, the who, what, where, and how of the work helps root the viewer "into" the landscape. Many of the works in this exhibition will pose this type of inquiry. Yet other questions may suddenly occur because with closer inspection all is not always what it seems. Works like George Inness' *The Elm* and Beate G

DePoy, Gilson Publish New Text on Social Work, Human Behavior

06 Jul 2007

Contact: Elizabeth DePoy, (207) 581-1469; Stephen Gilson, (207) 581-2409

ORONO -- University of Maine social work and disability studies professors Elizabeth DePoy and Stephen Gilson recently published their seventh book, a textbook titled *The Human Experience: Description, Explanation, and Judgment*.

The book is geared to a social work audience, including college students studying human behavior and the social environment, according to Gilson and DePoy, but the text also could be appropriate for classes in human diversity, philosophy, research and sociology. It was published by Rowman and Littlefield Publishers.

The text, according to one reviewer, Elizabeth Cramer of Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work, "will revolutionize the way instructors think about and teach their human behavior courses and will challenge students to examine how values influence which human behaviors are considered legitimate for social work services and which types of professional responses should be provided. The text includes numerous interesting case examples and thinking points, which encourage the students to engage in critical reflection about the material."

Building on historical and current diversity scholarship and debates, DePoy and Gilson posit that individuals are assigned to diversity categories and engender both public and private responses on the basis of changing sets of values. Traditional approaches to writing and conversations about human diversity typically focus on specific experiences and needs of oppressed and marginalized populations.

While this group-specific approach has been essential in advancing affirmative knowledge, resources and opportunities for individuals and groups who have experienced significant disadvantage, the recent recognition of the limitations of nomothetic conceptualizations of diversity and of equating diversity with minority status have prompted important and progressive responses. In their new text, DePoy and Gilson advance a framework that expands and shifts conceptualizations of diversity. Their theoretical premises recognize the continuing importance of population-specific approaches, but then begin to fill the critical need for a larger and more progressive context in which to examine and respond to human diversity, including the critical area of diversity of ideas.

DePoy and Gilson co-coordinate the UMaine Interdisciplinary Disability Studies program at the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion. DePoy recently received the University of Maine 2007 President's Research and Creative Achievement Award.

New 'Male Athletes Against Violence' Program Poster Available

10 Jul 2007

Contact: Sandra Caron, (207) 581-3138; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine's groundbreaking peer education program, "Male Athletes Against Violence" (MAAV), has released its new poster for 2007-2008, "United Against Violence," portraying 13 collegiate athletes in an assemblage of uniforms, each representing a National Collegiate Athletic Association sport.

The poster, the fifth since the program began three years ago, is designed to draw attention to athletic men who stand against sexual, domestic and any form of unwarranted violence. They are produced for institutions and organizations -- colleges, universities, community athletics organizations and schools -- that work with boys and men, says Sandra

Caron, professor of Family Relations and Human Sexuality and founder of a 20-year-old umbrella organization "Athletes for Sexual Responsibility" at UMaine. Both peer-education programs have attracted national attention, Caron says, and are unique in their approaches -- using athletes to relay the message that tough guys can stand tough against violence.

Like the peer-education program Athletes for Sexual Responsibility, MAAV involves student-athletes at the University of Maine who visit with various student groups or individuals on and off campus, to talk with young people about anger and violence, according to Caron.

The caption on the new poster, bearing a predominance of University of Maine colors, blue and white, reads: "Violence is a way of asserting power, privilege and control. Men perpetuate the majority of violence, and yet this issue is usually framed as a 'woman's issue. Change will come when we challenge the social norms and institutions that actively or implicitly condone and promote violence. MAAV is an effort to involve men so that we can begin to understand that violence is very much a 'man's issue.'"

Caron says the MAAV program, begun in 2004 with assistance from former UMaine football player Marcus Walton, has been successful since its emissaries are athletes who have reached a level of confidence and achievement that is respected by other students. While Caron oversees the program, UMaine's Public Safety Director Noel March supervises the peer educators group.

"We all know that students talking to other students is the best way to get information out," Caron says. "In this case, we know that on campus, athletes, next to the president, are among the most visible people, and having people who are willing to go out and talk to people is important. They also go out and do small group discussions on campus and in the community."

MAAV offers a non-violence pledge card, a list of websites that promote similar messages, and the posters. The MAAV website is at www.umaine.edu/maav.

Caron says the MAAV program and poster campaign have been well-received by several major national newspapers, magazines and sports networks because of the message and the medium.

"Athletes are used to being pushed and pressured, and I think a lot of them really understand that just because I'm big and strong doesn't mean I have to be violent," Caron says. "They understand what it means to be a man and that violence is not OK, and why we need to find other ways to deal with anger. They're good role models, not just for other athletes, but for other students."

Caron can be reached for more information about the peer-education programs and acquiring one or several of the new posters, by calling (207) 581-3138 or emailing sandy.caron@umit.maine.edu.

Professor of Spanish Undertakes Poetry Translation Project

10 Jul 2007

Contact: Kathleen March, (207) 581-2088

ORONO -- Kathleen March, UMaine professor of Spanish, has received a Translation Grant of just more than \$3,200 from the Ireland Literary Exchange to translate a book of Irish poetry into Galician, a minority language of Spain.

March will translate and prepare for publication *The Rose-Geranium* by noted Irish poet Eilean N

Page Farm & Home Museum Hosting 'Passport to the World ' Day Camp

12 Jul 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine recently showed area children through games and activities how their counterparts existed in early Maine from 1865 through 1940. This week, another group of children is learning about games, history and traditions of other countries, through "Passport to the World" day camp.

Children have been learning about common greetings in other cultures, making T-shirts and "passports" for use during the week, playing international games and making ethnic snacks common to the countries they have been studying. The countries they have "visited" this week have included El Salvador, The Netherlands, Canada and, today, Africa.

Games and activities from Africa include drumming and dancing, in addition to hearing African folk tales and making African snacks, fufu, plaintain chips and lemonade and limeade.

Friday will be dedicated to exploring Asia and China, with Suzhong Tian of the Bangor Chinese School. They'll make a peace puzzle, see a tai chi demonstration and learn about Chinese calligraphy. The afternoon session will conclude with a service-learning project, helping to clean up the camp, and play some favorite games of the Children's International Summer Village program.

Area libraries have provided books for use by the children in the week-long day camp.

"Passport to the World" day camp is an annual program of the Stillwater Montessori School held at the Page Farm and Home Museum. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Additional information about Passport to the World is available by calling museum Director Patty Henner at 581-4100.

UMaine Sustainable Agriculture Field Day July 17 in Stillwater

13 Jul 2007

Contact: John Jemison, 207-581-3241, jjemison@umext.maine.edu

STILLWATER, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold its annual Sustainable Agriculture Field day for farmers, crop advisors and other members of the agricultural community on Tuesday, July 17. It will take place at Rogers Farm, UMaine's 100-acre forage and crops research facility on Bennoch Road in Stillwater. This free event will feature talks on many different agricultural topics, and those who attend may receive one pesticide certification credit and three Certified Crop Advisor credits. Registration is set for 9 a.m., and events will run until 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Gale Clendenning at 207-581-2953.

The sessions will cover many areas, including small grain production issues, oil and energy crop production, specialty potato varieties, cover crops to suppress soil pathogens in potatoes, spring grains, and new grass varieties. In addition, there will be a brief talk on the reestablishment of the Black Bear Food Guild, a community-supported organization that grows crops on three acres of Rogers Farm, providing fresh organically grown vegetables twice a week to 60 shareholders.

UMaine Extension's statewide sustainable agriculture program works closely with producers, industry representatives, college faculty members and USDA agencies to improve agricultural efficiency and reduce agricultural impacts on the environment. Forage crop management and use, pasture and grazing systems, nutrient management strategies, and soil management and health are all important parts of this educational program.

Tuesday's event will feature several specialists: John Rebar, Extension interim director; Ed Ashworth, dean of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture; John Jemison, Extension water quality specialist; Peter Sexton, Extension crops specialist; Tim Griffin, New England Plant, Soil and Water Research Laboratory agronomist; Lois Berg-Stack, Extension ornamental horticulture specialist; Eric Gallandt, associate professor of weed ecology and management, and his assistants, Lauren Kolb and Tom Molloy; Mark Hutton, Extension vegetable specialist, and his assistant, Heather Bryant; and Hayley Williams and Britta Jinson, students and members of the Black Bear Food Guild.

Middle East Expert Set for July 23 Talk on U.S.-Iran Relations

16 Jul 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; George Manlove at (207) 581-3756 BANGOR -- Bruce Riedel, a Middle East expert of international stature who serves as Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution's Saban Center for Middle East Policy, will speak on U.S.-Iran relations in Bangor on Monday, July 23. Riedel will present "U.S.-Iran Relations: Looking into the Future" at 7:30 a.m. in the second floor lecture room at Bangor Public Library. His talk is part of the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum Series, a community forum organized by UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs. The forum brings recognized scholars and other authorities to Bangor to discuss timely issues of interest to a wide audience, increasing awareness of international affairs. "Bruce is a prominent analyst with 30 years of experience and is widely respected in Washington for his balanced position," says Prof. Bahman Baktiari, director of research and academic programming in the School of Policy and International Affairs. "He predicted the situation in Iraq, and was one of the few people who warned the administration that its Iraq policy will undermine the war against Osama Bin Laden." Riedel's previous positions include service as Special Adviser working for NATO in Brussels, Belgium; work as a member of the Royal College of Defense Studies in London; service as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Near East and North African Affairs at the National Security Council, and time as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs at the National Security Council. His expertise, in areas such as counter-terrorism and Arab-Israeli issues is widely known. Both the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times quoted Riedel in July 13 news reports related to the threat posed by Al Qaeda.

Bartel Named Interim Hutchinson Center Director

16 Jul 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST -- Lavon Bartel has been named interim director of the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Bartel, who retired earlier this year after a decade as dean and director of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will succeed Margaret Malmberg, who resigned to accept a professional position in the Marshall Islands.

"We sincerely appreciate Meg's contributions to the Hutchinson Center, as director for the past year and as assistant director before that," says Robert White, associate provost and dean of UMaine's Division of Lifelong Learning. "We are fortunate indeed that Lavon has agreed to step in to this important role. Few people have a greater appreciation for UMaine's statewide role and ability to positively affect people through education and outreach. I am certain that the Hutchinson Center will continue its momentum under Lavon's leadership."

Malmberg has served as the Hutchinson Center director for just over a year. She succeeded the center's founding director, James Patterson, when he retired. She will become Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and Executive Vice President at the College of the Marshall Islands, where her husband Steven is designing and building a K-8 school.

The Hutchinson Center, named for former UMaine President Frederick E. Hutchinson, opened in 2000. It brings UMaine academic and outreach programming to midcoast Maine, offering people of that region opportunities to pursue college degrees, professional development and lifelong learning.

UMaine's Connell Receives Marine Biotechnology Award

16 Jul 2007

Contact: David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - UMaine School of Marine Sciences professor Laurie Connell and her research team were recently recognized by the Pan American Marine Biotechnology Association (PAMBA) for their groundbreaking work involving the relative resistance of clams to the toxin associated with red tide.

Connell and fellow researchers V.M. Bricelj, K. Konoki, S. P. MacQuarrie, T. Scheuer, W. A. Catterall and V. L. Trainer received PAMBA's first annual Marine Biotechnology Award of Excellence Prize for their paper, "Sodium channel mutation responsible for saxitoxin resistance in clams increases risk of PSP," published in the journal *Nature* (volume 434.)

In addition to contributing to the understanding of the effects of potentially deadly red tide toxins on different populations of clams, the project offered important new insights into the physiology and function of sodium channels, the tiny, charge-dependent gateways of the nervous system.

PAMBA was created to promote marine biotechnology in the Americas as a promising route to achieving sustainable socio-economic benefits from marine resources.

Bird Experts Flock to Orono; UMaine Hosts Field Ornithologists' Annual Meeting

16 Jul 2007

Contact: Rebecca Holberton (207) 581-2526; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- More than 100 ornithologists from across North America and the United Kingdom will be attending bird watching trips, sampling Maine cuisine, and, more importantly, sharing the latest breakthroughs in avian research at the Association of Field Ornithologists' 2007 Annual Meeting from July 26 -- 29.

Hosted by UMaine and co-sponsored by Maine Audubon and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the event brings together the world's leading experts in bird population dynamics, biology and behavior to discuss current projects and establish goals for future research. Featured presentations on seabird conservation and avian influenza will be open to the public.

"A lot of nationally and internationally recognized ornithologists got their degrees from UMaine," said UMaine professor and meeting organizer Rebecca Holberton. "I offered to organize this a year ago knowing that it would not only be a good opportunity for professional and student ornithologists to see UMaine, but also a great time to see birds here as well."

From Appledore Island migration to woodcock population monitoring, numerous presentations will bring attendees up to speed on the latest research, and more than a dozen excursions are planned to introduce participants to some of Maine's best-known avian residents.

Featured speakers include Nation Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program Director Stephen Kress, who will lead Friday's discussion with his presentation: "Restoring Endangered Seabirds: Lessons from Puffins and Terns," and

Peter Marra of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and National Zoo, who will present "Pathways of Dispersion: The Flyways and Byways of Avian Influenza" on Saturday. Kress' talk, to be held July 27 at 8:30 AM in D.P. Corbett Auditorium on the UMaine campus, will review some of the factor limiting seabird populations and will discuss some of the techniques that have been successful in reestablishing puffins and terns in the Gulf of Maine. Marra will address avian influenza's far-reaching implications and discuss the role of bird migration and the international bird trade in the spread of the disease. Marra's talk will be held on July 28 at 8:30 AM in D.P. Corbett Auditorium. Members of the public who wish to attend these free presentations should enter D.P. Corbett Hall from the Flagstaff Road entrance.

Students attending the meeting will have an opportunity to present their research as well, and numerous activities will allow students to meet other researchers and find mentors in their area of study.

Page Farm and Home Museum/Open Farm Day July 22

18 Jul 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Page Farm and Home Museum at the University of Maine will participate in the Sunday July 22 Maine Open Farm Day. More than 80 farms and farm museums around Maine will participate, hosting a variety of events aimed at celebrating Maine's agriculture industry and its agriculture heritage.

The UMaine museum will be open from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday, with a picnic lunch at noon. Other scheduled events include:

- a blacksmith operating an historic forge
- a spinning demonstration and herbal crafts
- ice cream and butter-making demonstrations
- field games throughout the day
- opportunities to see the museum's heirloom breed of Nankin Bantams
- tours of the heirloom vegetable garden and the herb garden

The lunch will feature homemade baked beans, biscuits, coleslaw, salads, watermelon, lemonade and iced tea. Guests are asked to bring a dish to share and a blanket to sit on. The event will go on, rain or shine.

Maine Grass Farmers Network Offers Pasture Talks

19 Jul 2007

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, 207-342-5971

GORHAM, Me. -- Maine Grass Farmers Network (MGFN), a collaboration of University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), will host its first of a series of Pasture Walks on Thursday July 19 at 5 P.M. at the Noon Family Sheep Farm. The walk will be lead by farm host Jean Noon and Diane Schivera, MOFGA Livestock Specialist and also of the Maine Grass Farmers Network, and will focus on sound pasture management, rotation, and renovation. After the walk there will be a potluck picnic. Those attending

should bring something to share. To get to Noon Family Farm from the junction of Route 109 and 11A in downtown Springvale head south on Rt. 11A (Oak Street). In about 1 mile at the blinking light turn right onto Hanson Ridge Road. After a steep down grade turn left onto Blanchard Road (Blueberry Bend). Take an immediate right onto Sunset Road at the fork. You will probably also see signs for PYO blueberries at the Rivard Farm. The farm is the first house on the left #78 Sunset Rd.

A second pasture walk will be held on Sunday July 22, from 1-3 p.m. at the Sebago Lake Ranch on Route 237 in Gorham. Attendees will learn about potential advantages of growing grass as managed pasture for livestock. This particular walk will provide an example of a farm that practices Management Intensive Grazing (MiG), and finishes cows without grain, using only grass and mineral supplements. "I've been practicing some form of MiG since 1999. We are currently around 35 head of cattle, including all ages," says Ben Hartwell, owner of the Sebago Lake Ranch.

UMaine Extension and MOFGA created the MGFN in response to livestock farmers

UMaine Sponsors Yankee Woodlot Trails Tree Tour

19 Jul 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

SKOWHEGAN, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tree tour of the Yankee Woodlot Trails on Norridgewock Avenue in Skowhegan, on Friday, August 3 from 10 a.m.-12 noon.

Patty Cormier, district forester with the Maine Forest Service, will lead the tour, which will provide an opportunity to see several different forest bio-types, including hemlock, pine, early succession and a mature forest. In addition, the property is home to wildflowers, a pond, vernal pools, seasonal streams and a deer wintering area. This event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested. Those interested should call the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, July 30.

This tour is an organized outing of the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to teach people young and old how to identify 50 trees of Maine over a two-year period, to teach participants how to best care for trees on their property and in their community and to help people to better understand the importance of trees to Maine, their ecosystems and their economy.

Starks Farm will Host UMaine Cooperative Extension Goat Enterprise Tour July 21

19 Jul 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471

FAIRFIELD, Me. -- The fifth tour in University of Maine Cooperative Extension's series of Goat Enterprise Farm Tours will take place on Saturday, July 21 from 10 a.m.-12 noon at Sunny Ridge Farm, 660 Chicken Street in Starks. This tour will focus on raising dairy and meat goats.

UMaine Extension's series of goat enterprise tours is taking place through September at farms around the state. Designed for anyone who wants to learn more about raising goats for meat, milk or fiber, these tours aim to teach sound goat husbandry and help support the growing Maine market for local cheese and meat. All tours are free and open to the public. No registration is required, but people should arrive at the designated tour start times.

The remaining tours will take place at farms in Dresden and Saco. Call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 for details.

Goats have been a traditional farm animal around the world for centuries. Considered browsers rather than grazers as they prefer leaves over grass, goats are known for their productivity and resourcefulness in grazing brush land. Raising goats is becoming increasingly popular in Maine, and it's not hard to understand why. According to the American Dairy Goat Association, the fat and protein in goat milk is more easily digested than that in cow milk, and goat milk is often tolerated by people allergic to cow milk. Goat milk is also naturally homogenized. Goat meat, called chevon, is low in fat and calories compared to beef, and is one of the most commonly eaten meats worldwide.

For more information about raising goats, contact UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, at 800-287-1471 or rbrz@umext.maine.edu. To be placed on UMaine Extension's statewide goat mailing list, contact Melissa Potts at 800-287-7170 or mpotts@umext.maine.edu.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Holds Annual Moon Garden Celebration

19 Jul 2007

Contact: Gleason Gray, 207-942-7396

STILLWATER, ME--University of Maine Cooperative Extension will once again hold its Moon Garden Celebration, a tradition of celebrating the July full moon, on Tuesday, July 24 at Rogers Farm on Bennoch Road in Stillwater. The 6 p.m. event will feature stories, songs and the Moon Garden, a garden with night-blooming plants grown by UMaine Extension Master Gardeners. It is free and open to the public. Some seating will be available but visitors are urged to bring their own chairs. In the event of rain, the event will be indoors.

Gardeners are invited to tour the Demonstration Garden starting at 5 p.m. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions.

The moon garden celebration will start with children

Education Commissioner to Open UMaine Conference on Dropout Prevention

19 Jul 2007

Contact: Theresa McMannus, 581-2441

ORONO -- Maine Education Commissioner Susan Gendron will open the 2007 Dropout Prevention Summer Institute hosted by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development on Monday, July 23.

The institute, being held in room 100 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building and the Memorial Union July 23-24, is open to all educators, but targets special educators, alternative education specialists, and school administrators. Registration and schedule information can be obtained by calling Theresa McMannus at (207) 581-2441.

Over the two-day conference, attendees will participate in six sessions dealing with alternative learners, alternative education and the Maine Learning Results, and post-secondary options for alternative learners.

Gendron is scheduled to deliver opening remarks at 8:30 a.m. in room 100, D.P. Corbett Building.

Other speakers include Bill Davis, professor of education and director of the Institute for the Study of Students At Risk, and educators from around Maine.

Institute sessions, being held in the Memorial Union, will cover six different topics: "Profile of an Alternative Learner," with Stan Keach, Martha Kempe and Pamela Mattos; "Regional Review of Alternative Education Programs," with Bill

Davis, Emanuel Pariser and Shelley Reed; "Navigating the System," with Jim Hodgkin, Helen Nichols, Emanuel Pariser and Jonathan Ross; "Classroom in the Community, with Gene Ellis and Amber Jeskey; "Post-Secondary Options: Exploring Life Beyond High School Graduation," with Rusty Brown, Jerry Ellis, Karen Keim, Emanuel Pariser and Jane-Ann Reinink; and "Translating the Alternative Education Experience into Maine Learning Results," with Pender Kimball.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers Grain Production Workshop and Field Day

20 Jul 2007

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, 207-342-5971, richardk@umext.maine.edu

SIDNEY, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Organic Milk Producers plan a grain production workshop and field day for interested dairy producers on Thursday, August 2 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Those who attend will get a chance to visit farms that have been experimenting with grain production to supplement the diets of their dairy cows. The program will start at the Rainbow Valley Farm on River Road in Sidney, where signs will direct visitors to the field-day site. Later that afternoon, the tour will head to Bullridge Farm on Bog Road in Albion. Lunch will be offered for \$5 by RSVP only; to RSVP or for more information, please call the UMaine Extension office in Waldo County at 800-287-1426 (in Maine) or 207-342-5971.

Beginning at Rainbow Valley Farm, the tour will examine the plots where the Bragg family grows both winter and spring organic grains. Extension Educator Richard Kersbergen will discuss the plantings, and also lead a discussion about the issues of growing winter grains in Maine and the value of growing winter grains as both a forage and grain crop to reduce feed costs.

The tour will proceed to Bullridge Farm, owned and operated by the Perkins family. Visitors will see some trials involving soybeans, and will tour plots of small grains including winter spelt, a grain that has received increasing attention for its use in human as well as livestock feeding markets. Lauren Kolb, a graduate student of UMaine's Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, will be on hand to discuss some innovative weed-control techniques in small grains that are being implemented in Europe and experimented with at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station farm in Orono.

This field day is based on support and research partnerships provided by the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program, the USDA/CSREES Integrated Organic Program, the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education, the Agricultural Research Service/New England Plant, Soil and Water Lab, the University of Vermont and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Biomass Research Presentation Set for July 26

20 Jul 2007

Contact: Sandra Neily, 581-2831; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Adriaan VanHeiningen, professor of chemical and biological engineering, will speak to students working on summer biomass research projects on campus at a public forum July 26, from 4-5 p.m. in the Jenness Hall Soderberg Lecture Theater, on "Potential New Bulk Products in the Forest Biorefinery."

The public is invited to hear about developing new uses for forest bi-products, specifically the removal of hemicellulose from wood pulp and conversion of hemicellulose into biofuels, energy, wood plastics and other industrial and consumer

products.

The process, under way at Red Shield Environmental, the former Georgia-Pacific Corp., is the result of collaboration involving Red Shield and UMaine's Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative, which is partially funded by the National Science Foundation and Department of Energy.

UMaine Hosting 2007 USA Masters Track and Field Championships

20 Jul 2007

Contact: Rolland Ranson, (207) 581-1077 / (207) 866-5889; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- A thousand athletes, aged 30 to 94, and their families, friends and supporters, soon will arrive at the University of Maine, Orono, for the 2007 USA Track and Field Masters Championships Aug. 2-5.

Athletes travel from almost every state in the nation, including Hawaii, Alaska and California to compete, according to Rolland Ranson, assistant head track and field coach at UMaine and director for this year's outdoor masters events. Other countries represented by athletes are Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Puerto Rico.

The event also is testimony to the adage "you're never too old," says Ranson.

"This is recognized and respected as one of the greatest championships in the world" and good publicity for the university, Ranson says, noting that this year's masters event logo includes a familiar UMaine symbol, the black bear. Internet exposure and event publicity efforts "just throws that UMaine black bear out there all over the world," he says.

Being selected to host the USA Track and Field Masters Championships is competitive, with many states vying for the privilege. UMaine hosted the event in 1998 and in 2002 because of its excellent facilities, including housing for athletes, according to Ranson. Many of the competitors and family members will stay in area hotels and inns, but more than 300 will stay in Hancock, Oak and Balentine dormitories.

"We have people aged 93, 94 and 95, plus 30-year-olds," says Ranson, a member of the board of directors for the Maine Association of USA Track & Field. "These are athletes who are continuing their competition, or starting. They travel throughout the country. They'll compete three or four times during the year."

Two of several Maine competitors are 75-year-old Bill Donnell, a Downeast sawmill operator from Sedgwick, Maine, who excels in the hammer throw, and UMaine philosophy professor and runner Doug Allen, a Yale track star in the early 1960s, Ranson says. Other competitors include a 93-year-old sprinter, Frank Levine from Pennsylvania, a former 1976 Olympian high-jumper, James Barrineau from Virginia, and a 40-year-old sprinter, John Simpson from Texas who runs a 10.50-second 100-meter dash -- faster than the UMaine track record of 10.58 seconds set in 1991 by former UMaine student Carl Smith.

"They'll do a lot of running events, but they also do a lot of jumping events and they throw the javelin, discus, hammer, and the shot put. It's phenomenal," Ranson says. "They make it a point to stay active and compete throughout their lives."

One thousand men and women are registered for more than 20 traditional track and field events. Participants compete in 14 age groups of five-year categories. With family and friends accompanying the athletes, Ranson expects the championships to bring about 3,000 people and "a huge economic impact" to the area.

This year's championships should be particularly good, since competitors also are preparing for the track and field World Championships Riccione, Italy in September, "so a lot is at stake in our championships," Ranson says. Events

begin at 7:30 a.m. and continue all day Thursday through Sunday, Aug 2 -- 5. Admission is free.

Ranson will get officiating help from throughout the state and beyond. They'll also be using the Brewer High School computerized photo-finish timing system, which Ranson considers the best in the world.

Others helping with the logistics of the event include athletic trainer Amy Adamo, Alford Arena maintenance supervisor Eric Stoup, assistant athletic director Will Biberstein, along with Bruce Stinson, director for conference services, the UMaine Sports Medicine Department, several local massage therapists and local teachers Dave Jeffrey and Glendon Rand., UMaine's Cutler Health Center will have EMTs and an ambulance available, thanks to Dennis Russell and Dick Young at the center. Athletics accounting supervisor Jenise Soucy is helping with program financials and accounting. Claude Junkins, director of engineering support services, and forestry professor Tom Brann will direct the on campus computer and wireless operations to put event results online quickly.

"One of the reasons we keep winning bids is our excellent outdoor facilities and grounds crew, medical, conference services" Ranson adds. "We are capable and ready for all situations. That is another major reason that the USA Nationals love to come back to Maine."

Further information about the event is available at the USA Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships is available at its website or by calling Ranson at (207) 581-1077.

Author Miriam Colwell to visit UMaine's Fogler Library

24 Jul 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, Web and Public Relations Specialist, Raymond H. Fogler Library, 207-581-1696 ORONO - Maine author Miriam Colwell, who turns 90 in July, has spent more than half her life wondering if her fourth novel, "Contentment Cove," would ever see the light of day. This and other topics will be part of the discussion when Colwell visits UMaine's Fogler Library this summer for a reading and book signing. Colwell's visit will be held in the Thomas Lynch University Club at Fogler Library on Wednesday, Aug. 1 from 2-3 p.m. Miriam Colwell was born in 1917 and raised by her grandparents when her mother died and her father fell ill with tuberculosis. She lived in the tranquility of Prospect Harbor until being shepherded into an exciting life in the arts through her companionship with painter, sculptor and writer Chenoweth Hall. The two met when Hall, who was living in New York at the time, came to Maine to visit friends. An acquaintance of Colwell's introduced the two, and they became committed companions until Hall's death in 1999. Colwell wrote "Contentment Cove" back in the 1950s. The book tells the story of what happens to an isolated Down East community when the influx of summer residents and new residents forever alters the lives of the natives and the character of the village -- a topic that remains as relevant today as when the book was written. "The more things change, the more they remain the same," she said, reciting a line from her book. "It was a long time ago, but certainly when I wrote it, it illustrated the changing demographic on the coast of Maine. And it seems that issue remains timely and topical still today." Copies of the book will be on sale at the event. Miriam Colwell's reading is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Grant to More Than Double Campus Recycling Effort

24 Jul 2007

Contact: Joshua Parda, 581-3322; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine on Monday received a grant for \$6,000 from the Johnson Controls Educational Giving Program to pay a Green Campus Initiative student-employee to more than double the number of buildings to be assessed for improvements in UMaine's recycling efforts. A student coordinator will review sustainability initiatives now in academic buildings, in addition to residential buildings. Previously, GCI staff member and GCI co-coordinator Josh Parda, was able to personally canvass residence halls, but not the larger number of buildings housing offices and classrooms. "It is our hope the position will uncover simple ways in which the university can reduce carbon emissions, improve recycling and reduce waste," Parda says.

"There is definitely room for improvement. A lot of it is simple. It could mean having recycling bins next to copiers." Parda says the biggest source of waste on campus is paper waste, which is highly recyclable. Receiving the check on Monday from Johnson Controls representatives John DiModica and Brad Parsons were: Gordon Nelson, director of property management for Auxiliary Services; Mike Parker, a student employee and co-coordinator of GCI; Parda; and Janet Waldron, vice president for administration and financial. Information about UMaine's Green Campus Initiative program is available by calling Parda at (207) 581-3322 or visiting the Department of Facilities Management's Sustainability website. Johnson Controls is a Milwaukee-based corporation that donates \$250,000 annually to schools, colleges and universities through its Educational Achievement Giving Program. Examples of programs and initiatives that its grants support include science and math materials, engineering scholarships, energy and environmental education, mentoring programs and solar boat or car competitions. Johnson Controls, Inc. specializes in automotive systems and facilities management and control technology, including thermostats.

UMaine Economist Releases Study Examining Racino's Influence on Bangor Hospitality Sales

30 Jul 2007

Contact: Todd Gabe (207) 581-3307; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Associate Professor Todd Gabe of UMaine's School of Economics recently released a report that looks at the effects of Hollywood Slots on Bangor-area restaurant and lodging sales. The report, which is available by contacting the author, shows a positive and statistically significant relationship between net gaming revenues at Hollywood Slots and area restaurant and hotel sales.

The results of the study are based on statistical analysis of monthly gaming revenues and retail sales figures from between January 2000, well before the racino opened, and March 2007.

"Other things being equal, a \$1 increase in net gaming revenues is associated with \$0.12 of additional spending in Bangor Area hotels and motels and a \$0.29 increase in sales at local restaurants," Gabe stated. "Between the months of November 2005, when the temporary gaming facility opened, and March 2007, Hollywood Slots' patrons spent an estimated \$14 million in Bangor-area restaurants and an estimated \$6.02 million in Bangor-area hotels."

Gabe cautioned, however, that the study examined only one aspect of the gaming facility's effect on the Bangor area, and the results of the study alone cannot be used to conclude whether Hollywood Slots has a positive or negative affect overall on the region or state.

Gabe also noted that the current study captures racino patrons' impact on restaurant and hotel sales outside the facility, but that the results of the study may not apply to future area sales when the new racino opens with its expanded dining and lodging options.

The report also found a substantial increase in gaming revenues since Hollywood Slots opened in 2005, with recent net revenues equivalent to over 20 percent of Bangor-area restaurant sales and exceeding the area's monthly lodging sales.

"The study has a pretty narrow focus," Gabe said. "But the results when properly framed should be of interest to Bangor residents and local officials."

New Scholarship Established to Benefit Deserving Students from Brooks, Maine

01 Aug 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, President/CEO, University of Maine Foundation, (207) 581-5100

ORONO -- The Louise Pilley Scholarship Fund has been established at the University of Maine Foundation with a bequest from Louise Pilley, long-time resident of Brooks. The income from the fund will be used to provide scholarships to needy and deserving scholars residing in the town of Brooks, Maine, who are graduates of Mount View High School, and plan to attend the University of Maine.

Louise Pilley was born in 1905, graduated from the Brooks High School, Mount Ida College and the Boston School of Fine Arts. A talented artist who was employed in Boston following college, Pilley returned to Brooks to care for her father, a druggist and prominent citizen of the town, after her mother died. She continued her art as a hobby, was well-read and well traveled.

Following her father's death she divided her time between Brooks and St. Petersburg, Florida where she was living at the time of her death one month short of her 100th birthday. The family homestead, circa 1818, was presumed to be one of the oldest homesteads in Brooks where classes in rhetoric, arithmetic, and writing were taught. In 2005, the home was given to the Brooks Historical Society by her second cousin, Bob Elliott of the 1950s radio duo Bob and Ray, and is now being restored as the Society's headquarters and museum.

"It is thanks to donors like Louise Pilley, who had the foresight and generosity to leave a bequest that Maine's young men and women will have the opportunity to realize the dream of a college education," says Robert Kennedy, president of the University of Maine.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that manages over \$185 million in private gifts and bequests, of which \$150 million comprises over 1,000 individual endowments primarily for scholarships. Established in 1934, the Foundation exists to encourage gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

Goat Enterprise Tour Continues in Dresden Aug. 26

07 Aug 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 800-287-1471, rbrz@umext.maine.edu DRESDEN, Me. -- The sixth tour in University of Maine Cooperative Extension's series of Goat Enterprise Farm Tours will take place on Sunday, Aug. 26 from 2-5 p.m. at Dragonfly Cove Farm, 5 McCobb Road in Dresden. Those who attend can tour the newly licensed kitchen, sample goat-meat dishes and learn about forming a marketing group for goat producers. Dragonfly Cove Farm is a member of Thyme for Goat, a collaboration of goat-meat providers made up of five small Maine family farms. Farm owners Marge Kilkelly and Joe Murray would like to have folks pre-register so that they can anticipate numbers; please call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 or e-mail aherr@umext.maine.edu to sign up for the afternoon. UMaine Extension's series of goat enterprise tours is taking place through September at farms around the state. Designed for anyone who wants to learn more about raising goats for meat, milk or fiber, these tours aim to teach sound goat husbandry and help support the growing Maine market for local cheese and meat. All tours are free and open to the public. No registration is required, but people should arrive at the designated tour start times. The last tour of the summer will take place at Liberty Farm in Saco. Visit <https://extension.umaine.edu/> or call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 for details. Goats have been a traditional farm animal around the world for centuries. Considered browsers rather than grazers as they prefer leaves over grass, goats are known for their productivity and resourcefulness in grazing brush land. Raising goats is becoming increasingly popular in Maine, and it's not hard to understand why. According to the American Dairy Goat Association, the fat and protein in goat milk are more easily digested than that in cow milk, and goat milk is often tolerated by people allergic to cow milk. Goat milk is also naturally homogenized. Goat meat, called chevon, is lower in fat than beef or even skinless chicken, and is one of the most commonly eaten meats worldwide. For more information about raising goats, contact UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski, at 800-287-1471 or rbrz@umext.maine.edu. To be placed on UMaine Extension's statewide goat mailing list, contact Melissa Potts at 800-287-7170 or mpotts@umext.maine.edu.

