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UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export 2009

UMaine Climate Change Institute Community Lecture in Bangor Jan. 14

02 Jan 2009

Contact: Gregory Zaro, 581-1857 or Gregory.Zaro@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- Gregory Zaro, assistant professor in the University of Maine's Anthropology Department and Climate Change Institute, will present "Ancient Civilizations, Archaeology and Environmental Change in South America" from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan.14, at the Bangor Public Library. Zaro's talk is the third installment in the Climate Change Institute's monthly lecture series, which is free and open to the public.

According to Zaro, humans are active components of the environment and have been manipulating the physical world for thousands of years. While modern industrial nations are often viewed to have the greatest impact on ecological change, ancient civilizations have also left long-lasting imprints on the landscape that continue to shape our contemporary world. In his lecture, Zaro will draw on his research from the Peruvian south coast to illustrate how archaeology can help reveal long-term ecological change and humans' role in that change.

Zaro spends several months each year in remote locations in Central and South America investigating the manners in which ancient civilizations interacted with their physical world. He is in his third year at the University of Maine, where he teaches courses centered on Latin American archaeology and the environment.

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.

University of Maine Museum of Art Winter Art Camp February 16 - 20, 2009

02 Jan 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at 561-3350

Camp Information:

Time: 8:30 -- 12:00

Dates: February 16 -- 20, 2009

Grades: 3rd - 5th Grade

Tuition: \$115; Members of the Museum of Art - \$100; Early Bird (by January 9) - \$90 (includes all materials).

The fifth annual UMMA Winter Art Camp, an in-depth art experience held at the University of Maine Museum of Art, is scheduled for Feb. 16-20 at the Bangor facility.

Camp participants will have direct access to the art being shown in the museum galleries and they will be able to create their own art in response to what they experience. Projects often include any combination of painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and drawing. Each week is packed with activities including behind-the-scenes tours, scavenger hunts, and a Friday reception and art show for family and friends.

The cost is \$115 for the week and includes all supplies. The Museum offers a discounted rate of \$100 for museum members. If you register your child by Friday, January 9, 2009 you will qualify for our discounted early-bird rate of

\$90. Class size is limited to ten.

To register online or to download a printable registration form, please see the Education page at www.umma.umaine.edu. Please call 561.3350 for more information or to register by phone.

Exhibitions:

Metaphysics of Landscape: Works by Timothy McDowell
A Bit of Colored Ribbon: Paintings by John Bailly
Gyotaku Prints by Boshu Nagase
January 16 - April 1, 2009

University Musicians Extending Tours into Portland, Boston

05 Jan 2009

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-1407; Curvin Farnham, 581-1254 or 581-4702

ORONO -- University of Maine musicians are extending performance tours in 2009 to Southern Maine and Boston, all part of an initiative to extend the university's cultural and artistic presence to wider audiences.

The University Singers and the UMaine Jazz Ensemble are scheduled to perform at Merrill Hall in Portland on March 19, and the 65-member Symphonic Band will perform at Boston Symphony Hall April 15.

It will be the second year UMaine has sent musicians to Merrill Auditorium and the first time to play Symphony Hall. Symphonic Band conductor and music professor Curvin Farnham says it's important for the university to be more visible in Southern Maine, particularly after the success of last year's performance by the Symphonic Band at Merrill. The concerts also are good for UMaine student musicians to experience some of the nicer concert halls.

"We had a very good crowd and there was a reception at the beginning of the concert with university alumni," Farnham says. UMaine President Robert Kennedy, who also attended the concert and spoke to the audience, "liked the concept that the arts were really having an impact in Southern Maine," according to Farnham.

The School of Performing Arts intends to continue with the Merrill performances, rotating ensembles from year to year. While the future of concerts in Boston is still under discussion, Farnham expects a good turnout from UMaine students, parents and UMaine alumni from Southern Maine, Southern New Hampshire and throughout the Boston area.

"Boston Symphony Hall is one of the finest concert halls in the world, without a doubt," he says. "It's the home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra."

Farnham will conduct the Symphony Band's Boston concert, which will begin after a companion performance by the Timberlane (Plaistow, N.H.) High School wind ensemble. Music professor Dennis Cox will conduct the University Singers and music professor Jack Burt will conduct the Jazz Ensemble for the Merrill Auditorium concert. The public and University of Maine alumni are invited to both concerts.

Choral director Cox plans a diverse program, including Renaissance motets ranging from "Ave Maria" by Jean Mouton to W.A. Mozart's "Laudate Dominum," and also Vaughan Williams' "Toward the Unknown Region," "Gloria" by Randol Bass, "Water Night" by Eric Whitacre, in addition to a gospel tune, "John the Revelator" by Sean Ivory.

The University Singers is an auditioned ensemble, with as many as 100 students trying out for 65 choral seats each year. Cox and the Singers have toured Europe, Canada and the United States since the mid-1980s.

For the Jazz Ensemble performance, Burt has planned a varied selection of big band music, featuring music from the libraries of the big bands of Buddy Rich, Stan Kenton and Thad Jones. Also featured will be music transcribed for big band from the great fusion guitarist Pat Metheny.

The Jazz Ensemble is designed for students from all academic disciplines at UMaine. It, too, is a highly selective ensemble and admittance is by audition. The band performs on campus, throughout the state, and also presents a live two-hour radio broadcast from the studios of MPBN Radio every April.

Scientists at UMaine Trying to Fill Ocean Data Void

05 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Mark Wells, (207) 581-4322

Scientists at UMaine Trying to Fill Ocean Data Void

ORONO, Maine -- The study of climate change has fueled the need for more detailed scientific data, and scientists at the University of Maine are doing their part to try and make it easier to collect some of those data.

UMaine scientists Mark Wells and Carl Tripp, and their colleague Whitney King at Colby College, recently received a nearly \$1.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to continue their work in developing a sensor to measure the micronutrients iron and copper in ocean water.

These metals are important for sustaining the natural growth of phytoplankton -- tiny plants that not only serve as the foundation to the marine ecosystems, but also sequester carbon dioxide, the predominant greenhouse gas responsible for global warming.

Currently, the process to measure iron and copper is time consuming, requiring that water samples be collected individually from large research vessels and be brought back to the lab for analysis.

"Even then, you can only get [measurements] from one spot at a specific time," Wells said.

Compared to the millions of measurements available for major nutrients such as nitrate and phosphate in the ocean, there are only about 3,000 to 4,000 iron measurements, and only about 400 of those are from the deep ocean. There are even fewer measurements of copper.

"Scientists need far more data on iron levels in surface and deep ocean waters to model climate change more effectively," Wells said. "And there is emerging evidence that copper also will be important in this goal."

The ultimate goal is to create a small sensor for measuring iron and copper that can be attached to a mooring, to drifting floats that travel vertically to collect data, or to underwater gliders. Gliders would be ideal, Wells said, because their underwater travel is controlled remotely and their data-gathering sensors can run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Until recently, we were a very long way away from developing such a sensor," Wells said. But his work with Tripp, King, UMaine doctoral graduate Cuihong Jiang and doctoral candidate Eric Roy over the last three years has led to the development of a novel nano-structured surface that is able to selectively bind iron from seawater using a combination of nanotechnology and biology.

"That's a big challenge because iron in the open ocean is at very, very low levels," Wells said. "To put it in perspective, we must measure a drop of food coloring added to an Olympic size pool. The difference between a drop and half a drop could have major consequences for how much carbon dioxide phytoplankton can sequester."

Using the four-year NSF grant, the researchers will modify their nano-structured surface so that it can be incorporated into a prototype sensing device for deploying on ocean observing platforms.

