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UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export 2008

Williams Appointed to University of Maine Foundation Post

07 Jan 2008

Contact: Contact: Amos Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation President/CEO, 207 581-5100

ORONO -- Amos Orcutt, president/CEO of the University of Maine Foundation, has announced the appointment of Daniel B. Williams as planned giving officer. Williams, who earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from UMaine, returns to his alma mater having accumulated a great deal of experience relevant to his new position.

Since 2006, Williams has served as foundation president and director of development for Eastern Maine Community College in Bangor. In that role, he was responsible for all institutional fundraising including planned giving, annual and endowed scholarships, in-kind gifts, annual campaign and capital projects. Prior to that, the former state legislator served as director of annual and reunion giving for the University of Maine Alumni Association and as assistant director of admissions for UMaine.

"I am thrilled to have this opportunity and am honored to be joining such a strong organization," Williams says. "I can think of no better way of advancing the University of Maine's mission and making higher education accessible to more students than through the Foundation."

Williams and his wife, State Rep. Emily Cain, who is also a UMaine graduate, live in Orono.

"I am delighted to welcome Danny Williams to the University of Maine Foundation," says Orcutt. "His enthusiasm, commitment to the University of Maine and his broad experience are great assets that will complement and enhance the mission of the Foundation, which is dedicated to encouraging gifts and bequests to promote academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuits at the University of Maine."

More information about the University of Maine Foundation is online at www.umainefoundation.org

Unity Foundation Grant to Support Hutchinson Center Expansion

07 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST -- A \$200,000 Unity Foundation challenge grant will provide valuable support for the University of Maine's planned Hutchinson Center expansion.

The university announced in August a campaign to raise \$2 million in private funds to help create a 15,000 square foot addition at the Belfast facility. The new wing will double classroom space at the Hutchinson Center, while adding science labs and other facilities critical to the center's future as UMaine's primary educational and outreach connection point with the people of midcoast Maine.

"We are grateful for this generous gift, and we are most grateful that the Unity Foundation sees the value in this exciting project," says Barbara Beers, UMaine's vice president for development. "The Unity Foundation has a remarkable track record of supporting important community causes, and the foundation's support helps us take a meaningful step toward

reaching our goal of an expanded Hutchinson Center."

The Unity Foundation grant requires UMaine to match the \$200,000 by raising the same amount from other sources.

The late Bert Clifford established the Unity Foundation in 2000, to support nonprofit organizations "to fulfill their missions to arts/culture/ recreation, community/economic development, education, the environment, and youth."

The project's total price tag is \$4 million, with the balance set to come from a bond to be repaid through future revenue generated through the center's expanded activities. A campaign volunteer committee, led by Judy Stein and retired Hutchinson Center Director James Patterson, has been working on private fundraising for several months. The Hutchinson Center private fundraising effort is part of Campaign Maine, the university's six-year, \$150 million comprehensive campaign.

Through a partnership with MBNA, UMaine opened the Hutchinson Center in 2000. Bank of America donated the building and grounds to UMaine in June 2006.

"The Hutchinson Center continues to be a remarkable success story," says Robert White, UMaine associate provost and dean of its Division of Lifelong Learning. "To a large extent, this success is attributable to the tremendous support of people in the midcoast communities who have embraced the opportunities that derive from the University of Maine's presence and all the Hutchinson Center brings to the Belfast area. This Unity Foundation grant will help continue the fundraising momentum and will help assure the Hutchinson Center's continued growth and dynamic involvement in the continued development of Maine's midcoast region."

UMaine Fundraising Campaign Announcement Thursday

09 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will host a Thursday, Jan. 10 (4:30 p.m.) event announcing a major gift in support of Campaign Maine, the university's six-year, \$150 million comprehensive fundraising campaign.

A prominent Bangor-area couple, well-known in the business community, has made the gift, which will provide support for student-related activities at UMaine. The university's Student Innovation Center, which will be the site of Thursday's event, will be named in their honor.

President Robert Kennedy will make the announcement during a brief program, which is scheduled for 5 p.m.

Fosters Donate \$1.5 Million to UMaine; Student Innovation Center to Bear their Name

10 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine today announced a \$1.5 million gift from Bion and Dorain Foster of Hampden. The donation will provide support for programs at UMaine's Student Innovation Center and Student Recreation and Fitness Center, along with scholarship funds through an endowment at the University of Maine Foundation.

They made the gift in honor of their four daughters and their families.

The Student Innovation Center, which will now be known as "The Bion and Dorain Foster Student Innovation Center," opened in 2006. UMaine faculty and Student Innovation Center staff members work with UMaine students to develop the knowledge and skills to transform their ideas into real products and services. It is the home of UMaine's Innovation Engineering curriculum, an academic minor that provides education, support and inspiration to student innovators and entrepreneurs.

"It is fitting that this facility will bear the name of Bion and Dorain Foster," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy, noting that Bion Foster was named Maine's Entrepreneur of the Year in 2001. "They are true innovators and entrepreneurs who have succeeded in business and become community leaders because they exemplify the skill, intelligence, work ethic and creativity that we strive to develop in our students."

Friends, family members, students and UMaine officials attended a Thursday afternoon event to announce this gift and to thank the Fosters for their ongoing support of the University of Maine.

In recent years, the Fosters have provided financial support for UMaine in various ways, through contributions to the athletics department, the Page Farm and Home Museum, the Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the University of Maine Alumni Association, and the campaign to build UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House, where a board room is named in their honor. The second-floor multi-purpose room in the new Student Recreation and Fitness Center is also named for the Fosters. They are among UMaine's most generous benefactors, and are members of its two most prestigious organizations recognizing long-term philanthropy: the Stillwater Society and the Charles F. Allen Society.

"There is a common thread in Bion and Dorain's philanthropy," Kennedy says. "They always focus on what is important for our current students, and they have an eye on the future, helping UMaine develop in ways that will help us serve our students and our state in meaningful ways. They take great pride in mentoring young people, including their daughters -- who are carrying on the family tradition of hard work, professional success and community service. Their legacy will continue both through their generosity to UMaine and their impact on others."

Bion Foster, who graduated from UMaine in 1968 and earned an MBA in 1970, has served his alma mater in a variety of roles, including current service on the Board of Visitors, service on the President's Development Council and a recent stint as chair of the University of Maine Alumni Association Board of Directors. Dorain Foster is currently on the UMaine development staff, where she serves as special projects manager.

Bion Foster's community service resume also includes leadership roles in the Bangor Regional Development Association, Affiliated Healthcare Services, the John Bapst Memorial High School Foundation, the Action Committee of 50 and the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce. He has also assisted numerous local business through service on various boards of directors. His current professional affiliations include business development consulting, real estate development and non-profit fundraising consulting, both in Maine and in South Carolina. Bion Foster has also served as Hampden's economic development director since 1999.

"Bion and Dorain are truly exemplary community leaders, and their long-term devotion to the University of Maine will have a positive impact for many years to come," says Barbara Beers, UMaine's vice president for development. "Campaign Maine is a success because people like the Fosters see UMaine as an invaluable, unique resource that is worthy of their philanthropy. We are deeply appreciative of this gift, and of the Fosters' decades of meaningful support."

Australian Educators Learn from UMaine-Based Literacy Partnership Coaches

11 Jan 2008

Contact: Marcia Nye Boody, (207) 581-2481, George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Five literacy educators from Queensland, Australia arrived in Bangor this week to learn first-hand about the work that the Maine Literacy Partnership (MLP) provides to Maine schools. The University of Maine-based partnership is a comprehensive literacy model dedicated to increasing student reading and other communication skills. The Australian teachers and reading specialists are visiting this week with UMaine College of Education and Human development faculty members and

visiting local schools to see how the comprehensive literacy model works. They've been learning first-hand how designated "literacy coaches" work with and support K-6 teachers, according to Marcia Nye Boody, director of the Maine Literacy Partnership. The Australian team visited Kenduskeag Elementary School, Bradford Elementary School and Central Maine's Benton Elementary School this week to work with and observe teachers and literacy coaches. On Friday, the Australian educators observed Maine Literacy Partnership training classes with coaches-in-training on the Orono campus. Coaches-in-training from the schools visit UMaine on a monthly basis. The Australian team appreciated the chance to see how the literacy coaching concept works, according to a literacy specialist and reading recovery teacher from Queensland. "I feel so privileged to join my colleagues on this study tour and I look forward to taking back any new ideas that will assist me to coach teachers as we work to attain higher literacy outcomes for all students," says Amanda Wilkens of Calamvale Community College. The visit was arranged as a result of a relationship between Mary Rosser, director for professional development and a UMaine trainer for Reading Recovery within the College of Education and Human development, and a former colleague who is part of the visiting Australian team. Boody says she and the Australian teachers are discussing the possibility of another visit to continue the literacy coach training. Under the MLP model, each affiliated school employs a literacy coach who supports teachers as they continue to refine their literacy teaching. The support takes the form of on-site graduate-level courses, continued professional development sessions, one-on-one coaching with teachers, and demonstration lessons. Maine Literacy Partnership schools enjoy a consolidated effort toward school improvement through a collaborative and ongoing relationship with the state Department of Education and the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development.

Student Essay Contest for Portland Flower Show

14 Jan 2008

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205, awitt@umext.maine.edu

PORTLAND, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the organizers of the Portland Flower Show are asking kids to respond to the question "Why should I care about plants?" in the Portland Flower Show's second annual student essay contest.

For a contest application and rules, contact the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County by phone at 800-287-1471 or by e-mail at awitt@umext.maine.edu. Applications can also be downloaded from the Portland Flower Show website, at <http://www.portlandcompany.com/flower>. The deadline for submitting entries is Monday, February 25. Maine residents ages six-18 are invited to participate in this contest.

Three prizes (\$50, \$30 and \$20) will be awarded in each of the three age categories (6--9, 10--13 and 14--18). Essays will be judged on criteria such as creativity, focus, and passion for the topic. The winning essays will be announced at the show's opening night preview on Wednesday, March 5, and selected essays will be posted for public viewing for the duration of the show.

The Portland Flower Show runs from March 6 to 9 at the Portland Company Complex, 58 Fore Street.

UMaine Psychologists Probe Gene's Link to High Homocysteine, Lower Cognitive Performance

16 Jan 2008

Contact: Merrill "Pete" Elias, (207) 581-2097, Michael Robbins, (207) 581-2033, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Scientists have established a link between high levels of the amino acid homocysteine in the blood and lower cognitive performance. Now, new work by three University of Maine researchers provides evidence that the presence of a particular variant of a neuron repairing gene may increase the risk of lowered cognitive performance.

UMaine psychology professors Merrill F. "Pete" Elias, Michael A. Robbins and Penelope K. Elias, in collaboration with colleagues in Syracuse, N.Y., England and Australia, studied the relationships among the gene ApoE, homocysteine concentrations, and cognitive performance.

They found that stroke and dementia-free people with higher homocysteine levels, in addition to carrying one or more of the ApoE- ϵ 4 alleles, performed at lower levels on multiple measures of cognition than people with other variations of the ApoE- ϵ 4 gene. An allele is any one of several possible gene variants. The subjects were part of the ongoing "Maine-Syracuse Study," involving more than 2,700 people since begun in 1974.

Robbins and the Eliases, professors in the department of psychology at the University of Maine, and their co-researchers reported their findings in an article published in the January 2008 issue of *Neuroscience Letters*, a peer-reviewed science journal.

"The importance of our recent paper in *Neuroscience Letters* is that we find that the combination of elevated homocysteine and the presence of the ApoE- ϵ 4 allele represent a higher degree of risk for lower cognitive performance than the presence of either risk factor alone," says Merrill Elias.

Elias notes that carriers of the ApoE- ϵ 4 allele "might be thought of as having a less effective neuronal repair capability. There currently is no practical way that one can modify the ApoE- ϵ 4 alleles so that they do a better job of repairing brain cells," he says. "But there is hope for prevention and reversal of cognitive deficit related to elevated homocysteine by reducing homocysteine levels."

Vitamin supplementation -- the focus of earlier research by Robbins and the Eliases -- may be among the important ways of achieving these goals, Robbins adds.

In an article published in 2006 in *Psychosomatic Medicine*, the Eliases, Robbins and colleagues -- using a comprehensive analysis controlling differences in age, education, gender, ethnicity, medications and cardiovascular disease -- reported that higher folate, Vitamin B6 and Vitamin B12 levels are related to better cognitive performance. Many clinical trials in the United States, Europe and elsewhere currently are examining the possibility that lowering homocysteine with these vitamins may reverse homocysteine-related cognitive deficits, including dementia.

"Testing for homocysteine concentrations is easily performed but it is not a common practice in medicine today," Merrill Elias says. "Tests of folate, Vitamin B6, and Vitamin B12 are sometimes done when deficits are suspected, but hopefully these tests, including tests for homocysteine level, will eventually be done routinely."

Robbins adds that this is especially important for older people to be aware of vitamin levels. "They might seem to take in enough B6 and B12 vitamins, but they may not metabolize them well," he says.

Given the evidence about ApoE- ϵ 4, homocysteine, cognitive function and cardiovascular disease risk, the Elias's and Robbins suggest a proactive approach to vitamin supplements, but caution that more is not always better. To avoid overdosing, a physician or nutritionist should be consulted to establish appropriate dosing levels.

The study is part of an ongoing research project that Merrill Elias and D.H.P. Streeten, M.D., began in 1974 when Elias was an associate professor of psychology at Syracuse University. The estimated 2,700 participants in the study are followed all over the country, including Maine and Syracuse, for testing at five-year intervals. The project now is based at UMaine with Elias.

The paper in *Neuroscience Letters*, titled "Homocysteine and Cognitive Performance: Modification by the ApoE Genotype," is the latest in a series of many journal articles Robbins and the Eliases have coauthored on aging, cardiovascular disease and cognition with research support from the National Institute on Aging and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institutes of the National Institutes of Health.

The associated projects were supported by research grants from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute on Aging. The content of published papers is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute or the National Institutes of

Health.

School of Performing Arts Events

16 Jan 2008

Contact: Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704

ORONO -- The University of Maine's School of Performing Arts has announced its spring 2008 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:

JANUARY

19 Cadenzato Faculty Recital

A performance of Israeli composer Lior Navok's composition "Elegy to the Future," plus works by Bitsch, Holmes, Wiemann and J.S. Bach (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

30 Readers' Theatre: "The Last Five Years"

Jason Robert Brown's contemporary song-cycle musical that ingeniously chronicles the five-year life of a marriage, from meeting to break-up... or from break-up to meeting, depending on how you look at it. (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

9 Faculty Piano/Cello Recital - The Silver Duo

This year's program highlights music by French and Italian composers including the highly dramatic "Sonata in C Minor" by Camille Saint-Saens, the poignant "Elegie" by Darius Milhaud and a major rediscovery, the "Sonata for Cello and Piano" by the Italian-Jewish composer Leone Sinigaglia; performed by Phillip and Noreen Silver (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

14 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) 7:30 p.m. (free admission)

15-24 "The Marriage of Figaro" Opera

This comic opera is an 18th Century masterwork of music, witty lyrics and wildly amusing situations that has delighted audiences for the past two centuries. With music from the genius of Mozart, clever lyrics from Lorenzo Da Ponte, and based upon the play by Beaumarchais, "The Marriage of Figaro" has the servants turning the tables on the master of the house, and will delight not only opera buffs, but anyone who enjoys great comic performances. Feb. 15-16 & 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 17 & 24 at 2 p.m. (Hauck Auditorium) admission \$12. Directed by Tom Mikotowicz, with Ludlow Hallman, music director.

22 Faculty Piano Recital - Baycka Voronietsky

Music based on dance form, from Bach to Bartok; the second half features four-hand music with guest artist Reese Inman (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

27 Celebration of Black History Month

A concert of jazz band standards by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Thad Jones and more will be performed by the UMaine Jazz Ensemble to commemorate Black History Month. (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

MARCH

19 Guest Artist - Trumpet Recital

UMaine welcomes Allan Cox, professor of trumpet at Vanderbilt University, joining music professor Jack Burt for a trumpet and piccolo recital (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

21&22 University Singers

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

26 Readers' Theatre: "It's Not That Simple"

A mixed genre performance piece built around the subject of abuse, with dance, poetry, and dramatic scenes. Donations accepted to benefit Spruce Run (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

29 Guest Artist - Piano Recital

Michelle Kelley, piano teacher and performer from Boston, performs at the invitation of music professor Baycka Voronietsky (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

30 Harpsichord Dedication Concert

Alton Clark, a former University of Maine physics professor who loves music and woodworking, has donated to the School of Performing Arts an Italian-style harpsichord that he built himself. The dedication concert will feature music that will demonstrate the beauty of sound that emanates from this fabulous instrument. (Minsky) 2 p.m.

APRIL

1 Chamber Jazz

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

2 Student Composers Concert

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

3 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) 7:30 p.m. (free admission)

6 Collegiate Chorale Concert

Minsky, 2 p.m.

8 Chamber Music Concert

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

9-13 "Cloud Nine"

This British smash hit is a wild satire of gender roles & sexuality in Western culture, by London playwright Caryl Churchill. This is the annual Maine Masque production, directed and produced by students. (Hauck) April 9-12, 7:30 p.m. & April 13, 2 p.m.; admission \$10

10&11 Opera Workshop

Minsky, April 10, 12 p.m. & April 11, 7:30 p.m.

12 Four Hands Piano Recital

Several students will join UMaine's Baycka Voronietzky at the piano to perform classical music written for two performers at the same piano (Minsky) 7:30 p.m.

15 Brass Night

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

16 &nb sp; Guitar Ensemble

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

17 Symphonic & Concert Bands

Hauck, 7:30 p.m.

19 Athena/Black Bear Men's Chorus

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

22 Percussion Ensemble

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

24 UMaine Jazz Ensemble

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

26 Orchestra Concert

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

27 Choral Concert: Carmina Burana

One of the most popular choral works written in the 20th century, many say that once heard, Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" can never be forgotten. It is based 24 of the poems found in the medieval collection. Its full Latin title translates to "Songs of Beuern: Secular songs for singers and choruses to be sung together with instruments and magic images." The best-known movement, "O Fortuna," opens and closes this scenic cantata. Featuring University Singers and the Oratorio Society performing in "The Pit" at the Memorial Gym, 2 p.m.

30 Broadway Nights: "A Night of Music and Comedy"

Minsky, 7:30 p.m.

MAY

2 & 3 Dance Showcase

The biggest student dance concert on campus, featuring modern, swing, ballet, hip-hop, jazz and more; admission \$8. (Hauck) 7:30 p.m.

UMaine to Host 2008 Potato Conference in Caribou

17 Jan 2008

Contact: Steve Johnson, 207-764-3361

CARIBOU, Me. --University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the 2008 Maine Potato Conference on Jan. 23 and 24 at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. Registration is \$7 per day, or \$12 for both days.

Presentations on insect, disease and weed pests of potatoes are scheduled, as well as sessions on potato agronomy, varieties, food safety and other timely topics. Of particular interest this year are two presentations on energy use and efficiency by Dennis Buffington of Penn State.

Credits will be available for those holding a valid pesticide applicator license or CCA license. The complete conference schedule is available by following the link to the winter potato conference at www.umaine.edu/umext/potatoprogram.

The registration fee also covers admission to the trade fair sponsored by the Young Farmer Organization. More than two dozen exhibitors will have display booths including the latest in storage technology, agricultural chemistry, machinery and crop insurance.

Tanzanian Reporters to Visit UMaine in Pilot Journalism Exchange Program

17 Jan 2008

Contact: Shannon Martin, (207) 581-1281; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Journalists in emerging democracies can learn from modern reporting techniques practiced in more established democratic countries, and Western journalists often can learn lessons from developing countries.

That's the hope for a team of UMaine journalism faculty members participating this summer in a unique journalism exchange and certificate program with Tanzania.

From mid-June through August, a group six Tanzanian journalists will visit UMaine and several media organizations throughout Maine and the East Coast to see how American journalists cover the news, from small towns to large metropolitan markets. The project is possible through a \$183,000 grant from USAID (United States Agency for International Development) to the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), the university's Communication and Journalism Department and the Office of International Programs on campus.

USAID is an independent agency created by Congress to function under the U.S. State Department providing economic, development and humanitarian assistance around the world in support of foreign policy goals of the United States.

Because of cultural, technological, political and other differences between countries like the United States and African nations, journalists have developed different methods of covering news in somewhat different environments, says Shannon Martin, chair of UMaine's Communication and Journalism Department and primary investigator for the grant's exchange project.

"This isn't so much 'we're going in there to teach the Tanzanians,'" says Martin, a journalism scholar whose experiences include working with journalists in Bosnia-Herzegovina. "We're going in to exchange ideas. And I think we're really not worlds ahead of the Tanzanians."

The Tanzanian journalists, however, likely will benefit from their exposure to new methods of fact-finding, emerging information technologies and sophisticated interviewing techniques they'll learn about here. But the UMaine faculty and American journalists the Africans will meet during the summer can learn about how Tanzanians have overcome some of the reporting challenges they face at home.

"The Tanzanian population relies much more on radio news mass media than many American media markets," Martin says. "One thing I'm hoping to learn from the Tanzania media is how they prepare their media broadcasts to reach rural markets."

Much like journalists in Maine, reporters in Africa tend to work in more rural settings rather than major urban centers, Martin says. And increasingly, local reporting in places like Tanzania, Sudan and Kenya is taking on more global significance.

"I think that's the direction journalism is going," she says. "We need to be a little more cognizant of the importance of local journalists. We need to be more interested and more educated about reporting in tight-knit communities."

"I hope we'll stop thinking of parts of the world like Africa as being unreachable, unknowable," she adds.

Martin and SPIA Director John Mahon will visit Tanzania in March to work with USAID staff selecting the six journalists for the "Certificate in Journalism Training for International Scholars" program. The journalists will spend about a month on the Orono campus, working with faculty members and meeting UMaine student journalists, before visiting local newsrooms in Maine. They also will visit the New Jersey newspaper where Martin once worked, and will make field trips to the United Nations, the Capitol and the Tanzania Embassy in Washington before returning home.

Martin anticipates the journalist exchange program will continue in the future with other countries. She and Mahon already are exploring another kind of exchange program with Cairo, Egypt, which currently has an "excellent" journalism program, she says.

The USAID grant is significant for the University of Maine. In addition to extending the university's reach and exploration of student exchange experiences throughout the world, this marks the first time UMaine has received a USAID grant, says Martin, who worked in post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in 2002-2003.

Mahon credits Martin for providing the "intellectual horsepower" underlying the program and Mike Hastings, director of Research and Sponsored Programs and a former development project administrator in Africa, for contributing technical expertise for the grant application and project management.

"I firmly believe that this program model can be used repeatedly throughout Africa and other developing nations to educate journalists," Mahon says.

UMaine journalism professor Michael Socolow, who also has worked as an international journalist, will work closely with Martin and others to manage the program.

Utah Professor Climate Change Talk Jan. 25

18 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Norihiko Fukuta, a Dept. of Meteorology professor emeritus at the University of Utah, will give a Friday, Jan. 25 talk at the University of Maine. Fukuta's presentation, "Global Warming, Energy Regulation by Earth's Hydrosphere and the Management with a New Weather Modification Technology." The lecture, which is presented by UMaine's Climate Change Institute, is scheduled for noon-1 p.m. in Room 100 of UMaine's Bryand Global Sciences Building.

Vladimir Smorodin of the UMaine Climate Change Institute will serve as Fukuta's host.

Fukuta has written two books and nearly 200 journal articles. He also holds ten patents. He is a leading cloud physicist, who has explored basic science of controlling the weather and worked to develop cloud seeding generator technology. This weather modification research has potential implications for promoting artificial rain, suppressing fog at airports and mitigating severe hail precipitation.

Red Sox World Championship Trophy to Visit Eastern Maine

18 Jan 2008

Contact: David Farmer, 287-2531; Dan Cashman, 287-2531

GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE NEWS RELEASE

AUGUSTA -- Governor Baldacci today received confirmation from the Red Sox that the 2007 World Series trophy will be returning to Maine on January 21.

"It's exciting to welcome members of the Boston Red Sox organization back to Maine with the World Series trophy," Governor Baldacci said. "Much like in 2004, the Red Sox owners have shown a commitment to their fans by allowing people throughout Red Sox Nation to see firsthand baseball's most sought-after prize. This is an opportunity that Sox fans in Maine -- and baseball fans in general - should not miss."

The World Series trophy will first be on display to the general public at the University of Maine in Orono. Fans can see the trophy at the Harold Alfond Sports Arena between 1:30 p.m. -- 4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public with plenty of free parking available near the arena.

Starting at 5:30 p.m., the trophy will be on display at WZON's annual Hot Stove Baseball Night at the Bangor Civic Center. This event is a ticketed event and is sold-out. The trophy will also be on display for members of the Maine National Guard and families of soldiers earlier in the day.

"I appreciate the Red Sox for keeping our soldiers and their families in mind when bringing this piece of history to Maine," the Governor said. "This will be a memorable day for sports fans."

The Governor also thanked the Red Sox organization for their willingness to arrange an additional visit to Maine so fans in the eastern and northern parts of the State have a chance to see the World Series trophy. The trophy was on display in Portland on Dec. 14.

Further details regarding the visit will be made available when confirmed.

Professors Receive \$100,000 Grant to Translate, Simplify Anti-Smoking Website Text

18 Jan 2008

Contact: Stephen Gilson, (207) 581-2409; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Imagine software that could simplify complicated language on healthcare or government websites. Two University of Maine faculty members, collaborating with an Orono software development company and the Literacy Volunteers of Bangor, have received a \$100,000 research grant to do just that on the state's anti-smoking website.

Elizabeth DePoy and Stephen Gilson, professors of Interdisciplinary Disability Studies, Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies at the UMaine, have received a \$100,000 grant from the American Legacy Foundation to develop software to translate text on the Tobacco Free Maine website to a simplified version that's understandable for people with limited English language reading or comprehension skills.

"This is looking beyond 508 accessibility," says principal investigator Gilson, referring to Section 508 requirements mandating state and federal websites to include accessibility features for computer users with hearing and visual impairments.

The project will create software and an Internet portal to automatically translate text from the Tobacco Free Maine website to levels suitable to individual users, says DePoy. Literacy levels would be determined by a user literacy test and translations would be achieved through an electronic thesaurus that swaps complex words for simpler nouns and verbs.

Trefoil Corporation of Orono will develop the software under the one-year initiative.

The project includes development, evaluation and dissemination of a Web portal that will translate existing smoking cessation, control and prevention websites into low-literacy and accessible formats.

Gilson and DePoy say the project broadens accessibility parameters for a larger group of people. They note that software exists to convert text files to audio files for people with sight-impairments and audio files to text files for users with hearing-impairments. And there are programs to translate one language to another.

"The question is 'is there a way to have a portal on a user's computer that would be adjusted to literacy and comprehension levels?'" DePoy says.

The answer is yes. Gilson and DePoy earlier received a \$10,000 Maine Technology Institute seed grant for market research to see if such software had been or could be created. They found that no such software existed. Trefoil principals Curtis Meadow and George Markowsky, who also is a computer science professor at UMaine, affirmed that they could, indeed, create such software.

The new portal is to be tested at the Literacy Volunteers of Bangor Center. When complete it will be available on the Web, where the public can access it. Gilson and DePoy expect to have the software running and the portal available for public use by this time next year. They also hope to patent the software, which they say could have wider-ranging applications.

Gilson, who considers the project part of Maine's creative economy, says it presents the university an opportunity to use its resources to assist in the mission of disseminating educational information.

"Why couldn't the University of Maine develop innovative software? Why do we have to look to Menlo Park?" he says.

Gilson and DePoy are being assisted in the project by graduate student B.J. Kitchin, also a research associate of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies.

The American Legacy Foundation, a national public health foundation devoted to tobacco-use prevention and cessation, approved the award as part of its Small Innovative Grants (SIG) program. The grants initiative recognizes local organizations across the United States that support novel, community-based projects that address the serious public health issue of tobacco use. The American Legacy Foundation(r) (Legacy) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization established in March 1999 and located in Washington, D.C. Legacy was created as a result of the November 1998 Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) reached between attorneys general from 46 states, five U.S. territories and the tobacco industry.

Batteries Not Included: New Sensor Technology Promises Benefits from Maine to the Moon

18 Jan 2008

Contact: Ali Abedi (207) 581-2231; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- NASA is on a mission to fly wireless in space one day, and a University of Maine researcher is developing the technology that he believes can help make that happen.

Ali Abedi, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, is working on a new kind of battery-free wireless sensor communication system that he says can perform in harsh environments where the battery-powered sensors now used in NASA's space shuttle cannot function.

The new sensors can be used as monitors inside the shuttle engine and on the spacecraft's exterior when reentering Earth's atmosphere, Abedi says. The system will also allow NASA to reduce the miles of bundled sensor wires and connectors that now add so much unwanted weight, expense and potential for failure to every space flight.

"The weight of all the wiring is a major issue for the space shuttle," says Abedi, whose research is being funded by a three-year, \$360,483 grant from NASA. "There are wired sensors everywhere in the space shuttle. All of them need batteries for power, but batteries explode in extremely hot temperatures and don't work in very cold temperatures."

Instead of batteries, he says, power for the new system comes from a radio frequency signal that is transmitted to the sensors, which then beam it back with pertinent monitoring data. Abedi likened the process to that of the radar guns police use to check for speeders.

"But we can transmit the beam to hundreds of sensors at once to get all the combined data," says Abedi, who runs the UMaine wireless sensor network lab known as WiSe-Net. And because the system is wireless, a sensor can be moved out the way when astronauts need room to make repairs on the shuttle. The sensor can then be easily reinstalled, like a standard plug-and-play computer device.

The system uses patented high-temperature sensors designed and produced by Mauricio Pereira da Cunha, a UMaine associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and Abedi's co-investigator on the project. NASA has asked both researchers to serve as consultants for the agency's wireless sensor tag group.

Abedi says the battery-free sensors, which require no maintenance, could also be embedded as temperature and gas monitors in the habitation domes being studied for a future moon colony. Embedded sensors could also be effective, he says, in monitoring the health of bridges, buildings, dams, tunnels or other structures here on Earth.

The Maine Department of Transportation is interested in the new wireless communication design for use not only in bridges of the future but in very old existing ones, Abedi says, where expensive wired, battery-powered sensor systems may not be economically feasible.

The three-year project will create an opportunity for an educational and research collaborative involving several fields of study, he says, including mechanical and civil engineering for the bridge concept. A couple of Ph.D students will

work on the system at UMaine, along with six qualified undergraduates who will receive training at Mainely-Wired LLC, a state broadband provider. Three summer student internships will also be available at NASA's Johnson Space Center.

"I want the students to go through their program here with excitement, and let them see for themselves how the real thing works in the field," Abedi says.

Hutchinson Center Director Selected

18 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- Dr. C. Sue McCullough, a seasoned higher education administrator who currently serves as dean of graduate and extended studies at Virginia's Longwood University, has been named director of the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast, Me. McCullough's appointment, which is subject to approval at the next University of Maine System Board of Trustees meeting, takes effect March 1. She was chosen following a national search.

"Dean McCullough comes to the University of Maine with significant experience in university outreach and in building community networks and support," says Robert White, UMaine vice provost and dean of its Division of Lifelong Learning. "Those skills and that deep experience represent the characteristics we were seeking in a new Hutchinson Center director, and we are delighted to welcome Dean McCullough to the Hutchinson Center and the University of Maine."

McCullough succeeds Lavon Bartel, who has served as the Hutchinson Center's interim director since last summer.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity, and I look forward to getting to know the students, faculty, staff and community members involved with the Hutchinson Center," McCullough says. "I am impressed with the level of community support, the commitment to the center's mission, the strong foundation already in place and the momentum to establish the Hutchinson Center as an integral part of mid-coast Maine."

McCullough's son, Bruce Maxwell, is a computer science professor and department chair at Colby College. He and his family reside near Benton, Me., where they raise alpacas at Bag End Suri Alpacas of ME, known as BESAME.

McCullough is a licensed psychologist with a doctorate from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. She worked as an elementary school teacher, a school principal and a school psychologist before beginning her higher education career as a professor of school psychology at the University of Oregon in 1980. McCullough also served on the faculty of Texas Woman's University and as department chair at Texas State University San Marcos before becoming a Longwood University dean in 2002.

The Hutchinson Center, which opened in 2000, provides University of Maine courses and outreach services to the people of mid-coast Maine. Students can earn UMaine bachelor's and master's degrees at the facility, which is also home to a robust Senior College program.

White also commended the search committee and mid-coast community members who provided valuable input during the search process.

Bangor Foreign Policy Forum Talk to Focus on Women in Iranian Politics

22 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Shahla Haeri, director of Boston University's Women's Studies Program, will discuss "Mrs. President: Women and Political Leadership in Iran," her documentary film about six women who were candidates for political office in Iran, on Monday, Jan. 28 in Bangor. The film also features the commentary of two female Iranian journalists who cover politics in that country. The topic is particularly timely with the Iranian parliamentary elections scheduled for March. More than 7,100 candidates have registered to run for the 290-seat parliament. Haeri's film includes discussion by the candidates of their efforts aimed at modifying public and governmental opinion regarding women in Iranian society and politics. The presentation, scheduled for the Bangor Public Library at 4 p.m., will feature a film screening and lecture, along with time for discussion. Marjorie Medd, a member of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, will introduce Haeri. A 3:30 p.m. reception with refreshments will precede the formal program. The presentation 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.

UMaine 'Girls' Night Out' to Show Middle-Schoolers that Science, Engineering Isn't 'Nerdy'

22 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Arsenault, 581-3048, John Vetelino, 581-2264, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine's College of Engineering is bringing some 30 Bangor middle school girls to campus on Wednesday, Jan. 23, for a pilot project -- "Girl's Night Out" -- to let them see that science and engineering aren't necessarily "nerdy."

"Right now, some of the real exciting and new stuff that is being done crosses so many disciplines," says electrical and computer engineering professor John Vetelino, who brought the college's GK-12 Sensors! program to UMaine in a partnership with the National Science Foundation in 2002-2003. Young people should realize that science and engineering careers are the front line of invention, and can be fun.

"Math, science and engineering is relevant," Vetelino says, "and not such a nerdy field."

Sensors, in particular, he says, play major roles in every day life. Sensors come large, small and microscopic and are in smoke, sound and motion detectors. They also are used to detect disease, e coli or even a toxic gas or the ripeness of fruit.

"They can be oriented toward health or they could be oriented toward national defense," Vetelino says.

The after-school event Jan. 23 will bring a select group of about 30 seventh- and eighth-grade girls from Bangor's Cohen and Doughty middle schools to UMaine to participate in a variety of activities to stimulate interest and aspirations in science, technology, engineering and math career paths, according to Vetelino and Joe Arsenault, who manages the GK-12 Sensors! program on campus.

The students will meet at 3:30 p.m. in Hill Auditorium, ESRB-Barrows Hall, to begin a tour of UMaine's research facilities and then will be greeted by college Dean Dana Humphries and UMaine Women's Basketball Coach Cindy Blodgett, before meeting for panel discussions with women scientists and faculty engineers, in addition to graduate students and undergraduates. After a pizza dinner and social hour with the panelists, the girls will head to the Alfond to watch the women's basketball team take on Boston University.

The emphasis of the "Girls Night Out" project is on girls, Vetelino says, since women are significantly underrepresented in math, science and engineering fields. The National Science Foundation and the United States Congress are among the entities concerned that the United States has fallen behind other nations in science and engineering, and they created programs like the UMaine GK-12 Sensors! to bolster the nation's ranks of young scientists and engineers. Vetelino says boys will be invited to campus for a similar event in the future, as will youngsters from cultural groups.

Vetelino says experience has shown that youngsters at the middle-school level are particularly susceptible to learning about math, science and engineering, especially before they get to high school, when they may have decided upon an

academic direction.

"The message, loud and clear, is we need to get to these students when they are young," he says. "We also have found that students are influenced by a mentor, a parent or a peer."

So, in addition to seeing the university engineering and research labs, the visiting girls will interact with role models like women scientists and Blodgett, who is expected to encourage her audience to aim high with respect to goals for their futures.

"We wanted to spice up the program," he says, explaining why the pizza social and basketball game, and Blodgett, are part of "Girl's Night Out."

"Girl's Night Out" is sponsored by National Science Foundation-University of Maine GK-12 Sensors! program, the University of Maine College of Engineering, the University of Maine Department of Athletics and the Bangor School Department.

Since 2004, more than 550 Maine school students have visited the university's high-technology laboratories.

UMaine to Study Climate Secrets in Antarctic Ice Core

23 Jan 2008

Contact: Karl Kreutz, Associate Professor, University of Maine (207) 581-3011; Mark Twickler, Science Coordination Office, University of New Hampshire (603) 862-1991

New Antarctic Ice Core to Provide Clearest Climate Record Yet

UMaine researchers involved in long-term paleoclimate study

DURHAM, N.H. - After enduring months on the coldest, driest, and windiest continent on Earth, researchers today closed out the inaugural season on an unprecedented, multi-year effort to retrieve the most detailed record of greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere over the last 100,000 years.

Working as part of the National Science Foundation's West Antarctic Ice Sheet Divide (WAIS Divide) Ice Core Project, a team of scientists, engineers, technicians and students from multiple U.S. institutions have recovered a 580-meter (1,900-foot) ice core -- the first section of what is hoped to be a 3,465-meter (11,360-foot) column of ice detailing 100,000 years of Earth's climate history, including a precise year-by-year record of the last 40,000 years.

The dust, chemicals and air trapped in the two-mile-long ice core will provide critical information for scientists working to predict the extent to which human activity will alter Earth's climate, according to the chief scientist for the project, Kendrick Taylor of the Desert Research Institute of the Nevada System of Higher Education. DRI, along with the University of New Hampshire, operate the Science Coordination Office for the WAIS Divide Project.

Researchers at the University of Maine will receive a piece of the WAIS Divide ice core for analysis of the physical and chemical properties of the trapped atmospheric dust. In collaboration with colleagues at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, the group plans to use the information to examine changes in atmospheric circulation, volcanic eruptions and the impact of dust deposition on ocean biogeochemistry.

WAIS Divide, named for the high-elevation region that is the boundary separating opposing flow directions on the ice sheet, is the best spot on the planet to recover ancient ice containing trapped air bubbles -- samples of the Earth's atmosphere from the present to as far back as 100,000 years ago.

While other ice cores have been used to develop longer records of Earth's atmosphere, the record from WAIS Divide will allow a more detailed study of the interaction of previous increases in greenhouse gases and climate change. This information will improve computer models that are used to predict how the current, unprecedented high levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere caused by human activity will influence future climate.

The WAIS Divide core is also the Southern Hemisphere equivalent of a series of ice cores drilled in Greenland beginning in 1989, and will provide the best opportunity for scientists to determine if global-scale climate changes that occurred before human activity started to influence climate were initiated in the Arctic, the tropics or Antarctica.

The new core will also allow investigations of biological material in deep ice, which will yield information about biogeochemical processes that control and are controlled by climate, as well as lead to fundamental insights about life on Earth.

Says Taylor, "We are very excited to work with ancient ice that fell as snow as long as 100,000 years ago. We read the ice like other people might read a stack of old weather reports."

The WAIS project took more than 15 years of planning and preparation, including extensive airborne reconnaissance and ground-based geophysical research, to pinpoint the one-square-kilometer (less than a square mile) space on the 932,000-square-kilometer (360,000-square-mile) ice sheet that scientists believe will provide the clearest climate record for the last 100,000 years.

With only some 40 days a year when the weather is warm enough for drilling -- yesterday's temperature was a balmy -15 degrees Celsius (5 degrees Fahrenheit) -- it is expected to take until January 2010 to complete the fieldwork.

For the project, Ice Coring and Drilling Services of the University of Wisconsin-Madison built and is operating a state-of-the-art, deep ice-coring drill, which is more like a piece of scientific equipment than a conventional rock drill used in petroleum exploration. The U.S. Geological Survey National Ice Core Laboratory in Denver designed the core handling system. Raytheon Polar Services Corporation provides the logistical support. The NSF Office of Polar Programs-U.S. Antarctic Program funds the project. The core will be archived at the National Ice Core Laboratory, which is run by the USGS with funding from NSF.

For more information on WAIS Divide, including the project Media Guide, go to <http://www.waisdivide.unh.edu>.

Photo caption: Scientist Rebecca Anderson of the Desert Research Institute examines a section of the WAIS Divide ice core recovered from a depth of 500 meters. Photo courtesy of Kendrick Taylor.

UMaine Students Pass CFA Exam

24 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two University of Maine Maine Business School students, Violeta Zaneva and Anh Do, have passed the Level I examination of the Chartered Financial Analyst program, considered the "gold standard among investment analysis designations" by The Economist magazine.

They took the exam in Boston in December. The pass rate for the exam was only 39 percent. Nearly 150,000 candidates from 172 countries are enrolled in the program, according to John Mahon, professor and dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and Robert Strong, University Foundation Professor of Investment Education, who offered congratulations to the students on their accomplishment.

"These students reflect upon the faculty and the program as a whole," Mahon says.

Zaneva is a business administration major who graduated in December and Do is a fourth-year business administration major. Both have been active in SPIFFY, the student-managed investment club at UMaine.

UMaine's Safe Campus Project Raises Awareness About Sexual Assault Via Show, "It's Not That Simple"

25 Jan 2008

Contact: Carey Nason (207) 581-2515 ORONO -- When will someone get up and do something? "It's Not That Simple," a show organized by the University of Maine's Safe Campus project, hopes to raise awareness of sexual assault by asking just this question. The show will be performed on March 26 at 7:30p.m., in Minsky Recital Hall on the UMaine campus. Donations will be accepted to benefit Rape Response Services and Spruce Run in Bangor. Based on Dept. of Justice statistics, 266 sexual assaults would occur at a university of UMaine's size each year. The number reported at UMaine in 2006 was 11. The Safe Campus Project hopes to raise awareness of the variety of issues surrounding sexual assault and to encourage victims to report assaults. "It's Not That Simple" incorporates visual and performing arts including theatre, dance, music and new media. Through these different mediums, the show powerfully represents many different kinds of assault - including voyeurism, stalking, rape and domestic abuse - and the many emotions that sexual assault victims, and those who know them, experience. "The show uses a fantastic medium to connect with people," says Carey Nason, project coordinator of the Safe Campus Project. "Programming is usually not delivered through dance and the arts; we hope to connect to people who are not reached by typical educational programs." The Safe Campus Project, located in 102 Fernald Hall on the UMaine campus, is a university organization that works to reduce sexual assault, relationship abuse and stalking in the community. The Safe Campus Project provides support and offers resources and referrals to those affected by interpersonal violence. Anyone affiliated with the University of Maine System is welcome to use the Safe Campus Project's resources free of cost. For more information about this event, or to schedule an interview with Carey Nason, please call 207/581.2515 or e-mail carey.nason@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Career Fair Jan. 30 Drawing Record Numbers

25 Jan 2008

Contact: Patricia Counihan, 581-1355; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Some of the companies sending recruiters for the first time to the University of Maine Career Fair next week include Lowe's home improvements chain, L.L. Bean, C.H. Robinson of Minnesota, the world's largest produce marketer, and ValleyCrest Companies, a California-based landscape corporation known as the "landscaper of the stars." Some of last year's first-time registrants included several big box retailers, including Wal-Mart, Kohl's, Target, The Home Depot and Shaw's supermarkets. With 150 companies -- up from 118 last year -- planning to send representatives to UMaine for the 2008 Career Fair on Jan. 30, UMaine Career Center Director Patty Counihan says the fair is at capacity, with a growing waiting list. The fair is sponsored by the UMaine Career Center, a member of the Division of Student Affairs. Thousands of college students from all classes and majors attend the Career Fair, one of the state's largest assemblies of college students and prospective employers. Many students line up future jobs or internships as a result of the connections made at the fair. The event, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., is being held in the UMaine Student Recreation and Fitness Center. Counihan also sees the Career Fair as an economic barometer. With such remarkable participant interest, she sees puzzling contradictions to widespread concerns about a weakening economy. Counihan capped this year's record registration list at 150 because of space limits. "You read the paper, you hear the news, and you hear that the economy is going south, and then you see this," she says of the largest ever registration list. "The economy is booming from what we're seeing. Employers have lots and lots of jobs." The Career Fair provides UMaine and other college students an opportunity to meet with business representatives, hand out resumes and learn more about the companies looking to hire Maine college graduates. Counihan encourages students to dress professionally and be prepared for follow-up interview sessions. More than a dozen of the companies will have representatives available on Jan. 31 for more detailed next-day interviews, she says. Employers from Maine and throughout the country represent an expanding variety of career fields, from engineering and sciences to retail management, and even the FBI and Department of Homeland Security. Other fields include healthcare, social services, education and government. Companies are coming from Texas and Florida, in addition to California and Minnesota. One new participant sending a representative to the Career Fair is ValleyCrest

Companies of Los Angeles. With 10,000 employees at various hubs around the nation, ValleyCrest wants to learn more about the UMaine landscape horticulture programs, faculty and students, says Patrick McVicker, a regional recruiter in the company's Virginia offices. Professor Bill Mitchell, UMaine's Landscape Horticulture Program coordinator, met ValleyCrest representatives at a national landscape competition last year and invited the company to visit UMaine. McVicker says the company is looking for long-term relationships with colleges and universities with landscape programs to see how those institutions' curricula, and students, fit with the ValleyCrest philosophy. ValleyCrest is a billion-dollar company with multiple divisions, ranging from landscape architecture, development and maintenance, to estate landscaping and golf course design, construction and management. The company also is known for its Hollywood clients. Students enrolled at any college or university in Maine are invited to attend, along with UMaine alumni. Underclass students and graduate students are equally encouraged to attend. For more information, contact the Career Center at 581-1359 or visit its offices on the third floor of the Memorial Union. The Career Center website (www.umaine.edu/career/) has a complete list of participating companies.

Pino Named to UMaine Development Post

25 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Following a national search, Mark Pino has joined the University of Maine's Office of University Development as Director of Prospect Research.

Pino comes from Regis University in Denver, Co., where he held a number of positions over the last six years, including director of research and prospect programs and prospect research analyst. Prior to that he worked at Regis' School for Professional Studies where he assisted with marketing, new student enrollment and online enrollment.

Pino has a master's degree in nonprofit management and a bachelor of arts and science degree in marketing and organizational development, both from Regis. Active in professional organizations including the Association of Professional Researchers for Advancement, Pino is former president of the Colorado Professional Researchers for Advancement.

He lives with his wife, Marlene, in Orono.

Science Briefs

25 Jan 2008

Contact: Joe Carr: (207) 581-3571

Ancient diversification

Archaeological work along Peru's southern coast over the past several decades has largely supported ethnohistoric accounts by 16th- and 17th-century Europeans, which depicted prehispanic life as dependent on specialized economic activities related to fishing or agriculture.

However, recent excavations at Wawakiki in the midst of the Osmore region, one of the southernmost valleys of Peru, have revealed communities involved in complex, wide-ranging economic organization and production strategies as the Chiribaya people responded to the effects of population growth and diminishing agricultural potential.

Communities along this rugged intervalley coastal zone may have constituted a third division of society, according to University of Maine archaeologist Gregory Zaro, writing of his field excavations in that area in a recent issue of Latin

American Antiquity. Rather than relying primarily on the highland resources of the Andean slopes or specialized economic activities related primarily to farming or fishing, communities along the intervalley coast appear to have satisfied economic needs by intensively pursuing multiple subsistence strategies in agriculture, fishing and gathering of wild terrestrial resources.

Due in part to centuries of decreased highland precipitation that stressed lower valley farming communities along the Ilo River, the Chiribaya expanded into the relatively unpopulated intervalley coast and focused more on diversified community-level production. According to Zaro, Wawakiki and some neighboring communities represent a historically contingent response to both cultural and biological necessities and the environment during the Late Intermediate period (A.D. 1200

UMaine Oceanographer, Colleagues Say Selling Carbon Credits Premature in Unproven CO₂-Reduction Plan

28 Jan 2008

Contact: Fei Chai, (207) 581-4317
Tom Weber, (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A University of Maine oceanographer has joined several scientists from around the world in questioning the sale of carbon credits for a proposed CO₂-reduction strategy until more is known about its possible long-term affects on the marine environment.

The method involves seeding large sections of the ocean with tanker loads of iron particles that mix with seawater to stimulate the growth of microscopic plants called phytoplankton. The atmospheric carbon dioxide that is absorbed by the plant blooms during photosynthesis, the theory goes, would be converted into organic material that would then be carried down into the deep ocean as the phytoplankton dies and sinks.

Carbon dioxide is among several "greenhouse gases" that are believed to contribute to global warming.

Writing in the Jan. 11 Forum page of the journal Science, Fei Chai, an associate professor of oceanography in the School of Marine Sciences, and 14 colleagues argue that the process known as ocean iron fertilization (OIF) has not been studied sufficiently to determine how effective it really is in removing carbon, how long the carbon is retained in the deep sea, and whether it has the potential to harm marine life in the future.

Without that critical information, they say, it is premature to issue carbon credits to commercial OIF companies, which stand to earn profits by measuring how much carbon they remove and then selling the equivalent to companies that are required to offset the emissions they release into the atmosphere.

"Our paper makes a simple hard statement," says Chai, who is also a cooperating associate professor of UMaine's Climate Change Institute. "You shouldn't sell carbon credits until you know how much carbon is being stored, and what are the potential negative impacts on the marine ecosystems."

The international oceanographic community has done several small-scale studies of iron fertilization since 1993. And while the the experiments "greatly improved our understanding of the role of iron in regulating ocean ecosystems," the scientists write, "they were not designed to characterize OIF as a carbon mitigation strategy."

Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture (Controversy Series) Announces 2008 Spring Calendar

25 Jan 2008

Contact: Professor Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The UMaine Socialist and Marxist Studies spring lecture series, beginning Jan. 31 on the Orono campus, examines elements of war, peace, racism, democracy and international relations as they involve the United States, China, Iraq, Venezuela and a resurgent Russia in today's world.

Open to the public at no cost, lectures are Thursdays from 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted. The series is sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor and co-sponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC) and Campus Activities and Events, with support from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The programs focusing on racism also are cosponsored by Multicultural Programs and the Black Student Union at UMaine. Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. For additional information, contact Professor Doug Allen, coordinator of Marxist-Socialist Studies at the University of Maine, by phone at 581-3860, or e-mail: [mailto:douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu] douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

Lectures and panel discussions are presented by University of Maine philosophy, history and political science professors, UMaine students and visiting guests, all authorities in their areas of experience and expertise. The schedule for the spring series is as follows:

Jan. 31: "60 Years after the Assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (Jan. 30, 1948): The Relevance of Gandhi's Philosophy for Today's World," with professor Doug Allen, philosophy; (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

Feb. 7: "The Long Haul: Building Unity Against Racist Oppression," with Jarvis Tyner, executive vice chair of the Communist Party USA and a founding member of the Black Radical Congress, and a leader in the struggle against racism and its relation to working-class liberation (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

Feb. 14: "Racism at UMaine, in Maine and Beyond," a panel of University of Maine students Gimbala Sankare, Ashley Miller and Sandy Nesin (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

Feb. 21: "Year of the Rat: China-US Relations and Their Implications," with history professor Ngo-Vinh Long (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

March 20: "5 Years after the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq: What Is To Be Done?" a panel presentation and teach-in (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series; cosponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee and the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine (Program will be held at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall, UMaine) Call 581-3860 for information.

March 27: "A Leftist Analysis of Elections: Why the Republican and Democratic Parties and the Political Process Are Obstacles to Real Democracy," with Bruce Gagnon, coordinator of the Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

April 3: "The Destruction of the Modern State of Iraq," with Sinan Antoon, from Baghdad, who received his Ph.D. from Harvard and is a faculty member at New York University, with specialization in premodern Arabo-Islamic culture and contemporary Arab culture and politics (12:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union). A widely published poet and essayist, Antoon will give a second lecture on Iraq on April 3, 7 p.m., in 140 Little Hall. On April 4 at 7 p.m. 140 Little Hall, he will show the widely acclaimed movie "About Baghdad," which he co-produced and co-directed. Call 581-3860 for information.

April 10: "Public Intellectuals in the Early Cold War: Lessons for the 21st Century," by history professor Nathan Godfried (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

April 17: "Empowering Venezuela Domestically and Internationally under Chavez: A New Alternative for Peaceful Conflict Resolution in the Hemisphere or the Decline of American Hegemony in the Hemisphere," by Georges Kabche and Stefano Tijerina, UMaine students from Venezuela and Colombia (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

April 24: "Russia Resurgent: Implications for the Region and the World," with professors James Warhola, Paul Holman

and Seth Singleton, political science (Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series)

FOR INDIVIDUAL CALENDAR LISTINGS

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March 20: "5 Years After the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq: What Is To Be Done?" A panel presentation and teach-in. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series and Cosponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee and the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine. Note: This program will be held at 7:00 p.m. in 140 Little Hall, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

March 27: "A Leftist Analysis of Elections: Why the Republican and Democratic Parties and the Political Process Are Obstacles to Real Democracy," Bruce Gagnon, coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 3: "The Destruction of the Modern State of Iraq," Sinan Antoon, from Baghdad, received his Ph.D. from Harvard and is a faculty member at New York University with specialization in premodern Arabo-Islamic culture and contemporary Arab culture and politics. (12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine) A widely published poet and essayist, he co-produced and co-directed the film "About Baghdad," which he will show on April 4 at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall. He also will deliver a lecture on Iraq on April 3 at 7 p.m. in 140 Little Hall. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. Call 581-3860.

April 10: "Public Intellectuals in the Early Cold War: Lessons for the 21st Century," Professor Nathan Godfried, History. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 17: "Empowering Venezuela Domestically and Internationally Under Chavez: A New Alternative for Peaceful Conflict Resolution in the Hemisphere or the Decline of American Hegemony in the Hemisphere," Georges Kabche and Stefano Tijerina, University of Maine students from Venezuela and Colombia. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

April 24: "Russia Resurgent: Implications for the Region and the World," Professors James Warhola, Paul Holman, and Seth Singleton, Political Science. Part of the Socialist and Marxist Studies Lecture Series. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, UMaine. Call 581-3860.

2nd Annual Greek Life Polar Bear Dip Fundraiser Set for Feb. 9 at UMaine

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Emily Moniz, 581-4162, or Zack Frechette, 581-1784

ORONO -- University of Maine fraternity and sorority members will strip down Saturday, Feb. 9 for a frigid fundraising dip on the mall for the second annual Greek Life Polar Bear Dip to benefit the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club.

Organized by the UMaine Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternity Council, several dozen students raised about \$800 last year by collecting pledges and taking a plunge in a pool on the mall.

Proceeds benefit the Boys and Girls Club's health and nutrition program, which includes healthy after-school snacks for children at the club. This year's Polar Bear Dip takes place at 1 p.m. in front of Fogler Library.

"We are very excited to participate and raise money this year," says Rebecca Davison, public relations chair for the Panhellenic Council, who is among those planning to take a dip this year.

Anyone wishing to make a pledge can contact Emily Moniz, president of the Panhellenic Council, at 581-4162, or Zack Frechette, InterFraternity Council president at 581-1784, for information.

Book Reading, Signing Set for Feb. 14 (NEW DATE)

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Carol Toner, 581-3147

ORONO -- A group of University of Maine faculty members who are among the authors of a recently published collection of essays, stories, plays, poetry, songs and art that reflect Franco-American life and culture in Maine will read from their work Feb. 14 at 12:15 p.m. at the Franco American Centre on the Orono campus.

Voyages: A Maine Franco-American Reader was published in 2007 by Tilbury House in Gardiner. Among the coauthors are Rhea Cote Robbins, adjunct professor of Women's Studies and Franco American Studies; Yvon Labbe, director the Franco American Centre; Kristin Langellier, professor of Communication and Journalism; Jim Bishop, a Continuing and Distance Education faculty member; and Nelson Madore, a Thomas College professor and former Waterville mayor.

The book was edited by Madore and Barry Rodrigue, a professor at the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College.

The Feb. 14 event also will celebrate the publication of *French Connections: A Gathering of Franco-American Poets*, a collection of Franco American poetry.

The public is invited to the Feb. 14 reading and book signing. Books will be available for purchase.

National Science Foundation to Showcase UMaine Sensor Research

29 Jan 2008

Contact: John Vetelino (207) 581-2264; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A sensor developed by a University of Maine professor to detect the presence of dangerous chemical and biological agents has been chosen as one of the National Science Foundation's notable achievements for 2008.

John Vetelino, a professor of electrical and computer engineering who joined the UMaine faculty in 1969, is regarded as one of the world's leading researchers in the dynamic field of sensor technology. An expert in microsensors, microacoustics and solid state electronics, Vetelino is one of the founding members of UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology.

About four years ago, NSF funding allowed him and his research team to focus on the development of a sensing element for certain chemical and biological agents that pose a serious health threat in high concentrations.

The UMaine-patented sensor can detect an organo-phosphate pesticide known as phosmet, that is similar to other chemical-warfare agents. It also senses a particularly virulent strain of E. coli as well as saxitoxin, the worst of the several toxins released during the seasonal algae blooms known as red tide.

Vetelino says it was saxitoxin that seriously sickened a Harrington lobsterman and his family last August after they ate red tide-infected mussels that were stuck to the outside of a barrel found floating in the ocean.

The lateral-field excited (LFE) sensor is equipped with only one electrode on the bottom, which makes it different from other acoustic wave devices that use conductors on both their upper and lower surfaces. The new sensor's bare top surface allows it to sense changes in both electrical and mechanical properties.

David Frankel, LASST senior research scientist, was part of the sensor research team, along with Carl Tripp, professor of chemistry and Paul Millard, associate professor of chemical engineering.

Vetelino's sensor project led to two more NSF grants, totaling \$250,000, to continue his work with E.coli detection. He also received \$400,000 in September from the NSF to develop a sensing element to detect peroxide-based explosives that can be made with common ingredients found in any hardware store.

The NSF will use Vetelino's sensor work, along with other noteworthy research efforts in the country, to demonstrate to the public and Congress the important scientific activity supported through its federal-funding program.

Maine Folklife Center Releasing Muskrat Stew: The Life Story of Fred Ranco

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Maine Folklife Center, 207-581-1891, or Tara Marvel, 603-428-3509

ORONO, Maine -- The biography of Fred Ranco, a member of the Penobscot Nation on Indian Island near Old Town, Maine, will be released by the Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine and author Tara Marvel in February.

Muskrat Stew and Other Tales of a Penobscot Life: The Life Story of Fred Ranco

by Fred Ranco as told to Tara Marvel, is a slow-simmering brew of Penobscot life on and off the reservation that traces the life of a Native American through some of the major benchmarks of the 20th Century. From home on the reservation to boxing during the Depression, serving in World War II, running an Indian crafts shop in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, and finally returning home to the reservation, Ranco's journey memorializes a life through a tumultuous period.

"It's the story of a survivor," according to Marvel.

"One time I asked Fred what his favorite food was," Marvel recalls. "He unhesitatingly replied 'Muskrat Stew.' This dish seems to be a kind of Penobscot soul food, something eaten in hard times, when there wasn't much else to eat, but remembered fondly as a taste of the old days."

Marvel met Ranco during the 40 years he lived in a cabin in Albany, N.H. For years he kept a shop where he sold carvings and other handicrafts. The unique memoir includes both folksy anecdotes and sometimes harsh realities. In addition to crafts, customs, animal and plant lore and family background, Ranco remembers his mother's psychic abilities, family squabbles and Christmas on the Penobscot reservation. He tells about his adventures with a variety of jobs, his army experiences and selling crafts to tourists.

Marvel is a freelance writer, poet, illustrator and photographer. A former editor at the Lewiston, Maine *Sun-Journal*, she currently writes a column for *Art Times Journal* in New York. Among her recent works is "Moose Mind," a video documentary following Ranco tracking through the Maine woods.

Ranco maintained his Maine guide hunting license well into his seventies. The full circle of Fred Ranco's life is rounding to a close on the Old Town reservation.

Muskrat Stew and Other Tales of a Penobscot Life: The Life Story of Fred Ranco by Fred Ranco as told to Tara Marvel. Occasional Publications of the Maine Folklife Center No. 2, University of Maine, Orono, 2007. ISBN 0-943197-35-X. 100 pages. \$9.95

Page Farm & Home Museum Schedules Sleigh Rides, Trotting Horse Trail Field Trip Planned Feb. 10

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The Page Farm and Home Museum is sponsoring a motor coach tour along the Maine Trotting Horse Heritage Trail and field trip to the Windsor Sleigh Rally on Sunday, Feb. 10.

The coach leaves from the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus at 8:30 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. Maine trotting horse historian Clark P. Thompson of Bangor will narrate the ride along the trotting horse trail.

The Maine Trotting Horse Heritage Trail stretches from Bangor to Old Orchard Beach.

"Our trip will be from Orono to Waterville, stopping at points in between along the trail," says Patricia Henner, farm and home museum director. "We will visit six different towns of historical importance to our trotting horse heritage. That includes farms and breeding sites, and racetrack sites."

The Windsor Sleigh Rally is an annual event hosted by the Windsor Historical Society at the Windsor Fairgrounds. The itinerary includes lunch at the Windsor Diner.

The cost for the day is \$35 per person, which excludes lunch but includes transportation from Orono and admission to the Windsor Sleigh Rally, where unlimited sleigh rides will be offered.

Reservations must be made by Feb. 6 by calling the farm and home museum at 581-4100. Patricia Henner advises participants to dress for the weather and bring a warm blanket for sleigh rides at the Windsor rally.

The Page Farm & Home Museum collects, preserves and interprets Maine historical artifacts and traditions 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.

New Survey Method Gets Closer to the Truth on Controversial Topics

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Jay Peters, 581-2355; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine School of Social Work researchers are reporting positive results from a new type of opinion questionnaire that reveals more accurate responses to controversial, even "ugly" questions about social attitudes.

For sociologists wanting to know how people feel privately about racism, homophobia, sexuality and other controversial subjects, the new survey method will provide more and better results, according to Jay Peters, a researcher and lecturer in the School of Social Work.

In a study exploring possible benefits of a new way of asking questions on surveys, researchers Peters, Winston Turner of the UMaine School of Social Work faculty and Carey Nason, director of UMaine's Safe Campus Project, surveyed nearly 700 undergraduates at a university in the Northeast about their attitudes towards sex, sex roles, fighting and drinking.

Half of the sample used a traditional two-answer "forced choice" method and half used a newer "phrase completion" survey, allowing much greater variation in answers. Researchers found that respondents using the latter survey were willing to acknowledge having negative attitudes that others, using the traditional survey, would not.

"In survey research on racism, homophobia and misogyny, people either refuse to answer or select the most politically correct answer," Peters says.

With the new phrase-completion format, however, participants completed 55 percent more of the questions. Better yet, while 90 percent of participants using the forced choice format denied having the negative attitudes, only 47 percent did so when using the phrase-completion format.

Traditional "forced choice" surveys with only two-answer options were designed to prevent people from giving socially desirable answers. The research shows that traditional survey methods often fail to get at the truth and can lead to false conclusions, according to Peters.

When they used the phrase-completion format, which allows respondents to qualify answers in a 1 through 10 index, a bell curve profile emerged, Peters says, which showed people are not absolute in their approval or disapproval of some negative attitudes.

"This research indicates that a simple change in how questions are presented may result in a much better understanding of negative attitudes and ultimately how those attitudes related to behavior such as rape and hate crimes" says Peters.

Peters, Turner and Nason published the results of their study in the September 2007 issue of the journal "Social Work Research."

Peters intends to use the new model, introduced in 2003 but seldom used by social science researchers, for future social attitude studies. "Our thought is this is going to be a much better way of getting at their true feelings," he says.

UMaine Economist Says Technology Key to Creative Economy Success

29 Jan 2008

Contact: Todd Gabe, (207) 581-3307; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Policymakers hoping to lift wages in Maine through the "creative economy" should consider focusing their efforts on computer specialists, engineers and scientists, according to new research by University of Maine economists.

Economist Todd Gabe and colleagues Kristen Colby and Kathleen P. Bell of the School of Economics recently coauthored two studies on the "creative workers" profiled in Richard Florida's popular book "The Rise of the Creative Class." The research provides strong evidence that the economic development benefits from the creative economy are driven largely by the use of technology.

"People have taken Richard Florida's work to heart and are starting to think about ways to bolster the creative economy," Gabe says. "But it is rare that I see creative economy initiatives with a strong emphasis on technology-based workers and industries."

The researchers examined the effects of the creative economy on regional earnings, and also looked at differences in the creative economy between urban and rural U.S. counties.

"The question we grappled with is the extent to which creative workers affect earnings in a region," Gabe says. "Both studies show that creativity enhances earnings, but when you remove technology from the equation the effect disappears."

The research also shows that U.S. rural areas lag way behind cities in these important segments of the creative economy. Controlling for other factors, the study finds that almost 12 percent of the U.S. rural-urban wage gap is explained by differences in the creative economy.

These findings provide challenges for rural states such as Maine.

"There's no easy answer. We need more workers trained in these areas, as well as more technology-based companies to provide employment opportunities. Current creative economy initiatives supporting the arts should not be an end, but a means to grow technology in the state," Gabe concludes.

The study on rural-urban differences in the creative economy will be published in an academic journal later this year.

UMaine Engineering Professors Recognized at Maine STEM Summit

30 Jan 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Members of the University of Maine engineering faculty were recognized at the recent Maine STEM Summit for an innovative project that will allow middle-school students to access the university's supercomputers from their classroom laptops.

The daylong gathering, held Jan. 24 at the Augusta Civic Center and hosted by the Mathematics and Science Alliance, was part of a statewide effort to increase student aspirations in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to build collaborations among Maine's educators, business leaders and legislators.

Among the featured speakers were Gov. John Baldacci, former Gov. Angus King and UMaine Chancellor Richard Pattenau, who each emphasized the vital connection between STEM education and Maine's future economic prosperity.

Yifeng Zhu and Bruce Segee, UMaine professors of electrical and computer engineering, were applauded for their innovative three-year educational program called "Inquiry-based Dynamic Earth Applications of Supercomputing:

Seeing the Big Picture with Information Technology."

The program, funded by a \$1.2 million research grant from the National Science Foundation, aims to introduce the state's middle-school teachers and their students to large-scale numeric environmental models running on UMaine supercomputers that are equipped with more than 500 processors.

The professors say their goal is to stimulate interest in STEM by placing young students at the very frontiers of information technology and scientific discovery.

Brotherhood Stands Against Rape with Annual Sleep-Out

31 Jan 2008

Contact: Jack Keenan, (207) 581-4161; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Beta Theta Pi, the University of Maine's oldest fraternity, is holding its 15th annual sleep-out fundraising event Feb. 19-23 to raise money and awareness for Rape Response Services of Bangor, an organization offering education, counseling and sexual assault-prevention services to the public.

Forty-four brothers of the Beta Eta chapter of Beta Theta Pi will sell raffle tickets in the Memorial Union at UMaine during the fundraising week preceding the sleep-out.

At the end of the Feb. 19-23 fundraising week, the brothers will all participate in a 12-hour sleep-out, from 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23, to 6 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 24. All 44 brothers will be locked out of the fraternity house at 12 Munson Road and will not be allowed back in until the following morning. The fraternity brothers will camp on the front lawn for the night.

Raffle tickets will be sold into the evening of Feb. 23. Winners of various prizes, donated by businesses in the greater Bangor area, will be drawn. A bonfire also will burn through the night as the central symbol of the annual tradition.

Last year's Beta Sleep-Out raised in excess of \$4,100.

"This year we would like to raise \$5,000," says Jack Keenan, public relations chair for the fraternity.

Members of the university and surrounding communities are encouraged to drop by to show their support and make a donation. For more information, please contact Jack Keenan at (207) 581-4161 or e-mail at arthur.keenan@umit.maine.edu. Donations also can be mailed to "Sleep-Out," Beta Theta Pi, 12 Munson Rd., Orono, ME, 04469.

Rape Response Services provides crisis intervention, support groups and community education in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. The organization's efforts are important in preventing sexual assault and counseling those affected by the crime.

Women in the Curriculum, Women's Studies Program Announce Spring 2008 Lunch Series

31 Jan 2008

Contact: Ann Schonberger, 581-1229; Mazie Hough, 581-1225

ORONO -- The UMaine lunchtime lecture series sponsored by the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies

(WIC/WST) Program has announced its 2008 spring speakers list.

Lectures and discussions are scheduled Wednesdays 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted. The programs are free and open to the public. All locations are accessible.

Jan. 30 (101 Fernald Hall, 1:30 p.m.)

"What's on the Agenda for the 2008 Maine Legislature: Why Should Women Care?" with Sarah Standiford, director, Maine Women's Lobby and Maine Women's Policy Center

Feb. 6 (Totman Room)

"Rhetorical Drag: Gender Impersonation, Captivity and the Writing of History" with Lorraine Carroll, associate professor of English and interim director, Women's Studies, University of Southern Maine

Feb. 13

"Women of Color: The UMaine Experience," with Karina Fernandez, masters student in higher education, Laila Sholtz-Ames, undergraduate student in journalism, Mae Walters, undergraduate student in liberal studies, and Terhea Williams, masters student in marine bio-resources (Co-sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs)

Feb. 20

"The Abortion Diaries," with Ruth Lockhart, executive director, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, (film and discussion) (Commemorating the 35th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade)

Feb. 27

"An Intimate Look at Rachel Carson: A Multimedia Presentation by People Who Knew Her," with Stan Freeman, Madeleine Freeman and Marci Sorg

March 18, (Tuesday)

Suffragists, Deputy Husbands and Asylum Inmates: History Doctoral Students Present Their Work

"The True Case Concerning Said Thomas Choat: Rape, Bribery and Justice in Essex County," with Abigail Chandler

"Mr. Editor, Have We Digressed? John Neal and the 1870 Woman Suffrage Debate," with Shannon Risk

"'Madness' in Quebec Women, 1890-1940: An Analysis of Women's Ambivalence toward Culturally Prescribed Roles," with Mary Okin

March 25 (Tuesday)

"'I Was a Good Deal Alarmed': Women Experiencing Illness and Caring for the Sick in the Mid-Nineteenth Century South," with Marli Weiner, Adelaide C. and Alan L. Bird Professor of History

April 2

"Feminist Gerontology in Victoria and Vancouver, BC: A Brief Overview," with Peg Cruikshank, Women's Studies lecturer

April 9

"Female Faculty Experiences of Discrimination in Higher Education," with Kylie Cole, clinical staff member and coordinator, Peer Education and Prevention Program

April 16

Stealing Nasreen: Queer Identities, Immigrant Life, Secrets and Lost Loves, Mumbai to Toronto, book reading with author Farzana Doctor (Part of Pride Week)

April 23

"What the News Won't Tell: Global Feminist Activism against War, Militarism and Violence," with Lee Sharkey, poet, faculty emeritus of English & Women's Studies, University of Maine Farmington

For more information, call the WIC/WST Program in Fernald Hall at 581-1228.

Page Farm and Home Museum Extends Currier & Ives Exhibit

31 Jan 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum is extending its Currier and Ives exhibit through the end of March.

The exhibit, on loan from Clark Thompson of Bangor, features a number of original lithographs from 1855 to 1891.

The lithography shop of Currier & Ives produced in excess of 10,000 prints, which included more than 600 trotting horse prints, 30-40 of which were of Maine horses.

Lithography involves grinding a piece of limestone flat and smooth then drawing in mirror image on the stone with a special grease pencil. After the image is completed, the stone is etched with a solution of aqua fortis, leaving the greased areas in slight relief. Water is then used to wet the stone and greased ink is rolled onto the raised areas.

Since grease and water do not mix, the greased ink is repelled by the moisture on the stone and clings to the original grease pencil lines. The stone is then placed in a press and used as a printing block to impart black on white images to paper.

"We are very pleased to invite members of the community to come and take a look at the Currier and Ives trotting horse prints, all of which have connection to Maine," says Patricia Henner, director of the Page Farm and Home Museum.

The museum, located on the Orono campus, is free to visit and is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. More information is available by calling the museum at 581-4100 or visiting its website (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm).

UMaine Astrophysicist Interviewed for Feb. 5 History Channel Program on Hazards of Space Travel

01 Feb 2008

Contact: Neil Comins, 581-1037; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine astrophysicist, author and professor of physics Neil Comins will be featured in a History Channel presentation Tuesday, Feb. 5, on the dangers of space travel.

Comins, who published the book "The Hazards of Space Travel" in 2007, joins several other astrophysicists and two astronauts to discuss some of the physical, biological and emotional complexities of traveling in outer space.

The show, "Space Travel," is part of "The Universe" series produced for the History Channel. It airs at 9 p.m., EST. It is the second appearance Comins has made on the History Channel in as many months. He also was interviewed and appeared on "The Mysteries of the Moon" episode of The Universe series in mid-December.

Two other well-known astrophysicists, Neil DeGrasse Tyson and Michio Kaku, and NASA astronauts Jerry Linenger and Owen Garriott also were interviewed for the "Space Travel" program.

While most people may be aware of the obvious dangers of a crewed spacecraft leaving and reentering the Earth's atmosphere, Comins, in his book and in his History Channel interview, explains some hazards that aren't so well known.

"There are many sources of hazards," he says. "I talk about some of the more basic ones on the show, things like the effects of impacts and medical problems like stopped digestion. They are the tip of the iceberg -- there are more biological and psychological threats in space than you might imagine.

"When you get into space, your digestion stops" in the absence of gravity, he explains. "Very dangerous to eat or drink during that time. Fortunately, it typically doesn't stay stopped for more than a day or so. Another medical example is that medicines have much shorter shelf lives in space than on Earth. The medicines you rely on may fail you during a long trip in space."

When many Earthlings think about flying objects in space, they may envision large objects that could damage a satellite, spacecraft or space station. However, space debris the size of a BB could have catastrophic effects if it smashed into an astronaut, Comins says. This can happen on a spacewalk or inside a spacecraft. Dust particles, even atoms, traveling at speeds of 5,000 or 6,000 miles per hour, can have serious consequences.

"Individual atoms, especially ones of iron or lead, can have the same impact as a baseball thrown by a major league pitcher at 75-100 miles per hour on Earth," he says. "While such events are rare, astronauts frequently see flashes of light in their eyes when lower-energy particles hit their retina or optic nerve. The wonderful thing about the human body is it is well-adapted to repair."

Comins also discussed in his History Channel interview the emotional effects of long-term isolation inherent in living on space stations and in upcoming space exploration to the moon and beyond.

Much of Comins' interview took place last fall in a submarine in Portsmouth, an enclosed environment that is similar, in terms of physical and emotional isolation, to a spacecraft, he says.

In addition to his research and teaching at the University of Maine, Comins also serves as a board member for the Challenger Learning Center of Maine in Bangor.

The Creative Side of Engineering: Artist Awards Ceremony Planned Feb. 7

01 Feb 2008

Contact: Edwin Nagy 581-2071; George Manlove 581-3756 ORONO -- The UMaine Engineering Art Club is holding its artist awards ceremony Friday, Feb. 7, to celebrate the artistry and creativity of engineering students, faculty, and other science- and engineering-related artists in the community. The fourth annual "ART by Engineers" Artist Awards Ceremony is scheduled 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Engineering and Science Building on the Orono Campus. The exhibit opens Feb. 4 and will be up through Feb. 29. It features artwork of all types by students, faculty and others from the

science and engineering world. Previous years have seen everything from a cardboard chair to precision-machined aluminum mazes. This year, one of the anticipated art creations is a 6-foot pepper grinder fit for the likes of Paul Bunyan. "Engineering is a creative profession. Every day brings new problems to the designer's desk, the solutions of which must often be original creations," says engineering graduate student Edwin Nagy, who co-founded the exhibit and awards ceremony in 2005 with Will Manion, instructor of civil environmental engineering. "Students in engineering and the sciences need to be rewarded for their creative abilities, not just their skills at crunching numbers through formulae." ART by Engineers is intended to encourage students in the engineering field to explore their creative sides. The ceremony Feb. 7 will offer refreshments and a cash bar. Winners will be rewarded with cash prizes to recognize their creative efforts. Several exhibit sponsors will judge entries in various categories. New categories for this year's show are "Most Daring" and "Sustainable Art: Best Use of Recycled Materials." Other categories include "Environmentally Inspired," "Use of Whimsy" and "Art by a Woman in Engineering." The event is sponsored by the College of Engineering and faculty; University of Maine Foundation; Woodard and Curran, Inc., engineering firm; CDM engineers; PenBay Media; University of Maine Bookstore; SEA Consulting; and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology at UMaine.

Musicologist Silver to Record Works of Holocaust Era Composer

01 Feb 2008

Contact: Phillip Silver, (207) 581-1783; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- University of Maine music professor Phillip Silver and his wife and colleague Noreen Silver will present a recital Feb. 9 at Minsky Recital Hall that includes a work by a little-known Italian Jewish composer who died at the hands of Nazis in 1944.

They'll also include the work on a CD they will record this coming summer in New York. Silver, a pianist, recently received a UMaine faculty research grant to record the works of Leone Sinigaglia, an Italian Jewish composer killed by Nazis. Silver and cellist Noreen Silver, who perform as the Silver Duo, will record the CD with friend and colleague Ferdinand Liva, who will play violin on the recording of Sinigaglia's sonata for violin and piano. Noreen Silver is a part-time faculty member at UMaine; Liva is first violinist with the DaPonte String Quartet in Damariscotta. The recording will be released on the Toccata label in London and distributed worldwide.

Sinigaglia's "Opus 41," composed in 1926, is a "first-rate" sonata for cello and piano, and a significant contribution to the cello-piano repertoire, Phillip Silver says.

"I can unequivocally say that this is one of the most appealing works I've come across in many years of research," says Silver, an internationally acknowledged musicologist and authority on composers of the Holocaust Era.

Silver discovered the work through his ongoing research on the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. While looking through documents at the IPO archives in Tel Aviv, he came upon the program from a 1938 concert by the orchestra, conducted by Toscanini, which included an orchestral work by Sinigaglia -- an unknown name to Silver. Tangential research to learn something about the composer led Silver to uncover Sinigaglia's large and never recorded chamber works.

"I would say with almost complete certainty that it hasn't been performed in 40-50 years," Silver says. "This work is long out of print, and because copyright is still in effect, it took a considerable amount of time and effort to obtain an authorized photocopy from the publisher. However, the quality of the piece made the effort completely worthwhile; it really is a very fine and enjoyable work."

The Silvers' Feb. 9 recital at UMaine will consist of music by French and Italian composers, including the highly dramatic "Sonata in C minor" by Camille Saint-Saens, the poignant "Elegie" by Darius Milhaud, in addition to Sinigaglia's sonata for cello and piano. The performance is at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall. Admission is \$6 and free for UMaine students with a university ID.

Silver, who also has been teaching at Colby College under the joint auspices of the Jewish Studies and Music

departments there, also will present two lectures on music of the Holocaust era, at 1 p.m. on March 9 at the Congregation Beth Abraham in Bangor, and at 7 p.m., March 10, at the Klahr Center at the University of Maine at Augusta, under the auspices of the Maine Holocaust Human Rights Center.

His lecture, "Music of the Holocaust," is part of a series, "Hitler's Holocaust." The series will take place in both Bangor and Augusta venues in February, March, April and May with other lecturers coming from Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, Northwestern University and Alabama State University. Scholars from Germany and China are also participating.

Fellowships Worth Up to \$24,000 Available for Future Teachers

04 Feb 2008

Contact: Prof. Mark Brewer, 207-581-1863

The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally endowed and privately funded program designed to strengthen instruction about the Constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 2008 for master's degree level graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. College seniors and college graduate who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government, or social studies are eligible for the fellowships.

Through a nationwide competition, James Madison Fellowships will be awarded to at least one legal resident of each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the other U.S. territories. After completing study under their fellowships, James Madison Fellows are required to teach American history, American government or social studies in grades 7-12 for a minimum of one year for each academic year of graduate assistance they receive.

Fellowships carry a maximum stipend of \$24,000 for up to two years of full-time study for college graduates, which is used to cover the costs of tuition, required fees, books, and room and board.

Fellows must enroll in graduate programs leading to master's degrees in American history, political science, or education offered by any accredited U.S. university. Participation in an accredited four-week Summer Institute held at Georgetown University on the principles, framing, ratification and implementation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights is required of all Fellows, normally during the summer after the commencement of study. Fellows' attendance at the Summer Institute is paid for by the Madison Foundation.

Details about the program may be obtained on campus from Prof. Mark Brewer or the James Madison Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 4030, Iowa city, Iowa 52243-4030; telephone 1-800-525-6928, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., central time; e-mail madison@act.org. The 2008 James Madison Fellowship application must be completed online. The application and supporting materials may be found on the Foundation's website: www.jamesmadison.com.

Application materials and all supporting documents must be received by March 1.

UMaine Team Develops a New Method to Make Composites

04 Feb 2008

Contact: Roberta Laverty at (207) 581-2110

ORONO -- Fabrics, wood, concrete, ceramics and other materials are often infused with resin to produce a stronger,

more durable composite product -- in the marine, automotive, construction and other industries. Researchers at the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center have recently invented a revolutionary new process for producing high performance, cost-competitive composite materials through resin infusion.

Barry Goodell, professor of Wood Science and Technology in the College of Natural Sciences Forestry and Agriculture, Roberto Lopez-Anido, associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering, and former UMaine graduate student Ben Herzog, currently a scientist with APA -- The Engineered Wood Association, have been granted a patent for ComPRIS, the Composites Pressure Resin Infusion System.

ComPRIS improves on previous methods -- hand layup and vacuum resin transfer - by applying pressure to infuse resins to create composite materials. ComPRIS produces a more consistent, evenly distributed resin. It realizes both cost and labor savings, it provides the ability to produce more complex infusions and it is environmentally safer.

According to ComPRIS inventor Barry Goodell: "With the ComPRIS process we can produce very thick composite products without voids," Goodell says, "and we can do three things at once: laminate materials (such as lumber), as well as reinforce the laminate, and in addition provide greater long-term durability of the final product in the environment."

UMaine Professor, Colleagues Reveal Surprises in Sea Anemone Genome

05 Feb 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A team of international researchers, one of them a University of Maine professor, has discovered in a primitive starlet sea anemone the genes for a biochemical pathway that scientists had thought did not exist in animals.

Malcolm Shick, a professor of oceanography and zoology at the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, and six colleagues, including Walt Dunlap, a former UMaine Visiting Librarian now at the Australian Institute of Marine Science, published their findings recently in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The anemone, called *Nematostella vectensis*, is among the simplest of multicellular animals. A relative of the familiar jellyfish and corals, it has been studied extensively by evolutionary and developmental biologists.

Using a bioinformatics approach to "mine" the published genome of *Nematostella*, the researchers found that genes for some of the enzymes of the shikimic acid pathway, which is responsible for the production of dietary-essential amino acids, had been transferred to the animal from both bacterial and algal donors. The researchers say theirs is the first report of enzymes of that pathway being encoded in the genome of an animal.

The team also found that the anemone's published genetic sequences actually include many bacterial sequences that are not associated with the animal's genome. The researchers say this indicates the presence of unsuspected bacterial symbionts -- the smaller partners in a symbiotic relationship -- in the early developmental stages of the sea anemone.

Shick says the findings could help explain several seeming anomalies in the metabolic biochemistry of corals and sea anemones. Understanding the concept of "shared metabolic adaptation," in which both partners of a symbiosis are required for biosynthesis, could provide critical insight into the metabolic dysfunction caused by climate change and environmental stress.

Shick and a team that includes Dunlap and Paul Long, a University of London School of Pharmacy scientist who led the *Nematostella* research, are also investigating the biochemical and molecular bases of coral bleaching -- a condition in which corals under stress lose their symbiotic algae -- in response to climate change.

University of Maine Production of 'The Marriage of Figaro' Features a Student Cast, Orchestra and Chorus

06 Feb 2008

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; Margaret Nagle, 581-3745

ORONO -- An all-student cast, orchestra and chorus will bring to life the timeless themes of love, betrayal and forgiveness in the 18th-century comic opera "The Marriage of Figaro," Feb. 15-17 and Feb. 22-24 at the University of Maine.

The UMaine School of Performing Arts will offer six performances of the Mozart opera, sung in English, at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15-16 and Feb. 22-23; 2 p.m. Feb. 17 and Feb. 24 in Hauck Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 and available by calling the Maine Center for the Arts box office, 581-1755.

"Figaro" is UMaine

UMaine Dance Festival Feb. 23 to Showcase International Student Talent

06 Feb 2008

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine's fourth annual International Dance Festival will be held Saturday, Feb. 23, at Bangor High School's Peakes Auditorium, showcasing traditional costumes and homeland dances of some of the many international students on campus.

Because the event has grown in variety and participation since its inception, students this year will put on two performances, at 7 p.m. and at 2 p.m.

"We have more than 100 dancers, technical staff and coordinators participating from 20 different countries including United States," says Emin Okutan, a senior-year business student from Turkey, who is helping with the production.

The dance festival, which is free, is organized by the International Student Association, a student club representing the diverse international community on campus. The Office of International Programs cosponsors the event. The idea for an international dance festival originated with Pemba Lama, a student from Nepal who sought to create an event to pull local and international communities together and share the talent many of the university's international students bring to campus.

"The performances feature traditional steps from Korea, Mongolia, Latin America, Europe, South Asia, and the US and cover a wide range of styles," Okutan says. "The audience will be treated to the slow, fluid movements of Ki Chum, the Korean energy dance to the fast-paced black history performance featuring body percussion."

Students decided to hold the festival at Peakes Auditorium since the Maine Center for the Arts is closed and Peakes offers adequate seating and advanced staging.

"We also decided to have a matinee show this year, due to overwhelming success last year and our wish to share the performance with Bangor community, especially schools in the area," Okutan says. "The International Dance Festival is about the creating a high quality event, made possible by amateur spirit and energy. We aim to share all the colors and variety of UMaine through costumes, beats, sounds, light and soul."

Sarah Joughin, international student advisor, has seen the event grow in popularity.

"It has been rewarding to see the growing response to this event, both on campus and in the community," Joughin says.

"The first year, it was in Minsky Recital Hall and we had to really encourage students to participate. After the excitement generated by that performance, it was no longer a challenge to find dancers, but we worried that we would not have the audience to fill the new venue at the MCA.

"In 2007, our second year at the MCA, we performed to a packed house," she says. "It's pretty clear that it is something the community is really excited about."

The event's success also is reflected in the financial support the program has received from UMaine's Office of Student Affairs, Student Government and the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, Joughin says.

Free transportation for UMaine students for the evening show will be provided courtesy of the Office of International Programs and International Student Association. Students can catch a bus at the bus stop behind the Memorial Union at 5:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. Car-pooling also is encouraged.

Information about the dance festival is available by calling the Office of International Programs at 581-2905

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Women and Small Farms Are Topic of Feb. 12 Page Farm & Home Museum Talk

06 Feb 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100; Susan Watson, 947-6622, Ext. 5

ORONO -- Women operators of small, diversified farms in Maine is the subject of a brown bag lunch lecture at noon, Feb. 12 at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

The guest speaker for the free event is Susan Watson, a small farms coordinator with the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Heart of Maine Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) program in Bangor. She also serves as co-director for the Maine Women and Agricultural Network, helping women make the most of their farms, farm products and woodlots.

Watson owns and maintains a 26-acre farm in Garland, where she manages a flock of sheep and creates fiber art with hand-dyed and felted apparel and hooked rugs. Her work is produced from traditional methods of creating one of a kind fiber pieces that are both functional and an art form. Watson markets specialty meats and value-added products from her farm through the Newport Farmers and Artisan's Market, which she helped found last year.

Watson works with novice farmers and women interested in discovering innovative ways to produce value-added products from their farms, livestock or woodlots.

The number of small-scale farmers, particularly those operated by women, is increasing in Maine, where more than half of Maine farms operate on 99 acres or less. These farms may include a 1-3-acre vegetable operation catering to consumers wanting organic produce, a 20-acre blueberry operation, a small goat dairy operation or a farm that specializes in fiber production.

Interest in farming as a life style choice and the growth of consumer preference for specialty niche farm products has provided the opportunity for agricultural entrepreneurship to emerge as a catalyst for economic growth, making farming an important component in Maine's Creative Economy, according to Watson.

Small farms are very local in their service and their impact may play more of a role as energy costs skyrocket. The fastest growing sector in the agricultural community is women and beginner farmers. According to the U.S. Census, across the United States, from 1997 to 2002, the number of farms with women as principal operators increased 13.4

percent.

The Northeast kept pace with an 11.75 percent increase. Women-operated farms represent about 14.5 percent of all farms in the Northeast. Maine is the only Northeastern state among the top 10 in the nation -- sixth behind North Dakota, Wyoming, Minnesota, Colorado and Utah -- for the greatest growth in women-operated farms.

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UMaine Alumni Association and Phi Kappa Phi to Host Lecture

06 Feb 2008

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

ORONO, Me. -- The University of Maine Alumni Association, together with Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, will host a reception and lecture by noted climatologist A. Scott Denning, associate professor at Colorado State University and a 1984 University of Maine graduate.

Denning will speak on Thursday evening, Feb. 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at Donald P. Corbett Busness Building on the University of Maine campus. The topic of his lecture will be "Carbon-Climate Connections in the 21st Century."

The lecture will be preceded by a reception at 6:30 p.m. in the building's atrium. It is free and open to the general public, but guests are asked to RSVP to (207) 581-1185 or 1-800-934-2586.

Denning received his B.A. in Geological Sciences from the University of Maine in 1984. He went on to earn M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Atmospheric Science from Colorado State University in 1993 and 1994. After a two-year postdoctoral appointment modeling global sources and sinks of atmospheric carbon dioxide, he spent two years as an assistant professor in the Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California at Santa Barbara. He joined the Atmospheric Science faculty at Colorado State University in 1998 and in 2002 received CSU's prestigious Monfort Professor Award.

UMaine Business School Team Named National Competition Semifinalist

07 Feb 2008

Contact: Omar Khan, 581- 1949; George Manlove, 581-3756

Local students on successful business marketing team

(Students listed in this news release are from Farmingdale, Farmington, Lebanon, Orrington, Rockland, Wells and Winslow, Maine, and Ankara, Turkey.)

ORONO -- The UMaine student chapter of the American Marketing Association has been named one of eight semifinalist teams in one of the nation's most prestigious college business presentation competitions.

In their second year entering the national McGraw-Hill Higher Education Case Competition, and just three years after the revitalization of the UMaine AMA chapter, members of the case analysis and competition team were among 16 finalists or semifinalists selected in December to receive honors at the AMA international conference April 3 in New Orleans.

The case competition involved students from more than 60 of the country's top business schools analyzing a hypothetical business marketing dilemma and proposing marketing strategies. The case under consideration was to develop a marketing plan for a book publisher trying to market its products and services on the Internet.

The Maine Business School students proposed a realistic model that included "some very creative avenues," says Omar Khan, an assistant professor of marketing and chapter advisor. "They actually had this idea for an application that heightened the interactivity among the students, the professors and the book publisher."

Team members are: Morgan Bickford of Lebanon, Maine, chair of the case competition team, and Bethany Brown of Farmington; Heather Conary of Orrington, Joshua Lagasse of Wells; Bethany Mealey of Farmingdale; Emin Okutan of Ankara, Turkey; Julie Salvato of Winslow and Amy Shepard of Rockland.

"The feedback has been very positive," Khan says. "The faculty and administration are very proud of them. It's only their second year in the case competition and they've already made semifinalist. Things will only get better."

Competition organizers -- which include business school faculty members from around the country -- said they had the largest number of case submissions ever this year.

In New Orleans, the eight semifinalist teams will receive award plaques. The eight finalists will be narrowed in a follow-up contest to one winner. Khan says that, in addition to the case competition finals in April, teams will be judged in other competitive areas. The UMaine chapter also is a contender in these other areas.

At the same national conference two years ago, the UMaine AMA chapter received an Outstanding Community Service award and a Best Revitalized Chapter award, recognizing the resurgence of the group as a whole and the services it provides to the surrounding communities in the Orono area. More than 140 chapters competed for awards that year, and this year an even larger number of chapters are expected to compete at the nationals.

Case competition finalists this year included teams from Loyola University-New Orleans, Southern Connecticut State University, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Texas State University-San Marcos, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Western Michigan University.

In addition to UMaine, semi-finalists included Harding University, Kent State University, Northwood University, Rhode Island College, Salve Regina University, University of Cincinnati and the University of Utah.

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John Whalley Art at Lord Hall Galleries Feb. 8-March 21

07 Feb 2008

Contact: Laurie Hicks, (207) 581-3247/ 561-3354; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Department of Art is hosting an exhibit of drawings and paintings by Maine artist and American realist John Whalley at the Lord Hall Galleries Feb. 8-March 21.