Hewnoaks Volk Family Center Celebrates Partnership with Camp Susan Curtis

07 Aug 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, President/CEO, University of Maine Foundation (207) 581-5100

LOVELL -- The University of Maine Foundation and the Susan L. Curtis Foundation announced the opening of the Camp Susan Curtis Arts Education Center at a Hewnoaks Volk Family Center reception in Lovell on Friday, July 27.

The Hewnoaks property, located along the banks of Kezar Lake, was bequeathed in 2006 to the University of Maine Foundation, for the benefit of the University of Maine, by Jessie Volk, wife of Wendell Volk, son of well-known American artist Douglas Volk.

The University of Maine Foundation leased the Hewnoaks Volk Center to Camp Susan Curtis to operate an Art Education Center, which provides educational programs in a summer camp format for disadvantaged Maine teenagers. The innovative approach involves utilizing various forms of art, history and the influence of Maine landscape on the young artists. In addition, the program encompasses various life and social skill lessons and is offered tuition-free to at-risk Maine teenagers. Since its establishment more than 35 years ago, Camp Susan Curtis has been dedicated to serving disadvantaged and at-risk youth of Maine with more than 12,000 Maine children attending camp sessions.

"The Art Education Center facility extends many of UMaine's important missions--youth leadership and development, art education, and community engagement -- to young people from all around our state," says UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy

In 2007, the University of Maine Foundation established the Camp Susan Curtis Scholarship Fund as a result of the bequest from the Volk Family estate. The income from this fund will be used to provide scholarship assistance to UMaine undergraduate students who attended Camp Susan Curtis as youngsters.

Two University of Maine students, and a former student, are counselors at the Art Education Center. Steven Barter, who graduated from UMaine in 2007, is now a teacher in the Lewiston Maine School System. He is a fifth-year staff member for Camp Susan Curtis. Rachel Hasty, a sophomore secondary education major, is a second-year staff member. Bouranee Kim, the Camp Susan Curtis Theater director who is in her third year on the staff, is a first-year UMaine business major.

"We are happy to play a role in improving the future of Maine's children and are looking forward to our continued partnership. We think Jessie Volk would be very pleased," says Amos Orcutt, president and CEO of the University of Maine Foundation.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that manages over \$185 million in private gifts and bequests, of which \$150 million comprises over 1,000 individual endowments primarily for scholarships. Established in 1934, the Foundation exists to encourage gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Sets Aug. 21st Garden Tour

09 Aug 2007

Contact: Gleason Gray, 207-942-7396, ggray@umext.maine.edu

STILLWATER, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold a garden tour on Tuesday, Aug. 21 at 6

p.m. at Rogers Farm, on the Bennoch Road in Stillwater. The "Something Old, Something New" tour will give people ideas of what to plant in their gardens next year. Lois Berg Stack, Extension ornamental horticulture specialist, will host the tour. UMaine Extension Master Gardeners will help answer questions and share how they designed their particular gardens. This event is free and open to the public; no pre-registration is required.

Rogers Farm, UMaine's research farm, features the Penobscot County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden, which includes elements such as honeyberries and other small-scale fruits, many varieties of basil and nasturtium, a brightly colored neon garden, examples of creative use of fences and native plants in an eclectic arrangement. Those who visit can enjoy their favorite traditional plants and also see a preview of what will be at garden centers in 2008.

The Demonstration Garden is open to visitors every day from dawn until dusk. When Master Gardeners are working, they provide tours and answer questions visitors may have; at other times, self-guided tours are encouraged.

For more information about UMaine Extension's Master Gardener program, contact your county University of Maine Cooperative Extension office.

For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

UMaine Recognized for Improving Air Quality and Reducing Traffic

10 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A joint program of two federal government agencies has designated the University of Maine as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters.

The Best Workplaces for Commuters program recognizes employers that provide environmentally friendly commuter benefits to employees. The designation identifies UMaine as an organization that is committed to reducing pollution, commuting costs and traffic congestion. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Dept. of Transportation administer the program.

UMaine is the first Maine employer to be recognized through the program.

"We are delighted to receive this designation, which affirms UMaine's commitment to environmentally friendly policies," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "It also demonstrates our faculty and staff members' willingness to participate in programs that provide the opportunity to make individual choices that have a broad impact. Our programs are successful only because of UMaine's employees."

In selecting UMaine for this designation, the Best Workplaces for Commuters program noted several UMaine initiatives:

- An arrangement with the Bangor Area Transportation bus service, through which UMaine pays a blanket fee that allows all faculty members, staff members and students to ride anywhere on the system by simply displaying their UMaine identification card

- The Green Bike Program, where green-painted bikes are left in various spots around campus for use by anyone who wishes to use two-wheeled transportation to get to another campus destination

- An ambitious carpooling program, set to begin Sept. 1, through which employees who carpool will receive free parking permits and preferred parking spaces

The carpooling program includes an emergency ride home provision, sponsored by "Go Maine," a statewide commuting solutions initiative sponsored by the Maine Dept. of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority.

UMaine has approximately 2,500 employees and 12,000 students.

This is the second time in six months that a government entity has recognized UMaine for conservation and environmentally conscious policies. In February, Maine's Public Utilities Commission's Efficiency Maine program gave UMaine \$50,000 as an incentive payment in recognition of UMaine's work to save energy through more efficient lighting systems and similar programs. Additionally, a new grant from the Johnson Controls Educational Giving Program will allow UMaine's student-run Green Campus Initiative program to dramatically increase recycling activities.

Best Workplaces for Commuters (www.bwc.gov) is a public-private partnership developed by the EPA and DOT. EPA and DOT have established a voluntary "National Standard of Excellence" for employer-provided commuter benefits. The program challenges employers across the country to voluntarily meet that standard.

UMaine Football Team Completes Army ROTC Black Bear Leadership Challenge Course

13 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Strong leadership and teamwork can make the difference between competence and excellence in most pursuits, including football. With their eyes on a Colonial Athletic Association championship, the University of Maine football team recently completed the UMaine Army ROTC leadership basics program.

On Aug. 9, under the strain of heat and physical exhaustion, eight ten-player teams learned new leadership skills by executing the Army ROTC Leader's Obstacle Course. Players planned their group's path through the course by considering each other's strengths and weaknesses. Additionally, players used critical thinking and problem-solving skills by answering UMaine football history trivia questions, building a common history, enhancing esprit de corps and further developing pride in the program.

"Just like in the Army, football requires you to be physically fit and able think after you've been pushed to the point of physical exhaustion," says Capt. Darryl W. Lyon, the Army ROTC Enrollment Officer, who was in charge of the event. "The course highlights the team's outstanding leaders and brings all the players together into a single unit." Members of the Maine Army National Guard's Bravo Company 3/172nd Infantry (MTN) ensured the safety of the individual players and provided motivation through out the afternoon.

The course provided a whole new experience for the team and met the coach's goals: teaching each player how to lead, follow and work as a team.

"This was an exceptional experience for our players. They learned a lot of valuable lessons that they will be able to take out to the field and use to succeed," says Black Bear Coach Jack Cosgrove, who says he was impressed with the way the groups collaborated to overcome the course.

Note: Photos from this event are available upon request.

Explorers Club Honors UMaine Professor

13 Aug 2007

Contact: Paul Andrew Mayewski (207) 581-3091; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- Paul Andrew Mayewski, UMaine professor and director of the Climate Change Institute (CCI), has been selected to receive the prestigious 2007 Lowell Thomas Award by The Explorers Club. The medal recognizes those who have excelled in communicating the importance of exploration and the field sciences and have pushed the limits of discovery.

The Explorers Club is an international society dedicated to the advancement of field research. Founded in 1904, the society works to preserve the instinct to explore by promoting all areas of exploration and encouraging collaboration and cooperation between its members. The club's members include some of the most accomplished explorers of our time.

Mayewski was a keynote speaker at the club's annual dinner in New York City. He became an Explorers Club Fellow in 1979 and was given the organization's Citation for Merit in 1995.

Mayewski holds a dual appointment with the CCI and the Department of Earth Sciences at UMaine. He is also a cooperating professor in the School of Marine Sciences. As an explorer, professor and scientist, he has led more than 45 expeditions to remote regions such as Antarctica, the Arctic, Himalayas, Tibetan Plateau and Tierra del Fuego.

His work in Antarctica has included leadership of the International Trans Antarctic Expedition in which Mayewski organized 20 countries and leads the US expeditions. He has served on numerous national and international scientific committees such as the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, the International Geosphere Biosphere Project, and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

Mayewski's research focuses on reconstructing the climates of the past, utilizing ice cores and other methods to determine how the Earth's climate has changed over time. With the help of his colleagues, he has collected ice cores that establish a year-by-year history of the planet's climate for the past 110,000 years.

Mayewski's research has helped to verify the existence of rapid climate change events in which global temperatures are believed to have changed as much as 20 to 30 degrees Celsius over the course of a single decade.

Mayewski began his research in Antarctica as a graduate student in 1968, and calculates that he has spent at least three years of his life living in a tent in some of the coldest and most remote locations on the planet.

Other honors have included the naming of a peak in Antarctica, Mayewski Peak, the SCAR Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research, a Fellow by the American Geophysical Union, and an Honorary Doctorate by Stockholm University. Mayewski has been featured in more than 300 prominent media venues including a recent interview on CBS 60 Minutes. He co-wrote a popular climate change book entitled "The Ice Chronicles" (P.A. Mayewski and F. White).

LINKS:

UMaine Climate Change Institute

<http://www.climatechange.umaine.edu/>

The Explorers Club

<http://www.explorers.org>

UMaine Alumni, Students, Faculty, Staff Invited to '07 Folk Festival

15 Aug 2007

Contact: Heather McCarthy, American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, 207-992-2630

American Folk Festival news release

BANGOR, Maine -- Organizers of the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, together with the University of Maine Alumni Association (UMAA) and the Bangor Region Development Alliance announced today that there will be a special reception for UMaine alumni, students and faculty during the Festival this year.

Scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 25, the reception is being coordinated by the UMAA, in partnership with the Bangor Region Development Alliance, and Festival organizers. University of Maine President Robert Kennedy will be on hand, as well as UMAA President Todd Saucier '93, '97G, and representatives from several Black Bear athletic teams, including Coaches Blodgett, Whitehead, Sullivan, and Woodward. The reception site provides a perfect vantage point from which to enjoy the Railroad Stage performance by the Dixie Hummingbirds.

The Festival's Bucket Brigade volunteers will be handing out University of Maine "bearpaw" stickers, in thanks for donations to the Festival.

Alumni, students, staff and faculty of the University of Maine are invited to attend the event at the Railroad Stage on Saturday from 2:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information about the 2007 American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront, please visit www.americanfolkfestival.com or www.mainealumni.com, or contact the American Folk Festival at 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine 04401, 207-992-2630.

UMaine Softball Team Placed on Three Years Probation and Suspended for One Week Next Spring Due to Hazing Violations

15 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Brent Williamson at (207) 581-4158

ORONO -- A University of Maine investigation has determined that several current members of the University of Maine softball team have participated in hazing activities while enrolled as UMaine students. Penalties include a one-week suspension for the entire team, to be served at the outset of the 2008 season, delaying the start of preseason preparation by seven days. The softball team has also been placed on disciplinary probation. Individual penalties have been assessed to three current student-athletes found to have been in violation of both the University of Maine Student Code of Conduct and UMaine's Student-Athlete Conduct Code. Hazing is expressly prohibited in both those documents.

"These are severe penalties which are appropriate given the serious nature of the offenses," says Blake James, UMaine's athletic director. "Hazing runs contrary to everything we stand for as a university and as an athletic department. It breaks down the foundations that support our teams, and it places individuals in difficult, sometimes dangerous situations. The message here is clear: we will not tolerate this kind of behavior."

The offenses came to light this summer when one of the softball players posted 2006 "rookie party" photos on the Internet. A hazing watchdog organization, ncaahazing.com, found the photos and put them online at that organization's

site, simultaneously notifying the Bangor Daily News, which published a July 21 story based on those photos. UMaine launched a two-pronged investigation. James conducted preliminary interviews and assessed whether the student-athlete code of conduct had been violated. He also referred the matter to UMaine's Office of Community Standards, a Division of Student Affairs unit that investigates possible violations of the Student Code of Conduct. The Office of Community Standards enlisted the consultative assistance of UMaine Prof. Elizabeth Allan, a nationally recognized academic expert on hazing.

Through these processes, investigators learned that similar parties occurred in the springs of 2004, 2005 and 2007. Each of these events occurred off campus, at rental properties occupied by team members. Several of the individuals involved are no longer UMaine students and are not subject to either code of conduct.

As a result of the combined investigations, the following penalties have been assessed:

- The softball team is suspended for one week at the outset of the 2008 season.
- The softball team will remain on disciplinary probation until May 31, 2010. Further violations of the conduct code during that time will result in more significant disciplinary action.
- Prior to the start of the 2008 season, the entire team will participate in 20 hours of community service, coordinated by UMaine's Bodwell Volunteer Center.
- The team will participate in a mandatory anti-hazing and alcohol education program, to be coordinated by the Division of Student Affairs.

Because of violations of the student-athlete code of conduct, the following three student-athletes have received individual sanctions:

- Junior pitcher Jenna Balent (Conifer, Colo.) will be suspended for two games during the 2008 season.
- Junior Courtney Gingrich (Lititz, Penn.) will be suspended for ten games and she will no longer be a team captain.
- Junior infielder Ashley Waters (Amesbury, Mass.) will be suspended for two games and she will also forfeit her captaincy.

Balent, Gingrich and Waters have also been found to be in violation of the general student conduct code. Federal privacy laws prohibit public disclosure of the penalties assessed under that code.

"We have high expectations with regard to student behavior at the University of Maine," says UMaine Dean of Students Robert Dana. "This is a serious academic community where people must conduct themselves in ways that demonstrate both self-respect and an appreciation of the ways in which our actions affect those around us. Hazing is one of those behaviors that will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

UMaine President Robert Kennedy and James have taken steps to expand hazing awareness programming for student-athletes, effective with the 2007-2008 academic year. In addition to the hazing education that is part of the annual student-athlete orientation program, Kennedy and James have created a mandatory hazing awareness program for all head coaches, with the accompanying requirement that those coaches specifically address hazing with their teams before every season. In addition, the Division of Student Affairs will conduct hazing and alcohol abuse education programs for each team, beginning in the coming academic year.

UMaine Researchers Present Blueberry Health Benefits

16 Aug 2007

Contact: Mary Ellen Camire (207) 581-1627; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition researchers Mary Ellen Camire, Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, Richard Cook, Alfred Bushway and Vivian Wu will be presenting the results of their research into the health benefits of blueberries in the annual meeting of the Bar Harbor Group beginning August 16. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the first meeting of the group, a collective of researchers studying the potential health benefits of wild blueberries. UMaine researchers have been part of the group since its inception.

UMaine professor Mary Ellen Camire's work has focused on the value of the berries and their pigments to control type 2 diabetes and obesity. She has conducted several studies with human volunteers, most recently investigating how blueberry compounds could act like the diabetes management drugs acarbose and miglitol.

Professor Dorothy Klimis-Zacas discovered that blueberries improve the structure of blood vessels in rats, thereby improving blood flow. Her research has implications for the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease and high blood pressure. Recently, Klimis-Zacas traveled to the University of Milan during her sabbatical to initiate a new research program on blueberries and prevention of blood vessel damage in persons with diabetes.

Associate professor Richard Cook is well-known in the state for his nutritional assessment of Maine's elderly population. Recently Cook published a paper in the Journal of the American College of Nutrition that demonstrated consumption of blueberries definitely leads to an increase in antioxidants in the bloodstream. He and his co-authors from the USDA Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center concluded that consumers should include blueberries or other antioxidant-rich fruits along with meals to prevent oxidative stress.

Wild blueberries can also protect health by killing bacteria that cause food-borne illness. Food science faculty members Alfred Bushway and Vivian Wu have successfully used the berries as a natural preservative in ground beef.

The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition works closely with the wild blueberry industry to identify emerging health issues and develop research projects that can demonstrate blueberry health benefits and strengthen the fruit's position in the marketplace.

UMaine Grant to Prepare Teachers for School Languages Challenge

17 Aug 2007

Contact: Laura Lindenfeld, 581-1843; Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, 581-2081; George Manlove, 591-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine has received a \$1.5 million, five-year grant to better prepare Maine teachers to work with a growing number of students just learning or still perfecting their English language skills.

The U.S. Department of Education Title III grant will enable research and teacher training in the area of English as a Second Language (ESL). The program being created through the grant also is expected to sensitize teachers to the diverse and specific educational needs of a range of students who bring cultural, language and even significant religious differences to the classroom.

"I think it's going to enhance everybody's teaching experience," says Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, a professor of German and a co-director of the program with Laura Lindenfeld, a professor of mass communication and the university's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

Maine schools now have more than 3,000 children and young adults who speak Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Serb-Croatian, Somali, Sudanese, Russian, Penobscot, Passamaquoddy or American Sign languages, according to the Maine Department of Education. To accommodate that growing number of students, the

population of ELS-trained teachers in Maine "is growing exponentially," Hoecherl-Alden says. While the classroom focus for multicultural students typically has been on learning English, Hoecherl-Alden and Lindenfeld say students should be encouraged to retain their native languages, since so much of their cultural identity is reflected in language.

"It's imperative for the University of Maine to reach out to teachers to help them provide the best possible support for the state's ESL students," Lindenfeld says. "We think it's very important to value people's languages and their cultural heritage."

"By allowing them to lose their native language, we're impoverishing the state of Maine and its ability to become a player in a global economy," Hoecherl-Alden adds.

New teaching methods designed to accommodate limited-English students also could help English-speaking students with learning disabilities, according to Lindenfeld and Hoecherl-Alden.

Several new classes are being developed for inclusion into the curriculum of the College of Education and Human Development to reach a specified number of education students and a group of current Maine school teachers, who will take the classes during the summer. The courses include a focus on English as a Second Language in math, science and mainstream classrooms.

Grant requirements also mandate that UMaine and the Maine Department of Education create a faculty research team to produce research in ESL teaching methods, and offer workshops on the subject for all teachers.

"The reality is every teacher, whether an ESL teacher or not, will face a diverse classroom," Hoecherl-Alden says.

The program begins this fall with 10 undergraduate and graduate students who will receive a stipend to assist with expenses. Additionally, the program will provide coursework leading to state ESL certification for teachers already in the field. After the five-year grant period concludes, Lindenfeld and Hoecherl-Alden expect 50 UMaine student teachers and 30 teachers already practicing will be certified as English as a Second Language teachers.

Anne Pooler, interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development, says the grant is welcome news as the university rises to meet the challenge of increasing multiculturalism in Maine's classrooms.

"We recognize the changing demographics in the country, in Maine and in the number of students who are of limited proficiency in English today's classrooms," she says. "As a college, we've been looking toward adding a concentration that would allow our students to be ESL certified, so this helps us accelerate a program we were about to design. This just propels us further."

-30-

Monmouth UMaine Cooperative Extension Specialist Wins National Recognition

17 Aug 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

MONMOUTH, Me. --David Handley of University of Maine Cooperative Extension was honored by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) at their 2007 annual meeting and professional improvement conference, held July 15-19 in Grand Rapids, Mich. Handley, who represented Maine as its voting delegate at the conference, received the Distinguished Service Award.

The Distinguished Service Award is granted for at least ten years of exceptional service to Cooperative Extension. Winners must have implemented an effective Extension program which includes carrying to completion constructive

and outstanding work. As Vegetable and Small Fruit Specialist and Cooperating Professor of Horticulture, Handley has been based at Highmoor Farm, UMaine's fruit and vegetable research station, since 1983.

Handley carries out applied research regarding vegetable and berry variety evaluation, and also coordinates the statewide integrated pest management programs for strawberries and sweet corn. He has also authored numerous fact sheets and newsletters, and is the co-author of two regional small-fruit production guides.

A photo of David Handley is available upon request.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offers Short Classes for Home Gardeners

20 Aug 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension has developed "Hort Shorts & More," a series of short courses and workshops for horticulture, agriculture and nature enthusiasts, offered in various locations in Cumberland County. The first session, offered Sept. 6 and 13 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Gorham Middle School, will be about preserving vegetables through pressure canning and other methods. The cost is \$25 per person. For more information or to register, contact the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205. Class size is limited for each course, so early registration is advised.

Other topics in the series will include growing pumpkins, cultivating indoor winter gardens, growing grapes and starting spring gardens with bulbs. Courses range from one to three sessions and cost between \$15 and \$55.

Participants will gain skills and knowledge to make them more confident and successful gardeners; meet others with similar interests; get hands-on experience; and receive a reference notebook filled with information relevant to the course. Instructors include UMaine Extension specialists and educators, UMaine Extension Master Gardeners and horticulture experts.

A full schedule follows:

Preserving the Harvest, Sept. 6 and 13, 6-8:30 p.m., Gorham Middle School;

Creating the Ultimate Spring Bulb Garden, Sept. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 207 Payson Smith Hall, USM Portland;

Considerations for Growing Grapes in Maine, Sept. 13, 20, 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Maine Forest Service in Gray;

Growing Great Pumpkins, Oct. 2, 6-8 p.m. Pineland Farms, New Gloucester;

Beat Your Winter Blues by Cultivating an Indoor Garden, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Reich School, Portland;

Growing Pumpkins for Fun and Profit, Oct. 4, 6-8 p.m., 18 Pineland Farms, New Gloucester.

Messaging System the Centerpiece of UMaine Emergency Notification Plan

22 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Since last April's tragic Virginia Tech shooting incident, University of Maine public safety officials and others have been working to develop a comprehensive, multi-layered communication system for use in the event of a campus emergency. A Web-based service that delivers messages to cell phones and email addresses is the centerpiece of the new system that will assure the timely delivery of accurate information during an emergency.

"Since last spring, I am certain every college and university has thoroughly examined its policies and procedures in these areas," says UMaine Dean of Students Robert Dana. "In our case, President (Robert) Kennedy instructed us to address the issue in a comprehensive way, and to put in place the procedures that will assure effective communications in the event of a serious emergency situation that requires mass notification."

Known as `umaine.txt`, the messaging system comes from `e2campus.com`, a national company with higher education clients all over the U.S. Once students, faculty members and staff members register online, they will receive emergency notifications in the form of text messages and/or email messages. The system also allows for delivery to RSS readers, PDAs, text pagers and user home pages on Google, AOL or My Yahoo.

Dana expect most students to lean toward the text message option.

"It is estimated that as many as 90 percent of college students use cell phones," Dana says. "It makes sense to use a medium with which they tend to be exceptionally familiar and comfortable."

Some cell phone packages include a nominal fee for received text messages. The system allows users to enter a second cell phone number for notification, perhaps for a phone belonging to a parent.

Students and employees can register to receive information about emergencies, about class cancellations in the case of inclement weather, or both.

In addition, procedures are in place to allow for quick updating of `umaine.edu`, UMaine's home page, in the case of an emergency situation. A recorded message at (207) 581-INFO will also provide up-to-date information.

Within the next two weeks, crews will install a siren at the top of UMaine's Class of 1944 Hall, located near the center of campus. If an emergency event occurs, UMaine police officials will sound that alarm, which will serve as a signal to members of the UMaine community to seek information, which will include advice about what people should do to assure their safety and well-being.

"If the alarm sounds, it is critical that everybody remain calm and systematically set about determining what is going on," says Chief Noel March, director of UMaine's Dept. of Public Safety. "They should check for text messages, see if they have received an email alert or visit `umaine.edu`. If those options are not available, folks should call 581-INFO. Because of the nature of our community, word will travel fast."

The new procedures are outlined on a sticker to be placed on the inside door of every residence hall room and many other rooms around the UMaine campus. In addition, Dana will send an email message to all students just before classes begin on Sept. 4. Each faculty member and staff members will receive information about the program in the campus mail during the next few days.

UMaine Contemporary Art Exhibition 'Without Borders' Opens

22 Aug 2007

Contact: Owen Smith, 207-581-4389

ORONO -- "Without Borders IV: Play, Fast Forward, Rewind," the fourth in a series of annual exhibits involving UMaine art and new media students, and currently on display at the Lord Hall art gallery, presents a wide range of work that is a unique melding of culture, art and technology.

The show runs Aug. 17 through Sept. 28. A reception for artists and the public, and a performance by composer and performance artist Paul Bosse and an "outstallation" performance by UMaine faculty member Raphael DiLuzio, is scheduled Sept. 14, from 5-7 p.m., at the Lord Hall Art Gallery. The exhibit is free.

This year's show is a mix of professional artists, collectives and UMaine students. This year's participants include:

The Beehive Collective from Machias, Maine, a group of artists who use their creative skills for social activism, solidarity and skill-building with the people of Maine and those with whom they work in Colombia and other parts of Central and Southern Latin America.

Cory Arcangel is a Brooklyn, N.Y.-based artist known for his artistic investigations into the relationship between video games, technology and popular culture. His work has been exhibited in the Whitney Biennial, the Guggenheim and Museum of Modern Art. His contribution to this show is a Web page pairing Google ads with Kurt Cobain's suicide letter. An entirely Web-based work, it can be viewed at: www.beigerecords.com/cory/kurt.

A River Blue is an arts-empowerment program developed by documentarian Chandler Griffin and singer-songwriter Joseph Arthur. The art work they present was created by 20 Ugandan students from grade school to high school from war torn Northern Uganda. The students live in an Internal Displaced Persons camp and participate in A River Blues program's meant to help them heal, grow and build skills through the arts.

Canadian Gareth Long is a multi-media conceptual artist whose work investigates material specificity, issues of translation and cross-cultural experience. A 2007 graduate of Yale University, Long has submitted several works including a version of Don Quixote created with multiple digital translation tools, a book on terrorism through the prism of a non-native French-speaking Canadian, and a new version of "Platoon," with subtitles drawn from a 1970's Canadian draftdodger's manual for recent emigres.

A 2006 University of Maine graduate, Rylan Shook, questions who our true monsters are with his piece "Under My Bed?" Currently, an Honors College liaison and independent filmmaker, Shook draws inspiration from philosophy, literature and a dry sense of humor.

University of Maine graduate students Sheridan Kelley and Tyler McPhee take on perhaps the world's most wealthy, and famous, artist with their inventive collaborative piece "After Damien...."

"Without Borders IV" marks a transitional year in art studies at UMaine. Beginning August 2008, the exhibit will serve as the culminating exhibition for Master of Arts candidates in the new planned Intermedia MFA Graduate Program. It will be the first master's level art and new media program in the state of Maine and will draw from the Departments of Art and New Media, in addition to other contributing faculty from all parts of campus.

"Without Borders IV" is sponsored by the Departments of Art, New Media, Canadian Studies, the Graduate College, the College of Education and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Canadian Embassy.

The website for the show can be found at www.intermediamfa.org.

UMaine Somali History Project Set for Folk Festival Stage Performance

22 Aug 2007

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of UMaine faculty members and students will present a Somali Narrative Project Readers' Theater performance at the American Folk Festival in Bangor Saturday and Sunday.

The performance, on the Maine Folklife Center Narrative Stage, is about Somali life, history and culture, and is scheduled Aug. 25, 4-5 p.m., and Aug. 26, 2-3 p.m.

The presentations include stories about Somali life from before and during the civil war, as well as stories from the diaspora and Maine. Collaborators include faculty members Mazie Hough, Kim Huisman, Kristin Langellier and Carol Toner and students Nasra Mohamed, Safia Nur, Hibat Sharif, Ismail Warsame, Khalid Mohamed, Abdirahman Osman and Britney Harris, joined by Lewiston-Auburn community members Ismail Ahmed, Hassan Adan, Qamar Bashir and Fatuma Hussein.

Huisman, Langellier, Hough and Toner established the Somali Narrative Project (SNP) in 2004 to address the rapid change and cultural tensions that emerged in response to the secondary migration of Somalis to Maine. The project is an interdisciplinary collaboration by University of Maine faculty, students and the Lewiston/Auburn community.

The project was made possible through the cooperation of the Maine Humanities Council, the University of Maine Center for Teaching Excellence and the University of Maine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program.

Princeton Review Ranks UMaine Among Best Colleges

23 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- For the fourth consecutive year, the Princeton Review lists the University of Maine as one of the best choices for undergraduate education. The New York-based publisher announced the listings from its annual book, "The Best 366 Colleges," earlier this week. Princeton Review rankings are based on several criteria, including the opinions of each institution's students.

Only about 15 percent of the four-year colleges in the U.S. are chosen for the list.

"We are pleased that the Princeton Review has once again recognized UMaine as a quality institution on a national scale," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This ranking also shows that UMaine's students feel good about the UMaine undergraduate experience and that they are willing to tell others that UMaine provides both quality and value. I can't imagine a better recommendation than one coming from our students"

Princeton Review has also designated UMaine as one of the 222 Best Northeastern Colleges.

An average of 325 students per institution respond to the Princeton Review's 80-question survey.

"We chose schools for this book primarily for their outstanding academics," says Robert Franek, Princeton Review's vice president, publishing. "We evaluated them on institutional data we collect about the schools, feedback from students attending them, and our visits to schools over the years. We also consider the opinions of independent college counselors, students and parents we hear from year-long. Finally, we work to have a wide representation of colleges in the book by region, size, selectivity and character."

A Princeton Review editorial team visited UMaine during the 2004-2005 academic year.

"As we approach the beginning of the fall semester, this news presents further evidence of UMaine's momentum," Kennedy says. "We are excited about UMaine's current direction and its bright future, and this ranking signifies strong appreciation for the quality of of the UMaine experience."

Fall semester classes begin at UMaine on Tuesday, Sept. 4.

Land for Farming Needed

24 Aug 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, Me.--Got land? Let a farmer keep it productive. University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Farmland Trust have launched a pilot partnership to connect landowners in Cumberland County with farmers who need land. The goal is to develop a directory of available farmland for local farmers.

If you have extra land that a farmer could use, visit www.mainefarmlink.org, where information and applications for landowners and farmers are available. Start the process this summer or early fall, so that land may be evaluated and soil samples taken. While there is a nominal application fee for farmers, there is no cost to the landowner, and no minimum acreage required.

Farming in southern Maine faces a tough problem--lack of land. While the number of farmers is growing, and the demand for fresh, local food is increasing, the amount of available farmland is decreasing. Maine Farmland Trust

New UMaine Scholarship Established

24 Aug 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt 581-5100

ORONO, Me.--A scholarship honoring the memory of the late Mary Esther Treat Clark, University of Maine Class of 1944, formerly of Winterport and Belfast, has been established at the University of Maine Foundation to assist students to students who are graduates of Maine high schools and who are majoring in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

For over 30 years, Clark was president of the Little Chapel of All Nations of Tucson, Arizona, which was established to provide spiritual comfort and intellectual stimulation to students and faculty at the University of Arizona. The Little Chapel was endowed by Ada Peirce McCormick, a generous founder from Bangor, who shared with Clark a crusading interest in human rights.

Adine von Isser, current president of the Little Chapel Board, said of Clark, "This remarkable woman gave her life to fulfilling the dreams of Ada Peirce McCormick whose standards and values had such a profound effect upon Mary Clark and so many others. She ventured into uncharted territory in the quest for quietly assisting those individuals and organizations that represented unity and equality for all mankind and for the pursuit of excellence. Her goal was to maintain the core of humanism and love for all individuals that had been established. Her life was one of commitment and unflinching dedication."

Randi K. Kisiel, who succeeded Clark as executive director said, "Mary Esther

UMaine Anthropologist Publishes Research on Warfare Paradox

27 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Some leading scientists who have studied warfare through the ages have long suggested that humans -- the males of the species, at least -- have little choice when it comes to slaughtering one another in great numbers. Such warlike behavior, the scholars contend, is hardwired into the human brain.

We are, in other words, born to kill our own, an evolutionary trait that sets us apart from nearly all other species on the planet.

Paul "Jim" Roscoe, a University of Maine professor of anthropology and cooperating professor of Quaternary and climate studies, subscribes instead to an equally long-held theory that suggests just the opposite: humans actually have an innate aversion to killing. However, Roscoe believes that this natural aversion can be disabled when warfare is thought to be advantageous to a clan, a tribe or a nation.

"It certainly raises big questions, though," Roscoe says of his theory. "If we do have an aversion to killing, how is it that we manage to kill pretty efficiently? And since we are a species that kills, how could that aversion have evolved and persisted through time?"

Roscoe thinks he may have found the answer to this seeming paradox while conducting an exhaustive study of warfare among tribes in New Guinea, where he lived for a year and a half in the early 1980s and has revisited three times since.

"I argue that the uniquely developed intelligence of humans is the faculty that resolves those questions," says Roscoe, whose article on the subject appears in the September issue of *American Anthropologist*, considered the country

New Booklet Portrays Struggles of Maine Labor in 1907

28 Aug 2007

Contact: Bill Murphy, 581-4126; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756; Charles Scontras, (207) 799-3469

ORONO -- For those who might take for granted the progress and achievements of Maine's labor movement, University of Maine labor historian Charles Scontras has produced another publication -- a snapshot of Maine labor in 1907.

As Sept. 3, Labor Day 2007, approaches, Scontras, a researcher with the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education and author of numerous publications on labor history in Maine, has outlined some setbacks and milestones for Maine's labor movement a century ago. The latest in a series of booklets, "Labor Day 2007: Pausing to Reflect on Images of Maine Labor One Hundred Years Ago," is being published by the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education. The bureau, a department within the University of Maine's Division of Lifelong Learning, conducts labor-education programs and presentations throughout Maine for workers and their organizations, students, educators and government officials.

Scontras's newest booklet is significant because of its historical perspective, says bureau Director Bill Murphy.

"Many of the issues and problems confronted by workers in the past still exist. It is important to study labor history in order to learn from past worker experiences as we confront the challenges of today," Murphy says.

According to Scontras, organized labor has never enjoyed a permanent respite from anti-union ideas, values and beliefs.

"The struggle to protect and enhance the interests of workers continues in these times of economic transformation, liberalized trade policies, global markets, global competition, global hiring halls and the resurgence of a new 'offensive' against organized labor," Scontras says.

The year 1907 was a time when most factory workers had no unions to represent them and many laborers toiled 60 hours a week in buildings without adequate heat, ventilation or proper toilet facilities. Scontras writes that with few worker safety measures in place in 1907, the workplace had become increasingly dangerous to life and limb as a consequence of the continued application of science and technology to the process of production. Dangerous shafting, pulleys and belts, gears, wheels, planers, jointers, fumes, dust, poisons, structures filled with molten metals or hot

liquids created new hazards for workers in mills, factories, workshops and mines.

In the early 20th Century, Maine had only one inspector to police more than 8,000 establishments employing more than 75,000 workers.

Crusaders for labor reform fought an uphill battle trying to persuade a state legislature largely unsympathetic to Maine mill, quarry or woods employees. The Maine legislature, for instance, adopted the "Peonage" law in 1907, providing for the prosecution and jailing of hundreds of workers who quit woods jobs after accepting cash advances to travel to worksites to discover the jobs were deceptively advertised.