The joint research program will be done at UMaine and Colby College, and will provide both graduate and undergraduate students hands-on experiences in science and research fields.

Student Art Exhibit "Thought-Box" Opens at UMaine

06 Jan 2009

Contact: James Linehan, 581-3287; Laurie Hicks, 581-3247

ORONO -- The University Of Maine Department of Art's annual senior capstone exhibit is open to the public through Jan. 23 in Lord Hall, featuring nearly 100 works by 11 UMaine senior art majors.

The show, titled "Thought-Box," is both the culmination of students' art studies -- a show in which the seniors exhibit their best works -- and also an experience in the practical aspects of making a career as an artist, which includes knowing how to operate a small business and how to create a professional exhibit.

The works include paintings, drawings, lithographs, photography, sculpture and computer-generated art, says James Linehan, professor of art and instructor of the class, ART499, for which the show was required.

An opening reception was held last month. The exhibit is accessible at no cost from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It features work by students Joshua Bolduc of Orono, Sylvia Herbold of Bangor, Kevin Jewett of Wiscasset, James Mehorter and Emily Monroe of Orono, Randy Rackley of Howland, Skylar B. Richardson of Easport, Brandi Schissler of Detroit, Maine, Steven Schlipstein of Brewer, Eliza Steadman of Fryeburg and Lindsay Strout of Brewer.

Linehan says the show will be of interest to the public as it highlights student talent and also is "a good representation of what's going on in the art department right now."

The 11 students in the exhibit selected the works to be shown, framed and hung the work, arranged for the reception and handled other chores necessary to promote the exhibit.

Linehan says students in the class also learned about important but seemingly small details about life as a professional artist.

"A working artist is a small business person," he says. "There hundreds of thousands of artists in the country and many of them will find it difficult to live exclusively off their work, so they may need to be creative about their careers."

Half of all artists make their living in some form of teaching, Linehan says. Others may work in museums or art galleries, so they need to know about business management or publicity, in addition to understanding the nuances of putting together an exhibit.

University of Maine Museum of Art New Exhibits

06 Jan 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207) 561-3350

Note: Digital images to accompany this news release are available upon request. Contact Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu).

BANGOR, Me. -- The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present three new exhibitions beginning Jan, 16, 2009: A Bit of Colored Ribbon: Works by John Bailly, Metaphysics of Landscape: Paintings by Timothy McDowell and Gyotaku Prints by Boshu Nagase.

A BIT OF COLORED RIBBON: Works by John Bailly
January 16 - April 1, 2009

John Bailly's mixed media compositions examine the relationship of place and time, and also the artist's growing suspicion about the legitimacy of information in current society. His densely layered compositions include a barrage of seemingly unrelated visual images that illustrate his belief that perception is subjective. These works reflect "the chaotic nature of data and information," and the constant stream of images prevalent in our fast-paced world.

Among the diverse subjects in Bailly's works are depictions of cities derived from ancient maps. These are sites that have been either decisive in shaping world history, conquered culturally or militarily, or which were literally destroyed. Juxtaposed with the maps are illustrations of military battles, images derived from anatomy books, and directional arrows that represent troop movements.

A Bit of Colored Ribbon, which refers to a statement by Napoleon on national pride, explores the notion that people will go to extreme measures, even conflict and war, to preserve their sense of cultural identity. The exhibition also includes a selection from the artist's Place of Mind series, which is the result of a collaboration with critically acclaimed poet Richard Blanco.

METAPHYSICS OF LANDSCAPE: Paintings by Timothy McDowell
January 16 - April 1, 2009

Timothy McDowell's paintings reference the historic idiom of landscape painting, but the way in which the artist incorporates varied pictorial elements in his compositions are unmistakably contemporary. Meticulously rendered botanical images such as chrysanthemums, cacti, and conifer branches hover weightlessly over transparent layers of colors that evoke an ambiguous atmospheric terrain. Other elements often woven into McDowell's compositions include ornamental patterns extracted from Tibetan paintings and French tapestries.

Many of McDowell's works are created in encaustic, a medium in which ground earth pigments are suspended in heated beeswax, producing surfaces with heightened luminosity and texture. The paintings reflect a spiritual affinity with nature and underscore the artist's belief that through our individual sense of place we have an "awareness that is cataloged through our eyes, then re-conjured and romanticized by our minds." Timothy McDowell is Professor of Art at Connecticut College.

GYOTAKU PRINTS by Boshu Nagase
January 16 - March 20, 2009

Boshu Nagase is the principal living master of the printmaking technique known as "gyotaku." The term comes from the Japanese nouns for fish, "gyo" and print or rubbing, "taku." This uniquely Japanese form of printmaking is achieved in one of two ways: direct or indirect.

Direct gyotaku involves painting a fish with sumi ink and then pressing it onto paper resulting in a simple "stamped" print. With the indirect method the artist places very thin, wet paper or fabric on top of the fish. Colored inks are then applied in multiple layers creating a rendering far more detailed, luminous, textured and delicate than the direct method. This form of gyotaku printing is featured in the exhibition. These works have been selected from over 70 prints by Nagase from UMMA's collection.

Nagase has produced folios of gyotaku of the fish indigenous to the Great Barrier Reef, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Antarctic as well as the marine and freshwater fish of Japan.

University of Maine Museum of Art Digital Photography Workshop

06 Jan 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207) 561-3350

WORKSHOP INFORMATION:

Fee: \$75 Non-Members
\$65 Members/UMaine students with ID
Dates: February 28 and March 7, 9-1pm
Location: UMMA Classroom, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor
Contact: 561.3350

Do you wonder what the flower symbol means on the back of your digital camera? Do you agonize over which resolution to use? Do you know what resolution is? Would you like to learn how to print those pictures of your kids without wasting an entire day? Do you want to learn how to put them on a CD so that a photo lab can print them for you? Do you want to produce an art-quality image, but are not sure what settings or paper to use? Have you used only the automatic setting on your digital camera? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, this class is for you.

In two easy sessions learn how to use, or better utilize, your digital camera, optimize image quality on your computer, save your pictures, and print any size. This workshop is for the novice and the intermediate digital photographer.

To learn more please view the Workshops page in the Education section of our website at www.umma.umaine.edu or phone 561-3350. Class space is limited and fills quickly. You may register with a credit card by phone or drop by the museum with cash or a check.

University of Maine Museum of Art

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm.

Admission: Free through 2009 thanks to generous support from Machias Savings Bank.

UMaine Fitness Center's Popular Weight-Loss Challenge Returns

08 Jan 2009

Contact: Stephen "Brooks" Dyer, 581-1082

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Student Recreation and Fitness Center will kick off its "Big Bears to Little Bears" challenge on Jan. 19. Now in its second year, the popular weight-loss challenge is open to the public.

Over the course of three months, teams of three to five people meet for a workout with a personal trainer twice a week. Their trainer gives them a punch card with goals and tasks that must be completed to earn points. Participants are expected to attend group exercise classes; work with their trainer on a diet log; complete biweekly weigh-ins; and complete weekly team challenges. All of these will earn the team points, and the team with the most points at the end of the program wins.

"This program has been running for one year now, three times per year, with great success and many returning participants -- because they love the atmosphere," says fitness manager Stephen "Brooks" Dyer. "Most importantly, this program is open to anyone from anywhere -- we had someone traveling from Lincoln last fall."

Nonmembers must sign up for a three-month membership to compete. All participants must pay \$125 to compete -- the cost includes 24 personal training sessions and a group fitness pass.

An informational meeting will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 101 Neville Hall on the University of Maine campus in Orono.