An opening reception for "In Plain Sight, Drawings and Paintings by John Whalley" is scheduled Feb. 15, 5:30-7 p.m. An artist talk is scheduled at the gallery on the Orono campus from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Feb. 14. All events are free and open to the public. The newly renovated Lord Hall is completely accessible.

Whalley is known for his skillfully detailed and precise graphite drawings and still-life paintings. His inspiration and subject matter are derived from his appreciation for the hidden beauty he sees in the worn, weathered and often discarded mundane objects he finds near his home in Damariscotta, Maine.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Whalley graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design, and has traveled extensively. In art and in life, Whalley seeks to "discover the beautiful in unlikely places," he has said.

After spending many years helping to establish an orphanage in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where he and others, including his two sons, helped nurture and teach art to abandoned street children -- who Whalley calls "discarded kids" -- the artist's work now incorporates "forgotten tools."

In the last 30 years, Whalley's drawings and paintings have been exhibited widely across the United States, and his work was the subject of a major retrospective exhibition at the Georgia Museum of Art in 2001. He recently published a book about his work, *John Whalley, In New Light*, which is available at the University of Maine Bookstore, Borders and through Whalley's website (www.johnwhalley.com).

Whalley also was recently featured on the television show "Bill Green's Maine."

The exhibit and associated events are sponsored by the Art Department and a grant from the UMaine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

For exhibit information, contact the UMaine Department of Art at (207) 581-3245.

The Lord Hall Gallery is open 8 a.m. -- 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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UMaine Researchers Develop Breakthrough Composites Technology

11 Feb 2008

Contact: Barry Goodell (207) 581-2888; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Researchers at the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center have developed a new composite fabrication process that they hope will revolutionize the industry.

Their method involves the use of applied pressure to infuse polymer resins into fabrics, wood, concrete, ceramics and other materials to produce stronger, more durable composites for the marine, automotive, construction industries and others.

Barry Goodell, a professor of wood science and technology in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture; Roberto Lopez-Anido, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering in the College of Engineering, and Ben Herzog, a former UMaine grad student now working as a scientist with APA -- The Engineered Wood Association, were granted a patent for their Composites Pressure Resin Infusion System, or ComPRIS.

The process promises distinct advantages over such conventional methods as hand layup and vacuum resin transfer, the researchers say. The use of pressure produces a more consistent, evenly distributed resin infusion that saves both money and labor and is environmentally safer than other methods. It also allows fabricators to produce more complex infusions, including simultaneous laminating and reinforcement of other materials.

Goodell, one of the four founding faculty members of UMaine's world-class composites center, says the ComPRIS technology can produce very thick composite products without the microscopic voids caused by a vacuum process. Wood products can also be reinforced and laminated at the same time. When properly infiltrated with resin, wood becomes more stable and decay-resistant, thereby eliminating or reducing the need for preservative treatments.

Although the AEW Center does not produce composites commercially, it does make prototype products to attract

industrial partners who can help develop the technology.

Lecture to Focus on Humanities and the Land Grant Mission

12 Feb 2008

Contact: UMaine Center for Teaching Excellence, 581-3472

ORONO -- Jay Mechling, professor of American studies at the University of California, Davis, is scheduled to discuss the importance of the humanities at a land grant university, in a lecture Wednesday, Feb. 20, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the UMaine Memorial Union.

The talk is free and open to the public.

Mechling's perspectives are based on his experiences chairing the California Council for the Humanities and the committee that successfully competed for a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to establish the Pacific Regional Humanities Center at the University of California, Davis.

He will outline the role of the humanities in:

- Providing resources for living in communities, the workplace and the increasingly complex, transnational world;
- Imagining how new ways of thinking bring value to the social sciences and sciences;
- And the land grant mission to bring knowledge and understanding from the university to the community, build partnerships and understand how communities think, converse, work and play.

Mechling, a past editor of *Western Folklore* and president of the California Folklore Society, has published more than 80 essays and articles on a wide range of topics. His books include: *On My Honor: Boy Scouts and the Making of American Youth* (2001), *Children's Folklore: A Source Book* (co-editor 1995) and *American Wildlife in Symbol and Story* (co-editor 1987). He is one of the three senior editors for the four-volume *Encyclopedia of American Studies* (Grolier, 2001).

His lecture is sponsored by the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, Margaret Chase Smith Library, Center for Teaching Excellence, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Department of Communication & Journalism.

Further information is available by calling the UMaine Center for Teaching Excellence at 581-3472.

UMaine Economist Assesses Oxford County Slots Revenue Potential

12 Feb 2008

Contact: Todd Gabe, (207) 581-3307; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- New research by a University of Maine economist shows that a casino being proposed in Oxford County by Evergreen Mountain Enterprises could generate between \$89.3 million and \$99.8 million a year 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 casino patrons, however, it is impossible to determine how much of the nearly \$100 million would be new money to the region or cash that would have been spent there anyways on other goods and services.

"The projection of \$89 million to \$100 million is a little more than double what Hollywood Slots generated from their slots in 2007," Gabe says.

Voters will be asked in a statewide November referendum whether to allow Evergreen Mountain Enterprises to develop the state's first casino in Oxford County. While the resort would include games like black jack, craps and roulette, Gabe says slot machines alone typically generate in excess of 80 percent of a casino's total gaming revenue.

A casino would have a substantial economic impact on the local hospitality industry, Gabe says. The projected impact of \$89 million to \$100 million in slot machine revenue is more than double the \$37.5 million in total sales generated in 2006 by restaurants and hotels in the Rumford Economic Summary Area.

By comparison, slot machine revenue generated at Hollywood Slots in Bangor in 2006 was equivalent to about a fifth of the total hospitality sales in the Bangor Economic Summary Area, Gabe says.

Gabe's research assumes that a casino in Western Maine would attract Maine residents and visitors to the state staying within a two-and-a-half-hour drive of the proposed resort.

"Some of these areas are within the market area of Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun, so I had to account for the money that would be lost to these casinos in Connecticut," Gabe noted. The analysis shows that Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun would capture \$22.9 million to \$33.4 million of the money that would otherwise be spent at the proposed Oxford County facility.

Gabe emphasizes that the results of his study are intended to be just part of the information to be considered, along with other economic and non-economic issues, in the decision about the expansion of casino gaming into Western Maine. His report also does not take a position on whether a casino in Maine is good or bad, and he received no compensation for the analysis.

Gabe's estimates are based on analyses of other states and casinos, including Hollywood Slots, and it assumes visitors to a casino in Oxford County would gamble at the national average. Gabe notes that he excluded Nevada in his study, "because of Las Vegas' extraordinary nature as the 'gaming capital' of the United States and the large number of worldwide visitors that it attracts."

The Western Maine casino study continues to build on Gabe's 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.

UTC, UMaine Students Prepare for Robotics Competition

12 Feb 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- High school students from the United Technologies Center in Bangor and their mentors from the University of Maine have teamed up to build a robot that they hope will give its mechanical opponents a run for their money in an upcoming competition in Boston.

The public is invited to see the completed creation at an open house Feb. 18, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m, at the UTC Robotics

Lab at 200 Hogan Rd. in Bangor. The 15-member team, known as Fatal Error, will compete with their robot in the Boston regional of the 2008 FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition to be held March 27-29 at Boston University's Agganis Arena.

The robotics competition was started in 1992 by the entrepreneur Dean Kamen, inventor of the Segway personal transport device, to help high school students discover the rewards and excitement of science, engineering and technology.

This is the second year that the UMaine Robotics Club, made up mostly of engineering students, has mentored the UTC students. In its 2007 rookie year, the team placed 26th in the 49-team Hartford regional, says Ryan T. Foley, a 4th-year mechanical engineering major who founded the campus robotics club in 2006 and remains its vice president.

Beginning with a common kit of basic parts -- but no instructions -- the team has only about six weeks to design, build, program and test its robot, which will be shipped to Boston after its public unveiling. There, the Fatal Error robot -- 130 pounds, 4 -feet tall, with an arm that can reach 8-feet high -- will race competitors around a track and earn points by manipulating large inflated balls.

This year's competition will involve more than 37,500 high school students from every U.S. state as well as Brazil, Canada, Chile, Israel, Mexico, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The championship will be held in Atlanta in April.

UMaine Engineers to Unveil Blast-Resistant Wood Building Technology

15 Feb 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

COLLINS, MICHAUD TO PARTICIPATE IN TUESDAY, FEB. 19 EVENT

ORONO -- New technology, developed at the University of Maine, has led to the construction of a prototype blast-resistant wood building at the university's Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWC) Center. Sen. Susan Collins and U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud will be at the center on Tuesday Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. to unveil the building for the first time.

UMaine engineers, including undergraduate and graduate students, have constructed the building inside the AEWG facility. AEWG technology, including a design methodology and coating treatments applied to the construction material, gives the building properties that will allow it to withstand blasts and severe weather. This construction has potential applications for military troop deployments, homeland security and hurricane-resistant construction.

This project follows the AEWG development of ballistic tent panels for the U.S. Army. The prototype version of those panels, which go inside tents and protect soldiers living in combat situations from nearby blasts, was presented to the Army last year. That technology was recognized for the American Composites Manufacturing Association as the "Best of the Best," signifying its status as the top composites technology innovation in the world in 2007.

Sen. Olympia Snowe and Rep. Tom Allen will send representatives to help celebrate that award at the Feb. 19 UMaine event.

Prof. Habib Dagher, AEWG director, will host Tuesday's event, which will include UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Reed Mosher from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Scientists Map Extensive Human Toll on World's Oceans

15 Feb 2008

Contact: Robert Steneck (207) 581-3321; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The first global study of the impact of human influence on marine ecosystems reveals that more than 40 percent of the world's oceans are heavily affected by it and only a few remain untouched.

Robert Steneck, a professor at the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences and Darling Marine Center, was one of the 19 researchers who conducted the study at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Their paper, "The Global Map of Human Impact on Marine Ecosystems," was published in the Feb. 15 issue of the journal *Science* and presented at a press conference a day earlier at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston.

By overlaying maps of 17 different activities, such as fishing, pollution and climate change, the scientists were able to gauge for the first time the cumulative human toll on the world's seas. While past studies have concentrated largely on single marine ecosystems in isolation, or the effects of a single activity, this study synthesized the effects humans have on the entire ocean, from its coral reefs and seagrass beds to the continental shelves and the deep ocean.

"We scientists actually study a very small portion of the marine ecosystems," Steneck says. "About 90 percent of our observations come from a fraction of the ocean."

The researchers found that the most heavily affected waters include the North Sea, the South and East China seas, the Caribbean Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Bering Sea, several regions in the western Pacific and the east coast of North America.

The ecosystems most affected by human activity include coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves, seamounts, rocky reefs and shelves. Even the relatively pristine ecosystems near the poles face the risk of rapid degradation, the authors point out, as human activities spread into these regions and polar ice sheets disappear with global climate change.

And the human footprint present in Maine's oceans, Steneck says, is big indeed.

"We have as disrupted a food web here as there is on the planet," he says. "The ground fish are greatly diminished and we have very low biodiversity."

The researchers suggest that their report, while troubling, should be regarded not as an admission of defeat but as a much-needed wake-up call for better ocean conservation measures in the future. And one of the most promising ways to achieve that in Maine, Steneck says, is through an area-based management approach in which the fishermen themselves take responsibility for the coastal zones that provide their livelihood.

"Just as farmers wouldn't intentionally degrade their own land, fishermen are going to mind their own stocks more carefully because they have the most invested in them," Steneck says. "The idea is to take back marine conservation one area at a time, by the fishermen who have the biggest stake in the process."

To view and download the maps of human influence on the oceans, visit the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis website at

<http://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/GlobalMarine>

Moon Eclipse Perfect for Maine Sky Watchers

15 Feb 2008

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Here comes a total eclipse of the moon, perfectly timed for Maine viewers.

UMaine's Maynard F. Jordan Observatory will open for the eclipse on Wednesday night and welcomes all visitors who would like to see the eclipsing moon through the university's telescope, in addition to the unaided eye. Weather permitting, the observatory will be open and admission is free from 8:30-11 p.m.

"This event is wonderful to see from the back yard with no optics, but it is also fun to watch the lunar mountains and craters as they move into the shroud of Earth's shadow," says Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium Director Alan Davenport. A student staff will be on hand to answer questions and hand out information leaflets.

The eclipse starts when the moon rises in the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 20, and many schools are closed so students can stay up late to enjoy it. Davenport says area stargazers may recall the lunar eclipse last fall did not cooperate very well, and was seen only briefly as the moon set in the morning twilight. The next lunar eclipse for Maine will not occur until the end of 2010, so sky watchers are hoping for good weather Wednesday night.

The Jordan Planetarium in Wingate Hall also is featuring a moon show, "Moon Shadows," on Saturdays this month, and will offer a matinee showing Wednesday at 1 p.m. in anticipation of the lunar eclipse. Reservations for that Feb. 20 star theater program are recommended and can be made by calling 581-1341. Admission is \$3 per person.

Davenport says many people assume that the phases of the moon are caused by the Earth's shadow falling on it. That is only the case, however, during lunar eclipses. This image of the partially eclipsed Moon clearly shows the edge of Earth's shadow and how much larger it is than the Moon's phase shadows.

When the eclipse starts Wednesday, the full moon will make contact with the dark shadow of the Earth, beginning a partial eclipse at 8:42 p.m. The total eclipse occurs when the moon becomes entirely darkened at 10 p.m. and lasts until 10:51 p.m. At that point, the moon begins to exit the shadow, eventually returning to its brilliant full phase at 12:09 a.m.

"During totality, our natural satellite will be spookily dark but visible in the deep orange glow from earth's atmosphere," says Davenport. "Eclipse watchers are always anxious to see what brightness and color the Moon will wear when in totality, because it is different every time."

The Earth's atmosphere bends the Sun's red light around the curved edge of the Earth, he explains. The exact color of the glow and its darkness depend on the aerosol levels in our atmosphere. It is affected by recent volcano eruptions, cloud cover, storm activity and human pollution around the globe.

Nearby, the moon, the planet Saturn and the bright star Regulus in Leo the Lion will beam brightly during the total eclipse, Davenport says, and telescopes can capture other deep space objects during that dark 51 minutes of totality.

For more information, contact Alan Davenport at the University of Maine Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium at 581-1341, or visit the planetarium website at www.galaxymaine.com.

Exhibits, Demonstrations For All Ages at 2008 Maine Engineering Expo

15 Feb 2008

Contact: Chet Rock (207) 581-2218; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- About 60 of Maine's top engineering firms, engineering schools, government agencies and industries will be on hand Saturday, March 1, at the University of Maine Field House for the 2008 Engineering Expo.

The "Brain Power 08" expo, which will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and feature a variety of engineering-related demonstrations and exhibits for the public, is the highlight of the annual Maine Engineers Week, Feb. 25-March 1.

The Maine Society of Professional Engineers and the University of Maine will kick off the program Friday, Feb. 29, with a full-day continuing education symposium at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House. The seminar, which includes a buffet lunch and refreshments throughout the day, is a chance for working engineers to earn six professional development hours.

Friday evening, at the Penobscot Valley Country Club in Orono, the Maine Engineering Promotion Council and its sponsors will host the Maine Engineers Week Banquet. The festivities, which begin with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by the 6:45 p.m. dinner, allow engineers and their families to meet others in the profession and renew old friendships.

This year's banquet speaker will be Mike Fisher, managing director of NASCAR's Research and Development Center. Fisher will offer an insider's view of the integral role that engineers now play on every NASCAR team, where they specialize in data collection, analysis, research and development.

Organizers say the 2008 expo promises to be the biggest ever, with more than 1,000 children and adults expected to show up at the UMaine Field House. The first 500 kids through the door will get a free T-shirt celebrating Maine Engineers Week, and everyone is invited to enjoy the exhibits and hands-on activities intended to introduce young people to the exciting world of science and engineering and to the many contributions engineers make to our communities.

To register for the banquet (the deadline is Feb. 20), call Be Schonewald, of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. in Portland, at (207) 879-9190, or e-mail schonewald@gza.com.

Attorney General Rowe at UMaine Feb. 26

18 Feb 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine Attorney General G. Steven Rowe will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday, Feb. 26 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Rowe 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.

A former Speaker of the Maine House, Rowe has been the state's attorney general since January, 2001. He is a graduate of the University of Maine School of Law.

News coverage possibilities exist during the 1-4:15 p.m. time frame, when Rowe will visit several UMaine facilities: the Sen. George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research in Norman Smith Hall (1-2 p.m.); the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (2:15-3 p.m.); the Forest Bioproducts Refinery Initiative in Jenness

Hall (3:10-3:50 p.m.); the Foster Student Innovation Center (4-4:20 p.m.)

UMaine Accepting "ArtWorks" Registration for Spring Session

19 Feb 2008

Contact: Laurie Hicks, 581-3247; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Art is accepting applications for the spring 2008 after-school ArtWorks program for area children in kindergarten through grade 7.

ArtWorks classes will be held March 21-April 18, from 3:30-5 p.m., on consecutive Friday afternoons 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 will be supervised by Laurie Hicks, professor of art.

The application deadline is March 10. Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis until the class maximum of 22 students is reached. 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.

For more information or to obtain registration forms, please contact Laurie Hicks at laurie.hicks@umit.maine.edu or call the Art Department at 581-3245.

Fogler Library to Host Cartographer Michael Hermann and Penobscot Tribal Historian James Francis

21 Feb 2008

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, Web and Public Relations Specialist
University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library
5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library, Orono, ME
04469-5729
207-581-1696

ORONO -- Henry David Thoreau was not just another Maine tourist. The essays Thoreau wrote about his journeys and experiences in the Maine woods reflect a deep understanding of the spiritual importance of wilderness. Thanks to a collaboration between the Thoreau-Wabanaki Trail Committee, Maine Woods Forever, and the University of Maine Press, a new generation of travelers can follow in the footsteps of the renown naturalist with the Thoreau-Wabanaki Trail Map and Guide.

The public is invited to learn more about this project on Wednesday, Febr. 27, when UMaine cartographer Michael Hermann and Penobscot Nation Tribal Historian James Francis visit Fogler Library. To be held in Special Collections from 3-4 p.m., "The Process of Map Design: equal cartographic voice" will be an opportunity to understand more about the trails taken by Thoreau and the Penobscot Indian guides who accompanied him, as well as the unique collaborative process that led to the map's creation.

Previous maps simply drew a line plotting Thoreau's route. Hermann created a map that locates his narrative within the landscape. The reader literally 'reads' the map as they follow the routes and add Thoreau's words. Hermann says, "It is a genre known as mapping narrative. This piece developed into an example of ethical mapping concerning the restoration of native voice."

Because Thoreau's words dominated the map, Hermann was challenged to bring a Native voice to the project. His work with James Frances, Penobscot Tribal Historian, broadened the scope of the map to include Penobscot place names in addition to a selection of Thoreau's quotes specific to his Indian guides. Francis reflects, "One of Thoreau's biggest contributions to Penobscot history was the documentation of Penobscot place names." He notes, "Thoreau once wrote in his journals that 'the Indian language reveals another wholly new life to us.' By having contact with Penobscot men, Thoreau discovered a new, more informed view of Native Americans, moving from his na

Philosophy Colloquium Presenting Talk on 'Invisibility of Painting'

21 Feb 2008

Contact: George Manlove: 207-581-3756

ORONO -- The UMaine Philosophy Colloquium Series invites the public to a lecture today at 4:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. The speaker is John Sallis, the Frederick J. Adelman Professor of Philosophy at Boston College.

Sallis will present and discuss his paper, "The Invisibility of Painting." An authority on continental philosophy, Sallis has authored 16 books, including "Shades: Of Painting at the Limit," "Topographies," "On Translation," "Force of Imagination: The Sense of the Elemental," and the newly published "The Verge of Philosophy."

The lecture will explore various ways in which a certain relation to invisibility belongs to the very nature of painting. Such a relationship is suggested by the gaps that occur in the painter's vision and by the creative anticipation of the scene to be painted, according to the speaker.

The event is sponsored by the University of Maine's chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, an honor society dedicated to the study of philosophy.

Nobel Laureate F. Sherwood Rowland, Ozone Researcher, to Speak at UMaine

22 Feb 2008

Contact: Prof. Mark Wells (207) 581-4322; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- F. Sherwood Rowland, who shared the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1995 for his pioneering work on the formation and depletion of atmospheric ozone, will deliver a lecture March 13, at the University of Maine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Rowland, a professor of chemistry and earth system science at the University of California, Irvine, is scheduled to speak at 4:30 p.m. The event, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by UMaine's School of Marine Sciences, Climate Change Institute, Department of Chemistry and the Maine Section of the American Chemical Society. Rowland's afternoon seminar is titled "Our Changing Atmosphere: The Ozone Hole and Carbon Dioxide." A reception will follow.

Rowland and Mario Molina, now a professor at the University of California, San Diego, published a widely noted and controversial paper in the journal *Nature* in 1974 on the threat to the ozone layer from chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases

known as freons. The gases were common at the time in aerosol spray cans, as the cooling medium in refrigerators, in plastic foams and other industrial applications.

Rowland and Molina had based their findings on the important contributions of scientists such as James Lovelock of England, who invented the ultrasensitive electron capture detector that allowed him, in 1970, to measure extremely low amounts of organic gas in the atmosphere. With his device, Lovelock revealed that man-made, chemically inert CFC gases had already spread throughout the atmosphere in both the northern and southern hemispheres.

Paul Crutzen of the Netherlands had also found in 1970 that nitrogen oxides acted as catalysts in the depletion of ozone. Two American scientists, Richard Stolarski and Ralph Cicerone, revealed the same ozone-destroying process with regard to chlorine atoms in the atmosphere.

In 1973, Rowland and Molina discovered that the CFC gases they studied were capable of remaining in the atmosphere for a century or more. They also found that the destruction of these molecules by intense solar ultraviolet radiation released chlorine atoms, causing a chain reaction capable of depleting a significant fraction of the Earth's protective stratospheric ozone layer.

Their article the next year received a great deal of attention, not all of it favorable. The CFC gases were widely used back then, after all, and thought to be environmentally safe. Rowland and Molina's findings did generate sufficient environmental concern, however, that certain restrictions were placed on the release of CFC in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In 1985, the debate over CFCs spread worldwide when the Englishman James Farmer and his colleagues observed a massive springtime loss of ozone over Antarctica, and a smaller loss in the temperate zones of the northern hemisphere. Both depletions were found to be caused chiefly by industrially manufactured gases.

Under the Montreal Protocol of the United Nations, established in 1987, the CFC compounds are now banned worldwide.

For their valuable scientific contributions, Rowland, Molina and Crutzen were awarded the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1995. In announcing the prize, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences remarked: "The thin ozone layer has proved to be an Achilles heel that may be seriously injured by apparently moderate changes in the composition of the atmosphere. By explaining the chemical mechanisms that affect the thickness of the ozone layer, the three researchers have contributed to our salvation from a global environmental problem that could have catastrophic consequences."

For more information on Rowland's campus appearance, call Susanne Thibodeau, at the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, at (207) 581-4381

People associated with the Climate Change Institute and others can meet with Rowland from 11 a.m. to noon, in the third floor conference room of the Edward Bryand Global Sciences Center. Rowland will be available to members of the chemistry and engineering departments and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology in Room 354 of Aubert Hall from 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., the School of Marine Sciences from 2:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., and both graduate and undergraduate students from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The time slots are meant only as a general guide, however, and people are welcome to attend any session they wish.

"We encourage all to participate, as it will enrich the exchange on this critical issue facing our future," says Mark Wells, professor in the School of Marine Sciences.

Those with questions or specific requests should call Wells at 581-4322 or e-mail him at mlwells@maine.edu.

Vincent Hartgen, Maine Artist, Featured in New Book on his Art, Legacy

26 Feb 2008

Contact: Carl Little at little@prexar.com, 207-667-9735
Stephen Hartgen at Stephen_Hartgen@hotmail.com. or 208-420-6761.

Orono, Maine, Feb. 21, 2008 ' Vincent Hartgen, the prolific Maine artist who founded the University of Maine Art Department, the University of Maine Museum of Art, and advanced arts in the state through a lifetime of promotion and creative works of his own, is the subject of a new biography and art monograph by Maine arts essayist, Carl Little, and the artist's sons, David and Stephen Hartgen.

Vincent Andrew Hartgen: His Art and Legacy is scheduled for printing in March by The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, for the private imprint publisher, Wildflower Lane Publishing. The book will be available over the internet, through Maine commercial bookstores, and at the University of Maine Bookstore, Orono.

The volume is the first book-length treatment of Hartgen and his art. It includes nearly 50 color plates of Hartgen's much-appreciated watercolors of landscapes and seascapes of the Maine coast, woods and fields, and more than 40 drawings by the artist. The works were chosen from private collections as well as from the UMMA's holdings of Hartgen's works, the Vincent Hartgen Teaching Collection at the University of Maine Art Department and nearly 20 public and museum collections from across the nation, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; and the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN.

Hartgen died in 2002 at age 88. He was a prolific artist who produced an estimated 2,000 signed paintings and drawings in his long career and an equal number of sketches and demonstrations. His works are held in many Maine collections, including Colby College, Farnsworth Museum, Portland Museum of Art and the University of New England. The book contains an extensive "Known Works Inventory" of the artist's works, allowing owners of Hartgen art to trace the provenances of their holdings.

Carl Little is the author of more than a dozen books on art, including books on Winslow Homer, John Singer Sargent and Edward Hopper. He is frequent lecturer and contributor to magazines and newspapers on Maine and New England art. His extended essay in the book examines Hartgen as an important Maine painter, and the artists's legacy of building the University's art collections, and his renown as a dynamic lecturer who introduced thousands of University of Maine students to the world of fine arts. Little is public communications director at the Maine Community Foundation, Ellsworth. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College, and holds an MFA from Columbia University.

David Hartgen, Ph.D., is professor emeritus at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, N.C. He is a graduate of Duke University and holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University in Civil Engineering. For the book on his father, he contributes the extended "Known Works Inventory" and a profile of the artist's productivity and varying styles through his long career in Maine, from the 1940s to 2002.

Stephen Hartgen, Ph.D. is the book's chief editor. A retired newspaper publisher, he runs a public policy and media relations firm in Twin Falls, Idaho. He began his journalism career at the Bangor Daily News while attending Amherst College and is the co-author of a leading public affairs reporting textbook, *New Strategies For Public Affairs Reporting* (Prentice-Hall, 1984). He holds a Ph.D. in American History from the University of Minnesota.

Little's essay draws extensively on the Hartgen archive collection at the Fogler Library, University of Maine, as well as from an extended bibliography of newspaper and magazine articles on the artist from the 1950s through 2007. Premier examples of Hartgen's collecting efforts at the UMMA were featured in 2007 at the museum's Bangor center, as well as several paintings and drawings by Hartgen in the UMMA collection. The artist is honored with the "Vincent Hartgen Lecture Hall" at the University of Maine's remodeled Lord Hall and with a number of his paintings on permanent display on the Orono campus.

Little concludes that "Vincent Har

Area High School Students Gathering Feb. 28 for Junior Achievement-Bank of America Titan (Business) Challenge

27 Feb 2008

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

ORONO -- Students from five area high schools and 10 area businesses will team up Thursday, Feb. 28, for the Junior Achievement-Bank of America Titan Challenge, part of Maine's observance of National Entrepreneurship Week.

Ten student teams will compete at the Foster Student Innovation Center at UMaine in Orono and 20 teams will compete simultaneously at the Glickman Library on the University of Southern Maine campus in Portland. Competitions begin at 8:45 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m. in both locations.

The Titan Challenge pits teams consisting of three high school students and one volunteer business advisor from the community against each other to run the most profitable company.

In the afternoon, using an Internet communication technology known as Skype, winning teams in each area will compete for the state title. Former Gov. Angus King will be on hand in Portland to oversee the awarding of savings bonds to winning teams.

Based on Junior Achievement's high school simulation program, the Titan Challenge places high school students in the CEO's seat and increases their understanding of the real world of business. Young entrepreneurs will be taught about the nuances of running a global business in a competitive, high-tech marketplace.

Students will have complete authority to manage and operate their own virtual business. Success depends on how well they manage key decisions including: how much money to spend on research and development; what new innovations to add to their product; how to price their product; what to spend on marketing and how it affects sales; making recommendations for capital investment based on set parameters; and how much to produce and how it affects price, sales and profit.

Teams are challenged to think like companies and try to outperform the competition in profit, sales and market share. Business decisions made on-line during the competition can affect and be affected by other companies in the competition.

Participating high school teams and business at UMaine include: Bangor, Brewer, Central (Corinth), Hermon and John Bapst high schools and Bangor Frameworks, University Credit Union, Morgan Stanley, Johnson Management Group, LLC, The Bangor Letter Shop, Ryder Transportation Services, Home Design Center, Bangor Savings Bank, Maine Savings Federal Credit Union and Bank of America.

The Foster Student Innovation Center at the University of Maine is hosting the event with cooperation from graduate students in the Maine Business School and SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise, an entrepreneurs club) from Maine Maritime Academy.

In Portland, participants include Biddeford, Gorham, Greely, Oak Hill (Wales), Old Orchard Beach and Portland high schools and Lewiston Regional Technical Center. Southern Maine businesses include Synernet, Inc., Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Bank of America, AAA Northern New England, Bangor Savings Bank, Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution, Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Hannaford Bros. Co., Robillard Insurance, Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce, Sanford-Springvale Chamber, Bangor Savings Bank and Kennebunk Art Studio.

At USM, the challenge is being hosted by USM's School of Business, including the L.L. Bean /Lee Surace Endowed

Chair of Accounting, with assistance from Students in Free Enterprise at USM. Lead sponsor for the event is Bank of America. Additional financial sponsors include Diversified Business Communications, Synernet, The Galen Cole Family Foundation and WABI TV5.

Lenovo is providing the computers for the event in Orono.

Junior Achievement of Maine is a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching children about business and economics. During the 2006-2007 school year, JA of Maine served more than 9,600 students in grades K-12 across the state with the support of more than 350 classroom volunteers.

Do Different Types of Potatoes Affect Appetite? UMaine Graduate Student Recruiting Women for Appetite Study Focusing on Potatoes

28 Feb 2008

Contact: Danielle Meyer at (207) 581-1733

ORONO-- University of Maine graduate student Danielle Meyer, working with Dept. of Food Sciences and Human Nutrition Prof. Mary-Ellen Camire, is looking for women between the ages of 30 and 50 for an appetite study involving potatoes. Volunteers who complete all sessions of the study will receive \$100 compensation.

Some people believe that the potato, a Maine agricultural staple, makes one feel more full after meals and then eat less at later meals. This study will look at different types of potatoes served as part of a lunch provided by the researchers. This study may uncover the role of the potato as a potential tool for weight management.

Although many believe that potatoes are just a source of carbohydrates, potatoes are also rich in potassium, vitamin C, dietary fiber and antioxidants. These healthful vegetables are easily prepared and affordable. Although potatoes are most commonly fried, when prepared other ways they are a sensible option for people who want to control their weight. This research project will evaluate different types of potatoes and different methods of preparation to compare their effects on appetite compared to a rice side dish.

Encouraging the consumption of locally grown produce helps not only foster a sense of community but also helps local farmers. It is important to note that consumption of fresh potatoes has been steadily declining by 2% each year since 1991. The potential demonstration of reduced appetite after potato consumption will provide support for local potato processors and the Maine Potato Board to promote potato consumption within the context of a healthy diet.

For additional information please contact Danielle Meyer and or Prof. Camire at 581-1733 or email Danielle.McMann@umit.maine.edu. Additional information about the study can be found at <http://www.fsn.umaine.edu/news.htm>. Funding for the project is provided by the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Danielle Meyer is currently a candidate for a UMaine master's degree in Food Science and Human Nutrition. She is recently from Tallahassee, Fla., where she graduated from Florida State University.

Student Research Opportunities Expanded for UMaine Supercomputer

28 Feb 2008

Contact: Yifeng Zhu (207) 581-2499 Bruce Segee (207) 581-2212 Tom Weber (207) 581-3777 ORONO -- Two

innovative programs being launched at the University of Maine will allow college undergraduates as well as middle-school teachers and their students to experience firsthand the extraordinary educational potential of supercomputer technology. The Supercomputing Undergraduate Program in Maine (SuperMe), funded by a \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, is an opportunity for 10 UMaine undergraduate students to spend the summer conducting the kind of sophisticated, meaningful scientific research that is usually reserved for more advanced students. "There's lots of really good research going on here, but it's predominantly done by faculty members and graduate students," says Yifeng Zhu, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering who established the three-year program with Bruce Segee, an associate professor in the department. "This kind of undergrad research is fairly unusual." The program runs for 10 weeks, from May 27 through Aug. 1. Any undergraduate in the science or engineering fields -- only U.S. citizens are eligible under NSF rules -- is welcome to apply by the March 14 deadline. Those students selected will receive a \$4,000 stipend, dining and housing support as well as reimbursement for traveling expenses. Under the guidance of nine UMaine faculty members, the students will be able to explore a wide range of research opportunities, from developing supercomputing techniques and tools to solving cutting-edge problems through parallel computing and scientific data visualization. The goal of the program, the professors say, is to allow students to perform modeling experiments with the university's 512-processor cluster supercomputer that would be impossible to create in real life because of time and safety considerations. By running simulation software on the supercomputer, students could examine the outcome of a chemical spill in the Penobscot River, for example, or study models of algae blooms in the ocean or the effects of fertilizer runoff in the environment. "We hope that this kind of research experience will motivate students to go on to higher degrees," says Zhu. With a separate \$1.2 million NSF grant, Segee, Zhu and Peter Koons, an associate professor of geological sciences, will also begin a three-year program on March 15 that aims to integrate supercomputer modeling into the Maine middle-school science curriculum. Called Inquiry-based Dynamic Earth Applications of Supercomputing (IDEAS), the program will allow 20 middle-school teachers and 60 of their students each year to explore the myriad intricacies of UMaine's climate computer model by accessing the supercomputer with their state-issued laptops. "The students can ask questions by picking parameters," says Segee, the lead researcher on the IDEAS program, "and then see the results in an image on 20 laptop screens at once, set up in a tile display." Students and teachers will work in their schools with UMaine researchers during the academic year, and at the university during summer workshops. The workshops will coincide with the Master of Science in Teaching Program conference called "Integrating Science and Mathematics Education Research into Teaching" and the "Student Tech Team" conference of the Middle Level Education Institute. This year's IDEAS program will involve member schools of the Penobscot River Educational Partnership, and Segee and Zhu say they hope to eventually reach all middle schools in the state. "In targeting middle-school teachers," Segee says, "we're trying to make information-technology knowledge a happy side effect rather than just one more thing in the curriculum."

UMaine Engineering Students Spending Spring Break Assessing Honduran Village Water Problems

29 Feb 2008

Contact: Jean MacRae, 581-2137
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Last year, civil engineering undergraduates Heather Martin and Lee Rand joined a group of other UMaine students visiting a small, poverty-stricken community in Honduras over spring break as part of a Spanish language service-learning class.

While some in the group led by Spanish professor Kathleen March worked with orphanages, handed out toothbrushes and toothpaste in schools, volunteered in nursing homes and health clinics, the engineering students looked at water and sanitation problems in the tiny village of Dulce Vivir, part of the community of Dulce Nombre in western Honduras.

"Seeing how most of the people lived, the water they drank, the food they got -- even the houses they lived in -- was a massive shock," Rand recalls. "They had a massive disease problem stemming from insufficient outhouses."

Since then, Martin and Rand helped establish a UMaine chapter of Engineers Without Borders and have embarked on a three-year project to see how engineering students at UMaine can help with water and sanitation improvements in Dulce

Vivir and Dulce Nombre.

Today, 13 UMaine students, including three future engineers, left for two weeks in the city of Santa Rosa de Copan and nearby Dulce Nombre to continue for a fifth year spring break volunteer work in the area.

Mike Parker, a sophomore mechanical engineering student from Bradford, Maine, says the group from the College of Engineering will begin an assessment of the water problems and see what might be done to improve water quality and sanitation.

Large-scale infrastructure changes are unlikely, says Parker, because the residents might not have the resources to maintain and operate, let alone pay for, such a system. "If they would have the capacity to handle something like that and we would have the resources, that would be an option," he says. "Probably we'll be looking at smaller-scale options."

In addition to Parker, engineering students Brandon Newman and Elizabeth Zelnic and biology and philosophy major Kelly McGuirl are joining March, who is leading her fifth student visit to the Dulce Nombre area.

The people of Dulce Nombre have welcomed the UMaine students to follow up on preliminary work done last year, according to March, who first established a relationship with the people of Dulce Nombre five years ago.

"It's a country that has so much need. Honduras is the second poorest country in Latin America, after Haiti," March says. "In all of Honduras you cannot drink the water. Everybody in the Dulce Vivir community has dengue fever because of the mosquitoes and the pools of water and the waste situation."

Jean MacRae, associate professor of civil and environmental engineering and faculty adviser to the UMaine chapter of Engineers Without Borders (UM-EWB), says the project is a good opportunity for UMaine students to put their skills to work.

"I think that what UM-EWB does is to offer an opportunity for a transformative experience where students and the rest of us get to see what is really going on in the world," she says.

Adds Charles Friedman, a civil engineering student and a cofounder of UM-EWB, "We think that there is a huge potential at UMaine for engineering students to work on service projects and make an impact in the world and locally. Sustainability is a big topic that is going to be big in the future, and Engineers Without Borders is a way for that to happen and I am really excited about the future of that."

UM-EWB is collaborating with UMaine's Central America Service Association (CASA) for the trip. Under March's leadership, CASA has been participating in service projects in the community since 2004, including supporting the construction and development of a library and a healthcare clinic. In the process, CASA has built relationships that are vital to the success of each trip.

March, the faculty adviser of CASA, is accompanying students majoring in Spanish, nursing, international affairs, in addition to engineering. An engineering mentor, Robert Sypitkowski of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection who has worked on water-supply and sanitation projects in Indonesia and Sudan, also will participate.

The 13 UMaine students comprise an interdisciplinary and collaborative group. Nursing students will provide medical expertise, engineering students will provide engineering skills, while the Spanish language students will provide the communication bridge between the students and the community. The students will work on their own projects in the community while collaborating with each other as needed, according to March.

Expenses for the engineering students are being augmented by donations from UMaine Student Government, the College of Engineering, Nancy Morse Dysart Travel Support Program and several private donors. CASA has been raising funds and collecting educational materials and books, clothing, medical and dental supplies for the trip for several months. The UMaine Bookstore also has contributed books for the students to take to Honduras.

March 26 Lecture to Explore Jewish Folklore

04 Mar 2008

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848

ORONO -- The Maine Folklife Center is presenting a lecture Wednesday, March 26, by University of Pennsylvania professor Dan Ben Amos, author and scholar on Jewish, Eastern European and Middle Eastern folklore.

"Is There a Jewish Mother in Jewish Folklore?" is the title of the talk, which is free and open to the public. It is scheduled from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union on the Orono campus.

Ben Amos's appearance also will include a discussion of his recent publication *Folktales of the Jews*, a five-volume series to be released over the next several years. Volume 1, *Tales from the Sephardic Dispersion*, and Volume II, *Tales from Eastern Europe*, will be available at Ben Amos's talk. Both books won the National Jewish Book Awards on Sephardic Culture. The 71 tales have been selected from the Israel Folktale Archives at the University of Haifa, Israel.

A professor of folklore and Asian and Middle Eastern studies, Ben Amos was educated at Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Indiana University, where he earned a master's degree and doctorate.

The lecture is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, departments of English and Anthropology, and the Anthropology Club at UMaine.

Additional information is available by calling the Maine Folklife Center at the University of Maine at 581-1891.

Professors to Discuss Landmark Hazing Study in Boston March 11

05 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3517;

Jazz Classics on Tap for April 1 Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert

07 Mar 2008

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

ORONO -- Members of the University of Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present their formal spring concert at Leonard and Renee Minsky Recital Hall in the Class of 1944 Hall on the University of Maine Tuesday, April 1, at 7:30 pm.

The organization, established in the fall of 2006 in conjunction with the introduction of the new minor in jazz studies, is a group of several soloists or small ensembles performing with piano accompaniment. This semester's group consists of 16 musicians, representing a variety of instruments. The organization emphasizes the development of skills in the art of jazz improvisation, in addition to developing what scholars call "the other salient aspect of jazz, swing feeling," according to associate professor of music Karel Lidral, who directs the Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble and is adviser for the minor in jazz studies and minor in music.

Since performers do not audition to join, instrumentalists at all levels are able to participate in the ensemble at their own

ability levels. This semester's organization ranges from first-year students to graduate students, all from a wide variety of majors.

In the Chamber Jazz Ensemble, the standard jazz rhythm section -- usually piano, bass and drums -- is replaced by the piano in the same spirit that orchestral reductions for the piano are used by recitalists in the classical realm, according to Lidral.

The concert program includes great jazz standards and originals from: "Blue Seven" by Sonny Rollins, "Cottontail" by Duke Ellington, "Equinox" by John Coltrane, "Gingerbread Boy" by Jimmy Heath, "Little Sunflower" by Freddie Hubbard, "My Secret Love" by Bobby Sherwood, "Revelation" by Kenny Barron, "Sister Sadie" by Horace Silver, "Softly, as in a Morning Sunrise" by Sigmund Romberg and "Speak Low" by Kurt Weill.

General admission is \$6, with free admittance for UMaine students with a MaineCard. For more information, contact the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or visit the UMaine School of Performing Arts website (www.umaine.edu/spa).

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble also will perform at the Bangor Public Library from 7-7:45 p.m. on April 8, as part of Jazz Appreciation Month. The group will perform again on the UMaine campus April 9 and April 23, in the Bear's Den of the Memorial Union from 1-2 p.m. These events are free and open to the public.

Student musicians include: Stephanie Allard of Woonsocket, R.I., flute; chemistry major John Brushie of Surry, piano; music education major Alex Cardamone of Scarborough, trumpet; music education major Ben Cox of Topsham, clarinet; Ph.D. candidate in bioengineering Gary Craig of Oakland, alto saxophone; music education major Ray DeLear of Corinth, soprano saxophone; sustainable agriculture major Ben Dobrowski of Warner, N.N., alto saxophone; music education major Anna-Marlies Hunter of Eastport, clarinet; music education major Kevin Judkins of Mt. Vernon, guitar; business major Steve Kane of Merrimack, N.H., alto saxophone; music performance major Nathaniel Kellogg of Orono, 'cello; political science major Skye Landry of Oxford, Maine, trumpet; zoology major Denise Loring of Braintree, Mass., trombone; music major Adam Mullen of Brewer, guitar; elementary education major Malory Petersen of Old Orchard Beach, tenor saxophone; and music education major Karl Varian of Brandon, Vt., trumpet.

Lidral earned degrees at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign and taught in Illinois and New Hampshire before coming to UMaine in 1993. He teaches at graduate and undergraduate levels at UMaine. As a performing artist, Lidral has shared the concert stage with such jazz greats as Red Rodney, Jon Faddis and Chuck Israels, and, during a two-year period in New York City, he performed as a regular member of and recorded with Jack McDuff's jazz quintet.

UMaine Climatologist Receiving University of Buffalo Alumni Achievement Award

07 Mar 2008

Contact: Barbara A. Byers, (716) 645-3312; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

BUFFALO, N.Y. -- Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute at UMaine, will be honored by the University at Buffalo Alumni Association at its achievement awards gala to be held April 5 in the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Buffalo on April 5.

The awards are presented each spring to alumni and friends of UB for bringing distinction to themselves and the university through outstanding professional and personal achievement, loyal service to UB and exemplary service to their communities.

Mayewski, a 1968 graduate of UB, is a glaciologist, explorer and an internationally recognized expert in polar glacier research and climate change.

In 1990, he founded and has since chaired the executive committee for the International Trans Antarctic Scientific Expedition (ITASE), organizing participants from 21 countries for scientific expeditions. As chief scientist and field leader for U.S. expeditions, he has led the team across 5,000 miles and obtained more than 13,000 feet of ice cores. In all, he has led more than 45 expeditions to the Antarctic and other similarly remote regions, including many to elevations in excess of 21,000 feet. Three were to Mt. Everest.

Mayewski's primary research interests are changes in climate and chemistry of the atmosphere. He conducted research in Antarctica for 40 years, when the frozen continent was thought to be an unchanging and isolated ice mass that was neither affected by, nor had an influence on, world climate. His research showed how dynamic Antarctica's ice cover is and how its extent has been impacted by global climate change.

In 2003, he led the first overland journey in 42 years to the South Pole from the Byrd Surface Camp to uncover the history of climate change, and in 2007 he and his traverse team returned to Antarctica, making it the first team to travel there twice.

Mayewski was director and chief of the Greenland Ice Sheet Project 2 (GISP2), which involved 25 American institutions drilling and obtaining a core more than 10,000 feet deep to the base of the Greenland ice. Significantly, the team discovered concept of abrupt climate change -- dramatic shifts in climate occurring in less than 10 years -- which plays a critical role in consideration of modern climate response to humanly induced warming of the planet.

His honors include an honorary Ph.D. from Stockholm University, the Lowell Thomas Medal from the Explorers Club and the first Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, the international coordinating body for Antarctic research. In addition, he is also recognized with a mountain in Antarctica named in his honor.

Mayewski joined the faculty at the University of Maine in 2000. He lives in Castine.

March 15 Telescope Clinic & Stargazing Party Offered at UMaine

07 Mar 2008

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Telescopes and binoculars, often considered windows to the universe, allow average sky-watchers to see stars of different colors, brightness and those with partners called doubles. More exotic objects -- star clusters, nebula and galaxies -- also are readily visible with magnification.

To help the public access an exciting, closer look at the heavens, members of the Penobscot Valley Star Gazers will host a free Telescope Help Clinic Saturday, March 15, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium in Wingate Hall.

Club members will have various telescope models on display to show what styles best fit individual needs and budgets. Members of the public are invited to bring along their own telescopes, if they would like stargazer club members to help with the use of the equipment, or to use it at an evening stargazing party after the clinic, from 7-10 p.m. at the Jordan Observatory. The stargazing party also is free.

"If you have had trouble with equipment or just want to better understand how it can be used, drop by," says Alan Davenport, director of the Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium at UMaine. The Jordan Observatory is located behind the Memorial Union on the Orono campus.

Everyone is welcome to drop by anytime during the clinic to hear PVSG members explain how to best observe galaxies, stars, planets and their moons. They also will explain how to note seasonal changes, and the Jordan Planetarium will run

free sky tours to help sky watchers brush up on the constellations.

With eyes only, stargazers can see stars forming dramatic constellation characters of ancient lore and the moon going through its phases to reveal its surface features, in addition to meteor showers, northern lights and the five classical planets. Amateur telescopes on the market today, ranging in price from \$40 to thousands of dollars and weighing from 10 pounds to more than 100 pounds, magnify the experience. During the afternoon clinic, PVSG club members will explain how to compare various telescope models and options.

The Penobscot Valley Star Gazers is a local astronomy club formed to promote education and enjoyment of the night sky. The club meets on the second Monday of each month in room 310 at John Bapst Memorial High School in Bangor at 6:30 p.m. Meetings consist of a guest speaker followed by a business meeting. Annual dues are \$15 for one adult, and other rates apply for families. More information is on the club website (www.Gazers.org).

Parking for the Jordan Observatory is available in the Maine Center for the Arts parking lot. For additional information, contact Alan Davenport at 581-1341.

UMaine Graduate Research Expo April 15-16

10 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 10th annual Graduate Research Exposition is scheduled for Tuesday April 15 and Wednesday April 16 at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

Designed to showcase and reward graduate academic excellence and creative achievement, the event features demonstrations of ongoing work involving UMaine graduate students. Those students compete for cash prizes in seven categories: biological sciences; chemical sciences; engineering/spatial engineering; physical and mathematical sciences; social sciences and humanities; education; and visual and performing arts. Presentations take the form of posters, oral presentations or multimedia/Web/video/arts.

This year's event features a new Commercialization Potential Award, with cash prizes of up to \$500 for the three winners. The award was developed by UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center and will be given to students whose projects show promise with regard to developing a commercial product or service. The Foster Student Innovation Center will also provide ongoing business development assistance to winners of the Commercialization Potential Award.

For more information or for a schedule of events, please contact Patrick Devanney (patrick_devanney@umit.maine.edu).

Researchers Detail Initial Results of Landmark College Hazing Study

11 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, (207) 949-4149 (cell) BOSTON -- A new study by University of Maine researchers reveals that hazing is commonplace in all kinds of college student organizations, and that most students don't recognize that some forms of dangerous, even illegal, behavior constitute hazing. Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden, professors in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, presented their initial findings today at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) annual meeting at Boston's Hynes Convention Center. The survey, known as the National Study on Hazing, is -- by far -- the largest and most comprehensive study of its kind. Part of a three year research project, it includes responses from 11,482 college students at 53 institutions

around the U.S. Conducted online, the survey is the first extensive measurement of hazing behaviors and attitudes among members of all kinds of student groups. The research team, which included UMaine graduate students, also conducted more than 300 in-person interviews with staff members and students at 18 of those universities. Previous surveys have focused on Greek organizations and/or sports teams. A research advisory group helped define a list of forced behaviors that constitute hazing. A partial list includes:

- Attendance at a skit night or roast where team members are humiliated
- Wearing clothing that is embarrassing and not part of the uniform
- Being yelled, screamed or cursed at by other team/organization members
- Acting as a personal servant to other organization member
- Enduring harsh weather without proper clothing
- Drinking large amounts of a non-alcoholic beverage such as water
- Drinking large amounts of alcohol to the point of passing out or getting sick
- Watching live sex acts
- Performing sex acts with the same gender

More than half the respondents say they have experienced some form of hazing, which is illegal in 44 states. The survey reveals a startling lack of awareness among those students about the serious nature of hazing and of what kinds of behavior fit the definition of hazing. Most respondents perceive the outcomes of these activities as positive and they attribute such behaviors to being part of campus culture. "Stereotypes often shape perceptions of hazing as only a problem for Greek-letter organizations and athletes, and hazing behaviors are often dismissed as simply harmless antics and pranks," Allan and Madden wrote in summarizing their findings. "These views are shortsighted and may jeopardize the health and safety of students and hinder the overall quality of the learning environment." The survey also reveals that one-quarter of those who experienced hazing believe that coaches and/or advisers were aware of the activities. A similar percentage of respondents report that alumni were present when hazing occurred. In more than half the incidents reported by students, photos of the activities were posted on public websites and roughly 25% of students report that hazing occurred in public spaces on campus. The researchers say this survey will significantly impact the understanding of hazing and it will lead to new strategies for prevention and management of hazing issues at colleges and universities. Those strategies, they say, will also be transferable to middle schools and secondary schools. "Insights from the study will help identify those students and student groups most at risk for hazing and delineate prominent hazing behaviors. It also provides a framework we can use to examine student understanding of hazing, campus prevention efforts and hazing experiences in high school. The data provide a baseline for measuring changes in hazing over time," Allan and Madden wrote. The survey was supported by 24 professional associations. The North American Interfraternal Foundation was a key sponsor, arranging for the participation of the other 23 project partners, including the NCAA.

UMaine Researchers Highlight Anti-Cancer Benefits of Vitamin D

11 Mar 2008

Contact: Betty Ingraham (207) 581-2281

Susan Sullivan (207) 581-3130

Anja Nohe (207) 581-2270

Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Vitamin D has long been recognized for its role in making healthy bones, but a growing body of evidence now suggests that it can also significantly reduce the risk of developing several types of cancers.

That's the promising message that a group of University of Maine researchers found when they reviewed medical research, from 1970 to 2007, that examined the protective effects of the "sunshine vitamin" against cancers of the breast, colon, prostate, lung and ovary.

There are receptors for the most active form of vitamin D, a steroid hormone called calcitriol, in many tissues in the body that are not related to bone development, says Betty Ingraham, a UMaine doctoral student in nutrition and a co-

author of the paper. In the body, the genes that respond to active vitamin D are critical to maintaining the health of cells and in regulating cell growth and differentiation.

The UMaine team, which includes doctoral student Beth Bragdon and Anja Nohe, assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering, cited one especially encouraging randomized clinical trial in Nebraska as an example of the mounting evidence that has emerged in recent years regarding the health benefits of vitamin D.

The Creighton University study involved 1,179 postmenopausal women divided into three groups. One group took 1,400-1,500 milligrams of supplementary calcium a day, another took the same amount of calcium plus 1,100 international units (IU) of vitamin D -- nearly triple the currently recommended intake for that age group. The third group took placebo pills each day. After four years, those women in the combined calcium-vitamin D group showed a 60-percent lower risk of developing cancer when compared to the placebo group. The calcium-only group had a reduced cancer risk of 47 percent.

When the researchers threw out the data from the study's first year, on the chance that some women might have begun the study with cancers that had yet to be diagnosed, the results were even more remarkable. For the last three years of the study, women in the calcium-vitamin D group showed a 77-percent reduced risk of cancer compared to the placebo group. Risk for the calcium-only group was essentially unchanged.

As encouraging as that study and others may be, however, maintaining desirable levels of vitamin D in the body remains a challenge, especially for people living in northern latitudes. The most important source of vitamin D is the skin, which makes the nutrient quickly and in large amounts when exposed to bright sunlight. Yet in states such as Maine, ultraviolet-B radiation from the sun is not intense enough in winter to promote synthesis of vitamin D in the skin. Consequently, blood levels of vitamin D drop from November on, reaching their lowest levels by March.

Susan Sullivan, a researcher in UMaine's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, and doctoral student Monica Nelson recently studied 86 college-age women from the Bangor area and found that 38 percent had deficient levels of vitamin D in winter. The young women were then put on vitamin D supplements of 800 IU a day, which, when added to the 140 IU they got from fortified foods such as milk, boosted their intake to nearly 1000 IU, or five times the currently recommended amount for that age group. By the end of the one-year study, only nine percent of the women remained deficient in vitamin D, and 80 percent had achieved optimal levels.

"But 80 percent is not good enough," says Sullivan, who was not part of the review paper. "We want to optimize vitamin D levels in 97 percent of that population of women, which means they need supplements of more than 800 IU. Older people, who get less sun exposure, need even more."

Sullivan's earlier three-year study of 23 Bangor-area adolescent girls revealed that nearly half of them had insufficient levels of vitamin D in their blood by late winter. In September, when the nutrient is usually at its highest level after an abundance of summer sun, 17 percent remained deficient. Because puberty is a critical period in the development of bone mass, Sullivan says, a serious lack of vitamin D, the nutrient known to promote calcium absorption, could lead to health problems such as osteoporosis later in life.

In their review paper on vitamin D and cancer, the UMaine team says researchers are now studying physiological evidence and data from clinical trials in order to revise the recommendations on vitamin D intake for optimal health. Many nutrition experts, Sullivan among them, believe that the current dietary recommendations for vitamin D are too low.

Foods fortified with vitamin D are helpful, she says, but don't provide nearly enough of the nutrient in a normal diet. In the spring, summer and early fall in Maine, getting five to 10 minutes of midday sun each day on bare arms and legs, followed by an application of sunscreen to avoid sunburn, can make a big difference in boosting vitamin D levels.

Sullivan also joins many other nutrition experts in suggesting that people should consider taking a daily vitamin D supplement of 1,000 IU in the winter, but only after consulting a physician.

UMaine Summer CAD Camp 2008 Blends Computer-Aided Design with Outdoors Recreation

11 Mar 2008

Contact: Karen Horton, 581-2136 Sheila Pendse, 581-1427 George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Creative Design at CAD Camp at the University of Maine, for Grade 9-12 students, is accepting registration and scholarship applications for the seventh annual camp session, July 6-11. Combining outdoor adventure challenges with an introduction to computer-aided design (CAD) for young people, Creative Design at CAD Camp is fun and educational for students, regardless of their computing abilities, says camp director Karen Horton, a UMaine associate professor of mechanical engineering technology. Traditionally, CAD modeling has been used in architecture, highway and bridge design, but now includes virtually everything that is manufactured today, from machine parts to the fashion items. "It also can be used in a broader application for art," Horton adds. Use of CAD software also has expanded into landscape design, jewelry-making, video game-creation and interior decoration. During the week-long camp, students learn their way around the artistic application of CAD software, starting with basic three-dimensional shapes such as slabs, spheres, cones, cylinders and wedges and then adding color, texture, light variations and shadows. They can build 3D art from photographs or other digital images. Sponsored by the College of Engineering and featuring the MaineBound Adventure Center, as many as 40 campers will stay in residence halls on the Orono campus for a week of creative fun, teamwork and recreation. They'll spend part of the day in classrooms with UMaine engineering faculty members, learning about three-dimensional computer modeling and part of the day canoeing on the Stillwater River, at the University Forest ropes course or at the MaineBound Adventure Center climbing wall on campus. Experienced faculty members from the mechanical engineering technology program provide CAD instruction; MaineBound staff members take over for a Maine outdoors experience on the 760-acre UMaine campus. Campers arrive with a sense of curiosity and leave at the end of the week with new computer skills, confidence and career training for the future. Horton adds that the students "have so much fun along the way" and make great long-lasting friendships. "Everybody really enjoys it," Horton says. "It's a very social camp. A lot of the campers keep up with each other during the year. I think that's one of the many aspects that make it really fun." Students come from throughout the Northeast and also from southern and Midwestern parts of the country. Once on campus, girls and guys are housed in separate wings of a dormitory and have their meals at The Marketplace food court and cafeteria in the UMaine Memorial Union. MaineBound Adventure Center staff members serve as counselors in residence halls and for outdoors activities, including a barbecue and social gatherings. The camp is sponsored by the UMaine College of Engineering, MaineBound Adventure Center, the Maine Department of Transportation and Bentley Systems, Inc., which provides the CAD software. Camp scholarships are available for girls, low-income students and children from cultures typically underrepresented in the engineering field. For information about the camp or scholarships, please contact Sheila Pendse in the College of Engineering at (207) 581-1427. Additional information, including illustrations of student art from previous camps, is available on the Creative design at CAD Camp website.

22nd 'Expanding Your Horizons' for Middle School Girls Explores Math, Science Careers

12 Mar 2008

Contact: Jamie McCurry, (207) 581-1259, George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- Hundreds of Maine middle school girls will spend a day at college on Thursday, March 13, learning about math- and science-oriented careers historically pursued by males.

Coming from all corners of the state, more than 500 girls will attend the University of Maine's 22nd annual "Expanding Your Horizons" program to get a look at more than a dozen math-science career fields. With fun, hands-on experiments, students will learn about model bridge building using popsicle stick trusses; the many surprising uses for fungi; optics and the nature of science with lasers; how germs spread; field biology with animals, plants and their signs and behavior; what can be learned from owl scat what they really eat; and how DNA samples can aid in population studies and forensics; and other fascinating topics.

The day of career-field exploration begins with registration from 8-8:45 a.m. and a 9-9:45 a.m. welcome and keynote address by Tara Treichel, director of education at the Coastal Studies for Girls in Freeport, at 9 a.m. at Hauck Auditorium.

Workshop sessions are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., with lunch available in the Memorial Union Marketplace from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Ceremonies reviewing the day's activities are from 2:30-3 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium. Workshops have been scheduled in classrooms and laboratories throughout the campus.

Visiting students also will have an opportunity to tour university research facilities, including the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Laboratory, the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Electron Microscopy Laboratory in the Laboratory for Surface Science & Technology.

Students can choose among a variety of workshops and will be mentored by almost 200 teachers from their schools, professional women from UMaine and the community, in addition to UMaine students.

"Expanding Your Horizons" has been coordinated for the past 11 years by the University of Maine Women's Resource Center with support from the Office of Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. It is a one-day event designed to increase the interest of girls in mathematics and science through hands-on experiences, to foster awareness of opportunities in math and science careers, provide young women opportunities to interact with positive female role models active in math and science careers, and provide opportunities for young women to explore gender socialization and equity issues in a supportive environment.

Keynote speaker Tara Treichel holds a B.A. in zoology, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction and a teaching certificate in biology. She has taught young people in and about the outdoors in Wisconsin and Washington before relocating to Maine's Coastal Studies for Girls school. The school has a rigorous, marine science-based curriculum that focuses on leadership and environmental science. It brings together a community of dynamic educators to provide high school sophomore girls an opportunity to excel in science and technology in an academic, experiential and inspirational learning environment.

Schedule of Workshops

:

Non-Point Source Pollution: A Little x A Lot of People = One Big Mess

15/17 Boardman Hall (Basement)
10:00-10:45 / 12:30-1:15

Sensory Evaluation of Apple Varieties

202 Shibles Hall
10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45 / 12:30-1:15 / 1:30-2:15

Dilbert is NOT Crazy-Engineering is FUN!

Soderberg Conference Center-Jenness Hall
10:00-11:00 / 11:30-12:30 / 1:15-2:15

Plants to Dye for - Harnessing the Colors Nature Makes

22 Deering Hall
10:00-11:00 / 12:00-1:00

The Astronomer within You

105 Donald P. Corbett

10:00-11:00 / 12:00-1:00 / 1:15-2:00

Planning a Field Expedition

206 Rogers Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45 / 12:30-1:15 / 1:30-2:15

What's Buggin' Them?

103 Murray Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45

(DNA) The Thread of Life

226C Jenness Hall

11:15-12:15

Sisters on Submarines

113 Donald P. Corbett

10:00-11:00 / 11:15-12:15

Exploring the Natural World

100 Lord Hall

10:00-11:00 / 11:15-12:15

How Germs Spread

109 Murray Hall

10:00-11:00 / 11:30-12:30

FUNGI -- Friends or Foe?

203 Hitchner Hall

10:00-11:00 / 12:00-1:00

How do they know how strong that is?

AEWC Building

1:15-2:15

Laser Maze: Exploring Optics and the Nature of Science

315 Bennett Hall

10:00-11:00 / 11:15-12:15

Beyond The Bakesale: Using Online Tools 4 Your After-School Biz

111 Donald P. Corbett Hall

11:15-12:15

Ladies in the Lab, Bugs in the System

107 Donald P. Corbett Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45 / 12:30-1:15 / 1:30-2:15

Bridge Building

105 Murray Hall

10:00-11:00

Color My World: The Scoop on Food Colorings

204/206 Hitchner Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45

The "Wild" Life of a Wildlife Biologist

201 Shibles Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45

DNA Gel Electrophoresis

310 Murray Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45

Eyes: Windows to the Brain

109 Donald P. Corbett

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45 / 12:30-1:15 / 1:30-2:15

Lumpy Liquids and Squishy Solids

231 Aubert Hall

10:00-10:45 / 11:00-11:45

Soils: What's Under Your Feet

113 and 118 Deering Hall

10:00-11:00 / 11:15-12:15

Women Mathematicians

108 Neville Hall

12:30-1:15

Owl Pellet Analysis

101A Deering

12:00-1:00 / 1:15-2:15

Kleinschmidt Endowment Invests in UMaine's Future

12 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571.

Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt), an energy and water resource consulting firm based in Pittsfield, recently announced it has made a generous gift to the University of Maine at Orono in the form of an endowment that will help

fund the hydraulics lab in Boardman Hall. In honor of the company's generous gift, the facility has been named the Kleinschmidt Hydraulics Laboratory. The Kleinschmidt Hydraulics Laboratory Fund will ensure the Boardman Hall lab remains up-to-date and able to enhance students' projects by encouraging excellence in the study of hydraulic engineering.

A dedication ceremony formally acknowledging Kleinschmidt's contribution to the University's future is planned for 2 p.m. Thursday, March 27, in Room 309, Boardman Hall.

The gift comes as part of Campaign Maine, UMaine's six-year, \$150 million capital campaign -- the most ambitious in the University's history. The Hydraulics Lab helps provide the experience necessary for budding civil/hydraulic engineers to advance their knowledge in such areas as water distribution systems, waste water treatment and analysis, and design of water control structures for water supply, recreation, and hydropower generation. College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey says the endowment is "absolutely vital to purchase and upgrade equipment, fund student projects, improve the hydraulics curriculum and make sure students are receiving the highest quality educational experience the University can offer."

The Hydraulics Lab complements the theory students obtain in their lectures, says Professor Eric Landis, chair of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. The lab "gives meaning to the mathematical models students learn in class and enables them to develop better engineering knowledge and skills. Students look at hydrostatic forces on submerged objects, and pressure gradients in piping networks. Using the large flume they can measure the flow of water as it goes through open channels, pipes, and other structures such as dams and fish diversions."

"A modern, well-equipped lab will be a good recruitment tool for UMaine's engineering program," says Dr. Jack Palmer, President of Kleinschmidt Associates. Dr. Palmer predicts that during the next decade, "there will be a real shortage of strong technical personnel. The need to encourage students to look at engineering as a career is more critical than it has ever been."

Established in 1966, Kleinschmidt has grown into a corporation with eight office locations throughout the United States. The firm has been involved in designing hydroelectric facilities, dams, and fish passage projects since its beginning. Kleinschmidt also performs environmental studies, provides design services for other renewable energy projects such as wind and tidal projects, and prepares licensing and permitting documents needed by state and federal agencies.

Over the years, the company has forged a strong relationship with the University by hiring graduates with degrees in civil, structural, electrical, and mechanical engineering as well as in history, English, biology, and environmental backgrounds. Currently nearly one third of Kleinschmidt's 120 employees are UMaine alumni. "UMaine has been a valued source of technical talent for us over the years," says Dr. Palmer. Peter Bastien, Senior Civil Engineer and Manager of Hydro Engineering at Kleinschmidt, a UMaine graduate who joined Kleinschmidt in 2001, says his company continually looks for ways to connect with the University. "The gift to the Hydraulics Lab is one more important link. I feel as though I've come full circle," he says. "It's rewarding to work for a company that's giving something back to the University you attended."

Students are not the only ones who provide Kleinschmidt with a UMaine connection. The company often uses faculty members as subconsultants on specific projects. Last year, assisted by the UMaine Department of Mechanical Engineering, Kleinschmidt worked with Ocean Farm Technologies, a Searsport-based aquaculture company, to design the patent pending fish rearing system called the AquaPod. The project received recognition by winning a national American Council of Engineering Companies Engineering Excellence Honor Award.

Spring 2008 Dairy Forage/Grain Conference

13 Mar 2008

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, Sustainable Dairy and Forage Systems Educator, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 1-800-287-1426

WATERVILLE --University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Organic Milk Producers (MOMP) will sponsor the 2008 Dairy Forage/Grain conference with a focus on processing grains for their livestock. The conference will provide information to answer the question, "Is it time to grow some of your own grain?" With increasing costs of grain and higher transportation costs, producers may want to consider adding these crops to their farm enterprise.

This seminar will be held on March 28 in Waterville at Governor's Restaurant, beginning with registration at 9:30 a.m. Topics and presenters include Sid Bosworth from the University of Vermont who will discuss various corn harvest methods, including grain, high moisture ear and shell and high cut corn silage. Also featured will be Loic Dawarvin from Les Fermes Longpres, Que. Dawarvin and his family grow organic corn, soybeans, small grains and sunflowers on their farm. They also press many of their oilseed crops and are true innovators in cultivation and harvest equipment. In the afternoon, Heather Darby from the University of Vermont will present research from a SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) project that she has been working on with Tim Griffin (USDA/ARS) and Rick Kersbergen from the University of Maine. That work involves growing small grains in the northeast. There will also be a farmer panel discussion with Maine grain growers.

Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$10.00 per person and includes lunch. Registration materials can be found at www.umext.maine.edu/waldo/calendar/forageconf.htm or by contacting UMaine Extension Waldo County Office at 1-800-287-1426 (in Maine) or 207-342-5971.

Additional support for this conference is provided by Northeast SARE and the Maine Crop Insurance Program.

UMaine School to Host Experts on the Origins of Terrorism

13 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two internationally acclaimed experts on U.S. foreign policy and international relations will visit the University of Maine on Monday, March 17, to discuss issues related to terrorism and political extremism.

Ambassador Mark Bellamy, senior fellow in residence in the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Africa and International Security Programs, will share his perspectives based on expertise in Africa. Bruce Riedel, senior policy fellow at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, will focus on concerns related to Pakistan.

Bellamy and Riedel will make two presentations on Monday. They will address "The Roots of Terrorism: From the Horn of Africa to Pakistan," from 4:30-6 p.m. at Buchanan Alumni House. They will also give a talk to a group of area high school students at 1 p.m. in Room 120 Little Hall. Both events will be streamed on the Internet at <http://www.umaine.edu/news/spiaconference/>.

Bellamy and Riedel are both members of the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) board of advisors. That school will host the Monday visit.

"These are, quite literally, two of the world's leading experts on Africa and the Middle East, with extensive knowledge of and practical experience with radicalism," says John Mahon, SPIA's director and dean of UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health. "They are also at the forefront of current thinking about U.S. foreign policy regarding Africa and the Middle East and what approaches might be taken to deal with terrorism and radicalism."

Bellamy will address questions that explore the roots of violence and terrorism, whether economic development contributes to security and stability, and how the international community can best address problems of terrorism in Africa. Riedel just returned from trip to Pakistan, and is an internationally recognized expert on South Asia. He will

discuss causes of violent extremism, regional and ethnic fissures, the measures necessary to tackle these problems, and ways in which the international community should engage with Pakistan.

Bellamy was the U.S. Ambassador to Kenya from 2003-2006. Since retiring from the Foreign Service late last year, he has also been a senior administrator at the National Defense University. Riedel has served as a senior advisor to three U.S. presidents, focusing on Middle East and South Asian issues. Both are frequently called upon to comment on international issues by leading news organizations.

UMaine established SPIA in January, 2007. It brings new organizational structure to UMaine's academic work related to policy issues and international affairs. In its first 14 months, SPIA has been involved in collaborative scholarly arrangements with the National Defense University, the Naval Postgraduate School and Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research. Twenty-one UMaine professors are currently SPIA cooperating faculty members, and the school has more than a dozen cooperating scholars, representing academic and government institutions in the U.S., Europe and the Middle East.

SPIA also works with a community outreach forum called the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum, which brings high-level speakers to the area, raising the level of discourse about issues of international importance.

Guide to Sustainable Tourism Downeast Named Project of the Year

17 Mar 2008

Contact: Contact Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

CHERRYFIELD, Me. -- A project focusing on sustainable tourism development in Washington and Hancock counties has been named "Outstanding Area-Wide Project of the Year" by Downeast Resource Conservation and Development. The *Resource Guide for Sustainable Tourism in Down East Maine and Southwest New Brunswick*, produced by the Vacationland Resources Committee, is a comprehensive guide to environmentally-friendly business practices, with a focus on eastern Maine and southwestern New Brunswick.

"The *Resource Guide* is one of several ways that we are implementing DESTINY 2010, a plan to foster appropriate, responsible and sustainable development of cultural and nature-based tourism opportunities for regional economic prosperity," said Judy East, co-chair of the Vacationland Resources Committee. The committee is working with the Sunrise County Economic Council and Savory Bay Consulting to support efforts like hospitality training, website development, and brochures describing the area's cultural attractions. "The Vacationland Resources Committee felt that Natalie Springuel, primary author of the *Resource Guide*, should be especially recognized for bringing so much of that work into one helpful format," said East.

"The Downeast region is emerging as a leader in sustainable tourism, due to the initiative taken by businesses in Hancock and Washington counties," said Natalie Springuel, a marine extension associate with Maine Sea Grant. Springuel coordinated the project and co-wrote the guide with Stephanie Clement of Friends of Acadia, and other members of the Vacationland Resources Committee.

Springuel, who accepted the award on behalf of the committee in February, noted that the guide is innovative because it extends across the border to include Charlotte County, New Brunswick, promoting a regional identity of shared heritage and natural resources. "Nature doesn't stop at the border, so tourism shouldn't either," she said.

"We all agreed that this guide is a very useful tool for our business community, and the tourism industry in general," said Gary Edwards, coordinator of resource conservation and development with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service. Edwards said his agency has a tradition of annually recognizing outstanding partners and regional projects. "This project meets our mission to protect, conserve and develop our resources. Sometimes developing resources the right way is the best way to conserve them," said Edwards.

The Resource Guide is available from Maine Sea Grant and online at <http://www.seagrant.extension.umaine.edu/coastcom/sustour.htm>

UMaine Finance Professor Available to Discuss Economy, Wall Street

17 Mar 2008

Contact: Robert Strong, 581-1986; George Manlove, 581-3756

The Fed took unprecedented action over the weekend to provide emergency financing to cash-strapped Bear Stearns through JPMorgan Chase & Co. after the financial services corporation agreed to buy its Wall Street rival Bear Stearns for \$236.2 million in a deal that represents a stunning collapse for one of the world's largest and most venerable investment houses.

On Friday the Fed announced a set of other unconventional steps to thaw out a credit market. Wall Street analysts say the bid to rescue Bear Stearns was more than just saving one of the world's largest investments banks -- it was a crutch for the U.S. economy and the global financial system. An outright failure could cause huge losses for banks, hedge funds and other investors to which Bear Stearns is connected.

The Fed's actions come as fears are spreading that other financial houses also could be on shaky ground.

How will these fluctuations and continued slipping of the U.S. economy affect us in Maine? What's at risk and why should we be concerned? Do these tumultuous times provide financial opportunity?

Finance professor and University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education Robert Strong is available today to discuss these issues with members of the news media.

Strong's current research interests center on investor asset allocation. He has published in journals ranging from the *Journal of Finance* and the *Journal of Portfolio Management* to the trade journals *Pensions and Investments* and *Futures*. His third book *Derivatives: An Introduction* was published in 2002 and is a commonly used text book for university investment and finance classes across the country.

Strong can be reached at 581-1986.

Science Briefs

17 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at 207-581-3571

Ancestral alewives

A genetic study of alewives living in landlocked lakes in Connecticut found that the popular baitfish evolved from a common anadromous rather than a freshwater ancestor.

The research found no evidence to uphold a common belief that all Connecticut landlocked alewife populations are nonnative, the result of intentional stocking years ago to provide forage for game fish.

The landlocked populations examined diverged from a common anadromous ancestor between 300 and 5,000 years ago,

according to Eric Palkovacs, a postdoctoral researcher in the University of Maine School of Biology and Ecology, and his colleagues at Yale University. This time frame overlaps with the onset of human dam construction in Connecticut.

The study of genetic and phenotypic divergence between anadromous and landlocked alewife populations was conducted as part of Palkovacs' dissertation at Yale. It was published in a recent issue of "Molecular Ecology."

Like other anadromous fish such as Atlantic salmon and sturgeon, alewives make annual runs up freshwater streams to spawn, then return to the sea. They can be found in the coastal waters from Labrador to North Carolina.

But landlocked alewives have lost the marine phase of their life cycle. The researchers found that foraging traits have evolved in the landlocked populations in Connecticut to allow them to survive by eating smaller zooplankton.

Fighting cancer with vitamin D

Healthy levels of serum vitamin D provide significant protection against many types of cancers, according to University of Maine researchers, who did a literature survey of vitamin D studies conducted in the past 37 years.

"These studies find that the higher the UV exposure, dietary intake and serum level of 25(OH)D, the lower the incidence and mortality from cancers of the breast, colon, lung, pancreas, prostate, melanoma and Hodgkin's lymphoma," write UMaine researchers Betty Ingraham, Beth Bragdon and Anja Nohe in the journal "Current Medical Research and Opinion."

Vitamin D, obtained from diet, supplements and sunlight, is essential in cell growth and function. In particular, calcitriol, an active form of vitamin D, has a critical role in regulating cellular mechanisms involved in cancer development.

But while epidemiological, preclinical and clinical trials provide overwhelming evidence that calcitriol can prevent cancers of the colon, breast, prostate, ovary and pancreas, as well as Hodgkin's lymphoma, nearly all studies indicate that most people have below-normal levels of serum vitamin D.

The clinical research community is now revising upward recommendations for optimal serum levels and sensible levels of sun exposure. The last time that the recommendations were set in 1997, the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine recommended daily adult dietary intake of vitamin D at 400 IU. Since then, most researchers in the field believe that, for optimal health, intakes between 1,000-4,000 IU would lead to a more healthy serum level of approximately 75 nmol/L.

Women's History Celebration 2008 at UMaine: 'Women Speaking Truth to Power'

18 Mar 2008

Contact: Angela Hart, 581-1228

ORONO -- The University of Maine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program has announced a slate of 17 talks, films and performances to commemorate Women's History Month this month.

All events in the program, "Women's History Celebration 2008: Women Speaking Truth to Power," are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

The program is as follows:

Tuesday, March 18

Suffragists, Deputy Husbands and Asylum Inmates

A panel of history doctoral students will present their research including "The True Case Concerning Said Thomas Choat: Rape, Bribery and Justice in Essex County" by Abigail Chandler, "'Mr. Editor, Have We Digressed?': John Neal and the 1870 Woman Suffrage Debate" by Shannon Risk, and "'Madness' in Quebec Women, 1890-1940: An Analysis of Women's Ambivalence Toward Culturally Prescribed Roles" by Mary Okin.

12:15 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Wednesday, March 19

Women of Color: The UMaine Experience

(a rescheduled WIC lunch presentation)

Karina Fernandez, master's student in higher education; Laila Sholtz-Ames, undergraduate in journalism; Mae Walters, undergraduate in liberal studies; Elana Mugdan, undergraduate in theatre and new media; (Co-sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs).

12:15 p.m., 101 Fernald Hall

The Women's Movement against Sexual Harassment

In a keynote address, Carrie N. Baker, activist, lawyer and visiting assistant professor of women and gender studies at Smith College, will give a slide lecture on her recently published book of the above title, which examines how a diverse grassroots social movement placed sexual harassment on the public agenda in the 1970s and 1980s.

3:15 p.m., University Club, Fogler Library

"Slim Hopes"

and "What a Girl Wants" (films/discussion)

Today's media provide a narrow definition of who women and girls are and what they can do. Two short films take an unflinching look at female bodies in the media and include startling, brutally honest interviews with girls about the images they see every day; (Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, Safe Campus Project, Hardy Girls/Healthy Women, and Boys to Men).

7 p.m., 101 Neville Hall

Thursday, March 20

Suffering for Beauty: Women, Technology and Body Care in American History

Rebecca Herzig, associate professor of women and gender studies at Bates College and author of *Suffering for Science: Reason and Sacrifice in Modern America*, will speak on the relationship between technology and freedom in the U. S., focusing on the invention and rapid spread of new forms of women's body care at the turn of the 21st Century; (Part of the History Department Colloquium Series).

3:15 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

New Writers Series

Poets Jennifer Moxley and Elena Rivers will read their work

Moxley, UMaine assistant professor of English, is the author of several books of poetry. Her poem "Behind the Orbits" was included in *The Best American Poetry 2002*. Rivera's most recently published collections include *Mistakes*,

Accidents and the Want of Liberty (2006) and *Suggestions at Every Turn* (2005); (Sponsored by the English Department and the National Poetry Foundation in collaboration with the Honors College).

4:30 p.m., Soderberg Auditorium, Jenness Hall

Monday, March 24

Toxic Action: Maine Women Speaking Truth to Power

Toxic waste activists Joanne Twomey, mayor of Biddeford, Hillary Lister, president of Citizens Against Pollution in Town, and Debbie Gibbs, founding member We, the People will talk about the challenges they face, the actions they have taken and the vision they have for a cleaner Maine environment; (Sponsored by the Maine Studies Program).

12:15 p.m., Coe Room, Memorial Union

Tuesday, March 25

"I Was a Great Deal Alarmed": Women Experiencing Illness and Caring for the Sick in the Mid-Nineteenth Century South

Marli Weiner, Adelaide C. and Alan L. Bird Professor of History, will draw from her research on the different ways that people experienced and dealt with illness in the antebellum South.

12:15 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

"Tough Guise: Violence, Media and the Crisis of Masculinity"

(film/discussion)

Men in pop culture are shown as aggressive, dominating and in control. Jackson Katz, former all-star football player, examines the relationship between what it means to "be a man" in American culture and the widespread violence in our society; (Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, Hardy Girls/Healthy Women, Safe Campus Project, and Boys to Men).

7 p.m., 101 Neville Hall

Wednesday, March 26

Is there a Jewish Mother in Jewish Folktales?

Dan Ben Amos, professor of folklore and of Asian and Middle Eastern studies, University of Pennsylvania, is the editor of The Folklore Series at Indiana University Press and senior editor of the award-winning *Mimekor Yisrael: Folktales of Israel*; (Sponsored by the Maine Folklife Center).

12:15 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union

Red Hope: Race, Power and Decolonization through My Waponahki Lens

Rebecca Sockbeson of the Penobscot Nation and Ph.D. candidate at the University of Alberta, will share her beliefs and understandings as a Waponahki woman engaging with indigenous scholarship and lived Waponahki experiences.

3:15 p.m., Multipurpose Room, Memorial Union

"It's Not That Simple"

(Readers' Theatre)

A mixed genre performance piece built around the subject of abuse, with dance, poetry, and dramatic scenes. Donations will be accepted to benefit Spruce Run Association and Rape Response Services; (Organized by the Safe Campus Project and the School of Performing Arts).

7:30 p.m., Minsky Recital Hall

Thursday, March 27

Book Exhibit

New books and periodicals concerned with Women's Studies, feminism and all aspects of women's lives will be on display. Publishers' catalogs and order forms for many of these items will also be available; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 101 Fernald Hall (Exhibit continues Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

"Germany, Pale Mother"

(film)

This feature film portrays the life of a young German woman in the aftermath of WWII, as she supports her young daughter. It shows the hardships she confronts, as well as the independence and self-reliance she gains. It also raises hard questions about gender issues and about the moral responsibility of civilians and combatants in war. Discussant: Imke Schessler-Jandreau, graduate student in communication; (Chosen by the Student Women's Association as part of the MPAC Film Series).

7 p.m., 140 Little Hall

Friday, March 28

Publication Celebration

Campus authors of recent books on women and gender issues will be celebrated.

12:30-2 p.m., 101 Fernald Hall

Saturday, March 29

Annual Spruce Run Chocolate Buffet and Silent Auction

This benefit event will also feature live music. Tickets are \$15 per person. For more information please call Spruce Run at 945-5102.

7-9 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House

Wednesday, April 2

"Hip Hop: Beyond Beats & Rhymes"

(film/discussion)

Byron Hurt pays tribute to hip hop while challenging its exploitation of women, glamorized violence, and homophobia; (Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, Safe Campus Project, Hardy Girls/Healthy Women, and Boys to Men).

7 p.m., 101 Neville Hall

The website for Women in the Curriculum and the Women's Studies Program is at www.umaine.edu/wic/.

Consortium Offering Sexual Assault Awareness Month Observance Events

18 Mar 2008

Contact: Carey Nason, 581-2515; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Safe Campus Project and the Women's Resource Center at UMaine, along with a consortium of other departments on campus, are partnering with the Penobscot Job Corps to host national speaker Tony Porter for a day-long event on April 10.

Porter is co-founder of the national organization A Call to Men, which advocates a community approach to addressing issues of violence and working with men to become proactive in efforts to end violence toward women and sexism. Much of Porter's work addresses the role of what he calls "well-meaning men," who neither commit nor condone violence, but fail to do all they can to serve as women's allies.

Porter's appearance, in addition to three films -- on March 19, March 25 and April 2 -- and a theater performance March 26 are offered as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April.

On Thursday, April 10 Porter will appear at the Penobscot Job Corps Center at 1375 Union St. in Bangor from 8:30-11:30 a.m., where he will make a free, open community presentation and meet for an hour with a leadership group. In the afternoon, he will meet with invited campus and community leaders at UMaine. Porter will deliver a free public lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday in Room 100 of the UMaine D.P. Corbett Building. Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe will join program organizers for the day's events.

On Saturday, April 12, Porter is scheduled to work with high school and college-age students for "A Call to Young Men Conference" at UMaine. The conference is 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 101 Neville Hall, and is sponsored by the Maine Attorney General's Office, the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. Attorney General Rowe also will speak at the Saturday conference. For registration information for the Call to Young Men conference, please contact Nicky Blanchard at the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence at 941-1194 or by email at nicky@mcedv.org.

A Call to Men (www.acalltomen.org) is a men's organization engaged in a nationwide campaign advocating an end to violence against women and helping men redefine the meaning of manhood through personal development and a better awareness of sexual assault and abuse of women. Tony Porter's visit is also sponsored by the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, University of Maine System Office and University of Maine Division of Student Affairs and Division of Lifelong Learning.

Carey Nason of Safe Campus Project calls Porter a dynamic speaker with a message that resonates.

"He has a practical way of addressing issues and engaging people about ways they can be proactive in their own lives, and how they can take a proactive stand to promote safety and prevent violence against women," she says. "He makes a great presentation, with ideas to keep the message alive."

Leading up to Porter's appearances will be three provocative films that analyze some of the messaging the public receives through the media. "Oh Baby, Baby: How the Media Teaches Us to be Men and Women" is the title of the film series, organized by Hardy Girls, Healthy Women advocacy organization in Waterville.

Nason says the groups supporting Porter appearance and the films want to raise awareness of the media images that can and do influence men's and women's self-perceptions and behavior, often in negative ways.

"We'll be discussing how the media portrays men and women and asking what are the impacts?" Nason says. "This is about media literacy and the fact that we're bombarded with so many messages. This is about what it means to be a real

man and a real woman, and what if we're not all like that?"

In addition to the Safe Campus Project, Women's Resource Center and Penobscot Job Corps, other sponsoring organizations of the films include the Boys to Men of Portland, and UMaine's Male Athletes Against Violence, Students for a Safe Campus and the Student Women's Association.

The films are: on March 19, "Slim Hopes" and "What a Girl Wants"; on March 25, "Tough Guise: Violence, Media & the Crisis in Masculinity"; and on April 2, "Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes," all showing at 7 p.m. in Room 101, Neville Hall.

Also, another event sponsored by the Safe Campus Project in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is a Readers' Theater performance of "It's Not That Simple," mixed genre performance piece built around the subject of abuse, with dance, poetry and dramatic scenes, on Tuesday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. Donations will benefit Rape Response Services and Spruce Run in Bangor.

For information about the programs, the Safe Campus Project can be reached at (207) 581-2515.

Creator of LibraryThing.com to Visit Fogler Library

19 Mar 2008

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, (207) 581-1696

ORONO--What do you do in Maine with a graduate degree in Greek and Latin studies? Well, in the case of Tim Spalding, who also honed skills as a web developer and publisher, you launch www.LibraryThing.com. Originally created as a way for Spalding to catalog his own library, he did not realize the site--launched in August of 2005--would begin to garner national attention, including recent articles in The Philadelphia Inquirer and the Wall Street Journal. Spalding was also named one of this year's "Movers and Shakers" by Library Journal.

Spalding will be talking about LibraryThing and all of its recent developments when he visits the University of Maine's Fogler Library on April 1 from 3-4 p.m. Spalding's presentation is being co-sponsored by the Friends of Fogler Library, the UMaine Department of English, and the New Media Program.

Based in Portland, Maine, LibraryThing is an online service that allows booklovers to create catalogs of their own libraries that can be accessed from any location with an Internet connection. Users can add books by entering titles, authors, or ISBN numbers. LibraryThing then searches the Library of Congress, all five national Amazon sites, the British Library, and over 250 world libraries for cataloging information about the book. The site can generate recommendations for future reading based on library selections, and there is an option to join a social space to connect to other people with similar libraries. Some have called it the "MySpace" or "Facebook" for books.

Recently, the site added a new "Local" section which provides a map of literary venues wherever you live, be it Bangor or Paris. Tim Spalding explains within the site's blog, "LibraryThing Local is a handy reference, but it's also interactive. You can show off your favorite bookstores and libraries (e.g., mine include the Harvard Bookstore, Shakespeare and Company and the Boston Athenaeum) and keep track of interesting events. Then you can find out who else loves the places you do, and who else is going to events."

"What I love about Tim's project with LibraryThing," says UMaine Associate Professor of English Steve Evans, "is that it demonstrates that bibliophiles need not be technophobes. Basically it takes the culture of reading and book collecting and gives it the digital platform it deserves: one that enriches the literacy not just of individual readers, but of whole communities. Some of these already existed, while some are emerging within and because of the new media context. These communities now have a new instrument for connecting with one another on the basis of a shared passion for literature. I've already put more than a thousand books of poetry from my own collection on-line, and added the UMaine New Writing Series to the new 'local' feature. Having Tim Spalding visit the UMaine campus offers us an great

opportunity for exploring the future of literacy in the digital world."

Spalding's presentation will be held in the Special Collections Department of Fogler Library. It is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served.

Bates Professor to Discuss "Suffering for Beauty

19 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A noted science and technology historian from Bates College will make a Women's History Month presentation at the University of Maine on Thursday, March 20.

Rebecca Herzig is associate professor and chair of Women and Gender Studies at Bates. The author of "Suffering for Science: Reason and Sacrifice in Modern America," Herzig will speak on "Suffering for Beauty: Women, Technology and Body Care in American History." Her talk is scheduled for 3:15 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bangor Room.

Women with Panic Attacks Needed for UMaine Research

19 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A University of Maine research team is investigating the stress response in women who suffer panic attacks. The researchers are looking for women to participate in the study.

UMaine psychology professor Sandy Sigmon and her graduate students are seeking women who experience the physiological sensations of panic attacks (difficulty breathing, racing heart, trembling, hot or cold flashes, numbness or tingling in hands or feet, chest pain, thoughts of death, etc.), typically lasting 10-15 minutes. Women who experience these symptoms, are postmenopausal and have a normal menstrual cycle (25-35 days) are eligible.

Participants will visit Sigmon's lab twice . The first time, they will be asked questions about their symptoms, complete questionnaires, and give several saliva samples because the researchers are interested in the saliva-borne stress hormone cortisol. This session will take about two hours. Research participants will then monitor their daily symptoms for 30 days and return for a second lab visit, during which they will be asked to complete two brief tasks and give several saliva samples. This part will take about 90 minutes. For each part of the study, participants will be paid and can earn up to \$75 for the entire study. Those who are interested in participating are asked to call Sigmon at 581-2034 and leave a message or email her at sandra.sigmon@umit.maine.edu.

School of Performing Arts and Readers Theater to Show "It's Not that Simple

19 Mar 2008

Contact: Karen Cole at (207) 581-4700

ORONO - University of Maine students will perform a show based on the subject of sexual assault in the next School of Performing Arts "Readers' Theater" production. The show, "It's Not That Simple," will be sponsored by the School of Performing Arts along with the Safe Campus Project, a campus resource center that focuses on domestic and sexual abuse.

The performance is set for 7:30 p.m. on March 26, in Minsky Recital Hall in Class of 1944 Hall. Donations will benefit Spruce Run and Rape Response Services in Bangor.

UMaine theater and dance student Molly Schenck compiled and choreographed the show, which she will direct. The performance incorporates visual and performing arts including theater, dance, music and new media.

"I wanted to raise awareness about sexual assault, how common it is and how difficult it is to deal with in any form," Schenck says, adding that the opportunity to combine her passion for the visual and performing arts with raising awareness has been a "wonderful experience."

Through these different mediums, Schenck has powerfully represented many different kinds of assault - including voyeurism, stalking, rape and domestic abuse. Many of the performers in the show have been touched by sexual assault in some way during their lives, which adds a personal and dramatic element to the show.

"Readers' theatre was developed as a convenient and effective means to present literary works in dramatic form," says Karen Cole, the School of Performing Arts business manager. The theater encourages community involvement, and uses minimal costume, scenery or props.

The Safe Campus Project staff hopes this performance will reach an important audience in new ways.

"Programming is usually not delivered through dance and the arts; we hope to connect to people who are not reached by typical educational programs," said Carey Nason, Safe Campus Project coordinator.

For more information about this performance or the School of Performing Arts, contact Karen Cole at 581-4700 or Karen.cole@umit.maine.edu.

Renowned UMaine Graduate Bernard Lown to Give Wednesday Talk; Cardiologist Won 1985 Nobel Peace Prize

20 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Dr. Bernard Lown, one of the world's leading cardiologists and a tireless advocate for world peace, will visit his alma mater for a Wednesday March 26 public talk, "On Global Activism in an Ailing World." The University of Maine's Honors College will present the talk, this year's TIAA-CREF Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture. Lown will also serve as the university's 2008 John M. Rezendez Visiting Scholar in Ethics.

Lown, who graduated from UMaine in 1942, co-founded International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. For his efforts with that group, he earned the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. He also co-founded Physicians for Social Responsibility in 1960.

The Wednesday event is scheduled for 5 p.m. in Room 100 of UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

"Dr. Lown is among the most accomplished citizens the state of Maine has ever produced," says Dean Charlie Slavin of UMaine's Honors College. "We truly value his association with the University of Maine and we will be honored to host him on Wednesday. Dr. Lown's visit will create an outstanding opportunity for our students and those in the surrounding communities to hear his unique perspectives on critical issues faced by our global society."

In addition to his peace activism, Lown has made significant contributions in the medical realm. His innovations in cardiac care and treatment include the invention of the defibrillator, along with other breakthroughs that have helped to save untold numbers of lives. Founder of the Lown Cardiovascular Center in Cambridge, Mass., he is a professor of cardiology emeritus at the Harvard School of Public Health.