"Over the years, it was the labor movement and its struggles in Maine and the nation that challenged private power and its abuses, made capitalism more equitable, extended democracy to the workplace and proved critical in the creation of the nation's middle class," Scontras says. "It was labor, too, along with other progressive voices, that reminded us that the government which governs least is not necessarily the best. A weak government simply left the economic arena in the hands of private power, which history had demonstrated could also be quite as arbitrary and capricious as any unrestrained government."

Organized labor supported the movement for grass-roots democracy through citizen referenda and initiatives, which allowed labor to circumvent the legislature by taking its case directly to the people.

"The initiative and referendum political reforms that are now frequently utilized by Maine citizens owe their origins to the labor movement and others who were intent on restoring democracy and 'power to the people,'" Scontras observes.

Other milestones from 1907 included the organizational efforts by Maine lobster fishermen which gave rise to the Lobster Fishermen's International Protective Association, the first of its kind in the nation. Successful strike action led to increased catch prices. Also, the infamous textile worker strike at Marston Woolen Mills in Skowhegan led by the radical and militant Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), highlighted the tensions between some of Maine's competing labor unions.

"Labor Day 2007: Pausing to Reflect on Images of Maine Labor one Hundred Years Ago" is available at \$3 per copy and can be ordered through the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education at (207) 581-4124.

UMaine Launches Hutchinson Center Expansion Campaign

28 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST, Me. -- A campaign to raise \$2 million in matching funds for the University of Maine's Frederick E. Hutchinson Center, in Belfast, was announced today by UMaine President Robert Kennedy. Combined with a \$2 million bond to be repaid from future tuition revenue, the money will be used to implement a plan the University of Maine System Board of Trustees approved in May. The expansion is designed to meet the center's pressing need for additional space after tremendous growth since opening its doors in 2000.

The Hutchinson Center was established by UMaine as a public/private partnership in conjunction with MBNA. Bank of America donated the building and grounds to UMaine in June 2006.

The theme for the expansion campaign, "*Aspirations, Access and Achievement*," is consistent with the center's commitment to meeting the needs of students and employers in the Mid-Coast area through a student-centered, individualized approach.

Earlier this year, the New England Board of Higher Education, a Congressionally authorized agency promoting educational opportunities and services and fostering economic development, recognized the Hutchinson Center's achievements with its prestigious annual Robert J. McKenna Award for Program Excellence.

The Hutchinson Center expansion project is part of the University of Maine's \$150 million comprehensive campaign, through which more than \$60 million has been raised to date.

The 15,000-square-foot expansion on the 11-acre campus will effectively double the classroom space. The addition will include science labs, multi-purpose classrooms and a multimedia broadcast and computing center as well as conference and faculty office areas. The educational benefits to students will include new offerings in allied health sciences, international affairs, the arts, hospitality and management.

A campaign volunteer leadership team has been working since late spring to prepare campaign materials, set up a network of volunteers based in the Mid-Coast and explore lead campaign gifts.

For information about the Hutchinson Center campaign and naming/memorial opportunities available, or to learn more about the Hutchinson Center itself, call Cathy Bradbury at (207) 338-8000, browse the website at www.hutchinsoncenter.umaine.edu or visit the center in person.

Free Signs will Increase Safety for Maine Farmers

30 Aug 2007

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-287-1471

ORONO, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension and several farm equipment dealers have joined forces to offer free "Slow-Moving-Vehicle" (SMV) signs to Maine farmers this year. These bright signs--fluorescent orange triangles bordered with reflective red--are mounted on the rear of farm tractors and implements traveling slower than 25 miles per hour in order to warn motorists of the slow-moving vehicle. Farmers that would like to obtain a free SMV sign should contact UMaine Extension at 800-287-1471. Farmers will receive a coupon and safety packet about how to use the sign and about the use of tractors on public roads. Farmers can then pick up their sign or signs (up to two per farmer) at their nearest participating farm-equipment dealer before October 31.

Many Maine farmers and farm workers are moving equipment, livestock, hay and crops with tractors, and on public roads this can be a dangerous situation. The reflective border of the SMV sign defines the shape of the fluorescent color in daylight, and creates a hollow red triangle when illuminated by headlights at night.

Participating farm-equipment dealers include the following businesses:

- Beaugard Equipment Inc.--Scarborough
- Delekt Bros--Auburn
- Greenway Equipment Sales--Bangor
- Greenway Equipment Sales--Ellsworth
- Hall Implement Co.--Windham
- Hammond Tractor--Union
- Hammond Tractor--Fairfield
- Ingraham Equipment Ctr.--Knox
- Kramer's Inc.--Sidney
- MPG Truck & Tractor--Presque Isle
- Peabody Parts Intl.--Houlton
- RS Osgood & Sons--East Dixfield
- Shaw's Ridge Equipment--Sanford

- Theriault Equipment--Presque Isle
- Union Farm Equipment--Union
- Wallingford Equipment--Auburn
- Waterman Farm Machinery Co., Inc.--Sabattus
- Wescott & Sons--Gorham

-30-

For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine

UMaine Announces \$6 Million Gift; Landmark Facility to Become Collins Center for the Arts

30 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Two of the University of Maine's most generous benefactors have provided a major new gift to support the university. UMaine President Robert Kennedy announced the details this afternoon before an audience of 175 alumni and friends at the UMaine President's House.

Richard R. and Anne A. Collins of Key Largo, Fla. have pledged a total of \$6 million to support UMaine initiatives in the arts and athletics. The bulk of the gift, \$5 million, will go toward renovations at the Maine Center for the Arts, to be renamed the Richard R. and Anne A. Collins Center for the Arts. The balance is dedicated to renovations at UMaine's Memorial Gym.

Calling today "the beginning of a new era in the life of (UMaine)," President Robert Kennedy thanked the Collinses and praised them for their long history of generous giving to their alma mater.

"Dick and Anne Collins are among the University of Maine's most generous and faithful donors," Kennedy said. "What makes the Collins' philanthropy so special is their incredible support for many aspects of the university, especially its performing arts and athletics programs."

Dick Collins, who graduated from UMaine in 1959, grew up on a potato farm in St. Agatha. Anne Collins, a member of UMaine's Class of 1961, was born in Belfast and raised in Farmington. They met as UMaine undergraduate students and have provided decades of loyal alumni service to UMaine. Dick Collins retired in 1992 after a successful career in the insurance industry, serving from 1980 to 1992 as President and Chief Executive Officer of American Life Insurance Company (ALICO), a subsidiary of American International Group. Under Collins' leadership, ALICO prospered, increasing annual revenue from \$200 million to \$2.4 billion.

Speaking at today's event, attended by daughters Jennifer and Pamela, Dick Collins described his family's "deep roots" in Maine and at UMaine. He described his abiding affection for his home state, and the powerful allure of Maine summer vacations when the family lived in such places as Iran, Lebanon, Japan and Bermuda. Retirement, he said, brought the opportunity for "Anne and I...to re-establish our ties here in Maine and to become more involved in supporting the university we both love."

Of particular interest, he said, was the possibility of helping establish "a nationally recognized facility for the performing arts" at UMaine.

"As part of an educational curriculum...the arts have always provided the foundation for young people to nurture their creativity, cultural understanding and self-expression," Collins said. "The opportunity for us to help us expose young minds to the works of Shakespeare, the music of Mozart and the art of Picasso was just too compelling to pass up.

"And the added benefit in our minds," he said, "is that the new center will not only be a draw for students and the university but that it can also be shared with all citizens of Maine and will allow them to enjoy a wider range of high-

quality performing arts."

Construction is underway on the arts center renovation, which will feature a spectacular new glass entrance, a renovated lobby, a new Hudson Museum on the second floor, an expanded Bodwell Lounge and a significant facelift in the Hutchins Concert Hall. The Collins gift brings total contributions and pledges to \$10 million. Anne Collins will spearhead the effort to raise the remaining \$1 million balance necessary to complete the project. The current projected completion date is January 2009.

The \$1 million gift will support UMaine's efforts to upgrade athletic facilities, including a planned \$12.5 million Memorial Gym renovation. A renovated gym will create a new home facility for Black Bear basketball, while providing much-needed office and support space for the UMaine Dept. of Athletics.

Dick Collins, himself a former Black Bear basketball player, has also agreed to serve as chair of UMaine's athletic facilities fundraising campaign, part of Campaign Maine, the university's current \$150 million, six-year comprehensive campaign.

"It is our sincere hope that (this gift) will inspire other alumni and friends of the university and those that love the great state of Maine to contribute to Campaign Maine and help secure the future of the University of generations to come," Collins said.

Kennedy announced during today's event that the Collins' donation brings the campaign total to \$70 million, approaching half the campaign goal in just over two years.

In welcoming the audience, UMaine Vice President for Development Barbara Beers heralded "a very important day in the history of the University of Maine....a day that marks the beginning of a new era of philanthropy supporting the state's pre-eminent public university."

Beers introduced H. Allen and Sally Carroll Fernald of Camden, the Campaign Maine co-chairs and longtime friends of the Collinses who spoke about their role in the campaign and the importance of that fundraising initiative. Prof. Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, shared his perspectives on the importance of philanthropy to UMaine's academic mission. Sophomore civil engineering major Clarissa Livingston also spoke about her goals and her studies, providing those in attendance with a vivid example of the kind of outstanding UMaine student whose opportunities are enhanced through private giving.

UMaine Welcomes New First-Year Class

31 Aug 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine opened its doors this morning to the Class of 2011, the largest first-year class in the history of the Orono campus. Some 2,105 new first-year students will begin classes, along with returning students, on Tuesday Sept. 4. The new class is approximately nine percent larger than the cohort that enrolled at UMaine last fall.

Nearly 82 percent of the new UMaine students are Maine residents, making this is the largest group of Mainers ever to enroll at the state's flagship university at the start of an academic year.

Additionally, the number of new transfer students is up approximately 1.5 percent from a year ago, increasing from 499 to 506.

"These data reflect UMaine's unique and vital role within our state," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Each year, more students are choosing UMaine for its quality and value. As we continue to enroll more students and graduate

more students, UMaine's impact on our state and the world beyond our borders grows. We are delighted to welcome so many talented, motivated students to our academic community."

UMaine's graduating classes in 2006 and 2007, numbering approximately 2,000 in each case, were the largest in the university's history.

Kennedy also pointed out that the new students also bring strong academic credentials to UMaine. Members of the Class of 2011 have a 1077

average SAT score, which is consistent with averages reported for the past several years. That number is well above the national average of 1017.

Total enrollment for the fall semester is expected to be 12,100, as UMaine continues on the steady growth plane that began ten years ago. That number reflects a year-to-year total student population increase of 2.5 percent.

Some 775 UMaine faculty members, staff members and students are spending part of Friday participating in UMaine's unique and award-winning "Maine Hello" program. UMaine greeters welcome the new students and their families as they arrive at residence halls, and they help out with the process of moving into residence hall rooms.

Students from 47 states and 62 countries will be part of the UMaine community this fall.

Enrollment numbers are preliminary until Oct. 15, the University of Maine System's official enrollment reporting date.

Editors note: historical fist-year class size comparisons reflect adjustments to normalize comparisons by discounting those students who enrolled at University College of Bangor when it was affiliated with UMaine for several years, ending in 1995. Data reported in this news release reflect comparisons of students enrolled in programs based at UMaine in Orono. Please contact Joe Carr (581-3571) if you would like more details.

Long Island Lobster Industry Fund to Support The Lobster Institute

04 Sep 2007

Contact: Cathy Billings, Lobster Institute; (207) 581-2751; cell (207) 949-2028

ORONO -- The Long Island Sound Lobster Fund has been established at the University of Maine Foundation for the benefit of the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine. This fund was established with a gift to the Institute's C.O.R.E. Campaign from people who work in Long Island Sound in Connecticut and New York. They experienced a tragic loss of the lobster stocks in Long Island Sound in 1999, decimating the industry and greatly affecting the lives of the more than 450 lobster industry families.

Those affected believed the cause of the fishery's collapse was largely due to the aerial spraying of pesticides along the sound. Officials from the Long Island Sound lobster industry brought suit against Cheminova, Clarke Mosquito Control Products, Inc. and Agrevo Environmental Health, Inc. claiming that these companies improperly used pesticides, causing damage to the Long Island Sound fishery. The case was settled, with the final disbursement of settlement funds occurring earlier this year. The lobster industry representatives insisted that \$100,000 to support the Lobster Institute be written into the court settlement, in recognition of the actions of the Lobster Institute as one of the first scientific organization to respond to the crisis, and of their ongoing efforts in support of the lobster industry in Long Island Sound and elsewhere. According to Nick Crismale, president of the Connecticut Commercial Lobstermen's Association, "It was the Lobster Institute that was the first to take us seriously when we thought there might be a link between the lobster die-off and the heavy spraying of pesticides to control West Nile Virus. The Institute helped us find the right research

reports and gain the knowledge to back our concerns. The Lobster Institute has a real concern for lobstermen as well as for the lobster resource. They do their best, with limited funding, to get the science we need to better understand lobsters and what affects them, so we can secure our lobster resource and make better management decisions. Our contribution is to support all that the Institute does for the lobster fishery. They were there for us and we thought this was something we could do for them in return."

A ceremonial check presentation took place in Guilford, Conn. on August 15, hosted by Bart Mansi at his Guilford Lobster Pound wharf. Crismale presented \$100,000 to Dr. Bob Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute, and signed a document officially establishing the Long Island Sound Lobster Fund. The purpose of the endowed fund is to help ensure that the Lobster Institute is always available to respond to the needs of the lobster industry and pursue the necessary research to safeguard the lobster resource while maintaining a vital fishery.

Others interested in preserving the health of the lobster resource and the integrity of its marine environment are welcome to contribute to the Long Island Sound Lobster Fund, or to create an endowed fund of their own through the Lobster Institute's C.O.R.E. Campaign. The C.O.R.E. Campaign is underway to secure the conservation, outreach, research, and education programs of the Lobster Institute for the future of the lobster industry. For more information, contact Cathy Billings at 207-581-2751 or cathy.billings@umit.maine.edu. Information about the C.O.R.E. Campaign is also available on the Lobster Institute's website at www.lobsterinstitute.org.

New Book on Early America Details Nation's Multicultural Past

05 Sep 2007

Contact: Liam Riordan, (207) 581-1913; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- With so many iconic pre-Revolutionary War events -- the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere's midnight ride and the first skirmish between "Redcoats" and the colonial militia -- happening in New England, early America historian and UMaine history Professor Liam Riordan understands why people may associate a predominantly English presence with the early American persona.

He maintains, however, that the association is a misperception.

A more accurate representation of early American social reality can be found among the diverse religious, racial, and ethnic populations of the mid-Atlantic region, whose relationships with one another changed dramatically during the American Revolution and in the post-war early national era, Riordan says. He makes his case in his recently published book *Many Identities, One Nation: The Revolution and Its Legacy in the Mid-Atlantic*, published by University of Pennsylvania Press.

Riordan looks at the lives of the people who settled, not in New England, but in the Delaware River Valley surrounding Philadelphia, buttressing his argument with evidence that includes tax, church, and census records as well as newspapers, personal papers, music, folk art, clothing and architecture.

"We think of early America, at least in the popular mind, as a place with a lot of Puritans. New England has long symbolized everything that's early American, and that's really a misrepresentation," Riordan says. "By looking at the mid-Atlantic, one of the obvious things we see is its enormous diversity of human settlement; the different cultural groups were critical to the social experience, and public and political life of people there."

Riordan explains this multicultural society by focusing on people in three specific towns, each with different key groups: African Americans in New Castle, Del. evolving from a slave society into a free society; bilingual Germans recruited by founding father William Penn to populate his Pennsylvania colony; and Quakers in Burlington, N.J., whose unorthodox religious practices and pacifist lifestyle contrasted starkly with the patriotic spirit of the day.

"I try to look at how all of those groups contributed to, experienced and were changed by the American Revolution, and I look at it over six decades, from 1770 to 1830," Riordan says. "It was a very dynamic and exciting period, but also filled with conflict."

In Pennsylvania, the heart of the Delaware Valley, the revolution was a controversial event that pushed the colonial elite out of power as new groups moved in to claim authority, something that didn't happen to the same degree in Massachusetts or Virginia, Riordan says.

"Local people's exploration of how one retains ethnic distinctiveness -- a cultural sense of self -- while still sharing in a broader public culture was perhaps the most pressing political question of the post-war era," he says. In New England, with strong English traditions, such questions about diversity were less urgent, he adds.

Social issues in slave societies like Virginia or South Carolina "were so dominated by a black-white dualism that American pluralism and diversity was not as front and center as it was in the mid-Atlantic," Riordan says. "I think that's part of why we haven't understood the prominence of these kinds of issues -- because so much of our understanding of early American history is dominated by either a view of Massachusetts as America or Virginia as America."

Riordan's sensitive assessment of cultural diversity uncovers cultural tensions in the Revolutionary Delaware Valley that are surprisingly familiar to contemporary cultural issues.

Benjamin Franklin, for instance, complained in newspaper articles that Pennsylvania's German immigrants could not fit into colonial society and that they would "Germanize us instead of us Anglicizing them."

Franklin offers "a wonderful example of both change and continuity in America's multicultural experience," Riordan says. "You change some of the words around a little bit and he could sound like a spokesman for anti-Latino immigration to California today. Yet, his core argument that Germans were not white and had a different 'complexion' from Anglo-Americans strikes us as bizarre. Studying early American cultural diversity can help us to recognize that the United States as a multicultural society has very deep roots."

American multiculturalism is not solely a phenomenon born from the Civil Rights Movement and Asian and Latin American immigration in the '60s and '70s, says Riordan.

"In today's world -- driven so much by new technology, the latest fad, and a preoccupation about what will happen tomorrow -- it is essential to reflect on where we've come from and the kinds of events and social groups that created American society during the Revolutionary era. This engagement is critical to sustain a healthy democratic society," Riordan says.

Riordan's book is available through Amazon.com and at select booksellers.

Page Farm & Home Museum Lecture to Discuss Maine Trotting Horse History

06 Sep 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The history of the Maine trotting horse from 1819 to 1890, their breeders, history of the tracks -- and the role of the University of Maine in that industry -- is the subject of the first brown bag lunch lecture series being held Sept. 11 at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

The noon presentation is free and open to the public. Speaker Clark Price Thompson has titled his talk "Maine trotting horse history and its UMaine connections."

Clark Thompson received his B.A. in history from the University of Maine in 1969 and an M.A. in teaching in 1970. After graduation, he served from 1970 to 1974 the U.S. Navy and went to St. Louis University Law School from 1974 to 1977. Thompson practiced law in Maine for 10 years.

Thompson began studying the history of the trotting horse in Maine when he moved back to Maine in 1977. He has served on the board of directors for the Bangor State Fair and focused his research on Bass Park, the site of the Bangor State Fair, and its racetrack.

Thompson has broadened his research to a state-wide focus, and for the last three years, has been working on a Maine trotting horse trail. With other volunteers he has placed six granite markers from southern Maine to Bangor that memorialize trotting horses or race tracks.

Digital Photography Workshop: From Camera to Computer to Printer in Three Easy Sessions

06 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr, 581-3571

BANGOR -- Do you wonder what the flower symbol means on the back of your digital camera? Do you agonize over which resolution to use? Do you know what resolution is? Would you like to learn how to print those pictures of your kids without wasting an entire day? Do you want to learn how to put them on a CD so that a photo lab can print them for you? Do you want to produce an art-quality image, but are not sure what settings or paper to use? Have you used only the automatic setting on your digital camera? If you answered YES to any of these questions, this class is for you!

In three easy sessions learn how to use, or better utilize, your digital camera, optimize image quality on your computer, save your pictures, and print any size. This workshop is for the novice and the intermediate digital photographer.

Session One

Understanding and Using Your Digital Camera

Session Two

Digital Darkroom and Imaging Software

Session Three

Image Manipulation/Critique and Troubleshooting

Dates: September 22, 29 and October 6, 2007, 9 - 12pm

Location: UMMA Classroom, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor

\$75 Non-Members

\$65 Members/UMaine students with ID

Digital Photography Workshop will be taught by Gina Platt, UMMA Education Coordinator

For more information or to register please call 561-3350

Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Announces Fall Lecture Lineup

12 Sep 2007

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program's fall 2007 lunch time lecture offers thought-provoking talks by noted authorities in women's studies and related subjects. Presenters include faculty members from the UMaine campus and special guest speakers.

All programs are free and scheduled from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted.

A related event, the 22nd Annual Maryann Hartman Awards to Women of Achievement ceremony is scheduled for Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House. This also is a free and public event.

Sept. 11

"Thawing the North: Sandra Nettlebeck's 'Mostly Martha' as a German-Italian Eat-Opia," with Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, associate professor of German, and Laura Lindenfeld, research assistant professor in the UMaine Department of Communication & Journalism and the Margaret Chase Smith Center; Bumps Room

Sept. 18

"The Walking Tour about UMaine Women: Past and Present," with Sandy Caron, professor of family relationships; Bumps Room

Sept. 25

"Gender, Schooling, and Forced Migration: Stories from Somali Women in the Dedaab Refugee Camp," with Patti Buck, assistant professor of education, Bates College; Bumps Room

Oct. 3

"Maine Women and the Environment: Edith Patch, Helen Nearing and the Next Generation," with Mary Bird, instructor in education and curatorial associate, and Mimi Killinger-Pandescio, part-time faculty, Honors College, and Cheryl Daigle, community liaison & outreach coordinator, Penobscot River Restoration Project

Oct. 10

"Sexual Harassment in the Transition to Adulthood," with Amy Blackstone, assistant professor of sociology

Oct. 16

"Ideal Femininity Changes Color: J Lo as the New Superwoman," with Lisa Flores, director of the Center for Critical Race Studies, University of Utah; Totman Lounge

Oct. 18

"Finding the Deep River within: A Woman's Guide to Recovering Balance & Meaning in Everyday Life," with Abby Seixas, psychotherapist and author; co-sponsored by the UMaine Bookstore, the UMaine Counseling Center and the University of Maine Employee Assistance & Wellness Program; Coe Room

Oct. 24

"The Great Legacy for Women of the Russian Piano School," with Ludmilla Lifson, Longy School of Music faculty and Solati Trio member, and Eda Mazo-Shlyam, Longy School of Music faculty

Oct. 30

"Religion and Sexuality: Gender Roles in the Major Religious Traditions," with Bangor-area religious leaders; part of the Religion and Sexuality Series; organized by Sandy Caron, professor of family relationships; FFA Room

Nov. 7

"Gentle Warrior for Peace: Tribute to Rita Joe, Mi'kmaq-Canadian Poet Laureate, 1932-2007," with Miigam'agan, a member of the Mi'kmaq Nation, Phyllis Brazee, director of the UMaine Peace Studies Program, and Paul Deagle, Skowhegan Area High School English teacher; part of Canada Week; organized by John Maddaus, associate professor of education

Nov. 13

"Latin American Women and Popular Culture: What I Learned in SPA 490," with Spanish lecturer Maria Sandweiss and students; Bumps Room

Nov. 27

"Male Faculty in the Women's Studies Classroom: Why Integrate Feminism into the Curriculum?" with Stephen Marks, professor of sociology, Eric Peterson, professor of communication & journalism, Marwin Spiller, assistant professor of sociology, and Nathan Stormer, associate professor of communication & journalism; Bumps Room

Dec. 5

"Between La Survivance and Cosmo: Grace Metalious' No Adam in Eden," with Susan Pinette, director of Franco-American studies and associate professor of modern languages & classics; where?

Dec.12

"Fibromyalgia in Women: A Literature of the Causes, Experiences, and Consequences," with Sandy Sigmon, professor of psychology

For more information, please call Women in the Curriculum and the Women's Studies Program in Fernald Hall at (207) 581-1228.

Neurogenetics Conference Scheduled (Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems news release)

12 Sep 2007

Contact: Karen Cashman (207-973-6164)

(Bar Harbor, Maine)--World renowned neuroscientists and the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health's Neurogenetics Consortium will gather this weekend at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratories to share and discuss the most leading issues in neurogenetics that affect the health of Maine people.

The newly formed Neurogenetics Consortium has a mailing list of 270 researchers, scientists, and geneticists from various institutions, universities, and colleges in Maine. The Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health serves as a

virtual hub to support the Neurogenetics Consortium, and promote collaborations between its members.

During the summer, consortium members have been collaborating on research proposals for the institute's new seed grant competition in neurogenetics research, in which the institute has invested \$220,000. Eight winning neuroscientist teams from around Maine will briefly present the work they hope to accomplish in the next year with these funds.

Janet Hock, BDS, PhD, director of the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health says, "These activities support our mission to facilitate research in Maine that will ultimately lead to new treatments and decrease the risk of neurologic and psychiatric diseases in this state. I am so impressed by the enthusiasm of the neuroscientists and clinicians in Maine to work together to form the Neurogenetics Consortium, and by the strong support and leadership from our collaborators at the University of Maine, The Jackson Laboratory, and The University of New England who helped to found this program."

The consortium is also an important opportunity for students. "We are provided with an invaluable opportunity to network and connect with some of the top researchers in the neurosciences today," says Jonathan Paul, a member of the Neurogenetics Consortium and graduate student in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Maine.

The Neurogenetics Consortium invited David Goldman, MD, chief of neurogenetics at the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism, a leading expert in the neurogenetics of psychiatric illnesses such as alcoholism, substance abuse, and related health problems, to provide a keynote address on Friday. Other renowned researchers, including Jeff Hall, PhD, the Genetics Society of America 2003 medal recipient, from the University of Maine, will speak as well during the gathering. This weekend's meeting was made possible by generous gifts from Healthcare Charities and The Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health.

"Exciting research is currently happening in the Maine biomedical community. One intention of the consortium is to focus activity on promoting student participation in neurogenetics by recruiting talent and encouraging young people that they can pursue world class research in Maine. We are enthusiastic about this conference because it will provide the opportunity to grow research that is essential to support advances in understanding the risks and ways to treat neurological and psychiatric diseases in this state," explains Maries Hayes, PhD, professor, University of Maine, and allied senior scientist at the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health.

For more information regarding this weekend's Neurogenetics Consortium conference please contact Suzanne Spruce (207-973-5758) or Karen Cashman (207-973-6164) at EMHS Community Relations.

The Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health is a member of EMHS. Together, EMHS members readily share best practices and support innovation and research to improve the lives of Maine people. Together We're Stronger!

Marxist-Socialist Studies Series (Controversy Series) Announces Fall '07 Schedule

13 Sep 2007

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Marxist-Socialist Studies fall speaker series at the University of Maine includes a full agenda of controversial topics over the next few months, ranging from child soldiers in Uganda to the Iraq war, and including discussions about healthcare, education and prisons.

Lectures are held Thursdays from 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted, and are free and open to the public. The Marxist-Socialist Studies lecture series is sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor and co-sponsored by Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC) and Campus Activities and Events, with support from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies,

at 581-3860 or by e-mail: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

The schedule is as follows:

Sept. 20

"Ending Child Soldiering: Building A Culture of Peace in Northern Uganda," with Arthur Serota, a UMaine graduate and executive director of United Movement to End Child Soldiering based in Uganda; Serota has worked in many African nations, and writes and lectures on community development, peace building, education, racism and social justice; (Totman Room)

Sept. 27

"The Iraq War and Occupation: What Is To Be Done?" with Professor Doug Allen, Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine and MPAC, giving a brief presentation on why U.S. funds for occupation of Iraq should be ended and troops removed as quickly as possible; following the talk, the forum will open for questions and expressing diverse points of view

Oct. 4

"'Sicko' Comes to Maine: How The U.S. Healthcare System Is Killing Us," with Peter Millard, a family doctor and epidemiologist; Millard belongs to Physicians for a National Health Program, which sees access to decent healthcare for all Americans as an issue of justice and equality

Oct. 11

*"Written in Blood and Fire: 'Primitive Accumulation' and the History of Capitalism," with Professor Marcus Rediker, distinguished historian at the University of Pittsburgh, who writes "history from below" and is author of many books, the most recent being *The Slave Ship: A Human History*; Rediker also will deliver the Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture at 7:30 p.m. in 100 Donald P. Corbett Hall.*

Oct. 18

*"Prisons and Democracy," with David Matlin, a San Diego State University professor and novelist, poet, prison activist and author of *Prisons: Inside the New America from Vernooeykill Creek to Abu Ghraib*; Matlin also will read from his fiction as part of the New Writing Series on Thursday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in 100 Neville Hall.*

Oct. 25

"Violence and Education: Why Universities Are Very Violent Institutions," with Professor Doug Allen, philosophy

Nov. 1

"The Growing Surveillance Society: New Threats to Our Civil Liberties, Freedom, and Democracy," with Shenna Bellows, the executive director of the Maine Civil Liberties Union; (Totman Room)

Nov. 8

"Achieving a Carbon-Free Society without Nuclear Energy," by Arjun Makhijani, Ph.D., director of the Environmental and Energy Institute in Maryland and author of many books and articles; Makhijani is the major speaker at the Sierra Club's annual dinner in Maine

Nov. 15

*"Record Profits at Any Cost: Exxonmobil, Hyper-Capitalism, and the Destruction of The Ecosystem," with Tom Jackson, widely acclaimed independent filmmaker of *Greetings from Missile Street* on Iraq and other documentaries;*

he'll show his latest film on climate change, *Out of Balance*, at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall. (Jackson's website is at www.joepublicfilms.com; (Totman Room)

UMaine 'Thwarted Voices' Concert Highlights Music of the Holocaust

13 Sep 2007

Contact: Phillip Silver, 581-1783; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- University of Maine music professor and pianist Phillip Silver's annual "Thwarted Voices," music of the Holocaust era concert, this year features a performance of Dmitri Shostakovich's extraordinary song cycle "Seven Romances on Poems of Alexander Blok."

The concert is Sunday, Oct. 21, at 2 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall, adjacent to the UMaine Memorial Union and Maine Center for the Arts buildings on the Orono campus. Admission is \$6 and UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard. More information is available from the Maine Center for the Arts box office (581-1755).

Silver's annual concert highlights music -- sometimes including newly discovered music -- by victims of Nazi and Soviet anti-Semitism.

Included in this year's concert is a performance of Shostakovich's "Seven Romances on Poems of Alexander Blok," which Silver characterizes as "sweet and deeply personal meditations about love, intimacy, friendship and the power of art, all surrounded and threatened by prophetic intimations of disaster and the darkness of the night."

The Seven Romances were composed in 1967 by Shostakovich, who was asked by cellist Mstislav Rostropovich and his wife soprano Galina Vishnevskaya to write them a "vocalize" they could perform. The result was to set Russian poet Alexander Blok's love poem "Ophelia's Song" to music. He also arranged another Blok poem for voice and piano for himself to perform with Vishnevskaya. A third followed, for violin and voice. In a final seventh song in a series, he put a hymn to music, for soprano accompanied by the piano, violin and cello.

Bringing the series to life at Minsky Recital Hall with Silver is cellist Noreen Silver, also of the university's School of Performing Arts faculty, Ferdinand Liva, first violinist with the DaPonte String Quartet in Damariscotta, and internationally acclaimed soprano Deborah Cook, well-known for her celebrated performance career and her teaching of voice in the United States, London and Germany. Silver has known both Liva and Cook personally for many years.

Also on the program is Israeli composer Paul Ben-Haim's atmospheric "Melody and Variations" for piano solo, Maurice Ravel's "Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano," and music by the Italian-Jewish composer Leone Sinigaglia.

Sinagaglia was a victim of the Nazis and the Silvers, along with Ferdinand Liva, will be recording a CD of his chamber music this coming spring.

Former Governor John H. Reed Portrait Unveiling at UMaine Sept. 21

14 Sep 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, President/CEO, University of Maine Foundation (207) 581-5100

ORONO -- A portrait of former Governor John H. Reed, painted by his grandson Reed Duford, will be unveiled at 2

p.m. on Friday, Sept. 21 in the Grand Foyer of the University of Maine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Gov. Reed, who was born in Fort Fairfield, Me., graduated from the University of Maine in 1942 with an Agricultural Business Management degree. A World War II U.S. Navy veteran, Reed was elected to Maine House of Representatives in 1954 and served one term before being elected to the Maine Senate. At the start of his second senate term he was elected Senate President, an office that in Maine is first in the gubernatorial line of succession. When Gov. Clinton Clauson died in office in 1960, Reed became governor. Maine voters elected him to that office in 1962.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Reed to head the then newly established National Transportation Safety Board, where he served for nine years. In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford appointed him U.S. ambassador to Sri Lanka and later the Republic of Maldives. And in 1981, President Ronald Reagan appointed Reed to serve again as ambassador to Sri Lanka.

Reed will also be the featured speaker at the Charles F. Allen Society luncheon, which will be held prior to the unveiling. The Charles F. Allen Society was established in 1995 to recognize alumni and friends who share the intent to support the University of Maine by will or other form of planned or deferred gift \$10,000 or greater.

Journalists are from Venus, Scientists are from Mars; UMaine to Feature Talk on Bridging Science and Journalism

17 Sep 2007

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, 581-3286

ORONO - Media coverage of environmental debates often shapes public awareness and opinions about science. While scientists play a critical role both as a resource for journalists and as a valuable information source for the public, they are often frustrated with how their work is portrayed in the press.

Two experts in the field of science communication will discuss the roles of scientists and journalists in a seminar at the University of Maine on Friday, Sept. 21. Nancy Baron will give a behind-the-scenes look at how scientific research is covered in the press, and ways to bridge the gap between the two cultures of science and journalism. Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Ken Weiss of the Los Angeles Times will discuss the realities of reporting on science and environment, and provide advice for scientists to keep in mind when talking with reporters.

Baron is a scientist and writer who helps other scientists communicate with the media and the public. Baron is the Ocean Science Outreach Director for COMPASS (Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea). She is also the lead communications trainer for the Aldo Leopold Leadership program, and is currently a center associate fellow at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis at University of California Santa Barbara. Baron has won numerous science writing awards and is the author of the popular field guide, "Birds of the Pacific Northwest."

Weiss and fellow L.A. Times reporter Usha Lee McFarling and photographer Rick Loomis received the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory reporting for their five-part series "Altered Oceans," described as "richly portrayed reports on the world's distressed oceans, telling the story in print and online, and stirring reaction among readers and officials." The series has received many other awards, including the 2007 Science-in-Society journalism award from the National Association of Science Writers.

The seminar will take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in 107 Norman Smith Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono. This event is free and open to the public, and is co-sponsored by the School of Marine Sciences, Maine Sea Grant, and the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at the University of Maine. For more information, contact Bob Steneck, 207-549-3062, or visit http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/esi/esi_seminars.htm

Sept. 24 Bangor Foreign Policy Forum Talks Set

19 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BANGOR -- Deepti Choubey, deputy director of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace's Nonproliferation Program, will deliver the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum's next talk, Monday, Sept. 24. The presentation is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. in Bangor Public Library's second floor lecture room.

She will discuss U.S.-India relations, the pending U.S.-India nuclear deal and other matters related to nuclear proliferation.