This year's competition is sponsored by Subway, which will donate team jerseys, free subs, pedometers and water bottles to participants.

To learn more about UMaine's Student Recreation and Fitness Center, visit www.umaine.edu/campusrecreation/

Students to Brave the Cold Feb. 2-4 for Habitat for Humanity Housing

09 Jan 2009

Contact: Brenton Murray, 480-201-4678, or Tim Brauer, 203-414-6143

ORONO -- Students at the University of Maine will spend three days in the bitter cold next month to draw attention to substandard housing in the Greater Bangor area.

Feb. 2-4, members of the Habitat for Humanity -- UMaine Campus Chapter plan to stay in makeshift shanties on the University Mall. The event is titled "There's Snow Place Like Home."

Students will camp out in snow and ice alongside large sponsorship banners. They are seeking individual, group and corporate sponsors to join them in raising awareness about the problem of poverty housing. Proceeds from the sponsorships will help build houses for local families in need.

"This is a sub-zero drive to eliminate sub-standard housing conditions in greater Bangor," says Brenton Murray, a spokesperson for the group. "Winters are really harsh for people trapped in poverty housing. We'd like the public to think about local families who are struggling to survive this time of year."

Murray also noted that Maine State Housing Authority, MaineHousing, estimates there are approximately 3,000 substandard housing units in the Bangor area.

The students also are planning a concert Feb. 7 at 8 p.m. at Anderson Hall at 19 Bennoch Road in Orono as a follow-up fundraiser. A variety of local bands and DJ's will participate.

The Habitat for Humanity UMaine Campus Chapter is dedicated to eliminating poverty housing, and to making decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat for Humanity invites people of all backgrounds, races, religions and beliefs to build houses together in partnership with families in need.

For more information about the UMaine student chapter of Habitat for Humanity or sponsorship information, contact Brenton Murray at (480) 201-4678 or Tim Brauer at (203) 414-6143.

Life in the Fast Lane: Human Predators Change the Traits of Prey at Unnatural Speeds

13 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Michael Kinnison, (207) 581-2575

ORONO, Maine - As predators, humans drastically are accelerating the rate at which noticeable trait changes occur in wild fish and other harvested species. Indeed, harvested species are changing at rates over 300 percent faster than seen in more natural circumstances, according to the results of a new study co-authored by University of Maine biology professor Michael Kinnison.

The report, published Jan. 12 in an online issue of the "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences," is the first to combine many separate studies of harvested populations into one combined analysis, and it indicates that the impacts of fishing, hunting and plant gathering are far-reaching. Harvested populations are on average 20 percent smaller in body size than previous generations, and their age of first reproduction is on average 25 percent earlier.

The research builds on previous work conducted by Kinnison and colleagues that has assessed rates of trait change driven by other human activities, such as pollution and the introduction of species to new environments.

While the majority of this study focuses on impacts on wild fish populations, other subjects included intertidal invertebrates such as limpets and snails, as well as bighorn sheep, caribou, and two plant species. The study is the first to assess the pace of trait change in numerous commercially, recreationally, and scientifically harvested organisms and compare those rates to rates associated with other human activities and natural causes.

By harvesting vast numbers and targeting large, reproductively mature individuals, the research team concluded that human predation is quickly reshaping the wild populations that remain, leaving smaller individuals to reproduce at ever-earlier ages. Such selective harvesting can result in rapid evolution. Trait changes can also result in part from a process called phenotypic plasticity -- the ability of organisms to respond physiologically to environmental conditions within their own life times. Harvesting often changes the environments experienced by harvested species, such as by reducing densities and competition, and these environmental changes can result in phenotypic plasticity.

Scientists have often become stalled in debates on the relative importance of evolution or phenotypic plasticity in cases of harvest-driven trait changes.

"We hope our study refocuses the field back on the central problem -- the traits of harvested population are changing at unnatural rates regardless of the mechanism" says Kinnison. "Although such fast rates provide new insights into just how fast species can change, we should also be concerned whether those changes are sustainable".

Kinnison notes that shifts to smaller sizes might change species interaction, by making prey species more susceptible to natural predators or by tilting the balance of competition. Smaller sizes or earlier ages of maturation also often entails fewer offspring of lower quality which could hasten population declines or slow recovery.

"The public knows we often harvest far too many fish, but the threat goes above and beyond numbers," says the paper's lead author Chris Darimont, a postdoctoral researcher in environmental studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz..

"We're changing the very essence of what remains, sometimes within the span of only two decades," he says. "We are the planet's super-predator."

In addition to Darimont and Kinnison, Stephanie M. Carlson, assistant professor of environmental science, policy and management at UC Berkeley; Paul C. Paquet, adjunct professor of environmental design at the University of Calgary; Thomas E. Reimchen, adjunct professor of biology at the University of Victoria; and Christopher C. Wilmers, assistant professor of environmental studies at UC Santa Cruz, also contributed to the study.

UMaine Museum of Art Announces Free Admission for 2009, Unveils New Logo

13 Jan 2009

Contact: George Kinghorn at 561-3354

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art will ring in 2009 with a new logo -- and another year of free admission.

A generous donation by Machias Savings Bank will cover the admission fee for all individuals and groups who visit the museum through the end of 2009. This is an extension of the bank's gift of free admission in 2008, in memory of the late UMMA benefactor Edward "Ted" Leonard.

"We're making the contribution for two reasons," says Machias Savings Bank President and CEO Edward Hennessey. "One, we think it's a great cause and two, we want to continue one more year in memory of Ted Leonard, who was a longtime friend of the bank and a strong supporter of the museum."

As a result of the 2008 gift, UMMA saw a 46 percent increase in visitation -- more than 2,000 new, first-time museum-goers -- over previous years. Many of those have been school children who otherwise wouldn't be able to attend, as schools statewide have tightened budgets for both travel and arts education.

"In tough economic times, a sponsorship such as this is particularly important," says UMMA Director George Kinghorn. "Machias Savings Bank's contribution has been invaluable in providing access to the visual arts to the broader community."

In addition to accessibility, Kinghorn would like the museum to have greater visibility in the community and beyond. To that end, on Tuesday he ceremonially unveiled a new logo that underscores the museum's ties to UMaine as well as the university's commitment to the arts statewide.

The logo features the words, "UMaine Museum of Art" in UMaine's signature shades of blue, along with a geometric graphic element that abstractly references a picture frame or an open door.

"This sends a very strong message of the important role the University of Maine plays in the visual arts throughout Maine," Kinghorn says. "Our goal is to make the experience for visitors warm and welcoming, and the new logo sends a very clear message to visitors: Here you are, here is the museum, come in and enjoy."