In recognition of Lown's career and his life's work, the UMaine Alumni Association annually presents the Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award to graduates who distinguish themselves in humanitarian service.

Flower Show Organizers Announce Student Essay Contest Winners

21 Mar 2008

Contact: Amy Witt (207) 780-4205

PORTLAND, ME. -- Nine area students won prizes in the Portland Flower Show essay contest sponsored by show organizers and University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Student essays addressed the question, "Why should I care about plants?" Winners were announced at the show's opening preview on Wednesday, March 5.

Maine residents between the ages of 6 and 18 were invited to participate in this contest. Primary judging criteria were creativity, focus, age appropriateness, and passion for topic.

Three prizes (\$50, \$30 and \$20) were awarded in each of three age categories (6--9; 10--13; and 14--18).

Prize winners in the 6- to 9-year-old category

Ellie Sapat (9) of Falmouth, first place;

Malia Martinez (6) of Scarborough, second place;

Ewka Varney (8) of Portland, third place.

Prize winners in the 10- to 13-year-old group

Jennifer Sawtelle (13) of Scarborough, first place;

Emma Sapat (10) of Falmouth, second place;

Daniel McCarthy (13) of Hollis Center, third place.

Prize winners in the 14- to 18-year-old group

Nikola Champlin (17) of North Yarmouth, first place;

Sophia Jackson (16) of Whitefield, second place;

Brittany Corey (17) of New Gloucester, third place.

Page Farm and Home Museum Plans Maple Syrup Fest April 5

21 Mar 2008

Contact: Elyse Dinan, 581-4100, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Page Farm and Home Museum at UMaine is celebrating Maine Maple Sunday on Saturday, April 5, this year, and invites area children and their families to join in the fun.

Events are planned from 1-3 p.m. The day begins with the video "The Maple Sugaring Story" at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus. Grade K-6 children can participate in learning activities, play games and hear stories about one of Maine's oldest traditions and seasonal business enterprises begun by Native Americans centuries ago.

The afternoon events will move to the University of Maine maple sugaring operation on College Avenue Extension for a guided walking tour of the sugar bush, where the maple sugaring story begins, and a tour of the sugarhouse, where sweet maple sap is rendered to maple syrup through the evaporation process. Children can enjoy a sample of the fresh syrup straight from the evaporator.

"We will have a 'sugar-on-snow' party, like the early settlers of Maine," says Patricia Henner, director of the farm and home museum.

A \$4 per child reimbursement fee for materials used in the exercises is requested. Since space is limited, pre-registration is requested. Call 581-4100 for information or to register. Children must be chaperoned.

Hutchinson Center Campaign Reaches Milestone

21 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST -- The Frederick Hutchinson Center's \$2 million capital campaign to expand the Belfast facility has reached the halfway mark, leaders of the fundraising project announced last week.

Since the campaign began last August, \$1 million in private funds -- from individuals, corporations and foundations -- has been raised to help create a 15,000 square foot expansion that will house additional classroom space, science labs and other facilities critical to the center's future as the University of Maine's primary educational and outreach connection with Mid-Coast Maine.

Campaign leaders hailed the milestone, and noted that it had been accomplished thanks to the generosity of many.

"We're delighted to arrive at the half-way point so quickly," said Judy Stein, campaign co-chair with Jim Patterson, retired director of the Hutchinson Center.

"This has been achieved through the hard work of volunteers and the generosity of community members," said Stein. "The community obviously accepted the words of The Citizen's editorial board which said that 'it's up to us.'"

The Hutchinson Center fundraising effort is part of Campaign Maine, the university's six-year, \$150 million comprehensive campaign.

Praising the "literally hundreds of people" who contributed to the Hutchinson Center campaign, Patterson said there has

been "amazing progress to get it over the halfway point. Now we look forward to trying to finish up within the next few months."

The total cost of the project is \$4 million, with the balance coming from a bond to be repaid with future revenue generated through the center's expanded activities.

The Hutchinson Center campaign is being aided by a Unity Foundation \$200,000 challenge grant which was awarded earlier this year and matches each dollar raised from other sources.

"Everyone has been so enthusiastic and supportive," said campaign volunteer Betty Becker-Theye. "The Hutchinson Center has been the most positive development along the Mid-Coast area in the past seven years, and residents of Belfast and other Mid-Coast communities appreciate the fact that people can complete undergraduate and graduate degrees close to home. So much of what has happened at the Hutchinson Center has been because of the University of Maine, MBNA, and the Bank of America. People know it's now up to us to raise the money to build the expansion."

Many of the early gifts came from the Hutchinson Center's Senior College, which pledged \$280,000, said Stein. Those contributions likely set a positive course for the campaign.

"It provided momentum."

Senior College has raised \$184,000 toward its commitment, according to Mary Frenning, co-chair of the Senior College public relations committee. The 500 current members and the more than 1,000 former members of Senior College have been solicited for contributions.

"The Hutchinson Center is our home, so we have strong feelings about it," she said. "It will be no surprise if we hear from many more of our members when they learn that the campaign has reached its halfway mark."

UMaine Debate Team Tops Again in Northeast Region Forensics Competition

21 Mar 2008

Contact: Steven Moran, 581-1774, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Forensics Team has won its second consecutive Northeast Regional Forensics Tournament, besting nine other universities with reputable speech and debate teams.

The team won first in a field of 10 schools, including Emerson College, New York University, Suffolk University, St. Anselm's College and Harvard University, according to team captain Steve Moran, a fourth-year political science and history major from New Gloucester. The tournament was March 15 at Suffolk.

Active members of the UMaine Forensics Team include Moran, who is captain and president, and also UMaine Student Government president; vice president James Lyons, a second-year political science and biochemistry double major from Yarmouth; secretary Jennifer Cohen, a second-year political science and women's studies double major from Sanford; treasurer Joseph Moran, a second-year business marketing major from New Gloucester; and Jay Parrish, Dan Bourgeois-Capozzi, Moira Beale and Jeanne Ellis, all undergraduates from Bangor. Nicole Cloud, a research assistant and lecturer in the Department of Communication and Journalism, is adviser for the team.

Moran says the eight active speech and debate team members prepare for competitions by researching various topics that could be used as subject matter for debates and extemporaneous speaking and presentation skills. In the last year the team competed in seven tournaments held on five weekends.

The team is a young team, having undergone a resurrection in 2004, after several decades of inactivity, according to

Moran, who was part of the resurrection in 2004.

Forensics competition helps students develop public speaking, debate and effective presentation skills, Moran says, which are invaluable when students enter job market after graduation. It also improves writing skills, he says.

Analysis Provides New Information for Treating Childhood Obesity

25 Mar 2008

Contact: Prof. Doug Nangle at (207) 581-2045; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Increasing the "dose" of behavioral interventions -- the use verbal and tangible rewards, self-monitoring and stimulus control -- and parental involvement can enhance the effectiveness of established diet and exercise regimes for combating childhood obesity, according to psychology researchers at the University of Maine, who conducted a meta-analysis of 13 years of treatment studies.

The meta-analysis of 11 published studies conducted since 1994 provides new information about the effectiveness of existing treatments for childhood obesity by identifying patterns among the therapeutic components.

"Whereas meta-analyses typically examine the effectiveness of interventions versus control (i.e., no treatment) conditions, this study employed a variation of the statistical techniques to estimate whether or not modifying or adding to obesity treatments helps youth lose more weight. This statistical approach has not previously been used in social science or medical research. This is the first of its kind, in the obesity or other treatment literatures," says Professor of Psychology Douglas Nangle, director of clinical training at UMaine and visiting professor of psychology at Bowdoin College.

A major goal of the meta-analysis was to determine whether there were ways to improve the short- and long-term effectiveness of established behavioral therapies for pediatric obesity.

"Most of the time you see published reviews or read treatment studies and infer what seems to work," says Nangle, one of the six authors of the study. "Meta-analysis provides a more objective, thorough, statistical way to make comparisons to find an effect. In a lot of fields, we know some treatments are better, but through analysis like this, we can evaluate the different treatment components and see if there are ways to enhance overall efficacy or demonstrate that one active treatment has advantages over another."

The meta-analysis started four years ago as a class project in a graduate course on child and adolescent treatments. The idea to apply this variation in meta-analytic statistical techniques to allow for the comparison of active treatment components came from one of the graduate researchers on the project, Michael Cassano, who worked on its refinement with Jeffrey Hecker, another study coauthor, UMaine professor of psychology and interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"People have been researching pediatric obesity for decades and the good news is treatment works. Yet it's not as effective as we'd like it to be," says Nangle. "Usually, we're not capable of getting kids into the normal range of BMI (body mass index) and the effects of treatment (most often comprehensive diets, decreased sedentary lifestyle and increased exercise) don't have as long-lasting effects as we would like.

"We're trying to find ways to get an extra push out of that core comprehensive intervention."

The analysis showed that the already established comprehensive interventions combining diet/decreased sedentary lifestyle/increased exercise components could be made even more effective through enhanced behavioral interventions -- rewards such as praise and incentives -- for meeting physical activity and dietary goals, as well as teaching children to better self-monitor their eating and exercise patterns, and stimulus control, such as making healthy foods more easily

accessible and identifiable.

"Part of behavioral intervention has to do with teaching kids to do better monitoring of what they actually eat and getting parents involved," says Nangle. "The more efforts to make sure kids comply with diet and exercise, the better."

The study also found another way to boost the effectiveness of existing treatments is through the involvement of parents. That involvement ranges from providing nutritious foods in the home and parental weight loss to modeling healthy eating h

Angus King to Join UMaine Technology/Teaching Discussion

25 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Former Gov. Angus King will participate in a Friday March 28 University of Maine program, "Technology, Teaching and Learning: Implications for Today and Tomorrow," arranged by UMaine's College of Education and Human Development. The forum is scheduled for 9 a.m.-noon in Memorial Union's Bangor Room.

King served as Maine's governor from 1994-2002. His legacy includes the development of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI), which put laptop computers in all Maine school districts, expanding students' access to technology and creating new ways for teachers to deliver instruction and foster learning.

He will join Friday's discussion from 9:15-10:15 a.m. via iChat, the Macintosh video conferencing program.

King will offer perspectives on MLTI and what it has meant to Maine, along with his thoughts on the need to effectively prepare teachers to use technology in the classroom.

Other discussion subjects will include an update on MLTI, the challenges UMaine faces in preparing teachers to work in schools where technology is commonplace and trends related to technology in schools.

UMaine has the largest teacher preparation program in Maine. The class that begins UMaine studies in the fall of 2008, for the most part, will be those students who were the first Maine seventh graders to use laptops provided through the MLTI initiative.

UMaine students, College of Education and Human Development faculty and college staff, and interested faculty from UMaine will participate in Friday's session.

UMaine Labor Bureau Updates Review of Privatization Pitfalls

25 Mar 2008

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

ORONO -- A newly released briefing paper by the University of Maine Bureau of Labor Education on the pitfalls and problems that can occur when privatizing certain state, municipal or institutional services, concludes that the practice remains risky and problematic.

The paper, "Privatization Pitfalls Update, 2008," brings up to date an analysis of contracting out certain government or institutional services that was originally done in 1998.

"Many state and local governments, the U.S. government, and public sectors such as higher education, turned to various forms of privatizing services over the past two decades, especially during the 1990's," says the paper, released this week.

'Komen on the Go' Tour Bringing Breast-Health Information to UMaine April 7

27 Mar 2008

Contact: Erin Whitehouse, (207) 581-4058
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Employee Wellness Program, Healthy U, will host "Susan G. Komen for the Cure," a national community education and outreach tour dedicated to the eradication of breast cancer, on campus on Monday, April 7.

"Komen On the Go" is a free traveling tour, crossing the nation to deliver life-saving breast health information to all generations of women. The tour stop at University of Maine is one of more than 150 stops Komen On the Go is making to heighten awareness of breast health and breast cancer, and inspire a deeper commitment from young women to commit to everyday health habits that can reduce their risk for the disease.

The public is invited to stop by the signature bright pink Komen On the Go semi-trailer, to be parked on the UMaine campus from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the North Gym parking lot, near the Memorial Gym field house. The trailer converts into an interactive learning center. It offers fun, hands-on experiences featuring computer kiosks chock full of easy-to-understand breast health information, such as how to do a breast self-exam, and an eight-foot graffiti wall for participants to share a memory or pledge their personal support in the global breast cancer movement. Other information being made available includes how to volunteer locally, details on the Komen Race for the Cure and tips on supporting loved ones facing breast cancer.

For more information, previous event photos and a complete tour schedule, visit the Komen On the go Website (www.komen.org/go) and for information about the UMaine stop, contact Erin Whitehouse, Healthy U Wellness program manager, at 207-581-4058 or by email (erin_whitehouse@umit.maine.edu).

Susan G. Komen for the Cure is on a mission to end breast cancer, and the Komen On the Go mobile experience delivers the message. From inner cities to community festivals and public universities to neighborhood centers, Komen On the Go's bright pink vehicles are teaching Americans everywhere how to take charge of their breast health, empowering participants to share information with friends, and join the breast cancer movement.

In its fifth national tour, Komen On the Go will be on exhibit more than 150 days in more than 50 communities across the United States, educating and elevating thousands of people with messages of hope. The tour is made possible, in part, by founding sponsor the Val Skinner Foundation and the LIFE (LPGA Pros In The Fight To Eradicate Breast Cancer) Event series.

UMaine Hosting French, Spanish Language Immersion Day April 2

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Jane Smith, 581-2079; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- On Wednesday, April 2, French and Spanish will be languages of the day for many at UMaine, as 100 high

school students or more and their teachers visit for a day-long French and Spanish language immersion experience.

Sponsored by the University of Maine's Department of Modern Language and Classics and the Foreign Languages Association of Maine (FLAME), events will take place from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in Little Hall, the Memorial Union and elsewhere on campus. Students and language teachers from Hampden and Foxcroft academies and Hermon, Bucksport and Brewer high schools are planning to attend.

Psychology professor and interim College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Jeff Hecker, Ray Pelletier, chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Classics, and Nicholas Cloutier of the UMaine Admissions Office, will greet the students at 9 a.m. in 130 Little Hall.

Students will then disperse for a "human scavenger hunt in French or Spanish" to get to know one another, according to Jane Smith, associate professor of French and graduate coordinator in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics.

The program continues at 10 a.m. with "passport activities" in the Memorial Union. Throughout the remainder of the day, students will participate in a campus-wide scavenger hunt, skits (Bumps Room, French, FFA Room, Spanish), poetry recitations (Coe Room) and music and dance from Quebec and Latin America (Totman Room).

At 1:10 p.m., a "culture bowl" in French and Spanish is scheduled at 130 Little Hall

Closing remarks will be offered around 2 p.m. in Little Hall by Mirna Reyes-Henderson, chair of the Student Activities Committee of FLAME.

Lunch for the students and visiting teachers is being provided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

UMaine Accounting Students Offering Free Help with Tax Returns

28 Mar 2008

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 Monday afternoons through April 14.

The long-standing 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, but the service will be provided 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 an appointment basis Mondays from 2-4 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Building, behind the Maine Center for the Arts on the Orono campus. Taxpayers seeking assistance must first call Colburn at 581-1982 or email him (steve.colburn@umit.maine.edu) to make an appointment.

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; Colburn double-checks each return before filing. The program is a benefit for taxpayers in the community and is good training for accounting students, Colburn says.

More than 100 people from the Old Town-Orono communities, including UMaine students, typically receive assistance each tax season.

UMaine Research Seeks to Demystify Chemotherapy "Brain Fog"

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Thane Fremouw (207) 581-2041; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Many people undergoing chemotherapy for cancer feel as if they are living in a mental fog that causes them to forget things and hampers their ability to learn new skills and concentrate on everyday tasks.

And while the condition is often temporary, occurring during treatment or immediately after, some cancer survivors continue to experience the frustrating symptoms years after their treatments have ended.

Research over the last several years has shown that cancer patients can indeed suffer a mild cognitive impairment following chemotherapy. The studies have yet to pinpoint, however, what actually causes the baffling condition, commonly known as chemobrain or chemofog, and why some people suffer from it and others do not.

Studies of the cognitive effects of chemotherapy have typically been complicated by such confounding factors as age, life history, anxiety, depression and fatigue. Could the foggy thinking be caused by the stress and worry people feel when they're told they have cancer, as some studies have suggested, or might it be the physiological damage wrought by the cancer itself that triggers it? Recognizing that chemotherapy induces menopause, researchers are left to wonder what role, if any, hormones play in cognitive decline?

Thane Fremouw, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Maine, along with Robert Ferguson, a clinical psychologist at Eastern Maine Medical in Bangor, are undertaking research that they hope will help answer those questions. Unlike other researchers who have studied chemobrain in humans, however, the team will explore the condition in mice instead and use genetic manipulation to identify risk factors.

"Normally you go from the animal to the human model," says Fremouw, an animal cognition specialist whose work is being funded by the Maine Institute of Human Genetics and Health in Brewer. "But we're trying something different by reversing that process. Our hope is that our mouse model will facilitate the search for treatments that reduce or eliminate the cognitive impairments in cancer survivors."

The mouse model will allow researchers to better and more quickly control for factors such as stress and depression, Fremouw says. The team, which includes a UMaine graduate student and three undergraduates, will examine the cognitive consequences caused by different combinations of chemotherapy drugs, or cocktails, commonly prescribed in cancer therapy. The researchers will also treat the mice with various other drug therapies to see if those treatments help counteract the chemobrain condition.

"Regardless of where this leads," Fremouw says of his research, "it's important that we publicize this problem so that people can understand that whatever is happening to them is real, and not imaginary."

UMaine Extension Sets Symposium for Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Professionals

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Kathy Savoie, 207-780-4205

ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will present the 2008 Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium on May 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the University of Maine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building. The cost is \$25 and advance registration is required. Certificates of Attendance will be provided for all who attend. For more information or to register, visit www.extension.umaine.edu or contact Kathy Savoie at 207-780-4205 or ksavoie@umext.maine.edu.

Public health sector professionals and those whose work focuses on issues related to nutrition, health and wellness will benefit from this event. The Nutrition, Food and Physical Activity Symposium will examine research and programs in areas of community nutrition, physical activity and food safety related to improving the health and well-being of Maine people and reducing obesity. The symposium will highlight innovative work that will help Maine lead the way in promoting lifestyles that improve wellness and reduce the risk of chronic disease.

The schedule includes sessions on nutrition education, heart-healthy living, nutritional risks related to whole grain intake in seniors, supplementation for premenopausal women, attitudes and behaviors of high school students to nutrition and exercise and more, including a wide variety of poster sessions.

All Things Woods Expo

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Andy Kekacs, 722-4214

Second Annual
Portland Exposition Building
Saturday, April 26, 2008
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

With more than 90 percent of its land area covered by trees, Maine is the nation's most heavily forested state. The forest provides thousands of jobs, abundant clean water, critical wildlife habitat and a host of other benefits to Maine people. It is the foundation of the state's wood products, outdoor recreation and tourism industries. It defines the Maine way of life.

To celebrate the many benefits provided by healthy, vibrant, working woodlands, Forests for Maine's Future will host the second annual All Things Woods Expo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at the Portland Exposition Building.

Fifty exhibitors and a full day of activities for children and adults are planned. Admission is free.

The Chewonki Foundation, Maine Discovery Museum and Tanglewood 4-H Camp will offer a variety of woods-oriented activities for kids. See live owls and hear about wild wonders. Bring a camera and have your picture taken with Smokey the Bear.

Adults can learn about geo-caching, spring mushrooms, backyard birds and much more. "Timber" Tina Scheer of "Survivor" fame will demonstrate her skills with axes and saws.

Exhibitors will include wood products firms, conservation organizations, outdoor recreation businesses, forest management companies and many others.

The Portland Exposition Building is on Park Avenue, near Deering Oaks and Hadlock Field in Portland. To learn more about All Things Woods Expo 2008, visit forestsformainesfuture.org.

Forests for Maine's Future is a partnership of the University of Maine, Maine TREE Foundation, Small Woodland

Owners Association of Maine, and Maine Forest Service.

The partners also produce Fresh from the Woods, an electronic newsletter sent to more than 5,000 people each month. From the secret life of vernal pools to the growing European demand for wood pellets, Fresh from the Woods offers an independent, interesting and science-based look at key issues that affect Maine's woodlands, economy and quality of life.

To subscribe to the free newsletter, visit forestsformainesfuture.org. The website also offers a wealth of information about the state's woodlands, provides links to important stories in the Maine press, highlights forest-related resources on the Web, and provides a calendar of coming events for people who are interested in the woods.

UMaine College Recognizes Outstanding Faculty Members

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Faculty members in English, Anthropology and Modern Languages and Classics, and a teaching assistant in History are the recipients of 2008 awards presented by the University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Presented annually to faculty members nominated by their colleagues and students, the awards honor overall achievement and particular strengths in teaching, research and service. The college also honors an outstanding teaching assistant, who is recognized jointly by the Graduate School.

Harvey Kail, professor of English, will receive the award for outstanding teaching and advising. Paul (Jim) Roscoe, professor of anthropology, will receive the award for outstanding research and creative achievement, and Kathleen March, professor of Spanish, will receive the outstanding service and outreach award. Abigail Davis, a graduate student in history, will receive the teaching assistant award.

Kail is founding director of the University of Maine Writing Center housed in the English Department. A veteran teacher with 30 years on the UMaine faculty, Kail has trained and supervised hundreds of peer tutors who have worked with thousands of students in the Center and in teaching jobs after graduation. He is an expert on collaborative learning recognized nationally and internationally as an outstanding teacher of teachers. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English from the University of Toledo and a doctorate from Northern Illinois University.

Roscoe came to the University of Maine in 1984 with degrees in physics, liberal studies in sciences and anthropology from Manchester (England) University and a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Rochester. He has published 32 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and two of his own edited volumes. In the last 25 years, he has spent more than two and a half years in Papua New Guinea, 26 months of that time living with the Yangoru Boiken of the East Sepik Province. His papers have won national and international prizes and he received the university's Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award in 1996.

March came to the University of Maine in 1984 with bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in Spanish from State University of New York at Buffalo. She also earned a doctorate in creativity at the University of Maine in 2002. March is a leader in creating models for service learning, the most dramatic being a class that travels to Honduras during spring break, where students use language skills in providing educational and health supplies and services for residents of the Copan region in Santa Rosa and in the rural village of Dulce Nombre. March has served on numerous college and university committees and the Faculty Senate, for which she was president in 1996-97.

Davis serves as a teaching assistant for courses Environmental History, Maine History and U.S. History. Her supervising professors Richard Judd and Howard Segal praise her dedication, preparation, enthusiasm and ability to communicate with students, individually, in review sessions and in lectures. Davis earned a bachelor's degree in American history from Western State College in Gunnison, Colo., and is creating a history of the Appalachian Trail as

an intellectual concept in her graduate study.

The 2008 awards will be presented April 22 at a reception in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House on the Orono campus.

UMaine Engineering Professor Conducts Energy-Savings Seminar For Businesses

28 Mar 2008

Contact: Tom Weber: 207-581-3777

Scott Dunning, professor and director of the University of Maine School of Engineering Technology, will conduct a seminar in Portland March 31 and April 1 aimed at helping businesses to reduce their energy costs and increase their economic competitiveness.

The two-day seminar, which was quickly filled to capacity, will provide companies the basic knowledge and tools necessary to identify the most common opportunities for energy savings and how to calculate savings potential.

Topics will include such fundamentals as conducting energy audits, purchasing energy, maintenance programs and how to save on heating, ventilation and air conditioning. The seminar, offered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission's Efficiency Maine program, will also address topics such as boiler efficiency, lighting equipment and performance and waste heat recovery.

For many, the advice could not come at a better time.

"Companies in Maine are getting squeezed in the national economic slowdown," says Dunning, who is recognized nationally as an expert in energy efficiency and is one of six key instructors for the Association of Energy Engineers. "Their costs for materials and employee health benefits are rising, while consumer demand for their products may be softening. It's absolutely critical at this time for companies to find ways to reduce energy costs in order to stay competitive during these tough economic conditions."

Artist Collective to Work with Bangor-Area Students During Vacation; Projects to Involve Bangor History

31 Mar 2008

Contact: Joe Carr (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Bangor-area high school students will soon have the unique opportunity to learn about documentary film, interactive design and performance art from members of a renowned traveling artist collective called Slightly Askew.

The University of Maine New Media Department will coordinate the workshops, set for April 21-25 in Bangor. The programming is part of UMaine-City of Bangor Project, funded by a U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development grant, to build university-city partnerships related to youth empowerment, community inclusion and affordable housing.

The Slightly Askew artists travel the world to teach student workshops, to perform and to do multimedia installation. They are currently working on projects in Austin, Tex. and New Orleans, and they regularly work with high school students in Boston, Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

The April Bangor workshops are scheduled for school vacation week. They will take place at the Bangor Y facilities.

The workshops are free and are open to all high school students in the Bangor area, defined as anyone willing to drive to Bangor each day. The Bangor workshops will culminate in a final show in the old Freese's building, next to the Discovery Museum. The show opens on the evening of April 24 and continues throughout the day and evening of April 25.

Organizers are looking for students to participate in the program. Interested students, or teachers who would like to make arrangements for their students to participate should email Abigail Stiers (abigail.stiers@umit.maine.edu). More information about the workshops is at www.thecyberproject.org.

While gathering video footage in Bangor, documentary film workshop students will learn different interview approaches, as well as research and documenting techniques and skills for shooting and editing. They will also research and edit together historical Bangor footage and photos and they will edit the footage into finished projects as well as clips to be used in interactive installations.

Students in the interactive design workshop will implement imaginative ways for viewers to interact with the clips produced in the documentary workshop, and they will use a variety of different kinds of media and materials to create an engaging interactive environment for viewers. The focus will be determined by the students' ideas and interests but could include tracking the movement of the viewers in the space and using sensors and sound to trigger and play back video.

Physical theater project students will create a performance about Bangor that relates to the interviews recorded in the documentary film workshop and the interfaces created for the installation. They will learn techniques of improvisational movement and speech, street performance, miming and clowning, and they will be introduced to ways to create choreography and act for film. Students will have the opportunity to choreograph their own movement pieces, act on film and work with source material to create written sketches and skits about Bangor today and in the past.

Promotion/Tenure for 18 UMaine Professors

02 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine System Board of Trustees, meeting March 9-10, granted tenure and/or promoted 18 University of Maine faculty members.

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Robert A. Brinkley, English

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Fei Chai, Oceanography

Peter O. Koons, Geological Sciences and Climate Change Institute

Tsutomu Ohno, Soil Chemistry

Jonathan D. Rubin, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Resource Economics and Policy

Mark L. Wells, Marine Sciences

Adrienne A. White, Human Nutrition and Foods

GRANTED TENURE AT THE RANK OF PROFESSOR

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

David D. Hart, Biological Sciences

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

College of Education and Human Development

Julie B. Cheville, Literacy Education

Shihfen Tu, Education and Applied Quantitative Methods

College of Engineering

M. Clayton Wheeler, Chemical Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Carla Billitteri, English

Joline Blais, New Media Program

Jack W. Burt, Music

David E. Hiebeler, Mathematics

John Ippolito, New Media Program

John R. Thompson, Physics

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Benildo G. de los Reyes, Biological Sciences

Expert Available to Discuss Alcohol Issues as Alcohol Awareness Month Begins

02 Apr 2008

Contact: Lauri Sidelko, 581-1423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- In recognition of April being national Alcohol Awareness Month, Lauri Sidelko, director of the University of Maine's Alcohol and Drug Education Programs, is available to discuss with news reporters steps the university takes to reduce incidents of underage drinking and alcohol abuse.

UMaine offers programs on prevention, education, enforcement and knowledge of alcohol and other drug policies, and has a zero-tolerance policy on transgressions. While abstention from alcohol is strongly advised for underage students, Sidelko recommends that people of any age who consume alcohol take personal responsibility for their habits.

"We really have focused a lot on friends helping friends, and helping them realize when to step in and take alcohol out of friends' hands," she says. "Typically, people will focus on 'what are we doing to enforce laws on underage drinking?' We have a 'harm-reduction' approach. In addition to notifying students about policies and enforcing them, we encourage people to be responsible and not put themselves in harm's way."

People furnishing alcohol to minors and providing a place for them to drink is a big part of a problem that can lead to binge-drinking, alcohol poisoning and the often irreversible consequences of alcohol abuse, Sidelko says.

Among UMaine's efforts to curb alcohol abuse is the "Wake, Turn, Call, Stay" campaign, which encourages young people to watch one another's backs when alcohol consumption becomes more than a legal issue, and one of safety.

"We have programs, trainings, interventions, treatment and counseling services, policies, enforcement, resources, brochures, posters, meetings and coalitions -- and still students make choices with alcohol that impact their safety and their futures," Sidelko says.

Sidelko says that, nationally, as many as 1,700 college-age students die every year from alcohol-related incidents, and "it is our job to teach them how to be safe," she says.

"What would reduce these alcohol-related problems? I think about this question a lot," Sidelko says, "partly because it is my job, but also because I care about the students I work with on this campus. The answer? Having everyone who lives, works and plays at UMaine be part of the solution to help tackle the dangers of alcohol abuse."

Sidelko can be reached at 581-1423 for more information or interviews on the subject.

New Exhibitions at UMaine Museum of Art

03 Apr 2008

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207)561-3350

ART EXHIBITION April 18 - July 5, 2008

Bangor, Maine

- The University of Maine Museum of Art will present three new exhibitions beginning April 18.

TODD WEBB JOY WITHOUT MEASURE

Todd Webb Joy Without Measure

provides a survey of the artist's evocative photographs of life in Paris and New York City in the 1940s-1950s. The exhibition features 80 gelatin silver prints that highlight Webb's significant contribution to American photography.

A master photographer, Todd Webb's distinctive body of work has attained an important place in the history of American photography. Often described as a "historian with a camera," Webb's wonderfully rich images move beyond historical documentation, reflecting a more lyrical sense of time and place. His images are always deeply human and expressive, whether the subject is a group of children playing hand-in-hand on a hot New York summer day or an abandoned sculpture, left on a Paris street during the Nazi occupation.

Influenced by other well-known American photographers, such as Ansel Adams, Berenice Abbott and Alfred Stieglitz, Webb often worked to explore a particular idea or concept yet he allowed intuition to guide his sense of subject and visual structure. This integration of systematic looking and instinctive seeing is clearly evident in the photographs of *Joy Without Measure*.

Todd Webb first visited Maine in 1947. In 1975 he and his wife Lucille moved to Maine where they spent the last 25 years of his life.

Major funding for *Todd Webb Joy Without Measure* is provided by significant grants from the Maine Arts Commission, an independent state agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the University of Maine's Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series. Generous funding is also provided by Merrill Bank, Bangor Daily News and WBRC Architects and Engineers.

SEAN BEAVERS

Sean Beavers

presents an exhibition of oil paintings by Maine artist Sean Beavers. Beaver's self-described, symbolist paintings evoke a deceptive sense of hyperrealism integrated with alluring allegorical tendencies. His work reflects the 20th century move away from direct representation in art toward a more conceptual motivation for imagery.

Intended to "deceive the eye," Sean Beaver's work reflects more than the physical qualities of the subject matter portrayed. His hypnotic paintings embrace intensely personal, and potentially obscure, references that echo "dreams, desires, frustrations, spirit, emotions, whatever I'm thinking about at the time." Through his attention to detail and the power of illusion, Beaver's paintings tease our perception of reality, creating a sense of place that is both familiar and unknown at the same time. Sean Beavers resides in York.

STAFF SELECTS: WORKS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

Staff Selects

is an exhibition of works which reflects the visual sensibilities and interests of the Museum's staff. The staff was asked to pick several pieces from the collection that they found to be particularly appealing or interesting, and that have not recently been exhibited in the Museum. The result is a wonderfully eclectic assemblage of prints, paintings, and photographs that show the depth and richness of UMMA's collection.

Image Information/Credits

1.

TODD WEBB (American, 1905-2000)

Cafe on Champs Elysees, Paris, 1946

Silver gelatin print, 13 x 10"

Courtesy of Aucocisco Galleries, Portland, ME and the Estate of Todd Webb/Evans Gallery of Fine Art Photographs

2.

TODD WEBB (American, 1905-2000)

Madison Street at Pike Street, New York, 1946

Silver gelatin print, 11 x 14"

Courtesy of Aucocisco Galleries, Portland, ME and the Estate of Todd Webb/Evans Gallery of Fine Art Photographs

3.

SEAN BEAVERS (American, born 1970)

Anjou Evening, 2006

Oil on canvas on panel, 30 x 30"

Courtesy of the artist

4.

WILL BARNETT (American, born 1911)

Waiting, 1975

Screenprint, 33 3/4 x 32 7/8"

86.8.4

Gift of Robert Venn Carr Jr., Class of 1938

UMaine Engineering Team to Test Inflatable Habitats for NASA Moon Mission

03 Apr 2008

Contact: Vince Caccese (207) 581-2131; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- NASA faces many challenges in its quest to establish a colony on the moon by 2020, and providing suitable shelter for the next generation of space explorers is at the top of the list.

An inflatable lunar habitat, one of several concepts now on the drawing boards, must be lightweight and flexible enough to minimize packaging size and transportation costs. Once deployed, the expanded structure must provide its occupants ample living and work space as well as withstand the rigors of the moon's brutal, airless environment for weeks or months on end.

The lunar habitat will have to shield astronauts from cosmic rays and solar radiation while standing up to the impact of micrometeoroids, the volatility of moonquakes, and surface temperatures that fluctuate from 224 degrees to minus degrees 243 Fahrenheit.

The successful habitat design promises to be a marvel of engineering, a rethinking of what constitutes a structure and the methods and materials to make it, and a University of Maine researcher hopes he and his team can have a hand in reaching that goal.

Supported by NASA funds issued through the Maine Space Grant Consortium, Vince Caccese, a professor of mechanical engineering, is examining how flexible fabric-like materials used in inflatable structures wrinkle under shearing strain and how that deformation can be eliminated by making the materials rigid. The rigidifying process, he says, involves treating the materials with a chemical or resin-like material that can then be activated with some form of energy acting as a catalyst.

The UMaine team will include researchers from the departments of mechanical, electrical, civil and environmental engineering as well as graduate and undergraduate students. Researchers plan to run tests on a small inflatable structure developed by a leading aerospace contractor to see how it compares to computer models.

Ali Abedi, a UMaine electrical and computer engineering professor, has devised battery-free, wireless acceleration sensors that will be used to measure the vibration of the test structure during inflation.

Caccese, a structural engineering expert, has extensive experience in the design and analysis of aerospace and naval structures using composites and other advanced materials. He was part of a NASA team that designed an impact detection system for the leading edge of space shuttle wings. The system was used successfully on post-Columbia shuttle missions and earned a NASA award for excellence.

Using the knowledge gained from the inflatable habitat research, he says, the undergraduate students will develop Web-based educational materials that can be used in Maine's K-12 science curriculum.

"My hope is to make a small contribution to a very interesting and challenging project," says Caccese of NASA's Moon, Mars and Beyond mission, "and to have students do things that might get them interested in the space program."

UMaine Phi Beta Kappa Ceremony Monday, April 7

04 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- James R. Fleming, professor of science, technology and society at Colby College, will be the guest speaker

at the 2008 University of Maine Phi Beta Kappa annual initiation. The event is scheduled for Monday, April 7 at 3 p.m. in Buchanan Alumni House. His topic is "The Climate Engineers: Fantasies of Control."

Fleming's work focuses on meteorology, climate change and climate engineering. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and he is the founder and first president of the International Commission on History of meteorology. Fleming, who has written or edited more than a dozen books, has been a visiting scholar at MIT (1992), Harvard (1999), the National Air and Space Museum (2005), and the National Academy of Sciences and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (2006).

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 defined. UMaine has one of only four chapters in Maine (the others at at Bates, Bowdoin and Colby).

Fogler Library Celebrates University of Maine Yearbooks Online

04 Apr 2008

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, 207-581-1696

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Prism Yearbooks present a wonderful opportunity for alumni to revisit their campus years. To the university community as a whole, they offer a unique perspective on the cultural history of the campus and the events that shaped the academic and social lives of our students.

For the past eighteen months, Fogler Library staff members have been engaged in digitizing the full run of the Prism yearbook and completed the final of 107 volumes in early March. The Yearbooks Online, which run from 1895 through 1997, are available to browse page by page from the Library's web site.

To celebrate the completion of the project, we would like to invite members of the University Community and the general public to an afternoon event to be held April 17 from 3-4 p.m. at the University Club. A brief presentation of the project and the resulting resource will lead off the occasion followed by an opportunity for attendees to explore the site on individual wireless laptops with assistance from project team staff. Selected physical copies housed in our Special Collections will also be on display.

We will bring forward just a few of the gems we have uncovered as many alumni have gone on to distinguish themselves in their communities and the world at large. Bion Albert Foster, a 1968 graduate who with his wife Dorain recently donated the naming gift for the Student Innovation Center is but one example. The yearbooks have captured some very distinguished visitors to our campus as well including President John F. Kennedy who addressed the community in the fall of 1963 for Homecoming.

"The digitization of our own collections is the next step in providing the resources that the University Community and the citizens of the State of Maine need for their research," said Joyce Rumery, Dean of Libraries. "The Prism yearbooks provide a fascinating peek into the history of the University and the wider world. They are filled with photographs and memories of our students, faculty, and community. We are pleased to be able to offer this important resource to all our users."

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. We encourage you to stop by and take the premier tour with us.

Maine Masque Theatre's "Cloud 9" Runs April 9-13 in Hauck Auditorium

04 Apr 2008

Contact: Alec Richardson, (207) 749-4165; Karen Cole, (207) 581-4704

ORONO -- The Maine Masque Theatre's newest production, Caryl Churchill's "Cloud 9," running April 9-13 in Hauck Auditorium, offers an intense look at sexuality, social identification and suppression of human sexuality -- and how little really changes over time.

The annual Maine Masque production is a completely student-run theater project, directed, acted and promoted by UMaine students, who also handle set design, costumes, lighting, sound and other aspects of a full stage production. The play runs April 9-12 at 7:30 p.m., with an afternoon performance April 13 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and free for students with MaineCard.

Churchill's Cloud 9 is an intense look into the suppression of human sexuality and its progression or, rather, lack of progression, over the span of 100 years. Act One takes place in the African Savannah during British colonization; Act Two takes place in late 20th century London. While the time gap between acts is 100 years, the characters age only 25 years.

The play is directed by senior Derek Francis, a theatre and mass communications dual major from Eddington.

"The crimes of imperialism are still with us today," Francis says. "Churchill illustrates just how little we have grown in our cultures in terms of our ideals. However, she offers some hope, which is what I hope people will walk away with. These antiquated ideologies are being broken away from."

Cloud 9 also deals with sexual and social identification in a unique way. In Act One, the matriarch of the family, Betty, initially is played by a man, and by a woman in Act Two. Joshua, the family's slave from a local African tribe, is played by a white man. The youngest daughter, Victoria, is played by a doll. Each actor switches characters from Act One to Act Two. The effect heightens the shifts in age and attitude over the 25-year span the characters experience between acts. How much change actually has taken place is left for the audience to decide.

Cloud 9 sets, designed by senior Justin Elie, a theatre major from Auburn, are heavily tied to the historical periods of each act, in a physical and theatrical sense. The juxtaposition of the first and second acts is abrupt. The scenery of the first act is very natural in its creation and display of Africa, but the second act shows a bare stage with a minimalist feel and post-modern aesthetics. Windows hanging in space and few colors make the vibrancy of the first act surreal and distant, reminding the audience that they are, after all, simply watching a play.

"To represent the time change between Act One and Two," says Elie, "the sets reflect the relative theatrical periods of those times."

The separation of the progressions of the world and its inhabitants is jarring. "The audience is meant to see the loss of space -- showing that the world has gotten smaller," Elie explains.

Lighting is important for mood and location. Lighting designer Kurt Krohne brings out the natural warmth of the African set with earthy colors and warm tones, while the set of London is gloomy and industrial.

"Africa is a warm, inviting presence," says Krohne, a fourth-year theatre major from Buckfield. He explains that the idea of a contemporary London culture illustrates that Londoners are "advanced and more in control" and keep nature at a distance. The idea of society having control over nature is a recurring theme in the play, and the use of light illuminates this subtext subtly and naturally.

Helping the audience know which character is which between acts falls on the shoulders of the actors, but also relies on the artistry of costuming. For instance, with Betty's character changing gender and wearing contemporary clothing in the second act, thematic devices are important.

"Betty will have many blues and whites in her outfit, with accessories as connection," says Kevin Jason Koski, a first-year theatre major from Auburn and Cloud 9 costume designer.

While colors and accessories are visually apparent, Koski's costume designs go farther. Each character appearing in Act Two retains some part of the first act's costume.

"In individual expression, we have progressed," says Koski of modern society. "We may still be repressed, but we are learning to individualize ourselves."

For information about the play, call the Maine Center for the Arts Box office at 581-1755. Cloud 9 is recommended for mature audiences.

UMaine Junior Wins Truman Scholarship

07 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A University of Maine junior from Hampden is one of just 65 college students announced recently as the 2008 Truman Scholars. Erin McKenzie, an accounting major who served ten years in the Air Force before enrolling at UMaine, is an aspiring attorney who plans to practice family law. Her career interests relate specifically to family advocacy programs and policies concerning children's education and opportunities for those with developmental disabilities.

"The Truman Scholarship is one of the most sought after and prestigious awards of its kind in the nation." says Prof. Timothy Cole of the UMaine political science faculty, the university's Truman Scholar faculty representative. "For a student to be named a Truman Scholar, she must not only have an exemplary scholastic record but must also hold up to a rigorous if not withering interview process, all in the context of a pool of candidates with great talents and drive. To win, a student has to have a compelling case, and Erin clearly fit this description. When her application left campus, I had a very good feeling about her prospects."

McKenzie is UMaine's second Truman Scholar, following 1998 awardee Scott Labby. Some 595 students from all around the U.S. applied for 2008 Truman Scholarships.

The Harry Truman Scholarship Foundation looks for juniors "with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in public service." The foundation provides scholars with financial support for graduate study or other purposes, aimed at students who plan to make a difference through public service.

Now in its 30th year of awarding scholarships, the foundation was created by an act of Congress in honor of President Truman.

The granddaughter of an accountant, McKenzie graduated from Souhegan High School in Amherst, N.H. in 1994. After a year-and-a-half in the workforce, she joined the U.S. Air Force, working in accounting and finance for ten years and gaining the rank of technical sergeant. After leaving the Air Force in February 2006, McKenzie worked for J.S. Sewall Company in Old Town until enrolling full-time at UMaine. She is currently a member of the Air National Guard.

"This scholarship opens up new opportunities for me, and makes possible my dream of attending law school," McKenzie says. "The Truman Foundation's principles are in line with my own. I have long planned on working in public service, and the foundation's support, which I appreciate very much, will help me accomplish that goal."

McKenzie lives in Hampden with her four-year-old son Connor. She is on schedule to graduate from UMaine in May

2009.

2008 Juried Student Art Exhibition 'Art Matters' Opening April 8

07 Apr 2008

Contact: Krista Molnar-Smith, 581-3258; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO --"Art Matters," the 2008 Juried Student Art Exhibition in the Department of Art at the University of Maine, is opening April 8 and runs through May 2 at Lord Hall Galleries on the UMaine campus with a collection of about 100 diverse pieces by as many as 85 students.

An opening reception, which will feature a student award ceremony and an art auction to benefit refugees in Darfur, will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 11. The event is free and open to the public.

As part of a service-learning project, students in professor Laurie Hicks' Topics in Art Education class have organized a silent art auction to benefit Help Darfur Now. The nonprofit organization aims to raise awareness of genocide in Darfur, Sudan, as well as funding for humanitarian aid in the region. The auction includes work by UMaine students and faculty, including Orono artist Michael Lewis.

The end-of-semester show includes paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography and digital art. Students may submit more than one piece. This semester, seven Department of Art faculty members considered about 350 pieces and selected 100 for the show, according to Majo Keleshian, Lord Hall Galleries manager.

Lord Hall is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; exhibits are free.

For information, Keleshian can be reached at 581-3267. For information on the auction, Hicks can be reached at 581-3247.

UMaine Career Center Program to Explore Federal Job Options

08 Apr 2008

Contact: Sherry Treworgy, 581-1356; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The nation's largest employer -- the United States government, with a workforce of 1.8 million workers -- is facing significant and immediate personnel reductions, as nearly a million people will be eligible to retire as soon as this year.

Recognizing an urgent need to fill 193,000 "mission-critical" jobs in the next two years, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and the UMaine Career Center are teaming up to present a program April 15 at 4 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, to encourage UMaine students to consider internships and careers with the federal government.

Federal jobs are available nationwide and abroad, with 50,000 federal employees working overseas and 85 percent of federal positions located outside the Washington, D.C. area, according to the Partnership for Public Service. Federal jobs are available for graduates from most academic disciplines, and the government also can provide loan repayment assistance for top candidates in certain fields, and has special scholarship programs that can pay for undergraduate- and graduate-level studies.

The federal government also has many federal internships it wants college students to know about.

On April 15, Julie Saad from the Office of Personnel Management will speak to students and answer questions about federal job opportunities, salaries and benefits. She'll also explain how to conduct a federal job search and how to apply.

Sherry Treworgy of the UMaine Career Center says the prospect of so many federal employees approaching retirement age has increased the need to attract promising young people to federal employment.

The April 15 program is sponsored by the university Career Center and the Annenberg Speakers Bureau of the Partnership for Public Service.

For additional details, call the UMaine Career Center at (207) 581-1359. This public event is free.

UMaine Sorority Leads Charge for All Chapters to Go Green

08 Apr 2008

Contact: Stephanie Palmer, 207-650-0457, Ashley Hoskins, 944-9519, or Casey Johnson Bromberg, 949-0497 Delta Zeta Brings Resolution for Sororities to Join Together to Fight Global Warming by Acting Locally

ORONO -- In anticipation of Earth Day later this month, the University of Maine's Delta Zeta Sorority will present a resolution at this Thursday's UMaine Panhellenic Council meeting to encourage all sororities and their members on campus to adopt environmentally-friendly practices in their day-to-day lives and in their chapter rooms. If the resolution passes, UMaine's Panhellenic Council will be one of the first in the country to officially become "green."

The Panhellenic Council is the UMaine organization that represents women students in Greek organizations.

"This is something that's really important to us, and we know a lot of women in other sororities care about what they can do to reduce global warming," says Delta Zeta's Chapter President Ashley Hoskins. "One person can make a difference, but if every one of the more than 300 sorority women on campus starts to pitch in, we can make a significant difference. We're even helping the other chapters get started by giving them canvas shopping bags and CFL light bulbs."

The resolution states that all sororities and Panhellenic-sponsored programs will make an effort to be "green" through chapter recycling plans, community service activities, campus awareness initiatives and group purchases.

"Going green doesn't just make sense from a global perspective, it's also going to help our chapters save money," says Panhellenic Council Treasurer Stephanie Palmer, also a Delta Zeta sister. "This resolution encourages us as a Panhellenic to think about the choices we're making. We also know that reducing, reusing and recycling more means we're going to find ways to spend our money more efficiently."

Chapter members were inspired to bring the resolution forward after attending a regional conference with other Delta Zetas from throughout New England. The keynote speaker, human rights activist and Delta Zeta alumna Dr. Lee Ann DeReus challenged the women to find something that they cared about and find ways to make a difference on campus as well as in their everyday lives.

Delta Zeta's national organization also recently launched an initiative to encourage all its chapters and alumnae to go green. The program has generated a lot of discussion among chapter members about how they could take responsibility for their personal carbon footprints.

The six UMaine National Panhellenic Conference sororities (Alpha Phi, Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Zeta, Pi Beta Phi, Phi Mu, and Chi Omega) and local sorority associate member organization Delta Rho Epsilon will initially consider Delta Zeta's resolution at the Panhellenic Council meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday at UMaine's Memorial Union.

Proposed Resolution To be brought before the University of Maine Panhellenic Council By Delta Zeta Panhellenic Delegate Casey Kenahan

Resolution

- Whereas, the faculty, administration, and student body have a demonstrated long-standing commitment to improving the campus and community through policies, programming, and beautification initiatives;
- Whereas, students at the University of Maine have increasing concerns about their role in preventing global warming;
- Whereas, Greek organizations are inherently socially responsible groups dedicated to improving the world around them;
- Whereas, sorority women at the University of Maine have unique opportunities to show leadership and inspire other students on campus;
- Whereas, many of our collegiate and alumnae members are already taking personal strides to become more environmentally-conscious by "going green" in their daily lives;
- Therefore, be it resolved that members of the National Panhellenic Conference on the University of Maine campus shall
- adopt and encourage environmentally-friendly practices with their chapter members, campus, and surrounding community;
- review policies for chapter houses, chapter rooms, shared chapter spaces, and chapter events to find better ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle;
- purchase and utilize environmentally friendly products whenever possible;
- promote individual efforts for reducing the carbon footprints of its members through periodic educational programming;
- initiate and/or participate in beautification projects at chapter houses, on campus, and throughout the state of Maine;
- communicate the importance of eco-friendly practices to fellow students, family, friends and community members.

About Delta Zeta at the University of Maine

With 55 undergraduate members, the Alpha Upsilon chapter of Delta Zeta was founded on the University of Maine campus in 1924. Chapter members perform hundreds of hours of community service each year and established a scholarship for local families to receive assistance from the Conley Speech and Hearing Center on campus. The chapter also donates throughout the year to the Delta Zeta Foundation, which supports speech and hearing services worldwide and the Painted Turtle Camp, one of actor Paul Newman's "hole-in-the-wall gang" camps for children with life-threatening illnesses.

On campus, Delta Zeta members are also part of numerous campus organizations and honor societies, including the prestigious All Maine Women, and in Fall 2007 had the highest grade point average of any National Panhellenic Conference-affiliated sorority at the University of Maine. The chapter recently received the Delta Zeta Region 1 Crest Award for all-around chapter improvement. Chapter President Ashley Hoskins also received the Karen Kind Veitch award for outstanding achievement by a senior collegiate member for all of New England.

UMaine Museum Offering 'Pathways to the Past' for Children on April Vacation

08 Apr 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-1400; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Tired of the usual April vacation destinations, high gasoline prices and crowded airports? The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum is suggesting a little-time traveling as a different choice this year for area

families with elementary and middle school-aged children.

Children ages 6-12 can travel back in time through "Pathways to the Past," a morning history-fun week of programs offered April 21-25 at the farm and home museum on the Orono campus.

Each day will offer, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., its own novel hands-on explorations of what life was like before electricity came to rural Maine.

Monday will feature an old-fashioned look at "HomeWork," not the kind you do for school, but the creative and often-challenging tasks common in an old-fashioned home, churning butter or making soap or candles, for instance.

Tuesday, "Earth Day," will focus on garden activities.

Wednesday will be devoted to farm animals, and may feature some surprise guests.

On Thursday, "Past Times Pastimes" will explore toys, games and other leisure-time activities that children enjoyed long ago.

Friday will be "Folk Art Day," with stenciling, wool spinning and similar activities.

Parents are invited to bring their children in for one, several or all of the morning events.

There is a \$3 per-child materials fee for each day. Participants are encouraged to register in advance for the days they'd like to attend, so farm and home museum staff can prepare enough materials for everyone.

To register, or for more information about the "Pathways to the Past" vacation program, please call the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100.

The Page Farm and 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 children and adults, and a resource for researchers of this period.

UMaine Symphonic Band, South Portland High Musicians to Play Merrill Hall April 10

08 Apr 2008

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

PORTLAND --The University of Maine Symphonic Band and South Portland High School Wind Ensemble are teaming up for an evening of music spanning three centuries on Thursday, April 10, at Merrill Hall Auditorium in Portland.

The performance is at 7:30 p.m. There is no admission charge, although donations will be accepted.

The first half of the program begins with the South Portland High School Wind Ensemble. Works include: a dance-fusion piece titled "Bandancing," by Jack Stamp, a former South Portland Wind Ensemble conductor during a residency in 2002; "Ever Braver, Ever Stronger -- An American Elegy," a piece inspired by events of 911 and the post-911 words of encouragement by former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani; "The Inferno," a piece based on the 12th-century epic poem, "Divine Comedy" by Dante; and "Sinfonia Voci," ("I Sing the Mighty Power of God"), a piece commissioned by the Plainfield (Indiana) High School Band Boosters, based on a 16th-century hymn and text and dedicated to the 29 people who lost their lives and 350 people injured in a tornado there in 1990.

The University of Maine Symphonic Band will perform after the intermission, with "Call to the Mall"; "Alleluia! Laudamus Te"; "Meditation from 'Thais'"; "Metroplex"; "A Movement for Rosa"; "Variations on a Maine Theme," by

Craig Skeffington; "Pagan Dances"; and "Finale from Symphony No. 1 in G Minor."

The Symphonic Band is composed of 60 or more aspiring instrumentalists chosen from students of varied academic disciplines; membership in the organization is determined by audition. The Symphonic Band performs several times each year on campus and throughout New England.

Conductors include School of Performing Arts faculty members Curvin Farnham, director of bands, Christopher White, director of sports bands; and UMaine alum Craig Skeffington, a professional musician, composer and conductor of the South Portland High School Band; and Brady Harris, a former UMaine student and current Brewer High School music teacher who conducts the Brewer High's concert band and jazz, woodwind, brass and other ensembles.

Harris, a graduate student in the UMaine Master of Music Conducting program, also serves as the bandmaster and commander of the 195th Army Band of the Maine Army National Guard. He has been a guest conductor and clinician for more than 15 years and performs regularly as a guitarist with the progressive jazz group Aurora Jazz Project, as a trombonist in several musical organizations and is an active composer and arranger.

Skeffington, who earned a bachelor's degree in music in 1992 at UMaine, was the 2003 MMEA Teacher of the Year and recently by the national trade magazine "School Band and Orchestra" as one of "50 Directors Who Make a Difference." His wind and concert groups at South Portland High School have achieved distinction at the local, regional and national levels, consistently receiving gold recognition at evaluated events.

Skeffington has been an active New England composer and arranger for the past two decades and is an instructor in jazz arranging and applied writing at the University of Southern Maine. As a professional trumpet player, he has played with well-known stars, including Barry Manilow, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Natalie Cole, The New York Voices and he toured with the Artie Shaw Orchestra. Locally, he works with the Seacoast Big Band and the Portland Jazz Orchestra.

Farnham is the coordinator of the School of Performing Arts and teaches courses in instrumental music education and teaches conducting at the graduate level. Farnham appears throughout the United States and Canada as a clinician, adjudicator and conductor, and has been a guest conductor at several national and international festivals.

UMaine sports bands under Christopher White's direction have performed throughout New England and across the nation, including Louisiana, California and Virginia. White also teaches percussion methods, marching techniques, conducting and undergraduate studio percussion. He has played percussion with the Maine State Ballet Orchestra, the Bangor Symphony Orchestra and has performed at P.A.S.I.C. with the UMaine Percussion Ensemble.

For additional details, call Karen Cole at (207) 949-2342.

UMaine Professor Offers Outreach in Mathematical Biology to Maine High School Teachers, Students

08 Apr 2008

Contact: David Hiebeler, 581-3924

ORONO -- Starting this fall, Maine high school students can work alongside University of Maine researchers as part of a unique outreach effort at the SPEED (Spatial Population Ecological and Epidemiological Dynamics) Lab. Under the guidance of David Hiebeler, a professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, the lab's research team builds computational and mathematical models of populations, which describe their behavior over time under a variety of simulated environmental conditions.

Real-world applications for the research include understanding more effective pesticide application in Maine blueberry fields, studying how infectious diseases spread and predicting -- and perhaps combating -- the worldwide spread of a computer worm.

In the lab, Hiebeler works with UMaine undergraduates, some of whom plan to teach at the K-12 level after graduation. However, he would like to engage math and science teachers already working in Maine high schools, as well.

To that end, Hiebeler will offer talks in schools this spring that introduce students and teachers in eastern Maine to modeling and simulation in mathematical biology. This fall, interested high school students will meet weekly on campus to begin training with Hiebeler and his undergraduate students, and later become directly involved in SPEED Lab research projects.

Teachers interested in having Hiebeler speak at their school should contact him at 581-3924. The free talks and student outreach are made possible by a \$180,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

For Hiebeler, whose current research centers on mathematical population ecology and epidemiology, such opportunities enriched his academic experience when he was a student.

"One research project opened the door to another research project," Hiebeler said. "It can only snowball. At least that's my hope."

For more information about the SPEED Lab, visit <http://www.math.umaine.edu/faculty/hiebeler/speedlab>.

UMaine Navy ROTC 5K to Benefit Camp CaPella

09 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Camp CaPella, a Lucerne facility that provides summer camp programming for children and adults with developmental or physical disabilities, will benefit from an April 26 5K run sponsored by the University of Maine Navy ROTC unit. All proceeds will go directly to Camp CaPella to support its summer activities.

"Camp CaPella serves an important need in our communities, and we feel fortunate to have the opportunity to help its staff and volunteers meet their admirable goals," says Capt. James Settele, the NROTC commanding officer at UMaine and Maine Maritime Academy. "All of our students are looking forward to the opportunity to help our friends and neighbors enjoy a beautiful Maine summer on Phillips Lake."

The race will start at 9 a.m. on April 26, beginning at the University of Maine Field House in Orono. Race information and an entry form are on the Camp CaPella website at <http://www.campcapella.org/new-25.htm>.

For more information, contact Tyler Garrett at (207) 991-1078 or tyler_garrett@umit.maine.edu.

Terrorism Expert to Give April 18 Talk at UMaine

09 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Col. Michael J. Meese, a U.S. Military Academy at West Point professor who leads that institution's Combating Terrorism Center, will deliver a University of Maine talk on Friday April 18 from 11 a.m.-12 noon at Minsky Recital Hall. Meese is also head of the academy's Dept. of Social Sciences, where he teaches economics and national security courses.

Part of UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce Guest Lecture Series, Meese's presentation is entitled "Terrorism: A World View." He will discuss the challenges created by geopolitical dynamics and terrorist movements around the world.

The event is free and open to the public and the program will feature a question-and-answer segment. UMaine faculty members who would like to have an entire class attend should call the Cohen Center's Jan Staples at 767-3408.

The William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce was created in 1997, honoring the former Maine Senator and U.S. Secretary of Defense from Bangor who once taught business law at UMaine. The center serves as a focal point for education, outreach and research on important and timely international issues. The center's programs and resources benefit historians, students, public servants, business people and the general public. UMaine's Fogler Library is also home to the William S. Cohen Archive.

UMaine Child Welfare Conference April 17 Seeks Permanency for Foster Children

09 Apr 2008

Contact: Nancy Kelly, (207) 581-2378; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO --The University of Maine School of Social Work and the Community Child Welfare Conference Committee is inviting people who work with children in child welfare systems to attend the 14th Annual Child Welfare Conference, Thursday, April 17, at the Buchanan Alumni House on the Orono campus.

This year's conference, "Seeking Creative Solutions for Permanency: A Focus on Complex Trauma and Related Challenges," features keynote speaker Lynn Sanford, LICSW, an author and faculty member at Simmons College Graduate School of Social Work with extensive field experience working with survivors of sexual assault and children with sexual behavior problems.

The title of Sanford's talk is "Are You My Mother? Multiple Placement Disruption in the Lives of Children."

The conference is designed for social service professionals, educators, nurses, law enforcement personnel, foster parents, adoptive parents, residential care providers, medical professionals and caregivers. It is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A \$65 conference fee includes lunch.

A panel discussion, "Broadening the Definition of Permanency: The Permanency Continuum," includes Heather Lahti, LCSW, Maine deputy director, Casey Family Services; Carolyn Morrison, LCSW, National Indian Child Welfare Association consultant; Virginia S. Marriner, director of policy and practice, Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Barbara Kates, director, Maine Kids-Kin and Family and Children Together; Robin Whitney, assistant program administrator, Office of Child and Family Services, DHHS; and a child and prospective parent.

The Community Child Welfare Conference Committee is an interdisciplinary collaborative of community professionals including medical, law enforcement and social service professionals from Eastern Maine Medical Center, Casey Family Services, Penobscot Community Health, Bangor Police Department, Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, Community Care, DHHS and the Office of Child and Family Services, and the University of Maine School of Social Work. Additionally, the conference has been financially supported this year by Casey Family Services.

For more information or to register please call (207) 581-2398 or email rarnold@maine.edu.

UMaine Summer Camp Showcase April 24

10 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Summer camp opportunities at the University of Maine will be highlighted at a Summer Camp Showcase, scheduled for UMaine's Student Recreation Center on Thursday April 24 from 4-6 p.m.

The program will feature information about UMaine's Sam Sezak Sports Camps, Maine Summer Youth Music Program and Campus Recreation Camps.

Campus Recreation Camps include Recreation Activity Day (RAD) Camps for children in grades 1-8, overnight Outdoor Adventure Camps for children ages 13-16 and overnight Canoe Camping Trips for the entire family.

The acclaimed Maine Summer Youth Music Program is scheduled for July. The junior camp, for children in grades 5-8, is set for July 13-18. The senior camp, for students in grades 8-12, is scheduled for July 20-Aug. 1. Resident and commuter options are available in each case.

UMaine varsity coaches Jack Cosgrove (football), Cindy Blodgett (basketball), Skip Nitardy (swimming), Tim Whitehead (hockey), Scott Atherley (soccer), Steve Trimper (baseball), Josette Babineau (field hockey), Pat Laughlin (soccer), Dan Lichterman (hockey), Lynn Atherley (volleyball) and Mark Lech (track and field) will participate in the April 24 program.

Families may use the Rec Center pool, free of charge, from 3-4 p.m., in advance of the Summer Camp Showcase. More details are online at <http://www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation/>.

UMaine Prof. Robert Steneck to Give Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture

10 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- Robert S. Steneck, University of Maine professor of oceanography, marine biology and marine policy, will give the 2008 Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture. The lecture is set for UMaine's Maine Day, Wednesday, April 30 at 3 p.m. in Buchanan Alumni House's McIntire Room. Steneck will give a talk entitled "Considering the Future of our Seas Through the Lens of History."

Steneck is a marine ecologist whose laboratories are kelp beds of North America and coral reefs in the Caribbean and Indo-Pacific. In those locations, he studies lobsters, sea urchins, fish, corals, historical ecology, global climate change and the science of managing marine resources. His work has attracted attention from national and international media including *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *National Geographic*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Newsweek*, *National Public Radio* and *The New Yorker*. Steneck's research has resulted in more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications.

Steneck played an important role in establishing UMaine's Semester by the Sea program at the university's Darling Marine Center in Walpole. Semester by the Sea enables undergraduate students to experience Maine's marine environment first-hand.

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 the editor at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. He retired from UMaine in 1974.

The public is invited; light refreshments will follow the lecture.

Novelist to Read from *Stealing Nasreen* April 15-16

10 Apr 2008

Contact: Mazie Hough, 581-1228; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Farzana Doctor, a Toronto-based lesbian writer, educator and social worker, will be at the University of Maine and at the Bangor Public Library April 15 and April 16 to read from her critically acclaimed first novel *Stealing Nasreen*.

Doctor's appearance has been organized by the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program and the Division of Student Affairs, and is part of Gay Pride Week at UMaine.

Stealing Nasreen

is a book about a doomed love triangle, and explores what happens when a South Asian lesbian becomes enmeshed in the lives of a new immigrant couple from Mumbai.

The author will appear Tuesday, April 15, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Bangor Public Library at 145 Harlow Street and April 16, 12:15-1:30 p.m., in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union at the University of Maine. For information about the Bangor reading, call 947-8336, and or 581-1228 for information about Doctor's Orono appearance.

Both events are free and open to the public. Copies of *Stealing Nasreen* will be available for sale.

Farzana Doctor describes herself as a "queer writer." A Toronto-based, educator and consultant, Doctor also is experienced in counseling marginalized groups including the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transsexual communities.

Her work has been published in Siren Magazine, Trikone, Sightlines 7 Anthology, NOW Magazine and Aurat Durbar. She has also had chapters, reviews and articles published in edited books and journals, has co-written a manual for therapists, co-written plays, and co-produced a documentary video. She is currently working on her second novel.

For more information about Doctor, check out www.farzanadoctor.com

Chemical Reaction Propels UMaine Student Car to First Place Honors

10 Apr 2008

Contact: John Hwalek (207) 581-2302; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A small hydrogen-fueled vehicle built by a team of University of Maine chemical engineering students took top honors at the northeast regional Chem-E-Car competition, held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

With the first-place win on March 25, the second in three years by a UMaine team, the shoebox-size car earned a slot in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) national Chem-E-Car championships that will take place in Philadelphia in November.

The goal of the Chem-E-Car challenge is to create some form of chemical reaction that will power a student-built car as it carries a designated amount of water over a specified distance. The car that stops closest to the finish line wins, which means the students must carefully calculate the chemical reactions to create controlled and reproducible results.

"At a time when the United States is focused on looking for alternative fuels," notes the AIChE, "the Chem-E-Car competition is an important venue for college students to learn about chemical reactions that can move vehicles."

The UMaine team's hydrogen fuel cell power source, and iodine chemical-clock stopping mechanism, represented how much more sophisticated the competition has become since it began in 1999. Back then, many cars were powered simply by a jet of liquid squirted rearward. A team might mix baking soda and vinegar in a plastic bottle, for instance, set the bottle on the car, uncap it and let it fly. Over the years, some teams -- UMaine included --- have propelled cars with the oxygen created by mixing pureed beef liver with hydrogen peroxide.

The results were predictably messy, wet and smelly -- not exactly the sort of safe and environmentally responsible science its sponsor organization hoped to instill in its next generation of chemical engineers. So today, the contest allows no discharge of materials, except for innocuous gases.

The teams are not told exactly how far their cars will have to travel, or how much weight they'll carry, until an hour before the competition begins. Once those details are announced, the teams scramble to make their calculations. On its first try -- each team is allowed two -- the UMaine car moved faster than its builders anticipated and overshot the designated 50-foot line by 10 feet.

After adjusting the reaction, the 10-member team set the car on the track for its final attempt, hit the switch, and stood watching anxiously. The little car rolled away, at two feet a second, spurred on by the wonders of chemistry and the team's slow, rhythmic clapping.

"We had put so much work into it, months of work, so we were really feeling the pressure on that second run," says Sam Gerges, a senior and the captain of the UMaine team that was advised by John Hwalek, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering.

Having successfully gotten the car to move, the team now had to worry about where it would stop. That's where the chemical clock came in. On the car was a chemical solution, through which an LED light passed before reaching a sensor. The clear solution would progressively darken until the light could no longer penetrate it, thereby breaking the circuit and stopping the motor. If the student calculations were correct, that would happen very near the 50-foot line.

And it did. The car came to rest a mere 23 inches beyond the mark, as the students leaped and whooped and shared high-fives. Its nearest competitor, the car from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, came in second place after stopping three feet from the line.

"If we'd had a third try," says Gerges, "we would have nailed it."

The other team members are seniors Heather Glidden, Nicholas Landry, Katherine Lumino, Brandon Meyer, Andrew Pierce, Amy St. Peter and Megan Worcester; sophomores Thomas Schwartz and Gregory Worster, and first-year students Jeffrey Galle and Mathew Pagurko.

UMaine Jordan Planetarium Planning Special Vacation Week Star Shows

10 Apr 2008

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341

ORONO -- It's spring cleaning time and UMaine's Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium is polishing up its stars for special

duty this school vacation week, April 20-26. Children, friends and family can see a variety of star shows for young and old that will take them on adventures into the cosmos.

Every Saturday evening at 7 p.m., the Planetarium's newest Omnidome program, "Black Holes," uses computer animation to travel among the stars in search of these exotic engines of superpower. Planetarium Director Alan Davenport says young skywatchers will thrill to the adventure of a teddy bear in a "Wilbear's Adventure" Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m.

Special morning and matinee showings added for vacation school week will explore all kinds of space subjects: Monday at 11 a.m., "Earth's Wild Ride" watches the Earth undergo some of its most exciting events during an eclipse that can be seen from a futuristic moon colony. Tuesday at 2 p.m., "Destination Pluto" takes a trip all the way to the edge of the solar system with close-up looks at each planet. Wednesday at 11 a.m., "Our Sky Family" gives youngsters a very friendly introduction to the planetarium and several very talkative planets that tell us about themselves. Thursday at 2 p.m., "Hubble Vision" looks at some of the most beautiful and exciting subjects in deep space through the lens of the lens of the Hubble Space Telescope. And Friday has two features with a solar system trip called "Worlds of Wonder" at 11 a.m., and a close-up look at a system of rings, moons and the giant planet called Saturn in "Ring World" at 7 p.m.

The vacation week line-up brings space down to earth for young, old and in-between in the star theater on the Orono campus. Tickets for planetarium programs are \$3 per person at the door, and can be reserved in advance by calling the Jordan Planetarium. For more information including the age appeal for each show, visit the Jordan Planetarium website at www.GalaxyMaine.com or call 581-1341.

In addition to star theater programs that travel into space no matter what the weather, skywatchers of all ages can enjoy looking through a real telescope on clear Friday or Saturday evenings from 8-10 p.m. Those evenings, the Jordan Observatory beside the Memorial Student Union on the Orono campus is open and free to see with volunteers ready to welcome visitors and explain what the Alvan Clark refractor telescope is showing.

Saturn is high in the spring sky this year, and is just one of the many targets that include the moon, gas clouds, giant star clusters and more. Telescopes can collect enough light to see the faintest, farthest objects in space, but they are limited by their environment, so weather is a factor when planning observations. In order to make certain the observatory will be open, visitors should call ahead to the observatory information line, 581-1348, after 7 p.m. Visitors also should plan to dress for cold weather, as the observatory is unheated.

Panel to Discuss Franco Impact on Maine Politics and Government

10 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Three authorities on Maine politics will participate in a Thursday, April 24 University of Maine panel discussion on ethnicity and politics in Maine.

The forum is scheduled for 3-5 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bumps Room.

Christian Potholm, the DeAlva Stanwood Alexander Professor of Government at Bowdoin College, will discuss "Franco American Voting Patterns." Potholm has written three books about Maine politics, and he has served as a strategics for some of the state's leading political figures of the past four decades. He also operates a national polling firm, Command Research.

"Franco Americans in Biddeford, Maine" will be the subject of a talk by Rep. Alan Casavant, a first-term Democrat representing part of that community in Augusta. Casavant grew up in Biddeford, where he has been active in political and cultural organizations. He is a Biddeford High school teacher. In that role, he coordinates an annual high school

student exchange program with a Quebec school.

Paul Jacques, deputy commissioner of Maine's Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, will talk about "Americans in the Maine State Government." Jacques represented Waterville in the Maine Legislature for nine terms, including service as the House Majority Leader and the House Democratic Leader. He is active in statewide and community organizations, including the Maine Indian Tribal State Commission and the American Legion Boys State program, of which he is director.

Prof. James Warhola from the UMaine Dept. of Political Science will provide introductory remarks.

UMaine's Dept. of Franco American Studies, Dept. of Political Science, Maine Studies Program and Diversity Initiative Committee are the program sponsors. For more information, call 581-3791.

April 18 Service to Honor the Memory of Prof. Burton Hatlen

11 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will celebrate the life of Burton Hatlen, a legendary professor who served on the UMaine English faculty for more than four decades, with a Friday April 18 service at the Newman Center on College Ave. The program will begin at 2:30 p.m. and it will feature remarks from some of those who knew Hatlen best, including family members and UMaine colleagues.

Hatlen died on Jan. 21 at the age of 71. His UMaine accomplishments include an instrumental role in the development of the National Poetry Foundation, of which he was director for 15 years. A literary scholar who developed an international reputation as an expert on poetry and poetics, Hatlen earned UMaine's Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 1996.

A slideshow created by Hatlen's daughter, Inger, will be part of the April 18 event. An informal reception will follow the program.

UMaine Research Paper Wins Top Award From International Engineering Society

11 Apr 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A research paper written by Rodrigo Silva-Mu

Promoting Manners and Etiquette; Things They Don't Teach You in Class--Business Etiquette Dinner at UMaine April 23

11 Apr 2008

Contact: Michael Carrington 272-7298, Omar Khan, 581-1949, Cathy Marquez, 581-1353

ORONO - Usually, it is parents who badger the kids about good table manners, but at the University of Maine, a student

group in the Maine Business School is asking for a little help with etiquette.

They know they'll soon be swapping their sweatpants and flip flops for more formal attire and job functions that will often involve a formal meal.

Members of the UMaine Chapter of the American Marketing Association will hold their annual business etiquette dinner Wednesday, April 23 at the University Club in Fogler Library. The event starts at 4:30 with a before-dinner reception and covers business etiquette, table manners and proper table settings. At 5:30, faculty, employers and others will join the group for dinner, and a range of conversations about proper dining etiquette.

Opening the night will be Paula Paradis from the Buchanan Alumni House who will discuss proper table setting and the correct way to use utensils, and in what order. Cathy Marquez, from the University of Maine Career Center will lead a PowerPoint discussion on the dos and don'ts of social and dining etiquette

Each table will have a host, some of whom will be employers who have hired UMaine grads over the past years. Each host will lead table discussion of "dos and don'ts" and offer his or her tips regarding formal dining experiences as examples of what is acceptable. The event will certainly be an engaging learning experience and useful for students who are graduating or soon will be.

"It is important that students have taken the time to review their table manners, how they engage others in conversation and all the small details regarding polite and courteous interactions with others," says Marquez. "It is crucial for all students, not just business students, to learn proper etiquette, even if outside a formal, interview setting. The skills learned now can only help in the future.

"While in college, most students say they usually have very little time to sit down to a meal with groups of people and even when they do, these are almost never formal situations where they are being judged on their manners and their dining etiquette, so an etiquette dinner is a great way to brush up." Marquez continues. "This event teaches you more than they can learn in a classroom. There are no classes on proper etiquette, how to carry an intelligent conversation or how to have the proper manners. Hands-on experience and actually practicing is the best way to learn etiquette."

"I think it is great! We are adults now, it is time to act like it and it's important for us to have something like this. No one wants to be embarrassed when interviewing with someone or sitting down to a nice dinner with your boss, why wouldn't you want to do something like this?" says Bethany Mealey, a finance/marketing major at UMaine.

A lot of business activity is conducted outside the office today. To be at ease in every situation, no matter how formal, is a valuable lesson indeed.

Students and others who want to learn more about dining etiquette should call Michael Carrington at (207) 272-7298, Cathy Marquez at (207) 581-1359 or Omar Khan at (207) 581-1949, or email on FirstClass.

University of Maine Foundation Recognized for Support of Camp Susan Curtis Art Education Center

11 Apr 2008

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, President, University of Maine Foundation (207) 581-5100

ORONO -- At its recent annual benefit dinner and dance, the Susan L. Curtis Foundation recognized the University of Maine Foundation for its support of the Camp Susan Curtis Arts Education Center at the Hewnoaks Volk Family Center in Lovell.

The benefit was held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland.

The University of Maine Foundation leases the Hewnoaks Volk Center to Camp Susan Curtis to operate an art education center, providing educational programs in a summer camp format for disadvantaged Maine teenagers. The innovative approach uses various forms of art and history, along with the influence of the Maine landscape, to teach and inspire young artists. In addition, the program encompasses various life and social skill lessons and is offered tuition-free to at-risk Maine teenagers.

The fifteen acre property on Kezar Lake was bequeathed to the University of Maine Foundation by a Volk family member in 2005 with a preference for art education. It is one of the largest gifts the University of Maine has ever received.

Amos Orcutt, president and CEO, accepted the award, an oil painting of a Camp Susan Curtis camper done by the camp's program director, Eric Kuntz, on behalf of the Foundation.

"The decision to establish the partnership with Camp Susan Curtis was easy; it was the right thing to do," Orcutt said, addressing the audience of 400. "The best possible investment we can make is in our youth. We are happy to play a role in improving the future of Maine's children through this wonderful partnership."

Since its establishment more than 35 years ago by former Maine Governor Kenneth Curtis and his wife Polly, in memory of their daughter Susan, Camp Susan Curtis has been dedicated to serving disadvantaged and at-risk youth of Maine with more than 13,000 Maine children attending camp sessions.

April 29 Dedication at UMaine Lab Named for Beloved Professor

14 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (9207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine engineering students can learn the principles behind today's electronic and computing devices at a laboratory that will be named in memory of Prof. Al Whitney who died last year after teaching at Maine's flagship university for nearly 30 years.

Thanks to gifts from 300 friends, colleagues and former students, the Allison I. Whitney '62 Electronics Laboratory will be dedicated during a ceremony from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, in the Arthur Hill Auditorium in the Engineering Science and Research Building adjoining Barrows Hall.

The endowment in Prof. Whitney's name will support the purchase of equipment for the lab where electrical and computer engineering students focus on the properties of semiconductors, which are at the heart of devices such as cell phones, video games and computers. The fund also may be used to assist other electrical and computer engineering labs.

Whitney, who retired in the spring of 2006, passed away on March 10, 2007, after battling cancer for two years. He is remembered as an exceptional teacher who was tough but fair, and whose youthful attitude made him a favorite of students and colleagues alike.

"He was far and away the best teacher I had -- he made engineering relevant and interesting," says Ryan Bethel, an electrical engineering alumnus who graduated in 2001 with a bachelor's degree and in 2007 with a master's degree.

"He was very personable -- you could talk to him about anything. He was a friend, not just a professor," says Al Blais, who earned an electrical engineering degree in 2001.

Whitney knew that funds were being raised to support the Electronics Lab and he was "excited and happy" about the prospect of having the facility bear his name, says Prof. Mohamad Musavi, chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

"But, he was a very humble person and so his ultimate goal was simply to make sure that the lab where he had spent the majority of his life with his students was going to have the money to be kept updated. He knew that students would benefit from state-of-the-art equipment," says Musavi, who led the charge to create the endowment.

A UMaine graduate, Whitney earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering degree in 1962 and a master's degree in electrical engineering in 1964. He taught electrical engineering at the University from 1962 until 1971 when he became the head of electrical engineering at Tibbett's Industries in Camden. He served as president of the company from 1974 to 1986 and then returned to UMaine to continue teaching.

Whitney had the makings of a great teacher even as a student, according to Carleton Brown, who was one of his professors at UMaine and who encouraged him to go into education.

"He was always searching for a very deep understanding of the material," says Brown. "He was excited about the subject and I knew that would carry over to his teaching and that he would give that same sense of excitement to his students."

Later, the two taught a number of courses together and Brown was gratified to see that his instincts had been correct.

"He was such a natural at teaching and interacting with students. He always tried very hard to give others a depth of understanding, not just a bunch of facts and descriptions. He always had his office door open and encouraged students to drop by and chat. And he was a kid at heart. He wore crazy ties and athletic shoes. That endeared him to students."

Because he had worked in industry, Whitney understood the "real world picture," says Maurice Richard '78, a member of UMaine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Visiting Committee.

Richard, who co-founded his own engineering design company in South Portland, often visited the campus to recruit employees, and counted on Whitney to advise him.

"I really got a sense of how valuable Al was to the engineering program by talking to students who had him as a professor. He knew how to teach the students to survive and do well in their engineering careers. Besides teaching them courses that were very pertinent to the type of work they'd be doing, he also taught them non-technical skills like the importance having a strong work ethic and being able to get along with people."

UMaine electrical engineering alumnus Ken Bach, who earned his bachelor's degree in 1963 and master's degree in 1965, also served on UMaine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Visiting Committee and often heard students voice their admiration for Whitney.

"I was impressed with the regard students held for Al -- he obviously was a revered instructor."

Volunteers Sought for Wild Blueberries and Health Study

14 Apr 2008

Contact: Elijah Magrane, 581-8434; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Volunteers are being sought by the UMaine Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition to participate in an eight-to-12-week study to test theories about the effects of wild blueberry consumption on hunger and blood chemistry.

The purpose of the study is to demonstrate that consumption of wild blueberries as part of a meal makes a person feel full sooner, potentially leading to weight loss, and slows the release of glucose and insulin into the blood, thus reducing risks for diabetes and obesity. The study, getting under way soon, will extend into the summer. It is funded by the Maine

Technology Institute, the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

Principal investigator for the "Wild Blueberry Consumption and Its Effects on Satiety and Blood Chemistry" study is master's degree candidate and dietetic intern Elijah Magrane, who previously received a bachelor of science degree in culinary nutrition at Johnson and Wales University.

Magrane is basing his research hypotheses on the fact that wild Maine blueberries are rich in the purple anthocyanin pigments, which act as an antioxidant. Anthocyanins have been the subject of much research due to their potential to alter blood chemistry, which can lead to reducing risks for diabetes and obesity. Maine blueberries also are high in fiber and could increase the feeling of satiety after a meal, which could aid in weight loss, according to Magrane.

The research is a randomized, placebo-controlled cross-over study. Volunteers will report to the laboratory in Hitchner Hall in the early morning after a minimum 10-hour fast and will receive a breakfast consisting of cornflakes, skim milk and orange juice. Participants will then be assigned randomly into four groups, each of which will receive one out of four possible meal supplements. After the meals, participants will be asked to fill out a survey and to donate a blood sample for testing. Subjects will return every two to three weeks to repeat the experience, for a total of four times within a maximum of 12 weeks.

Upon completion of the study, participants will each receive a \$200 stipend.

Criteria for study subjects are that participants must: be 25-50 years old; have a body mass index (BMI) of 25-29.9 or 18.5-24.9; not smoke; have regular eating habits (breakfast, lunch and dinner); not have an allergy or intolerance to corn, lactose, blueberries or orange juice; not be pregnant or lactating; not currently be trying to lose or gain weight, or have lost or gained an excess of 3 kilograms or 8 pounds in the previous 3 months; not have diabetes; not be engaged in athletic training; and not be using medications or dietary supplements that affect appetite or blood sugar.

Magrane can be reached at 581-8434 for information.

Before turning to nutrition science at the University of Maine, Magrane worked as a chef in Providence, R.I. and Cape Cod, Mass. Faculty adviser is Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition.

UMaine Math Professor Elected Vice President of International Organization

15 Apr 2008

Contact: Tod Shockey, 581-3923

ORONO -- Tod Shockey, an associate professor of mathematics education in University of Maine's Department of Mathematics and Statistics, has been elected vice president of TODOS: Mathematics for ALL. The international organization's mission is "to advocate for an equitable and high-quality mathematics education for all students -- in particular Latino/Hispanic students."

The "Mathematics for ALL" component of TODOS' mission appealed to Shockey, who has spent the last 10 years researching, writing and presenting on ethnomathematics.

"I have been working with Native American communities in mathematics education and professional development for a number of years," Shockey says. "TODOS is an academic community that offers support, professional development and resources for mathematics educators so it was natural to become a member."

Prior to joining the faculty at UMaine five years ago, Shockey worked as a secondary classroom teacher in Cleveland, Ohio, Charlottesville, Va., and on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana. He recently spent two years with

teachers and staff at the K-8 Beatrice Rafferty School on the Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy reservation, working toward the improvement of mathematics education for all students.

"As a mathematics educator I was reminded of the day-to-day work and effort that our teachers go through," Shockey says. "I was taught a tremendous amount, indirectly, that affects my teaching in higher education. I guess you could say it brought me out of the ivory tower to the 'trenches' where the good work occurs every day working with young people."

For more information about TODOS: Mathematics for All, visit <http://www.todos-math.org>.

Highmoor Farm Sets Vegetable and Berry Farming Workshop May 3

15 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

MONMOUTH -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) are sponsors of a workshop, Commercial Vegetable and Berry Farming: Getting Started in Maine. The forum is scheduled for 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturday May 3 at Highmoor Farm in Monmouth.

This is an introductory class covering vegetable and berry crop production, soil health, equipment, business planning and marketing basics.

Pre-registration is required. \$50 registration fee, which includes lunch, the book *Sustainable Vegetable Production From Start-Up to Market*, and membership to the Maine Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers Association (MVSFGA). To register, call (800) 924-5258 or e-mail cehmf@extension.umaine.edu.

Highmoor Farm, the University of Maine's apple, small fruit and vegetable research facility, is located at 52 US Route 202 in Monmouth.

Onward Program Information Sessions Scheduled

15 Apr 2008

Contact: Lori Watson, 581-2320

ORONO -While the University of Maine Onward Program may not represent the traditional way to apply to college, perhaps it should be.

Those who wish to graduate from UMaine in a four-year degree program, but wonder if they are qualified, can find out through Onward Program, a division of College Success Programs. Onward is designed for those who are the first in their immediate family to attend college, who have been laid off or aspire to a better career, are single parents who wish to provide better for their families, who have a physical or learning disability, or who earned a GED..

Information sessions are set for Thursday April 17 from 2-4 p.m. and Thursday May 15 from 2-4 p.m. or 5-7 p.m. Those who attend will tour the East Annex facility, meet the staff and hear from some current students about their experiences with Onward. Light refreshments will be served. Contact: (207) 581-2320 (voice); 581-2325 (TTY).

Panic at the Disco Concert May 2

15 Apr 2008

Contact: Derek Mitchell at (207) 712-8990 or Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Alford Arena will transform from hockey arena to concert venue to host alternative rock band Panic At The Disco and the Honda Civic Tour on Friday, May 2.

Produced by Student Government, the concert will also feature bands Motion City Soundtrack, The Hush Sound and Phantom Planet -- as well as a Honda Civic Hybrid customized and autographed by Panic At The Disco. In keeping with tradition, the tour will have an eco-friendly theme, with one dollar from every ticket going into a fund designated by tour partners Reverb and Global Inheritance.

Panic at the Disco's new release, "Pretty. Odd.," which follows the band's 2005 debut, "A Fever You Can't Sweat Out," debuted at No. 2 on The Billboard 200 chart. The album's first single, "Nine in the Afternoon," hit radio in late January and climbed to the No. 8 spot on Billboard's Hot Modern Rock Tracks chart.

Tickets to the May 2 concert start at just \$30 and are available online at UMaineTix.com or from the Alford Arena ticket office by calling 581-BEAR. For more information contact Student Entertainment at 581-1701.

Earth Day Events Planned at UMaine April 22

15 Apr 2008

Contact: Ashlee Lynch, 581-1468; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Earth Day events at the University of Maine April 22 include free bicycle tune-ups, canvas grocery bag and cedar sapling giveaways, energy-conservation exhibits, and a workshop on converting a York Village building to a self-sustaining residence for up to 20 students.

Events begin at 10:15 a.m. at the Student Recreation and Fitness Center.

The day includes remarks by President Robert Kennedy, Kenda Scheele, senior associate dean of students, Jeff Hunt, director of Campus Recreation, Janet Waldron, vice president for administration and finance, and a presentation by Paul Mayewski, director of the UMaine Climate Change Institute and author of *The Ice Chronicles*. The afternoon includes a keynote address by Jim Merkel, author of *Radical Simplicity: Small Footprints on a Finite Earth*. Merkel is co-director of the Vermont-based Global Living Project and former coordinator of sustainability at Dartmouth College.

An electric car will be displayed at the front entrance of the student recreation and fitness center, where a Green Campus Initiative volunteer will be on hand to tune up bicycles at no cost. Inside the fitness center will be: a demonstration of low-impact camping; food samples made with locally grown ingredients prepared by Black Bear Dining; and exhibits on solar, biomass and geothermal energy production, recycling and public transportation.

"Earth Day at UMaine historically has offered creative and innovative ideas on conservation and sustainability, but this year, we are particularly enthusiastic about the speakers, workshops and exhibits," says Waldron, whose office underwrites many of the Earth Day activities and those of the UMaine Sustainability Alliance. "The need for action on energy conservation and sustainability initiatives has never been more immediate, and we are very excited to bring some innovative ideas to the community."

In her remarks on Earth Day, Waldron will discuss UMaine's master plan and steps being taken to reduce energy consumption, promote conservation and cut carbon emissions on campus.

Creating a sustainable, energy-efficient residence hall at York Village -- with its own vegetable gardens and energy resources for up to 20 UMaine students by 2010 -- was proposed by students in a peace studies class, PAX 370, taught by adjunct faculty member Emily Markides.

Markides is president of the International Eco-Peace Community ESTIA (EcoPeace, Sustainability, Training, International Affiliations) and a longtime proponent of permaculture, a design system for the creation of sustainable living environments.

Markides and John Kastelein, the lead student coordinator for the project, have been meeting over the last few months with students, faculty and others interested in creating a prototype eco-village on campus. Richard Graves, an architect with WBRC Architects/Engineers in Bangor and former member of the U.S. Green Building Council, has assisted in the planning.

More than 100 students and at least 15 faculty members have registered for an "eco-charrette" planning session being held at the York complex the morning of April 22.

Being designed as a model living and learning residential community, the project will illustrate how conservation and sustainability methods can be employed inexpensively in a realistic living environment, Kastelein says.

Engineering student Michael Parker of the Green Campus Initiative plans to design a computer model over the summer that incorporates the design and sustainability features. The retrofitted York building will be an energy-efficient LEED-certified building.

The project also will include a walking path lined with fruit trees and flowers between York Village and Chapel Street, where a small private alternative school currently operates on the permaculture concept, according to Markides.

Earth Day activities also are supported by the UMaine Division of Student Affairs, Auxiliary Services, University Bookstore and Green Campus Initiative, in addition to the Office of Administration and Finance.

Hunter Selected to Fill Provost Role

16 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Susan Hunter, a University of Maine faculty member since 1991 and an academic administrator for the past three years, is UMaine President Robert Kennedy's choice to take over as UMaine's vice president for academic affairs and provost, effective June 1. Kennedy announced his recommendation today, citing Hunter's outstanding contributions to UMaine's academic mission and her ability to easily transition to the provost's role being vacated by Edna Mora Szymanski. The appointment must be approved by the University of Maine System's Board of Trustees.

Minnesota State University Moorhead's chancellor announced last week that he has selected Szymanski to become president of that university.

Hunter, whose appointment as provost is for two years, currently serves as vice provost and dean for undergraduate education, a position she has held since 2005. She joined the UMaine faculty 17 years ago as a zoology professor.

"Sue has served UMaine with distinction in a variety of roles, and I am certain that she will be an outstanding provost," Kennedy says. "She is respected by our faculty and admired by her students. Sue is well-positioned to move into this critical role, and I look forward to her continuing contributions to UMaine's momentum and our students' and faculty's success."

In UMaine's administrative structure, the vice president and provost is second in command to the president, and serves as the university's senior academic officer, with senior management responsibilities related to all aspects of the university's teaching, research and public service mission.

Ecology, Environmental Sciences Student Wins NOAA Scholarship

16 Apr 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Laura Wood, sophomore in Ecology and Environmental Sciences from Scarborough, has been awarded a 2008 Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The scholarship provides financial assistance for her junior and senior years, and a summer internship at a NOAA facility.

"This is another example of our best students' competitiveness in national scholarship programs," says Mark Anderson, undergraduate coordinator of the UMaine Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program and professor in the School of Economics.

Wood will know the amount of her financial assistance during the summer. She also is considering several NOAA facilities in Southern Maine for her internship, she says.

The Hollings Scholarship Program provides successful undergraduate applicants with awards that include academic assistance up to \$8,000 per year for full-time study during the academic year; a 10-week, full-time summer internship position at a NOAA facility; and, if reappointed, academic assistance up to \$8,000 for full-time study during a second nine-month academic year.

An average of 600 undergraduate college students apply for Hollings scholarships annually. Only about 100 scholars are selected each year.

The Hollings scholarship program is designed to increase undergraduate training in oceanic and atmospheric science, research and education, and also foster multidisciplinary training opportunities. It also is intended to increase public understanding of the need for responsible stewardship of the ocean and atmosphere and to aid in recruiting and preparing students for teaching or public service careers with natural resource and science agencies, including NOAA, at federal, state and local levels of government.

CentRO Summit to Explore Educational Preparation for Tourism Careers

16 Apr 2008

Contact: Harold Daniel, 581-1933; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine System's Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CentRO) is holding a Tourism Education Summit April 22 in Belfast to explore Maine's tourism-related higher education programs.

Representatives from the university system and the Maine Community College System have been invited, along with industry and government representatives. Participants will discuss existing tourism-related academic programs in Maine and how comprehensively they address the state's travel, tourism, recreation and hospitality needs. The discussions will provide an opportunity to identify new curricula in terms of addressing unmet needs.

The day-long workshop starts at 9 a.m. at the Fred Hutchinson Center in Belfast. It adjourns at 3:30 p.m. Speakers include UMaine associate professor of marketing Harold Daniel, who serves as CenTRO director, and Charles Colgan, CenTRO associate director and University of Southern Maine economics and policy analysis professor.

Following the meeting, CenTRO staff will prepare a report on the proceedings of the meeting, seeking collaborative strategies among the campuses and higher education systems for enhancing educational programs that prepare today's young people for careers in tourism and hospitality.

There is no cost to attend the summit, but since seating is limited, participants are asked to register in advance with Kimberly Junkins at (207) 581-3102.