In her role at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Choubey is responsible for establishing strategic priorities related to nonproliferation. She designs and implements outreach activities, and leads the well-known Carnegie Nonproliferation Conference. Her specialties include nonproliferation and implications for U.S. foreign policy.

Choubey's talk is part of the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum Series, a community forum organized by UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs. The forum brings recognized scholars and other authorities to Bangor to discuss timely issues of interest to a wide audience, increasing awareness of international affairs.

The forum's website is <http://www.umaine.edu/spia/bfpf/index.html>.

UMaine Senior Skull Society and All Maine Women Welcome Class of 2008

19 Sep 2007

*Contact: Bob Potts, Advisor, Senior Skull Society, (207) 581-1149 or 1-800-934-2586
Samantha Lott, Advisor, All Maine Women, (207) 989-7474*

Orono, ME - The Senior Skull and All Maine Women Honor Societies at the University of Maine in Orono is pleased to announce the members of the Class of 2008.

The Senior Skull Society was founded in 1906 to publicly recognize, formally reward, and continually promote outstanding leadership and scholarship, and exemplary citizenship within the University of Maine community. The class of 2008 consists of 12 senior men who have shown outstanding leadership abilities, academic achievement, community and campus involvement, responsibility, and integrity while an undergraduate at the University of Maine.

The All Maine Women Honor Society was founded in 1925 to recognize distinguished leadership, scholarship and service to the University and campus community by outstanding women of the incoming senior class. Members are selected on the basis of exemplary character and integrity, MAINE spirit, scholarship, leadership, and potential for continued contributions to the University of Maine. All Maine Women are pledged to uphold and promote the ideals, the standards and the traditions of the University.

The University of Maine's 2008 All Maine Women and Senior Skulls consist of the following students:

ALL MAINE WOMEN

*Bethany Allen, Rockland, Maine
Major: Political Science*

*Morgan Bickford, Lebanon, Maine
Major: Business Administration, minor in International Affairs*

*Victoria Comer, Palm Desert, California
Major: Theatre, minor in Dance and History*

*Anh Do, Hanoi, Vietnam
Major: Business Administration, concentration in Finance and Accounting*

*Julie Faloon, Medway, Maine
Major: Civil Engineering, minor in Studio Art*

*Ashley Hoskins, Bucksport, Maine
Major: Parks/ Recreation/Tourism, minor in Psychology*

*Emily Lord, Kittery Point, Maine
Majors: Sociology and Women's Studies*

*Michelle Morneault, Madawaska, Maine
Major: Elementary Education, concentration Psychology*

*Erin Reusch, Salem, New Hampshire
Major: Kinesiology and Physical Education, concentration in Health Fitness*

*Meghan Simonds, Brewer, Maine
Major: Political Science*

*Elizabeth Tyler, Bangor, Maine
Major: Public Management, minors in Political Science and Public Relations*

*Jennifer Upham, Newburgh, Maine
Major: Nursing, minor in Child Development and Family Relations*

SENIOR SKULLS

*A. Riley Adams, Stratton, Maine
Major: Civil Engineering, concentration in structural engineering*

*Daniel Arsenault, Milford, Massachusetts
Major: Business Administration, concentration in Marketing*

*William Beaudoin, Durham, Maine
Major: Political Science, minor in Business Administration*

*Timothy Bossie, Houlton, Maine
Major: Biology, concentration in pre-optometry*

*Christopher Fisher, Winslow, Maine
Major: Chemical Engineering*

*David Haluska, Brewer, Maine
Major: Biological Engineering, minors in neurobiology and pre-medicine*

*Marshall Holmes, Albion, Maine
Major: Chemical Engineering*

*Douglas Mathews, Sanford, Maine
Major: Human Nutrition*

*Kyle Maynard, Dedham, Maine
Major: Business Administration, concentration in Finance*

*Steven Moran, New Gloucester, Maine
Major: Political Science, minor in History*

*Ross Theriault, Surry, Maine
Majors: Psychology and Child Development*

*Eric Young, Brewer, Maine
Majors: Biological Engineering & Chemical Engineering*

Conference to Focus on Improving University-Community Engagement

19 Sep 2007

Contact: Kathryn Hunt, (207) 581-1553

The University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Center for Teaching Excellence, in partnership with Maine Campus Compact, are inviting educators, policy-makers and members of the public to a day-long conference, "Strengthening Universities and Communities through Engagement," Sept. 26 at the Morgan Hill Event Center in Hermon.

The conference is designed to explore how colleges and universities nationwide are embracing "engaged teaching and research" as a means of enhancing scholarship, student learning and community outcomes. The conference is 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

According to co-organizer Kathryn Hunt of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, colleges and universities are exploring new methods of teaching, scholarship and providing public service, and this conference will address many of those issues.

"Nationwide, colleges, universities and the communities are facing a need to become more relevant and connected to the communities and regions in which they're located," she says. "This has contributed to a widespread movement to strengthen the civic mission of colleges and universities, a movement that is exemplified by the new Carnegie Classification for Engagement. Our goal is not only to strengthen student learning and faculty scholarship but, more importantly, to better bring the assets of higher education to bear in solving pressing community problems."

Conference speakers include keynote presentations from national experts. They are:

Lorilee Sandmann of the faculty at the University of Georgia, a post to which she returned to after 21 years in

administration at leading universities. Sandmann co-directs the award-winning Clearinghouse and National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement, initially sponsored by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. She played a key role in establishing the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification and currently serves on its National Advisory Committee, which assesses faculty and institutional performance on indices of engagement.

Linda Silka, director of the Center for Family, Work and Community, who serves as special assistant to the provost for community outreach and partnerships at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Silka also serves as the evaluator of numerous efforts across the United States to strengthen community-university partnerships. Among many publications, she edited the newly released *Scholarship in Action: Applied Research and Community Change*, published by the Office of University Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

And Armand Carriere, the executive director of the Worcester UniverCity Partnership, an organization founded by Mayor Timothy Mayer to serve as a catalyst for long-term economic growth and prosperity by facilitating communication among businesses, city government, neighborhood groups and non-profits organizations, and the colleges and universities in the Worcester area. Prior to assuming his current role, Carriere directed the Office of University Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

A chancellor's roundtable on engagement, involving chief academic officers from Maine campuses and moderated by UMaine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau, also is part of the conference activities.

Afternoon panel sessions are scheduled on:

1-Getting Tenure or Promotion with a Community-Engaged Portfolio

Nationwide, increasing numbers of colleges and universities at all levels of classification are recognizing community engaged scholarship and teaching in tenure and promotion decisions. Panelists will share their experiences and wisdom in presenting "engaged portfolios" for tenure and promotion. Following brief remarks from each of the panelists, the session will open to discussion among conference participants with a focus on identifying successful individual and institutional practices and resources available for strengthening engaged scholarship.

Panel speakers include: Lorilee Sandmann, University of Georgia (moderator), co-director, National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement; Michelle Vazquez Jacobus, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Southern Maine; Joseph Bandy, associate professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Bowdoin College; Lois-Ann Kuntz, associate professor of Psychology, University of Maine at Machias; and Brad Kinsey, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of New Hampshire.

2-Teaching through Engagement

Across the nation at all levels of education there is a push to bring relevancy and real-life applications into the teaching and learning process. This trend is also evident at higher education institutions. Engaged teaching and learning has been recognized as important not only to academic performance and student retention, but also to community outcomes. Panelists in this session will share models of good practice and strategize with participants about how to better integrate engagement across higher education curricula.

Panel speakers include: John Saltmarsh, (moderator) and professor, Department of Leadership in Education, University of Massachusetts at Boston, and president, New England Regional Council on Higher Education; John Ting, dean, College of Engineering, University of Massachusetts at Lowell; Kathleen March, UMaine professor of Spanish; and Mark Kavanaugh, social science instructor and director, Kennebec Valley Community College Center for Civic Engagement.

3-Engaged Research Initiatives: Moving from Stakeholder Involvement to Partnership

Academic research that takes place outside the laboratory is becoming an increasingly important force in addressing and helping communities solve local problems. While common sense might dictate that research, whenever possible, be approached in an engaged fashion. This is not always the case. Institutional and cultural barriers to applied research

must be overcome before community-higher education partnerships can achieve their full potential. This session will explore successful approaches to mutually beneficial partnership building and how they have helped to bring rigorous research to bear in solving pressing problems faced by communities.

Panel speakers include: Glenn Beamer, director, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and David Hart, director, Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research, as co-moderators; with Linda Silka, director, Center for Family, Work & Community, University of Massachusetts at Lowell; Chris Carrick, lecturer in sociology and associate for Community Based Research, Harvard Center, Bates College; Rob Lilieholm, UMaine E.L. Giddings Associate Professor of Forest Policy; and Ron Beard, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator.

For more information and to register, go to www.umaine.edu/mcsc/COPC/.

Spinners, Fiber Artists Plan National Spinning and Weaving Week Events

19 Sep 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- Spinners and other fiber artists are invited to celebrate National Spinning and Weaving Week at two events upcoming events, at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum in Orono and Leonard's Mills logging museum in Bradley.

A "spin-in" at the Page Farm and Home Museum will kick off the week, starting Sunday, Sept. 30, from 12-3 p.m. The week wraps up at a Fiber Arts Festival being held during Living History Days, Oct. 6-7 at Leonard's Mills, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Experienced spinners are invited to bring their own spinning wheels or hand spindles to share their skill and enthusiasm for this traditional art at one or both events. Beginners are invited to join in the fun at both sites and try their hand at turning animal or plant fibers into yarn. Weaving and other fiber arts, such as natural dyeing, quilting and rug braiding, also will be available for exploration at the Leonard's Mills event.

The Page Farm and Home Museum is located on the UMaine campus, in the white barn and silo south of the Maine Center for the Arts. Admission is free and parking is available. For information about the farm and home museum "spin-in," call 581-4100.

Leonard's Mills, located off Route 178 in Bradley, recreates an 18th century logging village. Admission to Living History Days is \$7 for people age 13 and up, \$2 for children age 2-12, and free for members of the Maine Forest and Logging Museum.

Participants in the Fiber Arts Festival at Leonard's Mills are welcome -- but not required -- to attend in period dress. For more information about the Leonard's Mills event, call 581-2871.

UMaine's Community ArtWorks Program Seeking Students

19 Sep 2007

Contact: Constant Albertson, 581-3251; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- ArtWorks, a University of Maine community art program for grade K-6 students, providing children an opportunity to explore the world of art through hands-on experiences, is open for registration for the fall session.

The semi-annual program offers children a chance to explore a variety of visual media, learn about the history of art, and the view other artwork.

The fall session runs for five consecutive weeks, with classes held Friday afternoons from 3:30-5 p.m. in Lord Hall on the Orono campus, beginning Oct. 12 and continuing through Nov. 9.

Classes will begin promptly at 3:30 p.m. in Lord Hall and conclude at 5 o'clock sharp, according to program director and art Professor Constant Albertson. Parents or guardians are responsible for their children's transportation to and from the program.

Class sections are organized by grade level and are limited to 22 students per group, and acceptance will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. A wait list will be kept in case of vacancies.

ArtWorks classes are taught by art education students under the supervision of Professor Albertson. The program provides an educational opportunity for area children to enjoy art classes on campus and also provides UMaine art education students with realistic classroom experience.

A \$25 course fee covers the costs of materials used in classes. A limited number of scholarships are available. For more information, please contact Albertson at 581-3251, call the Department of Art at 581-3245 or e-mail: constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu.

Applications may be sent to: University of Maine, Department of Art, Lord Hall, Orono, ME. 04469-5743, to the attention of ArtWorks!

2007 UMaine Grad Named Top Electrical/Computer Engineering Student

19 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- For the second time in four years, a University of Maine student is the top electrical or computer engineering student in the U.S.

Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society has selected Priyanth Chandrasekar, a 2007 UMaine graduate, the sole winner of the 2007 Alton T. Zerby and Carl T. Koerner Outstanding Electrical or Computer Engineering Student Ward. A national panel of professionals and academics selected Chandrasekar from a group of finalists.

UMaine graduate Matthew Rodrigue won the same award in 2004. Rodrigue, who is a UMaine Board of Visitors member, is currently working toward an MBA at Harvard Business School. UMaine student Louise Veilleaux was the 1979 winner. In the 42-year history of this award, UMaine, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of California - Berkeley are the only institutions with three winners.

At UMaine, the Bangalore, India native served as president of Student Government. He is currently in a graduate program at Cambridge University, studying finance.

"Priyanth was a real leader in our community, and he was an exemplary student," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He took full advantage of the comprehensive array of opportunities available to a UMaine student, and he contributed in significant ways. I am pleased that he has received this prestigious award, and I look forward with great anticipation to following his career and celebrating more achievements in the future.

Chandrasekar will receive the award at an event in March 2008.

UMaine Audiologist Booth at Special Olympics in China

20 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- University of Maine audiologist Amy Booth has spent her career providing hearing services to underserved populations in this country and around the globe. Now, she is going to China as a member of an international team of health professionals providing audiology screenings and hearing aid assessments to one such group -- Special Olympics athletes.

Booth was invited to the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, Oct. 2-10, to provide training and to help implement the Healthy Hearing segment of the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes initiative. With more than 7,000 athletes competing in this summer's Special Olympics World Games, Booth and her colleagues expect to do nearly 450 hearing screenings and hearing aid assessments a day.

"It was alarming for me to learn that this population was underserved (in hearing services)," says Booth, a faculty member in UMaine's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. "Some of the athletes have not had their hearing tested before, yet many are at high risk for hearing disabilities."

Booth's work with Special Olympics began in 2003 at UMaine, the site of the Special Olympics Maine Summer Games. She and UMaine communication sciences and disorders graduate students provide the Healthy Hearing component of the state games.

Last year, she was the clinical director for the state of Maine at the Special Olympics USA National Games in Iowa.

"I've gone to developing countries to participate in mass screenings, but this is a case of services being offered as close to the athletic events as possible," Booth says.

At the national and international games, Booth was involved in training other health professionals and students in how to set up an effective and efficient on-site audiology clinic. The work also involves the compilation of data that must be correctly entered into a Centers for Disease Control database -- the largest database on the health of individuals with intellectual disabilities in the world.

Booth came to UMaine in 1997 from Gorgas Army Hospital in Panama, where she was chief of audiology. As coordinator and supervisor of the Conley Speech, Language and Hearing Center's Audiology Clinic on campus, she works with graduate students to offer hearing evaluations, assistive listening device consultation and counseling.

She and her students annually collect used hearing aids to donate to Hear Now, a nonprofit program of the Starkey Foundation that assists low-income persons with hearing disabilities.

In 1999, Booth traveled to the Dominican Republic as part of an audiology team that helped fit 350 hearing aids as part of a humanitarian mission, sponsored by the Starkey Foundation.

"Service is important to me as an individual and to our department," Booth says. "My work allows me to give students a more global perspective and shows them that they may be called upon to do missions of service in this profession."

Maine Grass Farmers Network to Hold Grazing Conference

21 Sep 2007

Contact: Dee Potter, 207-834-3905

FAIRFIELD, ME--The Maine Grass Farmers Network (MGFN), a cooperative effort of University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA), will hold its fourth annual grazing conference on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield.

Registration begins at 9:15 a.m. and the conference ends at 4:15 p.m.. Registration is \$25, \$20 for each additional farm member who attends. That fee also covers lunch prepared with local products. For information or brochures, call University of Maine Cooperative Extension

School of Performing Arts Lists Fall 2007 Events

21 Sep 2007

Contact: Karen Cole: 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's School of Performing Arts has announced a fall schedule for music, dance and theatrical performances by UMaine faculty members and special guests.

Performances are in Minsky Recital Hall unless otherwise noted. Admission is \$6 and students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

The schedule is as follows:

MUSIC

Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.

"From the Workbench"

Faculty Piano/Voice Recital

Musical settings of new poetry and famous old poems by American composers, featuring settings by Mary Ann Joyce, Binnette Lipper, Donald Hagar, Jan Gilbert, Arnold Berleant, and the first performance of "Hurrahing in Harvest" by Joyce Hope Suskind;

also well-loved poems of Walt Whitman, Gerard Manley Hopkins and Emily Dickinson in new settings by William Goldberg, Robert Baksa, Cary John Franklin and Dace Aperans, with Nancy Ellen Ogle, singer, Ginger Yang Hwalek, pianist, and George Van Deventer, poet, with special guests Anatole Wieck, Lisa Nielson and Elizabeth Downing

Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.

Faculty Oboe Recital

Featuring Louis Hall, with guest oboist Laura Estey, pianist Surya Mitchell and UMaine music faculty members Laura Artesani, Ginger Hwalek, Anatole Wieck, Jack Burt, Liz Downing and Lisa Nielson

Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.

SPA Homecoming Recital

Come join current students, faculty and alumni in this musical celebration hosted by the 30-year reunion Class of 1977

Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Women Composers Concert

The 10th annual Women Composers Concert features the Athena Consort, directed by Heidi Corliss, and faculty and students from the School of Performing Arts performing works from a wide variety of styles and time periods

Oct. 21, 2 p.m.

"Thwarted Voices"

Phillip Silver's annual concert highlighting music by victims of Nazi and Soviet anti-Semitism; included in this year's concert is a performance of Shostakovich's extraordinary song cycle: "Seven Romances on Poems of Alexander Blok," sweet and deeply personal meditations about love, intimacy, friendship and the power of art, all surrounded and threatened by prophetic intimations of disaster and the darkness of the night; Paul Ben-Haim's wonderfully atmospheric "Melody and Variations" for piano solo; and Maurice Ravel's "Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano." Featured performers are Ferdinand Liva, first violin of the DaPonte String Quartet, internationally acclaimed soprano Deborah Cook and cellist Noreen Silver.

Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Piano Recital -- Guest Artists Ludmilla Lifson and Eda Shlyam

Performing to rave reviews across the United States, pianists Lifson and Shlyam are known for impeccable musicianship, harmonious unity, vitality and virtuosity. Thoroughly enchanted by this duo, faculty member Baycka Voronietsky arranges for them to perform at UMaine.

Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Chamber Jazz

The University of Maine's newest ensemble presents great jazz standards and new literature in an intimate setting; join us for another wonderful evening filled with student improvisations, accompanied by Karel Lidral on piano

Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. & Nov. 11, 2 p.m.

University Singers Concert

Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Percussion Ensemble

Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Collegiate Chorale

Nov. 18, 2 p.m.

Oratorio Society

Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Chamber Music Concert

Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.

UMaine Jazz Ensemble Concert

Hauck Auditorium

Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Opera Workshop

Dec. 1, 2 p.m. & Dec. 2, 3 p.m.

"Magic of Bangor"

Magic will be in the air when 200 singers from three UMaine groups join Bangor Symphony Orchestra to perform Robert Shaw's "Many Moods of Christmas," Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from "The Messiah" and other traditional holiday favorites. Performing groups include University Singers, Oratorio Society and Collegiate Chorale. Bangor Auditorium; Tickets available by calling the Bangor Auditorium box office at 942-5555.

Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.

Brass Night

Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Guitar Ensemble Concert

Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Symphonic Band Concert

Hauck Auditorium

Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Athena Consort & Black Bear Men's Chorus

THEATRE

"Hedda Gabler"

Ibsen's great social drama of a caged woman in the late 19th century explores her tormented desire for escape and her yearning for individual and spiritual freedom; directed by Sandra Hardy

Nov. 2-3 and Nov. 8-10 at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 4 & Nov. 11, 2 p.m., Hauck Auditorium; Admission \$10

READERS' THEATRE SERIES

Reader's Theatre

Two original one-act plays written by William S. Yellow Robe Jr.: "Falling Distance" and "A Great Thing." In "Falling Distance," two young lovers and their need to be together carries them from one world of the living to the great emptiness. "A Great Thing" is a hidden love story that embraces two people, two communities, two nations and two cultures. Free admission; Minsky Recital Hall, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Reader's Theatre

"Symposium" by Plato

Sponsored in part by the UMaine Classics Club; free admission

Minsky Recital Hall, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.

DANCE

Oct. 18 & Nov. 15

Emerging Dance Works

These sessions give the aspiring choreographer at UMaine the chance to exhibit works-in-progress in an informal setting as well as providing an opportunity for individual dancers to test their performance skills in a more relaxed and supportive atmosphere Minsky Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.; free

Dec. 14

Works-in-Progress Dance Showcase, Hauck Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

TICKET INFORMATION

For more information, please call the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755 or check us online at www.umaine.edu/spa

-30-

UMaine to Announce Largest Gift Tuesday

21 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine has scheduled at Tuesday, Sept. 25 10:30 a.m. event to announce the largest gift it has ever received.

Left to UMaine in the will of a graduate who died earlier this year, the gift will provide significant, long-term support for the UMaine School of Forest Resources' academic mission.

The Tuesday event is scheduled for a tent alongside Nutting Hall. UMaine President Robert Kennedy will announce the gift, with further perspectives provided by Dean Edward Ashworth from UMaine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, along with Prof. Steve Reiling, director of the School of Forest Resources. UMaine students Nicole Mercier and Spencer Perry will also speak during the event.

History of the Slave Ship Is Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture Topic Oct. 11

21 Sep 2007

Contact: Liam Riordan, 581-1913; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The history of the slave ship as a floating dungeon is the topic of this year's Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Lecture at UMaine on Thursday, Oct. 11.

The annual lecture is held in memory of Howard Schonberger, a UMaine professor of history from 1971 until his death

in 1991. The lecture is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building, behind the UMaine Center for the Arts.

Speaker Marcus Rediker, a University of Pittsburgh history professor and early American scholar, also is a poet, author and social activist in Pennsylvania. He is a published authority on Colonial America, Atlantic history, the global history of piracy, and theory and method in social and cultural history.

His evening talk is titled "The Floating Dungeon: A History of the Slave Ship." Rediker also will speak at the Socialist and Marxist Studies Luncheon Series earlier in the day, at 12:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. The title of his mid-day lecture is "Written in Blood and Fire: 'Primitive Accumulation' and the History of Capitalism."

Both lectures are free and open to the public.

Rediker is the author of many articles, papers and several books, including "The Slave Ship: A Human History," "The Many-Headed Hydra: Sailors, Slaves, Commoners and the Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic" and "Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age." Rediker will be available to sign his books following his lectures.

Rediker describes his approach to studying history as "people's history, social history or history from below." Rediker writes from the perspective that "working people and their movements have, over time, been active, creative forces in the making of history."

In addition to his work as a UMaine faculty member, Howard Schonberger also was active in both the Peace and Justice Center in Bangor and the Maine Peace Action Committee on campus. He was a founder of the Bangor Area Central America Solidarity Committee, now known as PICA (Peace through Interamerican Community Action).

For more details, contact Liam Riordan (581-1913) or Ann Schonberger (581-1229).

Neurogenetics Researchers Identify Stress Disorders of Maine People a Priority for Further Investigation (Eastern Maine Healthcare News Release)

24 Sep 2007

Contact: Karen Cashman, (207) 973-6164.

(Bar Harbor, Maine) September 14 -15, 80 Maine scientists, researchers, and students gathered at the Mount Desert Biological Laboratories to discuss the most leading issues in neurogenetics that affect the health of Maine people. The conference, hosted by the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, supports the institute's mission to facilitate research in Maine that will ultimately lead to new treatments and decrease the risk of neurologic and psychiatric diseases statewide.

"The Neurogenetics Consortium Conference was a huge success," commented Marie Hayes, PhD, professor, University of Maine, and allied senior scientist at the genetics institute, "The two-day event was filled with catalytic research discussion and productive networking. We established new collaborations and brainstormed across a wide variety of levels from bench science to translational research."

The importance of neuroscience and neurogenetics research relates fundamentally to genetic and environmental factors that promote stress responses, which over the long term can compromise health. Future work, ignited from the conference, will explore synergies across the neuroscience research laboratories statewide. One effort, identified as a priority for Maine, will focus on the neurogenetics of stress and stress disorders. "Like much of the American population, Maine has a high rate of stress disorders with lifetime risk of approximately 30 percent. The long term health impact is reflected in an increase of compromised cardiac and immune function, risk of addiction, and psychiatric disease. Through collaboration with our partners across the state, we hope to find ways to decrease the risk of stress disorder, which in turn will decrease the risk of the many illnesses that are associated with it," says, Dr. Hayes.

Future research is supported by seed grant funding, \$220,000 invested by the institute. During the conference eight out of 14 research groups statewide were awarded funding to plan for individual and interinstitutional grant submissions in the current months.

The Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health is a member of EMHS. Together, EMHS members readily share best practices and support innovation and research to improve the lives of Maine people. Together We're Stronger!

UMaine Sets Siren Testing, Emergency Message System Drill

25 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will conduct October testing and drills related to its new comprehensive emergency testing system. Some of these events will include sounding of the university's new alarm system, audible in parts of Orono and Old Town.

UMaine's new system includes both a siren and a Web-based messaging system called [umaine.txt](#). UMaine students, faculty members and staff members have been encouraged to register with [umaine.txt](#), which will allow for the instant communication of information by cell phone text message, email or other electronic means as selected upon registration.

Under UMaine's new system, the siren serves as a signal to seek emergency information, by visiting UMaine's website (www.umaine.edu), checking for a text message/email message or calling 581-INFO.

To be assured that the siren and the system work properly, regular tests have been scheduled for Mondays, beginning on Oct. 8

On that day, which is Columbus Day, at 12 noon, the siren will sound at full volume for a period of up to three minutes. This will be audible in much of Orono and parts of Old Town.

Every Monday thereafter, beginning Oct. 15 at 12 noon, UMaine will conduct a brief, low-volume siren test, just a few seconds in duration.

On Friday Oct. 19 beginning at 11:55 a.m., UMaine will conduct a full-scale emergency notification system drill. This will involve postings on [umaine.edu](#), notifications (text message and email) through [umaine.txt](#), a recorded message on 581-INFO and postings on First Class, UMaine's internal email conferencing system. The siren will sound on low volume beginning at 11:55, to serve as a warning to employees or contractors who might be working on roofs at that time. The full-volume siren signal will begin at 12 noon, and will last three minutes.

UMaine will conduct full-volume siren tests, as recommended by its manufacturer, four times each year, according to a schedule that will be developed and publicized later this year.

UMaine Offering Free Tree Tour

25 Sep 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

BANGOR, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tree tour of the Eastern Maine Native Plant Arboretum in Bangor and the University of Maine campus in Orono on Friday, Oct. 5. The tour is scheduled for 10 a.m.-1 p.m., with a rain date set for Friday, Oct. 12.

UMaine Extension Educator Marjorie Peronto will lead the tour, which will teach participants about 24 species of native trees and shrubs that are being evaluated for their use and performance in urban landscapes. Peronto will also show participants how to identify native trees and nonnative invasive species, and discuss the use of native woody plants in the landscape.

Participants will meet in front of UMaine Extension's Penobscot County office in Bangor at 307 Maine Avenue. This event is free and open to the public, but preregistration is requested. Those who are interested should call UMaine Extension's Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, Oct. 1.

This tour has been organized by the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to teach people of all ages how to identify the trees of Maine, how to care for trees on their property and in their community, and why trees are important to Maine, our ecosystem and our economy.

UMaine Workshop on Stuttering Planned for Oct. 20

25 Sep 2007

Contact: Marybeth Allen (207) 581-2403

ORONO -- The UMaine Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is inviting parents, children, teens and speech-language pathologists to a workshop Oct. 20 for stuttering and the strategies for managing stuttering.

A series of discussions and youth activities scheduled throughout the day at the Memorial Union on the Orono campus will explore new therapy strategies, the current scientific findings on the causes and treatment of stuttering, and will bring together young people who stutter to share experiences.

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

"The goals for speech language pathologists will be to not just gain insight into how the newest research can inform their work with kids and teens who stutter, but to also join with the parents of these children and teens to develop a common understanding of the roles each can play in the therapy process," says Marybeth Allen, workshop director. In addition, Allen says that "parents will learn about new research in the field and ways to partner with their child's therapist. Children and teens will join together to work on esteem-building and speech-facilitating projects."

Allen, a board recognized specialist in fluency disorders and a nationally certified speech-language pathologist, is a clinical educator in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, and coordinates the Stuttering Clinic in the Madelyn E. and Albert D. Conley Speech, Language and Hearing Center at UMaine. Along with Allen, the workshop is being conducted with Nancy Hall, an associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at UMaine. Hall, also nationally certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, teaches a graduate course in fluency disorders and conducts research on the onset and development of stuttering. The workshop will feature talks by Nan Bernstein Ratner, an internationally renowned stuttering expert from the University of Maryland.

"We are especially pleased to have Dr. Bernstein Ratner join us for the workshop," says Hall. "She is a very sought after speaker who brings a wealth of knowledge regarding stuttering and tremendous compassion for children who stutter and their families. She has written numerous books and articles on stuttering and has received both national and international awards for her research. Most recently, Dr. Bernstein Ratner was a key speaker at the National Stuttering Association conference where she spoke to people who stutter and their loved ones. She brings wisdom, energy and humor to her work in stuttering."

Research has shown that a quarter of children who stutter do not outgrow it, according to Allen, and the disorder is often misunderstood, even by some teachers, counselors and even pediatricians. Allen 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. 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 can be a major component of therapeutic intervention, according to Allen. The Oct. 20 workshop will address that, in addition to the importance of parents' and speech-language pathologists' roles in therapy programs.

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

Children, Hall says, will be grouped by age, learning from one another about successful communication, and participating 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 by visiting the Communication Sciences and Disorders website at <http://www.umaine.edu/comscidis/>

\$12 Million Gift to Support Students In UMaine School of Forest Resources

25 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- The largest donation in University of Maine history, a \$12 million bequest from 1937 UMaine graduate George L. Houston, was announced this morning in Orono.

"This donation will benefit generations of students and enhance UMaine's ability to serve our state in a unique and invaluable way," said UMaine President Robert Kennedy in making the announcement.

UMaine will use the money to establish the George L. Houston Scholarship Fund, an endowment that will support scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students in UMaine's highly-regarded School of Forest Resources.

Houston died earlier this year at the age of 91. He made the bequest to the University of Maine Foundation.

"Imagine the lives this gift will change, and imagine the long-term impact on our state and on the world around us," Kennedy said.

Born in Bangor and raised in Brewer, Houston was a UMaine football player and a member of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and the Xi Sigma Pi honor society. He worked for many years as an executive with the New York State Electric and Gas Company, and he developed an engineering and surveying consulting business after retiring from that company. In 1995, he donated his 217-acre family farm in Hudson to UMaine through the university's Green Endowment Program.

Kennedy pointed out that the bequest represents a "significant milestone" in Campaign Maine, UMaine's current six-year, \$150 million private fundraising campaign. The creation of scholarship endowments is a campaign priority.

"Mr. Houston's bequest is remarkable," said Edward Ashworth, dean of UMaine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. "It is remarkable not only for the level of generosity, but also for the investment in future generations of foresters and remarkable demonstration of confidence that he has in the School of Forest Resources at the University of Maine."

Ashworth and Prof. Stephen Reiling, interim director of the School of Forest Resources, told the audience that the school and its faculty are beginning an ambitious national recruiting effort right away,

"The continued influx of top students will enhance this already nationally-recognized program," Ashworth said. "Excellent students 'raise the bar' and increase the expectations for everyone in the classroom. They push their professors with their curiosity and aspirations and thus enrich the learning environment for all."

UMaine School of Forest Resources students Nicole Mercier (Winthrop, Me.) and Spencer Perry (Ashland, Me.) shared their perspectives on this announcement, as did UMaine graduate Patrick Strauch, executive director of the Maine Forest Products Council.

Former Maine Senator Mitchell, Yale Dean Speth at UMaine Thursday Presentation

26 Sep 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- George Mitchell, the former U.S. Senate Majority Leader for whom UMaine's Sen. George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research is named, will be a keynote speaker at a Thursday, Sept. 27 UMaine event.

Mitchell, who represented Maine in the Senate for 15 years beginning in 1980, will speak at the inaugural UMaine Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on the Environment. James Gustave "Gus" Speth, dean of Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, will be the other keynote speaker. The lecture event begins at 1:30 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium.

UMaine's Mitchell Center is an interdisciplinary unit, focusing on environmental research, graduate education and outreach. It was formed and named for Sen. Mitchell in 2000.

Speth, who is also the Sara Shallenberger Brown Professor in the Practice of Environmental Policy, wrote the critically acclaimed book "Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment." In that book, Speth suggests that efforts to protect our environment are not succeeding, and he offers a bold news vision for dealing with environmental and related issues.

Fighting Childhood Obesity Requires Community Approach

26 Sep 2007

Contact: Nellie Cyr at (207) 581-2461

ORONO, Maine - The biggest public health threat in the state of Maine, obesity, is putting more and more of the state's children at risk. Type 2 diabetes, hypertension and a variety of other serious health problems are on the rise in children, and public health organizations are focusing their efforts on educating kids about healthy lifestyle choices. But are these programs working?

UMaine kinesiology and physical education professor Nellie Cyr's research is helping to answer that question. In a research project that compared sixth and tenth graders in two greater Bangor area school districts, Cyr found that state-funded health education initiatives increase student understanding of health concepts, but that parent and community involvement may be necessary to affect measurable change toward healthier lifestyles.

"We looked at two similar schools, one with a state-funded health education position and one without. We administered surveys regarding healthy lifestyle choices - eating habits, food choices exercise - and measured each student's Body Mass Index over a four-year time period. We found that in the district with the funded position, the students were significantly more knowledgeable about their health, but there was no change in their BMI."

Cyr sees the discrepancy as evidence of schools' and educational programs' ability to effect the knowledge base and limits with respect to affecting real behavioral change.

"For the vast majority of students, parents and other adults are the deciders: they decide what is purchased at the grocery store, what restaurants to frequent and ultimately what goes on the plate," said Cyr. "It's clear that we need to incorporate parents and community groups into educational programs with respect to this public health issue. Childhood obesity is a very serious problem for the children of Maine, and we need to work together to solve it."

UMaine Study Indicates Humans Accelerate Trait Change in Animals

26 Sep 2007

Contact: Michael Kinnison (207) 581-2575; David Munson (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- The influences humans have on the habitats of other species have long been recognized, raising concerns about loss of species. However, another widespread outcome of such disturbance has come to light. After examining over 3000 estimates of rates of evolution in wild animal populations, all occurring in modern times, UMaine researcher Michael Kinnison and colleagues from McGill University in Quebec have found that humans are accelerating changes in the animals themselves.

Working with Andrew Hendry and Thomas Farrugia of McGill, Kinnison established a database of studies that examine occurrences of trait change (observable physical or behavioral changes) in animals over 1-200 generations, using it to determine the rate at which these changes occur over time. The researchers then compared rates associated with human activities, such as harvesting (fishing, hunting), pollution and the introductions of invasive species, with rates associated with natural disturbances. When all of these rates were combined, considering everything from insects to bighorn sheep, the investigators found that change driven by humans is nearly twice as fast as the rate in more natural situations.

But what does this mean for the ability of species to keep pace with humans? The scientists suggest that the message may be mixed. On the one hand, these findings suggest that a wide range of animals can pick up the pace when exposed to human influences. When beneficial, these changes could help species persist. However, the authors caution that some of these changes may not be beneficial or sustainable over longer periods of human interference.