UMaine Receives Carnegie Foundation Classification for Community Engagement

14 Jan 2009

Contact: Kathleen March at (207) 581-2088 ORONO --The University of Maine is one of 76 institutions nationwide to be selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to receive its Community Engagement Classification. UMaine was recognized for curricular engagement, outreach and partnerships. "The classification is an honor, and a deserved one," says Kathleen March, a UMaine professor of Spanish who was instrumental in the application process. "As a land grant, sea grant institution, UMaine has consistently given back to many communities, in all disciplines." "This honor is a real mark of distinction for UMaine," says President Robert Kennedy. "It reflects the fundamental nature of our community, characterized by commitment to community service and educational opportunities that inspire our students to actively engage in improving the lives of others." According to Carnegie Foundation literature, "Curricular Engagement describes teaching, learning and scholarship which engage faculty, students and community in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration. Their interactions address community-identified needs, deepen students' civic and academic learning, enhance community well-being and enrich the scholarship of the institution. Outreach and Partnerships describes two different but related approaches to community engagement. The first focuses on the application and provision of institutional resources for community use with

benefits to both campus and community. The latter focuses on collaborative interactions with community and related scholarship for the mutually beneficial exchange, exploration and application of knowledge, information and resources (research, capacity building, economic development, etc.)." The University of Maine was one of only 62 institutions recognized in both categories. "The fact that it was recognized in both categories --Curricular Engagement and Outreach and Partnerships -- is even more rewarding," March says. "Carnegie recognizes that the university has demonstrated its commitment in both the classroom and its research, as well as the frequency and quality of its work with community partners. The classification of community engagement is validation of the connections the institution has with the state of Maine and beyond, and its awareness of its role in a globalized society." March, who began the classification planning as chair of the Faculty Senate Service and Outreach Committee, was joined in her efforts by Audra Grady of the Bodwell Center for Student Volunteerism and Dara McIntire of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, among others. Maine Campus Compact has also been a long-time resource for UMaine for engagement work, and Theodore Coladarci and Phillip Pratt of the Office of Institutional Studies provided key statistical data. "In light of the economy and budget cuts, this really helps all of us and lends some legitimacy to the work we and others do in the realm of civic engagement, service learning, and community based research," McIntire says. A full release with more detailed information about the program is available at http://classifications.carnegiefoundation.org/descriptions/community_engagement.php?key=1213.

Career Fair Jan. 28 Offers Career Entry for Students

14 Jan 2009

Contact: Patricia Counihan, 581-1355; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- In spite of a flagging economy, more than 100 employers in and around Maine will be looking to the University of Maine's annual Career Fair Jan. 28 for promising new employees and interns in dozens of career fields ranging from healthcare and social services to engineering, scientific research and law enforcement. The Career Fair, organized annually by the UMaine Career Center, is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the UMaine Student Recreation and Fitness Center on the Orono campus. As many as 110 employers have registered for booth space, according to Patricia Counihan, center director. In spite of the weak economy, Counihan says this year's fair will have a strong representation of recruiters in the fields of healthcare, environmental sciences, engineering, retailing, banking and financial services, human services, education, research, and organizations engaged in law enforcement or homeland security. Representing law enforcement or homeland security are Bath Iron Works, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the FBI, Maine State Police, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Border Patrol, General Dynamics-Electric Boat and the Maine Air National Guard. New this year will be a focus on civic organizations, sponsored by the university's Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism. Organizations offering employment, stipends or volunteer opportunities include Americorps/VISTA, Peace Corps, Penquis and Heifer International. Counihan says the Career Center expects to expand this component in future years. "I think we have a really nice diverse group of employers," Counihan says. "We should have something for everyone." 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. The fair typically attracts 1,000-plus college students from all classes and majors. It is one of the state's largest assemblies of college students and prospective employers, and many students line up for future jobs or internships as a result of connections they make at the Career Fair. The event 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 in the days following the fair for more detailed interviews, she says. There is no cost for students and UMaine alumni to attend. Sponsors of the fair include Bath Iron Works/General Dynamics, Kepware Technologies, Pike Industries, Acadia Hospital, Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hannaford Bros. Co., Maine Army National Guard, Maine Medical Center, Pizzagalli Construction Co., SMRT Inc., Tyler Technologies and the U.S. Army Healthcare Team. For information about the Career Fair, contact the Career Center at 581-1359, or visit its office on the third floor of the Memorial Union. The Career Center website (www.umaine.edu/career/) has a complete list of participating companies and tips for students planning to attend.

Disabilities Studies Professor Gilson Honored for Leadership in Diversity

16 Jan 2009

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236

ORONO - Stephen Gilson, professor of social work and of interdisciplinary disability studies, Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, recently received the prestigious 2008 Multicultural Council Award for Leadership in Diversity from the national Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD).

The AUCD is a membership organization of three national networks of interdisciplinary, university-based centers dedicated to research, education, leadership training, policy development and direct service for people with disabilities.

The Multicultural Council Award for Leadership in Diversity is presented to an association member or group in recognition of leadership and commitment to advancing programs and practices aimed at increasing the diversity, cultural, or linguistic competencies in curriculum, services, supports, research and recruitment within a center and the AUCD network as a whole.

According to the Multicultural Council of the AUCD, Gilson was recognized "as a vocal and passionate advocate for multicultural inclusion who has advanced a unique, expansive and progressive theory about the meaning of multiculturalism beyond its current usage. When he speaks of multiculturalism, he includes not only specific ethnic and racial groups, but expands diversity to include but extend beyond those categories to include economic, spiritual, social, intellectual, geographic, and physical diversity as well as diversity of ideas. He integrates progressive theory and open discussion in his classes and engages in activism throughout his own professional and personal life."

He received the award from Michael Gamel-McCormick, president-elect, and William Kiernan, president, of the AUCD board of directors during the annual meeting and conference in Washington.

UMaine Researcher Looking to Reduce Petroleum Dependence Publishes Book

16 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Martin Lawoko (207) 581-2294

ORONO, Maine -- Reducing the country's dependence on petroleum-based products has become a priority and it's something that University of Maine analytical chemist Martin Lawoko works toward achieving every day as part of UMaine's Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative.

Recently, he published a 68-page book about his research entitled "Lignin Carbohydrate Complexes in Softwood and Chemical Pulps."

It explains how Lawoko studies the chemical interactions between wood components, such as cellulose, hemicelluloses and lignin, that have the potential to create valuable products from biomass as replacements for fossil related products.

"I work on ways to see bonds and linkages in wood, analyzing cell wall structures and linkages so wood fibers might be successfully separated and then later recombined as new products, new products that do not contain petroleum," Lawoko explains. "The key to really using wood as a renewable resource -- a substitute for fossil fuel -- is how we break the fiber bonds to release the potential of wood's core elements."

Lawoko's current work provides new insights into these interactions, more specifically, covalent bonds between lignin and carbohydrates, normally referred to as lignin carbohydrate complexes, and how structural differences between them affect their reactivity.

He designs and conducts experiments on chemical, thermal and physical properties of biomass, wood fibers, paper and

other materials, and also maintains and operates a variety of laboratory facilities.

As part of UMaine's Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative, Lawoko is part of a broad array of campus researchers and scientists creating energy solutions and fossil fuel replacement products that signal the next generation of advances in wood technology. Some of those products include ethanol, phenols, carbon fibers, and organic acids.

Lawoko's book, "Lignin Carbohydrate Complexes in Softwood and Chemical Pulps," can be purchased online for \$64 at www.amazon.com. It was published by VDM Verlag of Germany, which specializes in publishing academic research.

UMaine Colloquium to Focus on 'Extreme Longevity' Jan. 23

16 Jan 2009

Contact: Michael Robbins, (207) 581-2033; Len Kaye, (207) 262-7922; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO, Maine -- The University of Maine's Department of Psychology and the Center on Aging are sponsoring a colloquium Jan. 23 to explore what biological, social and other characteristics are shared by people who live to 100 years or older.

Keynote speaker Adam Davey, director of the Doctoral Program in Health Ecology at the College of Health Professions at Temple University in Philadelphia, will discuss findings from the Georgia Centenarian Study at the University of Georgia.

Titled "Should You Survive to 105? A Population-Based Perspective on Extreme Longevity in the Georgia Centenarian Study," the colloquium, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Room 115 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building on the Orono campus, is free and open to the public. It should appeal to anyone involved with biological and social sciences, including gerontologists and healthcare professionals, in addition to the public, according to Psychology Department Chair Michael Robbins and psychology professor Merrill F. Elias, who is a consultant to the Centenarian Study and a collaborator on several research projects with Adam Davey.