Additional information about CenTRO and its programs and events, including the April 22 summit, is available on the CenTRO website.

CenTRO is an interdisciplinary initiative of the University of Maine System, which involves and coordinates the efforts of faculty across many disciplines on all university campuses in the state. It conducts research and outreach activities to educate, inform and respond to the needs of the tourism and related industries in Maine. Among its goals is to see that Maine's educational institutions produce new generations of entrepreneurs, managers and skilled employees to develop businesses that focus on quality service and take advantage of underutilized tourism assets in Maine.

UMaine Students Named Scholarship Winners

17 Apr 2008

Contact: Mary Fernandez (207) 581-2938; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

Orono -- The University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture has announced that two students in its Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences have been awarded significant scholarships.

David Merrill, a second-year student majoring in sustainable agriculture, is the recipient of a \$5,000 Garden Club Federation of Maine scholarship. The state award also makes him automatically eligible for one of the \$3,500 scholarships offered by the National Garden Club, which is expected to make its decisions by late May.

Merrill, of Newburgh, says he hopes to make a career one day that combines his interest in plants and small-scale food production with community-based education. This summer, he will be one of three student managers of the Black Bear Food Guild's two-acre vegetable garden at UMaine's Rogers Farm.

Kevin Douglas, a sophomore majoring in landscape horticulture, is the first student from UMaine to be awarded the nationally competitive Vic and Margaret Ball Intern Scholarship. The \$6,000 prize and paid internship are issued through the American Floral Endowment.

Douglas, who grew up near Philadelphia, will attend UMaine's 2008 fall semester and then leave in January for a six-month internship with a commercial production greenhouse or nursery, perhaps in California. He will receive the \$6,000 award when the internship is completed.

Maine Students Seek Business Sponsorship For NASA Zero-Gravity Flight

18 Apr 2008

Contact: Michael Mason (207) 581-2285

Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Preparing to conduct science experiments while floating weightless in an airplane has been no easy task for the University of Maine and University of Southern Maine team chosen to participate this summer in NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program.

With not a moment to waste in flight, the team has spent recent months planning every last detail of its experiment in advance of the July takeoff, including readying the necessary equipment for shipment and converting normal research methods into ones that will work in near-zero gravity.

And the students have been doing it all, of course, while keeping up with the usual demands of their academic work loads.

Now, the biggest challenge left to the 10-member team known as Dirigo, the first ever from Maine, is to raise the money necessary by late June to get them and their experiment off the ground.

While NASA absorbs all flight and training costs, the students are responsible for all their travel and personal expenses as well as for shipping the experiment apparatus to the Johnson Space Center in Houston. The Maine Space Grant Consortium has committed \$5,000 to the effort, leaving the student team to raise about \$10,000. They're now hoping that Maine businesses and individual benefactors might be interested in helping them each their lofty goal.

"We now would like to get as many area business sponsors as possible to help us raise the extra money," explains Michael Mason, a UMaine assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering and one of the two faculty mentors for the project.

On its Web page, the team explains the NASA microgravity student program and the experiment it intends to carry out aboard the KC-135 aircraft known as the "Weightless Wonder," which will perform 30 parabolic maneuvers at 30,000 feet over the Gulf of Mexico.

The student researchers will 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 creating safer manned space flights in the future.

The Web page also includes information about how people can donate to the cause. Mason said there are plans to create a sponsors page which will carry links to the participating corporate or business sites, and team members will wear sponsor logos on their T-shirts during the videotaping of their roller-coaster science adventure.

As part of the program's post-flight educational outreach efforts, the team will also take what it learned on the road, visiting sponsoring organizations, chambers of commerce and area high schools.

"This is just such a great opportunity for the students, and will provide excellent visibility for our educational system here in Maine," Mason says. "We're hoping that businesses will see the benefits and want to be a part of it."

UMaine to Present 'Carmina Burana' April 27

18 Apr 2008

Contact: Lud Hallman, 581-1249
Dennis Cox, 581-1245

George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- As many as 160 members of the Oratorio Society and University Singers will perform the bold and racy choral classic *Carmina Burana* April 27 in the Memorial Gymnasium.

Carmina Burana is a popular scenic cantata of 25 medieval poems set to music in 1935-1936 by German composer Carl Orff. The concert starts at 2 p.m. Admission is \$6, but free for UMaine students with a MaineCard.

Conducted by Ludlow Hallman, director of UMaine's Oratorio Society, the two combined choruses will be accompanied by two pianos and a powerful percussion section.

The concert has special significance for Hallman, a music professor at UMaine since 1970. Prior to leaving the Mozarteum academy in Salzburg, Austria, where he earned diplomas in singing and conducting, Hallman was the baritone soloist in an academy performance of *Carmina Burana* that year for the legendary Carl Orff's 75th birthday.

"It makes me feel a particular connection to *Carmina Burana* because I did it for Carl Orff," says Hallman, noting that the use of two pianos and a percussion section is an arrangement specifically approved by Orff.

The poems of *Carmina Burana* were composed by Benedictine monks and wandering minstrels in 12th century Bavaria. The five-part cycle is perhaps best known for its rousing "O Fortuna," a philosophic poem about fortune and named for the mythological goddess of fortune.

"It's one of the most popular pieces of 20th Century choral repertoire. Everybody knows that piece because it's been used for so many commercials," Hallman says. "We're very excited about it and we hope we can get some people to come. It's about love and sex and drinking."

The work also celebrates spring, says Dennis Cox, music professor and director of the choral music program and conductor of the University Singers. He considers *Carmina Burana* a perfect spring concert choice.

Cox says the vibrancy of the piece makes it a traditionally popular selection for both the singers and the audience.

"It has almost a barbarian primeval quality about it," he says. "It's almost hypnotic for members of the audience, and that's why they've used it in so many films. There is a ritualistic incantation about it."

Soloists for the UMaine performance include undergraduates Justin Zang, baritone, Chris Keene, tenor, Ashley Brewer, mezzo, Lisa Roth, soprano, and UMaine graduate Candace DiBiase, also a soprano. Stuart Marrs, music professor, percussionist and School of Performing Arts chair, prepared the percussion section.

In a 1999 New York Times review, critic Ann Powers called *Carmina Burana* a ubiquitous composition that has been a staple for choruses, orchestras, opera companies and ballet corps.

"As the most likely musical background for jousting nobles or scary monsters, used in films from 'Excalibur' to 'Natural Born Killers,' Orff's work defines the sound of the pop Gothic," Powers wrote. "Its dramatic contours seem to suit every style. Charlotte Church, the 13-year-old Welsh soprano sensation, sings from it on her latest album, 'Voice of an Angel,' as did Barbra Streisand before her. Nancy Kerrigan and Torvil and Dean have skated to it, video game players annihilate enemies to it, and the German industrial rock group Einsturzende Neubauten and the teen-pop heartthrobs 98 Degrees have used it to herald the opening of their shows."

Ticket information can be obtained by calling the box office of the Maine Center of the Arts at 581-1755.

UMaine Scholars Win Environmental Research Prizes

18 Apr 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Robb Freeman, a University of Maine Ph.D candidate in ecology and environmental science, was recently named the first-place winner of the Inez Boyd Environmental Research Prize by the Penobscot Valley Chapter of Maine Audubon.

Freeman, who hopes to receive his doctorate in December, won the \$1,000 top prize for his research titled "Modeling the Impacts of Land Use Change on Vernal Pool- Breeding Amphibians."

In his work, which was based in the town of Falmouth, Freeman first used an economic model to predict where residential growth was likely to occur, and then used a landscape permeability model to estimate how well wood frogs in the area were able to travel between habitat requirements. Ultimately, he says, his model could help land-use planners to determine which growth management and conservation policies are best suited to the welfare of vernal pool-dependent species.

The second-place Inez Boyd prize of \$500 was awarded to Michael Bailey, a UMaine scholar who hopes to receive his Ph.D in zoology in May 2009. Bailey's winning research effort is titled "Effects of Age and Size on Relative Survival of Newly Stocked Atlantic Salmon Fry.

Winners Named For 2008 UMaine Graduate Research Expo

21 Apr 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Graduate Student Government and Graduate School recently announced the award recipients for oral, poster and multimedia presentations at the 2008 Graduate Research Exposition.

The annual expo, which was held April 15 and 16 at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House, is designed to showcase and reward academic excellence and creative achievement by featuring demonstrations of works in progress among graduate students. Many of the winning posters from this year's expo will be on display at the reception following the graduate hooding ceremony on May 9.

The 2008 expo winners are as follows:

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Social Sciences and Humanities

1st -- Michael Fixaris, Psychology

2nd -- Julie-Ann Scott, Interdisciplinary in Communications/Higher Education

3rd -- Laurie Pinkert, English

Biological Sciences

1st -- Kristin Wilson, Ecology and Environmental Sciences

2nd -- Sean Blomquist, Wildlife Ecology

3rd -- Jennifer Meyers, Marine Sciences

Engineering/Physical Sciences

1st -- Travis Gould, Physics

2nd -- Maria Vasardani, Spatial Information Science and Engineering

3rd -- Benjamin Gross, Quaternary and Climate Studies

MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATIONS

1st -- Alexander Gross, Intermedial Arts

2nd (tie) -- Abigail Stiers, Intermedial Arts; Jennifer Smith-Mayo, Liberal Studies

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Social Sciences and Humanities

1st -- Jennifer Pattershall, Psychology

2nd (tie) -- Anna Cassel, Clinical Psychology; Sarah Larochelle, Resource Economics and Policy

3rd -- Lauren Holleb, Clinical Psychology

Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences

1st -- Randall Perry, Earth Sciences

2nd (tie) -- Daniel Breton, Physics; Mudalige Gunewardene, Physics

3rd -- Lei Li, Physics

Biological Sciences

1st -- Matthew Sullivan, Microbiology

2nd -- Nathan Briggs, Forest Resources

3rd -- Jeremy Charette, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Engineering

1st -- Ali Shareef, Computer Engineering

2nd -- David Almeida, Spatial Information Science and Engineering

3rd -- Francois Neville, Spatial Information Science and Engineering

BEST COMMERCIALIZATION POTENTIAL

1st -- Anthony Dumais, Civil Engineering

2nd (tie) -- Gilliad Munden, Business Administration; Anthony Viselli, Civil Engineering

Dick Gleason Receives Maine Business School 'Achievement in Business' Award

21 Apr 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Business School recently named Auburn media executive Dick Gleason recipient of its 2008 Achievement in Business Award.

Gleason, a UMaine alum and member of the Maine Business School Advisory Board for the last three years, is president and owner of Gleason Media Services in Auburn. He has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to community service on multiple boards, commissions and area business, community and educational organizations.

Criteria for the Achievement in Business award includes achievement in a field of endeavor, demonstration of leadership, service to UMaine and its business school, service to community and career development, and a commitment and demonstration of life-long learning.

Gleason received the award earlier this month April at the business school's annual awards banquet at Buchanan Alumni House.

John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and director of the Maine Business School, says Gleason is an "unabashed supporter of the Maine Business School and has served with distinction on the advisory board."

"He has provided his advice and counsel to a variety of non-profits throughout the state and they have also been enriched by his participation in their activities," Mahon adds. "He truly embodies the term 'servant leadership' and has lived a life of service to the citizens of Maine."

A member of the Class of 1969, Gleason was among the first graduates of the UMaine College of Business, Public Policy and Health, which was created in 1965 as the College of Business. He earned an MBA in business administration, with an emphasis in marketing, from UMaine in 1970.

In 1975, Gleason purchased an FM radio station in Norway, Maine, known today as WOXO-FM, and in 1985, he revived a defunct AM station now known as WEZR at 1240 AM. Gleason currently owns and operates three other radio stations within 40 miles of Lewiston-Auburn. He also has developed a community website: LewistonAuburn.com

His connection with Lewiston-Auburn began in 1982, when he served as a part-time marketing instructor for the University of Maine in Auburn. He has since done workshops for the Small Business Administration in Maine.

Gleason has served on boards and committees including the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce, the Boys & Girls Club of Auburn-Lewiston, University of Southern Maine Corporate Partners, the Auburn Business Association, Healthy Androscoggin, Business Advisory Board for Congressman Michael Michaud, Advisory Committee for Central Maine Community College, Auburn City Council (2006-2007), United Methodist Church of Auburn, Taylor Pond Yacht Club and March of Dimes.

He currently serves on the boards of The Chapman House assisted living facility, The Maine Business School at the University of Maine, Central Maine Community College and The Alliance for Maine's Future. He serves as a incorporator for the Auburn Public Library, Boys & Girls Club of Auburn-Lewiston and Mechanics Savings Bank.

Gleason has received recognitions including the Maine Association of Broadcasters' Broadcaster of the Year, the

Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Business Leadership Award, Business Cornerstone Award from the Maine Senate, Kiwanis International's Legion of Honor, the Ray Geiger Award from the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce and Citizen of the Year from the Auburn Business Association.

Gleason lives in Auburn with his wife Kathy.

UMaine Student Wins Top Prize for Undergraduate Research Presentation

22 Apr 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Sarah A. Hall, a marine biology major in the University of Maine's School of Marine Science, was a co-winner of the President's Award for the best undergraduate research presentation made at the 47th Annual Northeast Algal Society meeting held April 18-20.

Hall, who is from Waterville and will graduate in May, shared the top prize with a student from the University of New Brunswick-Fredericton.

Hall presented her senior capstone research project titled "The Flora of the Rocky Intertidal Zone in Acadia National Park, Maine." Included in her presentation, made at the University of New Hampshire, were results about the use of DNA barcoding for the identification of algal crusts, as well as a sample page from a guide, that should be available to visitors later this year, to the common marine algae of the park.

Joseph Stachelek, another UMaine marine biology major, also made a presentation at the NEAS meeting regarding different elements of the same research project.

The NEAS is a regional organization dedicated to furthering phycolgical (the study of algae) research and education in the northeastern United States and eastern Canada.

UMaine Sponsors Tree Tour of Butler Head

23 Apr 2008

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

BATH, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a Butler Head tree tour on Merrymeeting Bay in Bath on Friday, May 30 from 10 a.m.-noon.

Thomas Hoerth, Bath city arborist and tree warden, will lead the tour, which will give participants an opportunity to see a tidal cove, a wetlands area, fields and mixed woodlands. In addition, this 136 acres of undeveloped, city-owned property in the North End of Bath is home to a variety of habitats and ecosystems. This event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested. Those who are interested should call the UMaine Extension Cumberland County office at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, May 26.

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 their ecosystems and

their economy.

For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine

UMaine Students to Discuss U.S. Foreign Policy with Students in Egypt

24 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

VIDEOCONFERENCE DIALOGUE SET FOR WEDNESDAY AT NOON

ORONO -- A group of 16 University of Maine students will discuss "The Future of American Foreign Policy in the Middle East" with their student counterparts at American University in Cairo on Wednesday April 30 from noon-1:30 p.m. Using videoconferencing technology, the students will share their perspectives on important issues facing the U.S. during the next presidential administration and beyond. The UMaine students be in Room 101 Neville Hall.

The students are all involved in advanced coursework in UMaine's international affairs academic programs.

"This event is certain to spark some lively discussion about issues of great importance to students both in the U.S. and in the Middle East," says Prof. Bahman Baktiari of UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs. "Additionally, it will promote effective communication and a mutual understanding of the impact of U.S. foreign policy on societies around the world.

The Bangor Foreign Policy Forum (BFPP) will sponsor the program, in cooperation with the School of Policy and International Affairs. BFPP is a local organization that works to promote high-level discussion of issues related to U.S. foreign affairs. Members of that group, along with parents of students participating in the debate and high school studnets, have been invited to Wednesday's event

Grad Students' Survey Measures Arcade Noise Levels

25 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --An informal survey of noise levels in four area video arcades found decibel peaks capable of causing temporary hearing loss in people exposed to them for as little as 30 seconds.

The concern is that extended or frequent exposure to such high decibels can compound damage to the inner ear, causing permanent noise-induced hearing loss.

The survey was conducted by University of Maine graduate students the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders for their Audiologic Rehabilitation course, taught by audiologist Amy Booth. Their "dangerous decibel" project is designed to educate the public about noise-induced hearing loss.

Arcades were chosen because of their high volume and young customers. The UMaine graduate researchers surveyed 95 local children ages 11-15 and found that 77 percent of them go to arcades an average of one hour a week.

"Noise-induced hearing loss in arcades is an unseen danger that people don

Innovator, Entrepreneur Doug Hall to Speak at UMaine Commencement

25 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will award approximately 1,860 degrees at its 206th Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at Alfond Arena.

UMaine's graduation format calls for two separate indoor ceremonies. During the 10 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 p.m., 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.

The commencement speaker will be Doug Hall, a 1981 UMaine graduate who is the founder and CEO of Eureka Ranch, a Cincinnati-based business where individuals and businesses learn how to turn their ideas into commercial success. Hall is also very involved in UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center and the university's Innovation Engineering curriculum. He will speak at both sessions.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy will preside over the ceremonies. Paul Mitchell will represent the University of Maine System Board of Trustees at the morning ceremony, and he will assist UMaine vice president for academic affairs and provost Susan Hunter in awarding an honorary doctorate to renowned sculptor and University of Florida professor Celeste Roberge. Trustee Marjorie Medd will represent the board at the afternoon event, when she will join Hunter in awarding an honorary doctorate to Hall.

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 Alfond 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.

UMaine Students to Test Wheelchair Devices at Senior Design Competition

25 Apr 2008

Contact: Herb Crosby (207) 581-2134; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Trying to navigate wheelchairs over rough, hilly terrain can be a risky business, as their more outdoorsy users can tell you. A chair can roll backwards should your hands come off the wheels even for an instant, and tipping over on an incline is always a concern.

So when the students in the University of Maine's Mechanical Engineering Technology Program learned of the problems from people with disabilities in Bangor, they set out to design and manufacture anti-rollback and anti-tipping wheelchair devices as their senior capstone projects.

Though varied, the designs all serve the same purposes, incorporating everything from parts of a boat winch and an ATV to a bicycle freewheel and ratchet components.

The public is invited to witness the results of their public-service efforts -- and the countless hours of engineering resourcefulness that went into them -- during the Maine Day Senior Design Competition to be held on campus Wednesday, April 30.

At the Machine Tool Lab, situated between Boardman and Barrows halls, the four teams will present their separate designs at 9 a.m., followed at 9:30 a.m. by an evaluation of the devices by a team of professional engineers and a ramp competition at 10 a.m.

The endurance part of the competition, scheduled for 10:30 a.m., will put the wheelchair devices to the test on a hilly outdoor course near Patch Hall and the Doris Twitchell Allen Village. There, the teams will have to negotiate a bump, a rut, a curb and a pothole, in some cases with both the anti-rollback and "wheelie bar" anti-tip systems engaged.

For the finale, the teams will test their systems after dousing them with a slurry of mud and sand to simulate harsh Maine outdoors conditions.

Herb Crosby, the Mechanical Engineering Technology professor who teaches the course, says this year's group of students is one of the best that's ever tackled a public-service design project, a senior-year tradition of sorts.

"All of the designs work and all have practical value," he says. "They look like simple concepts but the students put in 100s of hours on them. They've really worked hard."

International Students UMaine Class of 2008 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

25 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- For the first time, the top two graduating students in a University of Maine class are international students. Marianne Schneider of Jena, Germany is the class valedictorian and Anh Do of Hanoi, Vietnam is the salutatorian. They are the top students among the 1,860 graduates scheduled to receive UMaine degrees at the university's May 10 commencement ceremonies. Schneider of Jena, Germany credits "a passion to learn and excel" for her academic success at the University of Maine that culminated in her being named the 2008 valedictorian. In December, Schneider completed her double degrees in international affairs and economics, and two minors in French and Canadian Studies. She finished her coursework in three and a half years with a 4.0 grade point average. She spent this spring semester interning with the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., working in the Economic Affairs Department. Schneider is fluent in German and English. She studied Spanish and French, and is now learning Arabic. She first came to the States for a year as a high school exchange student in North Dakota. Two years later, in 2004, she returned, this time to enroll at the University of Maine. "I applied to three universities and was accepted with scholarships to all, but Maine felt right," says Schneider. "UMaine has the resources of a research university, but it feels like a small, liberal arts college. Until I got here, I didn't know UMaine had such a strong international student community and some faculty from abroad. I really enjoyed that." Schneider's interest in travel and different cultures dovetailed into her international affairs major. The addition of economics as a second major reflected her interest in the field she sees as "an increasingly driving force behind international relations." Schneider's thesis in the Honors College was an empirical study, "The Euro's Impact on Trade: Evidence from Germany." Her adviser was professor Adrienne Kearney in the School of Economics. Schneider says conducting the research for her honors thesis was one of the most rewarding experiences of her academic career. "It was challenging, but felt so good to accomplish," she says. "The main accomplishment was in learning how research works. At times, it seemed like one step forward and two back. It can be frustrating, but in the end, it all comes together." Beyond the classroom, Schneider was active in the International Student Association, the Global Links program, and the Honors College council and advisory board. Her numerous academic honors include membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international economics honor society. In her three and a half years in Maine, Schneider returned to Germany for annual visits. "You have to have a passion to learn and to excel, and you have to really enjoy what you're doing," says Schneider of her academic success. This summer, Schneider is headed back to Washington, D.C., to intern with the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, affiliated with Johns Hopkins University. In September, she plans to pursue a master's degree in international economic studies at Maastricht University, the Netherlands. Ultimately with a Ph.D., Schneider is considering a career with a think tank or policy agency involved in issues related to global economics. "The University of Maine has been good preparation for graduate school and for real life after school," she says. "I will remember the people. They are always very supportive

and make you feel right at home here. The professors always have an open door if a student has a question. It was a very personal experience for me." Do is the 2008 salutatorian. She also was named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and that college's Outstanding International Student for 2008. Do applied to UMaine in 2004 based on what she learned about the university on the Web. "It just made me think it was a nice place," she says. For as long as she can remember, Do has wanted to pursue a career in business. Her father is a business consultant and her mother, a telecommunications specialist. By her junior year, Do was pursuing a double concentration in accounting and finance. She is particularly interested in investment and capital markets. During her four years in Maine, Do returned home annually. Her last two visits included internships in Hanoi, one with KPMG, an auditing firm, another with HSBC, a UK commercial bank. "Even in the time I've been gone, there have been a lot of changes," Do says. "The country is developing and there are a lot of opportunities. In a few years, I want to go back and work in the investment finance industry." At UMaine, Do was active in the International Student Association; the Office of Multicultural Programs; the student investment portfolio project known as SPIFFY; and Student Government, where she was vice president for financial affairs. For the past three years, she also served as a resident assistant on campus. Do is a member of numerous honor societies, including All Maine Women Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. "It has been a fulfilling experience. Challenging and rewarding. The faculty are excellent, very knowledgeable, approachable and helpful. The (academic) program prepared me very well for a career in finance." After graduation, Do is headed to New York City, where she will start work at the brokerage firm of Sterne Agee as a research analyst. In September, she will take a nine-month leave of absence to pursue a master's degree in finance at the University of Cambridge in England. Do's career plans include gaining experience in the world of finance in both the United States and United Kingdom. Eventually, she says, she will return to Vietnam and help the country build its financial markets. "I want to have an investment firm to help people and institutional investors using knowledge I've gained from working in matured financial industries here to build the infantile one in Vietnam," Do says.

Climate Change Science Day for High School Students Thursday

28 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Some 170 Maine high school and middle school students will visit the University of Maine on Thursday May 1 to learn more about climate change science. The students will engage in hands-on activities and interact with UMaine faculty and graduate student scientists. The event runs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at three UMaine locations: Bryand Global Science Center, Sawyer Environmental Research Center and South Stevens Hall. Bryand and Sawyer are next to each other at the south end of campus.

Titled "Ice, Stones, Bones and Bugs: Unraveling the Secrets of Climate Change," the workshops are sponsored by UMaine's Climate Change Institute, Dept. of Anthropology and Dept. of Earth Sciences.

Tour stops will include the following:

Maine Studies Program Names Research Award Recipients

28 Apr 2008

Contact: Maureen Smith, 581-4450, Sandra Butler, 581-2382

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Maine studies program is pleased to announce Valerie Mitchell of West Old Town and Holly Blanchard-Reed of Portland are the winners of the 2008 Maine Studies Research and Creativity Awards.

A history major with minors in Native American studies and museum studies, Mitchell received the undergraduate award for her work titled "Wabanaki Worldview - Resources for Educators." She is a student of professor Maureen

Smith, director of the Native American Studies Program. Mitchell also works at UMaine as reunion giving coordinator and class adviser for the Alumni Association.

A master's student in social work, Blanchard-Reed received the graduate award for her research paper, titled "Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 - Acknowledging the Past." She is a student of professor Sandra Butler of the School of Social Work.

The awards, established to recognize student research excellence in Maine-related topics, are funded through the generosity of the University of Maine Foundation.

UMaine's Zeph to Serve on National Autism Research, Strategic Planning Workgroup

28 Apr 2008

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236

ORONO - Lucille A. Zeph, director of the University of Maine's Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies and associate professor of education, has been invited to serve on the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee's Strategic Planning Workgroup.

The invitation came from Dr. Thomas R. Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health at the National Institutes of Health. The purpose of the workgroup is to provide broad scientific expertise and to make recommendations to the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) regarding a national strategic plan for autism spectrum disorder research.

The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee, authorized under the Combating Autism Act of 2006, coordinates autism spectrum disorder research and other efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services and across other federal agencies. Zeph served as a member of the IACC from 2004-2007.

The Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) is Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Established in 1992, the UMaine center is part of a national network of 67 UCEDDs sponsored by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The CCIDS mission is to bring together the resources of the university and the community to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families through a broad range of education, research, service, and dissemination activities. More information about CCIDS is available on its website www.ccids.umaine.edu.

Laurie Lachance at UMaine Wednesday

28 Apr 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Laurie Lachance, president and CEO of the Maine Development Foundation, will visit the University of Maine on Wednesday, April 30 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Lachance 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.

Lachance has been in her current role since 2004. She served as the Maine state economist for eleven years, and spent ten years working as a Central Maine Power economist. Lachance is a Dover-Foxcroft native who earned a bachelor's degree from Bowdoin College and an MBA from Thomas College.

News coverage possibilities include a presentation on tidal energy at the Aquaculture Center wave tank (9:30-10 a.m.), a tour of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (10:15-10:45 a.m.), a presentation on forest bioproducts energy research in Jenness Hall (11-11:45 a.m.) and a tour of UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center (1:30-2 p.m.).

Scientists Head to Warming Alaska on Ice Core Expedition

29 Apr 2008

Contact: Cameron Wake, UNH Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space, (603) 862-2329; Karl Kreutz, University of Maine Climate Change Institute, (207) 581-3011; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

DURHAM, N.H. -- The State of Alaska has the dubious distinction of leading the lower 48 in the effects of a warming climate. Small villages are slipping into the sea due to coastal erosion, soggy permafrost is cracking buildings and swallowing trucks.

In an effort to better understand how the Pacific Northwest fits into the larger climate-change picture, scientists from the University of New Hampshire and the University of Maine are heading to Denali National Park on the second leg of a multi-year mission to recover ice cores from glaciers in the Alaska wilderness.

Cameron Wake of the UNH Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space (EOS) and Karl Kreutz of the UMaine Climate Change Institute are leading the expedition, which is funded by the National Science Foundation.

This year's month-long reconnaissance mission will identify specific drill sites for surface-to-bedrock ice cores that will provide researchers with the best climate records going back some 2,000 years. The fieldwork is part of a decade-long goal to gather climate records from ice cores from around the entire Arctic region.

Says Wake, "Just as any one meteorological station can't tell you about regional or hemispheric climate change, a series of ice cores is needed to understand the regional climate variability in the Arctic. This effort is part of a broader strategy that will give us a fuller picture."

Kreutz says the 2,000-year ice core record will provide a good window for determining how the climate system has been affected by volcanic activity, the variability of solar energy, changes in greenhouse gas concentrations and the dust and aerosols in the atmosphere that affect how much sunlight reaches the Earth.

"This is a joint effort in the truest sense," says Kreutz, who has collaborated with Wake in both Arctic and Asian research for the better part of a decade. Kreutz's UMaine team will consist of Erich Osterberg, who received his Ph.D in December, second-year M.S. candidate Ben Gross and Seth Campbell, an undergraduate majoring in Earth science.

Wake conducted an initial aerial survey of the Denali terrain two years ago but notes there have been "no boots on the ground." Through May, Wake, his Ph.D. student Eric Kelsey, the UMaine team and Canadian ice-core driller Mike Waszkiewicz will visit potential deep drilling sites and use a portable, ground-penetrating radar to determine the ice

thickness and internal structure on specific glaciers. They will be looking for "layer-cake" ice with clear, well-defined annual stratigraphy.

A clear record from Denali will help round out the bigger paleoclimate picture by adding critical information gathered from ice cores recovered in the North Pacific, all of which can be compared to a wealth of climate data already gathered in the North Atlantic region.

According to Wake, scientists have long thought the North Atlantic drives global climate changes. However, there are now indications that a change in the North Pacific might happen first and be followed by a North Atlantic response. "We need to better understand the relationship in terms of the timing and magnitude of climate change between these two regions."

At the potential drill sites, the scientists will also collect samples for chemical analysis from 20-foot-deep snowpits and shallow ice cores, and install automatic weather stations at 7,800 feet and 14,000 feet. The chemical analyses, which will be carried out at both UMaine and UNH labs, are needed to decipher changes in temperature, atmospheric circulation, and especially environmental change such as the phenomenon known as "Arctic haze," which has brought heavily polluted air masses to the region for decades from North America, Europe, and Asia.

UMaine Students Chosen for NASA Research Internships

30 Apr 2008

Contact: Ali Abedi (207) 581-2231; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Three undergraduate students in the University of Maine's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering have been selected to spend the summer at NASA field centers to conduct cutting-edge wireless technology for the next generation of space vehicles.

The students, Stephanie Duy of Caribou, James Knarr of Carmel and Fred Schwaner of Hebron are all juniors who now work as research assistants in UMaine's WiSe-Net lab, directed by Assistant Professor Ali Abedi.

The summer internships, which will take place at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., and the Johnson Space Center in Houston, are funded by NASA through the Maine Space Grant Consortium's workforce development program. The internships will provide each student a \$6,000 stipend for the summer as well as pay their travel expenses.

At the end of May, Duy will join the research team at JPL to work on new developments in Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP), the communication technology that is expected to one day link astronauts by digital telephone from space to Earth.

Knarr and Schwaner will travel to NASA's Johnson Space Center to work on a wireless sensor network design for the next generation space telescope.

Abedi says he hopes the unique research opportunities will inspire his students to pursue graduate-level studies at UMaine, and perhaps join him in his ongoing NASA-funded research into battery-free wireless sensors for use in space and other harsh environments.

Event Honors Maine Women in Science

30 Apr 2008

Contact: Mary Dickinson Bird, Chair, Friends of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, 866-2578

ORONO --The University of Maine's remarkable women in science -- past, present, and future -- were the honored at a special Earth Day reception held on Sunday, April 27. The Annual Earth Day Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Edith Marion Patch originated three years ago in memory of the University of Maine's first woman scientist, Edith Patch, who came to Orono in 1903 to establish the entomology department. This year's reception recalled Dr. Patch's contribution to science, and paid special tribute to the "Heirs of Edith Patch," the women engaged in scientific work today at the University of Maine. The event was co-sponsored by the Friends of Dr. Edith Marion Patch, the Friends of Fogler Library, and the Women in Science, a student organization.

Two graduate students, Christy Finlayson and Tiffany Wilson, were invited speakers at the reception. Finlayson, a Ph.D. candidate in Biological Sciences, discussed her research on native and non-native ladybug species in Maine, as well as her study of invasive species on Midway Island, in the Pacific Ocean. Wilson, completing an M.S. in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, shared her research on pH and phosphorus levels in the sediments of three Maine lakes. An engineering student, Heidi Purrington, showed her collaborative design for a new type of pulse meter, and undergraduates Aimee Guy, Corinne Grant, Danijela Krsmanovic, Alice Doughty, and Jennifer Dionne also spoke about their studies and their plans for science-based careers.

Like their predecessor, Edith Patch, today's women in science at UMaine bring talent and determination to their work. Fortunately, unlike Dr. Patch, they can look forward to many opportunities, resources, and even legal protections that will help them as they work to achieve their goals. In 1903, when Edith Patch began working in Orono, there was serious doubt about a woman's capacity to carry out scientific research, which until then had been considered men's work. As a consequence, no salary was approved for Patch's first year on the job. At the end of that probationary year, she had done such a good job of setting of the department and establishing its research agenda that she was officially placed on the payroll. Edith Patch remained at the University of Maine for the rest of her career, authoring more than 80 scientific and technical publications, as well as hundreds of nature stories, articles, poems, and books for children, teachers, parents, and home gardeners. In addition to her scientific and educational work, Patch made her mark as an environmentalist long before Rachel Carson, warning that widespread use of chemical pesticides would harm beneficial insects and songbirds, as well as insect pests.

For today's women in science at the University of Maine, the future looks bright. As they consider their plans for further academic study and for careers in the sciences, these women are treading in the footsteps of the University's first, pioneering woman in science, Edith Marion Patch.

Maine Center for Student Journalism High School Newspaper Awards

01 May 2008

Contact: Shannon E. Martin, 207-581-1283

ORONO -- The Maine Center for Student Journalism hosted the 15th annual High School Newspaper Conference and Contest Awards ceremony Wednesday, April 30, at Donald P. Corbett Business Building on the University of Maine campus in Orono. The gathering included training sessions and the announcement of newspaper contest winners. Eric Russell, graduate of the University of Maine, winner of the 2007 Bob Drake Young Writer Award and staff member at the Bangor Daily News, served as the keynote speaker.

The newspaper contest information was sent to schools across the state in autumn of 2007, and features judging in nine categories. Contest judging was done this year by The Sun Journal newsroom in Lewiston. The winners in each category this year were:

General Excellence: 1st place, Dave Lafortune and Justine Masse, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 2nd place, the staff, The Warrior Call, Nokomis Regional High School; 3rd place, Lydia McOscar, Jennifer Tsang and Morgan Herrell, RamPage, Bangor High School; Honorable Mentions, the staff, Houlton High Times, Houlton High School, and Ramblings, Deering High School.

Feature Writing: 1st place, Julia Butler and Richie Kennedy, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 2nd place, Riley Brayley, Eagle Times, Bonny Eagle High School; 3rd place, Min Hwang, RamPage, Bangor High School.

Editorial and Opinion Writing: 1st place, Kira Pilot, RamPage, Bangor High School; 2nd place, Taylor Gould, The Warrior Call, Nokomis High School, and Chelsea Paul, The Inside, Orono High School; Honorable Mention, Max Rush, Houlton High Times, Houlton High School.

Arts Reviews: 1st place, Taylor Gould, The Warrior Call, Nokomis Regional High School; 2nd place, Kira Pilot, RamPage, Bangor High School, and Anders Nielsen, Ramblings, Deering High School; Honorable Mention, Marielle Fava, WoRD/Times Record, Morse High School.

Layout & Design: 1st place, Jiyeon Kim and Megan Hedrich, Ramblings, Deering High School; 2nd place, The Staff, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 3rd place, The Staff, The Warrior Call, Nokomis Regional High School; Honorable Mention, Lydia McOscar, Jennifer Tsang and Thomas McOscar, RamPage, Bangor High School.

News Writing: 1st place, Maureen Quinn, Ramblings, Deering High School; 2nd place, Kellie Fisher, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 3rd place, Ben Austin and Mandi Bubar, Houlton High Times, Houlton High School; Honorable Mention, Hanna Cyrus, The Inside, Orono High School.

Photography: 1st place, Taylar Donaldson, The Warrior Call, Nokomis Regional High School; 2nd place, Mindy Charest and Richie Kennedy, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 3rd place, Steven Lee, Ramblings, Deering High School, and Sarah Nichols, RamPage, Bangor High School.

Sports Writing: 1st place, Nick Devlin, Ramblings, Deering High School; 2nd place, Nathan Valliere, The Roar, Biddeford High School; 3rd place, Chelsea Allen, WoRD/Times Record, Mt. Ararat High School; Honorable Mention, Ben Austin, Houlton High Times, Houlton High School.

Editorial Cartoon: 1st place, Jayson Chandler, The Warrior Call, Nokomis Regional High School; 2nd place, Mike Howatt, RamPage, Bangor High School, and Abe Carmichael, Houlton High Times, Houlton High School.

The Center was created in 1993 to provide students with an opportunity to work with, speak to and learn from professionals in the field of journalism. Through the annual student journalism conferences and regional roundtables, students and their advisers learn valuable skills to improve their newspapers while also improving themselves.

The Maine Center for Student Journalism is supported through financial assistance of the Maine Daily Newspaper Association and is housed in the Department of Communication and Journalism at The University of Maine, Orono.

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Folklife Center Collaboration Focusing on Communities' 'Sense of Place'

01 May 2008

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Folklife Center at UMaine and Cultural Resources, Inc., a Rockport-based organization that helps community groups preserve cultural traditions, are co-sponsoring a training workshop on perfecting methods of collecting, documenting and presenting local stories.

Local stories include personal experiences and local folklore, which can contribute to identifying a "sense of place" for people. The term sense of place means many things to many people and usually involves what is considered a person's place in a culture, community or some other environment, according to Pauleena MacDougall, associate director of the Maine Folklife Center.

Taught by a team of documentary specialists and folklorists, participants in the June 23-26 "Story Bank Institute" workshop will learn fieldwork techniques, audio and video recording, digital photography, archiving and developing public presentations.

The purpose of the four-day institute being held in the Totman Room of the Memorial Union is to train a limited number of community members to collect and preserve local stories. Stories resulting from the workshop will be archived at the Folklife Center and possibly included at the story bank at this year's American Folk Festival in Bangor in August.

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Story Bank is free to selected participants. MacDougall says applicants will be reviewed and invitations extended to about 15 people interested in receiving the training.

The schedule includes the following highlights: "Sensing Place," with Kathleen Mundell, a folklorist with Cultural Resources; "Capturing Community Stories through Audio Recording," with Rob Rosenthal, an audio specialist at the SALT Institute in Portland; and "Creating Documentaries with Photo & Audio Recording," with Bill Kuykendall, photographer and photography instructor at UMaine;

The June 25-26 schedule includes "Video Documentation," with videographer Jim Starkey; "Archiving," with Pamela Dean, archivist at the Maine Folklife Center on the Orono campus; "Presenting Community Stories," with folklorist Jo Radner; and "Writing Community Stories," with Margaret Yocom, a folklorist at George Mason University and the Rangeley Lakes Logging Museum.

To apply or for more information, contact Kathleen Mundell at Cultural Resources, (207) 236-6741, or Pauleena MacDougall, Maine Folklife Center at (207) 581-1848.

UMaine Employees Invited to May 13 Coffee Breaks

01 May 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

Employees at UMaine are invited to drop by Wells Conference Center May 13 for the annual spring coffee breaks sponsored by the Office of Human Resources as a way to extend appreciation to the university's more than 2,000 employees.

Coffee breaks are scheduled from 9-11 a.m. for first-shift employees and 9-10:30 p.m. for second- and third-shift employees. Light refreshments and beverages will be available.

The coffee breaks traditionally are held to provide an opportunity for employees across the campus to socialize informally.

This year, the coffee breaks will be held in the newly renovated Wells Conference Center, which is open for special events and opens for dining in the fall.

"We're especially excited about this year's coffee break since it is being held in the beautifully renovated Wells Conference Center," says Janet Waldron, vice president for administration and finance. "This is the time of year to show our appreciation for the many, many UMaine employees who work tirelessly to keep the wheels turning and the university operating."

The coffee breaks are scheduled between the annual employee retirement banquet on May 12 and the employee recognition and achievement banquet May 14 this year.

UMaine Dance Students Ready for Final Performances May 2-3

02 May 2008

Contact: Pam McManus, 581-4702

ORONO -- More than 50 dancers will take the stage for the UMaine School of Performing Arts' annual spring dance concert May 2 and May 3 at 7:30 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium.

The program features a wide variety of styles, including contemporary ethnic, dance-theater, hip-hop, jazz, lyrical, Middle Eastern, modern, swing and tap. The performances are the culmination of a semester of dance instruction and training.

Fourteen choreographers have created several pieces about human relationships -- from "a duet of broken hearts to partner tricks resembling the strength of friendship amid the chaos of one's life," says student Danielle Hilchey, who is a participating in the performances and assisting with publicity.

A lyrical piece showing the progression of a relationship from beginning to end is intended to reach audiences on a personal level, while a modern piece focuses on the ups and downs of life. Another piece portrays three circles of Dante's Inferno -- lust, sloth and guilt.

"There will also be many upbeat pieces, such as a large jazz number and swing dance," Hilchey says. "Each one promises to be fun for the audience with crowd-pleasing moves and lots of energy."

The popular Middle Eastern belly dances also will make a lasting impression, she adds.

Ann Ross, adjunct faculty member in the UMaine School of performing Arts, is the artistic director.

Admission is \$8; UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard.

Spring Flood Waters Can Make Your Water and Food Unsafe

02 May 2008

Contact: Beth Calder, Food Science Specialist, 800-287-0274

ORONO, Me.--Rising flood waters can potentially contaminate your water supply and stored foods, and disrupt electrical service to your home, which can affect the food safety of your refrigerated and frozen foods. Follow these guidelines to help ensure food and water safety when returning to your home after the flood waters subside.

Storing Water

Store water ahead for use in emergencies. Boiled water stored in sterilized containers will keep for six months to one year.

Well water contamination

If your well has been flooded or surface water has entered your well, the water needs to be treated with a chlorination treatment. (See UMaine Extension bulletin #7115, How to Disinfect Your Well, or contact your county UMaine Extension office.)

Disinfecting Water

Unless you are absolutely certain your water supply is not contaminated, purify all water before using it for drinking, preparing food, brushing teeth, or washing dishes. If the water contains sediment or floating material, strain it through a cloth before purifying it.

If you have access to heat or power, water can be made safe by boiling. If not, you will have to treat it with chemicals.

Boiling (highly preferred method): Boil water at a rolling boil for 10 minutes to kill any disease-causing bacteria.

Bottled Water: Purchasing bottle water that has not been contaminated by flood water is another option.

Chemical treatment: If you can't boil water, chemical treatment will kill most disease-causing organisms. Household bleach is a good disinfectant for water. Make sure sodium hypochlorite is the only active ingredient. Do not use bleach that is scented or contains soap. To disinfect water, add 8 drops of bleach to 1 gallon of water and let stand for 30 minutes.

Iodine will also purify water and comes in two forms: tablets and tincture of iodine. If using tablets, one iodine tablet can disinfect one quart of clear water; if water is cloudy use two tablets. Tincture of iodine should be at 2 percent U.S.P. strength. Add five drops per liter or quart of clear water and ten drops per quart or liter of cloudy water and allow for water treatment to stand for 30 minutes.

Food

Discard any foods that flood water has covered. Also discard any foods that flood water has dripped onto or seeped into the packaging of, or that flood water has contacted directly.

Destroy all foods that were covered by flood water, including home-canned foods. If you have a question about the safety of any item, dispose of it. Commercially canned foods that do not have dents, swelling or rust can be saved if they are washed and sanitized properly before opening the can. For added safety, boil food for 10 minutes before eating it. Throw out any cans that have bulges or that you suspect have leaks.

Disinfecting Food Cans

To disinfect undamaged cans, remove paper labels (paper can harbor bacteria) and re-label with a permanent marker. Wash the containers in warm, soapy water and use a brush to scrub surfaces. Rinse well in clean water. Immerse the clean, rinsed containers in a household bleach solution (two tablespoons bleach per one gallon of water) for 15 minutes. Air-dry cans before opening or storing. Use foods from disinfected containers as soon as possible because cans may rust.

Commercially canned foods can also be boiled for 10 minutes as a disinfection treatment, but avoid this treatment for carbonated beverage cans.

Tennis Courts Opening May 30

05 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine plans a grand opening at the new Bridge Family Tennis Courts from 3-5 p.m. Friday, May 30. The courts are adjacent to UMaine's Student Recreation Center. John Bridge a 1957 UMaine graduate who earned a graduate degree in 1963, is the retired president of Bridgecorp. Bridge and his brother, Dave, helped establish the original UMaine tennis courts in the early 1990s to honor their father, Chester, who introduced his four sons to the game. Now, with additional support from the Bridge family, friends and other sources, UMaine has reconstructed the area on Hilltop Road to include eight, state-of-the-art courts, space for viewing, and lighting that meets U.S. Tennis Association standards. The Grand Opening will include remarks by UMaine President Robert Kennedy, as well as a ceremonial first volley. Special guest Ron Friedman, president of the U.S. Tennis Association NE, will help demonstrate "QuickStart Tennis," a new format designed to teach tennis to children ages 10 and under in a more fun and dynamic way. Open to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis, the new courts will be available for high school tournaments. UMaine students and members of the Student Recreation Center can reserve a tennis court for 55 minutes by calling (581-1082) or visiting the Campus Recreation website (<http://www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation/>). Reservations may be made up to two days in advance. "I'm extremely grateful to John and Charlene Bridge for their generosity, and to other friends who have generously made this facility come alive," Kennedy says. "Our students -- present and future -- our faculty and staff, and our friends and neighbors will benefit greatly from access to this facility. Like the Recreation Center, just up the hill, it's going to be a point of pride for the campus, and it's a facility that we're anxious to show to prospective students and their families." John Bridge and his wife, Charlene, established an endowment to support the maintenance of the tennis courts and improve the quality and status of UMaine's tennis program. For more information, contact the University of Maine Foundation, Buchanan Alumni House, Two Alumni Place, Orono 04469, or call 207-581-5100 or 1-800-982-8503.

UMaine Student Chosen for James Madison Fellowship

06 May 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine political science major Molly Feeney of Knox, Maine has been chosen by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation as one of its prestigious 2008 James Madison Junior Fellows.

James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation junior and senior fellowships, typically one per state annually, support the graduate study of American government by aspiring and experienced secondary school teachers of American history, American government and social studies. Fellowships carry a stipend of up to \$24,000 for up to two years of full-time study for college graduates, to cover the costs of tuition, required fees, books, and room and board. Last year, no one from Maine received a fellowship in either junior or senior category, and only eight in the last 16 years have been awarded to Maine residents, according to the foundation's fellowship directory.

They are awarded through a national competition and are based upon applicants' essays, letters of recommendation and their perspectives on the importance of teaching about the United States Constitution in secondary schools. After completing graduate study, James Madison Fellows are required to teach American history, American government or social studies in grades 7-12 for a minimum of one year for each academic year of graduate assistance they receive.

Feeney, who currently is working on an honors thesis on education policy, intends to teach history or social studies for several years after she receives a master of arts in teaching degree from UMaine. Her master's work will include a concentration in social studies. Feeney recently student-taught at her alma mater, Mt. View High School in Thorndike, and her future plans include law school.

Feeney is the daughter of John Feeney III of Knox and Julie Feeney of Winslow. In addition to her student teaching this past year at Mt. View, Feeney also spent a semester interning in Washington, D.C. for Maine Congressman Michael Michaud. She is an active member of the Maine Democratic Party and of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society. In her spare time, Feeney coaches high school track at Mt. View and enjoys stock car racing.

As a James Madison Fellow, Feeney also is invited to attend an accredited four-week summer institute at Georgetown University in 2009 on the principles, framing, ratification and implementation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, a requirement for all fellows. Attendance at the summer institute is paid for by the Madison Foundation.

The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation is a federally endowed and privately funded program designed to strengthen instruction about the Constitution in the nation's schools. College seniors and college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government, or social studies are eligible for the fellowships.

In addition to the selecting winners from each of the 50 states, the foundation selects also selects a fellow, either junior or senior, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. If funding permits, additional fellowships are occasionally made in states with large populations. Last year, 57 fellowships were awarded in total.

Heavy Interstate Traffic Expected Saturday; Delays Anticipated

06 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 206th commencement, scheduled for Saturday May 10 at Alfond Arena, will bring a total of approximately 11,000 people to the Orono campus. As most of those graduates and visitors will travel by automobile on Interstate 95 from south of Orono, significant delays are likely. Delays of up to one hour have been reported in past years, and the issue is complicated this year by the construction-related closure of one lane near the intersection of I-95 and I-395 in Bangor. That is expected to cause further delays, affecting those traveling from south of Bangor.

UMaine's commencement, by far the largest in Maine each year, is divided into two ceremonies. One begins at 10 a.m. and the other at 2:30 p.m. Those planning to attend are encouraged to allow lots of extra time and to expect delays on I-95 and moving through Orono.

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.

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 Alfond Arena, both before and after the ceremonies.

Hecker Nominated to Dean Post

06 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Note: a photo of Dean Hecker is available upon request

ORONO -- Jeffrey Hecker, a University of Maine psychology professor since 1986, has been appointed dean of UMaine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The appointment is subject to ratification by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, which will vote on the recommendation at its May 18-19 meeting in Presque Isle.

Hecker has served as the college's interim dean since October 2007. UMaine President Robert Kennedy selected him for the dean's post following a national search.

"Jeff is an accomplished educator and a respected leader in our community," Kennedy says. "He has served UMaine and its students most ably as a professor, department chair and interim dean and I am certain that he will do an outstanding job in this new role. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will benefit greatly from his leadership."

The College of Liberal Arts and Science is the largest of UMaine's five degree-granting colleges. It offers more than 40 undergraduate degrees, in addition to master's degrees and doctorates, through its 17 departments. It is Maine's largest liberal arts college, with more than 240 faculty members.

Hecker graduated from the University of Illinois - Urbana and earned a psychology Ph.D. from UMaine in 1986. His research focuses on risk assessment for people who have committed sexual offenses, including adolescents. He is the author of more than 30 scholarly articles, along with the books "Agoraphobia and Panic: A Guide to Psychological Treatment" and "Clinical Psychology: Science, Practice and Ethics," co-authored with UMaine professor Geoffrey Thorpe.

Corbett Portrait Unveiling Friday

08 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Fifteen years after the University of Maine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building opened, a portrait of the successful poultry farmer who graduated in 1934 will be unveiled at 10 a.m. Friday, May 9, in the Dean's Office Suite in Room 211.

The portrait was presented to the university recently by Ann Corbett Lucas, a 1961 UMaine alum and the oldest daughter of Donald Corbett, who died in 1988 after nearly 45 years in the poultry business. It had been hanging in the American Poultry Historical Society's Hall of Fame in Beltsville, Md., which recognized Don Corbett in 1980 for his outstanding achievements in the poultry industry.

In 1995 when portraits of honorees were replaced with plaques, the picture was given to Francelia Corbett, Don's wife, who in 1991 made the \$1 million naming gift for the building to honor her late husband. A 1934 UMaine graduate, Francelia died in 2007.

"The painting belongs in the building that was named for my father," said Lucas, who lives in Pittsfield, Mass., with her husband, Robert, also a 1961 UMaine graduate.

It also will serve as a reminder to students that success doesn't belong only to corporate executives, she added.

The owner of the 14th largest broiler producer operation in the country, Corbett had operations in Alabama, Mississippi, Maryland and Indiana as well as Maine. In the 1950's, he rented an abandoned industrial plant and founded the Fort Halifax Poultry Company, one of the first completely integrated poultry companies in the world.

After selling the Fort Halifax Poultry Company to Ralston Purina Company in 1961, he joined Ralston in St. Louis as a corporate vice-president. Under his administration, Ralston Purina became the largest broiler producer in the world with plants throughout the country and overseas.

In 1968 he left Purina and became executive vice-president of Arbor Acres Farm. Four years later he founded Corbett Enterprises, Inc., which could process nearly three million birds weekly. Corbett Enterprises also was in the egg business with more than three million laying hens in Maine, Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Arkansas. At one time it

was the sixth largest egg producer in the country. Dried and processed eggs were sold to companies including Quaker Oats, Keebler, Entenmanns and General Mills for use in prepared and packaged foods. He also was involved in the poultry business in Venezuela, Pakistan, and Thailand.

"One of the things that made him successful was that he was good with numbers," Lucas said. "He could take a profit and loss sheet that someone else prepared, and know in an instant if it was correct. Numbers were definitely his thing."

Corbett grew up outside of Boston and planned on attending Cornell University until he spent a summer in Orono with his uncle, then UMaine's dean of men, according to his daughter.

"This kid from the city decided he liked Maine and that he wanted to attend UMaine and major in animal husbandry," she said.

UMaine Annual Outstanding Employee Awards

08 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Winners of the University of Maine's 2008 employee achievement awards represent the university's Army ROTC program, Dept. of Facilities Management, Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center and Graduate School. Two winners were announced recently by the Classified Employee Advisory Council and two by the Professional Employee Advisory Council.

Classified Employee 2008 Achievement Awards

Paulette Ferland, administrative assistant for the UMaine Army ROTC, and Orman Jackson, custodian IV at Estabrooke Hall, have been selected as the classified employee award winners.

Ferland, who lives in Hudson, has worked at UMaine for 16 years, the last six with ROTC. She also has worked for the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and the Department of Modern Languages and Classics. She was nominated by commanding officer Lt. Col. Kevin Harris and colleagues. In his letter of recommendation, Harris says he knows of no one on campus who is friendlier and more enthusiastic about student service than Ferland. "Often challenged by the natural professional and operational difference between academic and military, she works as a translator between the two philosophies, grasping the intent and objectives of both while guiding the cadre through university life," he says.

Jackson, of Howland, came to work as a custodian for Auxiliary Services when he was 21 years old and will retire in October after more than 42 years on campus. He was nominated for an Outstanding Classified Employee of the Year Award by Lynn Dexter-Cassidy, assistant director of operations for Property Management in Auxiliary Services. "Orman is very well liked on this campus and has a lot of information and knowledge," she says.

Professional Employee 2008 Achievement Awards

Robert Lindyberg, assistant director for boatbuilding and marine composites at the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center and Graduate School associate dean Scott Delcourt, are the professional employee award winners.

Lindyberg, who lives in Orono and has a UMaine master's degree and Ph.D., has led UMaine's efforts, in partnership with the U.S. Navy and Hodgdon Yachts, to create a prototype patrol vessel for use by Navy SEAL teams. In nominating Lindyberg, Prof. Habib Dagher noted the "talented, tireless, and effective manner in which has made the land grant

service mission of the University of Maine an integral part of his work." Lindyberg previously worked at the Maine Dept. of Transportation, where he was a bridge design engineer. He joined the AEW professional staff in 1997, and has served in a variety of roles, including manager of engineering and technical services.

Delcourt, of Milford, has been at UMaine since 1985. He worked for nine years as a scientist in the Dept. of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology, followed by a stint in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Public Service. Delcourt has been in the Graduate School since 1996. Dan Sandweiss, UMaine's dean and associate provost for graduate studies, nominated Delcourt on behalf of the grad school staff. "Scott provides direction, works far beyond any normal hours, resolves problems, and does so with unflagging goodwill," Sandweiss wrote in his nomination letter.

All four employee award winners will be formally honored at UMaine's annual employee recognition dinner on May 14.

UMaine Engineering Team Advances to National Concrete Canoe Competition

09 May 2008

Contact: Will Manion (207) 581-2184; Mathew Kinney (207) 316-6323; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- For the third year in a row, a team of University of Maine students is headed to the prestigious American Society of Civil Engineers National Concrete Canoe Competition to be held in Montreal June 19-21.

The UMaine engineering team was selected as the New England representative to the 2008 nationals after its showing in a regional competition held recently at Laval University in Quebec.

The win was sweet, of course, even if the 27-member UMaine team never got to paddle as much as a single stroke in their 20-foot-long craft, called Spitfire. A combination of scheduling problems and unsafe water conditions forced the cancellation of the racing portion of the competition, so the teams were judged entirely on their written design reports, presentations and the buoyancy of their canoes.

The host team from Laval originally took first in the judging, but was later disqualified from further competition when the ASCE ruled that the university's international student group had not met all eligibility requirements and thus could not participate in the nationals.

UMaine was then advanced by default to represent New England in the 18-region nationals, dubbed "The America's Cup of Civil Engineering," which will run its races in the Olympic Basin on Montreal's Notre Dame Island.

Mathew Kinney and Adam Jandreau, the team's junior co-captains and third-year veterans of the competition, learned of the surprising turn of events four days after the event.

"We happened to have a team meeting scheduled for that same night, so we tried to keep it hushed up until then," Kinney says. "The other team members were absolutely thrilled when we told them. No one could believe it."

UMaine's Spitfire, its bow painted with the saw-toothed shark design reminiscent of the famous World War II British fighter planes, is the result of countless hours of hard work and resourceful engineering, says Will Manion, a civil and environmental engineering instructor and the team's advisor.

"One of the bigger benefits of the competition is that they learn about organization and project management, which involves things like scheduling, procuring materials, testing and refining their designs," says Manion.

Rather than use a common concrete mix, the students experimented with a number of formulas to find one that was both buoyant and strong enough to hold four canoeists. They chose a mix that incorporated ultralight glass spheres in place

of sand, which made it less dense than water and thereby capable of floating.

Although the Spitfire is a hefty 230 pounds, it is light compared with UMaine entries of the 1970s that typically weighed 500 pounds or more.

Before heading to the nationals in Montreal next month, the team members will be actively seeking business and individual sponsors to help defray the \$3,000 to \$4,000 in personal expenses and trucking costs. They also hope to get in some paddling practice before the big event, where the competition is sure to be tough.

"We're hoping to finish in the top 10 this year," Kinney says. "Everyone has worked so hard on this, and it would be extremely exciting if we could pull off something like that."

UMaine Economist Picked to Chair National Transportation Research Committee

09 May 2008

Contact: Jonathan Rubin, 581-3152

ORONO -- UMaine economist Jonathan Rubin has been selected for a leadership position in a national research committee that provides scientific and technological expertise to the worldwide transportation industry.

Rubin, a professor at the Margaret Chase Smith Center and UMaine School of Economics, will chair the Committee on Transportation Energy of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies for a 3-year term.

A division of the National Research Council, the board is a private, nonprofit institution that provides expertise in science and technology to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities. Its mission is to be a resource for transportation interests in modes that include highway, marine, rail, freight, aviation and public transportation.

Founded in 1920 with three technical committees to promote research and disseminate highway research findings, the board now has more than 200 standing committees and task forces that address all aspects and modes of transportation, according to the Transportation Research Board's website. It is administered jointly by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine.

As chair of the Committee on Transportation Energy, Rubin will coordinate meetings, work with colleagues to review scientific papers, and identify research needs for the nation on factors that affect energy efficiency and energy use in passenger and freight transportation, and the resulting impacts on energy consumption, energy security and greenhouse gas emissions.

His expertise with transportation issues stems from 15 years of research in transportation and environmental economics. He has published numerous articles in national and international journals. He currently has a Collaborative Visiting Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council of the United Kingdom to work with colleagues at the Cambridge Centre for Climate Change Mitigation Research at the University of Cambridge.

Five UMaine Professors Honored at Convocation Ceremony

09 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Five University of Maine professors, each with international reputations in their academic disciplines and many years of distinguished service to UMaine and its students, were announced this afternoon as the winners of UMaine's annual top faculty awards. The awards are part of the annual Academic Honors Convocation, traditionally held the day before commencement. Today's event was at Alford Arena.

For the first time since the award's 1963 inception, two faculty members share the University of Maine Alumni Association Distinguished Maine Professor award, presented by the alumni association in recognition of outstanding achievements in teaching, research and public service.

Prof. Janice Kristo, professor of literacy education in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development and Prof. John Vetelino, University of Maine Trustee Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, share the Distinguished Maine Professor award. Each will provide remarks at UMaine's Saturday commencement ceremonies.

Kristo joined the UMaine faculty in 1982. As the senior faculty member specializing in literacy, she has a leadership role that has an impact throughout Maine and beyond. Kristo is a prolific scholar and researcher who has co-authored or co-edited ten books, co-authored ten book chapters, written 24 published articles, and given more than 110 presentations, almost half of them at national and international conferences or meetings. Regional and national recognition includes the New England Reading Association's 2003 Special Recognition Award and membership in the National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy. Described by her colleagues as "one of (UMaine's) preeminent teachers, Kristo teaches both undergraduate and graduate students. Her scholarly work focuses on children's literature in K-8 classrooms, and she spends a great deal of time in Maine schools working directly with teachers and students. With her colleague Rosemary Bamford, Kristo received UMaine's Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 2000.

Vetelino, a UMaine professor since 1969, is also a founding member of UMaine's interdisciplinary Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST). He has long been among UMaine's faculty leaders in acquiring funding for sponsored research. Vetelino has received more than 100 grants and awards, totaling more than \$25 million. An international expert on sensor technology, he has some 200 publications to his credit, and he has presented more than 150 papers at professional meetings. Vetelino's work in sensor technology development has led to the creation of four spinoff businesses, leading to jobs and economic development. Vetelino's colleagues note his initiative in developing new courses and course materials, keeping UMaine students on top of emerging technologies and new knowledge. The 1980 winner of UMaine's Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award, Vetelino has also developed a series of educational grants to extend UMaine's expertise and resources to Maine's middle school and high school teachers and students.

The 2008 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award was presented to Prof. Mary Ellen Camire of the UMaine Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition. In her 19 years on the UMaine faculty, Camire has helped lead the department's growth and its impact on several fronts, including expert assistance to Maine agricultural and food producers. Her research has had a particular impact on Maine's blueberry industry, as she had helped develop new products and processing techniques. An expert on functional foods, Camire created UMaine's Consumer Testing Center, for the sensory evaluation of food products. A Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Fellow, Camire received the prestigious Babcock-Hart Award from that group and the International Life Sciences Institute in 2006. That award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to food technologies that improve public health. She has published 57 peer reviewed journal articles and 11 book chapters, and her work as an IFT Food Science Communicator has helped the public understand important issues in this field.

Prof. Alan Cobo-Lewis of the UMaine psychology faculty received the 2008 Presidential Public Service Achievement Award. Cobo-Lewis joined the UMaine faculty in 1998, and he was recognized in particular for his research, public service and advocacy on related to improving the lives of Maine's children. He has applied his skills and energy to solving specific problems, leading to new public policy that benefits Maine families. During 2006-2007, Cobo-Lewis served as co-chair of Maine's Subcommittee to Study Early Childhood Special Education, and effort that led to improvements in Maine's early childhood special education and intervention system. A member of Maine's Task force on Early Childhood and the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council, Cobo-Lewis has earned praise for his work and his approach from state leaders and children's advocacy groups. Because of his effective advocacy, Cobo-Lewis

received the Autism Society of Maine's 2007 service award and the 2007 Maine Children's Alliance Giraffe Award (for people who "stick their neck out" to help children).

The Presidential Teaching Award was presented this afternoon to Prof. Gail Werrbach, a UMaine social work professor since 1988. Known for her collegiality and positive impact on her faculty colleagues and her students, Werrbach was recognized for her efforts to teach and mentor her students, while also working to find ways to expand the delivery of social work education in Maine and beyond. Her successful initiatives include the creation of a master's program in social work at UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast, the development of distance education courses in the School of Social Work and the development of international student exchange programs with institutions in Belgium, Denmark and Spain. In recent years, Werrbach has worked to expand social work education opportunities for Native American students studying for both bachelor's degrees and master's degrees. Her colleagues say that she is eminently respected by her fellow faculty members and by her students, who consistently express their appreciation for her effective teaching through course evaluations.

Innovation Icon Tells UMaine Grads It's Time to Break Away from "Baby Boomer Conformity"; Doug Hall Addresses 206th Commencement

10 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- In a lively commencement address, master inventor and renowned entrepreneur Doug Hall encouraged the 1,860 members of the University of Maine Class of 2008 "to create and take action on ideas for a better world," and to do a better job than the Baby Boomer generation of leading American society to a brighter future.

"It's clear that my generation -- the last wave of the Baby Boomers -- is not a candidate for the Greatest Generation. Then again, we have not been really tested as those in 1776, 1861 or 1942 were," said Hall, who earned a UMaine chemical engineering degree in 1981. "It's not that we've done bad things, it's just that, in my opinion, we've become distracted -- distracted from turning the hopes of youth, our dreams for a better world, into reality as we've come face-to-face with the real world."

In a 10-minute talk laced with humor and reflective insights, Hall went on to encourage the new graduates to lead a revolution against conformity. "In particular," he said, "a revolution against the thinking of me and my fellow Baby Boomers."

To illustrate his advice, Hall offered a "new Declaration of Independence" for the graduates to consider. It included advice about ways to assert their rights to find professional and personal fulfillment.

"To secure these rights, we must stand against the conformity of Baby Boomer thinking," he said. "We must take responsibility for thinking for ourselves just as that band of radical revolutionaries -- Franklin, Adams and Jefferson -- did."

After his UMaine graduation, Hall went to work for Procter & Gamble. After a legendary 10-year career, during which he set new standards for innovation and invention, Hall retired to start his own business. That business, based in Cincinnati and now known as Eureka! Ranch, works with businesses and individuals to develop new ideas and find creative pathways to profitable growth. Hall also remains closely affiliated with his alma mater, where he has been a driving force behind developing UMaine's unique Innovation Engineering curriculum and its Foster Student Innovation Center. Dubbed "The Idea Guru" by Inc.com, Hall has gained international acclaim for his work as an author and public speaker. He was one of three panelists of the ABC television show "American Inventor."

A total of approximately 11,000 family members and friends attended the two ceremonies -- one beginning at 10 a.m. and one at 2:30 p.m. -- held inside UMaine's Harold Alfond Sports Arena. The graduates include 27 who earned

doctoral degrees.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy presided over the ceremonies.

"We hope that we have taught you to inquire relentlessly, to think clearly and reasonably, and to be concerned about the future of our state, our country and our culture," Kennedy said in his charge to graduates.

The ceremonies featured the conferral of honorary doctorates on Hall and on sculptor and educator Celeste Roberge. Hall received a doctor of engineering degree at the afternoon ceremony. During the morning session, Roberge received a doctor of humane letters degree. She is a University of Florida faculty member who graduated from UMaine in 1975. Roberge maintains a summer studio in Maine and her work is on display at the Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, the Portland Museum of Art and other noted galleries in Maine and beyond. As a UMaine student, she co-founded UMaine's Franco-American Centre and served as editor-in chief of its "Le FAROG Forum" publication.

UMaine faculty members played a prominent role in the commencement ceremonies, as well. For the first time since the award's 1963 inception, two professors shared the University of Maine Alumni Association's Distinguished Maine Professor award. Education professor Janice Kristo and electrical engineering professor John Vetelino each addressed the graduates, in keeping with a long-held UMaine tradition.

During the ceremonies, Kennedy also recognized and congratulated the winners of UMaine's other top annual faculty awards:

University Singers Embark on Italy, Sicily Concert Tour

12 May 2008

Contact: Dennis Cox, 581-1245 or 478-5684; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- More than 50 members of UMaine's University Singers and a half dozen accompanying musicians are packing for a 10-day concert tour in Italy and Sicily May 16-26.

The students and accompanists have an itinerary of five concerts with time in between for sight-seeing, says music professor Dennis Cox, University Singers director.

The University Singers is a select concert choir whose members come from all academic disciplines at UMaine. About half are from areas outside of music.

Each year, the Singers undertake a week-long concert tour, usually in the Northeastern United States. Every fourth year, they perform in Europe.

"They can't wait. The students are very, very excited," says Cox. "For some, they have been to Europe before but I would say for many of them, it will be a different experience."

Cox says Europe is an excellent venue for a concert tour because most of the students have not been to Europe and much of the music they perform is European. An international concert tour enhances the students' education, he adds.

"Anybody who is an educated person should be familiar with a culture outside our own," he says, "and Europe is a compact area, so you can experience a lot of it without driving very far."

The students raised money for the trip on their own, with assistance from the UMaine Foundation, Friends of University Singers and other sources, including friends and family members.

The ensemble had raised what was expected to be enough for the tour earlier in the semester and then discovered costs

had risen substantially because of the increased price of jet fuel. "We were able to put together \$28,000 extra in 3 weeks," he says.

The group leaves Wednesday, May 14, and plan stops in Siracusa, Agrigento and Palermo in Sicily and Sorrento and Rome in Italy.

In addition to the student singers and Cox, others from UMaine including flutist Liz Downing from the Office of Admissions, pianist Laura Artesani, assistant professor of music, and several friends, including Cox's brother Allan, who teaches trumpet at Vanderbilt University, and his wife Hildegarde, an organist.

During the tour, the group will perform a joint concert with the Paolo Altieri Choir in Chiesa, Siracusa, and also will debut a composition by UMaine music professor Beth Wiemann titled "On Time."

Among the composers whose work they will sing are Brahms, Handel, Verdi and Rossini.

UMaine Mathematics Professor Receives \$400,000 National Science Foundation Grant

13 May 2008

Contact: David Hiebeler at (207) 581-3924; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine --- David Hiebeler, an assistant professor in the University of Maine Department of Mathematics and Statistics, has received the National Science Foundation's most prestigious honor for promising young scholar-researchers: the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant.

The \$400,000 award, which Hiebeler will receive over five years, recognizes faculty who "most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization," according to the NSF. This marks the first such award for a professor in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and is one of five active CAREER grants on campus.

Hiebeler, whose research centers on mathematical population ecology and epidemiology, will study "Dynamics of Hierarchical Household-Structured Epidemiological Models." Real-world applications for the research include understanding more effective pesticide application in Maine blueberry fields, studying how infectious diseases spread and predicting -- and perhaps combating -- the worldwide spread of a computer worm.

"The importance of the work is that it may suggest new strategies for monitoring populations for outbreaks of infectious diseases, invasive species, or malicious software to enable earlier detection," Hiebeler says.

Hiebeler will work with Frank Drummond, a professor of insect ecology and insect pest management at UMaine, in the hope of using the models to help control maggot flies in Maine's commercial blueberry fields. A similar collaboration with entomologists at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China, will address planthoppers, a crop pest in rice fields in Asia.

Undergraduate research training has been a significant part of Hiebeler's work since he arrived at UMaine in 2002, and students will play an important role in his NSF work as well. Several years ago, he established the SPEED (Spatial Population Ecological and Epidemiological Dynamics) Lab, where students build computational and mathematical models of populations. These models describe the behavior of populations over time under a variety of simulated environmental conditions. Starting this fall, local high school students will begin training with Hiebeler and his undergraduate students, and later become directly involved in SPEED Lab research projects.

"I'm thrilled that the National Science Foundation is providing support to help build my research program and grow my research group," Hiebeler says. "This will create opportunities for many more students to become involved in research

in mathematical biology, including graduate students, undergraduates and high school students. In recent years I've included many undergraduates in my research efforts, have already co-authored a paper with one and expect this to continue."

For more information about the SPEED Lab, visit <http://www.math.umaine.edu/faculty/hiebeler/speedlab>.

For more information about the NSF's CAREER grant program, visit www.NSF.gov.

UMaine Art Museum Closed Memorial Day

14 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art will be closed for the day on Memorial Day Monday, May 26.

The museum, located on Harlow St. in downtown Bangor, will re-open after Memorial Day on Tuesday, May 27 at 9 a.m. Thanks to a generous gift from Machias Savings Bank, in memory of Edward "Ted" D. Leonard III, admission is free.

Teachers Represent UMaine Writing Project in Washington, D.C.

15 May 2008

Contact: Heather Pullen, 581-2443

ORONO -- Two teacher-consultants for the Maine Writing Project at the University of Maine recently represented the program at the spring meeting of the National Writing Project in Washington, D.C. last month.

Ken Martin, distance learning director at the Washington County Consortium for School Improvement at the University of Maine, Machias, and Lincoln MacIsaac, an English teacher at Scarborough High School, also met with the legislative assistant for education to each of Maine's Congressional representatives. They presented research-based information on the impact of the National Writing Project (NWP) on state efforts to improve student writing. Martin and MacIsaac also met with U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud and U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe.

During the conference, other teacher consultants from around the country met with their respective congressional leaders to advocate for continued funding for the National Writing Project. This year, the NWP is seeking \$30 million in federal funding; the NWP provides funding for individual state writing projects.

While with Michaud, Collins and Snowe, Martin and MacIsaac shared personal stories about how the writing project has helped their teaching and their students.

MacIsaac emphasized how Maine and NWP involvement provides a rich resource base and network of colleagues ready to help meet student needs and classroom challenges. Martin, a former Narraguagus High School teacher, described how the original investment of federal dollars supporting the NWP's Rural Voices Radio programming bore fruit repeatedly, including the creation of local versions of Rural Voices in their and others' local classrooms.

Martin and MacIsaac were joined by Tanya Baker, a former teacher at Bangor and Brewer high schools and former co-director of the Maine Writing Project, and the National Writing Project's executive director, Sharon Washington, to

present an NWP award of appreciation to Snowe, recognizing her leadership in support of national writing project efforts. Baker recently was appointed associate director of national programs for the NWP.

The Maine Writing Project was established within the UMaine College of Education and Human Development in 1998 as an affiliate of the National Writing Project. It is dedicated to the improvement of the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum at all grade levels.

Each year, the project invites approximately 25 outstanding educators -- kindergarten through post-secondary in all curriculum areas -- to attend its rigorous summer institute. Participants are selected on the basis of their success as teachers and for their promise as instructional leaders.

The writing project in Maine boasts 265 certified NWP teacher-consultants across the state and offers nearly 100 programs each year for teachers, students and community members, according to Rich Kent, professor of literacy and the Maine Writing Project director.

Transportation Jobs for Young People is Focus of UMaine Institute

15 May 2008

Contact: Sheila Pendse, 581-1427; Philip Dunn, 581-2326; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- After a hiring surge in the 1960s, many employees in the state's transportation industry are now starting to retire, creating a growing need for new blood in a field many young people may overlook.

In a concerted effort to make young people aware of the multitude of job opportunities in the transportation industry, the University of Maine, in conjunction with state and federal highway agencies, is hosting a Maine Summer Transportation Institute for Bangor-area middle school students.

Area school guidance counselors have been asked to select students to apply to the institute, scheduled at the Foster Student Innovation Center on the Orono campus August 4-15. Approximately 20 sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students will learn about new frontiers and adventures in the transportation field. Accepted students also will participate in computer training, academic enhancement activities, field trips and relevant student projects.

Philip Dunn Jr., an assistant professor of construction management technology in the university's School of Engineering Technology and a 20-year veteran of the Maine Department of Transportation, is technical director of the institute. He says some transportation industry jobs may not seem as glamorous as some higher-profile careers, but they are equally important.

"Some people don't appreciate the career opportunities the industry has to offer," says Dunn. "Everybody just expects when they go out that there are going to be bridges and or a train to get from point A to point B. The infrastructure is there but it's not always visible."

Nor is the work that goes into highway and bridge design and construction, and other aspects of the industry -- including alternative fuels, industry law and regulations, construction materials, moving people and cargo, inter-modal transportation and safety, among others.

The institute is the first of what is expected to be an annual event, according to Sheila Pendse, program development associate at the Foster Center and project director of the institute. The 2008 session is supported by a grant from the Federal Highway Administration and Maine Department of Transportation.

It is open to students attending public and private schools, and students from low-income families, underrepresented ethnic backgrounds and geographical locations, and girls are encouraged to apply.

The institute is "an extremely intense and structured learning opportunity" for youth in the middle school systems of Maine, Pendse says.

Students selected for the expenses-paid institute must be in the fifth, sixth or seventh grade for the 2007-2008 school year, have an interest in engineering, science, transportation or a technology-related career, and provide letters of recommendation, grade reports, and essays explaining why they want to participate and how the experience will assist in meeting individual career goals.

Applications are due by June 10. Additional information is available by calling Pendse at 581-1427 or Dunn at 581-2326, or by emailing sheila.pendse@umit.maine.edu or philip.dunn@umit.maine.edu

Application forms and other information can be downloaded from the Innovation Center website (<http://www2.umaine.edu/innovation/k12/msti>).

UMaine to Host Curriculum Development Institute June 2-3

15 May 2008

Contact: Dara McIntire, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, 581-4133

ORONO -- The Maine Campus Compact, a coalition of 18 post-secondary education campuses in Maine, will hold a Curriculum Development Institute on problem-based service-learning June 2-3 at the University of Maine to assist teachers, instructors and professors in engaging students in service-learning projects.

Service-learning combines classroom lessons with real-world problem-solving. Well-designed community projects integrated into a course allow students to gain deeper understanding of academic content while applying their learning to real world problems. Additionally, students learn to collaborate and make connections between theory and larger social issues, enriching both personal and civic development.

The Curriculum Development Institute will address problem-based service learning as a teaching method that organizes teaching and learning around a community problem or a research question developed in conjunction with the community, according to the Lewiston-based Maine Campus Compact.

Members of the Maine Campus Compact are united in the purpose of reinvigorating the civic mission of higher education.

The service-learning institute is scheduled at the Foster Student Innovation Center on the Orono campus on June 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with dinner to follow, and June 3, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Additional information can be obtained or registrations submitted by contacting Maryli Tiemann by email (mtiemann@bates.edu) or calling (207) 786-8217. Registration is still open, and the institute is free for University of Maine faculty and staff.

Facilitators for the institute are Tom Redden, associate professor of history and politics at Southern Vermont College in Bennington, and Kelly Young, assistant dean of interdisciplinary studies at Woodbury College in Montpelier, Vt.

Redden has been using service-learning in his courses for more than 10 years. He is especially experienced in consulting on program start up and a broad range of service learning issues. Young has experience designing and teaching PBSL courses, developing long and short-term community partnerships, and connecting community partnerships to the curriculum.

George Kinghorn Named Director of University of Maine Museum of Art

15 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

BANGOR, Maine --- George Kinghorn has accepted the position of director of the University of Maine Museum of Art, effective June 9.

Kinghorn comes to UMaine from Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville (Fla.), where he most recently served as deputy director and chief curator. He was instrumental in opening MOCA Jacksonville's six-floor, 60,000-square-foot facility in the heart of downtown. He also led a subsequent renovation of the museum's galleries, which added exhibition space and improved flow.

During his nine-year tenure, MOCA Jacksonville opened a children's interactive center, ArtExplorium Loft, and Cafe Nola, an upscale bistro, which contributes to the museum's annual revenues. In addition, he added significant works to the permanent collection, implemented a comprehensive strategic plan and created a collections management master plan, which redefined the scope of the collection.

Laurie Hicks, the interim director of the University of Maine Museum of Art and an art professor at UMaine, praised Kinghorn's experience, enthusiasm and vision.

"The museum is a vital, alive place," Hicks said. "What George can bring to it is the ability to make that vitality and possibility a reality. He has a great track record of having a vision and making it happen, and that was important to us."

Kinghorn's vision for the museum includes extensive community outreach and strong collaborations with faculty and students. Through informal lunchtime lectures, diverse exhibits and educational programming for people of all ages, he hopes to build the museum's audience. It is his goal to increase the museum's visibility statewide and make it a destination -- similar to the way people travel to the Portland Museum of Art and the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland.

"Museums really have to be an open, warm and accessible environment for people to come in and engage in a dialogue about visual art," Kinghorn says. "The idea of museums being stuffy places, I don't really prescribe to that notion. Museums really have to be lively centers of activity that bring people together."

In Jacksonville, the museum project was a key player in the city's downtown revitalization efforts. His arrival in Maine will coincide with the five-year anniversary celebration of UMMA's move to downtown Bangor, and he sees similar potential here.

He called the sleek, industrial space in historic Norumbega Hall "beautifully designed," and says it "has a wonderful flow." He loves the flexibility of the galleries, which allows the museum to present innovative, contemporary work as well as traditional art forms. Though smaller in size and scope, the UMaine museum reminds him in many ways of his work in Jacksonville.

"The best part about the museum's location is that wonderful civic partnership with the university and the city of Bangor," Kinghorn said. "A museum can really invigorate a downtown and bring people from all walks of life together."

Kinghorn succeeds longtime director Wally Mason, who spearheaded the museum's move off campus. During his time at UMaine, from 1996 to late 2007, Mason significantly added to the permanent collection of works on paper, building on the tradition set by the museum's founder, Vincent Hartgen.

"Wally Mason really built the foundation for this museum," Hicks said. "Now it's time for the museum to set a path for

itself and work to become the museum it has the potential to be, to really try to do things that make it stand out even more than it already does."

About the University of Maine Museum of Art:

In 1946, Vincent Hartgen established the University of Maine Art Collection with the goal of educating and enriching the lives of all Mainers through visual art. In 1988, the University Art Collection became the University of Maine Museum of Art, and in 2002, the museum moved from the Orono campus to historic Norumbega Hall in downtown Bangor. It is located at 40 Harlow St. For more information, call 561-3350 or visit www.umma.umaine.edu. Admission is free to the public through the end of 2008.

UMaine Researcher Selected To Attend The Wildlife Society Leadership Institute

16 May 2008

Contact: Angela Fuller (207) 581-2869; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Angela Fuller, a post-doctoral research assistant and associate graduate faculty member in the University of Maine's Department of Wildlife Ecology, has been chosen to attend The Wildlife Society's 2008 Leadership Institute to be held this summer and fall.

The Maryland-based institute, established in 2006, provides a select group of early-career wildlife professionals with the extensive training that will allow them to one day move into leadership positions both in their workplaces and in society.

Fuller, who has conducted field-based research on Canada lynx, American martens, snowshoe hares and other mammals, is one of 10 people from the U.S. and Canada chosen for the program based on academic records, leadership abilities and demonstrated level of excellence in their current positions.

With nearly 70 percent of the leaders in the profession due to retire in the next decade, the goal of the TWS leadership institute is to prepare young members two or three years out of school for the future challenges facing wildlife managers and conservationists.

The program will run from May through November and culminate with intensive mentoring activities and leadership workshops at the 2008 TWS Annual Conference in Miami.

UMaine alumnus Donald Holder, '80, nominated for Tony Award

16 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- This week's Tony Award nominations included University of Maine alumnus Donald Holder for his lighting design work on Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific."

Holder, who graduated in 1980, is no stranger to awards. His lighting design for the Broadway production of Disney's "The Lion King" won a Tony and a Drama Desk Award. He also received Tony nominations for his lighting work on "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Movin' Out" and "Gem of the Ocean," among others.

"He paints the stage and shapes the space with color," says Tom Mikotowicz, a UMaine theater professor who is a longtime associate of Holder. "He's one of the masters of the craft."

Mikotowicz calls Holder a "very contemplative sort of person," and says his work reflects that. Holder takes the time to analyze a script so that the lighting almost becomes a character in and of itself.

"It's not a matter of lighting the stage so that it's well-lit and the actors and costumes look great," Mikotowicz said. "[Great lighting designers] go further than that. They take elements out of the text and organically connect the lighting to them."

For a production like "South Pacific," the lighting helps to create the mood and is romantic and colorful to support the feelings in the script.

As an undergraduate, Holder studied forestry, but he had a passion for music and theater. His interest in stage lighting was nurtured by the late Al Cyrus, whom Holder considered a friend and mentor. Holder went on to study drama at Yale, but he has maintained his connection to UMaine.

Four years ago, Holder was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the New England Theatre Conference, while Mikotowicz was president of the organization.

"In addition to winning the major award, Don offered workshops in lighting to young designers and he discussed the high technology of Broadway productions, which are all automated and use extensive computer technology to run them," Mikotowicz said.

When Mikotowicz was looking for a lighting designer for the opera production of "The Marriage of Figaro," which ran in February 2008, Holder considered coming up to Maine to execute the lighting design. However, he was offered another commitment at Lincoln Center and had to bow out, but he recommended one of his former assistants, Burke Brown, to design the lights.

When the School of Performing Arts needed a consultant for program review last year, Holder "eagerly agreed to help his alma mater out."

"He's been a good source for the [School for the Performing Arts]," Mikotowicz says. "He's always willing to help."

May 21 Conference Geared to Entrepreneurs, Small Business

16 May 2008

Contact: Jim McConnon, 581-3165; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Big box retailers, call centers and corporate institutions may get a lot of attention when the subject of Maine's economy comes up, but state and local business leaders, economists and market researchers know well the importance of small business in Maine.

Small businesses, micro-businesses of four or fewer employees, and budding entrepreneurs have an economic impact that often is easy to under appreciate.

"Economies with a high percentage of micro-businesses have a higher growth rate and are important contributors to economic growth," says James McConnon Jr., a Cooperative Extension business and economics specialist and UMaine professor of economics. "Small businesses, even very small businesses, contribute in total the most to create jobs."

On May 21, a consortium of leading business-advocacy organizations, state government, the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine will hold the last in a series of four pilot conferences designed to educate and aid people running small businesses in Maine.

Scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Johnston Gymnasium at Eastern Maine Community College in Bangor, "A Governor's Regional Conference on Small Business and Entrepreneurship" offers welcoming remarks by Gov. Jon Baldacci, a keynote address by entrepreneur and business leader Bion Foster and a series of workshops and panel discussions designed to cover the critical areas that can make or break a small business.

Small business owners, employees, business students and future entrepreneurs are invited to the conference, which is expected to attract 400 or more business representatives. Registration and conference information is available by contacting Arlene MacLeod at Eastern Maine Community College at (207) 974-4810 or by visiting the conference website (www.smbiz4me.com). A \$25 fee covers conference materials and lunch.

McConnon, who with colleagues in the UMaine School of Economics, has studied the role of small and microbusinesses in Maine, New England and the nation, says small businesses are the lifeblood of the state's economy.

"Maine's economy is made up of a lot of small businesses. Recent research that I have conducted has shown that 20 percent of Maine's employment is provided by 130,000 microbusinesses," he says.

The conference is organized by a statewide planning committee, on which McConnon and Extension professor Louis Bassano of the Washington County office serve, and the Bangor Regional Leadership Initiative, a local steering committee for the May 21 conference, chaired by Danny Williams of the University of Maine Foundation. Extension professor Louise Kirkland of the Penobscot County office also serves on the local planning team.

The conference series will serve as a model on which future small business conferences may be held annually, according to McConnon. Last year, the third in the series was held in Auburn, and before that, in York County and Washington County.

This and future conferences will provide an opportunity for small business leaders to get together to learn about ways to improve business practices. They are particularly important for entrepreneurs who have created feasible business plans, but lack the formal business education necessary to carry them to fruition, McConnon says.

"These conferences really serve as a catalyst for entrepreneurship and improve business practices," McConnon says. "We've seen from previous conferences that they have had a tremendous impact."

Dozens of conference workshops and discussions will range from business planning, business basics and cash flow, pricing products, tax strategies and tips to management, sales and marketing techniques, customer service, and the basics of human relations, including proper procedures for hiring and firing. Sessions also will address accounting and an introduction to the latest accounting software.

Resources available to assist small businesses include the University of Maine, which offers research and product-development information through programs and facilities that include the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Dr. Matthew Highlands Food Science Pilot Plant, and the Foster Student Innovation Center for UMaine students.

The May 21 conference will be preceded on Tuesday, May 20, from 5-7 p.m. in Rangeley Hall at EMCC by a networking reception for participants, with guest speaker Laurie Lachance, former Maine state economist and now executive director of the Maine Development Foundation.

Sponsors of the conference include Bangor Savings Bank, Oxford Networks and Eastern Maine Community College.

Maine Grass Farmers Network Announces Pasture Walks

19 May 2008

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, 207-342-5971, richardk@umext.maine.edu ORONO--The Maine Grass Farmers Network, with support from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners

Association and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, has organized a series of pasture walks designed to help new and experienced farmers learn about profitable grazing in Maine. The first pasture walk is on May 23 from 2-4 p.m. at Longmeadows Farm in Benton, with Xandy Brown as the host. This walk will feature Dr. Beth McEvoy, who will teach participants various techniques for dehorning and castrating calves, including the use of lidocaine in dehorning. McEvoy, a veterinarian with the Foxcroft Veterinary Services, will also discuss appropriate vaccination techniques. If there is time Brown will lead a walk to see one or both of his new pasture watering systems. Longmeadows Farm is the yellow farm at 184 Unity Road (Route 139) in Benton. On June 22 from 2-4 p.m., in Pownal, the pasture walk will focus on installing high-tensile fencing and pasture planning. Tir na nOg Farm, a small family farm with Scottish highland cattle, free-range poultry and pastured pigs--all managed with minimal start-up resources and no barn., will host this walk. Participants can learn from the farmers and master fence-builder Bob McGann as he plans pasture expansions on varied terrain. Site preparation, pasture configuration, and fencing types and materials will be discussed. Participants may also examine a frost-free field-hydrant system and explore creative, low-budget solutions for beginning farmers. On August 10 from 3-5 p.m., Stan Maynard will host a session in Woodland in Aroostook County. He will show his grazing system for his herd of Scottish highland cattle. After calving in May he expects to have about 90 head of cattle, which graze on nine paddocks at the home farm and on two other nearby farms. A few years ago he reseeded an area with a mix of orchard grass, timothy, birdsfoot trefoil, and California white clover, and he's looking forward to seeing how well it came through the winter.

Tomato Tasting this Week

20 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Consumer Testing Center is recruiting volunteers over the age of 18 who consume fresh tomatoes. The information will assist tomato growers evaluate consumer acceptability of fresh tomato varieties. Volunteers will be asked demographic and purchasing questions. They will be asked to evaluate fresh tomatoes for appearance and taste. All information will be confidential.

Testing will be held in 158 Hitchner Hall on Wednesday, May 21 and Thursday May 22, 2008 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Volunteers may attend one or both sessions as different tomato varieties will be evaluated each day. Evaluations may take up to 30 minutes. Participants will receive a 120 minute phone card or five Consumer Testing Center credits per session. Each Consumer Testing Center credit is worth \$1. Credits may accrue until the balance exceeds \$25, at which time they may be redeemed for a gift certificate to the UMaine bookstore or other local vendor.

Those who have an allergy to tomatoes, or do not eat tomatoes for any other reason, should not participate.

Diane Jackson Receives Disabilities Service Award

21 May 2008

Contact: Dianne Jackson, 581-2401

ORONO -- Diane Jackson, clinical instructor in special education in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, recently received the Sylvester Service Award from the Learning Disabilities Association of Maine.

The award is given to those who are dedicated to providing service to individuals with learning disabilities and attention disorders.

Jackson received the award at the association's state conference in Waterville on April 11.

The Learning Disabilities Association is a statewide, grassroots, volunteer organization dedicated to assisting individuals with learning and attention disabilities through support, education and advocacy. Maine individuals, families, schools, and community members can turn to the association for expertise and resources, usually at no cost.

Jackson says her work with the association "provides me with continuous contact with children and adults who have learning disabilities and-or ADHD (Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder) and strengthens my understanding of educational needs for the K-college levels."

UMaine and Alumni Association to Offer Maine Studies Graduate Course; May 30 Opening Lecture Open to the Public

21 May 2008

Contact: Bob Potts at (207) 581-2586

Orono, ME -- The University of Maine Alumni Association and the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning will team up to present a graduate level course, Maine Politics and Public Policy, in conjunction with the 2008 UMaine Alumni Reunion Weekend.

The opening lecture is set for Friday, May 30 from 9-11 a.m., and the course will continue online through July 18. The seminar examines contemporary issues confronting the state and the politics that surround them. Focus areas include Maine's role in national affairs, its unique political environment, political parties and elections, the dynamics of the legislative, executive and judicial branches, the structure and operation of local governmental institutions, including regional governance, and the formulation and administration of state and local policies, especially taxing and spending policies.

The opening lecture, scheduled for UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House, is free and open to the public. Those interested in attending only that lecture should register by calling (207) 581-1185.

Anyone interested in taking the entire course, the remainder of which will be presented online, must register through UMaine's Division of Lifelong Learning by calling the Maine Graduate School at (207) 581-3219.

UMaine political science professors Ken Palmer and Mark Brewer, and public administration professors Ken Nichols and Tom Taylor, will teach the course.

Those who complete the course may apply the credit toward a Maine Studies Interdisciplinary Master's Degree. For more information, contact the Maine Studies office at (207) 581-3147.

Raised-Bed Gardening Is Page Farm and Home Museum Brown Bag Lunch Topic

21 May 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- Gardening with raised beds -- a good way to grow healthy vegetables in areas with poor soil -- is the topic of a brown bag lunch and lecture at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum June 11.

Featuring Donna Coffin, Extension educator with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Piscataquis County office, the free public talk and discussion is from noon to 1 p.m. on the Orono campus.

June is a good time to start a vegetable garden with cold-sensitive crops like tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. For people with soils that are lacking in one or more characteristics necessary for vegetables to thrive, raised beds can offer an easy solution, according to Coffin.

In her presentation "Growing Vegetables in Raised Beds," Coffin will discuss raised-bed construction, soil mixtures, best vegetable varieties and raised-bed maintenance. Participants will receive handouts on raised-bed gardening.

Bring lunch and be ready to learn about an easy method of gardening, says Patricia Henner, director of the Page Farm and Home Museum. Additional information is available by calling the farm and home museum at 581-4100.