"What is clear", says Kinnison, "is if we are concerned about these trait changes we probably don't have the luxury of decades or centuries to deal with them. Our data suggest that changes seen in a few generations are often as large as those seen over hundreds. In some cases we may be changing the face of life nearly as quickly as we are impacting the environments on which life depends."

While some scientists have suspected humans can speed changes in wild animals, this study is the first of its kind to pull together many studies to quantify the overall scale of this effect and its widespread nature.

"There's a certain practicality and power in pulling together many studies in a combined analysis like this", said

Kinnison. "The argument that observed changes in species are just isolated cases that can be brushed aside loses ground significantly when confronted by a pattern that emerges from the work of many scientists combined. It helps us to see the big picture."

The research was supported by the National Science Foundation, the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Kinnison's study can be found on-line early at the journal Molecular Ecology, along with other articles to soon appear in a special issue on evolutionary change in human altered environments.

International EcoPeace Community ESTIA Launching Fourth Conference Oct. 5: Earth Education and Permaculture Design

28 Sep 2007

*Contact: Hugh Curran, (207) 667-7170
Bill Giordano, (508) 380-3449*

BELFAST -- The International EcoPeace Community ESTIA is offering its fourth annual conference, "Earth Education and Permaculture Design" on Friday, Oct. 5, from 12-5 p.m. at UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast.

From a Wabanaki perspective, Earth education is an ancient concept that regards the Earth as the First Great Mother of all living beings. Permaculture is a design system for the creation of sustainable living environments. It offers solutions to the problems facing the world using ecology as the basis of designing integrated systems of food production, housing and technology, and community development.

The event will bring together the ecological wisdom that has helped sustain Maine's communities in the past. Participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and create cooperative eco-peace efforts.

Native keynote speakers Miigam

Cohen and Woodward to Discuss Watergate at UMaine Friday: Woodward Set for Cohen Lecture

01 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Bob Woodward will visit the University of Maine on Friday, Oct. 5. Former U.S. Senator and Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen will join Woodward for a 2 p.m. forum where they will discuss the 1970s Watergate scandal and its implications for American politics and society. At 7 p.m. that same day, Woodward will present a William S. Cohen Lecture, "State of Denial: The Inside Story on the War in Iraq." Cohen will introduce Woodward at the evening event.

As a Washington Post reporter, Woodward and his colleague Carl Bernstein led coverage that brought Watergate events to public attention. Cohen was a member of the House Judiciary Committee investigating the matter as part of presidential impeachment proceedings.

Woodward, described by CBS News' Bob Schieffer as "the best reporter of our time," has won nearly every American journalism award. He is the author or co-author of 11 best-selling non-fiction books, more than any other contemporary American writer. His most recent book, "State of Denial," examines the Bush administration's management of the war in Iraq.

Both Friday events are set for UMaine's Hauck Auditorium, which seats 500. There are no remaining tickets for either event. Past UMaine events of this nature have been held at the Maine Center for the Arts, but that facility is closed for renovations.

Maine television journalist and UMaine graduate Don Carrigan will host the 2 p.m. event, a William S. Cohen Papers Forum presentation, organized by UMaine's Fogler Library.

The Cohen Lecture, a function of UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce, is the sixth since the series began in 1997. Cohen delivered the first lecture in the series in March of 1998. The other Cohen lecturers were Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in October 1999, retired U.S. Senator and former astronaut John Glenn in 2001, former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in 2003, and CBS correspondent Dan Rather in 2005.

Cohen, a Bangor native, donated the papers chronicling his Congressional career to UMaine in 1997. In 2001, he donated his papers from his four years serving in President Clinton's cabinet. Fogler Library maintains that archive, which serves as a vital source for scholars studying American politics and government in the latter part of the 20th century.

Friday's events are part of UMaine's tenth anniversary celebration of Cohen's original donation.

Cohen and Woodward will be available to news reporters at approximately 3:45 p.m. in Fogler Library, following the afternoon event.

UMaine Economist Assesses Calais Racino Revenue Potential

02 Oct 2007

Contact: Todd Gabe, (207) 581-3307; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A University of Maine economist estimates that the racino in Calais proposed by the Passamaquoddy Tribe could generate between \$11.9 million and \$13 million in slot machine revenue.

Todd Gabe, associate professor in the UMaine School of Economics and a fellow in the Center for Tourism Research and Outreach, says that without a detailed survey of racino patrons, it is impossible to determine how much of the nearly \$13 million would be new money to the region or cash that would have been spent there anyways on other goods and services.

Gabe emphasizes that the results of his study are intended to be just one piece of information to be considered along with other economic and non-economic issues in the coming debates about the expansion of slot machine gaming into Downeast Maine. Voters will be asked in a statewide November referendum whether to allow the Passamaquoddy Tribe to develop a racino with up to 1,500 slot machines in Washington County.

The report, Gabe says, "gives people an idea of the amount of revenue that a facility like this would generate, if Mainers and visitors to Maine gamble at the national average."

Some of the \$11.9 million to \$13 million generated by the proposed facility would be taxed by the state, kept by racino operators, and used to pay the wages and salaries of racino employees.

Gabe's assessment is based on analyses of other U.S. states and casinos, including Hollywood Slots in Bangor. Gabe notes that he excluded Nevada, "because of Las Vegas' extraordinary nature as the 'gaming capital' of the United States and the large number of worldwide visitors that it attracts."

Gabe's research assumes that a casino in Calais would attract people from within a two-and-a-half-hour drive,

including residents of nearby New Brunswick, Canada.

Gabe concludes that the proposed racino would have a large impact locally relative to the size of Calais' hospitality industry. Gabe notes, "the projected impact of \$11.9 million to \$13 million in slot machine revenue is actually larger than the total sales generated by restaurants and hotels in the Calais area." By comparison, slot machine revenues at Hollywood Slots are equivalent to less than 20 percent of total hospitality sales in the Bangor region.

Gabe conducted the study at the request of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, but he received no compensation for the research. This project builds on his earlier work on casinos and, more broadly, the tourism industry, he says.

For further details, Gabe can be reached at the University of Maine School of Economics at (207) 581-3307.

Opening at UMaine Lord Hall: Faculty, Staff Art Exhibition

02 Oct 2007

Contact: Department of Art, 581-3245

Image available upon request: "Unhinged: A Plague on both your Houses," ceramic, by Constant Albertson, associate professor of art.

ORONO -- The Department of Art at the University of Maine is opening a new show, "WHAT'S UP," an exhibition of work by faculty and staff, in the Lord Hall Gallery on the Orono campus, Oct. 5-Nov. 21.

This year's work includes ceramics, drawings, installations, mixed media, paintings, photographs, prints and sculptures. The annual exhibition presents an overview of the creative accomplishments of studio, art education and art history faculty and staff. More than 20 exhibitors are showing more than 80 works.

An opening reception will be held on Friday, Oct. 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The campus community and public are invited. There is no cost. Lord Hall Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. On the Saturday of Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 13, the gallery also will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At the opening reception, Jefferson Goolsby, Laurie Hicks, and Nina Jerome will each give a brief talk about their current work. Goolsby produces experimental video and sound works that are processed for playback in a variety of forms, from interactive installation to screen-based playback.

Laurie Hicks, who has traveled extensively in the past year, says, her photographs "are part of an ongoing project that documents the particulars or details of specific places. They are in essence 'tourist photographs' that focus our attention on how visual details are critical to our memories of the places we visit or pass through as tourists."

Nina Jerome's new paintings, a series about Borestone Mountain near Monson, Maine, "explore panorama with shift in point of view, as well as personal ideas about depicting landscape structure."

For more information, contact the Department of Art at 581-3245.

Acclaimed Classical Pianists Coming to UMaine Stage Oct. 25

04 Oct 2007

Contact: Baycka Voronietsky, 581-1257; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine professor and School of Performing Arts senior pianist Baycka Voronietsky has invited two acclaimed musicians to campus for a guest performance recital at Minsky Recital Hall Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m.

Performing to rave reviews across the United States, pianists Ludmilla Lifson and Eda Shlyam, faculty members at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, are known for impeccable musicianship, harmonious unity, vitality and virtuosity, according to Voronietsky.

The duo plays so well that Voronietsky says she was emotionally moved by a recent concert. Bringing Lifson and Shlyam to the University of Maine creates a great opportunity for UMaine students to see and hear the superb performers and it offers an exciting concert for the community, Voronietsky says.

Lifson and Shlyam have performed together for 25 years, concurrent with teaching on the faculty of the Longy School of Music in Cambridge. The duo's wide-ranging repertoire includes world premiers and music written especially for them.

They have been featured as frequent guests on Boston radio stations WGBH and WBUR. They also were featured in a special interview on the "Morning Pro Musica" and "Note to You" programs, and opened a new series at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston University, MMTA conventions and many others revered venues.

Voronietsky is planning for Lifson and Shlyam to spend two days at UMaine, performing the public concert, making a presentation to the "Women in Music" class and teach a master class, open to all School of Performing Art students of piano.

Tickets are \$6, and students with a MaineCard are admitted free. Further information can be obtained by calling the Maine Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755.

UMaine Homecoming Set for Oct. 12-14; "Paint the Town Blue!" Theme Capture Essence of Homecoming Celebration

05 Oct 2007

Contact: Bob Potts, Marketing & Creative Services, (207) 581-1149 or (800) 934-2586

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine Alumni Association has announced the schedule of events for the 132nd Homecoming Weekend at the University of Maine, October 12, 13 and 14, 2007.

Honored Reunion classes this year include the classes of 1972, 1977 and the 25th Reunion Class of 1982.

Highlights of this year's Homecoming include the Black Bear football game vs. William & Mary, Saturday at 3 p.m. at Alford Stadium. Tailgating lots open at 12 noon and spaces are available on first come, first served basis.

Black Bear fans and alumni are also invited to join the Alumni Association in the "GO BLUE" tailgating tent, located near the entrance to Alford Sports Stadium, Saturday from 12 noon through halftime of the football game. Concessions and refreshments will be on sale, as well as music by the Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band. Admission to the "GO BLUE" tent is free and open to fans of all ages.

Saturday evening will play host to a 70's Dance & Pat's Pizza Party at Buchanan Alumni House from 6-10 p.m. Admission is just \$10 per person, payable at the door. RSVP to 1-800-934-2586 or to rebecca.brunton@umit.maine.edu

A popular attraction each year is the annual Alumni Association Craft Fair & Marketplace in the UMaine Fieldhouse. Hours are Saturday 10 a.m. -- 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. -- 4 p.m. Admission is \$1.00; under 12 FREE. UMaine students may enter for free using their MaineCard ID. The Craft Fair, northern New England's largest, features nearly

200 vendors offering a variety of Maine-made crafts.

For additional information on UMaine's Homecoming weekend, visit www.mainealumni.com

Transforming School Discipline: 'Restorative Justice' Conference Planned

05 Oct 2007

Contact: Barb Blazej, (207) 581-2625; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- A conference for teachers and other educators on the new concept of "restorative justice" in K-12 schools is being held Nov. 28-30 in South Portland.

"Transforming Discipline: Building Community through Restorative Practices" is being cosponsored by the Peace Studies Program at the University of Maine, Maine Law & Civics Education at the University of Southern Maine and the Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast. It is supported by the Maine Injury Prevention Program of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

The conference will introduce educators to restorative practices in school discipline and school climate change. Registration opens at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at the Sheraton Hotel, 363 Maine Mall Road in South Portland.

The keynote speaker Wednesday evening is Belinda Hopkins, Ph.D., author of "Just Schools: A Whole School Approach to Restorative Justice," about pioneering restorative practices in the UK and beyond. The conference continues Thursday, Nov. 29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday, Nov. 30, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Restorative approaches to discipline, rather than punitive, deal more effectively with student misbehavior by encouraging students to take responsibility for their actions and find ways to "make things right" with those they have harmed, according to conference organizers. Restorative discipline empowers students to be accountable for their actions in a school environment that is caring and responsive.

"This conference will bring together national experts and local practitioners of restorative justice in schools," says Pamela Anderson, director of Maine Law & Civics Education at USM. "These practices can restore a school community after an offense has shattered the sense of safety and security. The conference presentations will address the values, practices and applications of restorative justice in schools at all levels, K-12."

Restorative practices are proving successful in schools across the country and in Maine, according to conference organizers. A "whole school" approach to discipline builds caring school communities that support students, staff and administrators in feeling connected and respected, which in turn enhances learning results. Restorative practices also create safe schools where all members of the community are accountable for their actions, resolve conflicts, create positive relationships, and build an inclusive, respectful school culture.

The conference is Maine's first comprehensive look at restorative justice in K-12 schools.

"We're very excited to be offering this conference to Maine educators who are looking for new and effective ways to manage discipline and conflicts in schools," says Barbara Blazej, a peace studies program lecturer at the University of Maine and director of the UMaine Youth Violence Prevention Project. "The restorative practices approach teaches important life lessons and promotes a strong sense of community. We see this model as a valuable tool for creating a culture of respect within schools."

To register online, visit: mainelaw.usm.maine.edu/mlce. To register by telephone, call 207-780-5951, or email: conferences@usm.maine.edu.

Additional details about the conference, including registration fees, can be obtained by calling Barbara Blazej at 207-581-2625, Pamela Anderson at 207-780-4991 or Margaret Micolichuk at 207-338-2742. Blazej, Anderson and Micolichuk may be reached by email at barbara_blazej@umit.maine.edu, pamelaa@usm.maine.edu and rjpmidcoast@yahoo.com, respectively.

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Calling All UMaine Cheerleader and Dance Team Alumni

09 Oct 2007

Contact: Contact: Sandy Sanzaro, 843-6028

ORONO -- A great many University of Maine alumni have fond memories of college days at Alumni Stadium rooting for "Dear Old Maine" as a cheerleader or a member of either the dance team. Those who would like to rekindle those memories are invited to take part in the first "University of Maine Alumni Spirit Team" performance later this month.

Sandy Sanzaro and Krystal Mayo, UMaine Dance Team choreographers, say they hope to have a big turnout for the performance, which will be part of UMaine Homecoming 2007. Sanzaro, a 1983 UMaine graduate, was a Black Bear cheerleader while Mayo, who graduated in 2003, was a three-year dance team member.

The dance team is part of the UMaine marching band.

"We've watched each year as alumni band members have a great time when they return for Homecoming and perform with the band," Sanzaro says. "We think the time is right to join in with an alumni dance team routine to accompany the band at halftime. We are looking forward to performing with our former teammates, as well as those from earlier and later UMaine cheerleading and dance teams."

The group will meet on Saturday Oct. 13 to learn a short routine. That meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. in the second floor dance studio in Class of 1944 Hall. Beginning at 11, the group will rehearse for an hour with the UMaine Marching Band and the Alumni Band. They will perform at half time of the football game, which starts at 3 p.m.

Those who wish to perform should wear a blue sweatshirt, sweater, jacket or t-shirt with jeans or any blue pants, and sneakers.

For more information, contact Sanzaro at 843-6028 or tophatii@aol.com, by Oct. 10.

Puckerbrush Review Receives \$5,500 Grant from Maine Community Foundation

09 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine English Department recently received a \$5,500 grant from the Maine Community Foundation to support the continued publication of "Puckerbrush Review," a literary magazine founded in 1978 by the late Constance Hunting, who taught creative writing at the university for many years. The magazine is published twice

each year during the school year, and anyone can submit manuscripts.

Hunting named her magazine "puckerbrush," because it means new growth after the trees have been forested. She was most interested in launching new writers; and that is still the mission of "Puckerbrush Review," along with providing a first-class, Maine-oriented literary journal for all of Maine and beyond. As Paul Dorion, Editor-in-Chief of DOWN EAST magazine, recently said, "'Puckerbrush' is important to Maine."

Sanford Phippen, a writer who teaches in the English Department, has been appointed editor. Phippen worked closely with Hunting on the publication from the time of its inception. The editorial board advising Phippen consists of: Burt Hatlen, Tony Brinkley, Farnham Blair, Martha Tod Dudman, Kathleen Ellis, Sandra Hutchison, Betsy Graves Rose, Margo Lukens, and Sam Hunting.

A statewide organization with offices in Ellsworth and Portland, the Maine Community Foundation works in partnership with donors and community groups to strengthen Maine. For more information, visit the Foundation's website at www.Maineecf.org or call toll-free 1-877-700-6800.

National 4-H Week Highlights Youth in Science, Engineering and Technology

09 Oct 2007

Contact: Contact: Lisa Phelps, 207-780-4205

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine's 4-H program is recognizing the activities of 4-H youth work in science, engineering, and technology (SET) programs during National 4-H Week, Oct. 7-13, 2007.

As part of University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H youth development program, Maine 4-H members are combining learning, discovery, and fun in 4-H science, engineering and technology programs. Activities range from robotics and digital media to geospatial technologies (GIS/GPS) and animal and environmental science, as well as citizenship and healthy living programs.

While on the Galapagos Islands this past June, Washington County 4-H'er Paul Jans was able to use what he'd learned at a 4-H GPS/GIS training he took in Trescott, Maine. "I used my skills for mapping the trails on the many islands we visited and boat routes we took and important tourist destination spots. Additionally, I taught other group members how to use a GPS, along with coordinating mapping details with the paper maps." The information will be used to develop a website about tourism in the Galapagos Islands.

UMaine Extension Educator Lisa Phelps noted that a participant at a recent 4-H GIS camp indicated that they can now use these new technologies to do community service projects.

"In Maine the 4-H SET programs have allowed us to share new career possibilities with youth and teach them valuable life skills," she says.

For more than 100 years, 4-H programs have been providing youth with the innovative research and resources from land-grant universities such as the University of Maine. Currently, more than 5 million 4-H youth members participate in 4-H SET programs nationwide.

To learn how to become a 4-H member or volunteer leader in Maine, contact Lisa Phelps, Extension Educator at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, at 1-800-287-1471 or lphelps@umext.maine.edu. Learn more about the 4-H adventure at www.4HUSA.org.

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For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

UMaine Geologist Discovers Three New Minerals

09 Oct 2007

Contact: Edward Grew, (207) 581-2169

View a photo here.

ORONO, Maine - On a geological expedition along the windswept slopes of the Larsemann Hills in Antarctica, UMaine geologist Edward Grew collected samples of the area's unique rock formations that would later reveal three minerals previously unknown to science. The minerals, stornesite-(Y), chopinite and tassieite, are extremely rare and represented only by microscopic samples collected by Grew.

The unique mineralogy of the Larsemann Hills, located on the eastern shore of Prydz Bay in Princess Elizabeth Land, inspired Grew and his fellow researcher Chris Carson (now at Geoscience Australia) to make the four-month expedition in 2003 - 2004, which was funded by the National Science Foundation and made possible by the Australian Antarctic Division.

Grew and his colleagues identified and characterized the minerals using cutting edge technologies. Martin Yates used the powerful electron microprobe at UMaine to image the new minerals and measure their chemical compositions. Next, the minerals were sent to Olaf Medenbach at the Ruhr University (Bochum, Germany) and Thomas Armbruster at the University of Bern (Switzerland), who determined the new minerals' optical properties and crystal structures, respectively. Then Grew submitted a complete dataset for each mineral to a special commission of the International Mineralogical Association, which formally approved them as valid new species. Grew has discovered a total of ten new minerals, and sees each as an opportunity to expand scientific understanding of the Earth and its complex geological processes.

"When new minerals are identified, some have little significance, and some end up being tremendously important," said Grew. "They all tell us something about how rocks form. Ultimately, discoveries like these contribute to our understanding of the origin of rocks, plate tectonics and other processes, and give us valuable insights into temperature, pressure and other conditions within the Earth at different points of its history."

New Microscopy Instrumentation Available at UMaine

09 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The latest in combined scanning electron and focused ion beam microscopy instrumentation for use in nanofabrication and life sciences applications is now at the University of Maine.

The \$1.7 million NVision 40 CrossBeam workstation, manufactured by Carl Zeiss SMT AG and SII NanoTechnology Inc., offers cutting-edge, 3D nanoscopic (molecular level with 1.2nm resolution) imaging, structuring and analysis. Its purchase was made possible by a 2004 R&D bond passed by Maine voters.

"This is a big step in the advancement of our capabilities," says Scott Collins, a professor of chemistry who specializes

in nanotechnology in UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST). "For high-end electron imaging and nanofabrication, this is the place to go in Maine."

The microscopy workstation with its combined technologies, including a Focused Ion Beam (FIB) for nanoscale milling, EDAX elemental surface analysis, Raith electron/ion beam lithography, and gas injection system for nanoscale depositions/etching, offers a unique suite of technologies for nanoscience.

In addition, a cryogenic stage with Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy (STEM) provides the UMaine biologist unprecedented opportunities to image and reconstruct samples in 3D at nanometer resolution.

At UMaine, the advanced instrumentation is an important nanofabrication tool complementing LASST's clean room facility. In addition to precision manufacturing, environmental sciences, and biotechnology also will benefit in the state-of-the-art technology through interdisciplinary research, education and industrial outreach projects.

UMaine Assistant Dean Named "Legend in Energy"

10 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) honored University of Maine School of Engineering Technology director and Assistant Dean Scott Dunning with its "Legend in Energy" award during a late-summer professional meeting in Atlanta, Ga. AEE presents the award annually to recognized leaders in energy-related professions.

Dunning, a Hampden native who joined the UMaine engineering faculty in 1991, recently became a College of Engineering assistant dean, while continuing as director of the School of Engineering Technology.

"Scott's impact on our students and our state is immense," says UMaine College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey. "His work exemplifies the ways in which a public university extends its expertise to benefit individuals, businesses and communities."

Dunning has been active in teaching, research and outreach related to energy management since 1992, when he received a U.S. Dept. of Energy grant to establish the Industrial Assessment Center at UMaine. Through that center, Dunning directed more than 200 energy assessments for Maine companies over the course of seven years and he continues to be an invaluable resource for Maine business and industry through his work in the School of Engineering Technology and UMaine's Advanced Manufacturing Center.

In addition, Dunning presents AEE training courses around the U.S. and in foreign countries including Italy, Japan, Canada, China and the United Arab Emirates.

AEE is a nonprofit professional society with some 8,500 members from 77 countries. It provides professional outreach and education to energy professionals and those involved in related academic pursuits. The organization publishes an online newsletter and three technical journals. Its foundation has awarded more than \$480,000 on scholarships to outstanding students.

The award was presented on Aug. 14, 2007 at the World Energy Engineering Congress.

Maine Folklife Center Publishes 40th Issue of 'Northeast Folklore'

11 Oct 2007

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, (207) 581-1848

ORONO -- The Maine Folklife Center at UMaine has announced the release its 40th issue of "Northeast Folklore," an annual publication that serves as a way of bringing to the public parts of its collection of traditional and cultural materials from and about Maine.

This year's book, is titled "I've Got the Idear: My Love Affair with Maine Language" by Marion Kingston Stocking. The 80-page book includes an introduction and essay, "Maine Dialects," by Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the Maine Folklife Center.

Marion Stocking's work involves her placing many of her observations about Maine speech in the context of her memories of teaching at the University of Maine beginning in 1943, when many soldiers returned to school on the GI Bill. Intrigued by the way her students spelled the way they pronounced their words, Stocking began saving the samples, adding to them later with samples other from literature, newspapers, from signs and other sources.

The book can be ordered by sending \$15 to the Maine Folklife Center at 5773 South Stevens Hall, University of Maine, Orono, 04469, or by calling (207) 581-1891, or emailing: folklife@maine.edu.

Maine Folklife Center Announces Oct. 23 International Folk Concert

11 Oct 2007

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Folklife Center is presenting a free public concert Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 1:30-3 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, at the University of Maine.

The concert features Maine's Old Grey Goose International, a multi-cultural folk ensemble that plays old-time dance tunes on a variety of acoustic instruments. Members of the group include Doug Protsik, Jeff McKeen, John Gawler and Eric Rolfson, who also is associate vice president of development at UMaine.

Old Grey Goose musicians have traveled around the world sharing American folk music and dance with traditional musicians in Central Asia, Africa, Cuba, Europe and elsewhere.

The group sings songs of love, work, diversity and achievement from a vast repertoire of American folk history, according to its website (<http://www.oldgreygoose.org/>). The band is also presents educational workshops and composes and arranges collaborative musical scores designed uniquely for each of the many host countries it visits.

Members recently performed at a festival in Tajikistan with folk musicians from that country and from Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Russia, India and Germany.

"They're going to present sort of a collage of traditional music from around the world," says Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the Folklife Center. Their international music exchange, she adds, is "another way to bring the American culture to folks. I think people are really going to enjoy it. It's free, so everyone can go."

The band plans to sing songs, tell stories and show video clips from several of the countries it has visited.

The concert is timed with the university's International Week celebration, says MacDougall.

Talk on the 'New' Greece Since 2004 Olympics Scheduled Oct. 23

11 Oct 2007

Contact: Jay Bregman, 581-1918; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A public talk by an Amherst College professor of classic studies on the "new" Greece since the 2004 Olympics is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 23 at the University of Maine.

Professor Rebecca H. Sinos will present "The New Greece: Historic Site Improvements Since the 2004 Olympics," a public talk and slide show, at 7:30 p.m., in the D.P. Corbett Business Building, Room 100. A reception in the atrium lobby outside the lecture hall will follow.

Sinos's research interests focus on "places where ancient Greek texts and the evidence of archaeology intersect," she says. She has published articles on lyric poetry and the traditions of song that poets worked from, in addition to the reconstruction of the ritual occasions for song. She also will provide first-person perspectives on Greek archaeology and Greek art, literature, culture, ceremonies and monuments.

At Amherst, Sinos teaches all levels of ancient Greece, including Greek history, mythology and religion, and an occasional Latin course.

She has coauthored a book, "The Wedding in Ancient Athens," which reconstructs the wedding ceremony from the evidence of vase paintings, in addition to literary and other textual sources. Sinos continues her work in the area of the Greek tradition of wedding songs, ancient and modern, and studies frequently in Greece.

Sinos's appearance on the Orono campus is being sponsored by the Departments of History, Modern Languages and Classics, the Honors College and the Classic Club at UMaine. Sinos also is scheduled to work with members of the UMaine Classics Club on plans for its upcoming travel-study course to Greece.

"She's distinguished in the field," says Jay Bregman, professor of history, who helped arrange Sinos's appearance at UMaine. "She has spoken here before."

Sinos's lecture will include perspectives on the roots of Western civilization, especially classical Athens, the world's first democracy, which is particularly relevant to our own democratic experience, Bregman says.

"I think this talk will be accessible to a broad audience," he adds.

The talk is free and open to the public.

Art Exhibition October 12 - December 1, 2007

12 Oct 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3352

*BANGOR, Me. -- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present the exhibition *A Legacy of Collecting: The Vincent A. Hartgen Years, 1946-1982* beginning October 12. This is the first of two exhibitions which celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Museum of Art's relocation to downtown Bangor. The first exhibition will focus on the formative*

years of the University's permanent collection under founder Vincent A. Hartgen covering the years 1946-1982. The second exhibition, opening December 6, will focus on the growth of the collection from 1983 - present.

A Legacy of Collecting: The Vincent A. Hartgen Years, 1946 - 1982

Vincent Hartgen arrived at the University of Maine in 1946 as the founding member of the Department of Art as well as the Museum of Art (then known as the Art Collection). Hartgen's unique energy and knowledge enabled him to collect with an informed vision emphasizing works on paper, something that was dear to him as an artist. The museum acquired 3,900 works of art in Hartgen's 36 years as director. The depth of the museum's collection remains a testament to his tireless pursuits.

During a conversation in 1999 Vincent recalled some of the more important and memorable acquisitions. These included the 55 Giovanni Battista Piranesi eighteenth century prints acquired from various donors and 26 works on paper from the Wing Sisters (Adeline and Caroline) which included fine examples by Rockwell Kent, Andrew Wyeth, Edward Hopper, Marsden Hartley and Winslow Homer. Also encompassed in this survey are works by Berenice Abbott, John James Audubon, Alfred Thompson Bricher, Frederick Childe Hassam, Waldo Pierce, John Sloan and Andrew Wyeth. The exhibition will include works created from 1750 - 1970.

During this celebration of Vincent A. Hartgen's legacy as a museum director and curator, the UMMA has also organized an exhibition from its collection of Vincent's own work for the Zillman Gallery.

Museum of Art
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401
207-561-3350

www.umma.umaine.edu

Hours: Monday -- Saturday 9 am -- 5 pm

UMaine's Tanglewood Camp Opens ADA-Accessible Trail

15 Oct 2007

Contact: Corey Pickett, 207-789-5803

LINCOLNVILLE, Me. -- Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center, a program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, recently held a ceremony dedicating the Dale Mudge Memorial TREES Trail, an ADA-accessible trail that weaves through the Yankee Woodlot forest in Camden Hills State Park.

The first 1,100 feet of the trail are ADA accessible and barrier free, and also include an ADA-accessible outhouse and a stone memorial in tribute to Mudge, a former Tanglewood board member who will always be remembered for her passion and enthusiasm for the camp. For more info on the Dale Mudge TREES Trail or any of Tanglewood's programs, visit www.tanglewood4h.org or call 207-789-5868.

The acronym "TREES" stands for "Teaching Resources in Environmental and Ecosystems Stewardship," and the trail is an important aspect of Tanglewood's programs; every year about 400 summer campers and more than 1000 school program students hike there.

Lining the trail are informational kiosks and signs explaining forest scenes, such as a pit-and-mound, the effect of

lightning hitting a tree and why leaves change color in the fall.

"Nearly everything we teach about forest ecology can be found on this trail. . . . The impact it has on the students is priceless," says Head Instructor for School Programs Leah Trommer.

UMaine Engineering Job Fair Attracting Record Number of Employers

17 Oct 2007

Contact: Patty Counihan, 581-1355; George Manlove, 591-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's annual Engineering Job Fair, scheduled from 10 .m.-3 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 18, at the new Student Recreation and Fitness Center on campus, has attracted at least 63 engineering and technology firms, a record number.

Companies from throughout Maine, New England, and as far away as Texas, will be on campus to meet with and conduct informal interviews with students interested in careers in engineering and technology.

"We really hope students will come and bring multiple copies of their resumes," says Patty Counihan, a job fair co-organizer and director of UMaine's Career Center. "A lot of companies from Maine are going to be there."

At least 15 of those visiting companies will set up in private interview rooms in the Memorial Union on Friday for more formal interviews, Counihan says.

The annual engineering job fair is a wonderful opportunity for UMaine students to learn about the companies anxious to recruit them, she says. "A lot of major companies in Maine are going to be there," she says.

"Many people say there aren't many jobs in Maine," Counihan says, but this year's record number of recruiters contradicts that assertion, according to Counihan. "It's a huge increase. It reflects the booming job market, especially for engineers."

This year's event has about 20 more companies than last year participating.

The UMaine Career Center will hold its annual Career Fair on Jan. 30, 2008 for more general career options. Recruiters come from healthcare, public safety, government, education, environmental and conservation, sales and marketing and many other career fields, looking to meet prospective young employees from the university. In spite of sometimes dour economic and job market forecasts, Counihan has found the number of companies interested in setting up a booth at UMaine each year continues to increase.

Complete information about this year's engineering job fair , including companies planning to attend, is available on the Career Center website www.umaine.edu/career.

Readers Share a Celebration of Community at Fogler Library

18 Oct 2007

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, Web and Public Relations Specialist, 207-581-1696

ORONO -- Within his poem, "Small Town," poet Philip Booth wrote, "the town knows. You / know. You

UMaine International Students to Showcase Homeland Traditions at Culturefest '07

19 Oct 2007

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Traditional ethnic singing, dancing, clothing and an international smorgasbord of foods -- milk rice and spicy curry from India, sticky rice and spring rolls from Vietnam, and casseroles from the Middle East -- are all on the menu for this year's Culturefest at the University of Maine, Saturday, Oct. 27.

Held annually in the UMaine Field House from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Culturefest attracts more than 1,000 visitors from across campus and from communities surrounding the university. It is sponsored by the UMaine Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange as a showcase of talent, style and cuisine from cultures of the world.

Culturefest is free, although students request a nominal contribution for the food they buy and prepare for the food court.

Adults and children are invited to learn first-hand about the cultural themes and customs of the homelands of students from more than 70 countries. Members of the UMaine International Student Association will bring a variety of dishes to the international food court, while others perform a talent show, a fashion show, and staff information tables with maps, flags, cultural artifacts and offer children's activities throughout the day.

The festival pulls together hundreds of international students anxious to discuss ethnic cultures and lifestyles from around the world. It is a day when students from Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas leave the blue jeans and sweats at home and turn out in traditional clothing and costumes representative of their homelands.

"This is the biggest international event on campus," says co-organizer Sarah Joughin of the Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange. "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."

Students say Culturefest also is a chance for the public to see beyond the television news coverage of politics, violence and disaster from other parts of the world.

Karen Boucias, director Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange, adds that the university is fortunate to have such a large international representation.

"Our 450 students and visiting scholars bring much to the classroom, and Culturefest helps to bring global awareness and understanding to the community," she says.

For more information about the 20th annual Culturefest, contact the UMaine Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905 or visit www.umaine.edu/international.

University of Maine Foundation Reports Record Year, Honors Class of 1944

19 Oct 2007

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, President/CEO, 207 581-5100

ORONO -- At its Oct. 3 annual business meeting and luncheon, the University of Maine Foundation provided details on

its most successful year in its history and honored the UMaine Class of 1944 with the prestigious President Abram W. Harris Award.

Foundation President and CEO Amos Orcutt announced \$25.9 million in new gifts for the year that ended June 30, marking the highest total in the Foundation's 73-year history. Highlights included a \$12 million George L. Houston bequest to benefit UMaine's School of Forest Resources and the \$4.2 million gift of a Cianchette family home in Falmouth.

The meeting was held at the Black Bear Inn and Conference Center in Orono.

"Thanks to the consistent and generous support of our donors, the Foundation was able to provide \$6.5 million in endowment earnings for much needed private support to the University of Maine. Fifty-eight percent of the \$6.5 million went towards student scholarships," Orcutt said.

A highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of the third annual President Abram W. Harris award to the University of Maine Class of 1944. The Harris award was established in 2005 in memory of Dr. Abram Winegardner Harris, the university's third president, with an endowed gift to the University of Maine Foundation from his grandson A. W. "Pete" Harris, III, a member of the Class of 1950. As modeled by President Harris, the award is given to those who have initiated "significant change."

Although it is unusual to choose an entire class for this prestigious award, the Class of 1944 was chosen for their unprecedented generosity as leaders, philanthropists, and role models for the next generation. Members of the class have been extraordinary volunteer leaders serving through the President's Development Council, Alumni Association, the Foundation and many other volunteer boards and committees.

Collectively, the Class of 1944 has given over \$8 million to the university, not including \$3 million in planned gifts. The Buchanan Alumni House, the Class of 1944 Hall, the Bodwell Lounge in the Maine Center of the Arts and the Class of 1944 renovation of the Bears Den are just a few examples of their generosity.