The Georgia Centenarian Study assessed people who are at least 100 years of age on a very wide range of characteristics, from genetics to lifestyle.

"Some are not doing so well cognitively and others are as sharp as a tack," say Robbins. "We thought this is a topic that's interesting to everyone, looking at what characteristics and experiences these people have when they have lived to be 100 and beyond. Most importantly, it examines the health characteristics that lead to cognitive survival versus cognitive decline."

UMaine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Spring Semester Lunch Series

17 Jan 2009

Contact: WIC/WST Program at 581-1228

ORONO -- The University of Maine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program Spring 2009 Lunch Series will begin Tuesday, Jan. 27, with "ReaffIRMing the Ideal: A Focus Group Analysis of the Dove Campaign for Real Beauty." Speakers include Nicole Cloud, adjunct instructor of communication at Kennebec Valley Community College, and Julie-AnnScott, UMaine graduate student in interdisciplinary studies. The talk will take place from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union on the Orono campus. It is free and open to the public.

The entire luncheon series schedule follows. All talks will be held in the Bangor Room unless otherwise noted, and all are free and open to the public.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, "Promoting Life-Work Balance in a World That Values Neither." Mary Cathcart, senior policy associate, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center; Elizabeth Johns, graduate student in gerontology, University of Massachusetts-Boston; Karen Kemble, director, Equal Opportunity at UMaine; Krista Ricupero, graduate student in civil engineering.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, "Black Feminist Voices in Blues and Jazz," Betty Duff, adjunct faculty in women's studies, part of Black History Month.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 17, "Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders: Women's Voices from the Civil Rights Struggle of the 1960s" film and discussion, part of Black History Month

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, "Rape as a War Crime: 'Gender Mainstreaming,' in International Criminal Prosecution," Tonia St. Germain, J.D., coordinator and assistant professor, gender studies program, Eastern Oregon University, and 2009 scholar in residence at the Five College Women's Studies Research Center.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, "Women's Environmental Activism in Our Own Community," Aram Calhoun, associate professor of wetland ecology at UMaine; Sandi Duchesne, project director and professional traffic operations engineer, Sewall Company; Rebecca Holberton, associate professor of biological sciences at UMaine; Jessica Jansujwicz, graduate student in ecology and environmental sciences at UMaine.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, "Environmental Justice and Refugee Families," Linda Silka, professor of regional economic and social development and director of the Center for Family, Work, and Community, University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, "True Blood: Moral and Romantic Identities in the Sookie Stackhouse Series," Jessica Miller, associate professor of philosophy at UMaine.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8 (FFA Room), "Gertrude Stein and Other Scandalous Women in Literature: Pedagogical Perspectives," work by Summer 2008 WIC grant recipients in literature Audrey Minutolo, part-time faculty in English and women's studies; and Sara Speidel, part-time faculty, continuing and distance education.

12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, "At Home in Maine: An Experience of Maine's Contemporary Home birth and Midwifery Culture," film and discussion, Nicolle Littrell, graduate student in liberal studies.

12:15-1:30p.m. Tuesday, April 21, "Sexy From the Start: Helen Gurley Brown and the Second/Third Wave of Feminism," Jennifer Scanlon, professor and director of gender and women's studies, Bowdoin College.

UMaine Offers "Incredible Years" Parenting Class

19 Jan 2009

Contact: Noelle Keyser (207) 581-3131

ORONO -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the UMaine Psychological Services Center will present a new 12-week "Incredible Years" parenting class Monday evenings starting February 9, 2009. The weekly classes, scheduled for the third floor of UMaine's Corbett Hall from 5:30-7:30 p.m., conclude on Monday April 27.

This award-winning program for parents with children under the age of nine uses a supportive group setting, video examples, and conversation to examine parenting rewards and challenges. Being a parent is an ongoing learning experience and the class will cover many topics including play, maintaining or developing a positive parent/child relationship, responding to a child when frustrated, helping children learn to calm down, setting limits, and when to use "time-out."

The fee ranges from \$35 to \$65, on a sliding scale. Free on-site childcare is included during the sessions, and food and drinks will be provided to parents and children. Registration deadline is Tuesday, February 2. Please contact UMaine Psychological Services Center at (207) 581-2034 for more information. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine Publishes Bulletins on Saving Energy and Staying Warm

19 Jan 2009

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185

ORONO, Me. -- As the thermometer approached 30 below in many parts of the state, University of Maine Cooperative Extension announced publication of "Maine Home Energy," a series of bulletins designed to help Mainers keep warm, save money, heat safely, and conserve energy. The bulletins can be freely downloaded at extension.umaine.edu (click "Publications"). Printed copies can be purchased by calling 800-287-0274 (in Maine) or (207) 581-3792.

"The biggest way to save energy is to keep your house from losing energy," says UMaine Associate Extension Professor Kathy Hopkins. "A one-sixteenth-inch crack around a window can be like having a three-inch hole in your wall. Look for cracks and tiny places to seal up because that's the biggest loss of heat in your house."

Windows present another insulation problem; they lose a lot of heat through the glass as glass has no insulating value. But there are a range of things homeowners can do, from using materials readily available around the house, like plastic bags and cardboard, to more expensive options. One simple way to make a difference is to lock windows, which seals the sashes more tightly in the windowframes.

According to Associate Extension Professor Donna Coffin, even the more expensive options pay off.

"I just made an insulated Roman shade for a large picture window in my house, including an inner liner, insulating fiberfill, a vapor barrier, and an outer liner. Including the hardware, I calculated that the shade will pay for itself in heating oil savings in just eight months."

Topics currently available in the "Maine Home Energy" series include weather-stripping doors and windows, making inexpensive indoor shutters, making insulated window coverings, heating one's home safely, and saving energy in apartments. Information on comparing heating fuels, doing a home energy audit, and taking advantage of passive solar heating techniques will be available shortly.

Installation Artist Liz Nofziger to Lecture at UMaine this Week

20 Jan 2009

Contact: Owen Smith, 581-4389 or 299-2418

ORONO -- Installation artist Liz Nofziger will give two multimedia lectures at UMaine this week: The first, "Site-

Specific Installation," will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22, in 100 Lord Hall. The second, "Aspect: The Chronicle of New Media Art," is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 23. The lectures are presented by UMaine's Intermedia Visiting Artist Program.

Nofziger's site-specific installation work examines relationships to space within the physical, architectural, political, and pop-cultural landscape. She employs a broad range of media including sculptural elements, video, light, audio, and text. Viewer investigation completes her work. Nofziger received her MFA from the Studio for Interrelated Media at Massachusetts College of Art in 2004.

Her work has been shown nationally and internationally, most recently in a site-specific solo exhibition in Medellin, Colombia. She has also had solo exhibitions at Glass Curtain Gallery at Columbia College Chicago, Vox Populi (Philadelphia, Pa.), Kult 41 (Bonn, Germany), the Contemporary Artists Center (North Adams, Mass.), Montserrat College of Art (Beverly, Mass.), and Art Space (New Haven, Conn.). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at The Cheekwood Museum of Art (Nashville, Tenn.), the Sante Fe Art Institute (Sante Fe, N.M.), and Judi Rotenberg Gallery (Boston).

Nofziger has received numerous nominations, residencies and awards, including an AICA Award for her solo exhibition, "Grate (Black Gold)" at Second Gallery (Boston, MA), a nomination for the 2007 Boston ICA Artist's Prize, and funding from LEF Foundation, The Massachusetts Cultural Council, the St. Botolph Club Foundation, and the Berkshire Taconic Foundation.