Antique Textiles Care, Preservation is Brown Bag Lunch Topic

21 May 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- Antique textile care and preservation is the topic of a May 30 brown bag lunch lecture at the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum.

Susan Smith, registrar of the Page Farm and Home Museum and the Hudson Museum will talk about antique textiles and how age, environmental conditions and handling can affect the condition of textiles. Special care ensures long-term preservation, according to Smith.

She will discuss environment, light, temperature and relative humidity, cleaning, handling, display, storage, and when to consult with a textile conservator. Dana Lippitt, curator of the Bangor Museum and History Center, will join Smith and offer a demonstration on making padded hangers.

Smith holds a master's degree in museum studies, and studied fashion design in New York at Parsons School of Design, now called Parsons The New School for Design. She is the former curator of the Bangor Historical Society, which has a collection of more than 600 textiles.

The talk, from noon to 1 p.m., is sponsored by Foxcroft Veterinary Services. Participants are invited to bring along a brown bag lunch.

Workshop Will Demystify Small-Scale Biodiesel Production

21 May 2008

Contact: Caragh Fitzgerald, 622-7546 or (800) 287-1481

MONMOUTH -- A hands-on biodiesel processing workshop is set for Thursday, June 12 from 9:45 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the University of Maine's Highmoor Farm in Monmouth. The cost is \$6 and advance registration is required. To register, call University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Kennebec County office at 622-7546 (800-287-1481 in Maine) or e-mail Caragh Fitzgerald at cfitzgerald@umext.maine.edu.

The main objective of the workshop is to demystify biodiesel production, emphasizing high-quality fuel production methods as well as proper safety precautions. People of all levels of experience are encouraged to attend.

Representatives from Piedmont Biofuels, a North Carolina biodiesel cooperative that promotes grassroots sustainability by encouraging the use of biofuels, will lead the seminar. Piedmont's expertise is in small-scale biodiesel production, including small producer co-ops and even backyard operations. A mobile biodiesel demonstration unit will be used to review and demonstrate steps in biodiesel processing.

The day will begin with an introduction to biodiesel production, proper handling and use, and the U.S. biodiesel industry, followed by a hands-on opportunity to make a small batch of biodiesel. The mobile biodiesel production and oilseed crushing trailer will allow participants to see all the components of a small commercial biodiesel production system in operation. Participants will learn how to crush their own oilseed crops for oil that can be used to produce high-quality biodiesel. In addition, there will be a review of oilseed crop production and the economics of biodiesel production from oilseeds.

Funding for the program is provided by the USDA-Risk Management Agency. Local sponsors include University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the program must notify the UMaine Extension Kennebec County office at least ten days before the workshop.

Chironomids Give a Whole New Meaning to the Phrase 'Life is Short'

22 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Commonly known as midge flies, chironomids begin their lives as larvae in lake sediment. It's cozy down there -- a nice place to build a home, or a tube as the case may be. As they grow, they shed their skin four times, then pupate. All at once, they emerge as a swarm of adults, mate, lay eggs and die.

Their entire adult lives take place over the course of a few days. But the lessons they can teach us about climate change endure, according to UMaine researcher Ann Dieffenbacher-Krall. She has spent the last several years extracting and classifying chironomid head capsules -- the only part of the insect that preserves -- from cores of lake sediment in New Zealand.

"We're using them as a thermometer, basically," Dieffenbacher-Krall says.

This thermometer will help researchers determine what was going on in the Southern Hemisphere at the end of the last ice age. In the northern hemisphere, ice core samples have shown extremely abrupt climate change -- temperatures rose 7 degrees Celsius over a 10-year period; with global warming, the rate is a degree or two over 50 years.

"Did this occur down there or not? Was it focused on the North Atlantic or was it a climate event for the whole world?" Dieffenbacher-Krall asks. "If we know this, it can give us clues about what the cause might have been."

*And these insect remains -- each as small as a speck of dust -- may hold the key. Different types of chironomids exist under different ecological conditions, but the dominant variable is a lake's mean summer temperature. Comparing chironomid data with pollen-based studies of temperature change, Dieffenbacher-Krall and her colleagues George Denton of UMaine's Climate Change Institute and Marcus Vandergoes, who splits his time between UMaine and Wellington, New Zealand, have painted a more complete picture of climate change during the Lateglacial period. Their findings, published in *Quaternary Science Reviews*, indicate stronger seasonality, which could in turn have broader implications for understanding differences between proxy records for abrupt climate change.*

Class of 2008 Salutatorian Selected for Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship

23 May 2008

Contact: Robyn Russell, Phi Kappa Phi, (800-804-9880)

ORONO -- UMaine Class of 2008 salutatorian Anh Hoai Do of Hanoi, Vietnam has been awarded a fellowship and an award of excellence by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi for the 2008-2009 academic year.

One of 100 students nationwide to receive a Phi Kappa Phi fellowship this year, Do will pursue a master's degree in finance at the University of Cambridge in England in the fall.

In her four years at UMaine, Do was active in the International Student Association; the Office of Multicultural Programs; the student investment portfolio project, SPIFFY; and Student Government, where she was vice president for financial affairs. For the past three years, she also served as a resident assistant on campus. She is a member of numerous honor societies, including All Maine Women Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Do, who was named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and the college's Outstanding International Student for 2008, also served in two internships in Hanoi during her enrollment at UMaine, one with KPMG, an auditing firm, another with HSBC, a UK commercial bank.

She currently is in New York City working at the brokerage firm of Sterne Agee as a research analyst. In September, Do will take a nine-month leave of absence to pursue her master's degree in finance at Cambridge.

She is the daughter of Do Minh Dung and Truong Thanh Mai.

Since its creation in 1932, the Phi Kappa Phi fellowship program has become one of the society's most visible and financially well-supported endeavors, allocating nearly \$380,000 annually to deserving students for first-year graduate study. Sixty fellowships of \$5,000 and 40 excellence awards of \$2,000 are offered each year.

The selection process for Phi Kappa Phi fellowships and awards of excellence is based on the applicants' undergraduate academic performance; leadership and service on the campus and in the community; evidence of graduate potential; a personal statement of educational perspective, purpose and objectives; and evaluation reports from three individuals familiar with the student's performance, citizenship and character.

Headquartered in Baton Rouge, La., Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. Some of the organization's more notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, Baylor University head women's basketball coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson, writer John Grisham and Netscape founder James Barksdale.

Moss, Inc. Gift Supports Hutchinson Center New Media Center

23 May 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST, Me. --The University of Maine Hutchinson Center Expansion Committee has announced that the center's New Media facility will be named the Moss Inc. New Media Center, in recognition of a generous gift from that company.

"We are pleased to participate in the expansion of the Hutchinson Center. It offers the community and Moss employees the opportunity to continue their education and hone their management and leadership skills as well as providing us space and faculty for worker training. Marilyn Moss, the founder and former owner of Moss Inc. was committed to

community development. That commitment continues," said Shelly Alex, vice president of sales and marketing for the company.

Located in Belfast, the Hutchinson Center brings UMaine academic programming and outreach to mid-coast Maine. Moss, Inc., with locations in Belfast, Illinois and Nevada, provides tensioned fabric for the exhibit, event and retail interiors industries.

The planned expansion of the Hutchinson Center will double the center's classroom space. Along with the New Media space, which will allow students to participate in one of the university's most popular academic programs, the facility will include two science labs and space for art classes. The laboratories will allow the center to offer nursing programs and will enable students to fulfill pre-med and pre-engineering requirements at the Hutchinson Center. The art room will permit creative work that cannot take place in the existing space. All new classrooms are designed for multiple uses, according to Sue McCullough, Hutchinson Center director.

The expansion is a \$4 million project. Two million dollars will be raised through revenue bonds to be funded from income from the Hutchinson Center. With the generous gift from Moss, Inc, the campaign has raised over \$1 million of its \$2 million private fundraising goal. The new facility is expected to open in the fall of 2009; ground breaking is planned for Monday, June 9 at 11 a.m.

For information about the campaign, call Sue McCullough at 207-338-8000.

News Segments to Feature Vegetable-Growing Expertise

23 May 2008

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-780-4205

ORONO, Me.--University of Maine Cooperative Extension and NBC television affiliates WCSH6 in Portland and WLBS2 in Bangor will present weekly segments on growing vegetables. Scheduled during 5 p.m. newscasts throughout the growing season, the segments will cover garden planning, planting, season extension, container and raised-bed gardening, intensive gardening, soil improvement, composting, organic methods, watering and irrigation, and weed and pest management. UMaine Extension faculty will also discuss the nutritional value of fresh foods, and proper harvest, food preservation and food safety practices.

While gardening has long been considered a hobby that provides exercise, enjoyment and fresh air, many in Maine are now turning to vegetable gardening for the first time to help offset increasing prices for food and fuel. UMaine Extension

UMaine Alumni Association Announces 2008 Alumni Award Recipients

28 May 2008

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

ORONO, ME - The University of Maine Alumni Association (UMAA) has announced the recipients of its 2008 Alumni Awards. They are as follows:

Alumni Career Award (UMAA's highest honor): Dorothea Butler Marsden '50, Deland, Florida

(Children's educator, researcher and creator of educational assessment programs utilized by educators nationwide).

Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award (in recognition of graduates who distinguish themselves in humanitarian service): Arthur D. Serota '66, Washington, DC (Director of United Movement to End Child Soldiering, based in Uganda).

Fogler Legacy Award (presented to families with multi-generation graduates of the University of Maine): Foster Family; Patriarch: Walter Herbert Foster, Sr., Class of 1905.

Pine Tree Emblem Alumni Service Award (alumni service award given in recognition and appreciation of outstanding service in promoting alumni work): Nancy Morse Dysart '60, Carmel, Maine

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

- Donald A. Grant '56, '69G, Orono, ME

- Thomas P. Hosmer '58, Concord, MA

- Thomas P. Laskey '53, Woodstock, CT

- Raymond P. Jacques '85, Peabody, MA

Block "M" Award (alumni activities award, to recognize goodwill for the University through work in local organizations, class activities and the Alumni Association):

- Arnie A. Davis '49, Washburn, ME

- Richard '50 & Flora Fairfield '50, Barrington, RI

- Robert F. McKown '58, Wayland, MA

- Lawrence R. Schiner '61, '62G, Bluffton, SC

Hilda Sterling '55 Class Correspondent Award (presented annually to an alumnus/a for exemplary service to the class as class correspondent): Barbara Fowles Allen '63, Marcellas, New York.

All honorees will be recognized at the Alumni Association Awards Breakfast, Sunday, June 1st at Wells Conference Center, University of Maine, during Reunion Weekend 2008.

UMaine Oceanography Student Awarded NASA Fellowship

28 May 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Margaret Estapa, a doctoral student in oceanography at the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences, was recently awarded a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship.

The fellowship, available to to master's or doctoral students in Earth science, heliophysics, planetary science and astrophysics, is awarded on the merits of research involving data collected by space-based instruments, ground-based data, laboratory experiments and theoretical modeling.

The \$30,000 grant, which is renewable for two more years based on academic performance, will be used to support Estapa's ongoing study of the release of carbon from the mud that is delivered from the Mississippi River to areas along the Gulf Coast.

Upon exposure to intense sunlight, some of this carbon has been found to form carbon dioxide in the months after it is delivered and can drift into the atmosphere to become a heat-trapping greenhouse gas. Estapa will use light-measuring equipment and satellite data to determine how much carbon undergoes this process and how much remains buried in the mud.

Advising Estapa on the project are School of Marine Sciences professors Larry Mayer and Emmanuel Boss.

645 Middle School Students Converging on UMaine May 30 for Statewide Technology Initiative Conference; \$10,000 in Scholarships Being Awarded as Door Prizes

29 May 2008

Contact: Mohamad Musavi, 581-2243; Bruce Segee, 581-2212; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- More than 600 of Maine's middle school students will converge on the University of Maine Friday, May 30, for a day of pushing the boundaries of their laptop computer skills.

As part of the fifth annual Maine Learning Technology Initiative Student Technology Conference, students from more than 45 schools will learn about new laptop computer software, new applications and new ways to make the best use of laptops for research, classroom activities and 21st Century educational exploration. The conference will take place in many UMaine classrooms. The day begins with registration starting at 8:15 a.m. in D.P. Corbett Business Building and welcoming remarks at 9 a.m. in nearby Hauck Auditorium on the Orono campus.

Students will break up for nearly 40 sessions on new software, educational games and dozens of the latest new media applications.

"This moves beyond classrooms and more into sophisticated and creative uses for the laptop," says Bruce Segee, the Henry R. and Grace V. Butler Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who is assisting with the collaborative event. "The laptop really enables a whole different way of thinking about problems, a whole different approach to education. It's about the state's laptop people, the state's middle school students and teachers, and the university getting together to learn about using the laptop in creative ways."

During the conference, \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded as door prizes for 10 students who commit to enrolling in the UMaine Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering when the time comes for college.

The scholarships are expected to encourage Maine middle school students to start thinking about college sooner. Five boys and five girls who will be selected to receive \$1,000 will receive the scholarships upon high school graduation and acceptance into the department's program.

The department will stay in touch with the winning students through the remainder of their middle school years and through high school, protecting their potential investment by showing interest in the academic progress of the winners and providing support and encouragement, according to Mohamad Musavi, chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Jim Moulton of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative.

"By offering these scholarships, we believe we will be making a clear statement to these students and their families that the time to think about the future is now, and that a career in engineering can be a reality," Musavi says. "I hope this initiative is the beginning of a transformation for Maine students to get high-tech education and enter into high paying jobs. This is a critical solution for moving our economy forward."

Musavi says that interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is drawing together a nationwide educational focus on the field.

"Students who come to this conference are actively involved in Maine's unique one-to-one computer program, the MLTI

(Maine Learning Technology Initiative)," he says. "They are using technology as a primary tool in their learning, building a practical foundation of technology savvy that we look for in our applicants.

MLTI is not limited to technology, Moulton says. It is as much about increasing student achievement and opportunity, "and what better mark of opportunity for Maine learners than a college scholarship?" Moulton adds.

"We are so excited to be able to offer college scholarships to students during the critical middle school years," Moulton says. "By getting them connected early, we are confident more Maine kids will be going on to college.

Conference sessions will teach students skills ranging from starting their own student tech teams at their schools to file sharing, blogs and podcasts, making iMovies about their communities and learning about math and science in innovative, imaginative ways.

"We have 645 highly motivated middle school students excited about taking their laptops to a new level," Segee says. "These students are UMaine's future students and they're poised to go out and make the world a better place."

Information about MLTI and conference details and schedules are available on the MLTI website

UMaine Plays Host to International Poetry Conference

29 May 2008

Contact: Steve Evans, (207) 581-3818; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The 1970s were a tumultuous time in American culture -- and the poetry of the decade distills that to its most raw form.

As part of its "decades" conference series, The National Poetry Foundation at the University of Maine will bring together an international roster of poets to examine "Poetry of the 1970s." Conference by day, literary festival by night, the event will take place from June 11 to 15 at the Orono campus.

Keynote poets include Bruce Andrews, Rae Armantrout, Nicole Brossard, Clark Coolidge, Jayne Cortez, Ann Lauterbach, Bernadette Mayer, Tom Raworth, and Fred Wah.

In the '70s, these and other poets forged strong connections with artists -- the painter Jasper Johns incorporated Coolidge's words into his paintings. Alex Katz's portrait of Lauterbach is iconic.

To highlight those collaborations, the Lord Hall Gallery on campus will exhibit 1970s selections from the University of Maine Museum of Art's permanent collection. A portion of the gallery will be dedicated to a partial digital re-creation of Bernadette Mayer's 1972 installation, "Memory." Colby College Museum of Art in Waterville will also exhibit a special collection of Alex Katz's work in commemoration of the conference.

Though the conference speaks to the issues of the decade, the poets' message is equally relevant today. And so is the National Poetry Foundation.

"Where else in the United States is there still a hub for the avant-garde, politically infused, radical poetic traditions of the '70s?" asks Jennifer Moxley, a poet and associate professor of English at UMaine. "Where they're part of that alternative counterculture tradition as opposed to academic or mainstream?"

The National Poetry Foundation is that hub. Founded in 1971 by UMaine English professor and Ezra Pound scholar Carroll F. Terrell, the NPF has earned an international reputation for its innovative approach to scholarship in the fields of modern and contemporary poetry and poetics.

From its inception, NPF has championed writers who are off the mainstream radar, and in doing so attracted a

following to its conferences and journals, Paideuma and Sagetrieb.

Working in close partnership with the University of Maine English Department, the NPF undertook a major new initiative in 1999 with the launch of the New Writing Series, a program of public readings and events that has brought hundreds of today's most adventurous writers to the UMaine campus.

The following events are free and open to the public. Readings will take place in Minsky Recital Hall, located in the Class of 1944 Hall. The art opening will take place in Lord Hall.

Wednesday, June 11

- *6:30 p.m., reception and art opening, Lord Hall Gallery.*
- *8 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Fred Wah*
- *9:30 p.m., group and open poetry readings*

Thursday, June 12

- *7:30 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Bruce Andrews*
- *8:30 p.m. plenary poetry reading by Jayne Cortez*
- *10 p.m., special group reading by "Grand Piano" contributors, including Steve Benson, Kit Robinson and Barrett Watten*
- *11 p.m., open readings*

Friday, June 13

- *8 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Ann Lauterbach*
- *9 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Nicole Brossard*
- *10:30 p.m., special group reading by Washington, D.C. poets, including Tina Darragh, Lynne Dreyer, P. Inman, Joan Retallack, Phyllis Rosenzweig, Diane Ward, introduced by Tom Orange*
- *11:30 p.m., open readings*

Saturday, June 14

- *8 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Tom Raworth*
- *9 p.m., plenary poetry reading by Rae Armantrout*
- *10 p.m., open readings and party*

UMaine Exhibit Focuses on "Art of the '70s"

29 May 2008

Contact: Laurie Hicks, (207) 561-3350; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Currently on exhibit in the Lord Hall Gallery through June 16, "Art of the 70s" is a collaboration of the UMaine Department of Art, the University of Maine Museum of Art and the National Poetry Foundation that features some of the defining art from the decade of the 1970s by the artists who created it.

The work is from the Museum of Art's permanent collection in Bangor. The exhibit was curated to coordinate with the National Poetry Foundation conference June 11-15. Some of the conference events will be held in the Lord Hall Galleries.

The exhibit brings together a representative body of work that reflects the type of art created in the 1970s, says Laurie

Hicks, UMaine art professor and interim director of the UMaine Museum of Art. Further, it represents the strength and richness of the University of Maine Museum of Art's collection, Hicks adds.

"Art of the 70s" includes 27 works of art, including prints, photography, drawings and paintings, as well as a video installation by New York poet and author Bernadette Mayer.

The show also includes -- coincidentally, Hicks notes -- an aquatint print of renowned New York poet Ann Lauterbach by American realist Alex Katz, who had a long history of studying and painting in Maine. Lauterbach, also a professor of poetry at Bard College in New York state, is one of the keynote speakers for the National Poetry Foundation conference.

In addition to Katz, some of the other noteworthy artists on display at Lord Hall include Andy Warhol, George Tice, Jasper Johns, George Maciunas and Roy Lichtenstein, all nationally renowned.

Lord Hall Gallery is open weekdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Yard Sale to Recycle Discarded UMaine Student Property

30 May 2008

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- When the University of Maine's nearly 4,000 residence hall students moved out for the summer this month, they left behind tons of furniture, electronic equipment, appliances, clothing and other miscellaneous items.

Rather than take it to landfills or burn it, UMaine hopes to recycle it at this year's Black Bear Clean Sweep Yard Sale. The event is open to the public, rain or shine, on June 5-7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day, at Estabrooke Hall on the Orono campus. UMaine faculty and staff will have an early-bird opportunity to look over and purchase items on Wednesday, June 4, from 3-5 p.m.

UMaine Property Management is partnering with the Bodwell Volunteer Center to dispose of the items. Proceeds benefit student volunteer programs and community activities.

"We have lots of televisions, mini-fridges, and lots and lots of clothes, sports equipment, white boards, desks and couches," says Kevin Paul Taschereau, assistant coordinator of The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism. "We have a lot of technology items -- TVs, radios, computer monitors -- and dishes."

Non-perishable food items are donated to Crossroads Ministries and Resource Center in Old Town, which maintains a soup kitchen and food bank. What the university can use -- often 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.

Taschereau says the annual yard sale reduces the amount of material and items that otherwise would be hauled to a landfill. Ongoing recycling efforts on campus also have reduced the number of discarded student property.

"We're seeing a lot less stuff being thrown away," he says. "We're doing a lot more recycling, especially with the Green Campus Initiative."

Taschereau says all of the yard sale items have been sorted, and "all of the stuff we're selling is in good shape and all of the technology stuff works and has been tested. We've collected some really nice things that I wouldn't have expected students to leave behind -- but they did."

Drug Mail Back Program Seen as Early Success

04 Jun 2008

Contact: Jennifer Crittenden, (207) 262-7920; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The first-in-the-nation pharmaceuticals mail-back program launched this summer by the University of Maine's Center on Aging in conjunction with 18 partners is being heralded as an early success.

The public is still just learning about the availability of the new Safe Medicine Disposal for ME program, but Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, and Jennifer Crittenden, program manager, say 35 packets of unwanted or unneeded medicines already have been mailed to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency's Westbrook post office box.

"The program is just getting under way. It's the first week or so of implementation," Kaye says. "The public needs to know envelopes remain available, 1,800 in all."

Self-addressed drug mail-back envelopes are available for consumers at 11 pharmacies in Penobscot, Kennebec, Cumberland and Aroostook counties as part of the phase 1 of the pilot project. As phase 2 gets under way, 7,200 more envelopes will be distributed to dozens more participating pharmacies throughout Maine.

In the planning stages for several years, the program received a \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency about a year ago to get it started. The program was created to help cut the flow of tons of medications into the environment.

Kathy Sykes, the EPA's grants officer on the project and senior adviser of the EPA's Aging Initiative, is in Bangor this week reviewing project accomplishments. Sykes says she considers the Safe Medicine Disposal for ME project "a cutting-edge initiative addressing in very practical ways an issue of critical importance to individuals of all ages."

The pharmaceuticals mail-back program is considered important by healthcare professionals, law enforcement, environmentalists and others because of the harm caused to people, wildlife and the environment when unneeded or expired medications are tossed in the trash or flushed down toilets. Ridding home medicine cabinets of unneeded pharmaceuticals can prevent children or thieves from getting their hands on narcotics and other medicines, and reduce patient overdosing from inadvertently mixing medications. Also, wildlife specialists have documented biological changes in wildlife as a result of ingesting medications dissolved in rivers, streams and other water bodies.

Many drugs -- including those prescribed for blood pressure and cholesterol management, depression, pain, pregnancy prevention, erectile dysfunction, infections and disease control -- do not break down into harmless substances, according to Kaye and members of the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG), which formed several years ago to combat the casual disposal of unwanted drugs. Even after drugs are taken appropriately, they remain in the environment as they pass through humans and even waste treatment plants and end up in water bodies. Medicines also leach through landfills into groundwater. Even if landfill leachate is trucked off to wastewater treatment plants, residual chemicals from the drugs still can make their way through the treatment process.

The only reliable way to destroy many drugs is incineration, according to the MBSG.

In addition to the Maine Center on Aging, the Maine DEA and U.S. EPA, other agencies, businesses and organizations lending support to the program include the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Postal Service, Community Medical Foundation for Patient Safety, Rite Aid Pharmacies, Maine Office of Elder Services, Maine Office of Substance Abuse, Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians, Maine Office of the Attorney General, Maine Pharmacy Association, Polyair Manufacturing, Maine RSVP Programs, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, National Council on Patient Information and Education, Northern New England Poison Center, Villanova University Center for the Environment, the Maine Council for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and individual participating pharmacies throughout Maine.

Postage-paid, mail-back envelopes currently are available at the following pharmacies:

Caribou: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 112 Bennett Drive, 498-8735; Houlton: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 137 North Street, 532-6876; Indian Island: Penobscot Nation Health Center Pharmacy, 23 Wabanaki Way, 817-7435; Bangor: Miller Drug, 210 State St., 1-800-427-8369; Bangor: Penobscot Community Health Center Pharmacy, 1084 Union St., 992-4100; Old Town: Helen Hunt Health Center Pharmacy, 242 Brunswick St., Old Town, 992-4100; Augusta: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 83 Hospital St., 623-1414; Augusta: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 2007 No. Belfast Ave., 622-2626; Waterville: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 211 Main St., 877-9004; Portland: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 365 Allen Ave., 797-4351; and Scarborough: Rite Aid Pharmacy, 600 U.S. Route 1, 885-1515.

The program is free, voluntary and confidential. Information about the program and the Center on Aging is available by calling 1-866-637-9743, or select the link to Safe Medicine Disposal for ME Program under "UMCoA News" on the Center on Aging website (www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging).

UMaine Engineer Receives Award for Racetrack-Safety Research

05 Jun 2008

Contact: Mick Peterson (207) 581-2129; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

(Media Advisory: Public interest in Saturday's Belmont Stakes has been heightened considerably because of the possibility that it might produce a Triple Crown winner. Prof. Mick Peterson, a leading expert in racing biomechanics and track-related injuries, is available to talk with the media about his valuable role in trying to make the sport safer for horses.)

ORONO -- Michael "Mick" Peterson, a University of Maine professor of mechanical engineering, was recently named co-recipient of the second annual Elastikon Equine Research Award for his extensive and novel work aimed at making the country's race tracks safer for horses.

Peterson shared the \$43,000 award, funded through a grant by Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products Company to the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, with collaborator Wayne McIlwraith of Colorado State University, an expert in equine orthopedic surgery.

Peterson invented a biomechanical hoof device for testing racetracks that duplicates the force produced by a running horse. He uses it to test the response of the track to the impact of a horse hoof during a race and to measure the forces placed on a horse's leg. Data generated by the robotic hoof can help horse owners and trainers, jockeys and track managers make more informed decisions about racing on certain surfaces and in particular conditions.

As part of their efforts to reduce injuries to race horses, Peterson and McIlwraith will assist track superintendents in establishing a protocol for standardizing tracks and ensuring uniformity among their surfaces.

UMaine Researchers Question Saco Beach Erosion Measures

05 Jun 2008

Contact: Laura Brothers (207) 581-1998; Joseph Kelley (207) 581-2162; Daniel Belknap (207) 581-2159; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Researchers at the University of Maine have questioned the wisdom of a proposal by the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers to build a series of breakwaters near the shore of a Saco beach community to mitigate the serious erosion problems that have plagued homeowners there for decades.

The Army Corps plans to use a \$27 million federal appropriation authorized by the Water Resource Development Act of 2007 for the construction of a spur jetty and two or more rock breakwaters near Camp Ellis, a community at the mouth of the Saco River that has lost 36 houses over the last 30 years to beach erosion.

Camp Ellis residents attribute the erosion to an extensive jetty system originally constructed by the Army Corps in the late 1800s, and modified around 1950, which inadvertently funnels sand from the Saco River offshore into Saco Bay instead of allowing it to be deposited naturally along the community's beach. The river supplies the sand for Saco Bay beaches as far north as Old Orchard Beach and Pine Point.

The aim of the proposed breakwater system is to protect Camp Ellis from ocean waves that threaten to carry its remaining precious sand from the beach and out to sea. Under the proposal, the Army Corps would also continue to dredge the Saco River every eight years and use that sand to replenish the Camp Ellis beach.

Yet in a paper published last week in the journal Marine Geology, UMaine researchers demonstrate that the Army Corps's proposal underestimates the highly variable and multidirectional nature of sediment deposition common to Saco Bay.

"Our major concern with the proposal is that while the breakwater system might help Camp Ellis, it could hamper other sedimentary pathways and wind up causing erosion in other beach communities nearby," says doctoral student Laura Brothers, who wrote the report with professors Joseph Kelley and Daniel Belknap of the Department of Earth Sciences.

Brothers also suggests it would be premature to move ahead with the proposal until more is known about the wave dynamics around the breakwaters, and whether the massive rock structures actually would keep the dredged river sand from escaping out to sea. The Maine Geological Survey also has concerns about how the sand might move after the proposed structures are in place.

"It's very dangerous to put large piles of rock permanently on a beach," Kelley says, "when we do not yet understand how sand moves along the beach and between the river and the beach. That is what they did when they put in the original jetty."

Should Saco be required to sign on as a local partner for the project, Brothers adds, the city could wind up paying to haul in sand to replenish the Camp Ellis beach if the free dredged material continues to wash away despite the expensive rock barriers.

"We don't believe this is the best solution for helping the people of Camp Ellis," Brothers says. "It could wind up hurting other beach communities, maintenance costs could be a burden locally, and it still might not address the problem it's supposed to address. What is needed at this point is a better understanding of the near-shore dynamics in this highly modified environment."

UMaine Extension Releases 2008 Editions of Two Classic Field Guides

06 Jun 2008

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185, kmccaskill@umext.maine.edu

ORONO, Me. --University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published 2008 editions of "Conifers of Maine" and "Biodiversity in the Forests of Maine. "

"Conifers of Maine," the late Fay Hyland's classic field guide, was first published in 1946. This edition has been

updated by his former student, colleague and friend, Christopher Campbell, current director of the Fay Hyland Botanical Garden and professor of plant systematics.

Hyland had a teaching and research career at the University of Maine that spanned 60 years. During his long study of Maine's woody plants, he collected seeds and seedlings from throughout Maine and established them in the botanical garden that carries his name.

Campbell said, "When I was a graduate student in the early 1970s, I became friends with Prof. Hyland. He was an accomplished botanist, enjoyable to talk with, and he routinely made soup from his vegetable garden and shared the soup with others. I routinely enjoyed the soup and learned a lot in many conversations with Fay."

Built around a traditional identification key, "Conifers" also includes detailed illustrations for each species. These drawings were prepared under supervision of Hyland as well as A.D. Nutting, former director of the UMaine School of Forestry, and Howard L. Mendall, former leader of UMaine's Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.

First published in 1999, "Biodiversity in the Forests of Maine" was the result of several years of collaborative effort among members of the Maine Forest Biodiversity Project---nearly 100 forestland owners and managers, environmentalists, sporting- and property-rights advocates, government agencies, and the scientific community. Designed for foresters, biologists, loggers, forestland owners and managers, educators, and land-use planners, the manual focuses on the influences of forest management practices on biological diversity. It also adds a set of broad, landscape-level recommendations that are absent from most previous guidelines.

The 2008 edition of this landmark publication has been produced in response to continuing demand. "Although research into forest biodiversity is ongoing, this manual remains a singularly effective and practical reference and field guide," said Catherine Elliott, Associate Extension Professor and editor of both editions. To order copies of these field guides, visit www.extension.umaine.edu and click Publications," or call (207) 581-3792.

Sculpture "Goes Green" at the University of Maine

06 Jun 2008

Contact: Andy Mauery, 299-0282
Susan Camp, 570-1076

ORONO -- Think sculpture is built to last? Think again. University of Maine students will explore the use of sustainable -- and, in many cases, biodegradable -- materials in the first Sustainable Sculpture class.

Trash will become treasure. Paper sculptures made with renewable abaca pulp might include seeds and natural fertilizers, which would benefit the surrounding soil as the paper degrades. Students will carve forms out of salt and mineral blocks, rather than marble.

"That is one of our objectives in the course, to get students to seriously consider the materials from the inception -- Where do they come from? Are they mined/collected from renewable resources? What types of processes and resources are involved in getting them to your studio? -- through the entire design process, which includes how the artist uses them and the real lifespan of the material," says Andy Mauery, a professor in UMaine's Department of Art. "The majority of our assignments work with biodegradable materials, and address low-impact choices as opposed to the more traditional tactics involved with "permanent" sculptural materials."

Several students in the class, which is not limited to art majors, are active in the EcoVillage initiative on campus. Possible projects include a green living space and an "edible corridor" of fruit trees.

Photo/video opportunities (Call first -- dates are subject to change due to weather):

9 a.m.-noon Monday, June 9 -- Artist Wayne Hall will lead students through the process of gathering and stripping wood at the University Forest on College Avenue Extension.

9-9:30 a.m. June 23 -- students will show their works in progress.

10:30-noon June 25 -- students will carve mineral and salt blocks.

Cross-Country Cyclers to Benefit Onward Scholarships

09 Jun 2008

Contact: Jerry Ellis, (207) 942-3582; John Hwalek, 581-2302; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- A recently retired UMaine program director and an engineering professor are hoping to raise awareness and scholarship funds for the university's Onward Program by bicycling across the United States this summer. Jerry Ellis, former director of the College Success Program's Onward Program, and John Hwalek, associate professor of chemical engineering, shipped their 27-speed Trek 520 touring bikes to Seattle, Wash. last week and will fly to the West Coast June 16. They begin their 4,300-mile trip from Alexander Beach in Anacortes, Wash. to Sand Beach in Acadia National Park on June 18, riding about 80 miles a day and camping most of the way, with an occasional night in a hotel or motel. A website has details about the trek and fundraising campaign. It also has a link to the Google map Hwalek created with 221 place-marks outlining the route. Ellis and Hwalek want to raise \$12,000 for the Jerry Ellis Scholarship Fund for Onward Program students by the time they complete their 8-10-week trip. Ellis, a 66-year-old veteran of the Vietnam War who holds master's degrees in theology and in counseling, has run two marathons and practiced martial arts before taking up cycling. He views the ride as the pinnacle of his physical pursuits. Ellis also grew up "in a really poor family" in Phillips, northwest of Farmington, and was the first in his family to go to college. He says he understands the challenges facing the 50 students the University of Maine accepts each year into the Onward Program. Onward Program students typically are non-traditional students who otherwise would not be admitted into a traditional four-year academic program. Onward provides selected students a preparatory year on campus to take refresher courses in math, science, English and reading to hone their study skills before beginning first-year studies toward a bachelor's degree. "Onward really is an anomaly at the University of Maine," says Ellis. "The epitome of the Onward student is a mother who has been divorced and has a couple of kids, who is really intelligent and never thought she'd be able to go to college. Some students are men who are displaced workers." But all have untapped potential, he says. "I have known a lot of people who lived out in Milo or down in Bucksport or here in Bangor who had virtually no opportunities because they were poor and had children," says Ellis. "They didn't know how to get from being a single mom to a nursing degree candidate at the University of Maine." Through Onward, he says, "people have an opportunity to start their lives over again. It's like a renaissance. I think it's very important. I think it's a good thing for the university to do." The College Success Program has several scholarships to help Onward and other at-risk or under-prepared students, and Ellis and his wife Ronnie started a scholarship fund through the University of Maine Foundation several years ago. It has \$8,200 in it and begins generating scholarships once it reaches \$20,000. Ellis hopes to raise that extra \$12,000 through the ride with Hwalek, his long-time running, canoeing and bicycling companion. Hwalek also looks forward to the cross-country adventure. "It's been a life-long dream," says Hwalek, 53, who also has run several marathons and completed several triathlons. "I've been wanting to do this since I was a kid. It'll be a good physical challenge." Hwalek's son Jo-Jo and wife Ginger, a pianist and School of Performing Arts faculty member, will update Hwalek's Google map with blogs and photos the riders will take along the way. Alan Parks, Ellis's successor in the College Success Program and creator of the Jerry Ellis Scholarship Fund website, notes that Ellis's contributions to Maine's underprivileged and first-generation college students goes beyond the 33 years he spent with the program. Ellis retired last summer. "His life's work has been around first-generation, low-income, and even students with disabilities," Parks says. "Even in his retirement, he continues working to serve this population." Ellis can be reached by telephone for additional information at (207) 942-3582. Contributions can be made on-line to the Jerry Ellis Scholarship Fund through links on the Jerry Ellis Scholarship Fund website. In May, 14 Onward Program graduates now heading into a UMaine degree program in the fall received a total of \$10,041, according to Parks.

UMaine Breaks Ground for Hutchinson Center Expansion

09 Jun 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST, Me. --University of Maine's President Robert A. Kennedy, along with community leaders and other university officials, broke ground this morning on the Hutchinson Center's new expansion.

Also participating was Frederick Hutchinson, the former UMaine president for whom the eight-year-old facility is named. Through the Hutchinson Center, UMaine provides educational and outreach programs and services to mid-coast Maine.

In addressing those attending the groundbreaking, Kennedy noted that the Hutchinson Center has exceeded UMaine's expectations in every way.

"The Hutchinson Center has simply allowed people from this region to gain access to what they need, and to what they deserve: the educational and related programs that open doors to a brighter future," Kennedy said. "The success stories are many, and we are all proud of the individual and collective achievements of the students who are part of UMaine and part of the Hutchinson Center."

The the new wing will double the center's classroom space and will include high-tech space to allow students to participate in one of the university's most popular academic programs, New Media. The new facility will also include two science labs and space for art classes. Fully equipped science laboratories will allow the center to offer nursing programs and will enable students to fulfill undergraduate science requirements, such as pre-med and pre-engineering requirements, at the Hutchinson Center. The art room will expand the possibilities for creative work that is limited in the existing space. All new classrooms are designed for multiple uses, including expanding conference center space that will be available to the community, according to Sue McCullough, Hutchinson Center director.

"This is a watershed day for the University of Maine and, most importantly, for the people of midcoast Maine," Kennedy added. "We are pleased that our partnership is expanding, and we look forward to celebrating the achievements that we will realize together in the larger, even more functional and relevant Hutchinson Center."

The expansion is a \$4 million project. Two million dollars will be raised through revenue bonds to be funded from income from the Hutchinson Center. With generous gifts from businesses, individuals and foundations the campaign has currently raised over \$1.3 million of its \$2 million private fundraising goal. The new facility is expected to open in the fall of 2009.

For information about the campaign, call McCullough at (207) 338-8000.

Maine Grass Farmers Network Announces Pasture Walks

10 Jun 2008

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, 207-342-5971

ORONO, Me.--The Maine Grass Farmers Network, with support from University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, has organized a series of pasture walks designed to help new and experienced farmers learn about profitable grazing in Maine.

On June 22 from 2-4 p.m., a Pownal pasture walk will focus on installing high-tensile fencing and pasture planning. This walk is hosted by Tir na nOg Farm, a small family farm with Scottish highland cattle, free-range poultry and pastured pigs--all managed with minimal start-up resources and no barn. Participants will have the opportunity to learn from the farmers and master fence-builder Bob McGann as he plans pasture expansions on varied terrain. Site

preparation, pasture configuration, and fencing types and materials will be discussed. Participants may also examine a frost-free field-hydrant system and explore creative, low-budget solutions for beginning farmers.

The farm is located on Leighton Road in Pownal, approximately 15 minutes from Freeport and five minutes from New Gloucester's Pineland Farms. Pre-registration is encouraged by contacting Holly Morrison at 207-688-4483 or MaineCelt@maine.rr.com.

UMaine Engineering Students Awarded Dearborn Scholarships

10 Jun 2008

Contact: Vicky Blanchette (207) 581-2204; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The Dearborn Foundation, established to promote the development of inventors and entrepreneurs for the future, recently awarded scholarships to eight students in the University of Maine College of Engineering.

Electrical engineering students David Chamberlaine, Michael Clearly and Fred Schwaner, as well as Andrew Farrington in electrical engineering technology and mechanical engineering major Mark Liimakka, will each receive a \$5,000 scholarship for the coming school year, with adjustments made according to scholastic performance.

Zach Belding and Kyle Jensen, who are studying mechanical engineering technology, and electrical engineering student Nathan Broyer are 2007 scholarship winners who will receive continuing awards this year.

"As an engineer and inventor who has employed and trained many people throughout the years, I have found that interest is more important than any other ability," says Howard K. Dearborn, the founder of Dearborn Precision Tubular Products, Inc., of Fryeburg who established the non-profit foundation in 1993. "Aptitude alone without interest is not enough to ensure success and personal fulfillment."

The competitive scholarships for education, research or experimentation are available to qualifying U.S. citizens who are attending or have been accepted at either UMaine, Bucknell University, Cornell University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Tufts University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, the University of New Hampshire or the University of Vermont.

UMaine Museum Offering 'Pathways to the Past' Day Camp June 23-27

11 Jun 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-1400

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum is offering a week-long "Pathways to the Past" day camp June 23-27 -- an innovative, hands-on half day program that immerses children ages 6-12 in activities considered fundamental for survival in earlier times in Maine history.

"The Page Farm and Home Museum is the university's window to the past," says museum Director Patty Henner. "The Pathways to the Past program is one of the most effective ways we can teach children about what life was like in the old days, between 1865 and 1940. They always have lots of fun, whether they are spinning wool or making soap or candles."

From 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., each day will offer novel hands-on exploration of what life was like before electricity

came to rural Maine, Henner says.

Monday is folk art day. On Tuesday, children will learn about "tools of the trade" and the six simple machines -- the lever, wheel, inclined plane, pulley, screw and wedge. On Wednesday, they'll visit the animals at the university's J.R. Witter Teaching and Research Center off College Avenue. Thursday will be devoted to gardening, and on Friday, they will explore how children in earlier times spent leisure time.

Children also will participate in preparing their own healthy snacks each day.

To register, or to get more information about Pathways to the Past Day Camp, call the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100.

"This is a unique and fun way to introduce your children to the past," Henner says.

The Page Farm and Home Museum, located 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 children and adults, and serving as a resource for researchers of the period.

Social Work Study to Focus on Home Health Care Worker Labor Pool Shrinkage

11 Jun 2008

Contact: Sandy Butler, 581-2382; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Home care workers provide a critical service helping Maine's elders stay in their homes when they need extra personal care, but the labor pool serving that expanding population is shrinking at a time when it should be growing.

Sandy Butler, professor of social work and coordinator of the UMaine Master's in Social Work program, has begun a 3-year student research project to find out why.

"This is a growing job category and there are too few people to fill it," Butler says. "It is not an appealing job for a lot of people. But it is very important work. We need to look to increase the numbers."

Personal support specialists and personal care attendants -- classified as direct care or home care workers -- provide in-home assistance for frail elders and individuals with disabilities. The work can include bathing, dressing, feeding, assistance with transportation and light housework. Butler notes that they usually work for very low wages, often without benefits and under difficult working conditions.

Butler has received a \$123,000 Academic Research Enhancement Award from the National Institute on Aging for the study. She plans to survey 250 home care workers in Maine to investigate factors influencing job turnover and retention, and more specifically, how those factors differ between older and younger workers.

Butler will oversee the study, to be carried out largely by two social work students and a nursing student, beginning this month.

"The students will be involved in all aspects of data collection and analysis. We hope to find information that will be of help to the agencies," she says.

The study explores two areas of interest to Butler, a nationally recognized gerontologist and elder-care researcher: the financial security of women throughout their lives, and the health and well-being of elders.

Butler conducted a pilot study to justify the grant and further research. The home care field is populated primarily by

women between the ages of 25 and 55, and has about a 50 percent turnover rate, even though it also is the fourth fastest-growing occupation in the country, according to Butler. This 18-month longitudinal study will look specifically at home care workers employed by agencies in Maine.

"We'll look at job satisfaction and burnout, and over a year and a half, we'll track employees to see if they stayed or left their current jobs, and find out why they made the choices they made," says Butler, who also wants to examine differences in job experiences between younger and older workers. The industry may need to depend even more on workers over age 55 as employee demographics change, she adds.

Butler says that one obvious issue facing home care workers is the low pay, which is caused in part by low Medicaid reimbursement levels the state pays to the agencies that hire and manage the workers. Another reason for low pay in the field is that it is populated mostly by women, whose wages statistically are lower than what males are paid in most fields, Butler says.

"At the state level, efforts are being made to raise reimbursement levels and also to get health care for these employees," Butler says. "There is a growing awareness that we need to take better care of the direct care workers in the long-term care system," which includes home care, assisted living and nursing homes.

In spite of the low pay, Butler says her pilot study on older home care workers also found that the work is appealing for many reasons, including the important relationships that workers develop with their clients.

"My hope is the surveys will help lead us to know better how we can retain home care workers and decrease their burnout, and in particular how we can recruit and retain workers over the age of 55," says Butler. "Ultimately, the hope is that this will increase the quality of care for elders."

UMaine and Foxcroft Veterinary Service Team to Recruit Large Animal Veterinarians to Maine

11 Jun 2008

Contact: Robert C. Causey, (207) 581-2782

ORONO -- The University of Maine has successfully teamed up with Foxcroft Veterinary Service in a creative approach for dealing with the shortage of large animal veterinarians in Maine.

In 2007 UMaine's Maine Agricultural Center funded a study in equine reproduction that was designed to bring veterinary students to Orono for specialized training and to introduce them to local veterinarians. Thanks to this program, Dr. Kristin Williams, and Dr. David Hernke, new graduates of Massachusetts' Tufts-Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, will start their careers as practicing veterinarians in Dover--Foxcroft.

Dr. Williams responded to an invitation from UMaine veterinarians Jim Weber and Robert Causey to receive training in horse breeding management at the Witter Center in Orono, while also observing practice with Foxcroft Veterinary Service's Dr Dennis Ruksznis. Before Williams even began her time at Orono, she and Hernke were successfully recruited by Foxcroft Veterinary Services.

"Their coming to Maine means that the area's large animal owners will now have two more vets available when their animals need attention," says Prof. Robert Cause of UMaine's Dept. of Animal Veterinary Sciences. "Because of our partnership with Dr. Ruksznis and his colleagues, these two new Maine veterinarians have gained specific skills and appreciation for the particular needs of those in the area agricultural community."

Maine Business School Named One of World's Best

12 Jun 2008

Contact: John Mahon, (207) 581-1968; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The Paris-based international educational consulting organization Eduniversal has included the Maine Business School at the University of Maine among its recent selection of 1,000 of the world's best business schools.

The organization, a subsidiary of the international training and career guidance company SMBG in France, analyzed 4,000 websites and institutional publications to arrive at a list of the best business schools in each of nine regions of the world -- Africa, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Eurasia and Middle East, Far Eastern Asia, Latin America, Oceania (island states including Australia, Hawaii, New Guinea and Samoa), Western Europe and North America (the United States and Canada).

Eduniversal is establishing a premier global database of higher economic and business education institutions to help students choose among the best business schools in any country, region or continent in the world. It also offers consultation to human resources departments at companies and institutions in the field of business.

The Academic Council of the United Nations supports Eduniversal projects. It covers all continents and 153 countries with more than 97 percent of the world's population. Eduniversal also provides services to various companies in their search for specialists for recruitment and exchange of science information.

The results of the Eduniversal ratings testify to the recognition by international experts of the Maine Business School's influence and recognition internationally, says John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health at UMaine and founding director the university's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA).

Selection criteria for the best business schools database that was considered by a nine-member Eduniversal International Scientific Committee included world nations' investments in education per capita, gross national product, population, the number of students in higher education, and recommendations by business school deans around the world.

Selection of business schools in each country also was based on information about international accreditations by or affiliations with international academic associations, rankings in international and national publications, strength of the business schools' networks, and results of published research and websites. Final selections were based on unique and complex criteria, including "the ability of the business school to make its students shine on an international level," the organization says.

Mahon says he is pleased and flattered, "but not terribly surprised," to be included in the ranks of the world's most prestigious business schools.

"I am certain that what helped elevate us to these ranks of the best schools on the planet had a lot to do with the international and experiential components of the business school, from our faculty to the extraordinarily high quality of our students at all levels -- and the curriculum, which requires at least one international experience for our MBAs before they are awarded degrees," Mahon says.

Tanzanian Reporters to Visit Maine in Journalism Exchange Program

12 Jun 2008

Contact: Shannon Martin, (207) 581-1281; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- Six Tanzanian journalists will leave the southeast African nation June 15 to begin a unique a six-

week training program at the University of Maine, where they will learn about U.S. news gathering and reporting techniques from UMaine faculty members and practicing New England journalists.

The project is possible through a \$183,000 grant from USAID (United States Agency for International Development) through the Millennium Challenge Account Threshold Program, an anti-corruption initiative. Grant recipients and project collaborators are the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA), the university's Communication and Journalism Department and the Office of International Programs on campus.

The team of UMaine journalism faculty members participating in the journalist exchange and certificate program hope the experience will leave both Tanzanian reporters and the United States mentors more aware of news reporting techniques in such different political and cultural environments, according to Shannon Martin, chair of UMaine's Communication and Journalism Department and primary investigator for the grant's exchange project.

The African journalists will visit news media organizations and newsrooms in Maine, New England and Washington, D.C., before returning home in August.

Journalists in emerging democracies like Tanzania can learn from other reporting techniques practiced in more established democratic countries, and Western journalists often can learn lessons from those developing countries, Martin says.

The Tanzanian population relies much more on radio news mass media than many American media markets," Martin says. "One thing I'm hoping to learn from the Tanzania media is how they prepare their media broadcasts to reach rural markets."

Much like journalists in Maine, reporters in Africa tend to work in more rural settings rather than major urban centers, says Martin. And increasingly, local reporting in places like Tanzania, Sudan and Kenya is taking on more global significance.

Aquatic Science Society Honors UMaine Oceanographer for Distinguished Service

12 Jun 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Peter Jumars, the director of the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences, has received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography.

ASLO, a leading professional organization for researchers and educators in the field of aquatic science, recognized Jumars for his nearly 30 years of dedicated service to the society and its public education and outreach mission.

*Jumars, a professor of marine sciences and oceanography, is a past president of the ASLO board of directors. He has been a leading figure in the development of the society's publications, most notably its research journal, *Limnology and Oceanography*, for which he served as editor-in-chief from 1986 to 1992. More recently he has been the journal's associate editor for scholarly reviews and the chair of a committee on open-access publishing.*

In 1994, Jumars received ASLO's G. Evelyn Hutchinson Award for his "outstanding work in biological oceanography, particularly for his significant advances in understanding interactions among benthic organisms, sediments and the physical environment.

UMaine Launches Energy Information Website

13 Jun 2008

Contact: Donna Coffin, 207-564-3301, dcoffin@umext.maine.edu

ORONO, Me.--Many Maine residents are having trouble meeting their needs for heating, transportation and food due to rising fuel prices. University of Maine Cooperative Extension has established a website, www.extension.umaine.edu/energy, to provide research-based information on saving money through energy conservation and alternative energy sources. Visitors will be able to access publications and resources for homeowners, drivers, farmers and business owners. The site also includes a schedule of programs and workshops.

"Many people have been contacting their county Extension offices requesting specific information on the relative values of alternative heating fuels and hybrid vehicles," says Donna Coffin, Extension educator.

For the homeowner, the site has heating source comparisons, and sections on how to conserve energy through insulation and appliance use. For the traveler, there is information on efficient vehicles and public transportation, as well as cost calculators for hybrid vehicle options.

The site includes energy-saving tips for small businesses and farms, and current research in Maine on producing energy on the farm with biodiesel. The site also features links to information on tax incentives and energy audits.

UMaine Alumnus Donald Holder '80 Wins Tony Award

16 Jun 2008

Contact: Tom Mikotowicz, 299-8550 (cell), 581-1965 (voicemail) or miko@maine.edu

ORONO -- Donald Holder, a University of Maine alumnus, won a Tony Award last night for Best Lighting Design of a Musical for his work on Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific." Holder also received a nomination for Best Lighting Design of a Play for his work on "Les Liaisons Dangereuses." A New York native, Holder graduated from the University of Maine in 1980 with a degree in forestry. However, he was deeply involved in theater while studying in Orono, and though he went on to study drama at Yale after graduation, he still maintains ties to UMaine.

Holder is no stranger to awards. His lighting design for the Broadway production of Disney's "The Lion King" won a Tony and a Drama Desk Award. He also received Tony nominations for his lighting work on "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Movin' Out" and "Gem of the Ocean," among others.

"He paints the stage and shapes the space with color," says Tom Mikotowicz, a UMaine theater professor who is a longtime associate of Holder. "He's one of the masters of the craft."

For information, please contact Tom Mikotowicz at 299-8550 (cell), 581-1965 (voicemail) or miko@maine.edu.

McBride Endowment Advances Environmental History Research, Scholarship at UMaine

17 Jun 2008

Contact: Richard Judd, 581-1910; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine History Department's program quality and graduate-level research will be enhanced significantly as a result of a new endowment designed to expand scholarship in the field of environmental history.

The Col. James C. McBride endowment, administered by the University of Maine Foundation, also is intended to coalesce programs and disciplines at UMaine to raise the university's visibility as an international center for environmental history. It will allow the establishment of new graduate research opportunities, courses, lectures, conferences, and a joint research seminar with the University of New Brunswick.

History Professor Richard Judd, a member of the UMaine faculty since 1984 and an authority on Maine and New England environmental history, has been named the inaugural Col. James C. McBride Professor for the initial five-year cycle. The designation carries a financial stipend and funds for new environmental education and research initiatives, which include a graduate research assistantship, a national conference on New England environmental history, semi-annual environmental history lectures, a series of monthly noontime speakers and a UMaine-based network of New England and Eastern Canadian scholars in the field.

"What we hope to do is highlight the importance of natural sciences in history," says Judd, who has published five books in the field and developed particular expertise on the Maine forest industry and the roots of conservation in New England, Oregon and the nation. "For the department, we hope to create an environment that makes it really interesting to study environmental history here."

UMaine already is considered among the top 10 institutions for environmental history studies at the graduate level, he says. "We're trying to make the University of Maine one of the top two or three. That's what excites me the most about this."

Judd says resulting collaboration among faculty, researchers and graduate students from academic areas including forestry, sustainable agriculture, marine sciences, wildlife, tourism, parks and recreation, Native American studies, and the UMaine Folklife Center, will strengthen interdisciplinary communication and create exciting new opportunities for research in history.

Judd was chosen as the McBride Professor to lead the effort by a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences selection committee chaired last year by former dean Ann Leffler.

Department Chair Scott See says that Judd, "one of North America's foremost environmental historians," was an appropriate choice as the first McBride Professor and as the catalyst to elevate the university's presence as one of the country's top research institutions.

"Professor Judd was selected because of the quality and quantity of his scholarship, his established presence as one of the History Department's most active mentors of graduate students, and his contributions to projects that link the university to the state of Maine, including the Maine Woods Forever Thoreau-Wabanaki Trail Project and the Maine Historical Society's Web-based Maine Memory Project, which is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities," See says.

Col. James McBride was a UMaine alum who graduated with a degree in economics in 1954. The son of an U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, McBride was born in North Dakota, raised in Portland, Maine and lived in New York state and Gloucester, Mass. A former UMaine ROTC member, McBride was a decorated military career officer who served in Korea, France, Vietnam and Taiwan before retiring as a full colonel in Fort Gordon, Ga. A history enthusiast, McBride died in 2003 in Spokane, Wash.

McBride's generous endowment to the Department of History was arranged through the University of Maine Foundation.

New Biography Details Life of Columnist Mildred "Brownie" Schrumpf

17 Jun 2008

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1891

ORONO -- Everybody knew "Brownie" Schrumpf, or at least they thought they did. A new biography by author and UMaine alum Karen Dodge Tolstrup, published by the Maine Folklife Center, fills in many of the details of the diminutive cook and Bangor Daily News columnist's early life on a Readfield Depot farm.

Tolstrup, of Old Town, spent more than a year researching Schrumpf's life, using her papers and interviews with friends in the Orono area. The result -- If Maine Had a Queen: The Life of Brownie Schrumpf -- is an affectionate and detailed story of the forces that shaped Schrumpf's life and work.

Published by the Folklife Center at UMaine as a volume of Northeast Folklore, the paperback book includes many early photographs of Schrumpf and her husband Bill.

Tolstrup is a 2003 UMaine graduate who earned a master's degree in history in 2006. A recent VISTA volunteer, she now works part time at the United Way of Eastern Maine.

A planned book launching ceremony in the fall at the Page Farm and Home Museum on the Orono campus will provide opportunities to meet the author and purchase a signed copy of the book.

The book is available for \$15 through the Maine Folklife Center or at local bookstores.

The Maine Folklife Center can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-1891 for more information.

Business, Economics and Management Expert Available to Discuss Today's Mortgage Crisis Developments, Arrests

19 Jun 2008

Contact: John Mahon, 581-1968; George Manlove, 581-3756

The Associated Press reports that federal authorities announced today that more than 400 real estate industry players have been indicted since March -- including dozens over the past two days -- in nationwide crackdown on mortgage fraud that has contributed to the country

UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center Recognized for Design Excellence

19 Jun 2008

Contact: Renee Kelly, 207-581-1401

ORONO -- UMaine's new Foster Student Innovation Center has been recognized for design excellence by a national organization that promotes and recognizes creativity and efficiency in the planning and construction of educational buildings.

The Foster Center, an incubator for students who are innovators and entrepreneurs at UMaine, has tied for grand prize in the new construction/college division competition conducted by EducationDesignShowcase.com, a website showcasing 135 of the best-designed and constructed school, college and university educational buildings.

The Foster Center tied with the Kansas Life Sciences Innovation Center at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Grand prize winners receive \$1,000 scholarships presented to the winning institutions.

The award-winning projects displayed on the EducationDesignShowcase.com site were evaluated by a jury of administrators, architects and facility planners for excellence in design and functional planning directed toward meeting the needs of the education program, according to its website. Criteria considered in the evaluations included: aesthetic characteristics; innovation and creativeness; attention to safety and security; efficient use of space; planned flexibility to accommodate change; accessibility for diverse users; site design, adaptation and development; selection of materials; attention to the environment, maintainability and energy use; and cost effectiveness.

The UMaine Foster Student Innovation Center opened in the fall of 2006. Designed by Oak Point Associates of Biddeford, the certified LEED-NC Silver facility is state of the art in technology and sustainability. As an Education Design Showcase winner, the center will be featured in the upcoming issue of College Planning & Management magazine.

For information about the Foster Center or its programs, contact Renee Kelly, director of Economic Development Initiatives, Office of Research and Economic Development and Director of Programs and Outreach, Foster Student Innovation Center, at 207-581-1401, or email: rwkelly@maine.edu.

Education Design Showcase is a subsidiary of Peter Li Education Group, a national educational publishing and media company serving the K-12 and higher education market.

Summer Pulp and Paper Institute Offers Close Look at Iconic Maine Industry

20 Jun 2008

Contact: Betty Ingraham, 581-2281

David Deas, 453-5809

George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Forty Maine high school students and teachers will be at the University of Maine's pulp and paper laboratories on the Orono campus for the 2008 Summer Institute in Pulp and Paper Process Technology for High School Students and Teachers in mid July.

Starting out with hands-on pulp- and paper-making activities, the students -- potentially Maine's future paper industry workers -- will learn about the paper-making process from tree identification and selection to actual paper-making, recycling and product testing. Participants also will tour the Sappi Fine Paper plant in Skowhegan.

The July 14-17 institute is an annual joint program organized by the UMaine Pulp and Paper Process Development Center and Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield, which offers a Pulp and Paper Technology Certificate, and funded by the National Science Foundation.

The purpose of the annual institute is to help educate an advanced workforce for the pulp and paper industry. Because many employees will be retiring in coming years, the need for an advanced workforce is growing.

Because of limited space, the institute must cap registration at 40 people.

Costs for the four-day institute, including room and board on the UMaine campus and a stipend for students and teachers, are being covered by the National Science Foundation.

For registration and other information, contact Betty Ingraham, research associate in the UMaine Department of Chemical Engineering, at 581-2281 or David Deas at KVCC at (207) 453-5809.

UMaine Professor Earns Distinction for Quality Engineering Practices

20 Jun 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Darrell Donahue, a University of Maine professor of chemical and biological engineering, was recently named a Certified Quality Engineer by the American Society for Quality (ASQ) for having demonstrated a significant level of commitment to quality engineering principles and practices.

Donahue, who is the coordinator of UMaine's biological engineering program and a cooperating research professor in the Lobster Institute, was cited by the ASQ certification board for his understanding of the importance of product and service quality, evaluation and control.

He joins more than 100,000 other engineers who have qualified for the ASQ CQE designation since the certification exam was first administered in 1968.

UMaine Professor to Receive 2008 UCGIS Research Award

20 Jun 2008

Contact: Michael Worboys (207) 581-3679

Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- A University of Maine professor has been selected as the recipient of the 2008 University Consortium for Geographic Information Science Research Award for his outstanding accomplishments in the field.

Michael Worboys, chair of the spatial information science and engineering department, was recognized by the consortium for three highly regarded research papers he published in the 1990s regarding the contributions of computer science to geographic information.

Worboys will receive the award at the UCGIS summer assembly to be held in Minneapolis, MN., June 23 and 24.

The UCGIS is a broad representation of universities and professional associations that serves as a unified voice for the geographic information science research community.

Professor of Finance Available to Discuss Speculators' Role in Oil Pricing

24 Jun 2008

Contact: Professor Robert Strong, 581-1986; George Manlove, 581-3756

U.S. Sen. Barack Obama last weekend proposed tightening up regulations controlling oil speculators as a way to begin reining in rising oil and gasoline prices. While the debate between Obama, the Democratic candidate from Illinois, and Republican presidential candidate Arizona Sen. John McCain intensifies over possible solutions to the crisis, University of Maine Finance Professor Robert Strong is available to offer cautionary perspectives.

While speculative investment in oil, even before it reaches our shores, may be exacerbating the problem, Strong, a nationally respected authority on the stock market, investment strategy and commodities trading, says blaming oil speculation for high prices is "an incomplete version of what's going on,"

"In general, when we think of speculation, we think of a short-term activity where someone is hoping to turn a quick profit," says Strong. "Whenever we buy something, there has to be a seller. You can't buy something if there is no seller. In the energy markets right now, oil in particular, the press has reported a lot lately about speculative activity, but I think it's unclear, still, as to the nature of what that activity actually is."

For additional details and perspective on the role of speculators in oil pricing, Professor Strong can be reached at (207) 581-1986.

UMaine Professor Chosen as Canadian Academy of Engineering Fellow

24 Jun 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Adriaan van Heiningen, a University of Maine professor who holds the J. Larcom Ober Chair in Chemical Engineering, was recently inducted as a Fellow into the Canadian Academy of Engineering.

Van Heiningen, whose pioneering research has been the catalyst for the proposed Old Town ethanol biorefinery project, joins 35 others who were honored by their peers in Montreal June 17 for their distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering profession.

"His groundbreaking fundamental research has led to profound changes in the pulp manufacturing industry and its environmental impact," the academy says of van Heiningen, the founding director of the Dr. Jack McKenzie Limerick Pulp and Paper Centre at the University of New Brunswick, Canada. "He is recognized internationally as the leading proponent of the Integrated Forest Biorefinery for producing biofuels and biomaterials."

The academy, established in 1987, is a member of the 25-country Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences.

UMaine Offering Canadian Studies Fellowships

25 Jun 2008

Contact: Karen Boucias, (207) 581-3433, or Betsy Arntzen, (207) 581-4225

ORONO -- A new scholarship program fostering Canadian studies is being offered through the University of Maine's Canadian-American Center and the Office of International Programs.

The first round of applications for Killam Fellowships, providing up to \$5,000 per semester in direct financial aid for undergraduate students to study in Canada with additional funds for health insurance and travel within Canada, will be due in February 2009. Students from any department or program, with a minimum 3.6 grade point average, can apply for a semester or academic year at a Canadian partner institution.

"We are very pleased to be able to offer this internationally recognized scholarship to UMaine students," says Betsy Arntzen, Canadian Studies outreach coordinator at the Canadian-American Center. "When the Killam Fellowship

Program concluded its five-year pilot phase and sought to expand, they contacted us to consider offering the program at UMaine because of our large Canadian Studies program. Needless to say, we jumped at the chance."

The Killam fellowships are designed to enhance study-abroad opportunities for UMaine students. Modeled much like the Fulbright award, the Killam Fellowship includes a fall orientation in Ottawa, a spring seminar in Washington, D.C., and boasts a very active alumni group.

The Killam Fellowship Program, which is administered by the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America, is supported by the American Killam Trusts, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, and the Foundation.

The fellowship program "will be the single largest scholarship our study abroad program offers to qualified students," adds Karen Boucias, director of International Programs. "It is a prestigious award to offer our students."

The Canadian-American Center and the UMaine Office of International Programs are administering the university's participation in the program. For more information please contact Karen Boucias, director of international programs, at (207) 581-3433, or Arntzen, coordinator of Canada Year at (207) 581-4225.

By the end of this summer, the Killam Fellowship program will have supported 82 exceptional young men and women from a variety of backgrounds and a range of academic disciplines at some 21 colleges and universities in the U.S.

UMaine Student, Colleague Win Business Plan Competition, Launch 'mCaddie'

25 Jun 2008

Contact: James Daniels, 659-1858; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Neither UMaine junior James Daniels nor Kurtis Petersons, a 2005 UMaine graduate, are golfers, but that didn't hinder the collaborative development of their reality-based golf program that recently took first prize in a statewide business plan competition.

The \$10,000 cash prize and a \$15,000 consulting services package they won in the annual business plan competition held by the Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Southern Maine's School of Business in April has enabled "mCaddie" to move to the next development level. This week they are launching a limited version of the program nationally and advancing their product marketing efforts.

mCaddie allows golfers to track and replicate an actual golf game with a simultaneous virtual game that generates game statistics, provides an online social clubhouse and allows players to see which of their friends are playing golf at a given time and how they are doing.

The system begins on the green with a cell phone with Global Positioning System functions. Players save their tee-off location with a "waypoint." As the game progresses, mCaddie logs strokes and ball travel distances. The game is saved to the mCaddie website, where it can be reviewed and analyzed, or viewed by other mCaddie players.

"It's fun stuff," says Daniels, a UMaine math major and computer science minor who grew up in Eastport and Bangor. "Basically, it's a caddie with tie-ins to golf courses. We already have a number of golf courses that are quite eager to sign on."

Petersons came up with the idea for eCaddie and Daniels provided the technical expertise he had developed as a Web designer since high school. A former employee of UMaine's Department of Information Technologies, Daniels has been developing websites through his part-time business, Marginleft, which he developed at the Foster Student Innovation Center at UMaine.

Since January, the two entrepreneurs, with assistance from the Foster Center and the Maine Center for Enterprise Development in Portland, have been refining mCaddie.

In April, they entered their mCaddie business plan in the USM business plan competition and won first place out of 33 original entries. Out of the six finalist presentations, theirs was the only business plan that was not already on the market, according to Daniels.

Daniels says the mCaddie targets an affluent demographic that he and Petersons think will embrace the combination of golf and technology. He says other programs will track golf games, but his research has shown "there is nothing this comprehensive," he says.

"There are programs available to track golf by GPS and some track statistics, but there is nothing yet that ties it all together, and this has a social networking feature," he says.

Daniels credits much of the mCaddie success so far to the assistance he and Petersons received at the Foster Center.

"They donate the office space for free. They pay the electricity. They pay the Internet bills, and they provide a desk and a place to meet clients," he says. "They are lowering the barriers of entry if you are a student who wants to start a business. They have a staff on hand to assess your ideas and help you test your ideas for free. There is very little risk."

mCaddie currently works on the Apple iPhone, but Petersons and Daniels plan to develop a version for Google's Android mobile phone this summer.

Daniels and Petersons are the second business plan team from UMaine in three years to win first place at the USM competition. In 2006, economics major William Sulinski of Dedham and Matthew Rodrigue, a 2004 engineering graduate from Wilton, took first for their "Heat-Safe 1000," a wireless device that lets heating oil companies know when customers' oil tanks get low.

Media Advisory: UMaine Oceanographer Available to Speak on Red Tide

27 Jun 2008

*Contact: Prof. Andrew Thomas (207) 581-4335
Tom Weber (207) 581-3777*

ORONO -- While red tide occurs regularly along Maine's coast during the warm months, this summer is shaping up to be one of the worst seasons ever for the spread of the toxin-bearing algae blooms.

High levels of red tide have already forced closings of shellfish harvesting in Cobscook Bay and parts of the Down East coast, with the possibility of more to come, and state officials worry that the outbreak could surpass the especially damaging one in 2005 that stretched from northern Maine waters to Nantucket in Massachusetts.

Andrew Thomas, a University of Maine professor of oceanography who researches ocean plankton patterns, will be available until the middle of next week to answer questions from the media about the science behind the blooms of red tide that threaten the New England shellfish industry.

Thomas can be reached at his UMaine office at (207) 581-4335.

July Fourth is University of Maine Day at Bangor Raceway; Special Mare to be Presented Before Second Race

30 Jun 2008

Contact: Nonni Daly at (207) 827-8386

ORONO -- Bangor Raceway will host its traditional "University of Maine Day" on July 4th and will feature retrained racehorses from the UMaine program.

Each of the post parades will be marshaled by two UMares who are retired racehorses in the retraining program at UMaine. The five-year-old BEST OF PLANS who raced at Scarborough but couldn't post competitive times has gone through the retraining program and is now owned, as of July 1st and ridden by Rebecca Powers. She is a junior equine business management major and the current president of the UMaine Equestrian Team. She also serves as the Assistant Race Secretary at Bangor Raceway and is working on a Track Management Internship at the raceway this summer and fall.

Of interest is that BEST OF PLANS underwent life-threatening colic surgery last December and has come back from that remarkably well and doesn't show any problems as a result. Rebecca is the young woman who was responsible for rescuing the horse, SOLE SURVIVOR, who escaped his trailer in Newport and ran loose on the Interstate before finding his way to the Triangle area and the local MacDonalds.

Riding seven-year-old BELLE'S RADIANT STAR will be senior Animal and Veterinary Science major, Lizz Carpenter. This mare raced at Bangor in 2004 before a leg injury brought her career to an end. Both horses and riders will marshal all of the races on the July Fourth card.

Of special interest will be the lead marshal for the second race. To show the versatility of the Standardbred breed and how well these horses can leave the track and take on a pleasure and performance life, we will ask 30-year-old HONEST APPRAISAL to lead the post parade with the UMaine riders. She will be walked by her owner and trainer, Melissa Spencer of Alton, who bought her off the Bangor Raceway track after her race career, which spanned the 1981-1983 seasons and trained her as a dressage horse. This wonderful mare attained silver medal status at Second Level Dressage, which is an incredible achievement for any breed, but even more remarkable for a gaited horse like the Standardbred. Known as "MUFFIN", she may be the first Standardbred in the country to have accomplished this feat -- which she did in competition in the early 1990s.

Watching these three horses will, we hope, imprint in track fans' minds that "After the Finish Line -- They Are NOT Finished!", which is a working motto of the retraining program at the University of Maine.

Keep Kids Reading This Summer, Says UMaine Education Professor

30 Jun 2008

Contact: Janice Kristo, 581-2454; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO

Writers at Work: A Summer Camp for Young Authors

30 Jun 2008

Contact: Heather Pullen, 581-2443

Media Advisory:

ORONO -- More than 60 aspiring writers will tap their creativity and pen their thoughts at the annual Young Authors' Camp taking place July 7-11 at the University of Maine. Students in grades 3-12 are from schools throughout the Greater Bangor area and from as far away as Houlton.

Campers will explore different genres of writing, have the opportunity to develop proficiency in their academic and creative writing, and celebrate their work and share the creative pieces in a relaxed atmosphere with peers.

The day camp, sponsored by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development and the Maine Writing Project (MWP), is led by MWP teacher-consultants. The Orono camp director, Jean Plummer, is chair of the English department at Washington Academy in East Machias. Plummer says, "This camp provides students the opportunity to be creative in so many ways. Each day the young authors share their writing with peers and with writing teachers from the Maine Writing Project. These Young Authors' Camps are a time of growth, community, and imagination."

Reporters are welcome to attend any of the camp sessions, which run from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon in 204 Shilbes Hall.

UMaine Young Authors' Camps are also offered at:

- *Benton Elementary School (July 7-11)*
- *Sebasticook Valley Middle School, Newport (July 7-11)*
- *Brunswick High School (July 21-25)*
- *The Telling Room, Portland (July 28-Aug 1)*
- *College of the Atlantic (Aug 4-8 & Aug 11-15)*

*The Maine Writing Project, established in 1998, is an affiliate of the National Writing Project. It is dedicated to the improvement of the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum at all grade levels.
(www.mainewritingproject.org)*

Belfast Conference to Explore Nuclear Proliferation Pathways

01 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 NEWS ADVISORY ORONO -- More than 20 international experts will be in Belfast Thursday July 17 and Friday July 18 to participate in a conference examining the factors that could lead to the spread of nuclear weapons in various hot spots around the world. The University of Maine's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) and the Naval Postgraduate School will host the conference, "Tomorrow's Proliferation Pathways: Weak States, Rogues and Non-States" at UMaine's Hutchinson Center. The Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Advanced Systems Concepts Office is the conference sponsor. Sessions are scheduled for 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day. A conference agenda is online. The potential for nuclear weapons to fall into the hands of terrorists groups and states is one of the most vexing problems in contemporary international security discussions and planning. At the conference, experts will discuss this issue from various geographic perspectives, including South Asia, the Middle East and Russia. Sessions will also focus attention on rogue states and non-states, along with methods for detecting and shutting down proliferation pathways. This conference represents another example of SPIA's ongoing collaboration with leading national and international organizations to increase high-level discourse about important international relations issues. In addition to the Naval Postgraduate School and Defense Threat Reduction Agency, SPIA has partnered with National Defense University, Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, and other educational and research institutions on these projects during the past two years.

Extension Sustainable Agriculture Field Day in Stillwater July 10

01 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host its annual Sustainable Agriculture Field Day on Thursday, July 10 at UMaine's J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center on Rt. 16 in Stillwater.

Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m. General subject areas will include Energy Efficiency and Energy Production, Ecological Weed Management and Local Feed Production.

Extension faculty members will address the following subjects:

- Status of energy crops in Maine: How much nitrogen does canola need?
- Alternative Organic Nitrogen Sources for Triticale and Sweet Corn
- Reevaluating Cover Crops with Rising Fuel and Fertilizer Costs
- Enhancing the Solar Capabilities of Greenhouses
- Organic Forage and Small Grain Production (two miles away at Smith Farm)

Other UMaine experts will discuss issues related to weed management.

For more information, please contact Gale Clendenning at 1-800-870-7270.

Contact your UMaine Extension Office for Canning Information

01 Jul 2008

Contact: Jane Conroy, 207-564-3301

ORONO, Me.--Rising food costs have persuaded more than the usual number of Mainers to plant gardens this year. Many may be thinking about preserving their harvest for the first time--or dusting off old canning equipment. Those who plan to can garden surplus this year should be sure to get up-to-date information. Updated recommendations are available at University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in each Maine county. Those who are interested may call 800-287-0274 to find the closest Extension office.

A national survey conducted by the USDA-CSREES National Center for Home Food Preservation in 2000 found that many people use canning practices that put them at high risk for foodborne illness. Over the years, changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment have occurred, so there is new information on the right type of methods, canners, jars and seals. For instance, there are two types of canners for home canning: the boiling water-bath canner, and the pressure canner. Using the pressure canner for low-acid foods such as vegetables, meats, poultry and fish is a must to prevent botulism. The water-bath canner is used for high-acid foods such as fruits, jams, and jellies.

According to Extension Educator Jane Conroy, the first step is to take an inventory of canning supplies to determine what might be needed.

"Be careful to make sure the gasket on your pressure canner is in good condition, and get your dial gauge tested annually," says Conroy.

Pressure canner gauges can be tested at most UMaine Extension offices, and some offices are offering hands-on

canning workshops. Visit www.extension.umaine.edu to access food safety and preservation publications and find out more about local Extension activities and programs.

Sarah McPartland-Good Named to University of Maine Foundation Post

01 Jul 2008

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, 207 581-5100

ORONO -- Amos Orcutt, president/CEO of the University of Maine Foundation, has announced the promotion of Sarah McPartland-Good to director of planned giving. She will have the primary responsibility of developing and coordinating the Foundation's comprehensive gift planning program.

"The Foundation has seen steady growth over the past several years increasing its assets from \$48.3 million in 1995 to over \$188 million in 2008. Sarah has been a key part of our success and we are thrilled to promote her to this important position, particularly at this juncture, when the University of Maine is in the midst of a \$150 million comprehensive campaign, the largest in its history. A large portion of the campaign is dedicated to raising funds for student scholarships and faculty endowments," Orcutt says.

McPartland-Good, who is an attorney, joined the Foundation in 1998 as a planned giving officer after working in the private practice of law in Bangor. She earned a communications degree from the University of Southern Maine and a law degree from Franklin Pierce Law Center.

"The Foundation's future looks very bright because of its incredible level of donor service, stewardship and accountability and I look forward to working with our many alumni and friends to create even more opportunities for students," McPartland-Good said.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent, dynamic and enterprising nonprofit organization that exists to encourage gifts and bequests to support the University of Maine.

The Green Thumb Approach to Growing Shellfish at Darling Marine Center

02 Jul 2008

Contact: Dana Morse at (207) 563-3146, a member of the UMaine Marine Extension Team, a collaboration of Maine Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension

WALPOLE -- As anyone who has tended plants will tell you, it can be a lot of work to keep your crop healthy and thriving. You need a lot of light, the right nutrients, and attention to detail. At the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center (DMC), in Walpole, the problem is much the same, except the plants are only about one-hundredth of a millimeter in size.

*The tiny plants in question are marine microalgae, and the ones raised at the DMC are used to feed small oysters and other shellfish. Species such as *Isochrysis galbana*, *Tetraselmis chui*, *Chaetoceros calcitrans* and *Rhodomonas* sp. are commonly raised in shellfish hatcheries the world over, and they require every bit as much care as the most delicate orchid. To help with this tricky and time-consuming task, funds from the 2006 Marine Research Fund, administered by the Maine Technology Institute, have been used toward the installation of a state-of-the-art greenhouse and algal system at the DMC. These improvements will boost production, lower labor costs, and have great impact on the cooperative research done by University of Maine faculty and others throughout the region.*

The grant application was written by Christopher Davis of the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center, together with Paul Rawson of UMaine School of Marine Sciences, and Scott Feindel, shellfish hatchery manager at the DMC. Over \$94,000 was awarded to build an energy-efficient greenhouse and install SeaCAPS (Seasalter Continuous Algal Production System) equipment, a system that relies on a sterile environment and carefully controlled inputs to keep algae growing in continuous culture.

Small shellfish like oysters, clams and mussels eat a lot of food, and their principal food is microalgae. To give the young shellfish a balanced diet, hatchery operators grow several species of algae, to get the right mix of carbohydrates, lipids (fats) and protein. The algae are grown in the hatchery greenhouse and raised in transparent containers, so that light can penetrate. Typically, each container is emptied, as the algae are fed to the small shellfish (usually referred to as 'seed'). Then the culture containers are cleaned, filled with water, nutrients and some of the algae, which are left to grow. The algae divide over time, and the better the conditions, the faster they divide.

Growing microalgae is not easy. The conditions for optimum growth are often hard to maintain, and it is very labor- and time-intensive. Worse, batches sometime get contaminated and go through a rapid downturn, or crash. The new system keeps the algae in balance with their nutrients, so they always grow at an optimum rate, and once the system is set up, the production is continuous, keeping labor at a minimum.

The main components of the new system include a series of culture units, a network of glass- and silicon-tubing to carry nutrients to the culture units and to harvest the algae, and a bank of controls to maintain fluid levels and to conserve heat. Most importantly however, the system installation and maintenance focuses on cleanliness and sterilization to prevent contamination and culture crashes. Once they are all put together, the result is growth of microalgae in what's called the 'log phase,' where cell divisions are the most rapid, and biomass production is at a maximum.

The MTI grant also provided funds for a new greenhouse, in which the algal system sits. The structure was added to the west side of the existing shellfish hatchery, and measures 20 feet square. The greenhouse is important because it allows the algal cultures to be exposed to a maximum of sunlight, rather than use expensive artificial lighting. Given that shellfish hatcheries are hardest at work in the early months of the year, the greenhouse also helps with the expenses of heating.

The algal system and the greenhouse are important to the continued operation of the shellfish hatchery. The current hatchery sits in the Marine Culture Laboratory of the DMC, completed in 2002. There, Rawson and other researchers work with shellfish growers around the state and elsewhere, and the hatchery supports work from other universities and groups.

One such project is the Maine Oyster Broodstock Program (http://www.marine.maine.edu/~rawsonp/oyster_broodstock/start.htm). This work is the continuation of a collaboration between UMaine and shellfish growers that began back in the 1980's. The program has greatly improved the ability of Maine's oyster farmers to grow crops quickly, and with better disease resistance. In recent years, Maine oyster growers have donated over \$25K in cash to the program, and have invested a similar amount though in-kind services, such as labor and vessel time.

Feindel and Davis recently finished the greenhouse construction and algal system installation, and they are now testing the system and adjusting the controls. The end result will be a more productive facility, and an improved capacity to spawn and rear juvenile shellfish. Though the Darling Center has a rich history in aquaculture research, the new technology is a great addition, and one that will keep the future looking decidedly green for shellfish in Maine.

Photos of the greenhouse construction and installation of the algal system can be found at:
<http://flickr.com/photos/24015261@N08/sets/72157605248967409/>

UMaine Researcher Honored with National Award

02 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Note: a photo of Douglas Gardner is available upon request.

ORONO -- Douglas Gardner, University of Maine professor of Wood Science and Technology, and a member of the UMaine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center's research team, has been named as one of the co-recipients of the 2008 Forest Products Society L. J. Markwardt Wood Engineering Research Award for the paper "Evaluation of Load Transfer in the Cellulosic-Fiber/Polymer Interphase Using a Micro-Raman Tensile Test." The paper was published in January 2007 in *Wood and Fiber Science* published by the Society of Wood Science and Technology.

The award was presented at the Forest Products Society 62nd International Convention, June 22 -- 24, in St. Louis, Missouri. Co-authors of the article include: William Tze, former UMaine grad student currently on the faculty of the University of Minnesota; Shane O'Neill, former AEWCC Center staff member; Carl Tripp, UMaine chemistry professor; and Stephen Shaler, associate director of the AEWCC Center.

The L.J. Markwardt Wood Engineering Award is intended to encourage research and promote knowledge of wood in the engineering field as a means of enhancing the efficient utilization of wood. The award is presented annually to the author or authors of a technical paper that is judged to be the most outstanding research paper in the field of wood as an engineering material.

UMaine Wood Composites Center to Host International Conference in Bar Harbor

02 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center will host composites researchers and manufacturers from around the globe at the fourth International Conference on Advanced Engineered Wood & Hybrid Composites in Bar Harbor, July 6 -- 10. The conference is scheduled for the Bar Harbor Club, Harborside Hotel and Marina.

A conference schedule is available upon request.

In addition to showcasing UMaine's cutting edge composites research, including the development of the Mark V.1 patrol craft, ballistic panels, blast resistant wood structures, and secure shipping containers, the conference also provides an opportunity for Maine companies to network with participants from U.S. universities and companies. Representatives from Germany, Austria, Malaysia, Canada, France, Turkey and Australia will also participate.

Conference presentations will cover topics including composites for building materials, defense, homeland security, and marine applications. Special presentations will be made by representatives of the industry's two largest trade organizations. A special seminar, *Trends in Green Building: Composite Materials*, is being offered in partnership with the Wood-Based Composites Center, a national consortium located at Virginia Tech.

The conference will also provide opportunities for UMaine students to present their research and to network with participants at a poster session.

University of Maine Museum of Art Exhibition July 18 - October 1, 2008

02 Jul 2008

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207) 561-3350, kj@umit.maine.edu

Digital images are available on request

Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present three new exhibitions beginning July 18: Katherine Bradford, Stella Johnson: Al Sol, and Nicole Duennebieer.

KATHERINE BRADFORD

Katherine Bradford exhibits a new series of paintings that depict stylized ocean liners floating amidst a sea of gestural paint strokes. Bradford uses bold, saturated reds, blues and oranges in her compositions that evoke a childlike fascination with subject matter and the qualities of paint. The vivid colors and simplistic rendering of the ships express a light-hearted whimsical quality, while also conveying feelings of isolation and fortitude. Bradford is represented by Edward Thorp Gallery in New York City and Aucocisco Galleries in Portland, ME. The artist maintains studios in Brooklyn, NY and Brunswick, ME.

STELLA JOHNSON

Stella Johnson presents a stunning suite of black and white photographs that capture the daily lives of individuals living in remote communities in Mexico, Cameroon and Nicaragua. Johnson conveys in vivid detail and with great compassion the cultures of these people that have, over the years, welcomed her into their homes and lives. The photographer often employs dramatic shadows and camera angles that add a sense of mystery to the varied events seen through her lens. Above all, the photographs portray the simple joys and challenges of people who, despite economic barriers, are living each day with great dignity. Johnson, an accomplished photographer who resides in Massachusetts, is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship and has worked on documentary projects in Africa, Mexico and Central America.

NICOLE DUENNEBIER

Nicole Duennebieer's delicately rendered paintings push the boundaries of traditional concepts of the still-life. In the artist's compositions organic forms appear to be "growing out of darkness." Some of the subjects are clearly depictions of botanicals and insects, while others are imaginative, strange hybrids. Using acrylic on panel, Duennebieer paints a mysterious world where drama unfolds in an arena of darkness. The artist received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Maine College of Art and is represented by Aucocisco Galleries in Portland, ME.

University of Maine Museum of Art
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401
www.umma.umaine.edu

UMaine Sustainable Agriculture Specialist Available to Discuss Farm Energy Conservation Measures

02 Jul 2008

Contact: Ellen Mallory, (207) 581-2942
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Maine farmers coping with rising fuel, energy and production costs must now look beyond historically tried and true practices to achieve greater efficiencies -- efficiencies mandatory for survival in some cases.

Ellen Mallory, UMaine Cooperative Extension sustainable agriculture specialist, is available to discuss the topic with news reporters.

She and other agricultural specialists will discuss the subject July 10 during a Sustainable Agriculture Field Day at the Rogers Forage and Crops Research Farm on the Bennoch Road in Stillwater.

Times always have been hard for most farmers in Maine, and the recent surge in prices affects almost every aspect of running a sustainable crop or livestock operation. Farmers need to find new efficiencies, which may require going back to the proverbial drawing board, Mallory says.

"The dramatic changes in the cost of fuel and other inputs, as well as commodity prices, require us to re-evaluate how we are doing things," she said. "Production practices that we determined previously made the most sense may not be the most logical now, and visa versa."

The need for greater efficiency may also present new opportunities, says Mallory, who did extensive research in the 1990s comparing the use of nitrogen fixing cover crops versus inexpensive fertilizers to supply crops with nitrogen.

The changing economics of both methods are changing the equation, she notes.

In addition, as large farms in the West and Midwest deal with rising transportation costs, new opportunities are emerging to increase the demand for locally grown produce and products, she adds. Rising fuel costs also are affecting the way local farmers use tractors and other equipment, Mallory says.

Mallory's talk on July 10 focuses on the economics of cover crops versus increasingly expensive fertilizers. Other speakers will address such topics as energy crops such as canola, alternative fertilizers, solar energy for greenhouses, weed management and organic forage and grain production.

For information, Mallory can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-2942.

Memorial Concert July 19 to Benefit Scholarship for Former UMaine Musician

03 Jul 2008

Contact: Diane Linscott, 326-4803 George Manlove, 581-3856 Editors' note: The following cities or towns are mentioned in this news release: Penobscot, Hanover, Orono, Winslow & Southwest Harbor, Maine, and Portsmouth and Exeter, N.H. ORONO -- Professional jazz singer, recording artist and University of Maine alum Diane Linscott has established a scholarship fund for former UMaine music major and band member Jim Howe, who died last fall. Linscott, of Penobscot, Maine, has organized a benefit concert in Howe's memory on July 19, at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, to raise funds for The Jim Howe '69 Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship will be managed by the University of Maine Foundation and will benefit future UMaine music students. Linscott will perform with members of her quartet -- several of whom also are alumni of UMaine -- a concert of jazz standards from the Great American Songbook and some selections from her recently released CD, "Once Upon a Summertime," on which Howe played bass. Admission is free, with an opportunity to donate to the scholarship available at the door. Part of the proceeds from CD sales at the concert will go to the scholarship fund. "All of us in the original quartet were graduates of the University of Maine and will be performing the concert in Jim's memory -- Gerry Wright, piano, Mike Bennett, drums, and I will be on vocals," says Linscott, a 1960 UMaine graduate. "Mark Neuenschwander, my bassist in Florida who worked with Jim on my newest recording will be bassist for the evening." Howe lived in Hanover, Maine when he died at age 61 last October. He taught bass at Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire and ran "Sunday

Jazz" at the Portsmouth, N.H. Press Room jazz club for many years, and he was a regular bassist in Linscott's quartet. Recalling his "extraordinary musicianship" and "his joy and generous smile when he made music," Linscott says she wants Howe's legacy to live on through a scholarship. "Jim Howe was a great bassist and representative of so many superb musicians who dedicate themselves to excellence," Linscott says. "A scholarship in his name seemed a fitting tribute." Gifts in Howe's name may be sent to the University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792 or by clicking on the "Online Giving" link through the Foundation's secure website www.umainefoundation.org. Linscott asks that donors indicate their gifts are for The Jim Howe '69 Memorial Scholarship Fund. All gifts received prior to July 11, will be recognized in the evening's program unless otherwise noted. About the musicians Diane Linscott, also a sculptor and visual artist, has served as a trustee of the UMaine Foundation, on the University of Maine Development Council, on the advisory board for the Maine Center for the Arts and as volunteer for many organizations throughout the state. She received a bachelor's degree in journalism from UMaine, did postgraduate study in experimental psychology and balanced a performance schedule with 10 years of liberal studies, including music, at UMaine. Gerry Wright, piano, of Winslow graduated from UMaine with a bachelor's degree in music education and Thomas College with bachelor's degree in business education. He taught choral music in Oakland, Maine for 27 years, and currently teaches at MCI in Pittsfield, where he is choral music instructor. He also plays for the Al Corey Band in Waterville and is the leader of the Gerry Wright Trio. Mark Neuenschwander, known as one of the finest bass players in Tampa Bay, has performed in a variety of musical settings around the world with The 5th Dimension, Herb Alpert, Diane Schuur, Chick Corea, and is a first-call bassist for many major artists appearing in the Sarasota area. He is a faculty member in the music department at the University of South Florida, and has worked with Linscott in Florida for the past 10 winter seasons. Percussionist Mike Bennett of Southwest Harbor, an adjunct faculty member at the College of the Atlantic, earned a music education degree at UMaine in 1993. He has been a first-call drummer for many jazz musicians who have played in Maine such as Larry Coryell, Sheila Jordan, Buddy DeFranco, Greg Abate and Anita O'Day, among others. He was a member of the world music group The Beatroots.

UMaine Archaeological Field School in Machias

09 Jul 2008

Contact: Prof. Brian Robinson (581-2174) or Prof. Lisa Neuman (581-4489)

MACHIAS -- The University of Maine's annual archaeological field school is underway this summer on Machias Bay in eastern Maine. The field school offers nine UMaine students and a small group of volunteers a month-long intensive field work experience focusing on the excavation of Maine's endangered "coastal shell middens" and working with Maine's Wabanaki communities.

UMaine students and faculty members are supporting Passamaquoddy research and preservation efforts on the Machias Bay petroglyphs (rock art), in association with the Malush-hikon Petroglyph Foundation. Machias Bay contains the highest concentration of petroglyphs, in the form of human and animal forms pecked on smooth bedrock surfaces, on the East coast of North America. The petroglyphs span 3,000 years, with some of the latest figures including European sailing ships. Preservation is a key concern, with petroglyphs exposed to waves and storms, as well as to the sandy grit on the shoes of visitors. Through the combined efforts of the tribe, local landowners and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust, the largest petroglyph site, in Machiasport, was transferred from private ownership to the Passamaquoddy tribe in 2006.

The Passamaquoddy are developing plans for an interpretive center to both educate and preserve this part of Wabanaki heritage. The UMaine field school is helping to evaluate nearby occupation sites that ring Machias Bay in proximity to the petroglyph sites. The field school is funded by a grant from UMaine's Maine Academic Prominence Initiative (MAPI) with the express purpose of investigating endangered shell midden sites. Shell middens include the refuse of Native American and Euro-American settlements, in which clam shells were discarded with the bones of seal and sturgeon and other food animals. In the past these middens were often dug over by local collectors who sometimes donated their finds to local museums. As a result, few undisturbed sites remain. With rising sea level, even the disturbed sites are almost certain to be lost.

"Because earlier collectors were often not interested in the animal bones and other kinds of cultural refuse, there is much to be learned from careful excavation of sites that appear badly disturbed," says Prof. Brian Robinson of the UMaine anthropology faculty. "So far this year we have uncovered the remains of two probable house floors that survived in patches between former excavations."

Artifacts from the ancestors of the Passamaquoddy as well as early French settlers have been found, Robinson says.

Robinson and Prof. Lisa Neuman of the UMaine Anthropology Department direct the field school, along with laboratory manager Stephen Bicknell who is a veteran of many UMaine excavations conducted by Professor Emeritus David Sanger. Excavations will also be conducted later in the season for the Passamaquoddy petroglyph project directed by the Passamaquoddy tribal historian Donald Soctomah and petroglyph archaeologist Mark Hedden.