Accepting the gift on behalf of the class was Alvin McNeilly of Owls Head, the class agent. He spoke of the affect World War II had on the class, with many members called to service with 19 killed in military service.. Although prematurely separated, the experience created an extraordinary lifelong bond to a class and a university. Their spirit continues to inspire administrators, professors, students, as well as other UMaine classes, particularly the class of 2010, which the Class of 1944 has "adopted."

McNeilly introduced Gimbala SanKare and Ashley Robinson, class officers of the Class of 2010 and said, "I expect you rascals to follow the lead of the Class of 1944 and with your size and energy, far surpass us."

Maryann Hartman Awards Event at UMaine Nov. 6

19 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- For the 22nd consecutive year the University of Maine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program will honor three distinguished Maine women with Maryann Hartman Awards. Named for the late Dr. Maryann Hartman, UMaine associate professor of Speech Communication, distinguished educator, feminist and scholar, the awards are given to recognize Maine women whose achievements in the arts, politics, business, education, healthcare and community service provide inspiration for women.

The Tuesday, Nov. 6 event will honor those from across the state who have improved women's lives by both words and deeds. The awards program is scheduled for 5-7:30 p.m. at Buchanan Alumni House. Those being honored are:

Bangor Daily News arts journalist Alicia Anstead of Castine, who will be recognized for her work reporting on the arts around Maine and beyond.

"Like Maryann Hartman, Alicia inspires and teaches by example," wrote the person who nominated Anstead for the award. "Strong, determined, and fearless, she is never satisfied with 'good enough' but instead pursues her story to the last possible interview and polishes her writing until it shines."

Anstead has been recognized for journalism excellence, having received an inaugural (2007-2008) Nieman Fellowship in Arts and Culture Reporting from Harvard University's Nieman Foundation for Journalism. The Nieman is the world's oldest midcareer journalism fellowship, and Anstead is the first Bangor Daily News reporter to receive one. During her ten-month fellowship in Cambridge, Mass. Anstead is researching the economy and business of the arts.

Sally Jacobs of Orono has contributed to land preservation in Maine for over 30 years. Her commitment to saving open spaces for physical recreation and spiritual nourishment serves as a model both locally and nationally, Schonberger says. Sally conceived and implemented the Orono Bicycle Trail for biking, hiking, and skiing from the University of Maine to Old Town. Her pivotal role in establishing the Orono Land Trust in 1986 led to educating, motivating and assisting other communities in developing their recreational and environmental resources. Recently she served as the catalyst for creating the Sunrise Trail, a recreational route on an unused rail line between Ellsworth and Calais. As a key founder and organizer of the Caribou Bog-Penjajawoc Corridor Project, she has worked for protecting open space and wildlife habitat from Bangor to Alton. Jacobs' friends and colleagues say she is known for working constructively and harmoniously with local and state officials in rallying other people to volunteer their time to important community issues.

Harriet H. Price of Portland has a long history of involvement in peace and social justice issues. She was an active Vietnam War protester, serving as the coordinator for the Hancock County People for Peace In Vietnam Now. She was also chosen as one of two Maine delegates who went to a meeting with North Vietnamese and American leaders in Paris in 1971 to negotiate peace. More recently, she has been outspoken about healthcare issues, has served as an advocate for Native Americans and has led the effort to recover the history of Maine's Underground Railroad. "Maine's Visible Black History: The First Chronicle of Its People," which Price, writing as H.H. Price, co-authored with Gerald E. Talbot and published in 2006, covers some 400 years of formerly unknown or unacknowledged history. She is a member of the Maine Underground Railroad Association and lives in Portland where she continues her activism and writing.

For the seventh year, the UMaine programs will also recognize a young woman with the Young Women's Social Justice Award. This year's award will go to Hannah Hudson from Columbia Falls.

"Hannah has always taken action on the issues that are important to her," says associate director Mazie Hough. "Since middle school, she has worked with Team YCARE to spread awareness of autism. Through this organization, she has spoken to several groups about the topic and has organized fundraisers to raise money for research. Hudson volunteers for the after-school EDGE program where she has been a leader and a mentor to children in fourth through eighth grade. She also volunteers at a local center which serves the migrant workers who come to pick blueberries in the summer. In 2006, as a part of the Maine Youth Summit, she went to Honduras with a group to rehabilitate dorm rooms and transport medical help to those in need.

The award ceremony is free and open to the public. Those interested in attending are encouraged to register with us so that organizers may plan for the seating and light refreshments after the ceremony. For more information or to register please contact Angela Hart, at 581-1228 (angela.hart@umit.maine.edu).

Center on Aging Collaborates for Annual Prescription Drug Use and Disposal Conference

22 Oct 2007

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7920; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- The UMaine Center on Aging, in

partnership with the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG) and the MBSG's Drug Disposal Group, is planning a combined fifth annual MBSG fall conference and fourth annual Unused Drug Return Conference on Oct. 31-Nov. 1 at Portland's Holiday Inn by the Bay. Titled "Improving Patient Safety through Informed Medication Prescribing and Disposal Practices," this year's international conference draws together healthcare clinicians, substance abuse professionals, researchers, policymakers, drug enforcement officials, environmentalists and others concerned about the human and environmental impact of benzodiazepines and other prescription drugs. UMaine's Center on Aging and the MBSG, with endorsement and assistance from the Maine legislature and U.S. Environmental Protection Administration, are in the process of launching the nation's first, coordinated pharmaceuticals return program this fall, a pilot mail-back program that already has other states inquiring about it. The fall conference focuses on the environmental and social impacts of safe drug return practices, and the many issues surrounding the use, misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, with a special focus on benzodiazepines, a class of medications used to treat anxiety, stress and insomnia. The conference also will provide the first opportunity for a North American audience to review the Athens Declaration, an international declaration addressing unused consumer medications for the betterment of the health of the environment and patients worldwide, according to Lenard Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, which serves as the administrative center for the MBSG. Nationally and internationally recognized experts will analyze a wide range of issues surrounding prescribing trends, and prescription drug misuse and abuse. Experts scheduled to speak include representatives from the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Trish Riley, director of the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, Dora Mills, director of the Maine Bureau of Health, David Littell, commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and Stevan Gressitt, founder of the MBSG. They'll showcase cutting-edge approaches to disposing of unused and expired medications and discuss the most current policy and legislative strategies for reducing prescription drug accumulation in the community. For registration information, contact Jason Charland, conference coordinator, at 207-262-7928 or email: jason.charland@umit.maine.edu. The conference agenda is available at the Center on Aging website (<http://www.benzos.une.edu/2007conference.htm>). The event is sponsored with cooperation from Cary Medical Center, and with support from the American Pharmacists Association, the Bingham Group and the Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF).

History, Film, Poetry Presented During Canada Week 2007 at UMaine

22 Oct 2007

Contact: Betsy Arntzen, (207) 581- 4225; Tom Weber, (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The University of Maine Canadian-American Center invites the public to an entertaining and informative exploration of Canadian history, politics, culture and Native studies education during Canada Week 2007.

Now in its 28th year, Canada Week was established to bring attention to Canadian studies at UMaine by highlighting research done by faculty and graduate students, while also providing Maine teachers with an opportunity to enhance their professional development. A Canada-in-the-Classroom workshop will assist teachers in implementing LD 291, the state law requiring schools to incorporate Native American history and culture into their curricula.

The program, sponsored by the UMaine Canadian-American Center with support from Foreign Affairs Canada, will consist of four main events, each free and open to the public. Refreshments or a box lunch will be provided at two of the programs, and those who attend are asked to make reservations by calling Nancy Strayer at the center at 581-4220.

Laurier Turgeon, a history professor at Laval University in Quebec, will kick off the program on Oct. 30 with an illustrated lecture based on his study of French notarial records and maps that reveal a significant French presence in the Gulf of Maine from the 1560s onward. His talk, "French Fishers and Fur Traders in the Gulf of Maine during the second half of the 16th Century," runs 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Alfond Family Lounge.

The Alice R. Stewart Graduate Lectures begin at 12:15 p.m., Nov. 6, at the Alfond Family Lounge. Stephen Hornsby, a professor of geography and Canadian Studies and director of the Canadian-American Center, will speak on "Imperial Power, Enlightenment Science, and the Making of the Atlantic Neptune nautical atlas." Canadian Studies graduate

researcher Mary Okin will talk on "*Madness' in Quebec Women, 1890-1940: An Analysis of Women's Ambivalence Toward Culturally Prescribed Sexual Roles,*" followed by Adrienne Pelletier Pidacks on "*Performing Evangeline in Grand Pre.*"

As part of a two-day tribute to poet Rita Joe, the *Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Lunch Series* will present a panel discussion Nov. 7, 12:15-1:30 p.m., in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, on "*Gentle Warrior for Peace: Tribute to Rita Joe, Mi'kmaq-Canadian Poet Laureate, 1932-2007.*" Also on Nov. 7, in the Bangor Room, award-winning Mi'kmaq filmmaker Catherine Martin will show and discuss one of her films at 2:10 p.m., another at 3:10 and another at 4:10. Her films include documentaries about inspired Native artists, Mi'kmaq society and an historic open-ocean canoe voyage. That evening, 7:30-9:30 p.m., those who knew Rita Joe will share stories about her and readings of her poetry at the Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall.

Canada Week 2007 also includes a K-12 teachers workshop, Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. in the Woolley Room of the Doris Twitchell Allen Village Community Center, in which Martin uses her films and experience to put into context the life of the late poet Rita Joe and her place in contemporary Mi'kmaq society and culture. Paul Deagle, a high school English teacher from Skowhegan, will explain how he uses Joe's poetry in the classroom.

House Speaker Glenn Cummings at UMaine Tuesday

22 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine Speaker of the House Glenn Cummings (D-Portland) will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday, Oct. 23 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Cummings will spend the afternoon at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Cummings, who is serving in his fourth term in the Maine House, was sworn in as Maine's 98th speaker last December.

News coverage possibilities exist during the 1:15-3 p.m. time frame, when Cummings will visit three UMaine facilities: the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (1:15-2 p.m.), the Student Recreation and Fitness Center (2:10-2:25 p.m.) and the Forest Bioproducts Initiative facility in Jenness Hall (2:30-3 p.m.).

Professor Studies Costs of Secondhand Smoke Exposure on Children

23 Oct 2007

Contact: Mary Davis, (207) 581-3163; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Children in Maine who are exposed to secondhand tobacco smoke in homes, cars and other

environments can suffer serious health problems, resulting in \$8 million-\$11.5 million a year in medical-related expenses, a University of Maine economist says.

The study includes only the cost of illnesses that have been causally linked with secondhand smoke exposure. Other associated illnesses would push the economic consequences even higher, according to economics professor Mary E. Davis, whose research interests include air pollution.

Davis found through a review of medical and scientific research and statistics, provided by various state and national offices and organizations, that children exposed to secondhand tobacco smoke typically suffer from more respiratory illnesses, such as cough, wheezing, asthma, pneumonia, bronchitis and reduced lung function, in addition to ear infections, tooth decay and impaired neurological development than their non-exposed counterparts. In infants, secondhand smoke has been connected with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, she says.

"There is no acceptable, risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure to children," Davis says in her report, released this week. "Recent efforts to educate smoking parents and to impose smoking bans in public places have had a positive effect on decreasing childhood exposures in Maine. However, one out of every five adults in Maine still smoke, and nearly half this group have children."

Davis conducted her research in the summer and fall of this year at the suggestion of Bangor pediatric dentist Jonathan Shenkin, who successfully persuaded the Bangor City Council last fall to pass an ordinance making it illegal to smoke in a motor vehicle with anyone under age 18 present. The Maine legislature is considering whether to discuss a statewide ban on smoking with young people in a vehicle. According to Davis, California, Arkansas and Louisiana have adopted such bans, and New York is considering one.

Davis, who was not compensated for her work, says her research looks at the immediate and cumulative effects of secondhand smoke on children generally, and not specifically from exposure in motor vehicles.

"The question isn't what is the impact of this legislation," she says. "The question is what is the impact of secondhand smoke in Maine for children? This report is a compilation of all these materials that had not been put together before. The strongest conclusion is the percentage of illnesses that can be attributed to second-hand smoke."

Davis calculated that 6-12 percent of the childhood illnesses studied for her report can be attributed to exposure to secondhand smoke. The range jumps to 10-21 percent for children in the MaineCare program for low-income youngsters.

Based on a recent Maine Department of Health and Human Services survey, Davis reports that 21 percent of adults smoke and 43 percent of smokers have children. Further, an estimated 43 percent of Medicaid recipients in Maine are smokers, and more than 25 percent of children in Maine are routinely exposed to secondhand smoke.

She says that subjecting children to secondhand smoke in a motor vehicle is the same as subjecting a child to secondhand smoke in a pub or bar that allows smoking. The effects on children's health are worse than for adults, she notes, since children are still developing physiologically.

"Kids have smaller airways and they breathe faster," she says. "For a variety of reasons, they're much more susceptible."

Davis found a correlation in previous studies between income and education levels for families with smokers. The higher a family's income and education levels, the less likely it is that a family will have smokers. That correlation might explain in part, Davis says, her finding that while MaineCare insures less than a third of the children in the state, MaineCare pays 65 percent of the estimated direct smoking-related healthcare costs for afflicted children.

Other resources that Davis used in her research included the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, in addition to the Maine DHHS, which oversees the MaineCare program.

Yaphe to Discuss Impact of Violence and War on Iraq

24 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Judith S. Yaphe, senior fellow in the Institute for National Strategic Studies at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C., will visit the University of Maine on Friday, Nov. 2 for a public presentation, "The Impact of Violence and War: Long-Term Consequences on Iraqi Society."

The talk, presented by UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs, is free and open to the public. It's scheduled for 2-3:30 p.m. in Room 115, Donald P. Corbett Building.

Yaphe, who is a former CIA analyst, specializes in Middle Eastern political analysis, focusing on Iraqi, Persian Gulf, Arab, Islamic and regional issues. She received the Intelligence Medal of Commendation for her service during the Gulf War.

Those interested in attending should contact Cindy D'Angelo (cindy_d'angelo@umit.maine.edu) by email or by calling 581-1835, by Tuesday Oct. 30.

More than 50 Statewide History Teachers, Museum Directors and Others at UMaine for Friday Conference

24 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine Dept. of History will host "Maine and New England: Public Images/Invented Traditions," a day-long professional development conference for Maine middle school and high school history teachers.

The 13th annual Conference on Teaching History in Maine, the event is scheduled for 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m. at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Presenters from around Maine will include UMaine history graduate students and representatives of various history-related UMaine units such as the Maine Folklife Center, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, the Hudson Museum and the William S. Cohen Papers Archive. Margaret Chase Smith Policy Library Director Greg Gallant and three representatives of the Maine State Museum in Augusta will also participate.

University of Southern Maine professor Kent Ryden, director of the American and New England Studies Program at that university, will present a 12:45 p.m. keynote talk, "The Natural Environment and Maine's Public Image."

Hecker Appointed UMaine Dean

24 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Jeffrey Hecker, chair of the University of Maine psychology faculty, has been appointed interim dean of UMaine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The appointment became effective Oct. 15 and is subject to ratification by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

Hecker, who has been a UMaine professor since 1986, succeeds Gordon Kulberg, who had been serving as interim dean since August.

"Jeff is a real leader in UMaine's academic community and he is a scholar of the first order," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "I am pleased that he is willing to accept this important position and I am certain that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will thrive under his leadership."

Hecker will serve as dean until the end of the academic year. A national search for a permanent dean is underway.

UMaine to Upgrade Emergency Communications System

25 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- While University of Maine officials call the university's Friday Oct. 19 emergency communications system a success, they say it also revealed areas that need improvement. System upgrades are already in the works, moving toward what Dean of Students Robert Dana says will be a "model system and process" for communicating emergency information on a university campus. In August, UMaine announced its new, multi-layered system for getting the word out during an emergency. The system includes umaine.txt, a Web-based mechanism that allows university safety and communications officials to instantly send cell phone text messages and email messages to those students, faculty members and staff members who subscribe. The system also involves updates on UMaine's website, recorded messages at 581-INFO, postings on the university's internal electronic communications system and an audible siren that serves as a signal to seek information through one of those mechanisms. The system is described on umaine.edu, on stickers placed in every residence hall room and on at least one exterior door of every campus building. Students have also been made aware of the system through multiple email contacts, and a printed flyer was mailed in August to every staff member and faculty member. "We are committed to taking every reasonable measure to assure the safety of everybody in our community," Dana says. "Friday's test showed that we have the appropriate pieces in place, and that we are capable of executing the series of coordinated actions very quickly. That gives us great confidence that we are well-prepared to handle communications during a real emergency." Even so, Dana says, two parts of the system were not as effective as had been hoped. The siren, which is clearly audible across campus in all outdoor locations, was not loud enough to be heard inside every campus building on a weekday afternoon, when there is a good deal of ambient noise. UMaine's Dept. of Public Safety is in contact with the company that provided the siren to determine the best way to effectively augment that system. "We are confident that the siren, as it currently exists, will be an effective tool. It would most certainly wake students in residence halls if it were to be sounded at night and, during the day, one can hear it in most UMaine locations. Nonetheless, we want to improve it so that saturation is complete," Dana says. The umaine.txt email option, which allows for delivery of emergency information directly to subscribers' email mailboxes, did not work at an optimal level during the Friday test, as it took too long for those messages to reach some subscribers. This problem was related to a technical glitch, which UMaine addressed with the service's provider on Friday. To resolve this issue, UMaine President Robert Kennedy has approved a system upgrade which will cause those messages to be delivered to every email account on the university's primary email system, known as First Class, whether the account holder has subscribed to umaine.txt or not. The cell phone text message delivery mechanism did work properly during the Oct. 19 test. Dana has also expressed concern about the relatively low number of subscribers to umaine.txt, despite numerous efforts to make students and others aware of the system and its value with regard to personal safety. UMaine has some 12,000 students and 2,500 faculty and staff members, yet only about 3,100 have signed up for the free system. "Unfortunately, this percentage tracks quite closely with those numbers being reported at colleges and universities around the U.S.," Dana says. "But we're not content with just being at the average. We will continue to work with those in our community to convince them of the good reasons to register. This service is free, it only takes a minute to sign up, and we promise not use personal information provided for any other purpose." To help influence more students to register, Dana will send a letter to the university's

list of student parents later this week. He says he hopes many of those parents will convince their sons and daughters to register with umaine.txt.

UMaine on Celebration Stand-by

25 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- As Red Sox Nation focuses on Fenway Park for tonight's World Series Game 2, the University of Maine is making plans for a "healthy, safe and enjoyable" community celebration if the Boston Red Sox win the 2007 fall classic.

In an email message to be delivered to all UMaine students Thursday night, Dean of Students Robert Dana outlines plans for a series of events that will be in place during any evening when the Red Sox are playing the Colorado Rockies with a chance to clinch the best-of-seven series.

All UMaine students are invited to Memorial Union to watch those games on big-screen televisions and enjoy the community atmosphere together.

"If the Red Sox win one of those games, we will move the celebration outdoors to the parking lot between Alumni Hall and Lord Hall," Dana wrote. "All students are invited and we'll have a huge bonfire there, along with music and free food. We will celebrate well into the night savoring the victory and coming together as a community."

Dana's message also notes that UMaine police are actively patrolling the campus during the World Series to assure the safety of all members of the UMaine community. Working with residence hall staff members and others, Dana says that the UMaine police will work to be sure that "UMaine remains safe and that our celebrations are another moment of great pride for our university."

These activities follow a successful model that UMaine has employed in similar circumstances for several years, including 2004 for both the final game of the American League Championship Series and game four of the World Series, when the Red Sox beat the St. Louis Cardinals to claim their first World Series championship in 86 years. Similar events have been staged at UMaine when Black Bear hockey teams have competed in NCAA semifinal and championship contests.

According to the current World Series schedule, the possible dates for these events are Sunday, Oct. 28; Monday, Oct. 29; Wednesday, Oct. 31; and Thursday, Nov. 1.

The text of Dean Dana's email message follows:

Dear UMaine Student:

It's another great fall and our community is excited about the Boston Red Sox' participation in the World Series. As we saw when the Red Sox won the World Series in 2004 and during several NCAA Tournament appearances by the Black Bear hockey team, events like these create a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate in healthy, safe and enjoyable ways.

We are making plans for campus celebrations in the event that the Red Sox do defeat the Colorado Rockies. In response to student interest we will stage a series of events on the evenings when the Red Sox might clinch the Series.

Once the Red Sox have won three games we'll provide food and a festive atmosphere in the Maine Marketplace. It is a great time and I invite you to join us. If the Red Sox win one of those games, we will move the celebration outdoors to the parking lot between Alumni Hall and Lord Hall. All students are invited and we'll have a huge bonfire there, along with music and free food. We will celebrate well into the night savoring the victory and coming together as a community.

Keep an eye on the game results as the Series moves along, and plan to be a part of another great UMaine celebration once the Sox have won the Series.

For your safety, police will be actively patrolling our campus throughout the Series, and they will step in immediately should any issue arise that necessitates a response. All of our residence hall staff will also be on duty and they will help assure that UMaine remains safe and that our celebrations are another moment of great pride for our University.

Working together we can make this another positive memorable occasion, one which you will always recall fondly when you think of your days as a UMaine student.

Sincerely,

Robert Q. Dana

Two UMaine Professors Elected AAAS Fellows

26 Oct 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine professors Edward Grew and Paul Mayewski are among 471 scientists named today AAAS Fellows by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Both are professors in UMaine's Dept. of Earth Sciences. Mayewski is also director of the Climate Change Institute at UMaine.

Members are elected by their peers, in recognition of "meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications.," according to the AAAS official description. New fellows are selected following a nomination process that includes thorough review by the association's steering groups.

"Ed and Paul are richly deserving of this honor, which reflects well on them and on the University of Maine," says Michael Eckardt, UMaine's vice president for research. "They are recognized leaders in their academic disciplines and each has a long, distinguished history of working to advance scientific understanding of the World around us."

Grew was recognized for "distinguished research on the role of lithium, beryllium, and boron in metamorphism at high temperatures and pressures, with emphasis on the Precambrian of Antarctica." Mayewski's citation noted his "seminal contributions to our understanding of climate change through ice and snow studies."

Mark David, a professor and department head at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign who earned a master's degree from UMaine, is also among the new fellows announced today by AAAS.

Program Receives a Year's Worth of Books

30 Oct 2007

Contact: Contact: Pam LaHaye, 800-287-1426

WALDO, Me. -- One hundred fifty children whose parents participate in the Parents Are Teachers Too (PATT) program will get an unexpected present this year: a brand new book of their very own to take home, each month for 12 months.

PATT is celebrating Home Visiting Week (Oct. 29- Nov. 2) with the announcement of this award. The books are a gift from Cheerios

UMaine Graduate Student Wins National Award

30 Oct 2007

Contact: BJ Kitchin, 581-1375; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Robert "BJ" Kitchin, a UMaine Ph.D student and disability studies teaching assistant, recently was named this year's recipient of the American Public Health Association's DisAbility Forum Student Member Award.

The award is presented each year to one college student in the United States who has contributed promising work to advance the health and quality of life of people with disabilities. The American Public Health Association is one of the nation's largest public health associations.

"BJ is a role model and ambassador who puts disability studies in the forefront of student's minds," says Elizabeth DePoy, coordinator of interdisciplinary disability studies at the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies.

Kitchin began his scholarship in disability studies as an undergraduate at UMaine in 1992. He earned a master's in social work in 2007 and continues as a graduate teaching assistant in interdisciplinary disabilities studies.

Kitchin also worked for 12 years with Community Care in Bangor in administrative, supervisory and clinical capacities in its treatment foster care program. As a research assistant with the UMaine Center on Aging, he was instrumental in helping the statewide Relatives as Parents Project win legislation giving grandparents greater legal standing as guardians of grandchildren.

His current interests involve examining the role of the digital environment in society and how it is made accessible or inaccessible through conventions of visual, auditory, cognitive, physical and social design.

"Besides his multiple talents, devotion to scholarly excellence, and his unending commitment to advancing access as a major human right, BJ has contributed to social change advancing full participation and access on our university campus and throughout the state of Maine," adds Stephen Gilson, professor of interdisciplinary disability studies.

Kitchin is a first-generation college graduate, and a native and resident of Bangor. He was nominated for the award by DePoy.

UMaine Theater Students Tackle 'Hedda Gabler'

01 Nov 2007

Contact: Sandra Hardy, 581-1966; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- "A dark play with comic moments" about the tormented life of Hedda Gabler, a young Norwegian wife born a century before her time is how Sandra Hardy, the director, describes the latest student production opening Nov. 2 at Hauck Auditorium at UMaine.

"Hedda Gabler," by Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen, is a story about a young woman pressured into marriage by convention and the social norms of the 1890s in Norway. She rejects many of the traditional demands of young women of the time: she does not want children; she will not be subservient to her husband; she expresses her opinions freely; and Hedda Gabler becomes caught up in a Machiavellian scheme to eliminate her husband's chief competitor for a

university professorship. The scheme does not go well.

Hardy, an associate professor of theater, says Gabler could be a modern day feminist, a business woman with what it takes to get ahead.

"She's a very modern woman," Hardy says. "I'm afraid she was born at the wrong time and was very lonely and very unhappy as a result. Had she been born today, she probably would be the president or the CEO of General Electric or Hewlett Packard."

But she wasn't born today. Hardy says the character of Hedda Gabler has been portrayed through the ages as an evil woman, primarily because of society's values when the play was introduced.

"This is 1890. She's well-read and very well traveled," Hardy adds. "Life could be pretty boring if you have to stay at home and wash dishes and be submissive."

Critics have typically portrayed Gabler as a "snake waiting to strike," Hardy says. "Hedda would be more relevant today than she might have been when the play was originally written."

This production of "Hedda Gabler" is of particular significance to Hardy for several reasons. Born to Scandinavian parents, Hardy reads, writes and speaks Norwegian. Looking for what she considered a more accurate interpretation of the play than the public has seen previously, Hardy personally translated the script into English and adapted the three-hour, four-act production into a two-hour, two act production. During a family reunion last summer in Norway, she enlisted a cousin to review the cultural, historical and linguistic aspects of her script. Hardy also is an expert on Ibsen, having been an Ibsen scholar who wrote her doctoral dissertation on the playwright.

Hardy praises the student actors' portrayal of the characters in "Hedda Gabler."

"Every one of those Ibsen characters has some particular flaw that has been captured by this ensemble," Hardy says.

Main cast members include: Sarah Farnham of Levant as Hedda Gabler; Anthony Arnista of Burke, Va., as George Tesman; Greg Middleton of Glen Ridge, N.J., as Eilert Lovborg; Simon Ferland of Old Town as Judge Brack; Rebecca Bailey of Orono as Mrs. Elstead; Janice Duy of Caribou as Miss Tesman; and Rachel Chadbourne of Old Town as Berta.

"Hedda Gabler" runs Nov. 2-3 and Nov. 8-10 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 4 & Nov. 11 at 2 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium. Admission is \$10; students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

For information, please call the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755.

UMaine Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert Nov. 6

01 Nov 2007

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will perform Tuesday, Nov. 6, in the Leonard and Renee Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble, new as of the fall of 2006, is a small group of several soloists or small ensembles who perform with piano accompaniment. The ensemble also is a major component of the new minor in jazz studies at UMaine. This semester's group consists of 10 musicians, representing a variety of instruments.

The organization's major emphases are on the development of skills in the art of jazz improvisation, and the other

salient aspects of jazz-swing feeling. Instrumentalists at all ability levels and all academic majors are invited to participate in the Chamber Jazz Ensemble.

In a chamber jazz ensemble, the piano replaces the standard jazz rhythm section, which usually consists of piano, bass and drums, in the same spirit that orchestral reductions for the piano are used by recitalists in the classical realm, says associate music professor Karel Lidral, advisor for the new minor in jazz studies and the minor in music at UMaine.

Tickets are \$6, and students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

In addition to the Nov. 6 concert, the ensemble is scheduled to perform Dec. 5 in the Bear's Den of the Memorial Union, from 1-2 p.m. That event is free and open to the public.

The program will include great jazz standards and originals, including "Bye Bye Blackbird" (Ray Henderson), "Doxy" (Sonny Rollins), "Edward Lee" (Harold Mabern, Jr.), "The Jody Grind" (Horace Silver), "Killer Joe" (Benny Golson), "St. Thomas" (Sonny Rollins), "Sir John" (Blue Mitchell), "Take the 'A' Train" (Billy Strayhorn), "Tenor Madness" (Sonny Rollins) and "Work Song" (Nat Adderley).

Musicians include: John Brabant, alto saxophone, of Bangor; Gary Craig, alto saxophone, Oakland; Angel Crowley, piano, Clinton; Ray Delear, alto saxophone, East Corinth; Richard Dort, clarinet, Plymouth; Danielle Gadway, alto saxophone, Fairfield; Josh Gastonguay, electric bass, Sanford; Anna-Marlies Hunter, clarinet, Eastport; Kevin Judkins, guitar, Mount Vernon; and Nathaniel Kellogg, 'cello, Orono.

For additional information, call the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or visit the School of Performing Arts website (www.umaine.edu/spa).

UMaine Hosting Public Workshop for Technology Entrepreneurs

01 Nov 2007

Contact: Abbe Jacobs, (207) 866-6500; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Student Innovation Center, in partnership with the National Collegiate Innovators and Inventors Alliance, is bringing the Alliance's "Invention 2 Venture" conference to campus Nov. 9.

The workshop, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Buchanan Alumni House, will focus on the basics of technology entrepreneurship. It is intended primarily for college and university students, but also is open to anyone who wants to know more about this very important topic. Cost is \$10 for students, faculty members and staff, and \$75 for others. A participant guide, lunch and a continental breakfast are included in the fee.

Presentations will focus on venture capital, marketing, intellectual property, business plans and related topics. The workshop will introduce inventors and entrepreneurs to the steps necessary to turn ideas into successful business opportunities, from protecting ideas to finding money, according to the UMaine Student Innovation Center. The innovation center is a new facility designed to provide a place where UMaine students can access resources, counseling and mentoring for the development of new inventions and entrepreneurial ideas.

The workshop also will create networking opportunities, through which students and community entrepreneurs can meet other entrepreneurs and resource providers. Business men and women in the community can learn about the commercialization process so that they have a better understanding of the needs of clients in the technology field.

The keynote speaker is Dover-Foxcroft native and MIT graduate Dale Flanders, the CEO and founder of Axsun Technologies, a manufacturing company with Massachusetts and California operations that specialize in advanced miniature optical systems.

Other workshop speakers include representatives from: the Maine Patent Program; Maine Technology Institute; the Intellectual Property Group at Verrill Dana, LLC, law firm; PBC Consulting, a human resources consulting firm; the Libra Foundation; Cost Recovery Services; Maine Medical Center; Corporate Finance Associates; the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance; Marketing Management Solutions; and the UMaine Office of Research, Economic Development (ORED). ORED acts as the liaison office for business and industry, supporting economic development with the assistance of University of Maine resources.

Sponsors for this event include: the UMaine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry & Agriculture, the Maine Technology Institute, Verrill Dana, University of Maine Credit Union, the UMaine College of Engineering and the university's Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center.

For more information please contact Abbe Jacobs at 207-866-6500 or abbe.jacobs@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Police Offer Reward

02 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy has authorized a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the positive identification of those responsible for flipping over a car in UMaine's Stodder Hall parking lot early Monday morning. Police believe this happened during the campus celebration of the Boston Red Sox World Series victory.

The vehicle was severely damaged and UMaine police believe that there may have been witnesses who can help them identify those who caused the damage.

"This is not funny, nor is it in keeping with the appropriate form of celebration at UMaine," says Police Chief Noel March. "If it happened to any one of us, we would want the person responsible to be held accountable. The student who owns this car did nothing to deserve this kind of treatment and he deserves restitution."

Those who wish to report information should call Det. Sgt. Chris Gardner at 581-4048. Any witnesses who wish to forego the reward and report information anonymously may do so at the UMaine Dept. of Public Safety website.

CenTRO Fall Conference Nov. 9 Explores 2008 Tourism Outlook

02 Nov 2007

Contact: Harold Daniel, (207) 581-1933; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine System Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) is holding its annual fall conference Nov. 9 to draw together a slate of state and national tourism authorities to assess the tourism outlook for 2008.

The "Outlook for Tourism in Maine: 2008" conference meets from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell. The conference will provide a preview of what tourism will be like in Maine next year. Topics being discussed include national and regional economies, the outlook for oil prices, Maine Turnpike traffic and other factors affecting growth in tourism.

"The information presented during this conference will be most helpful to everyone concerned with tourism in Maine," says Harold Daniel, director of CenTRO and UMaine associate professor of marketing. "There will be an opportunity

for participants to offer their own views on the outlook for tourism, which could help CentTRO improve its forecasting services for the tourism industry."

Keynote conference speaker, at 9:45 a.m., is Gary Green, assistant professor at the Daniel B. Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources at the University of Georgia. He is a published authority on nature-based tourism and also serves as research project director for the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment being conducted by the United States Forest Service.

Other speakers, from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., include:

- Charles Colgan, associate director of CentTRO, a professor of public policy and management at the University of Southern Maine's Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service and the chair of the Maine Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission and Forecast Manager for Maine for the New England Economic Partnership. He'll speak on the tourism outlook for Maine in 2008.

- Steffa Normantas, co-owner of Giraffe Events & Green Tree Event Consultants in Portland, which produces a variety of events for organizations in Maine. She'll speak on the outlook for events attractions.

- James Fitzgerald, a real estate broker in Kennebunk with the Sold on Betsy and Jim Real Estate Group, an affiliate of Coldwell Banker Real Estate, who will discuss the second home market in the housing crunch.

- And Mike Eisensmith, marketing and development coordinator for the Northern Maine Development Commission in Caribou, who will address the outlook for Northern Maine in 2008.

Further details, including registration information and conference fee, can be obtained by calling Kimberly Junkins at CentTRO on the UMaine campus in Orono at (207) 581-3102 or emailing Kimberly.Junkins@umit.maine.edu. The conference, which is open to the public, includes lunch.

The CentTRO website has details about the center and other tourism-related news and research, in addition to a fall conference online registration link and a conference agenda.

CentTRO is an interdisciplinary initiative of the University of Maine System that involves and coordinates the efforts of faculty across numerous disciplines on all campuses in the state. It has grown out of the increased recognition of the economic, social and environmental impact of tourism in Maine and the importance of recreation to the quality of life in Maine. The value of tourism to Maine has resulted in the need for addressing tourism's complicated issues such as market analysis and promotion, land-use planning, geographic distribution, public-private cooperation, coastal and inland resource development, in addition to integrating tourism with other community development strategies.

Pat LaMarche to Discuss and Sign Copies of Her New Book, "Left Out in America"

02 Nov 2007

Contact: Melanie Brooks at (207) 581-1700

ORONO -- After years of researching, writing, and volunteering in homeless shelters, Pat LaMarche decided to go on a 14-day trip to 14 homeless shelters across America. The result is a series of vignettes that bring each shelter and its residents to life encompassed in the book, "Left Out in America: The State of Homelessness in the United States."

LaMarche will lead a discussion about the book at the University Bookstore on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 4:30 p.m.