Nofziger is an adjunct professor at Massachusetts College of Art, works with graduate students at The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University, and is the Managing Editor of "ASPECT: The Chronicle of New Media Art," a biannual DVD publication of time-based work.

For more information, please visit the <http://www.aspectmag.com> or <http://www.nofzilla.com>.

UMaine Professor Links Natural Disasters to Demise of Ancient Peruvian Society

20 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Dan Sandweiss (207) 581-1889

ORONO, Maine -- As global climate change leaves us wondering how we will prosper in the coming century, archaeologists look to the past to learn how our ancestors dealt with such problems. The story is not always encouraging. University of Maine anthropology professor and graduate dean Dan Sandweiss and his colleagues have recently found one instance where rapid change in climate and environment led to the downfall of one of the New World's first complex societies.

In a report published this week in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Sandweiss and his colleagues note a correlation between the collapse of an ancient society in Peru's Supe Valley and natural disasters, including earthquakes and flooding brought on thousands of years ago by El Nino.

"We suggest that there's a relationship, and the end result was that [these communities] were unable to maintain their level of productivity," Sandweiss said.

The study focuses on several sites excavated in recent years by Peruvian archaeologist Dr. Ruth Shady, a co-author of the article.

Shady is the director of the Caral-Supe Special Archaeological Project and has been working in the Supe valley since 1994. She currently has seven sites under excavation, including Caral, the largest Late Pre-ceramic monumental site in

South America.

Early Supe society was built on a combination of fishing and agriculture, making both coastal and inland communities equally vulnerable to disaster when earthquakes shook up the desert landscape and El Nino instigated flooding.

"This maritime farming community had been successful for over 2,000 years, they had no incentive to change, and then all of a sudden, 'boom,'" says Mike Moseley, an anthropology professor at the University of Florida. "They just got the props knocked out from under them."

The floodwaters carried the loose debris into rivers negatively impacting the ancient fishing industry, and winds created sand ridges that ruined farm land.

Prior to 6,000 years ago, Sandweiss states that El Nino was absent for several millennia. Gradually it began to occur, and then about 3,000 years ago El Nino events became more frequent.

"These are processes that continue into the present," Sandweiss said. An example is the major earthquake that occurred south of Lima, Peru a few years ago.

"It's possible that El Nino will become more frequent as global climate warms."

Current technology and awareness that these types of events are likely to occur should help in planning to minimize the impact and damage. For example, China has been successful in using vegetation to create screens that reduce the impact of blowing sand.

To better understand the correlation between climate, environment, and the rise and fall of early coastal communities in Peru, Sandweiss intends to continue his research and field work.

"We want to go back and get a much more detailed history of the environmental changes," Sandweiss said. The researchers intend to core additional samples from just offshore, to help create a record of change by identifying and dating the once-living organisms found in various layers of the cores.

Other authors of the paper are David Keefer, an earthquake hazards geologist and geoarchaeologist associated with the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, and Charles Ortloff, a consulting engineer who has worked in the Andes for three decades.

UMaine's AEWC Receives Award for Composite Building Material

20 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff at (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- For the second year in a row, the University of Maine's AEWC, Advanced Structures & Composites Center, has been recognized as an industry leader by the American Composites Manufacturers Association.

The Center received two awards last year for its blast resistant tent panels made of composite material, and this year took home the American Composites Excellence Award for Most Creative Application for its blast resistant building construction material. This is the top composites conference in North America and was attended by about 3,000 industry representatives. The ACE Award is presented for the most creative application of composite materials.

"We are humbled to have received one of the top four composites industry awards in North America for 2009," says Habib Dagher, director of the AEWC Advanced Structures & Composites Center. "The composites industry continues

to recognize UMaine as a top leader in innovation and technology."

This award is presented to the entry that demonstrates the most creative application of composites materials that is imaginative and innovative.

The building panels developed at UMaine are intended for use by the Army for modular building structures that are blast and disaster resistant. The technology involves a coating applied to wood that allows it to absorb five to seven times more energy in blast or in a hurricane. Not only can the panels be made from recycled materials, but additional composites can be made by recycling the building panels once they no longer are needed.

"There's a whole range of things it could be used for," says Larry Parent, AEW's senior research and development program manager.

In addition to the ACE excellence award, one of the three UMaine students who attended the conference and presented their work also was recognized by the American Composites Manufacturers Association for his work.

Graduate student Daniel Alvarez was acknowledged by the ACMA for having the best technical paper in the green composites track. The paper is co-authored by Dagher, civil engineering associate professors Roberto Lopez-Anido and William G. Davids, and wood science and technology Professor Douglas Gardner. It features a UMaine-patented technology for building sea walls and other waterfront retaining structures. The sea walls are made with recycled plastics and sawdust, and can be 100 percent recycled even after 100 years in operation.

The patented material is intended to replace steel, is resistant to corrosion and can be made using 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.

ACMA represents 850 of approximately 3000 composites manufacturers and suppliers to the industry. Last year the association awarded UMaine's AEW with the Best of the Best Award, recognizing the center's Modular Ballistic Protection Panels as the top composites product for 2007. The tent panels also were popular among those attending the conference, who crowned the project with the People's Choice Award.

"Winning the top industry awards two years in a row is a little like winning the Super Bowl two years in a row," says Dagher.

In addition to UMaine's win, another Maine entity, Kenway Corporation of Augusta received another of the top four industry ACE Awards at the recent conference.

"Maine came back from the top composites conference in North America with two of the top four industry awards, and this attests to the creativity of the composites industry in our state," says Dagher.

"This means we'll have to win again next year," Parent says.

UMaine Reaction to Sen. Collins Appointment

21 Jan 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy says that today's announcement of Sen. Susan Collins' appointment to the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations reflects her status as a leader in Congress and the respect

that she has earned nationally.

"This is exciting news and I congratulate Sen. Collins on this appointment," Kennedy says. "Her support over the past 12 years has been instrumental in helping UMaine advance its R&D capacity and develop programs that drive economic development and create jobs. Given Maine's historical role within the Appropriations Committee, as home to its first chair, it is most fitting that our state is once again represented within this important group."

Sen. Lot M. Morrill of Maine was named chair when the committee was formed in 1867. The original committee had only seven members. Now, it is the Senate's largest committee with 29 members.

"Sen. Collins has been a cornerstone of R&D support for Maine and the University of Maine," says Prof. Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEW: Advanced Structures and Composites Center. "Because of her efforts, the university has secured tens of millions of dollars for critical R&D projects, supporting hundreds of graduate students and undergraduate students, and creating numerous spinoff businesses leading to good jobs all around Maine."

Dagher points to several high-profile composites R&D projects made possible by Sen. Collins support: the development of a composite vessel for the U.S. Navy, in conjunction with Hodgdon Yachts; R&D work for the U.S. Army on composite ballistic tent panels that help protect soldiers serving in combat zones; and the creation of secure composite containers for the shipping industry.

"Sen. Collins' interest in UMaine and its capacity to fulfill its broad-based mission extends to all aspects of the university," Kennedy says. "When she visits campus, Sen. Collins is always interested in learning about the broad range of activities involving students, faculty members and staff members. She has a real appreciation for the value of public higher education and we appreciate her ongoing support."