"Native American sites dot the coastline but the petroglyph art is an especially effective way of communicating Native culture and beliefs," Robinson says. "Why was Machias Bay the focus of 3,000 years of rock art? How far did people come to the bay and what other specialized activities may have accompanied the production of petroglyphs? Those are among the questions we are working to answer through these projects, which are themselves in their early years of development."

UMaine Receives Historic Files, Records from Maine's Carpenters' Union

09 Jul 2008

Contact: Bill Murphy, 581-4124; Charlie Scontras, (207) 799-3469; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Fogler Library recently received a dozen containers with hundreds of historic articles, correspondence and ledgers from Maine's first carpenters unions, dating back to 1864.

Called "jewels for Maine historians" by Charles Scontras, historian, author and research associate with UMaine's Bureau of Labor Education, the records recently were accepted by the Bureau of Labor Education and Richard Hollinger, head of Special Collections at Fogler Library, where the materials will be archived. The records were donated by members and officers from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 1996.

"We are exceedingly grateful to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 1996, for entrusting the University of Maine with these invaluable records and documents," say William Murphy, director of the Bureau of Labor Education.

The historic material chronicles the struggles and contributions of Maine earliest union organizers to bring equity and parity to the lives of workers in carpentry, one of the oldest trades in the world.

"They will help light up the shadows of Maine Labor history, permitting researchers and writers of labor history to see more and understand more of the role and place of workers in Maine history," says Scontras.

Many of the records were recovered from an old hen house in Sabattus, and some of the publications contain language in both English and French, a reflection of the contribution of Maine's Franco-American craftsmen in Lewiston, where the first carpenters' union members coalesced under the wing of the Journeymen House Carpenters' Union in 1864 and were required to swear to an oath of secrecy. In 1888, the Lewiston Local 407, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America formed. Now based in Augusta, it more recently changed the number in its name to Local 1996, and continues to represent carpenters throughout Maine.

The donated records are from several local unions, including those in Bangor, Portland and Waterville.

Receiving the materials on behalf of the University of Maine in late June were Murphy, Scontras, Hollinger, John Hanson, director emeritus of the Bureau of Labor Education, and UMaine interim Provost Susan Hunter from UMaine.

Union representatives delivering the records included Bruce King, Kevin Guidi, Gary Graham, Paul Seaquest, Charlie Turgeon, Dana Goldsmith and Pamela Buckley from Local 1996.

Information about the records can be obtained by contacting William Murphy at Bureau of Labor Education in UMaine's Chadbourne Hall, (207) 581-4124.

The Bureau, part of the University of Maine's Division of Lifelong Learning, was established in 1966 by the 102nd Maine Legislature and the Trustees of the University of Maine. It conducts educational programs, presentations, and research on labor related issues of interest to workers, students, educators, public policy makers and leaders in government, labor and education.

Blackstone Research Proposal Wins 'Feminist Perspective Award'

10 Jul 2008

Contact: Amy Blackstone, 581-2392; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine assistant professor of sociology Amy Blackstone has received the Outstanding Research Proposal from a Feminist Perspective Award from the Feminism and Family Studies Section of the National Council on Family Relations.

The research proposal is a study and survey of child-free adults and their decisions not to become parents. The award includes a financial stipend to fund interviews she is conducting this summer and to off-set costs of attending the National Council on Family Relations meeting in Little Rock in November.

Blackstone's teaching and research interests include social movements and activism, sociology of gender, sociology of work, and research methods. More recent research has included a study of the workplace sexual harassment experiences of males and females in adolescence and young adulthood.

The research project for which Blackstone won the Feminist Perspective Award will explore the processes whereby child-free adults decide to remain child-free and social responses to their choices.

UMaine Researcher Elected Fellow of International Academy of Wood Science

10 Jul 2008

Contact: Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Robert Rice, a professor of wood science in the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources, was recently elected a 2008 fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science.

A UMaine faculty member for 17 years, Rice has published more than 60 research papers on the physics of wood, many of them involving the human health and environmental issues related to wood processing plants. His work also includes research in the fields of wood energy, heat and mass transfer in wood and wood-based composites.

The International Academy of Wood Science was founded in Paris in 1966 as a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote worldwide the concerted development of wood science by recognizing the meritorious achievements and high scientific standards of its elected fellows.

Food Sciences Expert Offers Perspectives on Salmonella Poisoning

10 Jul 2008

Contact: Al Bushway, 581-1629; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- First, the Federal Food and Drug Administration suspected raw tomatoes. Then it added jalapeno peppers, cilantro and serrano peppers -- the raw ingredients for salsa -- to the list of possible sources of the current salmonella food poisoning outbreaks in 41 states, including Maine.

More than 1,000 people nationwide have become sick from salmonella poisoning since the outbreak began in April, and the FDA apparently is no closer today to isolating a cause than it was three months ago. The Centers for Disease Control on Wednesday implicated raw jalapeno peppers in two clusters of salmonella poisoning.

Should consumers in Maine steer clear of the items the FDA considers possible salmonella sources? That's not necessary, according to UMaine food science and human nutrition professor Al Bushway, who has food-safety expertise.

Bushway does have advice for consumers. He is available to offer perspectives on foodborne illnesses, including salmonella poisoning.

Salmonellosis, the infection caused by infected food products or unsanitary food preparation areas, has been traced to dairy products, chicken and poultry products, cantaloupe, bean sprouts and other fruits and vegetables, and also unsanitary crop irrigation systems and food preparation areas.

Bushway says proper cooking of food can kill salmonella, and sometimes -- but not always, he cautions -- washing fresh vegetables in a dilute chlorine-water mix, or other approved sanitizer, can help.

As for salsa, Bushway says varieties that have been commercially heat-processed and are sold at room temperature are safe. Fresh salsas sold as refrigerated products could be of greater concern. But, Bushway notes, evidence is lacking to condemn any of the foods on the FDA list. Currently, the FDA is recommending that all consumers purchase tomatoes from areas that are harvested from cleared areas.

"The FDA doesn't have a real handle on what the source of the salmonella is," he says.

Symptoms of salmonella poisoning include diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. Symptoms usually last 4-7 days, and most healthy people recover without treatment. Older people, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness.

For more information, Bushway can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-1629.

Page Farm & Home Museum Invites the Public for Open Farm Day Events July 20

11 Jul 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100 ORONO -- More than 115 farms throughout Maine -- including the UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum -- will open their doors to the public as Maine celebrates [Open Farm Day](#) on Sunday, July 20. Activities at the Orono farm and home museum, located in the last original agricultural building on the University of Maine campus, will include tours of the museum grounds, field-day activities, a blacksmithing demonstration, heritage

garden tours, ice cream making and taste tests, field games for children and adults -- and a potluck picnic at noon. Page Farm and Home Museum Director Patty Henner invites members of the public to stop by between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. for a vision and a taste of what farm life is all about. A list of participating farms can be found at the [Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources website](#). The [Page Farm and Home Museum](#) houses an ever-growing collection of farm implements and household items from the period 1865-1940. It contains equipment and vehicles used for clearing land, harvesting and storing crops. Some of the many exhibits include poultry, dairy, 4-H and ice harvesting. In addition to the main museum building, the Page Farm and Home Museum has a blacksmith shop, a carriage house and a one-room schoolhouse. For additional information, Henner can be reached at (207) 581-4100.

UMaine Professor Carol Kim New Head of Biomedical Sciences Graduate School

14 Jul 2008

Contact: Carol Kim, (207) 581-2803

ORONO University of Maine microbiologist Carol H. Kim has been named the director of UMaine's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS).

Kim, an associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology, has expertise in molecular virology and host response to infectious disease. In her current research, she uses zebrafish as model organism for studying the effects of bacterial and viral pathogens and environmental toxicants such as arsenic on a host's ability to fight infection.

Kim joined the UMaine faculty in 1998 and has a cooperating appointment in the School of Marine Sciences. She already has played a leading role in GSBS management through her work with its admissions committee. As GSBS director, Kim reports to Dan Sandweiss, dean and associate provost for UMaine graduate studies.

"Already, Carol is putting into motion a series of plans to move GSBS to the next stage of success," Sandweiss says. "I have every confidence that the program will take off under Carol"

New Program Helps Maine Teachers Integrate Climate Change into the Curriculum

14 Jul 2008

Contact: Annette Brickley (207) 990-2900 ext. 2; Deirdre Byrne (207) 581-4324; Tom Weber (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The University of Maine and the Challenger Learning Center of Bangor have launched a professional development program designed to help the state's middle and high school educators learn how to use climate change as a novel way to teach math, science, geography and even social studies.

"C's to Shining C: Connecting Climate to Curriculum" is a three-year program aimed chiefly at improving the student achievement levels at schools that are now performing below the federal and state standards for math and science. Yet organizers believe the program can also be of great benefit to high-performing schools whose teachers may want to learn more about climate science from UMaine's experts in the field so they can better teach it to their students.

"The Earth's climate system is ideal for this," says project leader Annette Brickley, the professional development director for the Challenger Learning Center who earned her master's degree at UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. "It's a hook for both the kids and the teachers because it's current and real and it does a nice job of bridging the different fields of science."

The \$175,000 program, funded by the federal government through the Maine Department of Education, will initially involve 24 to 30 middle and high school teachers from the Bangor and Hermon school systems, Old Town School District, MSAD 22 (Hampden, Winterport, Newburgh), as well as the United Technologies Center in Bangor.

Beginning in August, teachers will attend monthly workshops at the Challenger Learning Center to learn good science teaching practices while broadening their understanding of such fundamentals concepts of the climate system as density, pressure and energy. The workshops will also focus on the unifying themes of national and state standards, which include systems, models, scale, constancy and change.

Next year, those teachers will bring in other teachers from their schools to integrate a deeper understanding of climate change across a curriculum that could include mathematics, geography, social sciences and history. The regional consortium of teachers will then spend the third year implementing the classroom lessons, evaluating how well they work and fine-tuning them as necessary.

The program is a continuation of the successful, NASA-supported weeklong summer workshops, "Understanding Climate Change," that were begun by Brickley and Deirdre Byrne, a researcher in ocean current and climate variability in UMaine's School of Marine Sciences, who is the university's lead coordinator for this new project.

The other UMaine faculty members participating in the "C's to Shining C" program are marine scientists Fei Chai and Lee Karp-Boss as well as Molly Schauffler, a research assistant professor with the Climate Change Institute.

Open House Set for UMaine MPA Classes in Augusta

15 Jul 2008

Contact: Carolyn Ball, (207) 581-4142

ORONO -- The University of Maine is again offering graduate-level Masters in Public Administration courses in Augusta in September for working professionals and recent college graduates working or interested in working in government or non-profit fields.

The three courses are: City & Regional Planning; Accountability in Public Policy & Administration; and Community Power, Leadership & Administration. All are taught by UMaine faculty or adjunct Ph.D faculty.

Additional information about the classes will be available at an open house July 24, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Department of Labor's Career Center, 21 Enterprise Drive (Suite 2), in the Central Maine Commerce Center business park off Civic Center Drive, north of the I-95-Route 27 exit in Augusta.

The MPA, offered annually in Augusta since 1968, is the only UMaine degree program offered in Augusta. The MPA has a rich history of alumni who have reached the top of their fields as commissioners and policy advisers in state government, hospital executives, nonprofit directors, and city and county managers. An MPA can help move professionals toward new career opportunities, particularly in government, non-profit, municipal, healthcare or public policy fields.

The advantage of the program, says Carolyn Ball, director of graduate programs, is that students have the opportunity to network with other professionals in their classes, with speakers and with professors who have contacts in government and non-profit careers. An additional advantage of classes being held in Augusta is that students can continue working and still attend class without commuting to the UMaine Orono campus.

Prospective students with degrees from accredited undergraduate colleges or universities may take a class as a non-degree student. Credit may be applied toward the MPA degree, if a student decides to apply later. Online applications can be filed through the Website.

Students can fast-track and complete the degree in as little as two years, or they can take classes at a more leisurely pace and take up to six years, and balance classes with family, financial or career plans, according to Ball.

"The courses offerings give students great flexibility to understand the breadth of the field," Ball says. "City & Regional

Planning nicely fits with the hot topics of handling growth, or lack of growth, in Maine. Accountability in Public Policy & Administration takes students into the complex democratic legal, ethical, political and socio-economic framework of creating public policy and managing government. And Community Power, Leadership & Administration provides students with an understanding of how leadership and power intertwine at the local level from historically important figures such as Robert Moses to current city leaders.

For those interested in the program who cannot attend the open house, information also is available by calling the UMaine Department of Public Administration at (207) 581-1872 or emailing: pubamin@umit.maine.edu.

The Maine Career Center can be reached by telephone at 1-800-760-1573.

UMaine Graduate Student Receives Fulbright for History Study in Canada

15 Jul 2008

Contact: Shannon Risk, 845-661-9130; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine Ph.D. candidate Shannon Risk has received a Fulbright U.S. Student Scholarship to study cultural and intellectual history in Canada for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Researching at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, Risk will assess the women's suffrage movements in New Brunswick and Maine.

She intends to examine in her dissertation how citizenship and the rights of citizenship were perceived in rural Maine and New Brunswick during the suffrage movement, and how those ideas play out in the 20th century.

"This project is significant in that it counters the assumption that progressive ideas only flow from urban areas, and it studies women's political behavior across a national border in an academic field that has neglected this topic," says Risk, a native of Independence, Iowa who now lives in Milford. "It shows the strategies of a disfranchised group to pressure the male political system, in many respects, by creating its own political power structure."

Risk holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, and a master's in American history from UMaine. She intends to receive her doctorate in history, with a minor in women's studies, in the spring of 2009. Since earning her master's degree in 1996, Risk spent nine years working in museums, including the Susan B. Anthony House National Historic Landmark in Rochester, N.Y. and the Putnam County Historical Society and Foundry School Museum in Cold Spring, N.Y. She previously served an internship at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

Canadian Fulbrights are competitive. Risk, whose adviser is Marli Weiner, professor of history, is only the eighth UMaine graduate student to receive one since 1992.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange program, is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program has benefited some 108,160 Americans who have studied, taught or researched abroad and 178,340 students, scholars or teachers from other countries who have engaged in similar activities in the United States. The program operates in more than 155 countries worldwide.

Physics Professor Using Fulbright for Research, Teaching in Ireland

16 Jul 2008

Contact: John Thompson, 581-1030; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine assistant physics professor John R. Thompson has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to teach and conduct research on the learning and teaching of physics -- also known as physics education research -- at Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) in Ireland during the 2008-2009 academic year.

Thompson will compare physics education research methods in Ireland with those in the U.S. and investigate how teaching strategies based on physics education research results might affect student learning of science at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

At UMaine, Thompson, who also has a cooperating appointment in the College of Education and Human Development and is a member of the Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research, has focused on the learning of specific concepts in science, and on the development of guided-inquiry curricular materials for physics courses.

Thompson's host research group in Dublin has implemented a teaching method called "problem-based learning" -- asking students to solve a real math or scientific question -- on the premise that it is more effective than merely memorizing facts and formulas.

"I want to look at whether they learn differently in Ireland as a result," says Thompson, whose research also involves studying how upper-level students learn subjects like thermodynamics.

Thompson will continue ongoing Orono-based research projects and forge new collaborations with faculty and researchers in Dublin. One such collaboration will involve courses that prepare teachers and faculty for teaching science more effectively. Both UMaine and DIT offer similar courses; Thompson will teach and exchange course materials while in Dublin.

"I expect some of the things I learn there I can bring back to my courses here and it will alter my teaching, and I can share it with other faculty," Thompson says.

The Fulbright Scholar grant provides partial living expenses for Thompson, his two children and wife Kate Dickerson, a research associate at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at UMaine.

The visit, he says, "is a cultural exchange as well as an intellectual exchange."

University of Maine Center to Host Workshop on DIR/Floortime Approach for Treating Children with Autism

16 Jul 2008

Contact: Sandra Horne, (207) 581-1236

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies is hosting a three-hour workshop on the DIR/Floortime approach for understanding and treating children challenged by autism spectrum and related disorders on Saturday, July 26, from 1-4 p.m.

The workshop, "An Introduction to DIR/Floortime," is being held at the Wells Conference Center. This relationship-based approach focuses on helping children master the building blocks of relating, communicating and thinking. Registration is \$20 and includes light refreshments.

Kathleen A. Platzman, Ph.D., is the presenter. Platzman, a Maine native, received her doctorate from the University of

Chicago in 1983 and is a licensed psychologist who specializes in working with individuals with autism spectrum disorders. She is a faculty member of the Interdisciplinary Council on Developmental and Learning Disorders, founded by Stanley Greenspan, MD, and Serena Wieder, Ph.D.

The workshop is for parents, teachers, therapists, public school personnel and administrators, or anyone who wants to learn more about the DIR/Floortime approach. A limited number of complimentary registrations are available for parents and family members. For more information, or to register, please contact Margaret Zubik by email ccidsmail@umit.maine.edu, by phone 800/203-6957 (v/tty), or by fax 207/581-1231. The registration deadline is July 23.

Wells Conference Center, located on the campus of the University of Maine, is an air-conditioned, accessible facility with parking nearby. Captioning for the event will be provided by Maine C.A.R.T. & Captioning Service.

The Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) is Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Established in 1992, the Center is part of a national network of 67 UCEDDs sponsored by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Center's mission is to bring together the resources of the university and the community to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families through a broad range of education, research, service, and dissemination activities. More information about CCIDS is available on its web site www.ccids.umaine.edu.

UMaine Program to Foster Next Generation of Women in Politics

16 Jul 2008

Contact: Mary Cathcart at (207) 866-3054; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- When you represent the ratio of women to men who have served in the U.S. Congress as a pie chart, it looks less like pie and more like a cheese wheel with a sliver missing.

Between 1796 and 2001, 206 women have served in Congress, compared with 11,433 men. In 2003, women held only 22.3 percent of state legislative seats, 14 percent of U.S. Senate seats and 13.6 percent of the seats in the House of Representatives.

MaineNEW Leadership, a new initiative at the University of Maine, aims to give women a bigger slice of the political pie. Starting in 2009, up to 40 college-age women from Maine will have the opportunity to participate in a weeklong intensive residential training program targeting the next generation of leaders.

The program began in 1991 at the Center for American Women in Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey. UMaine is the newest partner in NEW Leadership's 17-member national network.

"Maine has had so many strong women leaders, and we are thrilled to bring the NEW Leadership model to Maine's future women leaders," said Mary Cathcart, a former Maine legislator who now is a senior policy associate at UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

Cathcart and her colleagues Rebekah Smith, Eva McLaughlin and Glenn Beamer began working on Maine's proposal last summer. Since then, U.S. Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe; state legislators such as Emily Cain, Carol Weston, Hannah Pingree, and Libby Mitchell; and campus leaders such as Ann Schonberger, Sharon Barker, Janet Waldron, and Amy Fried have pledged their support.

In June, Cathcart and Smith, a lawyer and policy fellow at the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, traveled to Rutgers to see how the program works. The week was jam-packed with sessions on leadership development, networking, diversity training and the realities of holding public office. Students also took part in an action project, where they were

divided into groups, researched a political issue, and presented testimony to a mock legislative panel. In Maine, the lineup will be similar, with one exception: after the young women travel to Augusta for a State House visit, they'll stop in Skowhegan for a tour of Margaret Chase Smith's home and the library named in her honor.

Cathcart and her colleagues are in the process of raising nearly \$70,000 to ensure the NEW Leadership program is open to all Maine college women at no cost to the participants. Application materials will be available in early 2009.

It is Cathcart's hope that the program will instill an earlier, and stronger, calling to serve in young women.

"Young men grow up thinking they want to be president," Cathcart said. "Young women don't grow up to think that way. Women leaders generally need to be asked several times before they'll consider running for office. The idea behind the program is for college women to understand the importance of serving in office and of civic engagement, particularly in your community and your state."

Servello Named UMaine Associate Dean/Associate Director

17 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3581

Note: a photo of Dean Servello is available upon request.

ORONO -- Frederick Servello has been named associate dean for research in the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and associate director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station. In these roles, Servello will work with the Edward Ashworth, the college dean and experiment station director, in leading and managing the college's research programs. The job also includes management responsibilities for UMaine's research farms and gardens.

"Fred is an established leader in our academic community, with a long-standing record of accomplishment in teaching, research and public engagement," Ashworth says. "This is an important role, central to UMaine's interface with the statewide agricultural community, and I am certain that Fred will help us build on established momentum and continue to serve this vital sector of Maine's economy."

He will also serve as director of the Maine Agricultural Center at UMaine.

Servello joined the UMaine faculty in 1990 in the Dept. of Wildlife Ecology. He served as department chair from 2002-2007 and has also been interim associate director of the Experiment Station. Before moving to Maine, Servello was a University of Kentucky extension specialist in wildlife. He earned a doctorate in 1985 from Virginia Tech.

At UMaine, Servello has taught courses in natural resources policy and conducted research on a wide array of wildlife conservation and public policy issues in forest, marine, agricultural and wetland systems. His current research projects focus on aquaculture-seabird interactions, wildlife damage in wild blueberry agriculture, status and ecology of endangered marsh birds and wildlife-forestry interactions in Maine.

Lobster College: A Learning Vacation on the Maine Coast

18 Jul 2008

Contact: Cathy Billings, Lobster Institute, 207-581-2751, cathy_billings@umit.maine.edu
Dianne Ward, Kenniston Hill Inn B&B, 207-633-2159, innkeeper@kennistonhillinn.com

ORONO, Maine -- After a five-year hiatus, Lobster College is back. Registrations are now being accepted for this most unique learning vacation, organized by the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine and hosted this year by the Kenniston Hill Inn Bed & Breakfast in Boothbay, Maine. Lobster College is an educational adventure designed for people interested in enjoying a fun extended weekend on the Maine coast. It's a chance to learn everything there is to know about Maine's premier crustacean. The event is scheduled for September 18-21, 2008.

Kenniston Hill Inn B&B (<http://kennistonhillinn.waffl.com/>) will serve as home base for Lobster College. Participants will enjoy the gracious hospitality of host, Dianne Ward, at this classic shipbuilders mansion built in 1786 in spectacular Boothbay, Maine.

Various field trips are scheduled throughout the Boothbay Harbor area as part of the curriculum.

"Folks who join us for Lobster College will experience hands-on and on-site learning about lobsters directly from people in the lobster industry, as well as from University of Maine faculty. We've based Lobster College in the heart of lobstering country, at one of the most picturesque areas on the coast of Maine," says Robert Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute. "We'll be taking a trip out to haul traps, we'll visit a working lobster wharf, and we'll provide lectures on a variety of lobster-related topics. We'll even show you how to bait a trap."

According to Bayer, those who enroll in Lobster College will learn about lobster biology and ecology, value-added lobster products, lobster cuisine, stock management and other areas within the lobster industry.

"And of course, there will be plenty of lobster to eat," says Bayer. "At our last Lobster College graduation, we counted them up and found that we had enjoyed ten different lobster dishes during the course of the weekend."

Students from the last Lobster College came from as far as California and Arizona.

"The words great and excellent are much overused in our society," said Paul Oswald, who attended the last session. "But these words must be used to describe this program: five star all the way."

"We really enjoyed ourselves, and the entire experience completely exceeded my expectations," added Jim Starwood.

In addition to being an educational program, Lobster College doubles as a fundraiser for the Lobster Institute. The Institute is a research and outreach organization with a mission of protecting, conserving and enhancing the vitality of the lobster as a resource, and lobstering as an industry and as a way of life. It was founded jointly by members of the lobster industry and faculty at the University of Maine.

While participants won't need SATs to get in, enrollment for Lobster College is limited to the first 20 "students", and the deadline to enroll is September 5. Information about Lobster College, including cost and how to register, and about other programs and services of the Lobster Institute, is available at www.lobsterinstitute.org or by calling (207)581-2751 or (207)581-1443.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Project Harnesses Flower Power

21 Jul 2008

Contact: Gleason Gray (Penobscot County), 1-800-287-1485; Barbara Murphy (Oxford County), 743-6329 or 1-800-287-1482

ORONO -- A bouquet of cut flowers can say so much, so beautifully: I love you. Happy birthday. I'm sorry I stayed out until 3 a.m. with the guys.

Thanks to researchers with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and volunteers in the Master Gardener program, Maine farmers are able to convey those messages -- and more -- loud and clear.

Over the last four years, Barbara Murphy of the Oxford County Extension office has studied the economic viability, necessary growing conditions and best varieties for Maine farmers interested in growing cut flowers -- either as their main crop or as an additional value-added crop. Last summer, Gleason Gray of the Penobscot County Extension office joined the effort, and their findings are promising.

"Research has shown the crop has tremendous potential; there's a high dollar per square foot return," Murphy says. "It's a crop many growers can do as well as their other crops."

Murphy and Gray share their findings with the industry by speaking with grower groups in Maine, but the trial gardens are open to the public.

Early trials compared the growth of flowers inside a hoop house (a small greenhouse) with flowers grown in the field. Given the unpredictability of Maine weather, the hoop house proved to be worth the expense. Cooperative Extension manages pests in the field organically -- mostly by hand-picking -- to prove it can be done.

"It's good for growers to know," Murphy says. "Many growers in Maine grow flowers organically and are very good at it."

This year's trials include nearly 25 varieties of flowers, including sunflowers, lisianthus and larkspur. The cut flowers at Rogers Farm in Stillwater and the Extension gardens in South Paris will be in full bloom starting in August.

UMaine Researcher Outlines Biorefinery Potential for Maine Pulp Mills

22 Jul 2008

Contact: Kate Dickerson, cell phone (207) 478-9548; Tom Weber, (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- Incorporating biorefineries into suitable pulp mills in Maine could help to wean the state from its crippling dependence on imported fossil fuels while also allowing it to maintain its traditional manufacturing base, according to a study released recently by the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center.

In the "Maine Bioproducts Business Pathway" report, research associate Kate Dickerson outlines in detail how the six mills in Maine that use the kraft pulping process could integrate technology developed at UMaine to produce valuable ethanol and acetic acid from woody biomass without degrading the quality of the pulp they make.

Red Shield Environment LLC intends to use UMaine's "near-neutral" hemicellulose extraction process for a proposed biorefinery at its Old Town pulp mill.

"This report will really be helpful for people who don't have an in-depth knowledge of the pulp industry to see how research and development can be a big part of the energy puzzle," says Dickerson, who would like the report to be required reading for all Maine policymakers.

Although it emphasizes the UMaine technology, the report also discusses other processes that could be utilized in a Maine biorefinery. Dickerson analyzes the potential investment, production and transportation costs for establishing such operations, as well as the proximities to wood resources and product transportation costs for potential wholesale and retail customers in the state.

"Maine Bioproducts Business Pathway" can be found under the "Publications" heading on the Margaret Chase Smith Center website at www.umaine.edu/mcsc

Orono Community Garden Produces More Than Just Vegetables

22 Jul 2008

Contact: John Jemison, 581-3241; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - A small community garden off Pine Street in Orono is growing more than just the broccoli, beans, lettuce, turnips, onions and other vegetables that a group of volunteers distributes Tuesday evenings to about 55 nearby residents.

It also is developing a sense of community and sharing a message about sustainability, says John Jemison, the UMaine Cooperative Extension water quality and soil scientist who oversees the garden project.

For the last five years, Jemison, who does outreach education in water quality and sustainable agriculture, and 20-30 volunteers have distributed tons of fresh vegetables to residents of Orono's Hasbrouck Court and Longfellow Heights apartments.

This year, the mission has been aided by the donation of 200 reusable tote bags from Hannaford supermarkets. In addition, the Orono Community Garden has economized on its use of garden space and given recipients of the produce an active role in the gardening process. The volunteers gave out 48 five-gallon buckets of soil with a tomato plant in each one.

"People love them," he says. "They love watching things grow."

The food stock is augmented by Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners' "Plant a Row" program, some surplus produce from the Black Bear Food Guild, and from some of the Rogers Farm research trials in Stillwater.

Recipients of the fresh, mostly organic vegetables are mostly people living on limited incomes or those with physical challenges that make it hard for them to get out on a daily basis. People appreciate the program and the effort, Jemison says.

"I had a lady tell me last summer that she lost 20 pounds because she was eating better than she would have otherwise," he says.

For Jemison, who says he was profoundly impressed by the sense of community and self-sufficiency he experienced in 2003 when he spent a year on sabbatical in a small Italian village, getting to know people in the community has as much reward as the benefits of providing food for people who cannot grow it themselves.

"To me, there is value in growing food for the local food banks, but this seems more rewarding because we get to know people in our community," he says. "It's very small but it's a start toward an agriculture-supported community."

For more information about the Orono Community Garden, Jemison can be reached at (207) 581-3241. The garden also has a community composting project, to which area residents can drop off vegetable waste, coffee grounds or other food waste that can be converted to compost. Jemison also offers demonstrations at the community garden on composting and collecting rooftop rainwater.

Healthy Bee Populations Leading to Good Blueberry Harvest

24 Jul 2008

Contact: Dave Yarborough, 581-2923; Frank Drummond, 581-2989; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO - Following yesterday's annual summer meeting and wild blueberry field day held at UMaine's Blueberry Hill Farm and research station in Jonesboro, Maine's blueberry growers are cautiously optimistic about expecting a healthy crop this year, according to University of Maine experts.

The blueberry harvest begins this week in Southern Maine, next week in the Mid-Coast area and the first week of August in the extensive blueberry barrens of Downeast Maine.

David Yarborough, Extension blueberry specialist and Extension professor of horticulture, is expecting an average or slightly above average yield of 80-100 million pounds of berries, thanks to adequate rain in May and June. The hot and humid, but largely dry, first few weeks of July stressed crops to some degree, he says, but recent showers are refreshing most crops.

Yarborough says that healthy honey bee colonies also played a role in enabling good pollination by more than 69,000 "migrant" hives, those brought in from throughout the country specifically for blueberry growers. They were assisted by hives from an estimated 1,600 Maine-based hives, plus wild, or native, bees.

As far as we know honey bee colonies in Maine continue to thrive unaffected by colony collapse disorder (CCD), which has decimated many hives elsewhere in the nation over the past three years, according to entomologist Frank Drummond, professor of insect ecology and entomology.

Honey bees also have not suffered significantly from the Varoa mite, a parasite that infests and kills bees, but bee keepers are worried because the number of measures that control the parasites are dwindling as the mites develop resistance.

"The honey bee industry is stable, but precarious right now," says Drummond. "Blueberry growers didn't have any trouble getting colonies to pollinate their fields and it's going to be a great crop."

Drummond notes that bee keepers face increasing health threats to native bee populations because of a variety of environmental hazards, including increased use of insecticides used residentially, and the possibility of infections carried by seasonally imported honey bees.

Portland Software Company Creates New Engineering Scholarships

25 Jul 2008

Contact: Mohamad Musavi, (207) 581-2243
Ellis Corson, (207) 775-1660
George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department will offer three new scholarships beginning this fall, thanks to the generosity of a Portland software development company, whose CEO says he wants to proactively help keep Maine young people in-state.

Kepware Technologies' founder, president and chief executive officer Corson Ellis is providing UMaine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department three annual scholarships of \$7,500 each for the foreseeable future, he says.

[Kepware](#) designs and builds drivers and other software that allows automated manufacturing equipment to communicate, and is growing at a 30 percent rate presently. Ellis plans to increase growth to 40 percent in the coming year. The company employs 45 people, up from 30 last year, and employs several UMaine engineering graduates. In the

last two months, Kepware has hired two permanent employees and two co-ops from UMaine. Its vice president and chief technology officer Tony Paine is a graduate of the electrical engineering program at UMaine.

Ellis is concerned about what he views as "a crisis in education in the United States."

"There isn't enough support for engineering education," he says. "If we don't create more support, we're going to lose more jobs overseas. The most important thing is that somebody's got to step up to the plate and help American engineering students. We want to make it affordable. There are a lot of kids who cannot afford to go to engineering schools."

Ellis adds that investing in the UMaine engineering scholarships "is an investment in the country and an investment for Maine so we can continue generating engineers. We want Maine kids to stay in Maine and work. And we're interested in having a close relationship with the graduates so that we have a shot at hiring them. It's a win-win-win situation."

Information about the new scholarships is available on the [Electrical and Computer Engineering Department website](#). Mohamad Musavi, chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, says the department will advertise the scholarships as students return to campus.

"These are among the top scholarships at the university," he says. "It is also important for people to understand that while low-paying traditional jobs are being lost, new well-paying engineering jobs are being created in Maine by Kepware and other high technology companies."

UMaine Publishes Fruit Tree Guide for Home Gardeners

28 Jul 2008

Contact: Renae Moran, 207-933-2100

ORONO, ME--A new publication from University of Maine Cooperative Extension provides in-depth information specifically for home orchardists. Growing Fruit Trees in Maine can help property owners successfully grow apple, pear, peach, cherry, plum, and apricot trees under Maine conditions. The guide details varieties adapted to Maine, rootstocks, planting, early care, fertilization, pollination, pruning, reasons for lack of fruitfulness, pests and diseases, and preparation for winter. Developed by UMaine pomology professor Renae Moran and Associate Scientist Glen Koehler, the 32-page full-color publication includes 30 photos. It is available for \$12.50 from www.extension.umaine.edu ("publications") or by calling (207) 581-3792.

Orchards can be low maintenance or high maintenance, depending on landowner goals. For instance, many gardeners also like to cultivate hard-to-find varieties that are no longer commercially available, such as Belle de Boskoop or Esopus Spitzenburg. In any case, by selecting a species and variety that is adapted to Maine and resistant to common diseases, one can eliminate problems that could otherwise lead to tree death, lack of productivity, and reliance on chemical sprays.

Moran conducts research at the University of Maine's Highmoor Farm in Monmouth to identify new apple varieties that are hardy and productive. Improving orchards has been a central focus at Highmoor Farm since the state of Maine bought 225 acres there in 1909 for apple research.

\$1.6 Million Keck Foundation Grant to Fund UMaine Climate Change Research Advances

28 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Me. -- The William M. Keck Foundation will provide a \$1.6 million grant to fund continued groundbreaking scientific research in the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute. The funds will support a project, "Major Advances in the Field of Climate Change Reconstruction Using Ice Cores," which will revolutionize climate science. The project will build on UMaine's ongoing research aimed at developing a global array of ice cores for use in studying historical climate change, in better understanding the Earth's environment and in creating sound hypotheses related to the planet's climate future. Prof. Paul Mayewski, director of the Climate Change Institute, is the project leader.

Based in Los Angeles, the W. M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late W. M. Keck, founder of the Superior Oil Company. The Foundation's grantmaking is focused primarily on pioneering efforts in the areas of medical research, science and engineering. The Foundation also maintains a program to support undergraduate science and humanities education and a Southern California Grant Program that provides support in the areas of healthcare, civic and community services, education and the arts, with a special emphasis on children and youth.

"The William M. Keck Foundation has a 54-year history of supporting the kinds of high-quality scientific inquiries that revolutionize the ways in which we view the world around us," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "We are honored to be associated with the Foundation and we are most appreciative of the faith the foundation's staff and leadership have shown in the ability of Prof. Mayewski and his colleagues to advance scientific knowledge in this critical field of study."

Kennedy also noted that faculty researchers from several UMaine academic areas, including Laboratory for Surface Science Technology (LASST) director Prof. Robert Lad, will play important roles in the project.

UMaine scientists have been involved in ice core research for decades. Their work, funded by the National Science Foundation, NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, involves the extraction of ice from polar regions around the world. By examining the chemical composition at intervals along the ice core, scientists can reconstruct climate history over centuries and they can monitor current climate conditions in critical regions. In this work, UMaine scientists have leadership roles in collaborative projects involving researchers from around the U.S. and countries throughout Europe, South America and Asia.

"This research is both critical and time-sensitive," Mayewski says. "In some regions, these invaluable records are literally melting away. Because of this generous grant from the Keck Foundation, we will be able to accelerate this research and move toward realizing our vision of establishing the complete and robust record necessary to gain a thorough understanding of the Earth's climate history. Ice cores are the only means by which we can study climate history on a meaningful scale, looking at thousands of years of verifiable records. They are essential to understanding the past and applying its lessons to the examination of issues related to the contemporary environment and society's future."

Because of 30-plus years of ice core research, Mayewski notes, scientists have a dramatically improved understanding of climate systems and the impact of human behavior on our environment.

The Keck Foundation funding will allow the UMaine scientists to expand their research capabilities in two specific ways:

- through the purchase and adaptation of a laser ablation inductively coupled plasma spectrometer (LA-ICP-MS), technology that allows for "rapid, continuous, high resolution sampling of ice core chemistry," increasing the scientists' capabilities with regard to chemical sampling and core assessment;
- through the development of new ice core measuring capability by developing prototype chemical sensors to be embedded in an ice core drill, along with a "disposable" GPS system that will allow for on-site sampling in hazardous environments and for monitoring changes in glaciers.

Scientists in UMaine's LASST laboratory will lead the development of the sensor technology. Some 13 UMaine academic personnel, representing CCI, LASST and several academic departments, will participate in the project.

Princeton Review Ranks UMaine Among Best Colleges

29 Jul 2008

Contact: Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- For the fifth consecutive year, the Princeton Review lists the University of Maine as one of the nation's best choices for undergraduate education. The New York-based publisher announced the listings from its annual book, "The Best 368 Colleges," on Monday. 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.

"The Princeton Review ranking affirms UMaine's place as a quality institution in a national context," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "It 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"

An average of 325 students per institution respond to the Princeton Review's 80-question survey.

"In our opinion, each school in this book is first-rate academically, " says Robert Franek, the author at the Princeton Review. "But their campus cultures and offerings differ greatly. Instead of ranking schools academically, 1 to 368, we tally ranking lists in 62 categories based on what students at the schools (their customers) report to us about them. We also compile rating scores in eight categories based on institutional data we collect. We believe college applicants need to know far more about schools than an academic ranking to identify which colleges may be best for them. It's all about the fit."

"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," Kennedy says.

Fall semester classes begin at UMaine on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

Research Trials Show Irrigation Increases Potato Yield

31 Jul 2008

Contact: Peter Sexton, 207-764-3361

ORONO, ME--University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published a new bulletin for potato growers on increasing potato yield through properly managed irrigation. Although Maine normally receives ample annual precipitation, summers can be dry, and dry weather can cause drought stress and reduce potato crop yield. "Irrigating Potatoes in Maine" can be downloaded atno charge from www.extension.umaine.edu, or a printed copy can be purchased by calling 207-581-3792.

Derived from research trials over many seasons at Aroostook Research Farm in Presque Isle, "Irrigating Potatoes in Maine" was developed by Extension Crops Specialist Peter Sexton, Professor of Agronomy Gregory Porter, and Extension Crops Specialist Steven B. Johnson. Despite our recent wet weather, "you have to fix your roof when the sun shines, and you have to be prepared to irrigate before drought happens or you

NIH Grant to Fund Immunity Systems Research

31 Jul 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --In biomedical research, the zebrafish is used as a model organism because it has many biological traits that mimic those of humans. However, a greater understanding of the differences in their immunity systems could one day lead to therapies to better fight human disease.

With a five-year, \$1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, University of Maine microbiologist Carol Kim will conduct a comparative immunology study to shed light on the distinctions that evolved in the innate immunity systems of zebrafish and mammals, such as mice and humans. Her prediction is that identifying those unique disease-fighting molecular processes in the zebrafish will provide researchers with clues to finding similar defense mechanisms as yet unidentified in humans.

Unidentified components may be masked or maintain minor roles within the complex structure of mammals

Stuart MARRS Chosen for UMaine Associate Provost Role

04 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy has selected Stuart MARRS, a UMaine music professor and music division chair in the university's School of Performing Arts, to become associate provost and dean for undergraduate education.

The appointment is subject to approval by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees. The board's next meeting is Sept. 15.

MARRS is a renowned percussionist who has been a UMaine faculty member since 1985. His extensive academic background includes teaching, research and outreach throughout Maine, in several other states, in Latin America and in Europe.

"Stuart has great experience and a wealth of knowledge about the University of Maine," says Susan Hunter, UMaine's vice president for academic affairs and provost. "He is a student-centered professor who is highly regarded in our community and I am delighted that he will take on this important new role."

In the UMaine administrative structure, the associate provost and dean has broad responsibilities related to undergraduate education and oversees several offices within the enrollment management area.

"I am pleased and honored to be serving UMaine in this new capacity," MARRS says. "Undergraduate education is more important than ever and in this position I will strive to ensure we provide our students with the best educational opportunity."

Hunter preceded MARRS in the associate provost role. She was promoted to vice president and provost in May, when Edna Szymanski left UMaine to take a university presidency in Minnesota.

UMaine Announces Fund-Raising Leadership Changes

06 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- As the University of Maine begins the second half of its six-year, \$150 million private fund-raising campaign, the vice president who has led the effort to this point has decided to step down from that job.

Barbara Beers, who has served as UMaine's vice president for development, informed UMaine President Robert Kennedy of her intentions last month. Kennedy says he agreed to Beers' request to leave the vice presidency "with great reluctance."

Known as Campaign Maine, the current fund-raising initiative is the most ambitious in UMaine's history. During July, the campaign reached the \$90 million mark.

"Barbara has done a wonderful job, and her efforts as vice president will have a lasting impact on UMaine," Kennedy says. "She has built a strong fundraising infrastructure in our development office, and she has led our staff through some significant challenges as we have worked to develop the outstanding team that Barbara has put in place."

Kennedy has recommended Eric Rolfson, UMaine's associate vice president for development, to take over as vice president through the rest of Campaign Maine. Rolfson's appointment is subject to approval by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, which will next meet on Sept. 15.

"Eric is an accomplished, experienced fundraiser whose leadership has been critical to the success of Campaign Maine to this point," Kennedy says. "I am confident that the transition will be seamless and that our fundraising momentum will continue unabated."

Beers says she takes satisfaction in the campaign's success so far and that "the timing is right" for a change.

Kennedy has asked Rolfson and Beers to explore ways in which Beers might continue to work on Campaign Maine, bringing her considerable expertise and experience to that critical, ongoing effort.

"I have loved the job and have been honored to hold it," she says. "At the same time, I am looking forward to a calmer lifestyle and a more focused professional direction."

Lobster Institute Receives Funding for Lobster Health Coalition

08 Aug 2008

Contact: Prof. Bob Bayer, Lobster Institute, University of Maine
(207) 581-2785, bob.bayer@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Lobster Institute will initiate a project aimed at enhancing lobster health and preserving that commercial fishery, which has an estimated annual national economic impact of \$700 million- \$1.2 billion. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will provide \$178, 421 in funding for the Lobster Health Coalition, part of the Lobster Institute's Conservation, Outreach Research, and Education (CORE) initiative, which provides strategic framework for the institute's academic and outreach activities.

"We must be proactive in sustaining both the lobster resource and the lobster industry, which employs thousands of citizens, many in economically depressed areas," says Prof. Robert Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute. "The lobster fishery's continued success is particularly dependent on the long-term health of the lobster and its habitat,

both of which are major and continuing research priorities of the Lobster Institute through its C.O.R.E. Initiative. We have Maine's Congressional delegation to thank for helping us secure this much-needed funding to monitor the health of the premier fishery of the Northeast."

Bayer notes that thousands of Maine people depend on lobstering for their livelihoods, including 5,800 who hold commercial licenses to fish for lobsters. The fishery's 2007 landings totaled approximately 56 million pounds, valued at approximately \$248,000,000. These account for about 80% of total U.S. landings. In addition, the American lobster ranked second on the U.S. seafood export list, ranked by dollar value, in 2006.

The Lobster Health Coalition will include scientists and industry representatives from throughout the lobster fishing regions of the Northeast U.S. and Atlantic Canada. The coalition will work to collect baseline lobster health data, and encourage coordinated research to address lobster health issues.

"This format will allow us to collaborate and to build upon work that's already been done," Bayer says. "It help us us to be efficient, to avoid duplication and to move toward the research stage quickly. The coalition will also unify efforts to obtain the necessary research funding."

Bayer and his Lobster Institute colleagues will work closely with Deborah Bouchard, manager of the Maine Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory (MAAHL) at UMaine.

"We intend to develop a region-wide lobster health program focusing on pathogenbiology and disease epidemiology - with strategies for prevalence testing, disease diagnostics, and health management," Bouchard says.

She also points out that the coalition will use a 2007 MAAHL project as a model for regional sampling. That project included bacterial screening, viral testing, histology and electronmicroscopy of samples taken from ambient wild lobster populations.

Bayer and Bouchard are co-principal investigators on the Lobster Health Coalition project.

"A successful coalition will create a major communications channel among and scientists and those who work in the industry," Bayer says. "It will be instrumental in safeguarding the lobster stock from current and rapidly emerging diseases, thus helping secure the future viability of the lobster industry. Once firmly established this coalition will serve as a model for tackling other issues of concern to the lobster industry -- a model that can then translate to other fisheries as well."

Those interested in more information about the Lobster Health Coalition should contact the Lobster Institute at (207) 581-2751.

Internship Helps High School Senior with Environmental Science Research

11 Aug 2008

Contact: Howard Patterson, 581-1178, George Manlove, 581-03756

ORONO -- Bangor High School senior Anne Marie Lausier has been immersed in some pretty sophisticated, college-level research this summer at the University of Maine, thanks to a national research internship for high schoolers. She says she's loving every minute of it.

Lausier won a seven-week MERITS (Maine Research Internships for Teachers and Students) internship in UMaine's Department of Chemistry this summer, helping researchers study algae levels in a local lake to measure pollution to see if remedial measures are required. Under the supervision of chemistry Professor Howard Patterson and graduate

student Qiong Wang, Lausier works routinely with tiny sensors and a spectrofluorimeter, a device that uses light of different wavelengths to compare and measure chlorophyll, found in algae, and see how adding copper sulfate to water samples can improve water quality.

Some of the research also has included testing water for pharmaceuticals contamination resulting from improper disposal of medications.

"Participating in the MERITS program has been an amazing opportunity for me," says Lausier, who has now decided environmental chemistry is what she wants to study when she gets to college. "This has been a perfect chance for me to conduct real research and to determine if chemistry is something I would like to do as a career. I love that I can take what I have learned and apply it in a positive way. With the algae project we're going to be able to protect water and it's going to make a difference for people. "

High school students in Maine apply for MERITS research internships and are evaluated by administrators at the Maine Space Grant Consortium, part of a national network funded by NASA through its National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. If accepted, the students are paid for the work they do.

Patterson is particularly pleased with the selection process that matched Lausier with UMaine, and says she has been a quick study in a scientific world typically occupied by researchers with advanced college degrees. He would like more school students, teachers, parents and guidance counselors to be aware of the MERITS research program. The more exposure the program receives, the easier it is to attract funding from a variety of sources, he says.

Patterson adds that if qualified high school students contact him, he will do his best to find a way to get them into college-level research here.

"This is a chance for providing high school students in the state of Maine a way to see what real science is about and to give them a push to get into real science," he says.

Patterson adds that programs like the MERITS internships demonstrate that talented local students don't have to leave the area to obtain first-rate research experience. The program also places high school students in other research facilities and laboratories throughout the country, including about 20 Maine students who have a choice of more than 75 technology-based businesses and research institutions in Maine.

"I think the program is super successful and one of the few programs that makes a difference in career possibilities in the future," he says. "I also think it's a program that very few people know about."

More information about the MERITS program can be found at the Maine Space Grant Consortium website (www.msgc.org). Patterson can be reached at (207) 581-1178.

UMaine Extension Offers Canning Recommendations

11 Aug 2008

Contact: Beth Calder, 207-581-2791

ORONO, ME--University of Maine Cooperative Extension is advising Mainers to get up-to-date information before canning their garden harvest. Botulism can occur when safe canning methods are not used, because botulism-producing bacteria thrive under the low-oxygen conditions found in canned foods, and at food pH levels above 4.6. UMaine Extension county offices can provide current canning information.

Rising food costs have inspired many Mainers to plant new or expanded gardens this year with an eye to preserving their harvest. Yet many people may not know that vegetables that are not pickled (including pumpkin and squash)--as well as meat, poultry, fish, and seafood--must be canned using a pressure canner, because these foods have a low acid content. This is why canning salsa has been a hot topic this year: some tomatoes do not have enough acidity to make a safe canned salsa. The National Center for Home Food Preservation recommends adding two tablespoons of bottled lemon juice or a half teaspoon of citric acid per quart of whole, crushed or juiced tomatoes before water-bath canning.

Match the canner to the food

There are two types of home canning methods: boiling-water-bath canners and pressure canners. The type of canner that you use should be based upon the type of food you are preserving. According to UMaine Food Science Specialist Beth Calder, fruits, pickled foods, sauerkraut, marmalades, fruit spreads, jams, jellies, fruit butters (except for pumpkin) and salsa can be safely preserved using the water-bath canning method. "However, make sure you use a scientifically tested recipe from a reputable resource," she says.

All other foods should be preserved using a pressure canner. This is because botulism-producing bacteria produce spores that can survive boiling water temperatures, but are destroyed using a pressure canner with the appropriate time and pressure, which reaches temperatures between 240 and 250 degrees F.

Dial-type pressure gauges should be checked annually for accuracy. Extension offices are equipped to test some gauges. In other case, consumers can contact National Presto Industries, Inc. to have dial gauge tests (this process can take up to two weeks.) Call 800-368-2194, e-mail contact@gopresto.com, or write to Test Kitchen, National Presto Industries, Inc., 3925 North Hastings Way, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703-3703.

Use the right types of jars and seals

Only glass mason-type jars with self-sealing lids and screw bands should be used. Avoid older glass canning jars with the wire bales and rubber rings. Also, the use of paraffin wax in jam or jelly products does not ensure a proper seal and is no longer recommended.

Resources for home canning

UMaine Extension publishes the Let

Goodell Elected Vice President of International Forest Products Society

13 Aug 2008

Contact: Barry Goodell, 581-2888

ORONO -- Barry Goodell, UMaine professor of wood science and technology, was elected vice president of the Forest Products Society at the 62nd International Convention held in St. Louis, Mo., June 22-24.

With 3,000 members and subscribers around the world, the Wisconsin-based Forest Products Society is a global leader in technical information transfer in the field, furthering the socially beneficial use of wood and fiber resources, according to the society's website. The Society is an international nonprofit technical association founded in 1947 to provide an informational network for all segments of the forest products industry -- from standing tree to finished products.

The society's members represent public and private research, development, industrial management, production, marketing, education, engineering, sales, supply and consulting interests.

Goodell has been at the University of Maine since 1983.

New Barkan Book Details Myths, Realities of Crime and Justice

14 Aug 2008

Contact: Steve Barkan, (207) 581-2383; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- On almost every television detective show on any given night of the week, it seems to take the police just a matter of hours to solve the crime and nab the criminal. If only that were true in real life.

Such wishful outcomes are not the reality that police, prosecutors and crime victims experience. In fact, only 10 percent of all street crimes and only about 40 percent of all serious violent crimes result in an arrest, according to two sociologists, one from the University of Maine, who just released a book on the subject.

Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice: What Every American Should Know

attempts to not only set the record straight, but give the public a sober but insightful look at how crime and punishment really works in the United States.

"It's kind of a summary of why crime happens and how the criminal justice system works," says Steve Barkan, UMaine professor of sociology and coauthor of the book with Georg Bryjak, former professor of sociology at the University of San Diego.

The book will appeal to "anyone who is interested in any of these things, which should include just about everyone in the country," Barkan says.

Given America's fascination with crime, criminals and criminal justice, Barkan expects the book will be popular with the general public. The book should be "required reading" for law enforcement personnel, state lawmakers and reporters who cover crime, courts and criminal justice, he suggests. It offers statistical information about crime, dispels some of the myths fomented by the popular media, and in 14 chapters provides a comprehensive exploration of crime statistics, criminals, police, courts and punishment.

"This short, readily accessible book discusses what crime is all about and how the criminal justice system really works, as opposed to how it is supposed to work," Barkan says.

The final chapter in the book specifically addresses solutions to some of the flaws in the criminal justice system and common-sense ways average citizens can reduce the chances of becoming victims of crime and, also, how parents can lessen the chances their children will wind up on the wrong side of the law.

Information about Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice: What Every American Should Know is available by contacting Jones & Bartlett Publishers (www.jbpub.com/criminaljustice) in Sudbury, Mass. (978-443-5000) or by contacting Barkan at (207) 581-2383. The book is also available on Amazon and other electronic sellers.

UMaine to Test Emergency Sirens Friday, Aug. 22 at 5 p.m.

15 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

The University of Maine will conduct a full-scale test of its emergency warning siren system on Friday, Aug. 22 at 5 p.m.

As part of its comprehensive emergency communications system, UMaine installed one siren on the roof of Class of 1944 Hall last summer. To assure full campus coverage, additional sirens have been added at Androscoggin Hall and York Hall.

Friday's test will serve two purposes. It will verify that all the mechanisms are in proper working order and it will allow for an assessment of the system's coverage area.

The test will begin at 5 p.m. with five minutes at partial volume, followed by three minutes at full volume.

It is likely that the sound will be audible in parts of Orono and Old Town.

In UMaine's emergency communications system, the siren serves as a signal that there is a serious issue and those who are on campus should seek information. In an emergency, information will be posted on UMaine's website and its on-campus email and conferencing system. In addition, a recorded message at 581-INFO will provide details about the emergency. UMaine students, faculty members and staff members may also register with UMaine.txt (www.umaine.edu/umainetxt), a system that provides emergency text messages to user cell phones.

HIV/AIDS Among Older Adults A 'Graying Epidemic'

18 Aug 2008

Contact: Sandy Butler, (207) 581-2382; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- The majority of the nation's baby boomers are now passing age 50, and so too is a growing population of HIV/AIDS patients -- a phenomenon that health care systems may not be prepared to handle, says University of Maine gerontologist Sandy Butler.

"People with HIV/AIDS are aging like the rest of the population," Butler says. "Twenty-seven percent of the people with HIV/AIDS are over 50. The thought is that within the next decade, about half of the people with HIV/AIDS will be over 50. It's becoming very evident that it is an issue of older adults."

Butler, a professor of social work, will moderate a special colloquium to address the matter Sept. 26 at Buchanan Alumni House on College Avenue. Sponsored by UMaine's Center on Aging and the School of Social Work, the National Institute on Aging and the AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (www.acria.org), the colloquium is free and designed for the medical and healthcare community, social workers, service providers, nursing students and researchers.

Butler says prevention education has been successful with at-risk populations.

Surveys have shown that heterosexual sex is now the leading cause of HIV/AIDS infection, she says.

Contrary to popular belief, the chief reason for this "graying epidemic" of HIV/AIDS in older adults isn't the invention of impotency drugs, but rather the availability as of 1996 of the combination therapy HAART (Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy), Butler says.

"More people are surviving the disease and having sex throughout their lives, and if they are having sex with strangers, they are putting themselves at risk," she says. "Also, if they are a part of this growing demographic of older people contracting HIV/AIDS, they are not as likely to be diagnosed. When people think about HIV/AIDS, they tend to think about young people. We need to change the way we think about it."

What also needs to change to improve the testing, diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS sufferers is the stigma attached to the disease. Too many people with HIV/AIDS become secretive, reclusive and depressed, she says.

The Sept. 26 conference, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., is free and designed to draw attention and education to policies, practices and attitudes, Butler says. For information about the conference, call the UMaine School of Social Work at (207) 581-2398 or visit the Center on Aging website (www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging) for a link to the colloquium flyer.

Keynote speaker for the colloquium is Mark Brennan, senior research scientist at the Center on HIV and Aging, AIDS Community Research Initiatives of America. Other Speakers include a clinical social worker at Acadia Hospital in Bangor, an AIDS activist and a clinical social worker from the Northern Maine HIV Program at Regional Medical Center in Lubec.

Registration Now Open for Watershed Stewards Program

18 Aug 2008

Contact: Laura Wilson 207-581-2971

Waldoboro, ME-- University of Maine Cooperative Extension next Watershed Stewards Program begins on Sept. 19 at the Miller School in Waldoboro. This program will take place weekly through Oct. 30, with sessions held Thursday evenings from 6:30

UMaine Contemporary Art Exhibition 'Without Borders' Opens Aug. 22

19 Aug 2008

Contact: Professor Owen F. Smith (207) 581-4389 ORONO -- "Seriously, Funny," the fifth iteration of the annual exhibition series "Without Borders," a melding of culture, art and technology involving UMaine Intermedia graduate students and artists from around the country, opens Aug. 22 at Lord Hall Galleries. The show runs through Sept. 26, with a public opening reception and a performance by artist and musician Jeremy Boyle, is scheduled Friday, Sept. 12, from 5-7 p.m. at Lord Hall on the University of Maine campus. Over the last five years, the Without Borders Contemporary Art Festival has been an important part of the development of the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts at UMaine. Since the first show in 2004, the festival has brought together UMaine graduate students with professional artists from across the U.S. and the world to explore and present the evolving nature of creative expression. The event this year continues the tradition by focusing on the use of humor as a means to interrogate cultural, political and social concerns. Seriously, Funny is sponsored by the Department of Art, the Department of New Media, the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts Program, the Graduate School, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Student Affairs. Among this year's participants are: christophermichaelsullivan (CMS) (<http://christophermichaelsullivan.com>), an art firm that creates work analyzing how process, material and meaning circulate through society. Jill Miller (<http://www.jillmiller.net>), a San Francisco-based artist renowned for her performance and installation work, is contributing "I am Making Art, Too," a video-performance that remixes seminal conceptual artist John Baldassari's "I am Making Art" with Miller's break-dancing moves over rapper Missy Elliott's "Work It" to raise questions about women's roles in art history, authorship, appropriation, and the nature of the artistic gesture in video art. The Institute for Infinitely Small Things conducts creative, participatory research that aims to temporarily transform public spaces dominated by non-public agendas. Using performance and conversation, the artists investigate social and political "tiny things," including corporate ads, street names and post-9/11 security terminology. Karen Hanmer (<http://www.karenhanmer.com>), a Chicago bookbinder and installation artists whose work weds the ancient act of bookbinding with the high-tech use of the computer to aid her process. Her works often take the forms of games or puzzles, and many include witty text. Lewis Colburn, a graduate student at Syracuse University, whose work focuses on hypothetical narratives that combine miscommunications, humor and familiar actions with repurposed objects, video, performance, photography and sculpture to forge new stories of everyday life. Amy Jean Porter (<http://www.amyjeanporter.com>), a visual artist from New Haven, Conn., whose work in this year's exhibit, "Birds of North Africa Speak French and English Both at Once," combines natural history illustration and linguistic blurriness to create new, irreverent takes on everyday situations and circumstances. Laura Nova, a visual artist in video, sculpture

and installation, whose work is rooted in social relationships and literalized emotions. Using the gallery and site-specific spaces, she creates installations using a wide range of media to explore concepts of public and private behavior and the relationship between the human body and architecture. Sheridan Kelley, a UMaine assistant professor who works across a wide-stratum of media, from her classical training in painting to performance and video artworks. Kelley is contributing two video works: "World's Strongest Man," and "I am Waiting." UMaine graduate student Tyler McPhee, a co-curator of *Without Borders V*, recently completed an installation, "Crikey!" for *Seriously, Funny*. Employing a sense of humor in his work, McPhee, in *Crikey!*, investigates the museum as a site of artistic experience through an imaginary natural history museum alligator diorama. Justin Kemp, a recent MFA graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Justin presents a multiple video work to the show, focusing on the intersection of new media technologies with human social interaction, art historical critique and irreverent mash-ups of song and mapping technology. Jeremy Boyle (<http://jeremyboyle.com>), a faculty member at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, is a multi-media artist who works across sound, sculpture and performance. He or, rather, his self-playing drum set and guitar will perform at the reception Sept. 12.

UMaine Students to Volunteer at Community Agencies on Saturday

20 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORON0 -- A group of University of Maine student leaders will provide community service at six local agencies on Saturday, Aug. 24. The students, all resident assistants in UMaine residence halls, will establish or solidify connections with those agencies during Saturday's activities. UMaine officials hope this will lead to even stronger relationships and an increase in student volunteerism during the upcoming academic year.

The university can document 55,000 student volunteer hours during the 2007-2008 academic year, but the real number is much higher.

"Our students really stand for community involvement and helping those in need," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "As the need among our friends and neighbors becomes more acute, we want to create more opportunities for our students to experience the fulfillment that comes with giving of ourselves.

"RAs are real student leaders, in our residence halls and across campus," Dana continues. "We hope that Saturday's experience will provide them with the inspiration and ideas to bring into the residence halls when our students return later this month."

Saturday's schedule is as follows:

- *The RAs of Oxford and Somerset halls will be at the Bangor Humane Society from 8 a.m.-noon.*
- *The RAs of Gannett and Cumberland halls will be at Manna Ministries from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
- *The RAs of Balentine, Penobscot, Estabrooke, Patch, DTAV and Stodder halls will be at Crossroads from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
- *The RAs of York, Aroostook and Kennebec halls will be at River Coalition from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
- *The RAs of Knox and Androscoggin halls will be at Hands of Hope from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
- *The RAs of Hart, Hancock and Oak halls will be at the Bangor Homeless Shelter from noon - 5 p.m.*

UMaine's new first-year students will move into residence halls on Friday, Aug. 29. Fall semester classes begin on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

UMaine Sponsors Tree Tour of Mackworth Island

21 Aug 2008

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

FALMOUTH, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tree tour of Mackworth Island in Falmouth, on Friday, September 12 from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. Dennis Brennan, district forester with the Maine Forest Service and Thomas Rawinski, botanist, USDA Forest Service, will lead the tour. Brennan and Rawinski will identify trees, invasive plants, and discuss and demonstrate forest mensuration (the measurement of volume, growth and development of individual trees and stands). Mackworth Island consists of 100 acres. It is a legislated bird sanctuary that includes a wide variety of tree species and a perimeter trail that offers scenic views of Casco Bay. This event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested. Please call the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, Sept. 8.

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.

Traditional Maine Hello Program Set for Aug. 29

25 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Hundreds of University of Maine faculty, staff and student volunteers will greet the members of UMaine's Class of 2012 when the new first-year students arrive on campus Friday, Aug. 29. The program runs from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Known as the "Maine Hello," the traditional welcoming features more volunteers than ever this year. New students and their families simply drive up to residence halls, accept a warm greeting and stand back as the student's belongings are carried to the student's new room by volunteers.

"The 'Maine Hello' gives the new members of our community immediate insight into the warm and welcoming nature of the University of Maine," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "We all enjoy meeting the new students and those who accompany them on move-in day, and it sets the tone for an important weekend leading up to the start of classes."

The new students will be busy for the four days leading up to the beginning of classes on Tuesday, Sept. 2. A series of Fall Welcome Weekend activities are planned, to help students get acclimated to life at UMaine and to be prepared to begin their studies. One highlight will be the Class of 2012 Convocation, scheduled for Memorial Gym at 5 p.m. on Friday. The guest speaker is Arthur Serota, a 1966 UMaine graduate who is executive director of the United Movement to End Child Soldiering in Northern Uganda, Africa.

Friday's move-in activities will take place in the residence halls reserved for UMaine first-year students: Oxford, Somerset, Knox, Androscoggin, Gannett and Cumberland. President Robert Kennedy will participate in the initiative and will be available for interviews. Reporters interested in finding Kennedy on Friday morning should call Joe Carr at 949-4149.

UMaine Bureau of Labor Education Updates Employment Law Guide

26 Aug 2008

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Bureau of Labor Education has recently completed a revised update of A Maine Guide to Employment Law.

Employment law encompasses a myriad of statutes that deal with work and employee-employer relations. Over time, these laws evolve through political, administrative and judicial processes at state and federal levels. As a result, many employees and employers often are unaware of their rights and responsibilities, according to Bureau of Labor Education Director Bill Murphy.

The new Guide addresses a number of employment laws in a question-and-answer format, and includes a comprehensive index.

"Our continuing objective is to provide important information on employee rights, protections and responsibilities under a number of federal and state statutes, in easy-to-understand language," says Murphy.

The Guide covers state and federal laws as they apply to employment discrimination, occupational health and safety, work-related injuries and diseases, unemployment compensation, organizing and collective bargaining in the public and private sectors, among other issues.

The Guide is an evolution of previous editions, representing the collective efforts and contributions of many of the bureau's past and present staff members, including project staff Gabrielle Berube and attorney James Davitt, who "worked diligently" conducting the research, compilation and writing for the updated edition, says Murphy.

To insure legal accuracy and clarity, the publication has been reviewed by employment law authorities, including attorneys specializing in employment law and government officials responsible for enforcing the statutes. Murphy emphasizes that the book is a guide only and should not serve as a substitute for legal advice from attorneys, government officials or labor leaders.

The Bureau of Labor Education offers educational programs on employee legal rights, protections, and responsibilities for a wide variety of groups, including: employees in the public and private sectors; leaders, officers, and staff of unions; community groups; educators and students; government officials, and public policy makers. There is a minimum program charge to cover expenses. To obtain a copy of the Guide, for \$5, or to arrange for a bureau employment law program, contact the bureau by telephone (581-4124) or by e-mail (labored@maine.edu).

UMaine Students Head North to Offer Public Health Education to Schoolchildren, Migrant Workers

26 Aug 2008

Contact: Crisanne Blackie, 581-2587; Aimee Guy, 233-9143, George Manlove, 581-3756

A dozen University of Maine students planning careers in healthcare, dentistry and optometry left the Orono campus Monday for four days of volunteer work, providing health education programs to Northern Maine migrant workers and children in rural and underserved communities in Aroostook County.

This is the third year UMaine's Health and Legal Professions Advising Office has sent students north as part of the university's community outreach initiatives and to expose students to rural areas in the state that are underserved by healthcare professionals, says Crisanne Blackie, a health and legal professions career specialist with UMaine's Career Center.

Students typically meet with 200-300 students in Headstart and area elementary and middle schools, and about 150 migrant workers on broccoli farms over the four days. They also visit Northern Maine high school students to encourage them to consider careers in healthcare and medicine, beginning with pre-professional preparation at UMaine.

Students are visiting schools, community centers and farm worker communities in Caribou, Presque Isle, Ashland, Limestone, Fort Kent, Wallagrass, Wisdom, Eagle Lake, Westfield and Little Feathers through Thursday, Aug. 28.

Blackie says part of the initiative is to expose the students planning careers in healthcare to rural areas where services may be limited, with the hope that they will return as healthcare professionals to work in underserved areas later.

"We started this because we wanted students to gain more exposure to the healthcare needs of rural and underserved populations," Blackie says. "A lot of times, students are asked to come back while they're in medical school to do a rotation in a rural area. Sometimes, students don't know what a rural area means."

Nearly 13,000 migrant workers are registered to work seasonally in Maine, according to Blackie. Career Center's Cathy Marquez says the volunteer work also exposes UMaine students to a total immersion into Spanish-speaking communities, where they sometimes cook and eat with working families. The service-learning experience also can enhance a student's application to medical school, Marquez says.

Marquez adds that rural Maine is in dire need of new healthcare professionals, specifically dentists and physicians. The pre-medical program at UMaine encourages students to consider establishing practices in Maine after they become professionally certified.

The student visits to The County are funded by and coordinated with the Acadia Health Education Coalition based in Bangor and supported by the Maine Migrant Health Program in Augusta.

To reach members of the UMaine delegation, call Aimee Guy, who is accompanying the students, at 233-9143, or the UMaine Career Center at 581-1359.

Class of 2012--Largest in History--Arrives at UMaine

29 Aug 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Some 700 student, faculty and staff volunteers were on hand this morning at the University of Maine to welcome the university's largest-ever first-year class. In keeping with UMaine tradition, arriving students and their families are met by "Maine Hello" volunteers who assist in the move-in process.

While the numbers will change slightly over the next several days, there are an estimated 2,173 students in the Class of 2012, an increase of 201 over the class that enrolled last year. Seventy-seven percent of the new first-year students are Maine residents. Most of the year-to-year increase is attributable to an estimated 34 percent increase in first-year students from outside Maine.

UMaine projects a total fall enrollment of slightly more than 12,000 students. This fall marks 11 consecutive years of enrollment increases, and the total student population will be the largest in UMaine history, approximately 1.9 percent larger than last year's.

"The choice of a place to pursue higher education is a major life decision, and we are gratified that so many students are choosing UMaine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "UMaine has a unique statewide mission, the centerpiece of which is providing a high-quality, high-value comprehensive experience for our students. This core

strength amplifies UMaine's ability to serve our state and to have a positive impact beyond Maine's borders."

Despite the larger number of first-year students, the primary indicators of academic preparedness remain unchanged from last year. The average SAT score is 1079 and 22 percent of the new first-year students were in the top ten percent of their high school class.

Students from 47 states and 47 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 first-year and total enrollment comparisons reflect adjustments to discount those students who enrolled at University College of Bangor when it was affiliated with UMaine for several years, ending in 1995. Please contact Joe Carr (581-3571) if you would like more details.

Nominations Sought for University of Maine Foundation 75th Anniversary Honors

02 Sep 2008

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation President/CEO, 207 581-5100

ORONO -- On June 9, 1934, the University of Maine Class of 1909 presented a check for \$1,000 to the newly formed University of Maine Foundation. The foundation's investment of that gift and the many gifts that followed has resulted in total assets now exceeding \$185 million. This includes \$145 million of endowed funds that provide scholarships and other forms of financial support for University of Maine students, faculty and programs.

The foundation is planning a 75th anniversary celebration on June 9, 2009 with a reception and dinner that will honor five University of Maine alumni who were able to earn an education and go on to contribute to their profession and their community in momentous ways because of the scholarship assistance they received at UMaine. The foundation is seeking nominations to help identify candidates for this recognition.

Members of the selection committee include volunteers with a strong commitment to UMaine and knowledge of its history, appointed by the foundation. Robert Daigle a 1971 UMaine graduate, president and chief executive officer of Camden National Corporation, will chair the selection committee.

"Enabling aspiring students to realize their dream of a college education through the benefit of scholarship aid and, in turn, seeing these same individuals make a profound impact on societal well-being is the ultimate reward for those of us who choose to support the University of Maine through the foundation," says Daigle. "Our committee's charge to identify just five alumni out of the hundreds of successful UMaine graduates who are making a difference will be both challenging and rewarding."

Nominees for the award must be UMaine graduates who have not been honored previously by UMaine, its Alumni Association or the foundation. Nominees must be living, presently active in their profession and/or community and must be noted for their dedication, advancement and commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.

Names may be submitted by mail to the University of Maine Foundation, 75th Anniversary Selection Committee, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792 or by e-mail at round@maine.edu. Those submitting nominations should include their name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address with their submission no later than Friday, September 19, 2008.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that exists to encourage gifts and bequests. It is designed to nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the

University of Maine. The Foundation's offices are located at Buchanan Alumni House, Orono, ME and the website is www.umainefoundation.org.

UMaine Fraternity Holding Fourth Annual Campout for YouthAIDS

03 Sep 2008

Contact: Patrick Pittis at patrick_pittis@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- They just moved in and they're already camping out. Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) fraternity at the University of Maine is hosting the annual Camp Out for YouthAIDS on the corner of the UMaine's Mall, near Fogler Library. SigEp will be on the mall collecting donations for YouthAIDS through Friday Sept. 5.

This campout is one of SigEp's biggest events all year and usually pulls in about \$1,500, all of which gets donated to spread awareness of AIDS to people from the ages of 15-24. The students in SigEp ask anyone with a spare dollar or some change to stop by and donate to help make this the largest donation yet. If everyone on campus donates \$1, SigEp will make well in excess of \$10,000.

YouthAIDS, an education and prevention program of Population Services International (PSI), uses media, pop culture, music, theatre and sports to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and reach 600 million young people in more than 60 countries with life-saving messages, products, services and care.

Owen McCarthy, president of SigEp, says, "Youth AIDS is a problem that not only affects one nation, but is an issue that branches into many different cultures. This is an effort where we believe SigEp at the University of Maine can make an impact globally. This fits perfectly with our quest to become 'balanced leaders for the world's communities.' We appreciate the support of the campus and the greater Orono community."

Sociologist to Document Workplace Harassment of Older Workers

03 Sep 2008

Contact: Amy Blackstone, 581-2392; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine sociologist Amy Blackstone has received a \$125,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to fund a two-year study of workplace harassment of older workers in Maine.

Conventional thinking may associate workplace harassment with younger or culturally different demographic groups, but given the state's aging workforce, Blackstone says now is an especially important time to become familiar with the workplace experiences of older adults. Beginning this fall, the assistant professor of sociology will survey as many as 800 Maine workers, age 62 and older, to determine how they perceive and handle harassment at work.

Blackstone hopes to find out how stature at work affects harassment experiences, and how stature at work, home and in the community may affect responses to those experiences.

By bringing together several areas of sociological inquiry, including age, power, victimization and mobilization, the study will provide new information, which could be used as the basis for modifying policies or employment laws to raise awareness about situations that may create opportunities for employee harassment or discrimination. The findings from the study will be published, and used to develop a larger-scale comparative investigation of workplace harassment over worker life cycles.

It also will promote teaching, training and learning by engaging UMaine undergraduate and graduate-level research assistants, offering students experience with data collection, analysis, writing and collaboration with local agencies.

UMaine Student Excels in International Nature Photography Competition

05 Sep 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- A UMaine graduate student has won runner-up honors in a prestigious international conservation and nature photography competition. Dane Wojcicki was honored in the student category of the International Conservation Photography Awards 2008 competition. His photograph of a bird, a juvenile Dunlin, was taken on a recent University of Maine phytoplankton research cruise off the coast of Iceland, with a Nikon D80 camera and a 60mm macro lens. Wojcicki, of Amherst, N.H., is working toward a master of arts degree in new media, with a focus on documentary photography and videography of natural history and science. Wojcicki's photo was selected from more than 1,000 entries, and was one of only two student award winners this year. The International Conservation Photography Awards (ICP Awards) competition is a premier worldwide photography event. The biennial juried photo competition will include an online exhibit, a six-week museum gallery show at the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle, Wash., and publication in a photography magazine. Created in 1997 by nature photographer Art Wolfe, the International Conservation Photography Awards competition is designed as "an event for the advancement of photography as a unique medium, capable of bringing awareness and preservation to our environment through art," according to its website (www.icpawards.com). More info on the ICP Awards can be found at the ICP Awards website at <http://www.icpawards.com>.

Barkan Elected President of Prestigious Sociology Society

08 Sep 2008

Contact: Steve Barkan, (207) 581-2383

ORONO -- Steven Barkan, UMaine professor of sociology, recently became president of the national Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP). He will serve a one-year term through August 2009.

Ballots were cast by the society's national membership through email. Barkan served the previous year as president-elect.

As president, Barkan will work with the organization's executive office on various organizational matters and will preside over and deliver a presidential address at the SSSP annual meeting next August in San Francisco. The meeting theme chosen by Barkan will be "Race, Ethnicity, and the Continuing Problem of the Color Line." A copy of the theme statement is available on the SSSP website (www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageId/1229).

SSSP is a non-profit organization comprising an interdisciplinary community of up to 2,000 scholars, practitioners, advocates and students of sociology and other social sciences who are interested in the application of scientific and humanistic perspectives to the study of critical social problems.

Former Senator Mitchell, Environmental Scholar Tucker at UMaine Sept. 18

09 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Editors note: a full house is expected for this event, so we have not provided ticket information. News coverage is welcome and an audio mult box will be available to assist in recording the event.

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 at the University of Maine for a Thursday, Sept. 18 event.

Mitchell, who represented Maine in the Senate for 15 years beginning in 1980, will speak at the second UMaine Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on the Environment. Mary Evelyn Tucker, an expert on the role of religion and religious movements in confronting environmental issues, will present the lecture, "The Environmental Crisis as a Moral and Spiritual Challenge." The event begins at 1 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.

Tucker is a Senior Lecturer in Religion and the Environment at Yale University. She is co-founder and co-director of the Forum on Religion and Ecology, which works to broaden understanding of the nature of contemporary environmental issues. Tucker is also a research associate at the Harvard-Yenching Institute and the Reischauer Institute at Harvard.

Machias Savings Bank Gift Supports Hutchinson Center Expansion Campaign

09 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST, Me. -- A new gift from Machias Savings Bank boosts private fundraising for the University of Maine Hutchinson Center expansion project past the \$1.3 million mark, bringing the campaign to within \$700,000 of its \$2 million goal.

Located in Belfast, the Hutchinson Center brings UMaine academic programming and outreach to counties throughout Maine. Machias Savings Bank has 13 locations throughout Washington, Aroostook, Penobscot, Hancock and Knox counties.

The new expansion, now under construction, will double the current classroom space and will include a New Media space, which will allow students to participate in one of the university's most popular academic programs.

"We are pleased to participate in the expansion of the Hutchinson Center," says James Donnelly, the bank's regional vice president. "It offers people from the coastal Maine area the opportunity to continue their education and hone their management and leadership skills."

A prominent space in the new wing at the Hutchinson Center will bear the Machias Savings Bank name.

The addition includes two science labs that will allow the center to offer nursing programs and will enable students to fulfill pre-med and pre-engineering requirements at the Hutchinson Center. An art room will permit space for art classes and creative work that cannot take place in the existing facility. All new classrooms are designed for multiple uses, according to Sue McCullough, Hutchinson Center director.

The expansion is a \$4 million project. Two million dollars will be raised through revenue bonds to be funded from income from the Hutchinson Center. The \$2 million balance will come from the private fundraising campaign. The official groundbreaking was held in June, and the new facility is expected to open in the summer of 2009.

For information about the campaign, call Sue McCullough at 207-338-8000.

Business, Community Leader Correll to Present First UMaine Distinguished Presidential Lecture

10 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A.D. "Pete" Correll, a 1966 University of Maine graduate and retired president/CEO of Georgia-Pacific, will return to his alma mater on Wednesday, Sept. 17 to present UMaine's inaugural Distinguished Presidential Lecture.

The presentation is scheduled for 4 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall.

"Pete Correll has reached professional heights rivaled by only a few graduates in UMaine's long history," says President Robert Kennedy. "Moreover, he has had an incredible impact on the lives of his fellow citizens -- particularly near his home in Atlanta -- through his visionary community leadership and philanthropy. He is an exemplary representative of the University of Maine, and we are pleased and proud that he has accepted our invitation to give this talk."

The Distinguished Presidential Lecture Series was created to provide a forum for highly accomplished individuals with ties to UMaine to share their personal stories and their perspectives on important societal issues of interest to the UMaine community. Lecturers are selected and invited by the university president.

The title of Correll's talk is "Lessons I Have Learned: Reflections on Higher Education, Economic Vitality and a Civil Society."

In addition to 14 years (1991-2005) leading Georgia-Pacific, Correll has also served in volunteer leadership roles of several Georgia non-profit organizations, including Grady Memorial Hospital, the Carter Center, the University of Georgia Foundation, the Emory University School of Medicine, the Georgia Research Alliance and Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

Georgia Trend Magazine named him Most Respected Business Leader in 2006.

UMaine Accepting "ArtWorks" Registration for Fall Session

10 Sep 2008

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Art is accepting applications for the fall 2008 after-school ArtWorks program, allowing area children, kindergarten through grade 6 to explore the world of art through hands-on experiences in a variety of art media.

ArtWorks classes will be held Oct. 17 through Nov. 14, from 3:30-5 p.m., on consecutive Friday afternoons 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 will be supervised by Constant Albertson, associate professor of art.

Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis until the class is filled. 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.

For more information or to obtain registration forms, please contact Albertson at constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu or call the Art Department at 581-3245.

Fall 2008 Lecture Series Topics Include Jihadists, Middle East, Fair Trade, Climate

10 Sep 2008

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The fall 2008 Socialist and Marxist Studies Series focuses this season on a variety of controversial topics of public interest, including: dealing with Jihadists; Israel, Palestine and Iran and the threat of war; fair trade coffee and NAFTA; and climate change.

Sponsored by Marxist-Socialist Studies interdisciplinary minor, the series is coordinated by philosophy professor Doug Allen and held Thursdays, 12:30-1:45 in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise specified. The program is supported by Campus Activities and Events and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and cosponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee. Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints.

The schedule is as follows:

Sept. 11: "Mahatma Gandhi and Socialism," with professor Doug Allen;

Sept. 18: "Going to War: Israel, Palestine and Iran," with history professor Alex Grab;

Sept. 25: "The Two Fair Trade Movements: Bridging the Divide Between Buying Coffee and Repealing NAFTA," with Sarah Bigney, UMaine graduate and organizer at the Maine Fair Trade Campaign, a statewide coalition of 50 organizations for building a just, sustainable and democratic economy;

Oct. 2: "Climate, Economics, Growth and Happiness," with professor Mark Anderson, senior instructor in the School of Economics, and Coordinator, Ecology & Environmental Sciences Program;

Oct. 16: "Coming to Terms with the Jihadists," with Moorhead Kennedy, who began thinking seriously about Islamic extremists while some of them held him hostage in Iran, 1979-1981. A Foreign Service Arabist, he is a long-time student and lecturer on Islamic Law and on contemporary political and cultural crises. Some of his conclusions may startle you. 12:30-1:45 p.m., Totman Room, Memorial Union;

Oct. 23: "Globalization and Suppression of Civil Societies in China, Korea and Vietnam," history professor Ngo Vinh Long, Bangor Room;

Oct. 30: "What are the Key Issues in the November 4th Election?" with Ilze Petersons, program coordinator, Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine; Amy Fried, political science professor; Michael Howard, philosophy professor; and Doug Allen;

Nov. 6: "Russia: The War with Georgia and Nationalistic Policies to Restore Russia's Sphere of Influence," with political science professors James Warhola, Paul Holman and Seth Singleton;

Nov. 20: "The Challenges of Creating Community or Why 'Medical Marijuana Collective' Doesn't Mean You Just Come

And Collect," with Wendy Chapkis, professor of sociology and women and gender studies at the University of Southern Maine; her most recent book, Dying to Get High (New York University Press) examines contemporary debates surrounding the medical use of marijuana.

For additional information, contact: Prof. Doug Allen, Coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies, The Maples, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469. Phone: 581-3860. E-mail: douglas.allen@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Researchers Launch Interactive Climate Change Exhibit at Acadia National Park

12 Sep 2008

Contact: Molly Schauffler, 581-2707

Students and faculty from the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine have teamed up with Acadia National Park personnel to launch "The Science of Climate Change: a journey to Reedy Glacier, Antarctica." This kiosk-style exhibit, on view at the Sieur de Mont Nature Center through Oct. 13, explains climate change research in an accessible, engaging way.

"It has the potential to be seen by a lot of people," said Molly Schauffler, a research assistant professor with the Climate Change Institute. "There is a need for public information. Beliefs are driven by politics, fads, fears, polls. People have misconceptions about temperature and climate. Democracy requires that people understand science."

Schauffler worked with Brenda Hall, an associate professor of earth sciences, and master's student Gordon Bromley on the effort. They received \$75,000 from the National Science Foundation to support the project, which includes interactive video, interviews with researchers, photographs from the field and maps. It will be supplemented by online components and an accompanying DVD. Schauffler, Hall and Bromley hired Modular Media of Searsport to produce the materials, and they are hopeful this is the first in a series of educational exhibits related to climate change.

The kiosk will be on view at Climate Change 21 -- Choices for the 21st Century, an environmental festival that will be held at UMaine on Oct. 23 and 24. The event is free and open to the public. The kiosk will then move on to a retail or museum setting.

The Sieur de Mont Nature Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For information about the nature center, call Acadia National Park information at 288-3338, Ext. 0.

UMaine Camden International Film Festival Class Begins Sept. 13

12 Sep 2008

Contact: Marlene Charron, 581-4095; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's University of Maine class designed around and based on the annual Camden International Film Festival begins Saturday, Sept. 13 on campus, and will explore critical assessment of documentary films, including films being shown at the Sept. 25-28 film festival in Camden.

Offered through Continuing & Distance Learning in the Division of Lifelong Learning, the class, "Documentary Film: Sustainability, Fantasy, Art," is open to UMaine students and the public. Faculty members co-teaching the class, which runs two Saturdays prior to the film festival and a Saturday after the festival, are Michael Grillo, associate professor of

the history of art, Mike Scott, lecturer in new media, and Tony Brinkley, professor of English. All three are authorities on filmmaking, photography or new media and film production.

A requirement and critical component of the class is attendance at the international film festival, which will offer screening and analysis of more than 25 outstanding national and international documentary films, including the poignant "The Way We Get By," a full-length film about three aging troop-greeters at Bangor International Airport.

Benjamin Fowlie, founder and director of the Camden International Film Festival, notes that the film, scheduled for distribution in January, was shot by two photographers with connections to UMaine. Dan Ferrigan, co-director of photography, graduated from UMaine in 1998 with a degree in archaeology and Aron Gaudet, co-director of photography and director of the film, attended UMaine for two years.

"In all my years of doing CIFF, I have never been so moved by one singular film," he says, "and on top of that, its connections to the state are endless and will shed great light on Maine citizens when it begins its long journey of screenings starting next January."

The film is described as "a raw and intimate look into the lives of three senior citizens in Maine, who have greeted American troops at the Bangor International Airport, round the clock, 24 hours a day, for the past five years."

Local residents Bill Knight, Joan Gaudet and Jerry Mundy face issues common to the nation's growing population of elders, and they find the strength to overcome their own personal battles and transform their lives, according to a review. The story of three troop greeters "will shatter the stereotypes of senior citizens today. Growing old will never be the same," according to the festival website (www.camdenfilmfest.org), which lists all of the films, schedules and the Camden-Rockland area venues.

The UMaine class will engage students in the critical language, history and potential of documentary filmmaking, says Grillo. The festival "is about Maine and its relation to the wider world," he adds.

"I think it's an excellent opportunity for students. It engages student in the industry of filmmakers and documentarians in a public forum," Grillo says. "Students will meet filmmakers who are at different stages of their careers and get a good idea of what possibilities exist as they are beginning to emerge."

Additional information is available on the Continuing & Distance Learning website.

UMaine Launches New England's First Intermedia MFA Program

17 Sep 2008

Contact: Owen Smith, 581-4389

The University of Maine will be home to the region's only master of fine arts degree program in Intermedia. The program, approved Monday by the University of Maine System board of trustees, is the only full-time residency MFA in Maine.

The student-driven program will blend arts courses with research in areas including but not limited to environmental studies, engineering, business, social sciences and new media. MFA director Owen Smith explains that this interdisciplinary approach encourages innovation and creative problem-solving in a way that is applicable to any industry or creative application.

"For us, Intermedia is a way of thinking, a means of engaging in innovation and creative research production," Smith says. "It's taking the 'thinking outside the box' we often associate with the arts and applying it to other fields."

The term Intermedia was originally coined by Fluxus artist Dick Higgins, who believed that the most interesting work of his time was happening across and between the traditional borders of artistic media -- where painting and film come together, for example. UMaine's approach to Intermedia takes the concept a step further.

"Higgins was talking about multi-arts. For us, Intermedia can also exist in the space between art and forestry, art and computer science. We're drawing from and responding to traditional media and disciplines but also not limited to those things," says Smith, a longtime UMaine art and new media professor. "What is creativity? It's not something that only happens in art. It happens in all fields."

Faculty will soon start to review portfolios for the inaugural class, which began this fall. This initial group of 18 students is almost twice the size initially intended for the class. However, interest has been so strong and the applicants so qualified that the class size was expanded to accommodate them. In this process Smith has fielded inquiries from prospective students who are currently working in media, small business, design and many areas of the arts. More information on the program and application procedures for 2009 can be found on the program's website, <http://www.intermediamfa.org>

"This is about exploration, innovation and experimentation," Smith says.

Environmental Science and Performing Arts to Highlight Sept. 27 UMaine Fulbright Event

17 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine expertise in environmental science and talent in the performing arts will be on display at a unique Saturday, Sept. 27 conference, "UMaine Initiatives for Facing Environmental Challenges: A Day of Culture and Environmental Awareness." Events are scheduled for 10 a.m.-3 p.m., mostly in Minsky Recital Hall on the UMaine campus. A full schedule follows below.

UMaine and the Fulbright Association, Maine Chapter, are the event's co-sponsors.

"UMaine faculty members are leading the development of solutions to the most troubling problems related to our changing environment," says Prof. Dorothy Klimis Zacas of the UMaine Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the conference's lead organizer. "At the same time, our talented artists are affected by our changing ecosystem and this is expressed in their work. The conference will give participants an opportunity to consider, in new ways, the broad impact of environmental challenges on our lives."

The event will feature afternoon walking tours showcasing the three newest UMaine buildings to receive LEED certification for environmentally friendly design and construction. Those tours -- in the Student Recreation Center, the Foster Student Innovation Center and the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center -- begin at 1:45 p.m.

Maine's Fulbright chapter has nearly 100 members. The Fulbright Program established by the late senator J. William Fulbright in the 1940's, promotes understanding and peace among nations through intercultural education supporting international exchanges involving students, scholars and teachers.

The Sept. 27 event is free and open to the public. To register, call 581-1572.

The schedule of events:

10 a.m.

Welcome

UMaine President Robert Kennedy

Fulbright Association Maine Chapter President Beth Richardson

10:10 a.m.

Premiere of an original composition by UMaine music professor Beth Wiemann

"All Crows are Equally Black"

Prof. Beth Wiemann, clarinet

Prof. Anatole Wieck, viola

10:20 a.m.

Presentation

Energy in a Changing Climate, Maine's Opportunities and Challenges

Prof. Mick Peterson, UMaine Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

10:40 a.m.

Presentation

The Bear Brook Watershed Ecosystem Experiment: Lessons for Local Management and National Policy

Prof. Ivan Fernandez, UMaine Dept. of Plan, Soil and Environmental Science

11 a.m.

Musical Performance

Prof. Nancy Ogle, voice

Prof. Ginger Yang Hwalek, piano

11:15 a.m.

Original poetry and flute performance

Kathleen Ellis, lecturer in English

Shannon Buccieri, music education student

11:25 a.m.

Presentation

Summary of Present and Future University of Maine Initiatives for Facing Environmental Challenges

Janet Waldron, UMaine vice president for administration and finance

11:40 a.m.

Modern Dance Performance

Ann Ross, UMaine dance instructor

UMaine School of Performing Arts students

12 noon

Tour of the Lord Hall Art Gallery

Lord Hall

12:30 p.m.

Buffet lunch with organic and locally grown foods

Wells Conference Center

1:45 p.m.

Walking tours showcasing UMaine facilities designed to face environmental challenges

AEWC Center

Student Recreation Center

Foster Student Innovation Center

Boston Celtics Trophy at UMaine Wednesday, Sept. 24

19 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Gov. Baldacci's office announced this week that the Boston Celtics' 2008 NBA championship trophy will be displayed at UMaine's Alfond Arena on Wednesday, Sept. 24. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m., and the event will last for two hours.

Celtics legend Jo Jo White will accompany the trophy to UMaine, along with people from Celtics management and the team's mascot, Lucky the Leprechaun. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to have their photo taken with the trophy, and to greet team personnel. The event is free and open to the public. WZON and WBZN radio stations plan live broadcasts.

UMaine Composite Facility Named Champion for Economic Development

19 Sep 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff at (207) 581-3777

The University of Maine's wood composite facility has been hailed a Champion for Economic Development by The Maine Development Foundation.

The Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center was presented the award Thursday at MDF's 30th annual meeting at the Augusta Civic Center.

"The award belongs to every faculty and staff and student that's worked in the AEWCC," said Habib Dagher, the center's director. "We're pleased and really humbled that the Maine Development Foundation has selected us for this wonderful award."

The award exemplifies the AEWCC's commitment to research, education and economic development that focuses on material science and structural application of hybrid composites. One of the center's goals is to actively pursue commercialization, entrepreneurship, and job creation in Maine and beyond.

Over the last seven years, the AEWCC has helped more than 80 Maine companies in either their spin-off endeavors from the lab, in helping develop new products, or by improving already existing products.

"That's what caught people's attention," Dagher said, noting that MDF received 48 nominations for the award from across the state. "We're truly humbled that we were selected among this long list of deserving companies and groups."

The three other organizations named Champions for Economic Development are The Jackson Laboratory, Poland Spring Bottling Company, and Unum.

UMaine Helps Mainers Budget, Connect with Resources in Face of Rising Energy Costs

22 Sep 2008

Contact: George Criner at (207) 581-3151; Kristen Andresen at (207) 581-3742

ORONO -- In the face of falling temperatures and rising energy prices, a University of Maine School of Economics program will help individuals and businesses make ends meet. The Financial Education Initiative will teach Mainers how evaluate their finances; create and stick to a budget; and connect with organizations and programs that can provide heating and financial assistance.

UMaine economics professor George Criner, along with master's students Hugh Stevens and Sharon Hageman, will travel to five regions in eastern and central Maine to provide financial counseling to individuals and groups. Outreach locations include Belfast-Bucksport; Greater Bangor; Millinocket-Houlton; Washington County and Farmington.

"We're interested in helping people realize what their situation is before it reaches a crisis level," says Criner. "We're providing them with information to help them make intelligent decisions."