A business manager, journalist, educator, author, broadcaster and, most recently, a freelance writer and consultant, LaMarche graduated from John Bapst High School in Bangor and earned bachelor's degree at Boston College. She was

the Green Party's vice-presidential nominee in 2004 and she ran for governor of Maine in 2006.

University of Maine's 2008 Garden Calendar Available

07 Nov 2007

Contact: Lois Berg Stack 207-581-2949

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published the 2008 version of its "North Country Garden Calendar," always a popular item for holiday gift-giving. Developed by Cooperative Extension professors Lois Berg Stack and Leonard Perry of the Universities of Maine and Vermont, respectively, this year's calendar features 12 of the authors' favorite plants. Calendars can be purchased for \$7.50 by calling 800-870-7270 or visiting www.extension.umaine.edu (bulk pricing is available).

"It was not easy to choose just 12 favorite plants," says Stack. "As horticulture specialists and avid gardeners, we have so many favorites!" Stack and Perry decided to feature a diversity of plants that are dependable, functional and beautiful in northern New England. They included some plants with multi-season interest like "Karl Foerster" Feather Reed Grass and large fothergilla, some native wildflowers like Helen's Flower and foamflower, and some new plants such as "Rozanne" geranium and "Ivory Prince" Lenten rose.

"The illustrations for the calendar, which were done by UMaine Extension communications staffers Cindy Eves-Thomas and Laura Latinski, really bring the plants to life," Stack says.

"We remind people when and how to start seeds, prune landscape trees and shrubs, manage weeds, make compost and much more," says Perry. "We've produced garden calendars for more than ten years, and I often refer to them myself to remember gardening tasks." Each month features gardening reminders timed for northern New England.

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For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

Sen. Peter Mills at UMaine Tuesday

12 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine Sen. Peter Mills (R-Skowhegan) will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday, Nov. 13 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Mills will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Mills, who is an attorney, is currently serving his seventh term in the Maine Legislature. He was a senator from 1994-2002, followed by a term in the Maine House. Voters in District 26 returned him to the Maine Senate in 2004, and he was re-elected last year.

News coverage possibilities include a 10:45-11:45 a.m. meeting with UMaine faculty and student researchers who are working on projects related to energy. That session is scheduled for the Crosby Lab building. Mills will also discuss UMaine biomedical research with professors Sam Hess and Mike Mason from 1-1:50 p.m. in Room 19 Bennett Hall, and he will tour UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center from 3:30-4:20 p.m.

Defense Appropriation Calls for AEWFC Funding

13 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Fiscal Year 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill, approved last Thursday by the U.S. House of Representatives, includes \$4 million in proposed funding to continue and expand a University of Maine research project that offers the promise of added safety for soldiers serving in combat.

Congress has sent the bill to President Bush.

The money, if the president signs the bill, will support Research and Development at UMaine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWFC) Center, where faculty and staff continue work on the Modular Ballistic System for Force Protection project. This work involves the creation of ballistic panel kits for interior installation in military tents, providing protection for those inside in the event of mortar attacks and other explosions.

The U.S. Army has provided funding support to bring the project to the point where successful testing has been completed and prototype kits have been built and shipped to the Army. AEWFC completed the project's first stage in one year, about half the originally anticipated time. That work was also significantly below the budgeted cost.

"If it comes to fruition, the additional funding will allow us to move forward on the testing and research, while also advancing toward the point where private manufacturing becomes reality," says Prof. Habib Dagher, AEWFC director.

All four members of Maine's Congressional delegation played an important role in helping secure this new funding, according to Dagher and Michael Eckardt, UMaine's vice president for research.

"Federal government funding for projects like this one makes it possible for UMaine researchers to apply their skills and expertise to helping solve statewide and national problems," says Eckardt. "This project represents an outstanding example of the kind of meaningful accomplishments that can occur when a great idea meets a critical need. Maine-based faculty researchers and students are doing important work on this project, employing the latest technology to save lives."

The bill also included a \$14 million appropriation for the Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) program. If the president signs the bill into law, UMaine and other Maine researchers will have the opportunity to compete with researchers from 23 other specifically designated states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands for funding from that program.

UMaine Winter Parking Ban in Effect

13 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's winter overnight parking ban is in effect through May 1, 2008, according to the UMaine Parking Services Office.

The annual ban became effective on Nov. 1.

Staff, commuter and visitor parking areas are closed between midnight and 6 a.m during this period every year. No vehicles may be parked in those lots between midnight and 6 a.m.

The College Avenue South parking lot is available for temporary parking during those hours. Motorists should make sure that their UMaine parking permits are displayed in vehicles using this overnight lot. Those who do not have a UMaine permit and require a temporary one should visit the Student Service Center in Memorial Union, the Parking Service Office at Doris Twitchell Allen Village or the Public Safety Building (during evening hours and on weekends).

Those with questions should either consult a parking map or call the Parking Services Office at 581-4047.

Vehicle owners are urged to consult the Parking Services's website (<http://www.umaine.edu/parking/>) for updates related to parking, snow removal and lot closings.

Four Districts Join Sports Done Right Ranks Following Board Approval

13 Nov 2007

Contact: Karen Hawkes at (207) 581-2443; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- The Sports Done Right Board of Directors granted MSAD 71 (Kennebunk, Kennebunkport), Five Town CSD (Appleton, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville, Rockport) and MSAD 28 (Camden, Rockport) full accreditation on Wednesday, Nov 7. Each district fulfilled and exceeded the necessary requirements to gain full Sports Done Right accreditation. The board also voted to approve Augusta Public Schools for preliminary Sports Done Right accreditation and will review the district's progress in the required areas at the end of the school year.

Sports Done Right is a University of Maine initiative that serves as a guide for schools and youth sports organizations to assess and improve the overall athletic experience for youth. The program is designed to enhance community conversations, promote community partnerships, increase student involvement, increase athletic opportunities, and educate stakeholders on the value and importance of healthy and positive athletic participation.

MSAD 71 and Augusta Public Schools joined the Sports Done Right candidacy process as pilot sites in March 2005 in partnership with the local parks and recreation departments. As a result, the Kennebunk Parks and Recreation Department, Kennebunkport Parks and Recreation Department and Augusta Recreation have also received accreditation status.

Five Town CSD and MSAD 28 joined efforts when implementing the Sports Done Right program and are the first non-pilot sites to receive full accreditation from the Board of Directors.

"All four districts provided the Board of Directors with sufficient evidence that not only supports the efforts taken in the communities, but their commitment to the student-athletes," says Karen Hawkes, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching, the headquarters for Sports Done Right. "I am extremely pleased to welcome MSAD 71, Five Town CSD, MSAD 28, Augusta Public Schools and the partnering recreation departments to the Sports Done Right program. Their work and leadership will continue to offer valuable lessons to athletic programs across the state and country."

Other accredited Sports Done Right districts include MSAD 5 (Rockland, Owl's Head, South Thomaston), MSAD 51 (Cumberland, North Yarmouth) and Winthrop Public Schools.

Sports Done Right was co-founded in June 2003 by Robert A. Cobb, former Dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, and J. Duke Albanese, Senior Policy Advisor for the Great Maine Schools Project at the Mitchell Institute and former Maine Commissioner of Education. Sports Done Right is based at the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching (MCSC) at the University of Maine under the direction of Karen Hawkes. More information is available by calling the MCSC at (207) 581-2443 or online at www.sportsdonerightmaine.org.

Governor Asks UMaine for Climate Change Report

15 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; David Farmer at (207) 287-3531

ORONO -- Citing the "essential" need for Maine policy makers to consider "management and policy decisions with the best available scientific information," Maine Gov. John Baldacci has asked for a "Maine Climate Change Assessment" from scientists at the University of Maine.

Researchers in UMaine's Climate Change Institute will lead the study.

"As the State works to address climate change, it's critical that we have the best information available to guide our decision making," Governor Baldacci said. "The University of Maine has one of the premier climate change research programs in the country. We need to utilize that specialized resource as we work to answer the challenges of global warming."

The governor's request stems from a series of discussions involving UMaine professors George Jacobson and Ivan Fernandez, both of whom are affiliated with the internationally recognized Climate Change Institute. Baldacci, in a Nov. 8 letter addressed to Prof. Paul Mayewski, the institute's director, described the anticipated report and some of the things he would like to see in the final version:

** (Identification of) the potential climate scenarios, and their probabilities, for Maine for the remainder of the 21st century;*

** Inventories (of) the critical impacts, adaptations, and opportunities represented by these scenarios;*

** (Identification of) critical environmental monitoring, research and assessment needs on this issue; and*

** (Definition of) a framework to continue an ongoing effective dialogue for science to inform policy on issues of our chemical and physical climate in Maine.*

The team of scientists participating in the UMaine assessment will include members of other UMaine research units with relevant expertise, including the Sen. George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research, the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy and the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests.

Researchers plan to analyze "the scientific, economic, and social challenges, and possible solutions, for the State of Maine," Jacobson and Fernandez wrote in a document outlining the project's scope and specific goals. In that paper, they suggest that the important current focus on mitigating climate change should not preclude planning for the adaptations that will be necessary if Maine continues to warm as expected.

"The climate of the 21st century will be quite different from that of the last century," Jacobson and Fernandez wrote. "Decision making by government agencies, business leaders, research managers, and private citizens will necessarily

be influenced by that reality. We should not be dealing with climate change as an isolated issue while everything else remains business as usual."

The final assessment, which the university scientists hope will lead to increased public discourse on issues related to climate change and Maine's future, is due to the Governor in November, 2008.

30th Anniversary of Book Drive at UMaine to Help Young Readers

15 Nov 2007

Contact: Theresa McMannus, (207) 581-2441

ORONO -- The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development is again joining the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis Club in an effort to collect books for area youngsters, through their 30th anniversary book drive.

Members of the public are invited to join in the tradition by donating new books suitable for toddlers to teens.

Former College of Education & Human Development Dean Robert Cobb established the collection effort 30 years ago, and current Dean Anne Pooler says the college is committed to carrying on the tradition.

"We are committed to helping students discover the joy of reading," she says.

Since its early days, the community book drive has made thousands of books available to deserving area children. The college takes the lead in collecting the books, and Kiwanis Club members distribute them at the service organization's annual holiday party for area children.

As part of the tradition, children from the campus Child Study Center also collect books for the drive. This year, the children will deliver books they have collected on Dec. 5 and Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. Their annual visit with the college dean usually includes reading a fun children's book, caroling, and a simple conversation about the gift of giving.

Additionally, the UMaine Bookstore in the Memorial Union again is joining the college to boost the number of books collected and children served. The Bookstore started collecting books for the drive on Nov. 12. During Children's Book Week, Nov. 12-17, children's books will be 25 percent off, and the Bookstore will contribute a book of equal value for each book purchased there for the children's book drive.

Books may be brought to the College of Education and Human Development at Shibles Hall at UMaine, through Friday noon, Dec. 7. For information, call Theresa McMannus at 581-2441.

Page Farm & Home Museum Plans Holiday Shoppe Sale, Wreath Workshops

15 Nov 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum is expanding its annual Holiday Shoppe exhibits and sale this year, as a dozen traditional Maine craftspeople and artisans have been invited to offer their creations to the public.

Special Holiday Shoppe activities are scheduled Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The public is welcome to stop by and meet the artists and crafters, and also visit the museum's old-fashioned gift shop with its traditional Maine-made crafts, clothes, books, artwork, pottery, toys and games. With crafters on hand in person this year, visitors can meet soap and candle makers, fiber artists, jewelry designers and representatives from local non-profit organizations, including the Patch Friends Group. The group is dedicated to preserving the legacy of Edith Patch, a famed entomologist, author and UMaine teacher in the early 20th century.

The gift shop will offer discounts during the Holiday Shoppe hours.

Page Farm & Home Museum Planning Old-Fashioned Holiday Party Dec. 7

15 Nov 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Page Farm & Home Museum at the University of Maine is inviting members of the university and surrounding communities to its annual old-fashioned holiday party Dec. 7, from 6-8 p.m.

It is a time to experience the spirit of trimming the tree, make ornaments, decorate gingerbread cookies and do some carolling, says museum Director Patricia Henner.

Refreshments will be served and children are welcome. The event is free.

"This one of our most popular events that is chance for the whole family to come together during the holiday season," Henner says. "Kids will have a chance to make their own crafts and enjoy a variety of sweets."

The Page Farm & Home Museum collects, documents preserves, interprets and disseminates knowledge of Maine history relating to farms and farming communities between 1865 and 1940, providing an educational and cultural experience for the public and a resource for researchers of this period.

For details and information, the farm and home museum can be reached at 581-4100. The museum website (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm) has information about exhibits, events and hours.

Carnegie Foundation Names UMaine's Strong 2007 Maine Professor of the Year

16 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Robert A. Strong, a University of Maine professor of finance, has been selected as the 2007 Maine Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE.)

Established in 1981, the Professor of the Year award is the only national program that recognizes undergraduate professors for outstanding commitment to their students, educational institutions, profession and communities.

"Obviously I am very pleased with this honor," says Strong, "but there is a certain amount luck involved, after all, considering that there are so many other people out there qualified to win it."

Maybe so. But for Matthew Rossignol's money, none of them could be more deserving than his former business professor and mentor.

"There is no one, in my opinion, more worthy of this honor than Dr. Strong," says Rossignol, who received his undergraduate degree in business administration in May 2007 and now works for State Street Global Markets in Boston. "His commitment to excellence in teaching, on a personal level, has inspired me to achieve a career in finance that I would not have been able to do otherwise."

Strong, winner of the 2005 Distinguished Maine Professor Award, earned an engineering degree at the United States Military Academy at West Point, a master's in business administration from Boston University and a Ph.D in finance from Penn State. Now in his 24th year at UMaine, the highly regarded finance professor is convinced that campus life trumps the private sector as an outlet for his abundant energy and passion.

"Everything's a tradeoff," says Strong, an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys sea-kayaking and fly-fishing, "but I've found that academics is the best job in the world for me. I like teaching very much, I like writing textbooks and I also enjoy the public service part."

Strong's scholarly output is voluminous and far-reaching. He has written more than 75 articles for business journals, many of them about his teaching methods, and books on a variety of financial topics. His three textbooks are used in more than 100 universities around the world.

Over the years, he has generously shared his considerable financial and investment prowess with many private and not-for-profit boards in the region, and is in demand as an expert witness and consultant.

"Bob's strong leadership in the business community and service in the nonprofit world complement his significant contributions to academic teaching and research," says Jim Conlon, president and CEO of Bangor Savings Bank, which has benefitted from Strong's involvement there as trustee, foundation director and advisor. "His expertise, dedication and ethics make him a professional colleague and decision maker of absolute first rank."

The license plate on Strong's car reads BUA 353 -- a cryptic message to most people roaming the UMaine campus, perhaps, but instantly recognizable to students of the Maine Business School. The plate refers to Strong's undergraduate investment strategy course, the biggest class he teaches and one of the most thought-provoking.

"It's a class that sparks their interest," says Strong, who is the University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education. "People are naturally interested in the topic, because everyone is going to wind up investing money in their lives, whether it's a 401K at work or whatever. The class really gives them ideas."

In 1993, Strong, working with the University of Maine Foundation, started a club that has allowed 30 to 40 students a year to put some of those ideas to the test by acting as real-money portfolio managers for UMaine Foundation funds. The Student Portfolio Investment Fund, or SPIFFY, has since increased its original \$200,000 allotment to more than \$1.2 million today.

Because of its success, SPIFFY has become an ideal adjunct to Strong's investment class and an ambitious, student-driven model for other universities. A contingent of SPIFFY students also travels to New York City each year, where they mingle with Wall Street investment pros and witness firsthand the frenzy and clamor of the stock exchange at work.

Rossignol, SPIFFY president in his senior year, calls his investment club involvement "the most positive and worthwhile experiences of my UMaine career."

"The opportunities Bob makes for his students are invaluable," says Todd Saucier, president and executive director of the UMaine Alumni Association. "He provides a solid basis for their growth and is continuously cultivating their minds and whetting their appetites about the world of finance."

iPhone Drawing Dec. 3

16 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- One lucky University of Maine student will win an iPhone on Monday, Dec. 3.

UMaine will randomly select a student from the list of those who have registered with `umaine.txt`, the university's system that allows the university to communicate with members of the UMaine community during an emergency. Messages are delivered by cell phone text message, email or both.

"This technology presents an invaluable way for students to receive the information that can keep them safe in an emergency," says UMaine Vice President and Dean of Students Robert Dana. "We hope that this incentive will inspire more students to register with the system."

Registration is free and usually only takes about a minute.

Apple, Inc. donated the iPhone for this drawing. Doug Marchio, director of The Computer Connection at UMaine, was instrumental in making the donation arrangements with Apple.

The `umaine.txt` mechanism is part of UMaine's new emergency communications system, instituted this fall. The overall plan also includes an audible siren and other forms of electronic communication intended to provide important information during an emergency.

Annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration Dec. 15

16 Nov 2007

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Hudson Museum is holding its annual day-long Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance Sale and Demonstration on Saturday, Dec. 15, offering the public a rare opportunity to learn first-hand about Maine Indian culture, traditions and artforms.

The event is scheduled 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at UMaine's newest building, the Student Recreation and Fitness Center on Hilltop Road, in the northeast corner of the Orono campus. It is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The annual event is one of three annual shows where Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot artists from Maine showcase and sell their work. It also is one of the largest Native American gatherings of this sort in Maine. Consumers and basket collectors typically come from throughout New England and across the country for the annual basket and crafts sale.

The event features one of a kind, ash splint and sweet grass basketry ranging from rugged creels, pack and potato work baskets to strawberry- and blueberry-shaped fancy baskets and curly bowls. Authentic porcupine quill jewelry, wood carvings, birch bark work and other art will be available.

Throughout the day, attendees will see how a brown ash log is transformed into a basket, how root clubs and walking sticks are made, as well as listen to traditional music and storytelling.

Traditional foods prepared by members of the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club include hull corn soup, fry bread

and blueberry desserts, and will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. From 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., the Burnurwurbskek Singers will drum and sing, and dancers will present a wide range of traditional dances.

Though the event is free after 10 a.m., early bird shopping is available from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. for a \$10 fee; tickets may be purchased at the door.

The opening welcome features a traditional song of greeting sung by Kelly Demmons, greetings from the Penobscot Chief Kirk Francis, the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance and the University of Maine. Passamaquoddy and Penobscot authors Allan Sockabasin ("An Upriver Passamaquoddy") and Charles Shay ("Florence Nicolay Shay: Penobscot Basketmaker and Tribal Advocate" and "Princess Watahwaso: Bright Star of the Penobscot") will have their books available for sale and signing until 11:30 a.m. Kelly Demmons will sing Penobscot songs and John Bear Mitchell of UMaine's Wabanaki Center will tell traditional stories.

The Hudson Museum Friends will raffle off a brown ash Katahdin Butterfly basket made by renowned basketmaker Fred Tomah, Maliseet, according to Gretchen Faulkner, museum director. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and are available at the MCA Box Office in the Class of 1944 Hall, the Wabanaki Arts Center Gallery in Old Town and at the event.

More information can be obtained by calling the Hudson Museum at 581-1901.

Campus Presentation on Universal Design and Teaching Scheduled

16 Nov 2007

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236

The University of Maine's Center for Teaching Excellence is offering a presentation on Nov. 28 that will review the principles of universal design in higher education and making subject matter accessible for everyone.

This event, from 9-11 a.m. in the Totman Lounge of the Memorial Union, is free and open to all UMaine faculty, instructors and teaching assistants. The program is titled "Starting with the Syllabus: Universal Design Applied to Instructional Practices in Higher Education."

Facilitators include: session leader Tina Passman, associate professor of classical languages and literature; Sheridan Kelley, adjunct assistant professor of art; Valerie Smith, assistant research professor, Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies; and Lu Zeph, associate professor of education and director of the UMaine's Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies.

Universal Design is the concept that by anticipating and planning for the diverse needs of potential users during the design process, the resulting product or outcome will better suit the needs of all users. It goes beyond accessible design for people with disabilities to make all aspects of the educational experience more accessible to all students and instructors.

After a brief review of the principles of universal design, participants will use the example of the accessible syllabus template used by College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Undergraduate Program Curriculum Committee to illustrate how universal design principles provide inclusive and complete information for all students -- those with disabilities and those without. A roundtable discussion will follow the presentation.

The presentation is appropriate for all disciplines and addresses live classroom and online courses. It should be of particular interest to those reviewing their syllabi and curriculum design in anticipation of the coming NEASC Reaccreditation visit.

Registration is required. Please call 581-3472, or e-mail registration information by Monday, Nov. 26, to

The program is supported by the Adelaide C. and Alan L. Bird Fund for Instructional and Faculty Development.

Plan Ahead for Safe Thanksgiving Turkey

16 Nov 2007

Contact: Beth Calder, 207-581-2791

ORONO, Me. -- "Foodborne illness can be an uninvited guest during the holidays," says Food Science Specialist Beth Calder of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Calder advises the following food safety practices to ensure a safe holiday season.

Wash your hands often with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds. Prevent cross-contamination of foods, and keep cooked and raw foods separate. Wash and sanitize cutting boards and food contact surfaces. Keep your cold foods cold (refrigerated foods below 40 degrees and frozen foods below 0 degrees), and cook foods at the recommended proper cooking temperatures, using a meat thermometer. Avoid holding foods between 40 and 140 degrees F for a period longer than two hours.

If you have food safety questions while planning and preparing your holiday meal, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854).

Fresh or Frozen Turkey?

The USDA defines fresh turkey as "whole poultry and cuts that have never been below 26 degrees F." Fresh birds are usually of better quality; however, if the birds were properly frozen, they will maintain good quality for at least a couple of years. If you are buying a fresh bird, you should buy your turkey one or two days before cooking to ensure that fresh quality. Frozen turkeys should be purchased early enough to allow time for safe thawing before cooking.

Don't buy a prestuffed turkey unless it displays the USDA or state mark of inspection on the packaging. If you buy a frozen, USDA-approved, prestuffed turkey, do NOT thaw before cooking, and follow the package directions.

Thawing Turkey Safely

You can safely thaw a frozen (not prestuffed) turkey in one of three ways: in the refrigerator, in cold water, or the microwave oven.

Refrigerator:

The time required for thawing a turkey in the refrigerator depends on the weight of the turkey. For example, a 12-pound turkey will take up to two days to be completely thawed, a 16-pound turkey will take three days, and a 20-pound turkey will take four days. A good guideline is 24 hours for approximately every five pounds of frozen turkey. Make sure that your refrigerator is at 40 degrees F or below. Keep the turkey in its original wrapper and place a drip pan in your refrigerator in case of thaw drip and to prevent cross-contamination. A completely thawed turkey can be refrigerated for one to two days, but then must be immediately cooked or refrozen.

Cold water:

Place the turkey in a waterproof bag. Check the original packaging material for cuts to ensure that no water will get through if you are using this as your thawing bag. Allow six hours for a 12-pound turkey, nine hours for a 16-pound turkey, and 12 hours for a 20-pound turkey. Change the water every 30 minutes. Cook the turkey immediately after it is completely thawed and do not refreeze.

Microwave:

Check your owner's manual to determine the size turkey that will fit in your microwave oven and the recommendations for the power level and minutes per pound to thaw frozen turkey. Remove the outside wrapper and place turkey in a microwave-safe dish. Once the turkey is thawed, cook it immediately and do not refreeze.

A turkey should never be thawed on the counter at room temperature. This is because thawing takes place from the outside in. At room temperatures, bacteria on the surface of the turkey may grow at potentially harmful levels before the inner turkey will have time to completely thaw.

Stuffing

Stuffing your turkey is not recommended. However, if you choose to roast a stuffed turkey, the bird should be stuffed right before cooking. You can prepare the ingredients for the stuffing ahead of time and store them in the refrigerator until you're ready to cook the bird. Mix the ingredients right before stuffing the bird; do not stuff the bird and store it before cooking. Make sure that the stuffing is cooked to an internal temperature of 165 degrees F.

Roasting

Place the bird breast side up, on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Cover loosely with aluminum foil, with the shiny side in. Cook your turkey all at once: do not start roasting on one day and finish the cooking on another. Uncover the turkey 20 to 30 minutes before the cooking time is up. Birds are completely cooked when the internal meat temperature reaches at least 165 degrees F. (If you use roasting bags, more time is needed to reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees F.) Insert a meat thermometer in the innermost part of the thigh and breast to determine if the turkey has reached a safe minimum temperature of 165 degrees F.

Approximate Roasting Times

8--12 lbs.: 2 3/4 to 3 hours unstuffed; 3 to 3 1/2 hours stuffed

12--14 lbs.: 3 to 3 1/4 hours unstuffed; 3 1/2 to 4 hours stuffed

14--18 lbs.: 3 3/4 to 4 1/4 hours unstuffed; 4 to 4 1/4 hours stuffed

18--20 lbs.: 4 1/4 to 4 1/2 hours unstuffed; 4 1/4 to 4 3/4 hours stuffed

20--24 lbs.: 4 1/2 to 5 hours unstuffed; 4 3/4 to 5 1/4 stuffed

Children's Wreath Workshop Offered at UMaine

19 Nov 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm & Home Museum is hosting a children's holiday wreath-making workshop Nov. 25, starting noon.

The event, open to the public for a \$5-per-child fee to cover materials, will provide area children ages 6 and up a fun and creative opportunity to make their own 12-inch holiday wreaths, using real fir boughs, pine cones, berries and other traditional decorations, says Patty Henner, museum director.

Parents and guardians should call the museum on the Orono campus at 581-4100 to register or with questions. Children will need to be accompanied by an adult.

UMaine Annual Economic Impact Estimated at \$698 Million

19 Nov 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A new report by economist Todd Gabe estimates that expenditures associated with the University of Maine's day-to-day operations, combined with student and visitor spending, create an annual total economic output of \$698 million to the Maine economy.

Gabe's calculations, which show \$7.65 in total economy activity for every dollar of state investment, are based on data from the year ending June 30, 2006. His new report, "The University of Maine's Contributions to State Economic Development," updates a similar study completed five years ago.

Gabe is an associate professor in UMaine's School of Economics.

In the report, Gabe calls UMaine -- the state's flagship, land-grant university in Orono -- Maine's "leading driver of economic development.

"Along with the institution's sizable economic impact, the skills and knowledge obtained at UMaine allow our graduates to make productive contributions to the Maine economy," Gabe notes. "It helps entrepreneurs come up with new ideas, and helps businesses expand and support new investments... the whole state wins with a strong UMaine."

As part of this new study, Gabe calculated the aggregate increase in lifetime earnings from a single graduating class, projecting that amount over the course of a typical work career. By that measure, Gabe figures that each graduating UMaine class adds a total of approximately \$515.5 million to Maine's economy.

He arrived at that figure by estimating the number of graduates who stay in Maine to work and developing a formula based on 2000 U.S. Census statistics suggesting that a college degree adds "a \$16,397 annual wage premium in Maine." The additional income associated with graduate degrees makes the real number significantly larger.

The report also estimates that visitors to UMaine spend \$15.2 million in the local economy on an annual basis.

"These numbers serve to quantify an important aspect of what UMaine means to the people of this state," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "UMaine provides statewide outreach, most notably through Cooperative Extension operations in every Maine county, research that leads to businesses and jobs, and unique, high-quality educational opportunities. In addition, Prof. Gabe's report demonstrates that UMaine has a tangible impact on Maine's economy."

Kennedy says that UMaine's economic impact is one of several indications of UMaine's important role as an institution with statewide reach and impact.

"This fall has shown enrollment gains across the board, with new record levels of overall enrollment and first-year enrollment." Kennedy says. "With regard to statewide impact, it is notable that our first-year class includes more Mainers than any class ever enrolled at a Maine university -- 13 percent more than last year. That group includes significantly more students from southern Maine and a sharp increase in community college transfers. UMaine is our state's college of choice, as more Maine are recognizing it as the key to a brighter future. As Prof. Gabe's research demonstrates the economic impact of earning a UMaine degree, it is easy to see what these trends will mean to our state's economy for decades to come."

Copies of the report are available upon request.

UMMA Art Exhibition December 7 - April 5, 2008

19 Nov 2007

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207-561-3352, kj@umit.maine.edu, www.umma.umaine.edu

Digital images available.

*Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present the second half of a two-part exhibition **A Legacy of Collecting: 1983 - Present** beginning December 7. **A Legacy of Collecting** celebrates the Five Year Anniversary of the Museum of Art's relocation to downtown Bangor. The first exhibition focused on the formative years of the Museum's Permanent Collection, 1946 - 1982, under founding director Vincent A. Hartgen.*

A Legacy of Collecting: 1983 - Present

A Legacy of Collecting celebrates the University of Maine Museum of Art's Permanent Collection. The first exhibit featured works accepted into the collection during the tenure of founding director Vincent A. Hartgen's incredible 37 year career. This second half of the exhibition series focuses on additions to the collection by the four directors that followed Hartgen.

Two major gifts helped shape the collection after 1983, the gift of 43 objects by American artist William Gropper and 305 works from the collection of 1938 alumnus Robert Venn Carr, Jr. Each of these gifts concentrated primarily on what had by this time become the principal focus of the museum's collection - works on paper. Sophie Gropper's gift of her husband's works includes a number of important drawings made for reproduction in magazines such as Harpers and Vanity Fair.

*As a collector, Robert Venn Carr, Jr. amassed a robust collection of American, German and English prints. His vision encompassed benchmark examples of printmaking in all forms. These include important works such as German painter Georg Baselitz's large portrait of his wife Elke titled *Akt im Lehnstuhl* (Nude in Arm Chair) which the artist carved into floor vinyl, inked by hand, and then printed. Other examples from the Carr Collection include museum favorites Mick Jagger by Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein's nod to German Expressionism *Reclining Nude*.*

The Museum of Art moved to Bangor in December 2002 and embarked on an active exhibition program that focused on photography. Included in the exhibition are works by Manuel Alvarez Bravo and George Tice which were acquired after their solo exhibitions. Since its relocation, the museum has programmed exhibitions that highlight artists who work in Maine.

*Included in **A Legacy of Collecting** are works by Maine artists Paul Caponigro, Jonathan Bailey, Sam Cady, Jessica Gandolf, Bernard Langlais, Jocelyn Lee, Melville McLean, Alex Katz, Melonie Bennett and Barbara Sullivan.*

The exhibition includes works by celebrated artists Berenice Abbott, Eugene Atget, John Marin, Neil Welliver, Max Beckmann, Richard Diebenkorn, Pablo Picasso, and Yvonne Jacquette, as well as a multi-panel work by Los Angeles artist Charles Garabedian, and an unusual installation in the museum's stairwell of work by John Baldessari.

*Museum of Art
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401
207-561-3350*

www.umma.umaine.edu

Hours: Monday -- Saturday 9 a.m. -- 5 p.m.

UMaine Campus Activities Recognized for Programming Excellence

20 Nov 2007

Contact: Gustavo Burkett, 581-1736

ORONO -- The University of Maine Division of Student Affairs' Campus Activities and Events and its Campus Activities Board have been recognized by the National Association for Campus Activities Northeast for programming excellence.

Excellence in Programming awards recognize outstanding member schools in each of three student population categories by region. The three category awards are:

- Most Original Article of Clothing, awarded to a school in the Northeast region that has the most original design and most innovative idea. UMaine was recognized for the "6-Day Forecast" shirt designed by student Ashleigh Briggs, the co-chair of the Campus Activities Board.

- The Best Student Designed Website, awarded to a school in the Northeast that has the most useful and innovative website design. UMaine was recognized for the Campus Activities and Events website -- www.umaine.edu/campusevents -- designed by student Kevin Taschereau, a Campus Activities and Events intern.

- And the Most Creative Gimmick award, given to a school with the most innovative gimmick. For this award, Campus Activities Director Gustavo Burkett says UMaine was recognized for the Campus Activities Buzz, a weekly publication that highlights weekly campus events and provides students with relevant information on campus departments or programs. The "Buzz" also offers a section with horoscopes, games and trivia.

Award criteria includes: organizational goals; the types of events on the program calendar; budget; programming board membership; the advisor's involvement; planning and preparation; campus resources that contributed to the success of the programs; publicity and promotion; and advertising methods and creative techniques used, in addition to program evaluation and impact on the campus community.

Selection of award winners takes into consideration the amount of support for campus activities by campus administrators or students, who are invited to offer testimony on the value of the programming efforts as they relate to the educational mission of the college or university.

NACA Northeast member schools may nominate themselves for an Excellence in Programming Award. Nomination submissions must be accompanied by supporting materials. All nominations are reviewed and the nominee list is narrowed to four finalists in each school size category. The four finalists must prepare an oral presentation to be presented before a panel of judges and conference attendees at the fall conference. The panel then selects a winner in each category.

Maine Joins National Effort to Better Help Girls Explore Math/Science Careers

20 Nov 2007

*Contact: Sharon Barker, (207) 581-1501
Tom Weber, (207) 581-3777*

ORONO -- For more than 25 years, myriad organizations have sprouted up in Maine and the nation to encourage more girls to study science and math in school and make their careers in these traditionally male-dominated fields.

All too often, however, the groups wind up working toward the very same goals independently of one another, rarely collaborating on projects or sharing resources and methods that could make their common missions much more effective.

The University of Maine's Women's Resource Center (WRC) hopes to change that by establishing a first-ever formal network of state organizations whose aim is to create more opportunities for girls in science, technology, engineering and math. This new regional clearinghouse will allow disparate groups and individuals to not only find one another within the state but to tap into a national database of like-minded programs and better identify gaps in services.

"There's a lot going on in Maine, and this will help strengthen all of the state's girl-serving initiatives," Sharon Barker, the WRC director, said recently in announcing the university's role in the national effort.

The National Girls Collaborative Project, funded by the National Science Foundation, is the outgrowth of a pioneering program begun in 2002 by the Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology. Called the Northwest Girls Collaborative Project, its purpose was to help organizations in Washington and Oregon address the complex issue of gender equity in the fields of science and math.

The successful program was copied two years later in California, Massachusetts and Wisconsin, and offered nationwide last year with regional oversight and additional funding from the American Association of University Women (AAUW.)

As part of the effort, UMaine's WRC will receive more than \$28,000 to coordinate the state inventory, establish an advisory board, set up conferences and forums, and provide mini-grants to individual projects.

"We've had programs and conferences in the country for the last 20 or 30 years," Barker said, "but there's never been any formal evaluation of them so we could know if what we're all doing is the most effective approach. This would provide the infrastructure to do that."

A public presentation by Karen Peterson, who heads the national project, will be held Nov. 29, at 2 p.m., at the Buchanan Alumni House, to explain the initiative and UMaine's involvement. On March 10, two leadership team members and an AAUW representative will travel to Seattle, Wash., to learn how to get the program off the ground. Maine's kick-off conference will be scheduled for sometime next fall.

Barker said the WRC's long experience in working for economic and educational equity, and the university's unique land-grant mission of public service, make UMaine well-suited to lead the three-year initiative. Among its many projects, the center organizes the annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference -- the 22nd will be held in March -- that brings hundreds of middle-school girls to campus to learn about career opportunities in math and science while interacting with female role models working in those fields.