Art Collaboration, Poetry Reading at UMaine Today

22 Jan 2009

Contact: Steve Evans, 581- 3818 ORONO -- The University of Maine Museum of Art and the English Department's New Writing Series program have teamed up to present a poetry reading at 4:30 p.m. today by Cuban-American poet Richard Blanco, in conjunction with an art exhibit by British-born painter and printmaker John Bailly. The poetry reading, which is free and open to the public, is in Soderberg Auditorium in Jenness Hall. The art exhibit is at the UMaine Museum of Art in Bangor. Blanco's first book of poetry, *City of a Hundred Fires*, which explores the negotiation of cultural identity as a Cuban-American, won the Agnes Starrett Poetry Prize from the University of Pittsburgh Press in 1998. Blanco has since traveled and lived in Guatemala, Brazil, Connecticut, where he was assistant professor of creative writing and Latino literature, and Washington D.C., where he taught at Georgetown and American universities. He also is the author of a second book, *Directions to the Beach of the Dead*. Blanco's poems have appeared in major literary journals and anthologies and he has been featured on National Public Radio. His participation in the New Writing Series coincides with an exhibition of the work of John Bailly at the Museum of Art in Bangor. Frequent collaborators and friends from Miami, Bailly and Blanco will be doing several events together at the museum and on the UMaine Orono campus. Bailly holds a master of fine arts from Yale School of Art. His work has been exhibited in museums and galleries throughout Florida. He is fellow of the Honors College at Florida International University and recently was awarded the South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship and a State of Florida Individual Artist Grant. For general information, contact Steve Evans at 207-581-3818, or call the museum at 207-561-3350. For information about Blanco and Bailly's collaboration, "A Place of Mind," see their website.

UMaine to Launch Online "Building a Vibrant Economy" Presentations

22 Jan 2009

Contact: Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 BANGOR SAVINGS BANK SPONSORS "VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

TO SHARE EXPERTS" VIEWS ON MAINE'S ECONOMIC STRATEGY ORONO -- Beginning Monday, January 26, four University of Maine professors will present research-based perspectives on topics that can help Maine citizens and policymakers gain deeper understanding of issues affecting Maine's economic future. The presentations will be posted online at UMaine's "Building a Vibrant Maine Economy" website. Sponsored by Bangor Savings Bank, this "virtual conference" will also feature commentary by Cianbro, Inc. President and CEO Peter Vigue and State Economist Catherine Reilly. UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Bangor Savings Bank Senior Vice President Yellow Light Breen provide introductory comments. The site includes links to other online UMaine resources related to economic development. "This is an important subject and it would certainly be appropriate for a traditional in-person conference where people would travel from all around Maine to a single location to hear these presentations," says John Mahon, dean of UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health. "Given the economic and other pressures our state's business and community leaders currently face, we conceived this idea as a way to convey the information in a format that will allow those who are interested to access it at their convenience." In addition to the School of Economics and College of Business, Public Policy and Health, the university's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and UMaine Cooperative Extension are participants in this initiative. "Without a vibrant Maine economy, based on the right fundamental long-term strategies and investments, our customers and neighbors across Maine cannot prosper and neither can our company," says Bangor Savings Bank Senior Vice President Yellow Light Breen. "With Maine's economy now facing serious challenges, it is more timely than ever to launch this effort using modern technology and creative thinking to bring the expertise of UMaine experts to as many Maine leaders as we can, to frame the discussions of how Maine must focus and invest over the long haul to prosper." The first of the four presentations, with School of Economics Professor Todd Gabe discussing "The Knowledge Economy," will be posted at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26. The others will appear on the website according to this schedule: - Maine's Brain Gain, Prof. Gary Hunt (Feb. 2) - Bottom-Up Business Innovation, Prof. Terry Porter (Feb. 9) - Investing in Maine's College Students, Prof. Philip Trostel (Feb. 16) Each presentation is approximately 20 minutes in length, produced in a lively question-and-answer format hosted by Jim McConnon, a professor in the School of Economics and UMaine Cooperative Extension.

Nationally Known Gardener, TV Host and Magazine Publisher to Speak at UMaine

22 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Stephanie Burnett, (207) 581-2937

ORONO, Maine -- University of Maine graduate, best-selling author and TV host Paul Tukey, a nationally recognized landscaper and gardener, is scheduled to speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12 at UMaine's Wells Commons.

Tukey is best-known as the founding editor and publisher of "People, Places & Plants" magazine, and as host of a television show he started by the same name. Tukey also appears regularly on radio and television, including spots on "Martha Stewart Living" and "Good Morning America."

Tickets to hear Tukey speak about his passion, organic lawn care, are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. An informal gathering will begin at 6:30 p.m. featuring complimentary appetizers and a cash bar, followed by Tukey's appearance at 7 p.m.

Proceeds from the event will help a group of UMaine landscape and horticulture students attend a national undergraduate conference and competition hosted by PLANET, the Professional Landcare Network. The international association includes about 4,000 member firms representing lawn care professionals, landscape management contractors, design/build/installation professionals, and interior landscapers.

Each year, PLANET holds Student Career Days, which is a three-day event among students enrolled in horticulture programs from colleges and universities across the country. The students have the chance to compete in events that are directly related to the skills necessary for a career in the green industry. The event also offers a Career Fair which gives the students the opportunity to meet prospective employers in the industry and discuss employment opportunities.

This year, eight students from UMaine's PLANET Campus chapter are planning to attend the conference at California's

Cal Poly Pomona, but first need to raise about \$1,600 per student for airfare and registration fees.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Professor Stephanie Burnett at (207) 581-2937 or sburnett@maine.edu, or e-mail PLANET Campus President Meghan McPhee at [Meghan_McPhee@umit.maine.edu](mailto: Meghan_McPhee@umit.maine.edu).

UMaine Introduces Travel-Study Class on Russia

23 Jan 2009

Contact: John Mahon, 581-1968; Andrei Strukov, 581-1925; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Special travel-study courses offered through the University of Maine previously have focused on Canada, Europe, China and other regions, as international interest keys on areas of rising global significance. Now, as the world watches to see how Russia manages perhaps the largest mass of natural resources on Earth, a travel-study course on that country is being offered this spring.

The course, which involves several class sessions prior to a May 14 departure for Moscow, will include discussions with Russian business and government leaders managing the country's vast oil and natural gas reserves, and forest products, to explore how one of the world's largest nations manages them.

"The Role of Russian Government in Exploration and Development of Natural Resources," is being co-taught by John Mahon, business professor and dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and Andrei Strukov, who grew up in Russia, teaches Russian language classes at UMaine and who works as an instructional technology development specialist in the Department of Information Technologies on campus.

The three-credit course, offered through the Maine Business School and the Division of Lifelong Learning, is open to UMaine upper class students and members of the community, says Robert White, associate provost and dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning. A cost of \$2,950 includes all fees associated with travel to, from and inside Russia, in addition to meals, accommodations, museum entrance fees and guided tours during the 10-day trip. In addition, students pay the regular tuition or fee rates for the course. The course is not only open to UMaine degree-seeking students, but also to those who enroll as non-degree students, adds White.

An informational class will be held Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. in Room 113 in the D.P. Corbett business building on the Orono campus. Information about schedules, deadlines and assignment of academic credit can be found on a website designed for the course (www.umaine.edu/it/russia/index.php).

The trip will include discussions with business and government leaders, and also travel to Russia's rural villages, in addition to celebrated landmark cities, including St. Petersburg and Moscow.

"The objective is, even though Russia is a capitalist country, they have a lot more government involvement in everyday life, including the regulation of natural resources," says Strukov. Students will see how those factions interplay.

Mahon says the Russia travel-study class will help participants understand more about the politics, economy, culture and policies of Russia at a critically important time and in the midst of developing global energy crises.

"How can you ignore Russia when you're talking about international trade or natural resources? It would be like saying 'let's ignore China,'" Mahon says. "When you look at this trip, you're going to see a lot of Russia that most people don't see. How many people in their life time are going to take an overnight train for 26 hours from Moscow to Syktyvkar?"