The University of Maine School of Economics will collaborate with UMaine Cooperative Extension, UMaine's Business School, Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community and the Maine Municipal Association. Over time, they hope to extend their coverage to more towns in Aroostook, Franklin, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington and Hancock Counties.

This feet-on-the-street approach is critical, according to Stevens.

"If they can't afford to pay \$5 a gallon for fuel oil, they can't afford \$4 a gallon for gas to drive to a state agency," he says. "We're going to them, to each and every community our budget allows, to every community center and church, if we can get two people who are interested, we'll meet with them."

Just as their geographic reach is broad, so is the range of assistance they can offer. When people apply for general assistance, the town often will require recipients to have a budget in place to show how they plan to get back on track. These students can make a budget with their eyes closed. But they can also let people know how much money they'll need to heat their house this winter, how to open a bank account and how to get out of debt.

This outreach comes at a time when Maine residents are hit with a one-two punch of rising energy prices and predictions of a long, cold winter. About 80 percent of Mainers heat their homes with oil, the highest percentage in the nation. Maine's electricity rates are among the highest in the nation, as well.

"This is such an unusual case," Criner says. "Maine uses the highest percentage of heating oil, and for a lot of lower-income folks, it's been a big jump [in their oil bills]. Nobody knows how this is going to unfold, but at least we have people who are willing to help."

Criner, Hageman and Stevens anticipate that the initiative will continue to grow and change as they gain a better understanding of what their clients need and how they can best serve them. In the future, it is Criner's hope that graduate and undergraduate students from UM Fort Kent, UM Machias, UM Farmington and UM Presque Isle will join the effort.

"Giving somebody money is a one-time action," Stevens said. "We would hope that increased financial education would provide people with a long-term financial coping skill. Not only are we long-term in our outlook, the skill is long-term, as well."

UMaine to Host Two-Day Climate Change Conference Next Month

22 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Increasingly severe hurricanes in the Western Hemisphere, retreating glaciers in Greenland and habitat changes that threaten Arctic polar bears are just three examples of the impact of our changing climate. A unique and groundbreaking University of Maine conference, scheduled for Orono Thursday and Friday, Oct. 23-24, will include perspectives on the most current scientific thinking in this field, adaptation strategies and Maine's environmental future.

Climate Change 21: Choices for the 21st Century is scheduled for 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day in UMaine's Wells Conference Center. Conference sessions are designed to be interactive, with those attending the forum having opportunities to ask questions and share their perspectives with the experts. Another feature will be a two-day environmental fair, outdoors on the UMaine Mall, with exhibits from student organizations, businesses and community organizations that work in areas related to the environment.

One conference highlight will be Friday participation by CBS News correspondent Scott Pelley. Pelley regularly files "60 Minutes" reports on issues related to the environment and he has twice interviewed UMaine Prof. Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute and the conference's lead organizer, for segments on climate change.

Mayewski, one of the world's leading experts on climate change, has traversed more of the Antarctic ice sheet than any other person. Over the past 40 years, he has led some 50 climate science expeditions in Antarctica, Greenland, the Arctic, South America and Asia.

"By the beginning of the next century, we expect that Maine's average temperature will increase by several degrees. It will be wetter, with less snow and there will be more storms," Mayewski says. "It is reasonable to expect a climate similar to West Virginia's, but with more unsettled weather, by 2100. That means a significantly different way of life for Maine citizens, and the time is now to begin planning for a future when the environment will certainly be very different.

"A primary theme of this conference will be adaptation, mitigation and opportunity."

The conference builds on UMaine's decades-long excellence in climate change research, and the state's historic leadership role in environmental stewardship and conservation.

In addition to Mayewski, UMaine professors George Denton, Kirk Maasch, Stephen Norton, Larry Mayer, Habib Dagher, Robert Kates, Ivan Fernandez and George Jacobson will make scientific presentations at the conference. Denton and Kates are members of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. Fernandez and Jacobson are leading a UMaine effort, requested by Gov. John Baldacci, to create a definitive assessment of the state's current climate and environmental future.

Baldacci will address the conference on Friday morning.

The forum will include participation from UMaine faculty members across a broad academic spectrum, including policy studies, science and engineering. In addition, a Friday afternoon (4 p.m.) session, "Expressions of Climate Change," will include a musical performance by Prof. Beth Wiemann and the Athena Chorus along with the unveiling of a sculpture by UMaine Prof. Kerstin Engman. Students from UMaine and colleges and universities across the state have also been invited to participate in a poster competition related to the conference subject matter.

Paul Epstein, associate director at the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School, will address "Climate Change: Health Consequences and Healthy Solutions" in a Friday keynote address. Others who will share their insights include Maine Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security Director John Kerry and Kathleen Miller of the National Center for Atmospheric Research. John German, manager of environmental and energy analysis at American Honda Motor Company, will discuss "Vehicle Technologies of the Future" during a Tuesday afternoon panel discussion.

Mayewski says it's imperative that scientists and citizens accelerate the dialogue regarding human society and the future climate.

"I'm an optimist," he told UMaine Today Magazine in July. "It will still be warming and climate will still be unstable because of what we've done, but I see no reason why we won't be living primarily on renewable energy. I think we'll be

a lot smarter about recycling. I think we will be healthier. I think we will be able to travel as well as we can now or more easily, but I think we will become more self-subsistent."

Members of the public are invited to attend the conference, free of charge. For registration information and a full schedule, visit <http://www.umaine.edu/conferences/>.

UMaine Extension Sheep and Goat Health Seminar Planned

23 Sep 2008

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 1-800-287-1471

MONMOUTH, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will partner with Maine sheep and goat producer to present a day-long seminar focusing on small ruminant health. The Sheep and Goat Health Seminar is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008 at UMaine's Highmoor Farm, a Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station in Monmouth. The health of small ruminants, like sheep and goats, has a great influence on the productivity and profitability of farming enterprises. More farm families in Maine are considering sheep and goat enterprises as an income source. Sheep and goats can be raised for meat, milk or fiber.

The instructors for the seminar include Maryland sheep and goat specialist Susan Schoenian; UMaine Extension Veterinarian Dr. Anne Lichtenwalner and UMaine Extension Educator Richard Brzozowski. Producers will gain skills and knowledge on smallruminant diseases, their prevention and control, diagnosis, biosecurity and having a customized health plan for their livestock.

Those who are interested should register by Oct. 20, 2008 as space is limited. The cost to participate in the seminar is \$40 per person, and membership discounts are available. For more information call 1-800-287-1471 (in Maine), (207)780-4205 or visit our calendar of events at www.extension.umaine.edu.

Girls Collaborative Project Kicks Off at UMaine Oct. 10

23 Sep 2008

Contact: Sharon Barker, 581-1508

ORONO -- A statewide conference to kick off Maine-based activities, part of a new national initiative to improve girls' performance and participation in science, technology, engineering and math, is planned Oct. 10 at Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine.

The Maine Girls Collaborative Project is part of the newly created, three-year National Girls Collaborative Project. The day-long Oct. 10 conference at UMaine is designed to attract teachers, business and government leaders, representatives from community organizations, and anyone with an interest in helping to improve girls' performance and interest in targeted STEM fields: science, technology, engineering and math.

Sharon Barker, director of the Women's Resource Center at UMaine, says the conference will draw participants from Maine and elsewhere to learn more about the STEM initiatives, meet collaboration partners, and to find out how they can access money to support girls' opportunities in math and science.

The Maine Girls Collaborative Project will support a statewide network of organizations that encourages girls' and young women's participation in STEM courses and programs.

Although collaborations are being introduced throughout the country, national organizers have been impressed with Maine's ability to attract influential advisors and financial resources for the project, according to Barker. Maine has \$35,000 to distribute over the three years of the project, more than twice what any other region in the country has to distribute.

By identifying and coordinating programs that support those goals and provide resource materials and funding for collaboration, organizers hope to bring accurate, up-to-date information, based on current research, to Maine teachers about the challenges and opportunities for women in the STEM fields. The process will increase opportunities for girls in Maine and also connect Maine's STEM initiatives for girls with programs throughout the country.

The project is funded largely by the National Science Foundation, and grants will be available to encourage collaboration among Maine programs to help achieve the project mission.

Keynote speaker for the UMaine conference, Amy Arnett, a scientist at Unity College, was recently named as a Fulbright Scholar. Other speakers include: Lyn Mikel Brown, author, activist and professor of education and human development at Colby College; Karen Horton, associate professor of mechanical engineering at UMaine and coordinator of the university's Computer Assisted Design (CAD) Camp; Mary Madden, associate research professor of education at UMaine; and Tricia Bernhardt, a teacher in Bangor.

More information about the Maine Girls Collaborative Project can be found on the Puget Sound Center Website (www.pugetsoundcenter.org/ngcp/maine/index.htm), or by calling the UMaine Women's Resource Center at (207) 581-1508.

The Women's Resource Center at the University of Maine provides leadership to the University of Maine and the state of Maine in issues that have an impact on the lives of women and girls, and their equitable participation in society. A program in the Division of Lifelong Learning at UMaine, the center provides advocacy, resources, programming and networking opportunities in a supportive place that helps women and girls realize their full personal and professional potential.

Page Farm and Home Museum Receives \$475,000 Bequest

23 Sep 2008

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum has received a bequest of \$475,000 from the estate of Henry H. Page, son of Edwin and Vesta Page, for whom the museum is named.

The bequest is a generous addition to the existing endowment established in the mid-1990s to help fund the non-profit museum's annual operating expenses, public education outreach programs and artifact preservation and exhibits, says museum Director Patty Henner.

"This is an incredibly generous gift that is going to benefit, not only the Page Farm and Home Museum, but the school groups that visit it," Henner says. "The impact is going to be huge and it could not be more appreciated."

Henry Page, a former Hermon and Bangor dairy farmer turned businessman and real estate developer, and his wife Phyllis were generous supporters of the university's farm and home museum and its programs, according to Henner. Henry and Phyllis's son Gerry Page of Jay is a member of the museum board of directors.

In the early 1990s, when the Maine Center for the Arts was proposed near the site of the museum barn, Henry Page and his wife donated a significant amount of money to help pay to relocate the 175-year-old building, which is the oldest building on campus. In appreciation, the administrative committee overseeing the development of the farm and home museum asked the Pages to dedicate the relocated building. They asked that museum complex -- which includes five buildings, an orchard and two gardens -- be named in honor of Henry's father and mother, Edwin and Vesta, according to Henner.

The family has continued to support the museum in many ways, Henner says, and when Phyllis Page died last January, the estate bequeathed the endowment to the University of Maine Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that exists to encourage gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at UMaine.

The mission of the Page Farm & Home Museum is to collect, document, preserve, interpret and disseminate knowledge of Maine history relating to farms and farming communities between 1865 and 1940. It offers an educational and cultural experience for the public and a resource for researchers of this period. Visits to the museum and many of its programs are free. Information about the farm and home museum is on its Web page (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/).

Maine Streets Exhibit to Visit UMaine

23 Sep 2008

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, (207) 581-1696

ORONO, Me.--In our fast-paced world filled with modern technology, few of us need to be convinced that the last hundred years have brought significant changes to the state of Maine and the Northeast. However, it may be hard to find evidence more compelling than a collection of glass plate negatives owned by the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport. Part of this collection has been chosen for a traveling exhibit, "Maine Streets: Selections from the Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Company," which will be on display at the University of Maine

Volunteers Needed for 2008 Northern Maine Children's Water Festival

24 Sep 2008

Contact: Laura Wilson at (207) 581-2971

ORONO -- The University of Maine will host the Northern Maine Water Festival on Tuesday, Oct. 14. More than 700 5th and 6th grade students, representing 14 schools, will attend the one-day event.

Students, teachers and chaperones will attend presentations, explore an exhibit hall with hands-on water-related activities, and attend a stage show by Maine singer/songwriter Matt Loosigian. Students will also test their water knowledge in the game Dripial Pursuit, which will be hosted by local media personalities and Department of Environmental Protection water experts.

Organizers say they need volunteers to help make the festival a success. Depending on their assigned role and schedule availability, volunteers will be needed as early as 8 a.m. The festival runs until 2 p.m.

- There are many ways volunteers can help. Examples include:*
- volunteers in the exhibit hall (part or all day),*
- troubleshooters and set up help for presenters and exhibitors (8:15 -- 9:30 shift), and*
- classroom guides (all day -- leading a class around for the day and evaluating sessions).*

Breakfast snacks and lunch will be provided for all volunteers, who also receive free tee-shirts.

If you would like to volunteer, please let me know as soon as possible -- we would love to have you! Those who are interested should contact Laura Wilson at 581-2971, or e-mail wilson@umext.maine.edu.

Maine Writing Project Conference in Belfast Oct. 3

24 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Heather Pullen at (207) 581-2443

ORONO --When English teacher Douglas "Woody" Woodsum carried his "state-of-the-art" MacBook into class the first day of the Maine Writing Project's Summer Institute in Orono this past summer, all he used it for was taking attendance and recording his grades. But one of his goals for the four-week-long writing workshop for educators was to change from being techno-phobic to techno-savvy.

"I was (resistant) like those students who don't want to learn something," Woodsum recalls. "But with my classmates' help, I made great advances in the use of technology. It's a perfect example of giving a student a lot of support and seeing them make great progress ... it was an exciting experience."

Woodsum has become such a "Techno-man," as his classmates dubbed him, that the workshop he will be presenting at the annual Maine Writing Project's Effective Practices Conference in October revolves around using computers to explore written and spoken poetry. He'll be introducing conference participants to Fishhouse.org, a website created by one of his former students four years ago. The site contains audio files of thousands of poets reading their poetry.

"The website has a variety and richness that most anthologies lack," says Woodsum, who is himself a published poet. "High school students with short attention spans can click on a poem, listen, click off and move on until they find something they like."

This is the ninth annual Effective Practices Conference. It will be held at the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast on Oct. 3 from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

The conference is designed for educators interested in improving writing across the curriculum at all grade levels. This year, 24 graduates of both the University of Southern Maine Summer Institute and the University of Maine Summer Institute will be presenting workshops on a range of topics revolving around literacy and technology across the curriculum. Some of the topics are: "Take Time to Write Well: Effective Modifications for Students with Information Processing Disorders;" "Internet Research Refined," and "Stations in the Secondary Classroom: How to Break your Class into Learning Centers."

The conference will also feature a keynote address and workshops by Anne Sibley O'Brien, a writer, illustrator, actor, and singer from Portland. O'Brien, who writes a column for the Bulletin of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, will lead workshops on "The Power of Graphic Novels," and "Finding the Springhouse."

The conference is open to teachers from school systems throughout Maine. It costs \$90 and includes lunch. For more information, contact Heather Pullen of the Maine Writing Project at 207-581-2443. Or visit www.mainewritingproject.org to download an application.

State Sen. Elizabeth Mitchell at UMaine Thursday

24 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine State Senator Elizabeth Mitchell (D-Vassalboro) will visit the University of Maine on Thursday, Sept. 25 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Mitchell will spend the entire 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.

Mitchell, who is the Senate majority leader, is in her second term as a senator. She previously served nine terms in the Maine House of Representatives. She was Speaker of the House during the 118th Maine Legislature.

News coverage possibilities include the following tour stops:

- - Advanced Engineered Wood Composites (AEWC) Center (10-10:55 a.m.)
- - Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative in Jenness Hall (11-11:50 a.m.)
- - Art Department and New Media Department in Lord Hall (1-1:45 p.m.)
- - Innovation 280 Class, Foster Student Innovation Center (1:15-2:20 p.m.)
- - Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences/Zebrafish in Hitchner Hall (3:15-3:50 p.m.)

The Autumn Garden

24 Sep 2008

Contact: Jennifer O'Leary, (207)299-7751

Autumn has begun, but the gardening season isn't over yet! Learn about the things you can do right now to reduce insect damage and promote healthy growth in your garden next spring!

*The Autumn Garden:
Preparing Now for Next Year's Successful Growing Season*

A Brown Bag Lunch Lecture by Gleason Gray, Extension Educator, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

*Thursday, 12:00 Noon
Page Farm and Home Museum
University of Maine*

Bring a lunch to enjoy. Beverages and light desserts provided.

For further information, contact the staff of the Page Museum at 581-4100.

UMaine Schedules Penobscot River Restoration Project Forum

24 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A University of Maine panel discussion on the Penobscot River Restoration Project is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 1, 12:10-1:30 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bangor Room.

The forum, "Penobscot River Restoration Project: Prospects and Possibilities," will feature four experts sharing their insights on the large-scale project, which brings together government agencies, the Penobscot Nation and several environmental organizations working to improve the river's ecology. Specific elements of the project include the removal of two main-stem dams and the creation of a fish passage on a third dam.

Those scheduled to participate in Wednesday's discussion are:

- *Laura Rose Day, executive director, Penobscot River Restoration Trust*
- *John Banks, director, Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources*
- *Gordon Russell, retired, Maine Fish and Wildlife Department*
- *Maria Girouard, director, Penobscot Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Department*

The forum is funded by the Col. James C. McBride Research Endowment and the UMaine Dept. of History. It is part of the Environmental Forum: History and Policy in the Northeast series.

NSF Grant to Fund Collaborative Physics Education Research Effort

25 Sep 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff (207) 581-3777

A collaborative effort to investigate student learning in physics and to create curriculum designed to make it easier for students to understand physics recently received funding through August 2011 thanks to a \$337,214 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Researchers from the University of Maine's Department of Physics and Astronomy are collaborating with colleagues at Arizona State University Polytechnic, and California State University -- Fullerton to conduct the three-part study. Cal State Fullerton received an additional grant tied to this collaborative effort for \$162,763, bringing the project's total funding to just under \$500,000.

"In education research, it's especially important to have collaborators in your work. There are four faculty working on this, and we all bring different expertise to this project," Associate Professor John Thompson of UMaine's Department of Physics and Astronomy said. "I enjoy collaborating, because in discussing ideas and results, I come to more realizations and get more ideas for follow-ups than if I were alone. The other advantage to collaboration is that you can collect data from more students, and from different types of students."

In the first phase, the researchers are evaluating students before and after instruction to see what the students know when they enter the class and what, if anything, they've gained by the time they leave.

Once the researchers have identified the issues that students have with specific concepts, they design curriculum to address any obstacles. These materials are then tested during the course. The teaching style that's used also is based on results from education research. The instructors don't lecture, but rather act as facilitators who prompt students with

questions instead of giving direct answers while the students work in small groups on worksheets, called "tutorials."

The third project component will be to determine how well the curriculum worked. Assessment questions are used to see if there is improvement in the class as a whole, especially on the issues discovered in the initial research.

The end goal of the project is to produce a set of tutorials that can be used in courses to improve student learning and student conceptual understanding, and to serve as a model for additional research in the field of physics education.

"Our goal is to develop curriculum that can be disseminated nationally, or even internationally to improve learning in physics classes," Thompson said.

He noted that physics education research at the university level is well ahead of other sciences and mathematics in the ability to produce curriculum at the introductory level based on research and pedagogical reform, but that this project also has other potential implications for other disciplines.

"Our work could serve as a model for other disciplines to reform teaching in their more advanced courses," Thompson said. "Furthermore, the interdisciplinary nature of this work -- we have links to chemistry, engineering, and math - may lead to more conversations between disciplines on how best to have students learn the concepts and the applications across disciplines."

Domestic Violence Awareness and Take Back the Night Events at UMaine Oct. 7

25 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Members of the University of Maine community are being encouraged to wear purple on Tuesday, Oct. 7, as part of UMaine's recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Purple is the official color associated with domestic violence awareness.

UMaine's Safe Campus project is organizing "Go Purple Day," in support of domestic violence and relationship abuse victims. The event is also intended to increase awareness related to those issues.

At 5:30 p.m. that same day, Tuesday, Oct. 7, the Safe Campus Project and Student Women's Association, along with several other student and community organizations, will present the annual Take Back the Night Rally and March, which raises awareness related to violence against women and sexual assault. The rally is scheduled for the grassy area behind Fogler Library, and the march will immediately follow the rally.

Art Exhibitions Oct. 11, 2008 - Jan. 3, 2009

26 Sep 2008

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3350

*Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present three new exhibitions beginning October 11: **Celebrities & Socialites: Photographs by Andy Warhol, Angelo Ippolito, and Reclaimed: Works by Mildred Johnson & David McLaughlin***

CELEBRITIES & SOCIALITES: Photographs by Andy Warhol

Beginning in the 1970s and continuing into the 1980s, Andy Warhol created thousands of photographs and Polaroids which often served as a basis for his silk-screens and drawings. Warhol, the foremost figure of American Pop Art, is best known for his images of consumer products such as Campbell's Soup, Brillo Pads and for silk-screen portraits of celebrities like Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley.

Celebrities and Socialites provides a glimpse into Warhol's lesser known body of work and sheds new light on the importance of photography in the artist's creative process. The exhibit features Polaroids of actress Farrah Fawcett, veteran golfer Jack Nicklaus, Margaret Hamilton costumed as the Wicked Witch and Ric Ocasek, front-man for the 80s band The Cars. Individuals who posed for Warhol ranged from the rich and famous to the little-known. UMMA is one of the fortunate institutions to receive a group of these rarely-seen photographs through the generosity of the Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

ANGELO IPPOLITO

Angelo Ippolito charted his own individual path as an artist and defied categorization throughout his career. His works ranged from lyrical, gestural abstractions to hard-edged compositions and from the non-objective to the representational. Ippolito, an important figure in the New York School of Abstract Expressionism, was instrumental in opening the Tanager Gallery in New York City.

Many of Ippolito's works were inspired by the landscape. The artist's childhood memories of Italian hill towns and later of Midwestern farmlands, observed while teaching at Michigan State University, inform these abstract compositions. The diversity of works featured in this exhibition demonstrate Ippolito's idiosyncratic approach to art and his ability to seamlessly explore a wide range of styles.

RECLAIMED: Works by Mildred Johnson & David McLaughlin

Like Pablo Picasso, who united a found bicycle seat and handlebars to create his symbolic bull's head, Mildred Johnson and David McLaughlin transform old castoffs into an array of captivating wall assemblages and free-standing sculptures. These rustic constructions evoke a sense of nostalgia--an exploration of the unique qualities of articles from the past.

In Johnson's wall constructions found objects such as old washboards, antique letters and metal tools are carefully juxtaposed to create compositions that blend the folksy with the contemporary. McLaughlin's large scale construction Portable Sphere, created specifically for this exhibition, consists of welded rusted metal rings fashioned into a spherical form that sits atop a pair of antique wheels.

Mildred Johnson maintains a studio in Brunswick, ME. David McLaughlin lives and works in Liberty, ME.

www.umma.umaine.edu

University's Museum of Art Announces Edward D. Leonard, 3rd, Lecture Series

29 Sep 2008

Contact: George Kinghorn, 581-3352; George Manlove, 581-3756

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art has announced the creation of the Edward D. Leonard III Lecture Series, established by the family and friends of Edward (Ted) D. Leonard III in his memory.

The Leonard Lecture Series will pay tribute to Leonard's legacy and provides the university community, citizens of Bangor and the state with opportunities to experience lectures presented by guest artists, curators and notable visual arts scholars, according to George Kinghorn, museum director.

Leonard and his wife Sandra Blake Leonard believed that the Bangor-area community should have a vibrant museum, and worked tirelessly as a result to bring the University of Maine Museum of Art to downtown Bangor.

"These lectures will greatly enhance the Museum of Art's mission of presenting dynamic educational programming while also complementing UMMA's diverse exhibitions," Kinghorn says. "We are exceedingly grateful to the Leonard family for making these lectures possible."

Artist John Bailly will present the first lecture and a workshop in January. Bailly received a master of fine arts in painting and printmaking from Yale University and is a fellow of the Honors College at Florida International University. His works will be featured in the January exhibition, "A Bit of Colored Ribbon: Works by John Bailly."

Leonard died a year ago and Sandra Leonard established an endowment to support the lectures, and also contributed a financial gift to inaugurate the series.

Fun & Fashion at UMaine Museum of Art

29 Sep 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3751

*BANGOR -- In conjunction with the University of Maine Museum of Art's upcoming exhibition **Celebrities and Socialites: Photographs by Andy Warhol**, the Museum will present Bangor's first-ever Fashion Challenge to be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, at Norumbega Hall, 40 Harlow Street.*

Pop artist Andy Warhol had a life-long fascination with fame and throughout the 70s took thousands of photographs of the rich and famous in and around New York City where he was a frequent visitor of the popular nightclub Studio 54. To launch the UMMA exhibition, 11 local designers and artists were asked to create a garment that a celebrity might wear to a red carpet affair or perhaps, like Warhol, to a night of dancing at a discotheque.

The Fashion Challenge event will feature a runway show, a special musical performance, fashion shows by Bangor's own Bella Luna boutique and Sophronia Designs, and a cash bar reception to follow the fashion show. Drawing inspiration from the popular reality show "Project Runway," designers were provided special criteria and had 18 days to create original and artful designs, to be debuted on October 3rd. A panel of guest judges will determine the winner of this creative competition and prizes will be awarded for first place and runner up.

The special guest host for the evening will be Bangor Daily News' Shopgirl Kristen Andresen. Tickets to the event are sold out and there is a waiting list.

\$200,000 Grant to Help UMaine Researchers Produce New Potato Varieties

30 Sep 2008

Contact: Gregory Porter (207) 581-2943 or Aimee Dolloff (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- A project at the University of Maine to produce new varieties of potatoes that can stand up to disease while giving Maine growers new marketing opportunities recently received funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The \$200,000 USDA grant will be combined with funds already provided by the Maine Potato Board to conduct potato

breeding and variety selection work throughout the next year.

The research is primarily carried out by faculty in the UMaine's Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, but also includes researchers in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition as well as the School of Biological Sciences.

Parent potato plants chosen for yield, quality and disease resistance characteristics are crossed at the greenhouse at Aroostook Research Farm in Presque Isle. The resulting new plants then are screened to identify superior new varieties that will have the best attributes of their parents. Screening the plants for resistance to late blight, scab, and pink rot is a priority.

The UMaine program focuses 50 percent of its effort on developing new russeted potato varieties for processing and fresh market use in the east, but also looks at improving fresh market, specialty and chipping varieties of the vegetable.

Of the total grant amount, \$102,000 will be used by UMaine to fund breeding program technical staff as well as field and laboratory supplies for the potato breeding, disease screening, and variety development effort.

"We also conduct processing and fresh market quality evaluations with these funds," said Gregory Porter, UMaine professor and coordinator for the Potato Breeding and Variety Development Program.

He added that a new component of the project is designed to develop molecular--based tools to help select varieties with improved disease resistance.

"It does not involve genetic engineering, but rather uses these new molecular tools to help us more efficiently screen our breeding populations for desirable traits," Porter said.

The project is a collaborative effort involving Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Virginia and North Carolina. The remaining \$98,000 in grant funds will be provided to these other states to support the regional collaborative research to develop new varieties which perform well under a wide range of eastern growing conditions.

Although they aren't funded by this USDA grant, the University of Florida and the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, Md. are part of this collaborative research effort.

UMaine Students, Others Plan VP/Presidential Debate Activities

01 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will participate in DebateWatch, a national program that fosters discussion related to presidential and vice-presidential debates, beginning with Thursday's debate between Sen. Joseph Biden and Gov. Sarah Palin.

Members of the UMaine community are invited to join UMaine Dept. of Communication and Journalism students on Thursday in Room 105 or Room 115 of UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Business Building to watch the vice-presidential debate, which begins at 9 p.m. Those participating will watch the coverage as broadcast on C-SPAN.

"The idea behind DebateWatch is to watch the debate without the spin before or after," says Prof. Sandra Berkowitz of the UMaine Dept. of Communication and Journalism faculty. "The participants then participate in a discussion. Based on our past experiences with similar events, I expect that the students will be engaged and thoughtful. This is exactly the civic engagement that we work to promote with our students."

Similar events are planned for the upcoming presidential debates, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 7 and Wednesday, Oct. 15.

The UMaine/UVote program, which works to raise voter awareness among UMaine students, faculty members and staff members, is helping to organize these forums.

National Society of Collegiate Scholars Inducting New Members at UMaine

01 Oct 2008

Contact: Audra Grady, 581-4194

ORONO -- The University of Maine chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) will induct 40 new student members into the society on Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

The induction convocation will be in Room 100 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building, and features Robert Dana, vice president for Student Affairs and dean of students, as keynote speaker.

NSCS is the nation's only honors organization offering membership to first- and second-year college students. It provides the most number of undergraduate scholarships in the honor society sector, according to the society. Membership is by invitation only, and based on grade point average and class standing. NSCS offers members exclusive access to scholarships, career resources, leadership and networking opportunities. NSCS members must be in the top 20 percent of their class and have a minimum GPA of 3.4.

The UMaine NSCS chapter holds a variety of activities throughout the academic year including fundraising for Spruce Run, coordinating a Career Day for Brewer Middle School students, organizing an Anything Drive for Manna Ministries, and contributing to the Toys for Tots effort, as well as participating in Maine Day.

"We are pleased to recognize the outstanding academic accomplishments of the students at the University of Maine," said Stephen E. Loflin, NSCS executive director. "The inductees will now join other high achieving college students across the country in developing their leadership skills and engaging in community service activities."

NSCS has more than 650,000 lifetime members and 228 chapters in the continental United States and Puerto Rico.

'UMaine Cares 2008' Community Events Planned Oct. 24-25

02 Oct 2008

Contact: Craig DeForest, 581-1796; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism at UMaine is holding its Fourth Annual "UMaine Cares" service event in Orono, Old Town and the Greater Bangor Area in celebration of National Make a Difference Day on Oct. 25.

UMaine Cares began in 2005 as an effort to raise funds for hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast area. Student groups and individuals volunteered to clean up the campus. For each volunteer participant, one dollar was donated. They also sold UMaine Cares bracelets to raise funds.

The program has now expanded, doubling in size from last year, and focuses on serving the needs of the surrounding

communities. An estimated 150 students, representing almost 20 student groups, will be volunteering for half and full days with local organizations, with university faculty and staff members serving as team leaders.

Many of the participating community organizations have developed strong relationships with the Bodwell Center and UMaine students. Crossroads Resource Center, a food pantry serving hundreds of area families, is one such organization. Students, faculty, and staff provide ever-increasing support through student volunteer hours, donations, and an ongoing partnership. On Oct. 24-25, student volunteers will hold a food drive for Crossroads, in addition to taking donations for the Ronald McDonald House in Bangor.

Good Shepherd Food Bank, based in Auburn with a warehouse in Brewer, will host 30 students at an apple orchard in Fairfield to participate in a "gleaning party" on Saturday, Oct. 25. Students will spend the day picking apples, which Good Shepherd Food Bank will distribute to hundreds of pantries, kitchens and group homes throughout the state.

Other organizations welcoming student volunteers include: Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, Bangor Humane Society, Hands of Hope, Manna Ministries, the Orono Bog Walk, Salvation Army, Leonard's Mills Logging Museum in Bradley, United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Maine, and the American Heart Association for its annual Heart Walk.

Community organizations interested in hosting student volunteers, or anyone who would like to be involved with UMaine Cares on Oct. 24 or Oct. 25, are encouraged to contact Craig DeForest at the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism by e-mail at craig.deforest@umit.maine.edu or phone at 581-1796.

Hannaford Charitable Foundation Pledges Support for UMaine Project

03 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- When patrons visit the University of Maine's new Collins Center for the Arts after its January 2009 opening, they will first enter the Hannaford Charitable Foundation Grand Lobby, so named in recognition of a generous \$100,000 gift from that organization. The foundation's board approved the gift in July. Formerly known as the Maine Center for the Arts, the Orono facility is the region's premiere performing arts venue. An extensive \$11 million expansion and remodeling project began in 2007. "As the remodeled Collins Center for the Arts continues to take shape, our community's anticipation of its January opening has become palpable," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This wonderful gift demonstrates the Hannaford Charitable Foundation's enthusiasm for this project and it exemplifies the statewide support that has characterized the private fund-raising campaign associated with it. We are most grateful to the Hannaford Charitable Foundation and all those associated with that fine Maine corporation." "The new Hannaford Charitable Foundation Grand Lobby will offer an inspiring entry to the remodeled performance facility," says UMaine Vice President for Development Eric Rolfson. "The foundation's generosity is instrumental in helping us create a new facility that will reflect UMaine's quality and its commitment to providing access to the arts for our students and others who are part of the UMaine community." The building will be named for Richard R. and Anne A. Collins of Key Largo, Fla. and Northport, Me., UMaine alums who made a \$5 million donation to the project last year. Maine Center for the Arts programming has continued during the remodeling project, with music, theater and other events presented at other UMaine facilities and at venues around Maine.

UMaine Economist Calculates Tax and Job Impacts of New Beverage Taxes

06 Oct 2008

Contact: Todd Gabe, 581-3307; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Maine's new beverage taxes, at the heart of Question 1 on this November's ballot, will cost Maine businesses and households as much as \$40.7 million annually in higher taxes on beer, wine and nonalcoholic beverages, according to new research by University of Maine economist Todd Gabe.

These taxes, imposed by Public Law 629, also would result in the reduction of \$17.5 million in beer, wine and soft drink net sales revenue. Including multiplier effects, the total economic impacts are an estimated reduction in sales revenue of \$26.3 million statewide, with a loss of 395 full- and part-time jobs that provide about \$8.8 million in income, according to Gabe.

"These total impacts are spread across the entire Maine economy, but concentrated in restaurants and bars, retail stores and other companies that sell and distribute beverages," he says.

"Many people might be tempted to combine the \$40.7 million in additional taxes and the \$26.3 million in reduced sales revenue into a single impact figure. But that would be comparing apples and oranges," Gabe said. "They are different types of impacts, but the bottom line is an increase in the price of beverages and a loss of sales revenue to the beverage industry."

Gabe's study on the fiscal and economic impacts of the beverage tax was commissioned by "Fed Up With Taxes," a coalition of businesses and individuals, and several associations representing stakeholders.

The report does not take a position on Question 1, Gabe says. "It simply estimates the effects of the new law on beverage taxes, as well as the economic impacts of the statewide reduction in beverage sales revenues associated with the tax hike," he says. "Other aspects of the law need to be considered to make a judgment about whether Public Law 629 is 'good' or 'bad' for Maine."

The intent of the study is to inform the debate on Question 1 -- the repeal question -- on the upcoming ballot, Gabe says.

"This kind of information is important for voters to consider," he says. "It's a lengthy report, but the majority of it is about how the numbers were generated."

Gabe can be reached for comment at (207) 581-3307.

National Archeology Conference Returns to UMaine Oct. 11-12

07 Oct 2008

Contact: Dan Sandweiss, 581-1889; Greg Zaro, 581-1957; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A prestigious archaeology conference is returning to UMaine on Oct. 11-12, bringing more than 35 specialists to campus for two days of lectures, seminars, panel discussions and an exploration of Andean archaeology and the development of cultures.

The conference is free and open to the public, according to co-organizer and UMaine anthropologist Dan Sandweiss, professor of anthropology and climate change.

The Northeast Conference on Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory, which also commemorates October as Maine Archaeology Month, brings together leading archaeologists and anthropologists from around the country, and internationally. The keynote address Saturday evening will be of interest to the public, says Sandweiss, who founded the annual Northeast Conference on Andean Archaeology and Ethnohistory 27 years ago, while a graduate student at Cornell University.

Saturday at 8:30 p.m., at UMaine's Wells Conference Center, keynote speaker and Peruvian archaeologist Luis Jaime Castillo will discuss his 18 years of research on the Moche culture (2nd-8th centuries AD) in northern Peru. Castillo is a humanities professor and director of the International Relations and Cooperation Department at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru in Lima, Peru.

Other presenters include several from the University of Maine, including Greg Zaro, assistant professor of anthropology and climate change.

Peruvian coastal archaeology, Andean and Central American archaeology are areas of expertise and academic interest for Sandweiss, who also is dean and associate provost for graduate studies.

"Over the last 15 years, we've developed a really strong group of people at UMaine working in the Andes and South America in archaeology and climate change, and on the relationship between them," he says.

What makes Castillo's research and perspectives particularly interesting, Sandweiss says, is that he was able to protect from looters a large, ancient Peruvian cemetery where people of the Moche culture were buried along with jewelry, pottery, tools and other artifacts that illuminate their lifestyle for cultural historians today.

"He excavates things that no one has seen since they were buried over a thousand years ago," Sandweiss says. "This is what archaeologists do. Since human ancestors first came on the scene, 99 percent of human history is in archaeological records, and only 1 percent is written. Writing goes back 5,000 years; our human ancestry goes back more than four million years."

Sandweiss says understanding the past helps us understand the present.

Castillo's lecture Saturday evening will include photographs, illustrations and PowerPoint slides. The lecture is supported by the Peruvian-American Foundation, UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs, and the Anthropology Department.

The last time UMaine hosted the conference was 11 years ago.

UM Student Chosen as Ambassador for Green Industry Conference

07 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- When Meghan McPhee of Boothbay talks about her work in the landscape design field, it's obvious that she loves what she's studying. The energetic University of Maine senior is president of UMaine's Horticulture Club, president of the campus chapter of PLANET, the Professional Landcare Network, and a member of the Alpha Zeta honors fraternity for the college of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture.

Now, she's adding to her resume as one of eight student ambassadors from across the country who have been selected to go to this year's Green Industry Conference in Louisville, Ky. that runs from Oct. 22-25.

The three-day conference is mostly geared toward industry professionals, but 27-year-old McPhee said the chance to be a student ambassador has the potential to provide opportunities she never dreamed possible.

"It's going to open up so many doors for employment opportunities that I wouldn't normally get," she said. "This is like a worldwide, international opportunity for an amazing job."

She describes her chosen field of landscape design as interior design for the outside.

"You're extending the inside living space outside," McPhee said.

The annual Green Industry Conference is hosted by PLANET, which is an international association for lawn care professionals, landscape management contractors, designers and builders, and interior plantscapers. The organization has about 4,000 member firms.

The student arm of the organization, PLANET Campus, offers students the latest industry and career information. Any school with an accredited two-year or four-year program in the horticulture field may form a student chapter.

At the conference, McPhee and the other student ambassadors will help organize and run the event. They also will participate in a round table discussion with industry leaders where they'll have a chance to network and ask questions.

Although she started out as a theater major, after a brief break from college McPhee discovered her true passion was landscape and she hopes to find a job with a landscape design company on the East Coast after graduation.

"[Changing majors] was actually probably one of the best moves I've ever made in my life," McPhee said. "The program here is excellent. We're a close-knit group. It's a really homey feeling."

UMaine to Unveil State's First Green Supercomputer

08 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; George Markowsky, (207) 581-3940; Dana Gulick, (781) 487-4673

It's no secret that over the years, the speed and capability of computers has increased tremendously. The days of a simple computer taking up an entire room and using so much power it would cause the lights to dim are history. The problem is that even the high-speed, compact computers of today use a lot of energy. In turn, as we become more reliant on technology, the amount of electricity used by computers increases.

On Wednesday, Oct. 15, the University of Maine Computer Science Department is teaming up with SiCortex Inc. of Maynard, Mass. to demonstrate the first green supercomputer in Maine.

SiCortex's technology allows the company to deliver performance and productivity using minimal space and electricity, making its compact, energy-efficient design accessible right in the lab where researchers work instead of being in a separate data center.

"We at UMaine are focused on responsible computing: achieving more with fewer resources," said George Markowsky, acting chairman of the UMaine Computer Science Department. "It's easy to overlook the fact that for every watt of electricity used to run these large computers, up to another watt is required to cool the system. By choosing the most energy-efficient supercomputer available, we are providing state-of-the-art computing to our students and faculty, while minimizing our energy requirements."

The SiCortex computer will be powered during next week's demonstration by a team of bicyclists from the UMaine Cycling Club.

"The fact that a team of bicyclists could power the system underscores the energy efficiency of the UMaine Supercomputer," James Bailey, marketing director of SiCortex, said.

Computer scientists consistently are trying to reduce the amount of energy it takes to operate the machinery we've come to rely on. The SiCortex SC072 Personal Development System is a 72-processor machine packaged in a quiet, low-powered desk-side cabinet using less than 300 watts of power and is compatible with the world's largest supercomputers, according to the company.

In most cases, a single processor uses about 100 watts of power, while a processor in a SiCortex machine uses

UMaine Holding Public Symposium to Explain Financial Crisis

14 Oct 2008

Contact: Ivan Manev, 581-1968; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of Maine Business School professors at UMaine, experts in finance, investments, management and marketing, are teaming up to present a symposium for the public on Thursday, Oct. 16, to explain the current financial crisis currently hobbling economies throughout the nation.

"The current financial crisis: What does it mean for us?" from 5-6:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building will address highlights of the crisis, what caused it and what it means for consumers, investors, students and retirees, according to moderator Ivan Manev, associate professor of management.

"The idea is to present a few highlights of the crisis and turn it over to Q&A from the audience," Manev says. "Possible questions may include how the crisis influences us or is likely to influence us. For example, the economic downturn is causing real estate price reductions, retirement savings losses and affecting credit."

The panel also will explore effects of the crisis on retail and tourism industries.

"We want to emphasize interaction and respond to particular questions and concerns that people have, and provide the informed opinions of our faculty experts," Manev says.

Panelists include Richard Borgman, professor of finance, Harold Daniel, professor of marketing and director of the UMaine-based Center for Tourism and Outreach, Paul Myer, professor of marketing, Robert Strong, professor of finance and University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education.

Panelists will make short presentations and then open the floor for questions and answers from the audience. Students, staff, faculty and the broader community are invited to the symposium, which is free.

The D.P. Corbett Business Building is located on the Orono campus, behind the Maine Center for the Arts.

Extension Educators to Offer Energy Saving Tips Thursday

14 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- County educators from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer members of the UMaine community some energy-saving advice next week.

The information session will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the Memorial Union's Coe Room, and is part of the Employee Assistance Program's Lunch and Learn series.

The session is free and open to the public. Questions can be directed by e-mail to eap@umit.maine.edu. To register, call 581-4014.

Renowned Human Rights Advocate Chowdhury at UMaine

14 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Asfan Chowdhury, the 2008 Colby College Oak Fellow whose wide-ranging career has drawn attention to numerous issues related to the fundamental tenets of human dignity, will give a Nov. 7 University of Maine presentation based on his film, "Who Cares if Bangladesh Drowns?"

The UMaine event, scheduled for 12 noon at Memorial Union's Bangor Room, will include a showing of the internationally acclaimed film, followed by a discussion.

UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA) will sponsor the presentation, the school's fall semester 2008 lecture.

"Asfan Chowdhury has had a remarkable career, working in leadership roles in some of the world's most effective human rights organizations," says Prof. Bahman Baktiari, SPIA's director. "As a journalist and filmmaker, he has also worked to shine a bright light on some of the most serious issues that plague societies in developing countries."

From 1986-1994, Chowdhury was a UNICEF staff member, working on communication and information initiatives. In that role he worked on policy documents related to AIDS and media coverage in India and Nepal. More recently, he has worked on independent assignments for several international organizations.

His work has helped to improve public understanding of societal challenges related to multiple issues, including AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Diseases, children's rights, refugee rights, minority identity, media rights and environmental concerns.

Chamber Jazz Ensemble Planning Annual Concert Nov. 4

14 Oct 2008

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

ORONO -- The UMaine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present its annual formal concert in the Leonard and Renee Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, on Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

The organization is composed of several soloists and small ensembles with piano accompaniment. This semester's group consists of nine musicians representing a variety of instruments, according to music professor Karel Lidral, who directs the ensemble. The ensemble is open to student instrumentalists at all levels.

Membership in the Chamber Jazz Ensemble is a major component of the minor in jazz studies at UMaine, and members learn about both the art of jazz improvisation and that other "salient aspect of jazz, swing feeling," Lidral says.

The Nov. 4 program include great jazz standards and originals from jazz greats including Charlie Parker, Red Garland, McCoy Tyner, Nat Adderley, Horace Silver, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Miles Davis, Horace Silver, Sonny Rollins, Du Bose & Dorothy Hayward, and George & Ira Gershwin.

Student ensemble performers include: John Brabant, alto saxophone, of Presque Isle; John Brushie, piano, of Surry, Ray DeLear, soprano saxophone, of Corinth; Ashley Drew, tenor saxophone, of Scarborough, Anna-Marlies Hunter, clarinet, of Limestone, Skye Landry, trumpet, of Oxford, Adam Mullen, guitar, of Brewer; Alisa Rhodes, tenor saxophone, of Rockford, Ill.; and Bryant Sirois, guitar, of Caribou.

Tickets are \$6. UMaine students with a MaineCard are admitted free. More information is available through the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755, or online (www.umaine.edu/spa).

The ensemble also will perform in the "Jazz Corner" of Union Central in the Memorial Union Wednesday, Dec. 3. This event is free and open to the public.

Maine Grass Farmers Network's 5th Annual Conference

14 Oct 2008

Contact: Richard Kersbergen, (207) 342-5971 or 800-287-1426 (in Maine)

PORTLAND, Me. --The Maine Grass Farmers Network (MGFN) annual fall conference is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15 at Verillo's Convention Center in Portland. The Maine Grass Farmers Network works cooperatively with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide information and support to interested farmers.

This year's speakers will focus on critical topics for all livestock owners currently utilizing pasture and grass land in their farming operations. Keynote speakers will include Karen Hoffman, an animal scientist from New York Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCs), speaking on maximizing intake on pasture and transitioning between stored feed and pasture. Steve Washburn from North Carolina Cooperative Extension will discuss pasture-based dairying and finishing beef and dairy calves on pasture. Some of the other topics for the conference include parasite control strategies for camelids, learning more about grants, public funding and other assistance programs, and a lamb meat cutting demonstration.

Grass farming can increase profitability helping to keep farms viable while maintaining the rural character of communities. Growing grass in Maine takes advantage of the short growing season and cool climate. Pasture raised livestock utilize pasture lands effectively, while improving animal health, product quality and market advantage.

To register email xandy@longmeadowsfarm.com or call (207) 873-5212. Registration rates are as follows: non-member early bird (before Nov. 1) \$45; non-member (after Nov. 1) \$50; member registration \$35; each additional farm member \$25. MGFN membership costs \$25.

UMaine Outing Club Fundraiser Thursday, Oct. 16 to Feature Raffle, Film, Alternative Energy Focus

15 Oct 2008

Contact: Robert Goodwin, (518) 578-6235

ORONO -- The Maine Outing Club at the University of Maine is holding a fundraising event -- a raffle, a ski movie premiere and musical entertainment -- Thursday, Oct. 16, at 8 p.m. at D.P. Corbett Business Building to raise money for maintenance and repairs at its cabin near Sugarloaf Mountain.

This year's annual ski movie premiere and related activities includes an initiative to raise awareness about the need for new sources of alternative energy. Club president Rob Goodwin says this year's event also encourages participants to log on to the national www.powervote.org website and register a pledge demanding "real solutions to global warming."

"For the past three years, the Maine Outing Club has hosted a ski movie premiere in D.P. Corbett," Goodwin says. "This year, as president of club, I wanted to find a way to provide quality entertainment to the outdoor community at UMaine and raise some funds to repair the Maine Outing Club cabin in Western Maine."

Events on Oct. 16 include the raffling of two for one Sugarloaf tickets, Sugarloaf trail signs, donations from the Ski Rack Sports in Bangor and a ski jacket from Flylow Gear.

"The Pact," an extreme telemark ski film, will premiere Thursday at 8 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett's Room 100. The film is presented by Black Diamond Productions, hosted by the Maine Outing Club and sponsored by the flylowgear.com, Ski Rack Sports and Mountain Hardware.

Goodwin says encouraging outing club members and their friends to sign on to the powervote.org mission is a natural outgrowth of club activities.

"The outdoor community is generally in support of a cleaner environment." he says. "The addition of the national www.powervote.org campaign for clean energy, climate justice, green jobs, and no coal is a way to mobilize the community to actively support for this platform. This is a non-partisan campaign that is easy to promote on campus, because it does not support any specific candidate or policy. We are asking people to pledge for powervote to raise awareness."

For additional information, Goodwin can be reached at 518-578-6235 or by email on FirstClass.

The Maine Outing Club formed on campus in 1923 and maintains an office at the Wade Center in the Memorial Union. It coordinates and organizes hikes and camping excursions. The cabin at Sugarloaf is a rustic, two-story bunkhouse available for members to use throughout the year as a base camp for hiking, canoeing, and skiing trips.

UMaine Faculty Art Show

15 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

NEW WORK A Department of Art Exhibition

WHERE: Lord Hall Gallery, University of Maine

WHEN: October 10--November 19, 2008

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, October 17, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Department of Art at the University of Maine (on the Orono campus) presents NEW WORK an exhibition of work by art faculty in the Lord Hall Gallery. This year's work includes ceramics, digital videos, drawings, installations, mixed media, paintings, photographs, prints, and sculptures. The exhibition presents an overview of the creative accomplishments of studio, art education, and art history faculty.

During the opening reception on Friday, October 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 there will be brief talks by several faculty members about their current work. The campus community and public are invited. Exhibition dates are October 10 to November 19. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays in the Lord Hall Gallery on the Orono campus.

UMaine Announces Maryann Hartman Award Winners

15 Oct 2008

Contact: Ann Schonberger, 581-1229

ORONO ' The University of Maine has announced the recipients of the 2008 Maryann Hartman Awards. Named for the

late UMaine speech communication professor, the awards honor the spirit, achievement and zest for life that Hartman epitomized.

This year's winners are Catherine Beller-McKenna, the director of the Portland-based women's chorus Women in Harmony; Ilze Petersons, the coordinator of the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine in Bangor; and Kirsten Walter, who founded the Lots to Gardens program in Lewiston. The 2008 Young Women's Social Justice Award-winner is Codi Booher, a first-year student at UMaine and Biddeford High School graduate.

"We are proud to present awards to these four women," says Ann Schonberger, director of UMaine's Women's Studies Program and Women in the Curriculum Program. "They honor our program by their acceptance and provide excellent role models for women of all ages. Interestingly, after almost 25 years of Maryann Hartman award presentations, the selection gets harder every year."

The awards ceremony will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the Buchanan Alumni House on campus. Those who would like to attend should contact Angela Hart at 581-1228.

The Hartman Awards, given annually by UMaine's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, recognize distinguished Maine women and their accomplishments in the arts, politics, business, education and community service. In 2001, the program inaugurated a new award in Maryann's name: the Young Women's Social Justice Award.

About the recipients:

Catherine Beller-McKenna

As music director of Women in Harmony, a Portland-based women chorus, Catherine "Kitty" Beller-McKennis is strongly committed to the belief that both music and language affect social change. A powerful musical conductor, teacher and scholar, Kitty is a major contributor in an often male-dominated field. She is known for her innovative programming, her vast musical knowledge and interest, her promotion of feminist values and her consciousness-raising in areas of social justice. Under women's leadership, the chorus builds bridges among women through singing and strives for social justice and unity among all women, regardless of differences. Kitty, along with Women in Harmony, was active in the Maine Won't Discriminate and Get Out the Vote campaigns and has partnered with community organizations, including the local chapter of the NAACP, Maine Alzheimer's Association, Peace Action Maine and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network of Southern Maine.

Ilze Petersons

A strong woman who dedicates her life to working for peace, Petersons continually calls for social justice for all. For the last 15 years, Ilze has been the coordinator of the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine where she organizes efforts for citizen activism and transformation of the peace community. Her work covers a broad spectrum including writing editorials to raise social consciousness, organizing demonstrations and vigils against the war in Iraq and facilitating discussion and education among Maine citizens. Her role as teacher, mentor and counselor goes far beyond her present work at the Peace and Justice Center. Prior to this job, Ilze worked as the local coordinator of the Displaced Homemakers Project (now the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community) where she created a safe and encouraging space for women to become empowered through education and employment opportunities. Throughout her life Ilze has shown how one individual dedicated to peace and justice for all can truly make a difference to many, in Maine and beyond.

Kirsten Walter

Eight years ago, as a Bates College student, Kirsten Walter created the Lots to Gardens program. At that time it consisted of a few small communal gardens located at a low-income housing project to help provide food security for residents and connect them to the land. The program went far beyond initial expectations and led to a marked difference in the positive

High School Writing Centers Share Their Ideas

16 Oct 2008

Contact: Heather Pullen, 581-2443

Orono, ME -- High school students from around Maine will gather on Wednesday, Oct. 22 to share their experiences and ideas with high school student-staffed writing centers. Writing Centers are a collaborative way to help students think critically about their own writing and make their writing stronger. A student-staffed center adds the peer-mentoring component.

The day will incorporate poster sessions presented by visiting high school students, workshops, a panel discussion hosted by the UMaine Writing Center Tutors, and a UMaine Writing Center tour.

Rich Kent, director of the Maine Writing Project and assistant professor of literacy education at the University of Maine, explains that "writing centers are places where student writers work with each other in an effort to develop ideas, discover a thesis, overcome procrastination, create an outline, or revise a draft. Ultimately, writing centers help students become more effective writers." Kent further says the exchange of ideas at the conference will help students and teachers "realize the full potential of writing centers."

Kent's book "A Guide to Creating Student-Staffed Writing Centers, Grades 6-12," recipient of the "Book of the Year Award" in 2006 for an assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, offers a host of ideas on creating writing centers for middle school and secondary teachers.

*Wednesday, October 22nd, 8:30-noon
Buchanan Alumni House
University of Maine*

8:00-8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30-9:45 a.m. Poster Session (Group A 8:30-9:05; Group B 9:10-9:45)

9:45-9:55 a.m. Snack Break

10:00-11:15 a.m. Workshops

- Absolutely Write! The Erskine Academy Writing Center*
- Brewer High School Writing Center*
- The Nokomis Writing Center*

11:20-11:45 a.m. Writing Center Panel with College Tutors

11:45-noon Final Q & A

The Maine Writing Project, established in 1998, is an affiliate of the National Writing Project. It is dedicated to the improvement of the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum at all grade levels.

(www.mainewritingproject.org)

UMaine Introduces New Center for Undergraduate Research

16 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Nancy Hall (207) 581-3260

ORONO, Maine -- A new program at the University of Maine is specifically designed to facilitate and enhance research and creative achievement opportunities for undergraduate students.

The Center for Undergraduate Research (CUGR) has set out to develop a database of research and creative projects at UMaine that are open to undergraduates, matching faculty and students by projects and interests. The center is located at 124 Alumni Hall.

UMaine realizes that the opportunity to work on research projects as an undergraduate makes a student stand out to potential employers and institutions.

"For many students, research provides an opportunity for a mentor-mentee relationship different from a teacher-student relationship," CUGR Director Nancy Hall said. "In that context, the learning is invaluable. It's something I wish for all students."

Advancing undergraduate research with CUGR's leadership is one of 12 objectives that are part of UMaine's Strategic Plan.

"We will build on UMaine's strengths as the state's leading research university, taking advantage of the hundreds of faculty and graduate students involved in research and creative projects who can teach and mentor undergraduate researchers," said Hall, who is also an associate professor of communication sciences and disorders.

Undergraduate students being involved in research projects is nothing new at UMaine, but CUGR will help raise the visibility of the work already being done while providing an easily accessible database for students and advisers who want to participate.

The idea is to allow students to hone their abilities to communicate and put ideas together, to organize and write, to investigate and to push themselves to continue to ask questions and seek answers.

And students aren't the only ones who will benefit from the center.

"For me as a faculty member, the most incredible process to see is the evolution of learning by a student involved in research or creative experience," Hall said. "We're looking at tomorrow's scholars. The more we invest today, the better off we'll be."

School of Performing Arts to Present Moliere Comedy 'Scapin'

16 Oct 2008

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704

Julie Goell, 766-2945

ORONO -- "Jack Sparrow meets Daffy Duck," is how Portland actor, director and performer Julie Goell describes the upcoming UMaine School of Performing Arts production "Scapin," a 17th century comic masterpiece by Moli

Halloween Happenings at UMaine

21 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Kristen Andresen (207) 581-3742

October is quickly coming to an end, and that means Halloween is just around the corner. Here's a list of Halloween festivities coming up at the University of Maine:

2008 Maine State Collegiate Business Conference at UMaine Nov. 15

21 Oct 2008

Contact: Andrea St.Pierre at (207) 491-6753

ORONO--The University of Maine chapter of the American Marketing Association will host the third annual Maine State Collegiate Business Conference on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The conference will include a full day of workshops and seminars featuring notable business leaders and professionals discussing the most relevant topics in Maine business today. For any major student interested in business, thinking about their career, or building their professional skills, this conference is an opportunity to interact with prominent guest speakers.

This conference is the premier fall semester event hosted by Maine Business School students. It is open to registration by any student in the state of Maine, as well as the general public.

Coming Out Week at UMaine Begins Sunday

22 Oct 2008

Contact: Sierran Lucey at (207)581-143

ORONO- Several University of Maine organizations will host a week-long series of events in recognition of Coming Out Week, Sunday Oct. 26-Saturday Nov. 1 at UMaine. Wilde Stein, UMaine's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender(GLBT) organization, will sponsor activities, along with GLBT Services, the Division of Student Affairs, and Student Government

The purpose of the week is to educate the community on GLBT issues and to raise awareness. One highlight will be a ceremony to raise the Pride Flag in front of Fogler Library Monday Oct. 27 at noon. The flag will fly for the remainder of the week. Faculty, staff, students, and community members are welcome to attend any of the Coming Out Week events.

For more information about specific events please contact Sierran Lucey (sierran.luce@umit.maine.edu).

UMaine Professor Available to Speak on Elimination of Standardized Writing Tests in Maine Schools

22 Oct 2008

Contact: Kristen Andresen, 581-3742

ORONO -- On the heels of Tuesday

World Renowned Biologist to Speak at UMaine

22 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Rebecca Holberton, UMaine biology professor, 581-2526

ORONO, Maine -- Dr. Keith Hobson, wildlife biologist with Environment Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan will be the guest speaker during UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology seminar series at 3:10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, in room 102 Murray Hall.

Hobson's presentation, "Tracking Animal Migration with Stable Isotopes," will include information about his research and tracking technique which has been used to track whales, birds, fish, bats and more over large geographical areas.

The technique is able to trace animals without using tracking bands or bracelets and uses only naturally occurring isotopes. The process allows scientists to track even the smallest animals and organisms, such as monarch butterflies, which would be impossible to mark with a tracking device or band.

The isotopes, which can be found across the environment in naturally occurring patterns, become incorporated into animal tissue and can be examined to determine where an animal was before it was tested.

Hobson's visit to meet with UMaine students and staff coincides with the university's Climate Change 21 Conference, but is not directly related to the event. His work does, however, play a part in helping researchers understand how communities interact in ecosystems which is part of understanding climate change.

Hobson arrives on campus Wednesday afternoon and there are several times available for him to speak to members of the media.

UMaine Cares 2008 Plans Make a Difference Day Events

22 Oct 2008

Contact: Craig DeForest, Bodwell Center for Service, 581-1796; Aimee Dolloff, 581-3777

ORONO -- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism at UMaine is holding its Fourth Annual "UMaine Cares" service event in Orono, Old Town and the Greater Bangor Area in celebration of National Make a Difference Day on Saturday, Oct. 25.

UMaine Cares began in 2005 as an effort to raise funds for hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast area.

The program has now expanded, doubling in size from last year, and focuses on serving the needs of the surrounding communities. An estimated 150 students, representing almost 20 student groups, will be volunteering for half and full days with local organizations, with university faculty and staff members serving as team leaders.

Opportunities for media to photograph Make a Difference Day and UMaine Cares events are as follows:

UMaine Volunteers to Plant 1,000 Pink Tulips for Breast Cancer Awareness

23 Oct 2008

Contact: Mary Rumpho, 581-2806; Vicky Blanchette, 581-2204

ORONO -- In observance of October being Breast Cancer Awareness month, volunteers at the University of Maine are planting a third annual Pink Tulip Garden to benefit the Maine Cancer Foundation and raise funds for breast cancer research.

Volunteers will gather on Thursday, Oct. 30, at 12 noon to plant a ribbon-shaped bed of 1,000 pink tulips in front of Fogler Library on the mall.

The Maine Cancer Foundation's Pink Tulip Project is a symbol of hope and renewal for breast cancer patients and their families. The project was founded by Robin Whitten of Portland, after her 2004 breast cancer diagnosis. Throughout her winter-long treatment, Whitten was buoyed by the vision of seeing her spring garden of tulips blossom. The vision kept her going and inspired her to share her optimism of spring's renewal by creating the Pink Tulip Project.

Leading this year's Pink Tulip Garden project at UMaine are Mary Rumpho, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, and Vicky Blanchette, communication specialist with the UMaine College of Engineering. They are extending an open invitation to UMaine and surrounding communities to participate in the Oct. 30 tulip planting and to learn how to plant an official Maine Cancer Foundation pink tulip garden at home.

To support this year's effort, please visit the Pink Tulip website or mail contributions to: UMaine Pink Tulips, Maine Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 553, Portland, 04112. Cash donations of any amount are welcome. For additional information, please call Rumpho at 581-2806 or Blanchette at 581-2204.

The Maine Cancer Foundation funds cancer research, education and patient support in Maine.

UMaine Extension Teams Up with State, Agencies to Keep ME Warm

24 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, 581-3777; Jennifer O'Leary, UMaine Extension marketing leader, (207) 299-7751 Oil prices may have dropped for the moment, but keeping Mainers warm this winter continues to be a concern. University of Maine Cooperative Extension is doing its best to make sure residents are bundled up for the cold season now upon us through collaboration with the Maine State Housing Authority and the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security. On Saturday, Oct. 25, Keep ME Warm Kits will be distributed at all UMaine Extension sites with the exception of Cumberland County where they will be handed out at the county's Department of Transportation headquarters in Scarborough. Click here for important [kit distribution details, including what the kits contains](#). Saturday's date coincides with National Make A Difference Day, which is exactly what UMaine Extension and other state agencies are trying to do in providing 2,000 kits for distribution. There also will be a variety of volunteers and organizations on hand to help install the kits, including a group of UMaine students heading to Cherryfield to lend a hand for the weekend in Washington County as part of the Alternative Spring Break program. "Our mission is to help the people of Maine help themselves through education," John Rebar, UMaine Extension executive director, said. "Our long history is to look at what's the issue that's of greatest need and how can we help. Certainly, energy is that issue this year." In addition to the kits, UMaine Extension provides frequently updated research-based information on how to save money through energy conservation and alternative energy sources at its website and through literature it helps to produce and distribute to the public. On the website, residents who want to weatherize their homes and are looking for cost-saving tips will find video clips and downloadable information. The clips can be found at www.extension.umaine.edu/energy. The Do-It-Yourself Guide To Saving Money On Home Heating provides information about how to properly weatherize windows and doors, walls, attics and basements. The brochure is available at UMaine Extension county offices, on the website and will be handed out this weekend with the Keep ME Warm Kits. Other area organizations also have asked for copies

to pass around. Other energy-saving resources are available at the UMaine Cooperative Extension website www.extension.umaine.edu or by contacting your local UMaine Extension county office. "UMaine Cooperative Extension is a can-do organization and we are really community based with our offices across the state," Rebar said. "As a result, our folks are hearing and seeing firsthand the challenges that every citizen is facing. We've had a tremendous response from our staff to rally to support this issue."

UMaine Lobster Institute, Internet Lobster Sales Company Team Up to Help Industry

24 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Bob Bayer, (207) 581-2785; Dan Zawacki, (800) Live-Lob or (800) 548-3562

Supply may be up and price may be down causing those in the lobster industry some stress, but the University of Maine Lobster Institute and a company with local ties are trying to give business a little boost.

Lobster Gram, the largest Internet marketer of live lobster, has teamed up with the Lobster Institute, a non-profit lobster research and service organization, to come to the aid of Maine's lobster industry by offering a blowout sale of live lobsters.

Lobster Gram is currently offering their "Lobster Gram" namesake live lobster package for discounts of up to 50 percent. Additionally, a portion of proceeds from this bailout sale also will help support the sustainability efforts of the Lobster Institute.

"Just like the big banks, lobster fishermen and their families are in trouble because of our weak economy. The boat price a lobsterman gets for his lobster has nose-dived in the last few weeks," says Dan "the Lobster Man" Zawacki, chairperson and founder of Lobster Gram. "We want to help the lobster industry by helping them move some lobsters and then pass the savings on to our customers. The lobstermen are our friends, and we want to help them."

Lobster Gram ships its live lobster all over the United States from its warehouse in Biddeford, Maine; and has its corporate offices in Chicago.

"Dan and the folks at Lobster Gram have been good friends of the Lobster Institute and the lobster fishery," Bob Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute said. "Their willingness to help fund the lobster health studies and other sustainability efforts of the Lobster Institute through this sale is just another example of that."

To take part in this Lobster Bailout-Blowout, visit the Lobster Gram Website at www.livelob.com. Information about the Lobster Institute is available at www.lobsterinstitute.org.

Community Signs Steel Beam at Hutchinson Center, Signifying New Connections

24 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BELFAST, Me. -- Community leaders and University of Maine representatives gathered at UMaine's Hutchinson Center this morning, to celebrate the connection of the center's new addition to its existing facility. Hutchinson Center Director Sue McCullough and others signed their names to a steel beam, just before Wright-Ryan Construction, Inc. crews raised it in place to connect the original structure to the new 15,000 square foot wing.

"The Hutchinson Center allows people from this region to gain access to achieve what they need and deserve: the educational and related programs which open the doors to a brighter future," UMaine President Robert Kennedy said

recently.

The new wing will double the center's classroom space and will include high-tech space to allow students to study in one of the university's most popular academic programs, New Media. The new facility will also include two science labs and space for art classes. Fully equipped science laboratories will allow the center to offer nursing programs while enabling students to fulfill undergraduate science requirements, such as pre-med and pre-engineering courses, at the Hutchinson Center. The art room will expand the possibilities for creative work that is limited in the existing space. All new classrooms are designed for multiple uses, including the new conference center space that will be available to the community, according to UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning Dean Robert White.

The expansion is a \$4 million project. Two million dollars will be raised through revenue bonds to be funded from Hutchinson Center income. Thanks to generous gifts from businesses, individuals and foundations, the campaign has currently raised over \$1.5 million of its \$2 million private fundraising goal. At this morning's event, campaign co-chairs Judy Stein and Jim Patterson thanked donors and appealed to the private sector for continued help to push the campaign goal over the finish line by year end. The new facility is expected to open in the fall of 2009.

Many naming opportunities are still available for donors. Two newly introduced programs allow donors to "Name a Seat" in the popular Hutchinson Center Auditorium or name bricks for the planned new brick walk. For information, call McCullough at (207) 338-8000.

UMaine Students Attempt to Break World Record as Part of International Dance Event

24 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Gustavo Burkett, (207) 581-4183

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine students and staff are going to be thrilled if they're able to help break a Guinness Book World Record with a little help from Michael Jackson and a flashback to 1983.

Just before Christmas in the year of the Cabbage Patch Doll and Pac-Man breakfast cereal, MTV released the music video for Jackson's hit "Thriller." The song and dance became an instant craze and have been around ever since.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25, UMaine will participate in Thrill the World, an international event that tries each year to break the record for largest simultaneous dance by having people worldwide dance to "Thriller."

The current simultaneous dance record is believed to have been set in 2002 when 197,569 elementary school students danced the Hokey-Pokey in 681 locations across Canada, according to the Thrill the World website.

Information about Thrill the World's history, choreography for the dance, and more about the "Thriller" phenomenon is available at www.thrilltheworld.com.

Students at UMaine have held several rehearsals to prepare for the event and members of the media are invited to attend Saturday's record-breaking attempt at UMaine's Student Recreation and Fitness Center.

The event was organized by Gustavo Burkett, director of UMaine's Campus Activities and Student Engagement.

Those interested in participating are requested to arrive early in order to register and fill out the paperwork required to be eligible to break the world record.

"We need to give record of who the participants are," Burkett said.

Those no cost to participate, but Burkett said monetary or non-perishable food donations will be accepted and taken to Crossroads Ministries Resource Center in Old Town, which is in need of donations. The first 200 students to register will receive a free T-shirt.

"Makeup and costumes aren't required but are encouraged," Burkett said. "We're going to be thrilled to see everyone there."

UMaine Researchers Issued Patent for New Retaining Wall Technology

27 Oct 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Habib Dagher, (207) 581-2138

ORONO, Maine -- Researchers at the University of Maine have been awarded a patent on new technology that could change waterfront construction methods for both private individuals and large companies looking to build docks, piers, and port facilities.

Using technology developed at UMaine's AEWComposites Center, a team of researchers created extruded composite sheet piling panels to be used as retaining walls on waterfront property.

"These materials are intended to replace steel," Dagher said.

They are resistant to corrosion even in saltwater and can be made in any color using either new or recycled materials. Each panel is sturdy enough to be driven into the ground, but is light enough to be lifted by one person. The panels easily connect to one another to form a continuous retaining wall or sea wall against almost any landscape.

"This material will outlast traditional materials -- steel, concrete and wood," Dagher said. "And unlike pressure treated wood there are no chemicals that can leach into the water."

The sheets are made from wood flour, which can be described as very fine sawdust, and plastic resin from either new, recycled, or a combination of materials.

"At the end of its life, 100 years from now, you can pull these sheets out of the ground and recycle them," Dagher said. "That's the beauty of it. It's a product that not only uses recycled material to make, but it can be recycled at the end of its life. It's a truly green material."

The panels have been tested in the lab and now are ready for commercialization, according to Dagher.

"We are looking to go ahead and commercialize the technology at a larger scale, starting with demo projects and then commercial development by licensing the technology to commercial facilities," Dagher said. "The goal, of course, is to do this in Maine."

Portland Artist Sullivan at UMaine Tuesday Night

27 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Portland artist Christopher Michael Sullivan will give a talk, "Branding the Mission Driven Practice,"

Tuesday Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in Room 100 of UMaine's Lord Hall.

The talk is an introduction to the artist's work. It is part of UMaine's Visiting Artist Program, sponsored by the New Media Department, the Intermedia MFA Program and UMaine's Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

For more information about Sullivan and his work, visit www.christophermichaelsullivan.com.

Pharmaceuticals Use, Abuse and Drug Return Program Are Symposium Focus Nov. 10-11

28 Oct 2008

Contact: Len Kaye or Jason Charland, 262-7928; George Manlove, 581-3756 PORTLAND -- Prescription drug use, abuse, return and disposal are the focus of the multifaceted "2008 International Symposium on Pharmaceuticals in the Home and Environment: Catalyst for Change" conference, scheduled Nov. 10-11 by the University of Maine Center on Aging and the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG). Dozens of leading authorities from state and federal governments, the prescription drug industry and community healthcare from throughout the country have been invited to present and discuss the latest information on drug use, abuse and safe disposal methods. Being held at the Wyndham Hotel Portland Airport, 363 Maine Mall Road in South Portland, the conference is designed for health care professionals, policymakers, law enforcement personnel, environmentalists, substance abuse professionals, and others concerned with the human and environmental impact of prescription drugs on individuals, families, communities and the environment. It is open to the public. Program details are available on the MBSG website (<http://www.benzos.une.edu/2008conference.htm>). "We're expecting close to 200 professionals from around the country," says Jason Charland of the Center on Aging and conference coordinator. "The unique thing about this conference is that it draws together a wide range of professionals who might not normally be at the same meetings or conferences together, and allows for information sharing and networking across disciplines. The annual conference has proven to be a gathering place for disseminating the latest trend data available on prescription drug use and abuse. It also will showcase the rapidly expanding number of innovative demonstrations throughout the United States and beyond that promote responsible, effective and safe prescribing, usage, return and disposal practices. The conference is "nationally recognized as a significant public health meeting to attend," Charland says. Leading authorities from federal and state government, industry, and community health care across the United States and beyond will present the latest information on cutting edge research, policy and programming addressing such issues as: drug diversion, fraud, prevention, and abuse; new drug-related developments at the federal and state level; innovative national and international prescription drug return and disposal programs; the environmental and health impacts of drug waste; and medication management and prescribing practices. The MBSG was created to assess problems resulting from the home storage and improper disposal of benzodiazepine and other prescription drugs, which were and still are routinely flushed down toilets, and eventually into the environment. Benzodiazepines, a class of medications used to treat anxiety, stress and insomnia, are like many drugs that pass through the human body and through municipal wastewater treatment plants and into rivers and streams. The MBSG, which is administered by the UMaine Center on Aging, has attracted interest and cooperation from many disparate entities interested keeping expired or unused drugs out of the environment and out of the hands of people for whom the drugs were not intended, including thieves or children. "The real significance is that Maine is at the forefront of drug disposal innovations with its EPA-funded drug mail-back program," Charland says. "We're forging collaborations with stakeholders from around the U.S. who attend this conference and work together to address timely issues pertaining to prescription drugs." The program is being piloted in Maine, with other states observing its success, according to Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging and Dr. Stevan Gressitt, medical director of the Office of Adult Mental Health Services, Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

Fellowships Worth Up to \$24,000 Available for Future Teachers

28 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally endowed and privately funded program designed to strengthen instruction about the constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 2009 for master's degree level graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. College seniors and college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government, or social studies are eligible for the fellowships.

Through a nationwide competition, James Madison Fellowships will be awarded to at least one legal resident of each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the other U.S. territories. After completing study under their fellowships, James Madison Fellows are required to teach American history, American government, or social studies in grades 7-12 for a minimum of one year for each academic year of graduate assistance they receive.

Fellowships carry a maximum stipend of \$24,000 for up to two years of full-time study for college graduates, which is used to cover the costs of tuition, required fees, books, and room and board .

Fellows must enroll in graduate programs leading to mater's degrees in American history, political science, or education offered by any accredited U.S. university. Participation in an accredited four-week Summer Institute held at Georgetown University on the principles, framing, ratification and implementation of the Constitution and bill of rights is required of all fellows, normally during the summer after the commencement of study. Fellows' attendance at the Summer Institute is paid for by the Madison Foundation.

Details about the program may be obtained on campus from Prof. Mark Brewer (mark.brewer@umit.maine.edu) or from the James Madison Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 4030, Iowa City, Iowa 52243-4030; telephone 1-800-525-6928, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. central time, email madison@act.org. application materials may be downloaded from the Foundation's website: www.jamesmadison.com. Application materials must be received by March 1.

Al Gore Webcast Part of UMaine Outing Club Event Tonight

29 Oct 2008

Contact: Robert Goodwin, (518) 578-6235

ORONO -- Free pizza and a Webcast by former vice president and global warming authority Al Gore will be part of a program scheduled tonight at the Memorial Union's Bangor Room in conjunction with a get-out-the-vote effort by the Maine Outing Club at UMaine.

The event is free and open to the public. It is intended to raise awareness about the need for new and alternative energy sources, according to outing club president Rob Goodwin.

Beginning at 8:30 p.m., Gore's talk will be shown on the big screen as he addresses more than 200 college campuses across the county via a live Webcast from the website of powervote.org, a national organization dedicated to demanding of political candidates "real solutions to global warming," according to its website.

Over the past two weeks, the University of Maine Powervote Movement, organized by student Amy Marchessault and sponsored by the University of Maine Green Team, has collected more than 500 Powervote pledges, with more being gathered by the day, says Goodwin.

Goodwin is encouraging members of the university and surrounding communities to log on to www.powervote.org for more information about the movement and specifics of the clean energy, climate justice, green jobs and no coal platform.

The top goal for tonight's event is to encourage UMaine students to vote on Nov. 4 and to encourage students to vote

with the knowledge of the Powervote platform, Goodwin says.

"Goal number three is to encourage students to take some action as soon as they can to promote clean energy, green jobs, no coal, and climate justice," he adds.

From 8-8:30 p.m., free pizza will be provided courtesy of the National Energy Action Coalition, while environmental groups on campus use Marketplace tables to promote their causes. Gore will speak at 8:30 for 20-30 minutes, and will be followed by a talk by UMaine alum and state Rep. Emily Cain, D-Orono.

For additional information, Goodwin can be reached at 518-578-6235 or by email on FirstClass.

UMaine Plaza to Honor Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King

29 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A grand opening and dedication for the Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Memorial Plaza will take place at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31. The granite and brick park, located beside the Memorial Union, will feature a series of quotes from the civil rights leader. Opening festivities include a performance of freedom songs and slave narratives by Reggie and Kim Harris. Among those who will be speaking at the event are UMaine philosophy professor Doug Allen and Joe Perry, president of the Bangor area chapter of the NAACP. An accompanying exhibit of images from the civil rights movement by renowned photographer Charles Moore will take place in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. The photographs are on loan from Bill Kuykendall, a UMaine senior lecturer in new media.

Robert Dana, UMaine's dean of students, says it is the university's responsibility to educate its students -- both in and outside the classroom -- about issues of diversity and tolerance. "This is important for our students because it provides an opportunity for continuous reflection. It will be educative, but inspiring and hopefully motivating people to do all the good they can do for all the people they can," he says.

International Students Showcase Homeland Traditions at UMaine Culturefest '08

29 Oct 2008

Contact: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Cultural exhibits, traditional singing, dancing, clothing and an international smorgasbord of foods featuring spicy Indian and Sri Lankan curries, Vietnamese spring rolls, delicacies from the Middle East all are on the program for this year's 21st annual Culturefest, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the University of Maine Field House on Saturday, Nov. 8.

The annual Culturefest attracts more than 1,000 visitors from campus and from communities across Maine. 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 and open to the public. Ethnic food is served from the food court for a nominal contribution to cover the cost of ingredients.

Members of the UMaine International Student Association will bring a variety of dishes to the international food court.

Others will perform a talent show, a fashion show, and staff information tables with maps, flags, cultural artifacts and offer children's activities throughout the day. This year, the festival will showcase some traditional sports and field games such as cricket, shuttlecock and capoeira.

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. The festival pulls together hundreds of international students anxious to discuss ethnic cultures and customs from their home communities in Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. Students turn out in traditional clothing and costumes representative of their cultures.

"As we become a more global society, the public is realizing more and more the need to learn about cultural differences," says co-organizer Sarah Joughin of the Office of International Programs and National Student Exchange. "This is a unique and rare opportunity to travel around the world in a single day."

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 international students and visiting scholars bring much to the classroom, and Culturefest helps to bring global awareness and understanding to the community," Boucias says. "Many of the high schools and academies in Maine are creating exciting linkages with other countries, so we will continue to see increased interest in international opportunities, just as we see throughout the University of Maine System."

For more information about the 21st annual Culturefest, contact the UMaine Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905 or visit www.umaine.edu/international.

Low Lobster Prices Make Freezing Lobster at Home an Attractive Option

29 Oct 2008

Contact: Al Bushway, The University of Maine Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition (207) 581-1629; Bob Bayer, Lobster Institute, The University of Maine (207) 581-2785

ORONO -- With the price of lobsters at some of the lowest prices seen in over 20 years, people aren't waiting for a special occasion to bring lobsters home for dinner. Consumers are lining up at local lobster dealers to take advantage of this pricing windfall. Lobsters are also available from roadside vendors and at farmers' markets.

"Lobsters are priced at a point where it is worthwhile to freeze them for later use at home," says Prof. Robert Bayer of the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine.

"Properly prepared whole or 'in the shell' lobster has a good quality shelf-life of 9 to 12 months," says Prof. Al Bushway of the UMaine Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, "Lobster meat that has been picked and frozen will have an acceptable shelf life of 3-6 months if stored properly."

With this in mind, the Lobster Institute and the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition have put together a fact sheet, "How to Freeze Lobster at Home."

The fact sheet, which outlines safe methods for freezing whole, "in the shell" cooked lobsters and cooked lobster meat, is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/news/lobster.htm>. Lobster Institute staff members will send a fact sheet to anyone who calls to request it at (207) 581-2751.

UMaine's Johnson Elected to National Geology Society Board

29 Oct 2008

Contact: Scott Johnson, 581-2142

ORONO -- Scott Johnson, professor of Earth sciences, has been elected to the management board of the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division of the Geological Society of America.

During this four-year commitment, Johnson will rotate through a cycle of second vice chair, first vice chair, chair and past chair positions.

Established in 1888, the Boulder, Colo.-based Geological Society of America (GSA) is a global professional society with a growing membership of more than 21,000 individuals in more than 85 countries. Of the GSA's 17 specialist divisions, the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division is the largest, with nearly 1,800 members.

In his leadership role, Johnson will assist in the organization and oversight of a host of activities the division engages in each year, including publishing two newsletters, organizing sessions, field trips and short courses for the annual meeting of the GSA, in addition to distributing annual awards for both student and faculty achievement.

Johnson says he also looks forward to "helping to forge the direction of the division in the times ahead in which Earth sciences will play a more important role in all of our lives, owing to energy prices, availability of mineral and metal resources, and the impacts of climate change on the environment."

He has been a faculty member at UMaine since 2000 and is a resident of Orono.

UMaine Business School Introduces Business & Sustainability MBA

30 Oct 2008

Contact: Terry Porter, 581-1990; Nory Jones, 581-1995; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- It's no longer business as usual for a growing number of companies, as consumers more than ever demand evidence of corporate responsibility in environmental and social matters. Businesses are realizing that a "triple bottom line" -- economic growth, environmental protection and social equity -- result in significant company-wide benefits. Reduced waste and enhanced operational efficiency, advantages in product and market development, increased employee commitment and an improved reputation among external stakeholders are among them, says Terry Porter, assistant professor of management in the Maine Business School at UMaine. With that in mind, the Maine Business School introduced this fall a Masters of Business Administration Business and Sustainability Program. In addition to traditional MBA core classes, two new classes -- in business and sustainability and in business ethics -- are being offered. The business school already has the necessary faculty expertise available to formalize the new degree program, Porter says. In addition, faculty members from other disciplines at UMaine have extensive research backgrounds in environmental and social-equity issues. In addition to taking classes within the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, students in the program can choose sustainability-related electives in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, or through research institutes and centers on campus. Foundational courses required for the MBA Business and Sustainability degree include business sustainability and business ethics, plus core courses in: management; marketing and management information systems; finance; business law; quantitative methods; and strategy and policy. Faculty resources, combined with the accessibility in Maine of state government, policymakers and agencies, will lead to an exceptionally relevant program for future business leaders, Porter says. "We're approaching business from a holistic and sustainable point of view," Porter says. "It opens up a lot of questions about the paradigms of business and the world." Information about the new MBA track can be obtained by calling Porter at 581-1990, Nory Jones, interim director of graduate business programs, at 581-1995, or by visiting the Maine Business School website.

UMaine Rugby Team in Playoff Action Saturday

31 Oct 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's rugby team will take on Hamilton College in a Saturday Nov. 1 playoff game on Lengyel Field. The game is scheduled to begin at 12 noon.

The team that wins will advance to the Northeast Rugby Union's U.S. Regional Finals at West Point next weekend. This is the UMaine team's third playoff game this season, following a win over Brown University and a loss to Middlebury College.

Prof. George Criner, director of UMaine's School of Economics, coaches the team along with Mark Grimes, a 2007 UMaine graduate who is a project engineer for Barr & Barr Inc. Builders.

New 'Maine Heritage Project' Showcases Maine-Oriented Scholarship

03 Nov 2008

Contact: Jeff Hecker, 581-1954; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is launching a new initiative this week -- the Maine Heritage Project -- to showcase some of the research and scholarship by college faculty members into the culture, traditions and history of Maine.

*The kick-off event is a lecture by James Acheson, professor of anthropology and marine sciences, Thursday, Nov. 6. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the publication of his book *The Lobster Gangs of Maine*, which chronicles the successful -- and unusual -- self-management practices of the lobster fishing industry in Maine. The lecture, at 3 p.m. in the Buchanan Alumni House, will be followed by a reception. The public is invited to the free event.*

The Maine Heritage Project will include other activities to illuminate Maine research and scholarship, according to College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Jeff Hecker. The project will help people in the community understand how the University of Maine serves Maine in a variety of ways, many of which rarely garner much public attention.

"We need to do a better job of letting the public know about the work that we do," he says. "One of our goals is to raise the visibility of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences."

The project puts a frame around the college's research and other scholarship directly related to Maine.

Annual lectures by UMaine researchers discussing their work and its significance, with a reception, will be the main pillar of the project. Symposia with faculty members discussing, for instance, what "sense of place" is in Maine and what "Maine culture" means are being considered as possible future events, Hecker says.

Participating in the organizational stages of the project are the Canadian-American Center, departments of Anthropology, English, History, Modern Languages and Classics, along with Fogler Library's Special Collections, Franco-American Studies, Maine Folklife Center, Maine Studies and Native American Studies.

"By bringing people together, there is a synergy and you discover new ways to collaborate to reach your goals," Hecker says.

Encouraging public attendance at the lectures and events presented through the Maine Heritage Project will provide area residents a chance to enjoy relevant lectures about Maine and its culture and traditions.

Acheson's inaugural lecture and reception this week is being underwritten by TD Banknorth.

"They liked the idea and were interested in supporting it," Hecker says. The project will continue to be privately funded as it proceeds.

UMaine Rugby Team Continues Playoff Run

03 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine men's rugby team is on its way to the Northeast Rugby Union's U.S. Regional Finals at West Point Saturday, Nov. 8, following a 44-3 Saturday playoff win over Hamilton College. If the team wins in the next round against Fairfield University, it will earn a spot in the national finals competition, scheduled for next spring.

The coaches, Prof. George Criner and Mark Grimes, say that home-field advantage was a key to Saturday's success.

"We scored early and kept constant pressure on Hamilton," says Criner, who is director of UMaine's School of Economics. "Hamilton did mount some great drives, but our defense had its game going well. Every time the Hamilton team attempted to run into our line, it was like they hit a stone wall."

UMaine's Campus Recreation Department oversees the rugby program, which receives campus rec funding and funding from UMaine Student Government.

An Afternoon with Donna Loring Scheduled Nov. 12

06 Nov 2008

Contact: Serena Bemis, 581-1648

*The Wabanaki Center and the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center are cosponsoring an afternoon with Donna Loring, the Penobscot Nation's representative in the Maine legislature, who will discuss her book *In the Shadow of the Eagle: A Tribal Representative's Experience in Maine* on Nov. 12.*

A plenary session for approximately 100 people will be held in the afternoon, along with a reception. The event, being held in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House on College Avenue, is from 2-5:30 p.m. and is free. The public is invited.

Loring, an author and a Penobscot tribal historian, is a graduate of UMaine and holds a bachelor of arts in political science. A Vietnam veteran, her professional background is law enforcement, and she is a graduate of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. Loring served as the police chief for the Penobscot Nation from 1984-1990, and was the first female police academy graduate to become police chief in the state of Maine. In 1992, she became the first woman director of security at Bowdoin College, a post she held until March, 1997. She received the Mary Ann Hartman Award from UMaine's Women in Curriculum and Women's Studies Program in 1999.

Loring has represented the Penobscots in five legislative terms, served as the Penobscot Nation's coordinator of tribal, state and international relations through the 121st Legislature, and continues as a lecturer and consultant. In January, she will be replaced in the legislature by Wayne Mitchell.

Participating in the Nov. 12 events, which begin at 11 a.m., are UMaine President Robert Kennedy; Maureen Smith of Native American Studies; Susan Hunter, vice president for academic affairs and provost; Glenn Beamer, director, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center; Gail Dana-Sacco, director, Wabanaki Center; former Penobscot Chief Barry Dana; and Mary Cathcart, senior policy fellow, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and former state senator and representative.

A book signing with Loring is scheduled from 4-4:30 p.m.

The Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center requests that reservations be made in advance of Nov. 12 through event coordinator Serena Bemis, who can be reached by telephone at (207) 581-1648.

Acadia Hospital Establishes UMaine Nursing Professorship

06 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

(Note: A photo is available on request)

ORONO -- The Acadia Hospital in Bangor has provided up to \$250,000 over five years to establish a professorship at the University of Maine School of Nursing as part of what is likely the state's first-ever academic-service partnership aimed at improving opportunities in psychiatric-mental health nursing education.

Through the Acadia Professorship of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, the hospital and the university will work together to recruit a Ph.D.-trained faculty member who not only will teach student nurses and manage their onsite clinical education, but also will have an extraordinary opportunity to conduct research with Acadia staff on the specific needs of populations served by the private, non-profit psychiatric and chemical dependency treatment provider.

"This is a groundbreaking move that will raise the bar in setting a standard of collaboration between academia and practice," said April Giard, vice president and chief nursing officer at The Acadia Hospital.

Representatives from the university and the hospital said the collaboration makes sense since both institutions share a common concern for the importance of having expert nursing faculty to prepare nurses with exceptional knowledge and skills and a commitment to lifelong professional development for optimal health outcomes of patients and families.

Associate Professor Nancy Fishwick, interim director of the School of Nursing, said UMaine and The Acadia Hospital have had a successful relationship for many years. "The Acadia Hospital has generously provided essential learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students from UMaine School of Nursing, both in the classroom and in the clinical setting. As a result of their experience at The Acadia Hospital, students frequently are inspired to choose psychiatric nursing as their clinical specialty upon graduation. I have the pleasure of working with UMaine graduates who now are on staff at The Acadia Hospital. Graduates who choose other health-care specialties are also influenced by their Acadia Hospital experience in the sense of having a high awareness of, and skill in attending to, the emotional and mental health needs of patients and families in all health-illness circumstances."

This new partnership is especially rewarding, she said, because it enables UMaine to offer a titled prestigious position - something that is essential since only 1-2 percent of the nation's nurses specialize in psychiatric-mental health. In

addition, UMaine will be able to advance its nursing education program and increase the skill-level of future clinicians. In return, Acadia will have the opportunity to work with a psychiatric nurse/ researcher who will promote scholarly activity which focuses on the specific needs of people affected by mental illness or substance dependency.

Dottie Hill, former president and CEO of The Acadia Hospital, who initiated the professorship but retired in October 2008 before it became a reality, said she is thrilled.

"I was well aware that our future workforce is dependent upon our future faculty, and that it is becoming more difficult to recruit faculty to prepare all nurses, not only psychiatric mental health nurses. My hope is that this exciting professorship will be utilized by others as a template to draw more faculty to Maine and to prepare our future nursing workforce in all specialties. I have long been an advocate for appropriate nursing faculty compensation and believe this opportunity should be the first of many to achieve the mutual goals of having enough faculty to meet the demands of those who wish to enter the profession of nursing."

In 2003, Acadia became the first psychiatric hospital in the world to achieve magnet status through The American Nurses Credentialing Center, which focuses on nursing excellence.

Ed Ashworth, dean of UMaine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, said the new relationship with Acadia "allows us to make the position special and team together to bring a quality faculty member in psychiatric mental health nursing to UMaine.

"This way, we'll be able to emphasize psychiatric nursing to our students and partner with the people who hire them."

UMaine Talk by Artist Leon Johnson Nov. 12

06 Nov 2008

Contact: UMaine Dept. of Art at (207) 581-3245 UMaine Dept. of New Media at (207) 581-4358 ORONO -- The University of Maine Dept. of Art and its Dept. of New Media will present "Bone Factories, Dead Boys + Duets for Devils," a talk by artist Leon Johnson on Wednesday Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. The talk is scheduled for the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall.

Johnson has received numerous awards, including a Pollock-Krasner Grant and a Yaddo Residency Fellowship. Affiliated with the Transart Institute and the Berwick Research Institute, Johnson creates art in multiple formats, including performance, installation, video, photography and painting. His film projects have been screened in England, Austria and Germany.

Third Annual Maine State Collegiate Business Conference at UMaine Nov. 15

05 Nov 2008

Contact: Andrea St. Pierre, andrea_stpierre@umit.maine.edu

ORONO--The University of Maine chapter of the American Marketing Association will host the third annual Maine State Collegiate Business Conference on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The theme of the conference, "Bringing Tomorrow Into Today's Choices," addresses the idea that the choices students make today directly affect tomorrow. This conference is intended to encourage students to take initiative now that will

directly impact their career paths.

The conference will include a full day of workshops and seminars featuring notable business leaders and professionals who will discuss the most relevant topics in Maine business today. This conference provides an opportunity for students to network with prominent business professionals.

Speakers for the event include Nicholas Wilkoff, Sales and Forecasting for L. L. Bean; Dennis Carey Executive Vice President of Nortel; and Frank Moore from Frank X Moore & Associates. Seminars include speakers and panels from Enterprise, the Via Group, Liberty Mutual, UMaine Business School professors, UMaine's Center for Tourism Research and Outreach, the Maine International Trade Center, and other organizations.

This conference is hosted by Maine Business School students and it is open to all students, faculty and guests from around the state. Registration for the event is \$8 for students and faculty and \$16 for the general public. This fee includes admittance to the conference as well as an optional continental breakfast and catered lunch.

For more information please e-mail Andrea St.Pierre at andrea.stpierre@umit.maine.edu

Army ROTC Cadets to Honor Nation's Soldiers on Veterans Day

07 Nov 2008

Contact: Maj. Darryl Lyon, UMaine Army ROTC, 581-1125

ORONO -- Cadets from the Army and Navy ROTC programs at the University of Maine will participate in the annual Veterans Day vigil on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

The solemn event will occur from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the steps of the Fogler Library in front of the University Mall. A joint color guard will stand at attention in full dress uniforms in honor of the service members of all America's wars. The ceremony involves teams of cadets posting two rifles and four flags throughout eight 30-minute shifts.