"This project is a way to leverage all our efforts in Maine," Barker said, "and make sure we're all plugged in so we get the biggest bang for the buck in serving the interests of girls in the state.

Golden Age of Trotting Horse, Lithography Are Subjects of Page Farm & Home Museum Talk Dec. 6

22 Nov 2007

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The history of the trotting horse and Currier & Ives lithography -- and their connections to Maine -- are topics being combined for a brown bag lunch lecture at noon, Dec. 6, at the University of Maine Page Farm & Home Museum.

"Currier and Ives: The Maine Connection" will feature a discussion by UMaine alum Clark Thompson, an authority on the Maine trotting horse and its place in Maine history from 1840-1895.

A trotting horse historian since 1977, Thompson, also a former Bangor attorney, has served on the Board of Directors for the Bangor State Fair and focuses his research on Bass Park. For the last three years he has worked on a Maine heritage trotting horse trail to memorialize trotting horses or racetracks from southern Maine to Bangor. Thompson also is a member of the Page Farm & Home Museum Board of Directors.

Thompson will display several Currier & Ives lithographs, known for their iconic depictions of life in rural America, including many lithograph prints of horses on farms, racetracks and pulling sleighs, wagons and fire-fighting apparatus.

The talk is free and open to the public.

The Page Farm & Home Museum on the Orono campus collects, documents, preserves, interprets and disseminates knowledge of Maine history relating to farms and farming communities between 1865 and 1940, providing an educational and cultural experience for the public and a resource for researchers of this period. The museum can be reached at (207) 581-4100.

UMaine Engineering Students Build New Ramp for Old Town Museum

27 Nov 2007

Contact: Dick Eustis, (207) 827-2238; Tom Weber, (207) 581-3777

The Old Town Museum is a modest operation that exists on donations and the generosity of volunteers. So when the time came to replace the building's wheelchair ramp, which was in terrible shape and no longer met accessibility standards, the museum board faced a tough financial decision.

"Building a new ramp was a big, expensive task for us, but it needed to be done," says Dick Eustis, the board's president.

Fortunately, help was just down the road, at the University of Maine. The student chapters of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Associated General Contractors are always on the lookout for projects they can do as part of their community service mission. When they heard about the museum's need, they decided to donate their time and talent to the cause.

Led by third-year mechanical engineering major Drake Voisine, the service project coordinator, the students designed a new, longer ramp and prepared a list of materials that the museum paid for. About 10 students tore apart the old ramp's framework one weekend, and resurfaced it with the help of a local contractor. The following Saturday, Nov. 17, nearly 20 different students chipped in to build the sturdy, pressure-treated wood replacement.

"I think it was a good experience for everyone," says Voisine, who is from St. Francis.

Eustis couldn't agree more. Without expensive labor costs, he figures the local history museum saved about \$2,200 on the project.

"Obviously we're very grateful for everything they did," Eustis says.

What Women Want: Neither Daredevils Nor Wimps

27 Nov 2007

Contact: William Farthing, (207) 581-2053 George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- Are women attracted to men who do physically risky things, such as whitewater kayaking or mountain climbing or skiing fast down the expert slope? From an evolutionary psychology approach, two different predictions can be made -- and they seem to be mutually exclusive. On one hand, the "costly signaling" hypothesis suggests what women would be attracted to physical risk takers because such behavior signals a man's desirable qualities such as physical fitness, athleticism and bravery. Such a man would likely be a good hunter and provider and protector for a woman and her children. This view leads to the prediction that women tend to be attracted to daredevils -- men who do things that are very risky. On the other hand, a man who exposes himself unnecessarily to physical risks increases the chances he will be seriously injured or killed, and thus no longer able to provide for and protect a woman and her children. This view might lead to the prediction that women will be attracted to wimps -- cautious men who avoid physical risks. Recent research by William Farthing, a psychology professor at the University of Maine, says that women are not attracted to either daredevils or wimps. Rather, women prefer men who take mild to moderate risks, but not extreme risks. Farthing asked undergraduate women to read a variety of scenarios involving an opportunity for physical risk taking, and indicate whether they would be more attracted to a man who took the risk or to one who avoided the risk as a potential long-term mate or spouse (other things being equal). Some of the scenarios involved heroic risks, such as rescuing a child from a river, while others involved non-heroic risks, such as risky sports. Also, some of the scenarios described highly risky acts -- with a significant chance of serious injury or death -- whereas others described acts that were only moderately risky. Farthing's results indicated that: 1. For non-heroic risky acts, women are more attracted to risk-takers than to risk-avoiders when a situation is only moderately risky, such as kayaking in medium rapids. But their preference was reversed -- in favor of risk avoiders -- when a situation is highly risky, such as severe rapids. 2. For both medium risk and high risk acts, women's preferences for risk takers were much greater for men who took altruistic, heroic risks than for men who took relatively arbitrary, impractical non-heroic risks. 3. Risk takers who were described as highly skilled at the required acts, such as kayaking, or self-defense, were more strongly preferred than men only moderately skilled, for either medium- or high-level risks. 4. In choosing adjectives to describe the men in the scenarios, women characterized men who took high-level risks as more physically fit, athletic and brave than risk avoiders, but also as more impulsive, attention-seeking and foolish. Takers of high-level heroic risks were seen as similar to non-heroic risk takers on those dimensions, but heroic risk takers were viewed as more altruistic, conscientious and sexy than non-heroic risk takers. Thus, Farthing concludes, women do not prefer daredevils or wimps. Most women prefer men who have the ability and bravery to engage in moderately risky acts, but also the thoughtfulness to avoid highly risky daredevil acts. Men who are highly skilled are preferred over men who are less skilled at the same risky acts, at least partly because highly skilled men are actually taking less risk than less skilled men. The lesson: Men rarely have a chance to do anything truly heroic, but if they get the chance, they will appeal to women because of it. Most of the time, men considering activities such as risky sports would be advised to try moderately risky activities and learn the skills to do them safely, and avoid looking foolish by attempting high-risk daredevil stunts. When it comes to impressing women with physically risky behavior, more is not better. Farthing's study - "Neither daredevils nor wimps: Attitudes toward physical risk takers as mates" - is in the current issue of the journal *Evolutionary Psychology*. # Farthing's teaching interests include evolutionary psychology, motivation, cognition and general psychology. His research interests include risk-taking behavior, the decision-making processes and evolutionary approaches to thinking and behavior. He can be reached at (207) 581-2053 or by email: g.w.farthing@umit.maine.edu. For more information on the University of Maine, see: <http://www.umaine.edu>.

New UMaine Supercomputer to Offer Maine Students Access to Climate Change, Scientific Modeling

28 Nov 2007

Contact: Professor Phillip Dickens, 581-3967; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Students in Maine schools soon will have an opportunity to experiment first-hand with variable climate change scenarios by accessing the University of Maine's environmental modeling programs from their own classroom laptops.

The UMaine Department of Computer Science has received two National Science Foundation grants, one for \$200,000 to buy a second university supercomputer, and a second, for \$300,000, to develop new supercomputer software to improve the transfer of massive data files.

The new supercomputer, and an access portal being developed for it, will allow Maine middle school students to access the University of Maine's Ice Sheet Model for environmental experiments. It also will enable the university to engage in much larger outreach and research activities, the type that require massive computing power, according to Phillip Dickens, Ph.D., professor of computer science and the principal researcher receiving the grants.

Computer science faculty and students will create a user-friendly, scientific grid portal for accessing UMaine's vast computing resources, scientific applications and research animations, Dickens explains. Users, ranging from Maine's top research scientists to schoolchildren, will access the grid portal through the Internet with a standard Web browser.

"This new grid will allow Maine's leading research facilities to pool computing and data storage resources, creating a single, powerful computational platform," says Dickens, a high-performance computing specialist. "It will allow the state's researchers to pursue new areas of scientific discovery that have been heretofore impossible to explore."

The new 96-processor supercomputer will be housed at Target Technology Center in Orono and overseen by Dickens and four grant project collaborators: Sudarshan Chawathe and James Fastook from the Department of Computer Science, and Yifeng Zhu and Bruce Segee from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

The supercomputer will support the research of participating faculty, in addition to research by members of Maine's general research community, including The Jackson Laboratory. Data from experiments or simulations at Jackson could be transferred to the university supercomputer in real time over an expanding optical network and returned quickly with scientific feedback.

"The portal will allow researchers from around the world to access some of the outstanding research infrastructure developed here at the University of Maine, including, for example, the widely used University of Maine Ice Sheet Model developed by Jim Fastook," Dickens says. "Making this powerful model available to the larger research community, as well as models and data from the university's Climate Change Institute, will significantly increase our understanding of the impact of climate change on the environment."

The new grid portal also will allow the state's middle-school students to access UMaine's modeling simulation software. Students will be able to simulate and modify environmental parameters and receive immediate feedback on how occurrences like shifting temperatures or varied carbon emissions would affect ice sheets being studied, Dickens says.

"I'm really excited about the educational outreach component of these grants," he says. "Part of educational outreach is to disseminate important research results to the wider community, and the scientific grid portal provides an excellent platform with which to do so."

The \$300,000 grant for file-transfer software is expected to resolve a data bottleneck issue that handicaps many supercomputers running upwards of thousands to tens of thousands of processors, all attempting to simultaneously store and retrieve data through a common file system. Dickens, with his students and the new supercomputer, will develop software to significantly improve file transfer speeds, resulting in better supercomputer performance in extreme computing environments.

Both grant-funded projects will involve at least a dozen graduate and undergraduate students from UMaine's computer sciences and electrical and computer engineering programs, providing them a "rare opportunity to become involved in important, cutting-edge computer science research," Dickens says.

University of Maine American Marketing Association to Host Annual Business Conference

30 Nov 2007

Contact: Heather Conary at (207) 659-3383

ORONO -- The University of Maine chapter of the American Marketing Association will host "You Can Get There From Here!: The Second Annual Collegiate Business Conference" on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007.

The statewide business conference is open to all Maine students. It will feature inspirational speakers, informational seminars, opportunities for networking and a mini-career fair. It will include continental breakfast and catered lunch. Students of all majors are welcome, as well as professionals from the local business community who are interested in networking with career-minded students.

The day will begin with a keynote speaker, Robin Sawyer, Fairchild Semiconductor's corporate controller. The afternoon block will begin with a talk by Dick Gleason, president of Gleason Media. Other seminars will feature Meredith Burgess of Burgess Advertising, Kevin Coffin of Prime Financial, and University of Maine business professors, Paul Myer, Omar Khan and Harold Daniel.

Doors open at 8 a.m. for continental breakfast and networking. An optional dinner with participating speakers is also available but seats are limited. Tickets are \$10 for the conference, including a continental breakfast and catered lunch. Tickets are \$30 for the conference with the speaker dinner. Those interested in sponsorships or tickets should contact Heather Conary, president of the University of Maine AMA.

About the American Marketing Association:

The American Marketing Association is "one of the largest professional associations for marketers, has 38,000 members worldwide in every area of marketing. For over six decades the AMA has been~the leading source for information, knowledge sharing and development in the marketing profession." The University of Maine Chapter of the American Marketing Association is involved in a National Case Study which takes the group to Louisiana in the Spring to compete, conducting a real life business struggle and promotion for Southwest Harbor, putting together this business conference and numerous other events. The American Marketing Association offers the ability to connect with like-minded peers, as well as access to conferences and other developmental tools, networking with business professional and volunteer with peers.

About the University of Maine Business School:

Maine Business School serves as the primary source of management education, research and service in the state of Maine. Through the integration of research, teaching and extensive interactions with the business community, the MBS develops and communicates knowledge, prepares students for successful careers in a global economy, and contributes to the economic development of the region. The University of Maine Business School prides themselves in being one of New England's finest business schools. Maine Business School faculty come from all over the country and all over to world to provide a dynamic, experienced and educated group of professional for our students. For more information about the University of Maine Business School please visit: <http://www.umaine.edu/business/index.htm>

Maine Tree Club Offers Outings and Education

03 Dec 2007

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, Me.--Maine citizens and visitors can learn more about one of our state's greatest resources by joining the Maine Tree Club, an educational project designed for people of all ages to learn about trees. The Maine Tree Club is a collaborative effort of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum.

The annual registration fee for the Maine Tree Club is \$20 per person, \$30 per couple, \$35 per family and \$65 per group of up to 15. A limited number of Maine Tree Club scholarships are available for those in need. There is no deadline for registration. Request a free informational brochure by calling UMaine Extension at 800-287-1471 or e-mailing lelwell@umext.maine.edu.

The Maine Tree Club is planning at least three outings around the state in 2008, beginning in spring, to get people into the woods for hands-on learning and enjoyment. These outings, guided by experts, are planned for the mountains and coastal regions as well as other parts of Maine. Through these outings and twice-monthly fact sheets featuring different Maine tree species, club members will learn to recognize 50 different types of trees over a period of two years, and will gain skills that can be applied in their own yards and communities.

Participants receive additional materials including a hand lens for close-up viewing of tree parts, an attractive notebook for the tree species fact sheets, a pocket guide to Maine trees and several practical guides related to tree growth and care.

"The Maine Tree Club has been a great way to reacquaint myself with the trees I grew up with and for so many years was distant from," one club member said. Maine's trees attract tourists by the thousands; support the state economy; and deliver constant inspiration to area artists, poets and naturalists. They are at the root of Maine's identity.

Two Major Gifts Boost Art Museum

07 Dec 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BANGOR -- In announcing "two incredible gifts" to the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor, University of Maine President Robert Kennedy told those attending a Thursday night reception that the generosity of Machias Savings Bank and UMaine Prof. Jon Ippolito will transform the museum and dramatically increase its community impact.

The announcements begin the museum's five-year anniversary celebration at its current location in Norumbega Hall on Harlow Street.

Kennedy announced a gift from Machias Savings Bank that will allow UMaine to offer free admission to the museum from now through the end of 2008. Until this point, UMaine has charged an entrance fee to offset some of the costs of operating the museum.

Kennedy says that the increased access will enhance the museum's role in the community.

"That access -- for people young and old -- will allow more people to enjoy the beautiful collection and the exhibits that pass through," Kennedy said. "Our community will be enriched by this gift."

Machias Savings Bank, led by President and CEO Edward Hennessey, made the gift in memory of Bangor attorney Edward "Ted" Leonard, a museum benefactor and local arts advocate who died in October.

"Machias Savings Bank...has made a gift that will promote the kind of access to the arts that Ted stood for," Kennedy said. Ted Leonard's wife, Sandra, was in attendance at the Thursday event. She is chair of the museum's advisory council and an influential member of the local arts community. Sandra Leonard and Edward Hennessey are members of the University of Maine Board of Visitors.

Kennedy also announced Prof. Ippolito's donations of eight original paintings created by his father, abstract impressionist Angelo Ippolito. The estimated value of this gift is over \$350,000.

Calling Angelo Ippolito "a very influential member of the New York School of Abstract Impressionism," Kennedy described the late artist's career, which included exhibitions of his work at some of the leading art museums and galleries, along with faculty appointments at several universities, including the International School of Art, Michigan State University and Binghamton University.

"An accomplished artist of the first order, Prof. Ippolito also made his mark as a teacher and a mentor," Kennedy said.

Jon Ippolito, who is a faculty member in UMaine's Dept. of New Media, was present to accept thanks for his donation.

"We are most proud and pleased that Jon and his family have seen fit to make this wonderful donation, and we look forward to the day when we can share this gift with the patrons of this museum, those in our community who will truly enjoy and appreciate the connection to Angelo Ippolito's contributions to the arts, and who will fondly appreciate Jon's generosity," Kennedy said.

Gift Leads to UMaine Athletics Field Upgrades

07 Dec 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Laura Reed at (207) 581-3646

ORONO -- A \$1 million gift from University of Maine benefactors Phillip H. and Susan K. Morse, through the Boston Red Sox Foundation, will provide the catalyst for a significant upgrade of University of Maine outdoor athletic facility playing surfaces. Phillip Morse, an owner and vice chair of the Boston Red Sox, and his wife, Susan Keene Morse, both graduated from UMaine in 1964. Their daughter, Katherine S. Morse, is a 1992 UMaine graduate.

Plans, subject to University of Maine System Board of Trustees approval at the board's January, 2008 meeting, call for three significant projects.

- Morse Field at Harold Alfond Stadium, already named for the Phillip H. and Susan K. Morse in recognition of their gift that funded the original field's construction, will be replaced with a new form of synthetic turf designed specifically for sports like football.*
- A new synthetic field hockey playing surface will be constructed beyond the outfield at Kessock Field, the UMaine softball facility.*
- The Mahaney Diamond baseball turf will be replaced with a synthetic surface.*

UMaine will fund the latter two projects with internal loans to be paid back from athletics revenues and/or future gifts, along with some university recreation funds. The total price tag is projected at \$2.2 million.

"In addition to providing a boost for Black Bear varsity sports, these enhancements will also provide important facility upgrades for UMaine's popular and growing recreational sports programs," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Phil and Susan have once again humbled us with their generosity, and this wonderful, meaningful gift will have a positive impact on a tremendous number of current and future UMaine students."

UMaine Athletic Director Blake James hopes that work will begin in the spring of 2008, with an eye toward having the upgraded fall sports venues ready for next season.

"Facility upgrades represent a significant priority for the UMaine athletics department, and this plan will allow us to take care of three important needs at once," James says. "These enhancements will have an instant, positive impact on several sports and will provide some important momentum as we move forward on plans to upgrade Memorial Gym and other sports facilities."

"This is a most meaningful gift on several fronts," says UMaine Vice President and Dean of Students Robert Dana. "The

non-varsity athletes who participate in recreational sports will benefit, in addition to those who wear the Black Bear uniform. The increased opportunities for exercise and healthy competition will enhance student community life in important ways."

If the plan is approved and moves forward on the anticipated timetable, work on the baseball facility will begin after the 2008 season, with a target completion date of later next year.

Engineering Students Tackle Heating Project to Save Energy, Cut Costs

11 Dec 2007

Contact: Justin Poland (207) 581-2130; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO--A group of University of Maine mechanical engineering students are working on a senior-class project that promises practical benefits not only to their own education but to the university and the environment as well.

For their capstone project, the four students are designing a heat-recovery system for the university's Engineering and Science Research Building, a facility built in 2004 that houses offices and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology.

Justin Poland, an associate professor of mechanical engineering and the project consultant, said the system being designed would have the potential to recover an amount of energy equivalent to 27,000 gallons of oil a year from the massive volume of ventilation air that is needed in the building. That captured energy would then be used to help pre-heat the cold outside air to room temperature as it is vented into the building.

Poland said the cost savings to the university would be substantial, although he preferred not to suggest a specific amount before the heat-pump system design is complete.

"The building processes 45,000 to 65,000 cubic feet of air every minute of every day," he says, "so yes, the savings would be significant."

The recovered energy would reduce the amount of oil now used to heat the building as well as carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide emissions from the No. 6 fuel, which, according to the students' project proposal, the university burns at a rate of some 600 gallons an hour on cold winter days.

Although a heat-recovery system had been included in the building plans, Poland said, its installation had to be postponed until some time in the future. The idea was resurrected when James LaBrecque, a local energy expert and longtime university supporter, suggested it to Poland as a student capstone project. The building's original water-glycol design was replaced by the heat-pump system, which Poland said is more versatile and effective.

The student project began in September and will wrap up in May. The design will have to be evaluated by the university's facilities management department, which could then choose to put the work out to bid. Poland believes the project would be a good candidate for the University of Maine Foundation's Green Loan Fund, which lends money to the university for projects designed to reduce energy consumption and improve campus sustainability.

"What is most important to emphasize about a project like this," Poland says, "is that we're training our students in the ways they need to be trained, and at the same time benefiting the university. So it helps the state in a couple of ways."

UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum Closing for Holidays

11 Dec 2007

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The Page Farm and Home Museum will close over the holidays, Dec. 23-Jan. 2. The museum's regular hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. -4 p.m., and weekends, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., except for Mondays and holidays.

UMaine Professor Set for NAACP Martin Luther King Birthday Keynote

12 Dec 2007

Contact: Perry (NAACP) at 548-2081; Joe Carr (UMaine) at 581-3571

ORONO -- A keynote address by University of Maine philosophy professor Douglas Allen will highlight a joint Greater Bangor Area NAACP/University of

Maine Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast celebration on Monday, January 21, 2008. The 8:30-10:30 a.m. event is scheduled for UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House, 160 College Avenue.

Allen is a long-time civil rights activist who describes King as having been "a major influence in (his) life." Allen was involved in the civil rights movement in the South, and he has taught and conducted extensive research related to King's life.

"I plan to speak about the lasting legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s philosophy and activism for our contemporary world," Allen says. "I'll focus on what King can teach us when it comes to violence and nonviolence, peace and war, racism and injustice, and the need to become involved and to work for real, shared, interpersonal integration that is necessary for meaningful living and for human survival."

Local NAACP officials say that the January event will present an important opportunity to promote King's message of peace and civil discourse,

particularly in light of recent threats of violence against the branch and its members. The Bangor NAACP recently canceled its Kwanzaa celebration because of those threats.

"I'm very happy and excited to work in conjunction with the University of Maine to hold our annual breakfast," says Joe Perry, president of the

Greater Bangor NAACP. "The UMaine breakfast celebrations have long been the primary local event honoring Dr. King on his birthday, and we are already hard at work jointly planning the Buchanan Alumni House breakfast program."

"Martin Luther King stood for all the things that provide the foundation for university community life," says Angel Loreda, UMaine's associate dean

of students. "We are looking forward to the Jan. 21 event, which will provide a worthy celebration of his remarkable life."

Those who wish to purchase tickets should call Joe Perry at 548-2081 or Josephine Bright at 947-4625.

Coral Reef Crisis Could Signal Threat to Maine Marine Life and Fisheries

14 Dec 2007

Contact: Robert Steneck (207) 549-3062, cell (207) 557-4505
Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A rise in the temperature and acidity of the oceans that threatens the existence of the world's coral reef ecosystems could also have troubling implications for marine life and fishing industries as far away as Maine, a University of Maine researcher says.

Robert Steneck, a professor at the School of Marine Sciences, is one of several authors of a new study predicting that increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, if not abated, will continue to deteriorate coral reefs to the point where they are likely to disappear altogether in the next few decades.

The potential collapse of these most biologically diverse and economically important ecosystems suggests a global atmospheric crisis that, Steneck says, could seriously harm fisheries around the world.

"The Carbon Crisis: Coral Reefs Under Rapid Climate Change and Ocean Acidification," which represents the work of scientists from around the world, was published Dec. 14 in the journal Science.

"While we are far from where coral reefs live, I think it's important to consider what this might mean in Maine," says Steneck, who is based at the Darling Marine Center in Walpole. "It's not as if coral reefs are on a different planet with a different atmosphere. They may be the canary in the mineshaft Earth, and the canary ain't doing so swell these days."

Scientists estimate that 25 percent of the world's coral reefs are already gone or severely damaged and that another third are degraded and threatened. Rapid increases in carbon dioxide emissions, which in the 20th century have raised the average temperature of the world's oceans by more than one degree Fahrenheit, "may be the final insult to these ecosystems," the study states.

The acidity caused when carbon dioxide and water combine to make carbonic acid reduces the availability of calcium carbonate, or limestone, in the sea. Coral reefs are made of limestone, and lobsters, sea urchins, clams and scallops need it to calcify the hard parts of their bodies. Pteropods, a small, swimming organism with shells inside their bodies, are a major food source for Atlantic salmon. Yet, Steneck says, there is evidence that their shells, which the organisms can't live without, are already eroding.

Reduced carbonates in the ocean are forcing creatures to spend more energy making their shells, which places them under greater stress. Steneck says about 30 new stress-induced coral pathogens have been identified in the last decade or so.

"And in Maine, anything that stresses shell-producers makes them more susceptible to disease," he says. "In Rhode Island in 1998 there was a large-scale die-off of lobsters. If the same thing happened in Maine, where lobsters represent 85 percent of all marine resource value, it would threaten the socio-economic fabric along the entire coast."

While some marine organisms have shown they can adapt to warmer temperatures, Steneck says, the projected increases in carbon dioxide buildup and temperature will overwhelm that ability in the decades to come.

Steneck, who does field work in Central America and Mexico, is part of an international science program called "Coral Reef Targeted Research." Funded by the Global Environmental Facility and the World Bank, the partnership of 40 research institutes seeks to reduce global poverty in developing countries that depend on coral reefs for fishing, tourism and coastal protection.

"We do have a global atmospheric crisis and we have to work on a global level to change it," Steneck says. "The point is not to be alarmist, but rather to say that we have to redouble our efforts to curb emissions. We need to generate more

political will to do it."

Because eliminating emissions won't happen overnight, however, Steneck urges the fishing industries in Maine and elsewhere to manage themselves with greater sensitivity to the health of the ecosystems that sustain them.

"The trajectory of a planet that is getting rapidly warmer and more acidic will likely affect organisms globally," he cautions. "The problem is in our backyard.

Association Extension Professor Receives National Award

17 Dec 2007

Contact: Joyce Kleffner, 207-667-8212

DOVER-FOXCROFT, Me. -- Jane Conroy, a faculty member in the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Piscataquis County office, has received a national award. The National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) gave Conroy its Continued Excellence Award at a fall conference in St. Paul, Minn.

The organization recognized Conroy for her leadership in teaching Maine people financial literacy. She authors a bimonthly newsletter, "Money Sense," for individuals and families. Conroy is also researching influences on consumer buying habits in rural Maine.

The Continued Excellence Award recognizes the leadership of NEAFCS members who have been actively involved in professional improvement programs and have supported the professional development of others. Conroy has served as president and as vice president for awards and professional development of the NEAFCS Maine affiliate.

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UMaine Professor Borns Receives Prestigious Award

18 Dec 2007

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Maine State Society of Washington, D.C. has given retired University of Maine professor Harold Borns its 2007 "Big 'M' Award," recognizing Borns' "accomplishments and achievements in (his) profession, (and) for service to Maine and its citizens."

Borns, who retired from the UMaine faculty in 2005 after 50 years as a UMaine professor, traveled to Washington, D.C. to receive the award on Dec. 8.

The Maine State Society is 113 years old and has some 1,000 members. It serves to connect Maine people who live and work in the Washington, D.C. area. The organization has presented the "Big 'M' Award" 43 times since the award was created in the 1960s.

Borns, who is a professor emeritus of glacial and quaternary geology, founded the Institute for Quaternary Studies, now known as the Climate Change Institute, as UMaine's first interdisciplinary research institute. He has taught some 1,500 UMaine students and advised dozens of graduate students at UMaine, where he earned the university's Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 1984. In 1960, Borns became the first UMaine researcher to receive a

National Science Foundation competitive grant. Thirty-one other grants have funded research projects, including the 2006 production of "Maine's Ice Age Trail: Downeast Map and Guide," a self-guided geological tour of Hancock and Washington counties.

Borns' research has taken him to six continents, and he has spent 28 field seasons in Antarctica, where a glacier is named for him. Borns is a fellow in the Explorer's Club and the Geological Society of America. He is also a recipient of the Congressional Antarctic Service medal.

"Hal is a remarkable scholar whose teaching, research and public service have earned him a place as one of the pre-eminent professors in UMaine's history and a well-known scholar nationally," UMaine President Robert Kennedy wrote in a letter that was part of the Dec. 8 award ceremony. "His vision, creativity and remarkable commitment to the university and the state continue to inspire us all."

Klimis-Zacas Elected Officer of International Trace Elements Society

19 Dec 2007

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, 581-3124

ORONO -- Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, professor of clinical nutrition at UMaine, recently was elected treasurer of the International Society of Trace Element Research in the Human (ISTERH) at the society's recent joint international conference in Crete, Greece.

She will serve until 2010. Klimis-Zacas, a faculty member in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at UMaine since 1988, also was a co-organizer and chair of the ISTERH's Local Organizing Committee. The annual conference was sponsored also by the Nordic Trace Element Society and the Hellenic Trace Element Society.

Trace elements are essential nutrients needed in very small amounts by the body (micrograms) to maintain good health and prevent disease. They have very important functions in body structure, metabolism and DNA expression, among others.

The October conference, "Trace Elements in Diet, Nutrition and Health: Essentiality and Toxicity" attracted 300 delegates from academia, medical schools, hospitals, research centers and government agencies from the United States and around the world, including the U.S.D.A., the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and UNESCO.

Participants discussed cutting-edge science in the area of trace elements, including how trace elements affect diseases such as cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative diseases, carcinogenesis, osteoporosis, infectious diseases and molecular mechanisms of metal-induced diseases. Additionally, conference sessions addressed new research on health effects of low dose exposure to toxic metals, metal toxicity, metal speciation, and advances in the detection of trace elements in biological tissues.

Klimis-Zacas also was plenary session organizer, fundraiser and chair of "Trace Elements: Modulators of Arterial Function and Metabolism." She also made a presentation: "Manganese, Regulator of Vasomotor Tone and Arterial Glycosaminoglycan Metabolism."

The keynote speaker at the conference was Dr. Antonia Trichopoulou of the University of Athens Medical School, a researcher and creator of the Mediterranean Diet Pyramid.

UMaine 2008 Camden Conference Class Focuses on Religion in World Affairs

21 Dec 2007

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine is accepting registrations for a unique, interdisciplinary course designed around the annual Camden Conference in February, "Religion as a Force in World Affairs."

Students do not have to be admitted at the University of Maine to enroll in the course.

The UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning has drawn together five faculty members whose collective expertise will offer students critical insights into the increasingly dramatic impact that clashing religions from east, west and other parts of the world are having on the human plight, world affairs and politics.

Students will attend three Saturday morning sessions: Feb. 16 on the Orono campus, March 22 in Belfast and April 19 in Orono, plus all sessions of the 21st Camden Conference, Feb. 22-24 in Camden.

Tuition costs associated with this three credit course cover students' conference registration fees.

The partnership between the University of Maine and the Camden Conference began in 1996 and has offered a course around the conference for more than a decade, according to Robert White, dean of Lifelong Learning. The university has also designed and offered specialized courses around the Camden International Film Festival in September and the Pop Tech conference in October. Each of the courses offers deep exploration and discussion opportunities about conference and festival subject matter in unique weekend schedules.

"I've done five or six Camden Conference courses and have attended the conferences, and they never fail to amaze me," says Timothy Cole, department chair and associate professor of political science. "It really is a unique experience, a cross between a town meeting and an academic conference."

This year's course at UMaine will explore the role of religion as a potent influence on the formation and the implementation of foreign policy, especially the shaping of foreign policy in the United States as a factor in conflict and crisis settings, as a central component in the deepening clash between self-identities in various movements and communities, and as potential stimulus for mediation, peacemaking and constructive social action.

In addition to Cole, faculty members teaching the course include: James Warhola, professor of political science; Mark Brewer, assistant professor of political science; Kyriacos Markides, professor of sociology; and Tina Passman, associate professor of classical languages and literature. Students may opt for credit under political science, peace studies, university studies, history, honors or international affairs disciplines.

The faculty bring a depth of experience and specialization in diverse perspectives on the world's religions, and have constructed a course that students, traditional and non-traditional, are unlikely to find elsewhere, says Cole, who with Brewer will lead a section on the politics of Puritanism and how it affects American politics today.

Religion "is one of those issues that continues to both divide and unite the American public," Cole says. The class and the Camden Conference are expected to bring some clarity to the conflicts among religions, including but not limited to Christianity and Islam.

Class registration is ongoing through Feb. 15. Additional information is available at the Division website or by calling (207) 581-3143.

The Camden Conference is scheduled to begin with a keynote speech on Feb. 22 by Rev. J. Bryan Hehir, a distinguished theologian and professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at the Kennedy School at Harvard University. Hehir is known as a prolific author and speaker, and has served as advisor on international affairs for the U.S. Catholic Bishops Conference.

The conference continues throughout Feb. 23 and ends Feb. 24 with a half day of talks and a question and answer

session with all the speakers. The full program for the 2008 Camden Conference, which is still under development, will be available soon at the conference website (www.camdenconference.org).

The following conference speakers and their topics include: Professor Scott Appleby of Notre Dame, "Fundamentalists and U.S. Foreign Policy"; Ambassador Philip Wilcox, Jr., retired, "Religious Identities in the Israeli/Palestinian/Arab Conflict"; Rend al-Rahim Francke of the U.S. Institute of Peace, "The Sunni/Shia Clash"; and Katherine Marshall of Georgetown University and formerly The World Bank, "Ethical Challenges in Global Economic Development."

Maine Students to Perform Research in NASA Zero Gravity Flight

27 Dec 2007

Contact: Michael D. Mason (207) 581-2344; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777; Bob Caswell (207) 780-4200

ORONO -- Now that NASA has cleared them for takeoff, student scientists from the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine are eagerly preparing for the flight of their lives.

And while the four students won't actually be going into space, they'll have the chance to experience the next best thing - floating in near-zero gravity in a modified jetliner while performing experiments that could benefit astronauts of the future.

UMaine's Michael Browne, a sophomore chemical engineering major, and Benjamin Freedman, majoring in both chemical and biological engineering, are teaming up with USM first-year biology major John Wise Jr., the team leader, and Adam Courtemanche, a senior information technology major, to participate in NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program in Houston July 10-19.

The team, the first ever from Maine, is one of 40 from around the country selected this year by NASA, which awards the coveted slots based on the merit of the students' research proposals. After their training and physical tests, the Maine team will carry out in-flight experiments to measure the response of human lung cells to certain toxicants that are known to damage DNA. The tests will determine whether microgravity and hypergravity affect the cellular uptake of the chemicals, and create differences in the amount of chemical-induced DNA damage and repair.

The students believe the information could aid NASA in engineering safer manned space flights in the future.

"Aside from the science opportunities, this program helps increase public awareness of NASA and also gets promising young scientists interested in the kind of work it does," says Michael Mason, a UMaine assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering and one of two mentors for the project. Mason and co-mentor and research collaborator John Wise Sr., director of USM's Wise Laboratory for Environmental and Genetic Toxicology, will travel to Houston as part of the project's ground crew.

Also on the ground crew are James Wise, first-year USM chemistry major and alternate flyer, and Nick Link, a senior at South Portland High School.

With all of their laboratory equipment prepped and secured, the students will fly aboard an airplane dubbed the "Weightless Wonder." The plane will perform parabolic maneuvers over the Gulf of Mexico, soaring from 24,000 feet to 34,000 feet and screaming back down again.

The students will experience 30 seconds of hypergravity (up to 2g, higher than on Earth) as the plane climbs to the top of the parabola. Once the plane starts to "nose over" the top of the parabola and dive toward Earth, the students will experience 25 seconds of near-zero microgravity. The plane will do this 30 times in one flight, which is why it is also

affectionally known as the "Vomit Comet."

While NASA absorbs all flight and training costs, the Maine team is responsible for about \$10,000 in travel and personal expenses. The Maine Space Grant Consortium has already agreed to fund half the amount, says Mason, who is confident the team can raise the rest.

"This is such a great and rare opportunity for the students," Mason says. "I just wish I could go up with them. I even thought about re-registering as a student, but no such luck."