Through a meticulous changing of the guard ceremony similar to the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington, Va., cadets will relieve the former guards and stand their post in honor.

Army Maj. Darryl Lyon says the university is proud to enable the longstanding tradition of a Veterans Day vigil.

"It's an opportunity to recognize the sacrifice of the veterans who made it possible for us to have the freedoms we enjoy every day," he says.

Congress enacted Veterans Day into law on May 24, 1954. Prior to this law, Nov. 11 was celebrated as Armistice Day. That was the day in 1918 when the Germans signed the armistice to cease all hostilities and end the First World War.

Entrepreneurship Week Event to Challenge Student Creativity, Innovation

07 Nov 2008

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, 581-1427; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine students will be asked to think outside the box during Global Entrepreneurship Week Nov. 12-19, as they create uncommon new uses for everyday objects like post-it notes or rubber bands.

They'll be competing with teams of other college students from at least 55 institutions from 12 countries, participating in the Web-based Global Innovation Tournament, which poses the question, "How would you change the world with an everyday object?"

Using such objects as rubber bands, post-it notes or paper clips, student teams will stretch their imaginations coming up with new ways to create something practical, educational, political, humanitarian, or just fun and novel, says Jesse Moriarity, coordinator of UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center, which is hosting the event on the UMaine campus.

The challenge is simple: teams of students from all over the UMaine campus are invited to compete by creating value with an everyday object. The mystery object will be revealed on Wednesday, Nov. 12, and students will have four days to put together a short video showing how they created value with the mystery object. Value is not necessarily monetary; it could be artistic or social.

The annual event was founded three years ago at Stanford University and has been including more college campuses around the world since then.

Videos of previous winners are available on Stanford's Entrepreneurship Week Web page (<http://eweek.stanford.edu/2008/winners.html>). Winning creations have included: rubber bands used to identify locally grown produce in grocery stores; a rubber band-link jump rope; a giant rubber band frame system on which students attach their "secrets" anonymously; an infomercial parody about an elastic band product to prevent shoe laces from becoming untied; and short dramas about capital punishment and about condom use.

"Everyone we've talked with about it has been really excited," says Moriarity. "On top of being a really fun challenge for students, it's also a great way for them to learn more about the Innovation Center and what we have to offer."

To assist students with creating short video productions about team creations and explanations of how they are to be used, Moriarity says audio-visual equipment will be available to students through Fogler Library or UMaine's AV Services Department. On Nov. 13, the Innovation Center will offer a video-producing workshop to teach students about video-editing software.

Student entries will be uploaded to YouTube for review by a panel of judges. Web addresses linking to the UMaine entries will be emailed to Moriarity, and judges at UMaine will select the three best.

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, the Foster Student Innovation Center will host a screening party, at which winning videos will be announced and prizes awarded. Top videos will be entered in the Global Innovation Tournament.

Information about the contest, related Web links and the Foster Student Innovation Center are available on the center's website (www.umaine.edu/innovation). The University Credit Union is sponsoring the Global Innovation Tournament activities at UMaine.

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz to Present Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecture at UMaine

08 Nov 2008

Contact: Ann Schonberger, 581-1229

Note: Kaye/Kantrowitz is with a slash rather than a hyphen.

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz, an influential writer, poet, activist, scholar and teacher, will deliver the Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Justice Memorial Lecture at the University of Maine. Kaye/Kantrowitz's lecture, titled "To Be a Radical Jew in the 21st Century," will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, in 100 Donald P. Corbett Business

Building. The lecture will draw from her 2007 book "The Colors of Jews."

In addition to the Schonberger lecture, Kaye/Kantrowitz will present "Nice Jewish Girls: Lesbian and Feminist Activism 25 Years Later" at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. Both talks are free and open to the public.

Kaye/Kantrowitz currently teaches at Queens College/CUNY in Jewish studies, history, and comparative literature. She has taught in a variety of fields including women's studies, urban studies, race theory, public policy, gender studies, and queer studies. She has written or edited a variety of books, including "The Tribe of Dina: A Jewish Women's Anthology," "My Jewish Face & Other Stories," "The Issue is Power: Essays on Women, Jews, Violence, and Resistance" and "The Colors of Jews: Racial Politics and Radical Diasporism." Her writing is included in a number of anthologies, including "Nice Jewish Girls: A Lesbian Anthology."

About the lecture series: Howard Schonberger was a history professor at UMaine and a political activist in the Bangor for 20 years prior to his death in 1991. In 1992, his family and friends established the annual Howard B. Schonberger Peace and Social Justice Memorial Lecture. The series celebrates his life as a scholar and activist by inviting speakers who represent that balance of commitments.

UMaine Climate Change Institute to Hold Community Lecture Series at Bangor Public Library

08 Nov 2008

Contact: Gregory Zaro, 581-1857

BANGOR -- The Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine will present a monthly lecture series, "Climate Change on Planet Earth," at the Bangor Public Library. The inaugural lecture by Paul Mayewski, director and professor at the Climate Change Institute, is titled "Climate Change: Perspectives, Surprises, Opportunities." It will take place from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Bangor Public Library's lecture hall.

In the opening lecture, Mayewski will address such questions as "What is the climate and why does it change?" "How fast does climate change and how small of a change is important?" "Have humans impacted climate?" "Is recent climate change part of a natural process or in a 'new state'?" "Where do we go next?"

The lecture series is intended to make the science of climate change accessible to a broad audience. All lectures are free and open to the public.

Maine Folklife Center Marshall Dodge Lecture Wednesday

12 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The Maine Folklife Center will feature Maria Agozzino from Ohio State University on Wednesday, November 12 at noon in the F.F.A. Room in Memorial Union.

Her lecture, "Divining King Arthur: The Calendric Significance of Twelfth Century Cathedral Depictions in Italy," is a Marshall Dodge Lecture.

The legendary figure of King Arthur appears on the Italian Romanesque cathedral of Modena and in the Byzantine basilica of Otranto --a paradox of secular and sacred art, explained in part as Christian appropriation of pre-existing folklore.

However, the evidence suggests a figurative changing of the seasonal guard. This metaphor for the annual transition as summer supplants winter and the cosmological balance is restored is well documented throughout medieval Europe in genres such as folk narrative and festival, and is here etched in stone.

Though several centuries have passed since Modena's and Otranto's conception and execution, the multilayered and complex relationship between word and image has ramifications and relevance beyond twelfth-century Italy.

A close examination and comparison of artistic symbolism and folkloric evidence, reflects a complex folk belief system.

The transition between seasons parallels the transition between data and interpretation, creating opportunities to understand cryptic medieval material and encourage discourse complementing both Folkloristics and the Celtic canon.

Public Invited to UMaine 'Energy Action Day' Nov. 14

12 Nov 2008

Contact: Rob Goodwin, 518-578-6235; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine's student-led Green Team is organizing "Energy Action Day" on Friday, Nov. 14, in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, featuring a lecture, exhibits, discussions, food and entertainment.

The event is free and open to the public. The day's activities are being organized to connect students and the community with the clean energy and energy conservation initiatives that exist in the state of Maine, according to Rob Goodwin, president of the Maine Outing Club and an Energy Action Day co-organizer.

The Green Team at UMaine was formed last year ago to involve greater numbers of UMaine students with sustainability efforts on campus.

"Youth have been at the forefront of change when our nation has faced challenges like opposing the war, the civil rights movement and women's suffrage," says one of the Energy Action Day presenters, Morgan Goodwin, a Sierra Student Coalition founder and community organizer, and student at Williams College in Massachusetts. "Today we face a climate and energy crisis which seems daunting in its scale, and yet we must seize the opportunity to create a just and sustainable society now. We will share stories of people creating change, discuss what it means to be effective -- get stuff done -- and maybe even leave with a plan to save the world."

Scheduled events include:

2-4 p.m.

Morgan Goodwin and Zo Tobi, the Sierra Student Coalition, Washington, D.C., a Community Organizing Forum

4-5 p.m.

A keynote address by Habib Dagher, professor of civil engineering and director of Advance Engineering Wood Composite and an expert on offshore wind energy, "A Comprehensive Energy Plan for Maine"

5-6 p.m.

Music by the Marsh Island String Band and Tavi Merrill and Michael C. Moody; light snacks will be served

An organization fair presented by the: Society for Conservation Biology; Campus Health and Environment Network; Green Team; Progressive Student Alliance; and Green Campus Initiative

And Bill Drinkwater, director of EVMaine.org, will promote affordable, fun and zero-emissions electric cars in Maine, and Gary Westerman, representing the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Climate Action Plan, will have a guest exhibit.

Additional information is available by calling co-organizer Rob Goodwin at 518-578-6235.

Plant a Row for the Hungry Nets More than 80,000 Pounds of Food Donations

12 Nov 2008

Contact: Barbara Murphy, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, (800) 287-1482

The tallies are in, and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension has collected 80,748 pounds of produce, 70 dozen ears of corn and 60 loaves of bread as part of its Plant a Row for the Hungry outreach project.

Home gardeners, Master Gardeners and others with a green thumb participate in the program, which provides fresh fruits and vegetables to needy individuals and families in Maine.

"Despite the less than ideal growing season, Maine gardeners and farmers have once again given generously of their time and harvest to make a huge difference in combating hunger in Maine," says Barbara Murphy, an Extension educator in Oxford County.

The local effort is part of a national program sponsored by the Garden Writers Association.

A breakdown of donations by county follows:

2009 Totals

Penobscot: 14,947 pounds, 5 dozen ears of corn

Androscoggin/Sagadahoc: 3,750 pounds

Franklin --3,200 pounds

Kennebec -- 530 pounds

Piscataquis -- 600 pounds

Somerset -- 664 pounds

Knox/Lincoln/Waldo -- 7,509 pounds

Cumberland --9,519 pounds

Washington -- 1,700 pounds

Oxford -- 4,610 pounds; 65 dozen ears of corn, 60 loaves of bread

York -- 32,208 pounds

Hancock -- 1,511 pounds

Grand Total: 80,748 pounds, 70 dozen corn, 60 loaves of bread

UMaine Selects EMMC/Norumbega to Operate On-Campus Health Center

12 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Kelly Pearson at (207) 973-7740

ORONO-- The University of Maine has informed Eastern Maine Medical Center that it has chosen the Bangor-based medical provider's subsidiary Norumbega Medical Specialists LTD to take over operations of its on-campus Cutler Health Center facility. UMaine chose EMMC/Norumbega

from three bidders at the end of a process the university initiated more than two years ago to improve student access to health care services.

"Eastern Maine Medical Center is an outstanding health care provider and an ideal partner in this effort," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance. "The EMMC organization is well-equipped and superbly prepared to assume this important role and we look forward to a long relationship that will benefit our students and others in our community."

The university and EMMC will now enter into negotiations for the purpose of developing a detailed operating agreement. The transition is expected to take effect on Jan. 1, 2009.

"We are gratified the university has chosen EMMC/Norumbega to deliver primary care services to the students in Orono. We, too, look forward to a strong, collaborative relationship, and to the role we will now play in the lives of UMaine students." says Deborah Carey Johnson, RN, president and CEO of Eastern Maine Medical Center. "EMMC

Turkey Tips for 2008: Old Traditions Pose Risks

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Beth Calder, 207-581-2791

ORONO, Me.--Some of our traditional holiday meal practices pose potential food-safety threats, according to University of Maine Cooperative Extension experts. For example, consumers should know that turkey should never be thawed on the counter, stuffing a turkey is not recommended, and one should not eat food that has been left sitting out for more than two hours.

"Foodborne illness can be an uninvited guest during the holidays," says Extension Food Science Specialist Beth Calder. She offers several food safety tips to ensure a safe holiday season:

Buying a turkey

Many people prefer the taste of fresh turkeys, but properly frozen birds will maintain good quality for at least one year. Fresh birds should be purchased no more than one or two days before cooking to ensure best quality, and they should be kept refrigerated until cooking. Frozen birds should be purchased early enough to allow time for safe thawing.

Calder recommends avoiding fresh pre-stuffed turkeys. Only buy a pre-stuffed turkey if it is frozen and USDA-approved.

Do not thaw it before cooking, and follow the package directions, she says.

Thawing a turkey

One should never thaw a turkey on the counter at room temperature, Calder says, because bacteria can multiply on the surface of the turkey before the inner turkey completely thaws. There are three ways to safely thaw a frozen (not pre-stuffed) turkey: in the refrigerator, in cold water, or in the microwave oven.

To thaw in the refrigerator, allow plenty of time: up to three days for a 12-pound turkey, four days for a 16-pound turkey, and five days for a 20-pound turkey. A good guideline is 24 hours for every four to five pounds of frozen turkey. The optimal refrigerator temperature is 40

UMaine Symphonic Band to Perform at Bangor High

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine Symphonic Band has been invited by the Bangor High School Band to perform a joint concert at the school's Peakes Auditorium. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday Dec. 4, 2008.

The Bangor High School Band, under the direction of Scott Burditt, will open the program with Eine Kleine Nachtmusik by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and continue with Prelude On An American Spiritual by Carl Strommen and Pueblo (Land Of Ancient People) by John Higgins. A student teacher from UMaine, Sarah Michaud, will conduct Prelude On An American Spiritual. The UMaine Symphonic Band, under the direction of Curvin Farnham and assistant directors Scott Burditt, Trevor Marcho and Richard Romanelli, will perform a full program of band music including Variations On America by Charles Ives, Candide Suite by Leonard Bernstein and Festive Overture by Dmitri Shostakovich.

The guest soloist for the evening will be saxophonist Christopher Strange, a 2001 UMaine graduate and a doctoral candidate in saxophone performance at the University of Kentucky. While at the University of Maine Chris studied with professors Louis Hall and Karel Lidral. He spent a year touring with the Glenn Miller Orchestra as lead tenor and performed at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. Strange has also taught at UMaine's summer music camp, MSYM.

Strange will perform Ballade for solo saxophone and band by Alfred Reed, and will premiere a new work for saxophone and band, Sax and Spend, by UMaine composer Beth Wiemann. Wiemann, chair of the Music Division at the University, is an internationally known composer whose compositions have won awards from the Ovis Foundation, Copland House, the Colorado New Music Festival, American Woman Composers, and Marimolin as well as various arts councils. Wiemann wrote Sax and Spend in the spring of 2008 especially for Chris Strange and the UMaine Symphonic Band.

The concert is free to the public.

Volunteers Needed for UMaine Online Yearbooks Project

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, 207-581-1696

ORONO -- Visitors can already browse digital pages from every University of Maine Prism Yearbook from 1894 to 1997, but volunteers are now entering data that will make the UMaine Yearbooks Online website searchable by name and year of senior class.

After the first phase of scanning and editing of images was finished for the Raymond H. Fogler Library website, people began asking whether the information would be fully text searchable. As the volumes are primarily graphic in nature, the staff found it prohibitively labor-intensive to offer full text searchability. However, an effort to create a name index began with the test of a pilot page for the Class of 1949. All 794 names were entered into an initial database and tested. After assessing the potential for this added feature, the library put out a call for volunteers via the project website.

"We were delighted when Brian Bouchard of earlyMaine.org came forward," says Sharon Quinn Fitzgerald, head of the technical services department at Fogler Library. "Brian not only offered to contribute to entering data for the index, he offered his considerable programming skills to provide a database front end that eases the way for volunteer participation." As a result of this successful partnership volunteers have indexed the seniors for the years 1894 through 1940 in addition to the original 1949 project. This information is already available to the public through both the Fogler Library Web portal and the earlyMaine.org website.

"We think this community project will be of great interest and value to genealogists as well as UMaine alumni and friends, and there is more work to be done," notes Fitzgerald. Anyone with computer access can participate from any location.

Those interested in volunteering can email Brian Bouchard at brian@earlyMaine.org.

Former UMaine Student Charged with Computer Crime

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine police, working with the Maine State Police's Computer Crimes Task Force, the Lewiston Police Department and the U.S. Secret Service, have arrested James Wieland, 26, of Lewiston on charges related to privacy invasion. Police arrested Wieland late Wednesday in Lewiston, charging him with Aggravated Criminal Invasion of Computer Privacy. That crime is a felony under Maine law.

The UMaine Dept. of Information Technologies staff assisted police during the three-week investigation. Police became concerned in October when a UMaine student reported having received a suspicious email message. That student was alarmed because she knew that the sender was away from computer access when the message was sent.

Police now believe that Wieland may have gained access to as many as 1,000 UMaine email accounts -- almost all of them belonging to students. By using those pirated accounts, police allege that Wieland distributed a keystroke logging program delivered as an attached file which appeared to come from a sender known to the recipient.

Once the user downloaded the file, his or her computer activities became visible to Wieland, according to the police account. They believe that this is how he gained access to an increasing number of accounts and gradually expanded the number of addresses from which he could send messages with the program attached.

Investigators believe that Wieland began this activity in August of 2007, or perhaps earlier, and that it continued until this week. He was a UMaine student, studying business, from the fall of 2000 through the spring semester of this year.

"This is a reprehensible offense, made worse by the way it was delivered," says Chief Noel March, UMaine's Director of Public Safety. "By targeting victims one at a time and shielding his identity, the perpetrator committed crimes invisible to detection through network security mechanisms. This is a wired community, and we depend on computer networks to conduct every aspect of our mission. Crimes of this nature are most serious and they will not be tolerated at UMaine."

March says that police do not yet know Wieland's motivation or what he did with the information. There have been no reports of concerns related to identity theft.

UMaine sent email messages on late Wednesday to those believed to be victims of these attacks. A separate message informed all members of the UMaine community about the situation and provided reminders of computer privacy protection measures. The UMaine IT staff is working with those affected to eliminate the offending program from their computers.

UMaine Psychologist Joins Special Delegation to China

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Doug Nangle, (207) 581-2045 (after Nov. 20); George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- A University of Maine psychology professor is part of a delegation of 20 American psychologists currently in China exploring ways to help the world's largest country with a major healthcare problem: mental illness and insufficient resources to deal with it.

The delegation returns Nov. 20 after nearly two weeks in the People's Republic of China, meeting with leading psychologists and medical school faculty, and touring schools where young Chinese psychologists are trained.

"The goal is to form connections and collaborations with Chinese colleagues," says Douglas Nangle, professor of psychology and director of UMaine's doctoral training program in clinical psychology. "This focuses on clinical psychology and attempts by the Chinese to integrate psychology into their healthcare system. China, even more than the U.S., emphasizes medical and psychiatric approaches to mental health problems, and psychological approaches are not all that well developed."

Led by the clinical psychologist Norine Johnson, researcher, author and pioneer in the field of psychology, the group hopes to learn about progress Chinese psychologists have made in recent decades addressing mental health as a part of Chinese healthcare.

China has a very long and proud tradition of a more holistic approach to medicine emphasizing mind, spirit and body, according to Nangle, who left with the delegation on Nov. 9. Western mental health practices were first introduced by missionaries in the late 1800s, but their progress was halted under the communist rule of Mao Tse-tung from 1949 to 1976. The Communist Party of China dismissed mental illness as something political in nature that could be corrected through re-education. Since the late 1970s, when China began opening up to Western nations and influences, the nation of 1.3 billion people has seen revitalized interest in integrating Eastern and Western approaches to mental illness.

Nangle, who began teaching a graduate course this fall at UMaine on mental health services in China, says Chinese healthcare experts conservatively estimate as many as 113 million people are in need of psychological treatment. The lack of trained professionals, facilities and treatment options, particularly in rural China, is a major challenge facing the Chinese people, he says.

Though most epidemiological studies suggest the prevalence of psychiatric disorders is less than in the U.S., there is evidence that substance abuse, suicide, depression and divorce are on the rise, Nangle says. Many speculate that these problems are associated with the rapid economic expansion.

"Even with the lower prevalence estimates, if you consider just the sheer number of people, it's an unbelievable need," says Nangle. "We'll be learning more about mental health issues and their healthcare systems, and creating an exchange that will continue after the delegation returns to the U.S."

The delegation is being arranged through People to People, an American international program established in 1956 to

help people of different nations learn to live in peace through better communication and person-to-person interaction.

The psychologists' delegation will do most of its networking in the cities of Beijing, Guilin and Shanghai.

The group also will visit some of China's famous gardens, temples and tourist attractions. The trip has special personal meaning for Nangle. He and his wife April O'Grady, also a UMaine psychologist, have an adopted Chinese daughter and hope to adopt a second Chinese girl in the near future.

UFO's for Thanksgiving at UMaine Planetarium

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341

ORONO -- Like the Native Americans at the first Thanksgiving feast, some people today may think they have very strange guests coming to dinner when they see lights in the November sky.

Two brilliant lights will grace the southwest sky after sunset this month, and they are moving like planets should in orbit around the sun. These lights are the brightest planets -- Venus and Jupiter -- that can be seen from Earth. And Venus is so close to the sun, it will move quickly, passing close by the slower and dimmer king of the planets, Jupiter. As the days of November pass, Maine skywatchers can see the separation between the two shrink until they come within 2 degrees of one another (equal to two finger-widths at arm's length) on Nov. 30.

The alien quality of this phenomenon has prompted more than one phone call from curious observers to the University of Maine's Jordan Planetarium, says planetarium Director Alan Davenport.

"A tiny bright light seen low in the open, dim sky may seem to drift and jump around due to a trick of the eye known as 'auto-kinetic motion,'" he says. "Even stranger, the constant planets don't shine steadily when seen low in the sky. Twinkling can be seen with dimmer planets. Bright planets like Venus will often appear to change color as their light is refracted through Earth's turbulent atmosphere."

Although these bright lights may change color and move about, Davenport says, area residents can "rest assured the only aliens coming to Thanksgiving dinner are the in-laws they have had close encounters with before."

Venus is 16 degrees from Jupiter on Nov. 14, but will move enough daily to pass two degrees below the giant planet by Nov. 30. On that day, a slim new moon crescent will join them, but the most stunning scene will be Dec. 1. On that day, a crescent moon, Venus and Jupiter will form a group just 3 degrees across.

This bright encounter is featured in the star tours being shown at the Jordan Planetarium throughout November. On "Hubble Vision Fridays" at 7 p.m. and "Black Holes Saturdays" at 7 p.m., visitors can see exactly where to find these planets in the Maine sky and how they'll move.

For information and reservations to Jordan Planetarium star shows, visit their web site www.GalaxyMaine.com or call 581-1341.

UMaine Grad Student Receives EPA Fellowship for Cancer Research

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

A University of Maine student in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is one of 22 students in the country who were selected to receive a Greater Research Opportunities fellowship from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Jamie Young of Portland received one of only two awards granted in New England for her research regarding potential exposure of the general public to hexavalent chromium and arsenic, two environmental pollutants known to be lung carcinogens.

Her research will focus on developing a model for understanding the toxic interactions between these environmental contaminants that commonly are found in drinking water. Young's study, which she is conducting at the University of Southern Maine's Wise Laboratory of Environmental and Genetic Toxicology, is slated to run from Sept. 1, 2008 through Aug. 31, 2011.

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers students a doctoral degree in biomedical sciences and is a collaboration that consists of: UMaine, USM, The Jackson Laboratory, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Eastern Maine Healthcare's Maine Institute for Human Genetics.

EPA supports several fellowship programs as a way to address the country's environmental workforce needs.

EPA's Greater Research Opportunities fellowship program helps build environmental studies programs at universities with limited funding for research and development. A total of 156 applicants competed this year for 22 fellowships, according to a press release from the agency.

Since the fellowship program began in 1995, EPA has awarded more than 2,200 fellowships. All applications for EPA's fellowship programs are peer reviewed. Graduate fellows receive up to \$37,000 a year to complete their degrees. The undergraduate program pays tuition and a stipend for the junior and senior years of study and includes a summer internship at an EPA facility. The undergrad fellowship provides up to \$17,000 per year of academic support and up to \$7,500 of internship support for summer.

For more information, visit:

UMaine Rallies Volunteers for Holiday Giving

13 Nov 2008

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- In what may be an unprecedented coalescence of volunteer groups at the University of Maine, students and employees have been responding to an unusually tight economy by raising money, collecting food and gifts and volunteering time on behalf of area families stressed by tough economic conditions.

Dozens of organizations have been rallying hundreds of members and friends on and off campus to contribute when and how they are able. The majority of the proceeds, gifts, food or support will go to people and families served by Manna Ministries or its affiliated food pantries and kitchens, but some will benefit UMaine employees and retirees, organizers say.

A list of campus efforts is here:

The

Bodwell Center for Service & Volunteerism is partnering with Crossroads Ministries and The Wilson Center for its

annual Holiday Sharing Program. Unwrapped gifts of no more than \$25 in value can be dropped off at the Bodwell Center on the third floor of the Memorial Union. The longstanding program provides area families with an outlet for gifts and needed items to give to their children in December. Last year, the center provided for more than 300 area children. Volunteers anticipate a higher number this year because of higher unemployment and the shrinking economy.

Gift ideas include: hooded sweatshirts of all sizes, polar fleece throws, scarves, hats and mittens; bath and body kits or makeup and shaving supplies; arts supplies; stuffed animals; movie passes, DVD movies or video games; gift cards; socks of all colors and sizes; desk lamps; bedding or twin electric blankets; sports watches; action figures; and dolls and accessories. For more information, call Craig DeForest at 581-1796.

Printing Services & Mailing Services

personnel are collecting personal care items as a part of Neighbor Helping Neighbor, under the auspices of Manna Ministries.

Members of the university community are being asked to reach out to friends and neighbors to support those who are economically stressed or have lost jobs and need assistance, moral support and understanding. The printing service is asking people to donate new, unused personal care and personal hygiene items at its offices in the Keyo Building on Rangeley Road, next to University Credit Union, or at the University Bookstore.

Personal care items include: toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss, antiperspirant, moisturizing lotion, lip balm, soap or body wash, sponges or washcloths, shaving cream, men's and women's razors, band aids or first aid kits, 2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner, Q-Tips, tissues and toilet tissue, combs and brushes, baby care products, clean new undergarments and clean, new socks.

For more information about the Personal Care Item Drive, please contact Kim Sawtelle or Kate McPherson at Printing Services, 581-3768, on First Class, or at printing_services.umit.maine.edu.

The Classified Employee Scholarship Committee

(CESC) is again selling its popular double-sided wreaths for \$17 and, new this year, 12-inch wreath table centerpieces with a 3-inch red candle votives for \$10 to generate scholarship funds for dependents of UMaine's classified employees. The wreaths and centerpieces are being made by Chemistry Department administrative assistant Jean Desrochers.

The committee also is selling homemade pumpkin, apple and strawberry rhubarb pies as part of the fundraising.

The wreaths, centerpieces and pies will be delivered on the Monday before Thanksgiving. For more information or to place an order, contact Amy Goode at 581-2321 or at amy.goode@umit.maine.edu.

The UMaine Student Athlete Advisory Committee recently collected more than 700 cans for the Crossroads Resource Center in Old Town during its Halloween "Trick or Eat Food Drive." Members of the women's soccer team, volleyball team, women's ice hockey and men's and women's swimming and diving participated. Team members went trick or treating on Halloween, but collected canned goods instead of candy.

Advisory committee members also will collect Toys for Tots at upcoming basketball and hockey games. And on Thanksgiving Day, members of the women's basketball team -- 10 players and four coaches -- will be serving dinner at the Bangor Homeless Shelter. For more information, contact Brandi Rideout, student athlete services coordinator, at (207) 581-1828.

UMaine Circle K

, a student community service organization operating under the auspices of Kiwanis International, is collecting money for its third annual "Turkey Hunt Challenge 2008." The club is challenging all student organizations and Greek Life to donate \$10 to buy a turkey for a needy family in the Greater Bangor Area this Thanksgiving. Drop by the Turkey Hunt table in the ground floor of the Memorial Union through Wednesday, Nov. 19, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., to donate, or contact

Danielle Young or Meghan Butler via FirstClass and set up a time and place to drop off donations. The drive will benefit Manna Ministries. Young says the club wants to raise at least \$350 to buy at least 35 turkeys.

Campus Crusade for Christ Food Drive

collected non-perishable foods earlier this month for Manna Ministries and the Crossroads food pantries. In exchange for items donated, participants received a raffle ticket for prizes including gift certificates for Irving Oil stations; Ampersand The Store; UMaine Student Recreation and Fitness Center; Harvest Moon deli; Margarita's restaurant; Pat's Pizza; The Governor's'; Spotlight Cinemas; a day pass at the Old Town-Orono YMCA; and bowling. The goal was to collect 10,000 pounds of food before Thanksgiving. Alvin Winslow (827-1240) is the contact person for Campus Crusade.

Classified Employees Advisory Council

president Robin Arnold (581-2398) is working on plans to create a permanent food pantry and thrift shop on campus. As part of their effort, volunteers are collecting food items to create 10 baskets for Thanksgiving or for December holidays to go to UMaine employees or retirees in need. Arnold says volunteers are coming forth from employee groups, with plenty of support and participation from UMaine student organizations.

For more information about Manna Ministries, Inc., headquartered at 629 Main St. in Bangor, call 207-990-2870 or visit its website (www.mannamaine.com).

Also this year, UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, in collaboration with the University Bookstore, is conducting its annual children's book drive, a 31-year old program that has provided thousands of books for children and young adults to area youth through the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis Club.

The public is invited to donate unwrapped new books suitable for toddlers through teens to the office of college dean Anne Pooler at 151 Shibles Hall on the UMaine campus. University Bookstore is offering 25 percent discounts on any children's books purchased there from Nov. 17 to Nov. 26. For information, contact Theresa McMannus at 581-2441.

Page Farm & Home Museum Opening 'Holiday Shoppe' Craft Fair Dec. 6

13 Nov 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum will hold its annual Holiday Shoppe craft fair Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Just in time for the holiday season, the old-fashioned shoppe brings together Maine crafters and artisans to display and offer their unique goods for sale. The event is free and open to the public, with plenty of free parking, says museum director Patricia Henner.

Among this year's shoppe offerings are wrought-iron Christmas ornaments, hooks and stocking hangers forged by a blacksmith from Eddington, in addition to items hand-knitted and felted by the Friday Fiber Friends, along with wreaths, reproduction toys and homemade soaps. Edibles such as fresh cow and goat cheeses from Olde Oak Farm in Orono will be available for purchase. And Black Dinah Chocolatiers of Isle au Haut will be selling scrumptious hand-crafted chocolates, Henner says.

"Those who attend are sure to discover wonderful gift ideas, as well as Maine's thriving community of crafters," she adds. "Good tidings and cheer will also be present."

More information is available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-4100. The farm and home museum website (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm) also has details about its many public outreach programs for young and old.

Students Learn Innovation Challenge Mystery Object: Water Bottles

14 Nov 2008

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, 581-1427
George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- How many ways can you send a message or create a new value-added product with a plastic water bottle? That's precisely what more than a dozen student teams at the University of Maine will ponder over the next few days as part of the 2008 Global Entrepreneurship Week through Nov. 19.

They're now off and running in an international competition stemming from Stanford University and spanning the globe. College students from at least 55 institutions from 12 countries are participating in the Web-based Global Innovation Tournament, which starts with the question, "How would you change the world with an everyday object?"

The challenge is to create uncommon new uses for everyday objects like post-it notes, rubber bands, and now, plastic water bottles. On Wednesday, evening more than 30 students gathered at UMaine's Foster Innovation Center -- which is coordinating participation by UMaine students -- to discover that the mystery object to be the center of this year's creativity and innovation is the ubiquitous water bottle.

By Monday, Nov. 17, student teams must come up with an idea, make a 2-3-minute video demonstrating and explaining it, and upload it to a YouTube website, where judges at Stanford will select the best.

Of the UMaine entries, a panel of UMaine judges will select the top videos for a screening party at 7 p.m. at Foster Innovation Center on Wednesday, Nov. 19. Prizes will be awarded, including one for a best-video audience pick, according to Jesse Moriarity, coordinator of UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center. The evening may ceremoniously play out like Emmy awards night in Hollywood, she adds.

Moriarity says the contest, which UMaine became a part of this year, has generated enthusiasm, excitement and already a sense of creative thinking among students.

"I would anticipate that we would get around 12 or so videos," says Moriarity. "I have heard some great ideas; obviously some sort of sustainability or green-themed project comes to mind for a lot of folks. We've heard about art projects and home-decor items, as well as 'message in a bottle' ideas, and also using water bottles as a construction material.

"The cool thing is that they can use any materials they'd like with the water bottles and Stanford has said that 'the interpretation of the object (water bottles) is pretty wide open -- any quantity, size, color, material, shape, with or without water, etc.," she says.

Videos of previous winners are available on [Stanford's Entrepreneurship Week Web page](#). Winning creations have included: rubber bands used to identify locally grown produce in grocery stores; a rubber band-link jump rope; a giant rubber band frame system on which students attach their "secrets" anonymously; an infomercial parody about an elastic band product to prevent shoe laces from becoming untied; and short dramas about capital punishment and about condom use.

Information about the contest, related Web links and the Foster Student Innovation Center are available on the [center's](#)

[website.](#)

Replenishing MaineCard Funds Online Now Just a Click Away

14 Nov 2008

The MaineCard Online Office is now in service with many of the same functions and services offered by on-campus MaineCard kiosks and the Student Service Center in the Memorial Union. Students, parents, guardians and all UMaine employees can now add funds to their Black Bear Bucks accounts from the comfort of their own computers, according to Auxiliary Services. Instead of inserting cash at MaineCard kiosks on campus or at the Student Service Center, MaineCard holders can replenish their Black Bear Bucks accounts with a credit or debit card. By using the online service, parents and guardians can easily and safely use credit cards from anywhere in the country or world to send funds to a MaineCard campus ID. The MaineCard Online Office system will send an email notification of all deposits, and has taken every step and made every precaution to ensure the MaineCard Online Office is a safe site, where all account, financial and personal information is always secure. The MaineCard Black Bear Bucks can be used virtually anywhere on campus for purchases, including at all Black Bear Dining halls, laundry facilities, the University Bookstore, copiers at Fogler Library, printing at various departments, MaineBound rentals and fees, tickets for Maine Center for the Arts events and athletic concessions. Using Black Bear Bucks at any Black Bear Dining location on campus generates a 5 percent discount for the user, in addition to not paying sales tax, a total savings of 12 percent. Though many off-campus merchants accept Black Bear Bucks, the MaineCard discount applies only at on-campus dining locations, and only students, faculty and staff are eligible. The following area merchants participate in the Black Bears Bucks program: Old Town's McDonald's and Dunkin' Donuts (across from Hannaford), Orono's Lissus, Orono House of Pizza, Pat's Pizza, and Bangor's Pizzeria Uno and China Wall. Black Bear Bucks can be used to purchase groceries -- but not alcohol or tobacco products -- at Bell's IGA in Orono. For more information on the program or to start using the MaineCard Online Office, please visit the [MaineCard Services website](#) for simple instructions.

UMaine Scientists Discover Another Reason for Glacial Acceleration

17 Nov 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Gordon Hamilton, 581-3446

ORONO, Maine - Using nearly 50 years of data, University of Maine researchers have determined that subglacial floods in East Antarctica caused a rapid and short-lived acceleration of a major outlet glacier.

Leigh Stearns and Gordon Hamilton of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, along with Benjamin Smith of the University of Washington, observed that the flow rate of a large outlet glacier in East Antarctica increased by about 10 percent in response to the flooding of two subglacial lakes.

The team's findings are based on a 48-year record of ice velocities along Byrd Glacier, East Antarctica along with recent satellite observations of ice surface elevation and ice velocities from NASA's Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer instrument on NASA's Terra satellite; the Ice, Cloud and Land Elevation Satellite; and Landsat; as well as SPOT and Japan's Advanced Land Observing Satellite, and have been reported in a Nature Geoscience paper.

"We saw that there was this very rapid acceleration of the glacier that we didn't initially have an explanation for," Hamilton said.

It wasn't until Stearns presented these observations at a conference last year that we recognized the connection between the glacier acceleration and the subglacial drainage event.

"After my presentation," explains Stearns, "Ben [Smith, co-author] and I compared the timing of the flooding event that

he measured, and the acceleration of Byrd Glacier, and were excited to find that they occurred at roughly the same time."

The increase in ice flow speed coincides with rapid changes in ice surface elevation about 200 km upstream, which the research team interprets as the filling and draining of two subglacial lakes.

"Our work shows that the speed of the glacier can change by a very large amount," Hamilton said. "It only lasted for a year, but if the same process happens again at a larger scale, sea level could rise much quicker."

For the past year, some of the team's colleagues have been mapping subglacial lakes and discovered that they are quite prevalent.

"Our understanding of why they occur is minimal," Hamilton said, noting that it previously was thought that these lakes were stable and relatively inactive.

"The more we look, the more we see that these lakes fill up and drain," Hamilton said.

"One of the implications of this work," explains Stearns, "is that the addition of even a small amount of water to the bottom of a glacier can cause significant acceleration. While the changes taking place on Byrd Glacier are not caused by climate-driven processes, they highlight the sensitivity of glaciers to small changes."

Future investigations are expected to look at other subglacial lakes to measure their activity and determine how to include subglacial flooding in current ice sheet models for more accurate predictions of sea level changes.

"We need to include all the important processes that cause the ice sheets to grow and shrink," Hamilton said.

UMaine Students Conducting Tourism Study

17 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A group of 16 University of Maine Business School students is conducting a study of Maine residents' attitudes toward tourism. The research involves a brief online survey. The students are hoping residents across Maine will visit <http://umainetourismsurvey.com> to provide their input.

The results of the study will provide a better understanding of tourism in Maine, for potential use by academics, policymakers and planners.

UMaine Scientist Unlocking the Secrets of Sea Slug that Lives Like a Plant

18 Nov 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Mary Rumpho-Kennedy, (207) 581-2806

ORONO, Maine -- Photosynthesis generates the oxygen needed for life on earth as well as the biomass for food and biofuel production. The process is driven by the absorption of the sun's energy by tiny green "bodies" called chloroplasts. The "solar-powered" sea slug *Elysia chlorotica* has fascinated scientists for years because of its ability to retain "stolen" chloroplasts and carry out photosynthesis as if it was a plant.

Although they are slugs, these small green creatures aren't the yellowish-brown slimy slugs that people typically think of. Rather, they are emerald green marine molluscs that look like a plant leaf, and only need to eat early in their life cycle.

University of Maine biochemistry professor Mary Rumpho-Kennedy has been studying these creatures since 1987, and her recent ground-breaking research offers some insight into the potential for evolution of photosynthesis in an animal through symbiosis and gene transfer.

As their first meal, the sea slugs suck out the cellular contents of their algal prey and retain the green chloroplasts in cells lining their digestive gut. With this special type of symbiosis, the sea slugs never need to eat again; instead, they survive for months on sunlight and air -- just like a plant -- by carrying out photosynthesis.

Rumpho-Kennedy's work, recently published in the "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA," explains the possibility that when the sea slug feeds on its algal prey it not only acquires chloroplasts, but also algal nuclear DNA.

The algal nuclei go through the sea slug's gut and are broken open releasing the algal DNA. This DNA is either taken up freely floating by cells lining the gut or it is transferred by some type of vector, possibly a virus. The foreign DNA then becomes part of the animal nuclear DNA transferring genetic information from the algal nucleus to the sea slug. This DNA contains the genetic information to make chloroplast proteins essential for photosynthesis to continue. Animal DNA does not contain these genes and thus, cannot support photosynthesis.

"When you eat lettuce, the chloroplasts and nuclei go through your gut but the enzymes chew them up and digest them," Rumpho-Kennedy said. "With the sea slug, the chloroplasts aren't digested and the animal turns green. The sea slug has to acquire these chloroplasts once each generation or development stops."

Scientists have long studied a phenomenon called vertical gene transfer, in which genetic material (a copy of one's DNA) is passed on from an organism's ancestor to the next generation.

They've also studied horizontal gene transfer between prokaryotes (typically a single cell organism that lacks a nucleus which contains its genetic material), or from a prokaryote to a eukaryote (that has a nucleus that contains its DNA), or more rarely, between two closely related eukaryotes. But the idea of horizontal gene transfer between two unrelated multicellular eukaryotes, from an alga to a mollusc in the case of the sea slug, is something new.

Rumpho-Kennedy ultimately hopes to discover how the sea slug is able to get the algal DNA into its system and make it work, determine the minimal requirements for photosynthesis, and understand how the foreign material avoids destruction in the sea slug.

It will take additional research to determine why the sea slug's immune system doesn't attack the foreign chloroplasts or DNA, but the discovery could lead to breakthroughs in understanding immunity and disease.

"A lot of parasites can fool the immune system," Rumpho said. If scientists can determine how the chloroplasts are able to avoid detection in the sea slug, they may be able to determine how parasites are able to attack humans.

She noted that humans have more sophisticated immune systems than sea slugs, but the mollusc still should try to attack the foreign green bodies and DNA within their cells. Instead, the sea slug retains the chloroplasts intact and incorporates the foreign genes from the algal nucleus into its own nuclear genome. Rumpho-Kennedy and students in her lab are continuing to look at various possibilities to explain this.

"Understanding this unusual organism gives a whole new meaning to 'going green!'," she said.

Rally to Support Black Bear Football Team Thursday Afternoon

19 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine plans a community rally to show support as the Black Bear football rides a six-game winning streak into a Saturday showdown with the University of New Hampshire.

The rally is scheduled for 12:15 p.m. Thursday Nov. 20 at UMaine's Memorial Union.

UMaine and UNH will square off on Saturday at noon. The winner takes the Colonial Athletic Association North Division championship and enhances its possibilities for participation in the national playoffs. The Black Bears' last conference championship was in 2002.

Coach Jack Cosgrove and some of the players will address the crowd, as will UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Athletic Director Blake James. The rally will also feature the UMaine band and cheerleaders.

News reporters covering the rally may park in the Hauck Auditorium circle, as close as possible to the Memorial Union building.

Renowned Site Plan Artist, Sculptor Buster Simpson to Lecture Nov. 24

19 Nov 2008

Contact: Owen Smith, 581-4358

ORONO -- UMaine's College of Engineering, the Maine Arts Commission and Intermedia Visiting Artist Program are presenting a lecture Nov. 24 by renowned West Coast sculptor and site plan artist Buster Simpson, whose work ranges from stand-alone gallery sculpture to magnificent parks and creative outdoor spaces encompassing the history, culture and aesthetic considerations of a site.

"Buster Simpson: The Art of Poetic Utility, A Presentation of Recent Work," is scheduled from 7-8:30 p.m. at Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

An active artist since the 1970s, Simpson has worked on major infrastructure projects, site master plans, signature sculptures, museum installations and community projects. Some of his work includes a light rail bridge, sustainable water infrastructure fountains and a campus campanile.

His master plans have included a 40-acre sustainable arts plan for downtown Vancouver, British Columbia, a \$1.8 billion wastewater treatment plant, and presently he is engaged in a 14-mile streetscape master planning project in Doha Qatar.

Recent installations include, "Parable" for Sound Transit, "Iceblade" in Vancouver and "Instrument Implement" at the Water Environmental Center at Walla Walla Community College in Washington state.

Simpson's work incorporates ecological, historical, social and aesthetic considerations, "contextualizing them into the site-specific values of place," according to Simpson's biographical information.

For more information, please visit the artist's website (www.bustersimpson.net)

Page Farm & Home Museum Offers Holiday Wreath Workshops

19 Nov 2008

Contact: Patricia Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum will hold its annual wreath-making workshops Nov. 29 from 12-2 p.m., and Dec. 2 & 3, from 6-8 p.m., offering participants an opportunity to enjoy a hands-on start to the holiday season.

Local craftsperson Claire Ackeroyd, who has been conducting wreath workshops at the museum for nearly 13 years, will offer both novice and expert wreath-makers the materials and instruction necessary to take home a fresh decorative wreath to last for months, says Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director.

A \$15 charge covers the cost of materials -- one 12-inch ring, balsam fir tips, pine cones, berries and colored ribbon, in addition to light refreshments.

Because space will limit participation to 15 people for each workshop, Henner encourages early registration.

"These workshops always fill up quickly. They're very popular because people can create their own wreaths to hang over the holiday season or give as gifts," she says.

For people who wish to buy a locally made holiday wreath, Henner says the museum will sell completed wreaths, starting Nov. 29, for \$15 -- of which \$6 is donated to help support the non-profit, educational museum's programs. These wreaths are made at both the museum and local farms with five pounds of fresh, fragrant and hand-wrapped fir bough tips and are decorated with pine cones, berries and ribbon.

Call ahead to order during normal museum operating hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For reservations, to place an order, or for more information, call 581-4100.

UMaine has Good Showing at Chem-E-Car Competition

20 Nov 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; John Hwalek, (207) 581-2302

Picture of UMaine's car is available upon request -- corrections include quote attribution and team leaders.

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine placed 10th out of 29 universities that competed in last weekend's national Chem-E-Car competition in Philadelphia, according to the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

The Chem-E-Car competition, first raced in 1999, allows students to apply their knowledge of chemical engineering principles while helping build interest and expertise in alternative fuels.

Team members design and construct a chemically powered vehicle within certain size constraints that also must be able to carry a specified cargo. The winner was determined by a combined score that includes points for traveling the correct distance and for creativity.

"We feel that UMaine had a good showing," said team leader and UMaine junior Gregory Worster. "We experienced a few setbacks at the competition and feel that we overcame them to the best of our ability. All of the competing teams performed exceptionally this year, and we look forward to a strong showing at the next competition."

In this year's event, students were challenged to transport 250 milliliters of water 60 feet.~ Each team received two

chances to run their cars, with their final score being their best attempt at meeting the established distance.

UMaine's Hydrogen Fuel Cell Car originally was designed by a group of 14 students during the spring 2008 semester. This team was made up mostly of seniors who graduated in May. Starting in September, the current eight members continued with the work.

The members are: sophomores Mathew Pagurko and Jeffrey Galle; juniors Mike Subilia II, Ian Hamilton, Thomas Schwartz, and Gregory Worster (team leader); and seniors Jessica Englehart (team leader) and Sarah Hodgins.

"Fine tuning, calibration, and preparation were done almost every day between the beginning of September and the competition [on Nov 16]," Schwartz said. "In the weeks before the competition we worked long days to ready the car as well as complete our regular school work."

UMaine's car first competed in the Northeast Regional Competition at Massachusetts Institute of Technology last April and took first place.

The cars aren't very large -- about 24 inches long, 12 inches wide and 10 inches tall -- but the technology behind them is somewhat complex. The car is powered by a proton exchange membrane Hydrogen fuel cell, which consists of 15 membranes separated by graphite plates. The hydrogen gas reacts with oxygen from the air to produce power which is sent to the motor.

"Our car was designed to be very safe, and safety is a large part of the Chem-E car competition," Schwartz said. "The materials of construction and the design of the car were selected with safety in mind, encompassing both chemical and mechanical aspects."

Cornell University came in first at last week's competition and took the top prize of \$2,000 with their Hydrogen Fuel Cell Car nicknamed "The Bender."

Finishing in second place and taking home \$1,000 was Louisiana State University, using citric acid and sodium carbonate.~ Taking third place and \$500 was Texas A&M, which used chemicals making hydrogen gas to propel their car.

The American Institute of Engineers, which holds the competition each year, is a professional society of more than 40,000 chemical engineers in 92 countries.

Order of Finish:

Cornell Univ. -- 0 inches from the finish line

Louisiana State Univ. -- 10.5 in.

Texas A&M Univ., College Station-- 11.5 in.

Univ. of Akron -- 19 in.

Cooper Union -- 21 in.

Bucknell Univ. -- 24 in.

Univ. of Utah -- 27 in.

Tennessee Tech -- 32 in.

Univ. of California, Davis-- 36 in.

Univ. of Maine --39.5 in.

Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville -- 44 in.

Manhattan College -- 45 in.

Univ. of Idaho -- 46.5 in.

Univ. of Oklahoma -- 48 in.

Carnegie Mellon Univ. -- 67 in.

Univ. of Missouri, Rolla -- 67 in.

Ohio State Univ. -- 80 in.

Univ. of Buffalo -- 86 in.

Univ. of Michigan -- 103 in.

Oklahoma State -- 109 in.

Brigham Young Univ. -- 116 in.

Oregon State -- 142 in.

Lehigh Univ. -- 153 in.

Rowan Univ. -- 224 in.

Kansas State Univ. -- 228 in.

Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis -- 264v

Univ. of Puerto Rico, 281 in.

Univ. of Wisconsin -- 599 in.

New Mexico Tech -- 676 in.

UMaine Professor Using State's Forests to Teach High School Students Science and Math

20 Nov 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; William Livingston, (207) 581-2990

ORONO, Maine -- A University of Maine professor is leading an effort to use Maine's forests to help teach science and math to local high school students.

William Livingston, UMaine professor of forest resources, received a \$77,352 one-year grant from the Maine Department of Education as part of the federal "No Child Left Behind" program. The funds will be used to provide

professional development and new opportunities for teachers to utilize Maine's forests as a teaching tool.

Livingston is the head of a partnership involving Edward Little High School in Auburn, Lewiston High School, Lewiston Regional Technical Center, Maine Tree Foundation, and Acadia Partners for Science and Learning.

"Maine's forest is an integral part of our state's economy and way of life," Livingston said. "The complex nature of the forest system also provides many opportunities to study mathematics and science right outside the classroom. Our hope is to use the forest as a unifying theme that will help students better understand mathematics and science while at the same time seeing the connections between this knowledge and our everyday life."

The teachers already have established study sites in the forests next to their schools, and potential uses include not only studying trees and wildlife ecology but also modeling randomness of tree size and location, using math to calculate slope and erosion rates, and using tree movement and falling to study the physical nature of motion. Another potential project would have high school math classes working with Technical Center students to estimate how many products could be made from a tree and then go through the process of actually making the products.

During the coming academic year, partnership teachers will be involved in Web-based discussions and attending conferences and workshops. The process is designed for teachers to set the priorities for their professional development activities.

Professional development and learning activities also will take advantage of the community groups and professionals who deal with the area's forest resources.

The proposal for the grant, was written by Livingston with assistance from Shelly Mogel and Nancy Trembley of the Auburn School Department.

Other schools in the regions who are interested in joining the partnership should contact Dr. Livingston at 581-2990 or williaml@maine.edu.

Carnegie Foundation Names UMaine's Fernandez 2008 Maine Professor of the Year

20 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Ivan Fernandez, a University of Maine professor of soil science and cooperating professor of forest resources, has been selected as the 2008 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). The award was announced today in Washington, DC.

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.

Fernandez earned both master's and doctoral degrees from UMaine. He has been on the UMaine faculty since 1983. UMaine's 2007 Distinguished Maine Professor, Fernandez is a prolific scholar whose record includes more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, eight chapters and one book. Federal agencies and private industry have provided more than \$10 million in grant funding to support his research.

"I am humbled and honored to receive this recognition," says Fernandez. "It is incredibly rewarding to work every day with our exceptional faculty, staff and students in the classroom, laboratory and field sites. A benefit of doing this work for many years is also to watch our students go on to play critical roles in society in Maine and elsewhere, and to share the joy of their accomplishments with them."

His research efforts focus on changing chemical and physical climate and how they affect forest ecosystems. An enthusiastic and well-respected teacher, Fernandez has taught a number of undergraduate and graduate courses and a large introductory

soil science course, required for students in a several UMaine academic programs. He also strives to include students in his research, broadening their perspectives and deepening their knowledge of science and discovery.

"If I were to list the top five faculty members at the University of Maine, Ivan would be among them in any category -- undergraduate and graduate teaching, research or public service," wrote Prof. Stephen Norton in recommending Fernandez for this award. "He is the most balanced and highest-performing faculty member I have known at (UMaine) in 39 years."

Another faculty colleague, M. Susan Erich, noted Fernandez' professional and public service record of supporting the soil science profession at the state and national level.

"His efforts have helped to build and maintain relationships between the University of Maine and the U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, as well as state agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Protection, and various non-governmental organizations concerned with soil, water and natural resource issues," Erich wrote. "His work with these agencies supports his efforts to help students establish careers in the natural resources area after graduation."

Fernandez also served in a key organizing role at UMaine's successful recent conference "Climate Change 21: Choices for the 21st Century." He was a conference presenter and served as master of ceremonies for one of the conference's two days. Working with faculty and other partners, Fernandez is also playing a central role in organizing a Maine Climate Change Assessment involving numerous scientists with a report soon to be delivered to Gov. John Baldacci.

Additionally, Fernandez has served in a number of faculty and university community leadership roles including service on the UMaine Faculty Senate, a stint as faculty representative to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and a decade as department chair, along with numerous university, college and departmental committees.

"Prof. Fernandez represents the best characteristics of the University of Maine," says Todd Saucier, the president and executive director of the University of Maine Alumni Association who nominated Fernandez for this award. "He is dedicated to his students, the state and his alma mater. His work exemplifies the university's ideals and its land-grant mission because it has a direct impact on Maine citizens and our precious way of life."

UMaine MFA Student Wins Two Children's Music Web Awards

24 Nov 2008

Contact: Daniel Flannery, danieljflannery@gmail.com

ORONO-- Daniel Flannery, a student in the University of Maine's Intermedia master of fine arts program, has won two Children's Music Web Awards.

Flannery, an Oceanside, N.J., native, moved to Maine to create children's media with his brother, Mike, who runs the 32 Central recording studio in Bangor. Daniel Flannery has worked in the field of children's new media since 2001, when he began writing and producing music for a children's hip-hop project called MeeWee (<http://www.mee wee.com>). MeeWee is designed to provide children of the hip-hop generation with positive, educational music. To date, it has been successfully integrated into hundreds of school programs across the country. The album, "MeeWee: Hip Hop for Kids" was recently released and just won Best Album for School Aged Children in the 2008 Children's Music Web Awards.

Flannery's latest record, "Show Me How You Dance" is a collection of animal-inspired dance songs. After learning a

wide array of animal dances, listeners demonstrate how a person dances by performing their own unique moves. A track from this album, "The Crab Walk" won Best Song for School Aged Children in the 2008 Children's Music Web Awards.

Dan is currently pursuing an MFA in Intermedia at the University of Maine with a focus on exploring new ways to present abstract concepts, stories, and information to children through a variety of interactive media.

"In the MFA program, I am developing some new ways of approaching kids media other than the books and records that I had been making in the past," Flannery says. "My ambition is to start working on something of a Web-based children's Intermedia space where they are the artists and collaborators."

In addition to his work with MeeWee, Gap Kids released Flannery's song "Jumping Jacks" internationally in its stores. He has also performed at the Maine Discovery Museum. In his spare time, he plays in two bands: Ukulele Funk and Feel It Robot.

About the Intermedia MFA program at UMaine

The University of Maine is home to the region's only master of fine arts degree program in Intermedia. The student-driven program blends arts courses with research in areas including but not limited to environmental studies, engineering, business, social sciences and new media. MFA director Owen Smith explains that this interdisciplinary approach encourages innovation and creative problem-solving in a way that is applicable to any industry or creative application.

UMaine MFA Student Selected For Exclusive Quilt Exhibition

25 Nov 2008

Contact: Gabriella D'Italia, (207) 234-2542

Note: A high-resolution image that represents D'Italia's work is available from Kristen Andresen at 581-3742 or kristen.andresen@umit.maine.edu.

ORONO -- Gabriella D'Italia, a student in UMaine's Intermedia master of fine arts program, has been selected to participate in Quilt National 2009. The juried, biennial exhibition is dedicated to promoting the contemporary quilt as an art form.

D'Italia's *Black Finery* will be on display at the Cultural Arts Center in Athens, Ohio, from May 23 to Sept. 7, 2009. It will also appear in a full color catalog of the exhibition. Quilt National 2009 will then travel to museums and galleries throughout the United States.

The Quilt National exhibition reflects the vision of quilting as art that D'Italia plans to pursue in her Intermedia studies.

"It really changes the perception of what people think about as quilting," D'Italia says. "It really does effectively bridge the gap between art and quilting that a lot of laymen don't understand."

Black Finery is one of approximately 85 selections that represent unique approaches to the medium and that demonstrate the breadth and diversity of contemporary quilting. Jurors chose each piece in the show for originality, design, technique and craftsmanship.

About the Intermedia MFA program at UMaine

The University of Maine is home to the region's only master of fine arts degree program in Intermedia. The student-

driven program blends arts courses with research in areas including but not limited to environmental studies, engineering, business, social sciences and new media. MFA director Owen Smith explains that this interdisciplinary approach encourages innovation and creative problem-solving in a way that is applicable to any industry or creative application.

UMaine's DePoy Receives American Public Health Association Lifetime Award

25 Nov 2008

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236

ORONO - Elizabeth DePoy, professor of social work and coordinator of Interdisciplinary Disability Studies at the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, recently was honored with the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Disability Section of the American Public Health Association.

The award is presented to a person who, over the course of his or her career, has made a major contribution to the improvement of health and quality of life for people with disabilities in one or more areas of research, teaching or advocacy.

James Rimmer, chair of the American Public Health Association's Disability Section, presented the award during the association's recent 2008 Annual Meeting & Exposition in San Diego. Founded in 1872, the American Public Health Association is one of the oldest, largest and most diverse organizations of public health professionals in the world.

DePoy has authored or co-authored eight books, contributed chapters to many edited collections and published more than 60 peer-reviewed articles. Her recent publications include co-authored books on evaluation, disability and research.

Dorothy E. Nary, Disability Section Awards Committee chair, says DePoy's work, combined with her passion for literature in a wide variety of fields, "is unique, original and more importantly, significant in improving community responses to enhance the lives and health of all individuals including those with disabilities.

UMaine's Innovation Tournament Awards Announced

26 Nov 2008

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, 581-1427

ORONO -- The four student teams from UMaine that created novel ideas for repurposing the plastic water bottle as part of an international Global Innovation Challenge last week have received awards and recognition from the Foster Student Innovation Center on campus.

Founded and sponsored by Stanford University in recognition of Global Entrepreneurship Week Nov. 12-19, students from around the world -- more than 55 institutions from 12 countries -- had five days to come up with a new use for a common, everyday object as an indication of innovative creativity. The challenge was to create social, monetary or artistic value with the object. Previous objects have included post-it notes and paper clips. This year, the plastic water bottle was the focus of the competition.

Stanford University will announce the 2008 winners of the Global Innovation Challenge on Dec. 5 on its contest website

(<http://eweek.stanford.edu/2008/winners.html>), where winners from last year are currently available.

At UMaine, awards and winners were:

The Change the World Award, to Charles Drew, Nathaniel Wildes and Michael Carrington, who won dinner with former Gov. Angus King; the video is accessible at www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPKpkWzT9iQ.

The Most Growth Potential Award, to Alex Morrow, Dan Pierce and Zach Goater, who won a private concert for themselves and 50 of their friends; the video is accessible at www.youtube.com/watch?v=93ApjiG-Lb8.

The Life Savers Award, to Eric Crone, Tyler Thayer and Evan Manley, who won the Best of Orono package, and also received the Audience Choice Award; the video is accessible at www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Pp9yfB6dgo.

And the Persistence Award, to Eric Lovejoy and Joshua Gaylin; the video is accessible at www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cbID_Dls1Y.

"All of these students worked hard, quickly and creatively to come up with imaginative and innovative ideas," says Jesse Moriarity, coordinator of the Foster Student Innovation Center, and one of a panel of judges of the videos. "We are already looking forward to next year's Global Innovation Challenge."

UMaine Offering Public Administration Classes in Augusta

26 Nov 2008

Contact: Carolyn Ball, 581-4142

AUGUSTA -- The University of Maine's Department of Public Administration is offering three courses for the spring semester in the Augusta area for men and women with jobs, families or other obligations preventing them from traveling to the Orono campus.

Prospective students interested in learning more about these graduate-level classes are invited to call professor Carolyn Ball, director of graduate programs at 581-4142 to arrange an appointment, or stop by Room 300 in the Burton Cross Building, formerly called the State Office Building, adjacent to the State House in Augusta, on Wednesday, Dec. 5, between 9 a.m. and noon.

Courses are:

PAA 550, Seminar in Public Personnel Management, a consideration of selected problems in the public personnel management process, taught by UMaine associate professor Carolyn Ball, Tuesdays from 6-8:39 p.m. and starting Jan. 13.

PAA 620, Program Analysis and Evaluation, examining the design and implementation of evaluation methods to assess and improve the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of programs; taught by UMaine associate professor Kenneth Nichols, Wednesdays, 6-8:30 p.m., starting Jan. 14.

PAA 691, Topics in Public Administration: Leadership in a Fast-Paced World, about the rapid rate of change in modern organizations and the resulting increase in burdens on the leaders of those organizations, and various leadership styles and strategies to deal with them; taught by adjunct faculty member Chip Morrison, former commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor and current president of the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce, Mondays, 5-7:30 p.m., starting Jan. 12.

Classes are graduate level but may be authorized by special permission for qualified undergraduates. Students may earn a master's degree in public administration by taking all the required classes in Augusta.

To register by mail, write to Department of Public Administration, 5754 North Stevens Hall, Room 239, Orono, 04469-5754; in person, stop by Room 239 North Stevens Hall or call (207) 581-1872. Information also can be obtained emailing umpubadm@umit.maine.edu. Information about the Department of Public Administration is available on its website (www.umaine.edu/pubadmin).

House GOP Leader Tardy To Visit UMaine Dec. 5

25 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- State Rep. Joshua Tardy (R-Newport) will visit the University of Maine on Friday, Dec. 5 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Tardy, who is the House Republican Leader, will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members.

The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows program, which began in 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.

Tardy, an attorney who is about to begin his fourth term in the Maine House, represents District 25. That district includes Corinna, part of Corinth, Exeter, Newport and Plymouth.

He will speak with UMaine students in a Public Management class, participate in a panel discussion about research, visit a series of research facilities and meet with other groups during his time in Orono.

For a full schedule or to discuss coverage opportunities, contact Joe Carr.

Russian Affairs Expert Remington at UMaine Dec. 8

26 Nov 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Thomas Remington, a Harvard University visiting research scholar and Emory University political science professor, will visit the University of Maine for a Monday Dec. 8 lecture and panel discussion on contemporary Russian political affairs. The event is scheduled for 3-4:30 p.m. in 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

"Thomas Remington is widely regarded as one of the foremost experts on Russian political affairs in the English-speaking world," says Prof. James Warhola of the UMaine Dept. of Political Science.

Remington, who has spoken twice at UMaine before, has published numerous works on post-Soviet Russian political affairs. He travels to Russia and other former Soviet republics on a regular basis to conduct research.

The Dec. 8 program will begin with a public lecture by Remington, who will focus on prospective U.S.-Russian relations under the Obama administration. A panel discussion featuring Remington and UMaine Adjunct Political Science Professors Seth Singleton and Paul Holman, will follow. Warhola, who, like Singleton and Holman, has extensive expertise in Russian affairs, will moderate the panel discussion.

This event is made possible by a grant from the University of Maine Distinguished Lecture Series & Cultural Affairs Committee.

Annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale at UMaine Dec. 13

26 Nov 2008

*Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904
George Manlove, 581-3756*

ORONO -- The annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration is scheduled at the University of Maine Dec. 13, offering the public a special opportunity to acquire Native American artforms from members of Maine's four tribes, as well as learn about Maine Indian history and culture through demonstrations of basketmaking, carving and birchbark working techniques, traditional music and storytelling.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UMaine Student Recreation and Fitness Center, more than 40 Maine Indian artists will display and sell hand-crafted fancy baskets and utility baskets, woven as they have been for centuries.

The recent closing of the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance gallery and shop in Old Town makes the annual basketmakers sale one of only three opportunities a year to see and purchase authentic, traditional baskets and Wabanaki art. The December sale event has been coordinated and hosted by the UMaine Hudson Museum for 15 years.

The sale and demonstrations are free and open to the public. It is one of the largest Native American gatherings in Maine and it typically attracts hundreds of people from throughout the state and New England, in addition to basket collectors from across the country, according to Gretchen Faulkner, director of the Hudson Museum.

"This annual holiday event features Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot basketmakers, who sell their hand-made, one a kind, ash splint and sweetgrass basketry here on the UMaine campus," says Faulkner. Work baskets, such as creels, pack and potato baskets and fancy baskets ranging from strawberry- and blueberry-shaped baskets to curly bowls can be found along with porcupine quill jewelry, wood carvings and birch bark work.

Traditional foods served up by the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club, music, traditional drumming and dancing, and demonstrations of brown ash pounding, basketmaking, carving and birchbark work all will be part of the day's events.

More information can be obtained by calling the Hudson Museum at 581-1904.

A schedule of events follows:

9 a.m. event opens to the public;

9:30 a.m., a welcome with Penobscot Chief Kirk Francis and traditional greeting songs with Watie Akins of the Penobscot Nation;

10-11:30 a.m., a book signing with Kathleen Mundell author of North by Northeast: Wabanaki, Akwesasne Mohawk,

and Tuscarora Traditional Arts;

10 a.m., brown ash pounding and work basket demonstration with Micmac Eldon Hanning;

10:30 a.m., a birch bark container demonstration and talk on maple sugaring with former Penobscot Chief Barry Dana;

11 a.m.-1 p.m., traditional foods, featuring hull corn soup, fry bread and blueberry desserts; Food sales benefit the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club;

12 p.m., traditional Penobscot songs with Penobscot Kelly Demmons;

1 p.m., storytelling with John Bear Mitchell of the Penobscot Nation;

1:30 p.m., carving demonstration with Eric Sappier and Joe "Hugga" Dana, both Penobscots;

2 p.m., fancy basket demonstration with Stuart Tomah, a Passamaquoddy;

2:30-4 p.m., Burnurwurbskek Singers drumming, singing and dancing;

4 p.m., drawing for the Hudson Museum Friends Maine Indian Basket Raffle; this year's basket is a traditional decorated birch bark container by Barry Dana, a Birch bark artist. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and will be available the day of the event.

More information about the Hudson museum and its programs is available on its website (www.umaine.edu/hudsonmuseum).

Maine Tree Club Offers Outings and Education

01 Dec 2008

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, Me.-- 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. University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum coordinate the program.

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 University of Maine Cooperative 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 2009 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 various 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 10X 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.

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. 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."

UMaine Cadets to Square Off in Wednesday Game

01 Dec 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine Army and Navy ROTC students will play a Wednesday morning flag football game, battling for bragging rights that will last at least until next Saturday's traditional game between the service academies.

The UMaine game is scheduled for 6 a.m. in UMaine's Mahaney Dome. The Navy cadets won last year's game, the first between the UMaine ROTC groups.

2008 Holiday Tree Sale to Benefit Forestry, Wildlife Student Scholarships

01 Dec 2008

Contact: Louis Morin, 481-2854

ORONO -- The University of Maine's School of Forest Resources is holding its longstanding annual holiday tree sale for scholarships through Dec. 14, in front of the Nutting Hall courtyard.

Forestry students expect to sell more than 100 Fraser fir or balsam trees, 4 feet tall and up for \$16-\$36, says Louis Morin, forest resources instructor. Proceeds benefit a scholarship fund for forestry and wildlife students' summer field camp training programs.

The trees, from UMaine alum Toby Hall and his wife Cynthia's Hall's Christmas Tree Farm in Sangerville, will be available on campus:

Monday through Thursday, Dec. 1-4 and Dec. 8-11, 3 p.m. to dark;

Friday, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, noon to sunset;

And the weekends of Dec. 6-7 and Dec. 13-14, from 9 a.m. to dark.

For additional information, Morin can be reached at 581-2854. The annual holiday tree sale at UMaine began in the 1950s.

UMaine Scientists Hope New Microscope System will Answer Important Biological Questions

02 Dec 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Samuel T. Hess, (207) 581-1022

Scientists at the University of Maine have developed a new way of looking at the molecular organization of cells by creating a microscope system they call FPALM (Fluorescence Photoactivation Localization Microscopy).

They already have used FPALM to image living cells with membranes that contain a protein that enables infection by the influenza virus. They also have used the system to image a variety of other biological and some non-biological systems.

"In principle, FPALM can be used to image any sample that can be labeled with an appropriate fluorescent marker," UMaine physics graduate student Travis Gould said.

Influenza uses a protein, hemagglutinin (HA) to infect healthy cells. In the first step of infection, HA enables the virus to attach to the membrane of a healthy cell.

It is believed that how the individual HA molecules are arranged in the membranes is crucial for infection to occur. Unfortunately, due to the limited resolution of conventional microscopes, it hasn't been possible to create images of such molecules on a small enough scale to test the biological models that predict how they may be organized.

"This problem was actually the motivation for inventing FPALM in the first place," Gould said. "In our work on this question we were able to image living cells and disprove several of the existing models of membrane organization."

The recent extension of FPALM to include three-dimensional imaging and provide information about the orientation of single molecules will greatly increase the ability of FPALM to address important biological questions."

The system breaks a fundamental limit on the resolution of lens-based microscopes, known as the diffraction barrier, that has existed for more than 100 years.

UMaine graduate students Gould and Mudalige Gunewardene, research scientist Manasa Gudheti, and professors Julie Gosse and Samuel T. Hess of UMaine, along with colleagues at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Maryland, recently had their findings published in the "Nature Methods" science journal.

When detecting light through a lens-based imaging system, in this case a microscope, structures smaller than about half the wavelength of the detected light can't be resolved because of diffraction. Diffraction is the phenomenon that occurs when a wave, such as light, encounters an obstacle, such as a lens.

A normal microscope looks at all of the molecules at once, which can make the individual molecules difficult to see. It's like trying to pinpoint individual drops of water in a stream.

The FPALM system uses photoactivatable dyes to identify individual molecules and separate them.

"Surprisingly, it is relatively easy and inexpensive to adapt conventional, commercially available microscopes for FPALM imaging," Travis Gould says. "In fact, in labs where conventional fluorescence imaging is already being performed, the only additional equipment required would be a camera sensitive enough to detect the light emitted by a single molecule and potentially an additional laser."

While it does take longer to produce an image using FPALM, the system provides about 10 times better resolution. Its resolution capabilities exceed those of the most powerful confocal light microscopes currently available.

UMaine to Host BioEnergy Forum

02 Dec 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine will host the Atlantica BioEnergy

Task Force Research and Development Forum on Wednesday, Dec. 3, and Thursday, Dec. 4. The task force is comprised of regional and federal government and industry organizations, and post secondary institutions seeking a better understanding of what opportunities may exist for the regions' forestry sector. The task force is supported by a team from PricewaterhouseCoopers that has been systematically examining opportunities in the area of wood-based BioProducts while considering sustainable use of resources, current regional operations, maturity of new technologies, the current regulatory environment and the economic impact. This week's event, coupled with a summit held last week in New Brunswick, is the culmination of a study completed by the task force and PricewaterhouseCoopers. The R&D Summit is being hosted by regional post-secondary institutions to discuss the gaps that may exist between industrial needs and current R&D within the field. The forum being held at UMaine will explore how to take the opportunities identified in the report and turn them into tangible business opportunities in this region. The forum will begin Wednesday at Hauck Auditorium with registration at 8:30 a.m. After lunch, the event will move to Wells Conference Center for the remainder of the forum.

Hope Elementary School Receives Sports Done Right Accreditation

03 Dec 2008

Contact: Karen Hawkes at (207) 581-2443

ORONO, Maine -- Union #69 (Hope Elementary School) is the latest district to join the ranks of Sports Done Right accredited school communities in Maine. The Sports Done Right Board of Directors unanimously approved Hope Elementary School last month, noting impressive progress and implementation strategies. With this newest accreditation, Maine's mid-coast continues to lead the state in sports reform efforts. To date, four school districts and one recreation department in the mid-coast region have received Sports Done Right accreditation, while several others are actively engaged in the candidacy process.

"I am extremely impressed with the work being done in the Hope community," says Karen Hawkes, director of the University of Maine's Maine Center for Sport and Coaching, the headquarters for the Sports Done Right program. "The committee responsible for implementing Sports Done Right has done an outstanding job increasing opportunities for student-athletes while making clear connections between sports and learning. Hope Elementary will serve as a respectable model for other elementary and middle schools in the state."

The accreditation of Hope Elementary School will ensure continuity for students as they advance to Camden Hills Regional High School. Five Town CSD (Appleton, Camden, Hope, Lincolnville, Rockport) received Sports Done Right accreditation last fall. Other accredited school communities in the mid-coast region include MSAD 5 (Rockland, South Thomaston, Owls Head), MSAD 28 (Camden, Rockport) and Rockland Recreation.

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 young people. 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.

More information about the Sports Done Right program is available by calling the MCSC at (207) 581-2443 or online at www.sportsdoneright.org.

UMaine Dressage Club Growing

04 Dec 2008

Contact: Gina Edwards at gina.edwards@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- Bolstered by seven new first-year students who joined up this fall, the University of Maine Dressage Club is the largest it has even been, with 12 students involved. For the first time, UMaine will field two teams for International Dressage Association (IDA) competitions. Tryouts for the spring season began earlier this week at Puckerbrush Farm in Newburgh.

Earlier this fall the dressage club hosted the season's first IDA show with the help of coaches Bryn Walsh and Becky Reed, who own Puckerbrush Farm. Participants in the show, at Puckerbrush Farm, included Johnson and Wales, the University of New Hampshire and Bridgewater State. One of the highlights was Kristein Brown, a sophomore from Brewer, earning high point honors at a show at Johnson and Wales. That recognition goes to the rider with the day's highest score.

In order to make these shows and other club activities possible, members have been working hard to raise funds to support the club.

For example, team members recently spent a day at Puckerbrush Farm cleaning bridles, saddles and other pieces of tack -- for a fee -- for horse owners who board their animals at the farm. Because the response was so favorable, it may become a monthly event.

UMaine Climate Change Institute Community Lecture at Bangor Public Library Wednesday

05 Dec 2008

Contact: Gregory Zaro, 581-1857 or Gregory.Zaro@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- Stephen Norton, University of Maine professor emeritus of Earth sciences, will present the second lecture in the UMaine Climate Change Institute's monthly series, "Climate Change on Planet Earth." The lecture is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the Bangor Public Library.

Norton, an internationally known geochemist, will discuss "Maine's Air Pollution History: Distant Past to Near Future." In this lecture, Norton will share how archival natural records help scientists reconstruct aspects of Maine's chemical climate since deglaciation (about 14,000 years ago), and how direct measurements enable us to understand what has happened over the last few decades and what could happen in the future.

The lecture series is intended to make the science of climate change accessible to a broad audience. All lectures are free and open to the public.

UMaine to Host Ceremony in Honor of Passamaquoddy Dictionary

05 Dec 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; UMaine Wabanaki Center, (207) 581-1417

More than 30 years of hard work and dedication has culminated with the publication of the first-ever Passamaquoddy-Maliseet dictionary.

The book, published by the University of Maine Press, is authored by Passamaquoddy tribal elder David A. Francis; Robert M. Leavitt, former director of the Mi'kmaq-Maliseet Institute at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton; and Margaret Apt, community research coordinator and Passamaquoddy language teacher at Eastport's Shead

Memorial High School.

An Honoring Ceremony for the release of the book will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the University of Maine's Wells Conference Center. The event is hosted by The Passamaquoddy Tribe and UMaine's Wabanaki Center.

"It's everything a dictionary like this should be," Michael Alpert, director of the University of Maine Press says. "I'm really glad that the university is part of this."

"A Passamaquoddy-Maliseet Dictionary" contains 18,000 entries on more 1,200 pages and was a collaborative effort among native speakers, educators, and linguists.

The language is spoken in Maine and New Brunswick, Canada but never has been recorded in this form. For generations, American Indian culture and custom has been passed down primarily through oral tradition, but little has been formally documented.

Each dictionary entry includes sample sentences from both traditional and contemporary conversation and provides details of Passamaquoddy-Maliseet thought and culture, personal attitudes, humor, and linguistic ingenuity, according to information printed on the book's jacket.

In the dictionary's preface, written by Imelda and David Perley who have spent many years trying to preserve the Maliseet language, they refer to the dictionary as "a Sacred Bundle containing ancestral teachings, values, beliefs, and worldviews."

"For nearly half a century many individuals, including myself, have been committed to making sure that the next generation has the tools and methodology essential to their own creativity in future endeavors," Wayne A. Newell, Passamaquoddy elder and member of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees, writes in the Preface. "This dictionary stands as the centerpiece of our commitment."

To attend Wednesday's ceremony, RSVP by calling the Wabanaki Center at 581-1417.

UMaine Intermedia MFA Installation Students Host Freese Pop in Downtown Bangor

08 Dec 2008

Contact: Vanessa Vobis, cell:408-605-5846

BANGOR -- The Freese Pop art installation show, which features work by students in the University of Maine's new Intermedia master of fine arts program, will open on Friday, Dec. 12, at the Freese's building in downtown Bangor. An opening reception will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday.

"It's a great public announcement for the Intermedia program," says Owen Smith, director of the MFA program. "There's something for everyone. Some pieces are funny; some pieces are provocative; some pieces are evocative. It will be an experience for the art-inclined and the non art-inclined."

The show includes site-specific installations that explore themes relating to the building, its history and the artists' relationship to the community. The installations alter the space through a variety of media and materials including pancakes, old clothing, graffiti, wheat grass, and interactive digital technologies. The installations will be on view in the unoccupied first- and third-floor spaces of the former Freese's department store, next to the Maine Discovery Museum in downtown Bangor.

Students in Vanessa Vobis' installation art class have organized the show with her support. Vobis is a visiting art professor. Participating artists include John Bell, Richard Corey, Gabriella D'Italia, Bethany Engstrom, Julian Epps, William Giordano, Alexander Gross, Ryan Guerrero, Allison Melton and Abigail Stiers.

FreesePop will run Dec. 12-17. Open hours are as follows:

Friday, Dec. 12: reception 5-7p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 13: closed

Sunday, Dec. 14: open 3-7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 15: open 3-6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: open 3-6 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 17: open 3-6 p.m.

The Freese's Building is located at 10 Water St., at the corner of Water and MainStreets, in downtown Bangor. For more information, visit <http://www.freeseppop.wordpress.com>.

Page Farm & Home Museum Closing Over Holidays

09 Dec 2008

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Page Farm and Home Museum will close Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 3 p.m. for the holidays and will reopen Friday, Jan. 2 at its normal time, 9 a.m.

The farm and home museum's normal hours for visits and educational programs is 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays.

Call museum Director Patricia Henner at 581-4100 or visit the museum website at www.umaine.edu/pagefarm/ for further information.

Leahy at Bangor Auditorium with Maine Center for the Arts Performance "A Celtic Christmas" on Dec. 18

09 Dec 2008

Contact: Adele Adkins at (207) 581-1803; Joe Carr joecarr@maine.edu or at (207) 581-3571

Note: a photo is available upon request.

BANGOR, Me. -- When Leahy last appeared on the Maine Center for the Arts stage in 2004, they brought down the house with their compelling fiddle-driven music, meticulous step dancing and captivating vocals. This year, this spellbinding Canadian octet of brothers and sisters returns with a program that is sure to get audiences into the Christmas spirit. Leahy performs A Celtic Christmas, a mix of Celtic medleys and traditional Christmas carols, as part

of the Maine Center for the Arts season on the road at the Bangor Auditorium on Thursday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. With a style planted squarely in their Irish and Scottish roots, these talented siblings explore a broad range of musical genres and cultures with a formidable instrumental prowess. "Leahy makes Christmas a true family affair!," the Calgary Herald said in reviewing the group's performance.

*The Leahys (Donnell, Siobheann, Frank, Denise, Doug, Erin, Angus and Maria) were raised on a farm near Lakefield, Ontario. Each of the Leahy children (11 total) learned to play the Celtic fiddle from their father, while their mother taught them to sing, dance and play the piano. The siblings also learned a variety of instruments including guitar, banjo, mandolin, drums and bass, and during performances they often switch instruments, each demonstrating remarkable skills. The ensemble first gained attention as the subject of a documentary, *The Leahys: Music Most of All*, which won an Academy Award for "Best Student Foreign Film" in 1985. In 1998, Leahy gained international attention when fellow Canadian Shania Twain invited the ensemble to open her debut world tour. Since then, Leahy has toured actively, introducing audiences across the globe to their high-energy, thrilling and spellbinding performances. *Time Out New York* raved that the group makes "Riverdance look like Lawrence Welk re-runs." In addition, Leahy has released four acclaimed CDs, *Leahy, Lakefield, In All Things and Live*, which have sold more than half a million copies worldwide.*

Embarking on their first-ever solo Christmas tour gives the members of Leahy the chance to share a bit of the magic of the Christmas season that began when they were children and continues today. These Christmas traditions included not only honoring the sacredness of the season, but also partaking of good food, the company of family and friends, and copious amounts of music. A Celtic Christmas will offer audiences a peek in the window of the Leahy home to experience a bit of this holiday cheer themselves.

Charge by phone at 207-990-4444.

UMaine Scientist Working to Find Cure for Common Bloodstream Infection

10 Dec 2008

Contact: Robert Wheeler, (207) 581-2890; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Bloodstream infections frequently occur and commonly cause death among critically ill patients. Scientists at the University of Maine may have unlocked the answer to treating one of these infections that kills more than 30 percent of the patients it infects.

"It's an important clinical problem," UMaine assistant professor of microbiology Robert Wheeler said.

For years, humans have lived with a fungus on our skin and in our gastrointestinal tracts that typically stays dormant.

It has developed a sort of camouflage that prevents the immune system from eliminating it, while at the same time the immune system is able to prevent the fungus from creating an infection.

It's what Wheeler calls an "evolutionary give-take relationship."

*The fungus, *Candida albicans*, normally masks a special sugar in its protective coating that gives the cell rigidity but allows it to be attacked by the immune system.*

The sugar is called

Zeph Receives Service Award from Association of University Centers on Disabilities

11 Dec 2008

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236

Photo available upon request

ORONO - Lu Zeph, director of the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) and associate professor of education, recently was honored for six years of service (2002-2008) to the Association of University Centers on Disabilities' board of directors.

Zeph served as president of the board from 2005-2006. AUCD is a membership organization composed of three national networks of interdisciplinary, university-based centers dedicated to research, education, leadership training and policy development, and direct service for people with disabilities.

Zeph received the award from President-Elect Michael Gamel-McCormick and President William Kiernan at the AUCD Annual Meeting and Conference in Washington, D.C.

Since 1992, Zeph has served as the founding Director of CCIDS, Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. She has published and presented extensively in a number of public policy areas, including inclusive education and early intervention, community inclusion, and systemic change.

In 1999, she was awarded a Kennedy Public Policy Fellowship and served as a Congressional Fellow with U.S. Sen. Jim Jeffords and the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. In 2000-2001, while on leave from the University of Maine, she served as executive director of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation.

Memorial Ceremony Planned Dec. 12 for Mumbai Terror Victims

11 Dec 2008

Contact: Pank Agrawal, (610) 570-6903

The South Asian Association of Maine (SAAM) at UMaine has scheduled a memorial ceremony Friday, Dec. 12, at 4-5 p.m. at the Memorial Union to remember the victims of the terror attack in Mumbai, India. A ceremony and a short talk by Doug Allen, professor of philosophy, will be part of the hour-long program, being held in the FFA Room in the Union.

The University of Maine has been home to many students, faculty and staff from the South-Asian region for many years. The SAAM community extends its support and condolences to those who suffered in the attack on unarmed civilians and citizens of many nations. Members of the university and surrounding communities are invited to the program.

For further details, call Pank Agrawal, SAAM faculty adviser, at (610) 570-6903.

Warhola Paper Published in Forum on Public Policy

15 Dec 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Dr. James W. Warhola, a faculty member of the University of Maine, recently published a paper titled "Dilemmas of the Modern Secular State: The Case of Russia under Putin" in the Forum on Public Policy, a journal of the Oxford Round

Table. Dr. Warhola's paper was published in Volume 4, Number 1, 2008 edition of the Forum on Public Policy.

[*The Table of Contents is available on-line here.*](#)

The Forum on Public Policy is an online and hard copy, peer-reviewed, academic journal of the Oxford Round Table, Ltd., a not-for-profit educational organization chartered in England and Wales. The papers published in the Forum must, in the judgment of peers, make a significant contribution to a field of knowledge relating to a pertinent aspect of public policy and academic enquiry. Papers submitted to the Forum emanate from presentations and discussions at symposia of the Oxford Round Table held in Oxford, England.

UMaine Scientist Participates in Children's Climate Change Book

17 Dec 2008

Contact: Aimee L. Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Climate change is a difficult subject to explain to adults, but even more complicated to explain to children because of its magnitude.

In a new children's book, "How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate," University of Maine Professor Paul Mayewski and other scientists provided a glimpse of their research to author Lynne Cherry and author/photojournalist Gary Braasch, who in turn wrote the book to provide an educational platform to help today's youth understand and effectively fight climate change.

Mayewski also is the director of UM's Climate Change Institute.

The book is designed for children in grades four through nine, their teachers and parents, with the idea that these children will inherit a planet that is changing rapidly from the past.

"How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate" is based on Braasch's coffee table book "Earth Under Fire: How Global Warming is Changing the World." Braasch traveled around the world for eight years documenting evidence of climate change and following climate scientists. While working on the coffee table book, Braasch discovered that scientists are a lot like detectives and thought children would be interested in their work if it was correctly presented.

The book depicts scientists at work; teaches children the language, methods and process of science; imparts knowledge of technological tools and data collection; provides methods and ideas for school and home projects about weather and climate; describes and encourages participation in citizen-science programs; shows how each child can immediately reduce their carbon footprint and inspires them to do so by showing the effects of many kids working together already influencing communities to change.

The book also includes a reference section and a companion Teacher Guide with classroom ideas and even more information is available.

A preview of the book, additional resources, and purchasing information can be found at www.howwewknowclimatechange.com.

Study Shows Exercise May Mitigate Mental Risks Caused by 'Belly Fat'

17 Dec 2008

Contact: Greg Dore, (207) 581-2022; Pete Elias, (207) 581-2097; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- New research from the University of Maine Department of Psychology has established that that belly fat carried around the middle (central adiposity) is related to decreased cognitive (mental) functioning, with adjustment for multiple cardiovascular risk factors.

However, adjustment (statistical control) for physical activity weakened this relationship significantly. They also reported data consistent with the hypothesis that regular exercise has a measurably positive influence on mental ability and cognitive functioning.

This finding brings new information to earlier research by the UMaine researchers and others who previously established a link between being obese and decreased cognitive function.

In a recent study of more than 900 people participating in an ongoing, 34-year-old research project, psychology graduate student Greg Dore and UMaine psychology professors Merrill F. "Pete" Elias, Michael Robbins and Penelope K. Elias, and Marc Budge of the Australian National University Medical School, looked at the relationship between belly fat and cognitive performance. They found that study participants with less belly fat performed better in a large battery of mental tests than participants who carried extra pounds around the middle. Further, the study revealed that participants who reported getting regular exercise performed better on the tests, regardless of their weight.

The researchers discuss their findings in an article, "Relation between Central Adiposity and Cognitive Function in the Maine-Syracuse Study: Attenuation by Physical Activity," published recently in the Annals of Behavioral Medicine, a leading behavioral medicine journal.

The Eliases, Robbins and Dore do not define the amount of exercise an individual needs to mitigate effects of excess belly fat. But they do say they support recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control, that about 30 minutes a day of moderate physical activity like walking, hiking, bicycling or swimming is a reasonable goal for both better health and better cognitive performance.

Additional benefits of regular exercise include improved circulation and the development of "collateral circulation," microscopic arteries that facilitate blood supply to the heart and brain. The health benefits of exercise can be substantial, and any exercise is better than none, the researchers say.

The Maine Syracuse Longitudinal Study, which Elias began in 1975 as a professor at Syracuse University and David HP Streeten, professor of medicine at State University Medical Center in New York. In collaboration with Robbins and Penelope Elias, this work has continued at the University of Maine for more than 33 years and has resulted in several hundred published papers and presentations by Pete Elias and colleagues.

Dore was the principal author of the latest article, which reports on the study of central adiposity and cognitive function. He has co-published six scientific articles, including original research papers, editorials and letters to the editor, since he has been in training, and he has several that have been accepted for publication, pending revision.

UMaine Scientist Recognized For Images

18 Dec 2008

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Sara Lindsay, (207) 581-2739

ORONO, Maine They're far from a family portrait, but University of Maine marine science professor Sara Lindsay's images of tiny marine worms have earned recognition by two international imaging competitions.

Using confocal microscopy, which uses optical sectioning and lasers to create detailed images from specimens stained with fluorescent probes, Lindsay took~ images of the muscles in marine worms that she studies, constructing a three-dimensional picture of how the muscles are layered and intertwined in a whole worm.

Feeding, burrowing and building tubes in sand and mud requires coordination of a complex complement of muscles in marine worms. In her winning images, the muscles that control movement of bristles on the worm's body and the feeding tentacles are strikingly clear.

For her photos, Lindsay received an "Image of Distinction" recognition in the 2008 Nikon Small World competition, and an honorable mention in the 2008 Olympus BioScapes Digital Imaging competition.

She also was featured on Nov. 17 in the online edition of Scientific American as a featured winner of the BioScapes competition. Her image appeared in the site's slideshow.

Lindsay's images can be found at the following Web links:

UMaine Library Closing Next Four Saturdays

18 Dec 2008

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Raymond H. Fogler Library will be closed on the following Saturdays: December 20 and December 27, 2008 and January 3 and January 10, 2009. For complete hours please call 581-1664 or visit <http://www.library.umaine.edu/about/hours.htm>

New Recreation, Fitness Center Wins Another Award

19 Dec 2008

Contact: Kenda Scheele, 581- 1403; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine Student Recreation and Fitness Center has become one of 10 new building projects throughout the United States and Canada to receive a prestigious 2008 Athletic Business Facility of Merit Award from Athletic Business Magazine.

The award, accepted Dec. 5 in San Antonio, Texas by representatives from the UMaine Division of Student Affairs and the Canon Design firm in Boston, is the seventh major design award the 87,000-square-foot facility has received since opening in August 2007.

"Out of all the awards we have received, this is perhaps the pinnacle," says Kenda Scheele, senior associate dean of students, noting that the Athletic Business Magazine award is more competitive than many other design awards.

"It puts us on top at a national level. It really pushed the University of Maine out on the national stage. We get emails and phone calls from people all over the country who have read about these awards," Scheele says.

The largest building project ever undertaken by the University of Maine, the state-of-the-art center appears to be effective in inspiring UMaine students to get more exercise. One of the most advanced recreation and fitness centers north of Boston, it also has attracted large numbers of UMaine faculty, staff and members of surrounding communities.

Before the center was built, the university's previous fitness center, Latti Fitness Center at the Memorial Gym, saw about 2,000 people a week at the busiest times, according to Kristie Deschane, associate director for Campus Recreation, and Jeff Hunt, director of Campus Recreation and its programs.

At the new center, "we see over 2000 people on peak days, and average between 1500-1700 people per weekday during the academic year," Deschesne says.

"The number of people who are engaging in physical activities is just going through the roof," says Hunt.

Earlier this year, the center received the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association's "Outstanding Sports Facility" award, and also has received awards from the Society of American Registered Architects, the Associated General Contractors of America and Starnet Design Awards, among others.

The new recreation and fitness center also carries internationally recognized LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, which makes it one of the few silver-certified fitness centers in the United States, Scheele says. LEED certification rates new or renovated buildings in green design categories that include sustainability, efficiency and environmental quality.

The quality of the recreation and fitness center has helped with student recruitment and retention, according to Hunt, and it helps the university attract top-notch researchers and employees.

Robert Dana, dean of students, says the university expected the center to have an important impact on the campus in many ways.

"I am delighted to report that the impact, far greater than we predicted, has been transformative," he says. "The utilization is remarkable and day after day we hear students tell us 'this is central to my UMaine experience; I feel welcomed here and this place is the best.'

"Student satisfaction is remarkably high and this means high use. I couldn't ask for any better outcome," Dana says.

As of this week, the center had logged more than 465,000 member visits.

New Map Chronicles Champlain's 13 Years of Exploration in the St. Lawrence River Valley

23 Dec 2008

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Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571*

ORONO, ME. --To commemorate the 400th anniversaries of French explorer Samuel Champlain's founding of Qu

Martin Luther King Breakfast at UMaine Jan. 19

29 Dec 2008

Contact: Diane Khiel (dkhiel@adelphia.net); Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu)

ORONO-- The Greater Bangor NAACP and the University of Maine will host the annual Martin Luther King Breakfast Celebration on Monday Jan. 19 at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. Doors will open at 8 a.m., with the two-hour event scheduled to begin at 8:30.

Outgoing Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe will provide the keynote address. Rev. Dewey Fagerburg, a longtime NAACP member, will offer remarks reflecting on the national NAACP's 100th anniversary on Feb. 12, 2009. The program will also feature perspectives on the 2008 presidential election and President-elect Barack Obama, who will be inaugurated the day after the UMaine celebration.

Those who wish to purchase tickets should call 581-1428. They cost \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors citizens 65 and over, \$10 for high school and college students w/ID, and \$10 for children 12 and under.