Western Civilization, American Liberty Lectures Scheduled

23 Jan 2009

Contact: Michael Palmer, 329-5015

ORONO -- Thanks to an anonymous individual or individuals, a professor in the UMaine Department of Political Science has received financial backing to create a new controversial speakers series on campus.

The first speaker inaugurates the series today from 3:15-4:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union. James W. Ceaser, professor of politics at the University of Virginia, will speak on "Presidential Politics and the American Constitution: 2008 and Beyond." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Ceaser comes to the University of Maine through the new Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty Lecture Series, which was started last year by political science professor Michael Palmer, the Abraham Lincoln Professor of Political Philosophy in the Department of Political Science at UMaine.

Though the funding is a mystery, according to Palmer, the intent of the lecture series is not. Palmer, who has a reputation as a straight-talking conservative on campus, says he was approached last year by a Virginia-based attorney representing an anonymous donor who wanted to know what Palmer would do with a fund that could be used at his discretion.

Palmer replied that he would bring some of the best speakers in North America to campus to express views on controversial topics, views "that are not usually heard on the University of Maine campus," Palmer says.

The donor made \$15,000 available to Palmer, and for 2009, increased the amount to \$18,000 and stipulated that the speaker's series be titled the Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty. The donor also instructed that Palmer, as director of the lecture series, would be recognized as the Abraham Lincoln Professor of Political Philosophy at UMaine.

Palmer insists he has no idea who his program's benefactor is or specifically why he was selected to create a speaker series that brings to UMaine voices and positions that may be contrary to more liberal thinking.

"I really have no idea whatsoever," he says. "I really haven't the foggiest notion."

Palmer says the benefactor indicated he, she or it would fund the new speaker series for several years. Palmer anticipates that 10 or more speakers per academic year will be part of his program.

The first 2009 speaker, James Ceaser, has taught politics at Virginia since 1976, and has written several books on American politics and political thought, including *Presidential Selection*, *Liberal Democracy and Political Science*, *Reconstructing America: The Symbol of America in Modern Thought*, and *Nature and History in American Political Development*. He has held visiting professorships at the University of Florence, the University of Basel, Oxford University, the University of Bordeaux, and the University of Rennes. Ceaser is a frequent contributor to the popular press, and he often comments on American Politics for the *Voice of America*.

Other speakers in the series are:

Feb. 2: Michael C. Munger, Department of Political Science, Duke University, "Why the United States Is Not a Democracy...and Shouldn't Be! (With an Application to Campus Smoking Bans)," Bangor Room, Memorial Union, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

Feb. 16: Steven Kautz, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University
The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Lecture, "Every Honorable Device":

The Democratic Statesmanship of Abraham Lincoln," Room 100, Neville Hall, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

March 20: Richard Morgan, Department of Government, Bowdoin College, "Resisting Judicial Supremacy: What Do We Do When the Supreme Court is Wrong?" Room 100, Neville Hall, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

March 27: Jeremy Rabkin, George Mason University School of Law, "The War on Terror and the Law of Nature," Bangor Room, Memorial Union, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

April 3: Paul A. Cantor, Department of English, University of Virginia, "SOUTH PARK and the Tradition of American Comedy and Liberty," Bangor Room, Memorial Union, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

And April 27: Colin D. Pearce, Department of Political Science, University of Guelph, "Postmodern Observations on the Improvement of Mankind: Or, God is Dead and We Did It for the Kids!" Room 100, Neville Hall, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

Musical Laser Shows to Light Up UMaine's Jordan Planetarium

23 Jan 2009

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

ORONO -- The University of Maine Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium will host several specially choreographed musical laser shows in February, featuring iconic musical selections from over the decades, and selected through an online voting process by the public.

Planetarium director Alan Davenport says the show Feb. 15-21 will be different but no less spectacular than the more traditional planetarium programs on celestial wonders of space and planets.

Brilliant laser and music shows featuring musical hits and classics by bands ranging from Led Zeppelin, the Beatles, U2 and Pink Floyd to more recent hits from the likes of N'Sync, Pink, Metallica and 3 Doors Down.

While the colorful lasers creating characters, cartoons and patterns on the domed planetarium ceiling will be impressive, says Davenport, "I think the music is what's going to attract our audience," he adds. "Kids today live for their music, if they think they're going to get loud music and the music they like."

UMaine students have been voting online through the planetarium website (www.galaxymaine.com) for several weeks, and the results have been tallied to become the schedule of 12 showings and 9 different music sets.

A complete song listing of each program is posted on the Planetarium web site, GalaxyMaine.com. The shows will likely appeal to audiences from area elementary school groups through high school and college age, or older, including people who grew up with the Who, Black Sabbath or the Edgar Winters Group. These shows, Davenport explains, are not video. "It's high resolution laser imagery so you get the brightness and the rich colors of two laser beams mixing and scanning the dome at blinding speed mixed with stars and other effects."

The schedule is:

Sunday, Feb. 15

1 p.m., Laser Beatles

7 p.m., Laser Dark Side of the Moon

Monday, Feb. 16

7 p.m., Laser Zeppelin

Tuesday, Feb. 17
1 p.m., Fright Light
7 p.m., Pink Floyd's The Wall

Wednesday, Feb. 18
1 p.m., Laser Magic
7 p.m., Laser Dark Side of the Moon

Thursday, Feb. 19
1 p.m., Laser Zeppelin
7 p.m., Laser Beatles

Friday, Feb. 20
1 p.m., Laser Pop

Saturday, Feb. 21
11 a.m., Laser U2
1 p.m., Laser Metallica

A nominal admission of \$3 will be charged to defray the cost of producing the shows. Seating is limited so advance ticket purchase is recommended. For further information, Davenport can be reached at 581-1341.

Sorority Plans Speed-Reading Contest Jan. 25 for Children's Book Charity

23 Jan 2009

Contact: Yanghee Kwon, 992-7593; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Members of UMaine's Pi Beta Phi sorority are holding an unusual race to take place during the halftime intermission of the UMaine men's basketball game Sunday, Jan. 25 -- a reading-aloud race to raise funds for a children's book charity.

The sorority has recruited two volunteer readers, Robert Dana, vice president of Student Affairs and dean of students, and Kevin Taschereau, Greek life adviser at UMaine, to participate in a quick reading competition at the Harold Alfond Sports Arena. UMaine plays Boston University, starting at 1 p.m.

Says Yanghee Kwon, Pi Beta Phi's vice president of philanthropy, the speed reading competition is a fundraiser for First Book, a non-profit organization that raises money for first books for children from low income families in the United States and Canada. Sorority sisters will collect donations during the intermission.

During halftime, Dana and Taschereau will read aloud part of a children's book, to see how much text each can cover in 15-seconds.

"Whoever reads fastest will be crowned the Speed Read Champion," Kwon says. "Our sisters will be at the main entrance collecting donations during the intermission."

Questions can be directed to Kwon by email --Yanghee.Kwon@umit.maine.edu -- or telephone, at 992-7593.

The event will be short -- less than five minutes, because of the shortness of the halftime intermission. The game starts

at 1 p.m. Kwon says the event went well last year when it was held at the Orchard Trails Community Center.

Since it was created in 1992, the Washington D.C.-based First Book has distributed more than 50 million books to children in more than 3,000 communities.

Student Essay Contest for Portland Flower Show

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, ME -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the organizers of the Portland Flower Show are asking kids to respond to the question "How we can care for the environment by gardening?" in the Portland Flower Show's third 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 Friday, February 13.

Maine residents aged 6--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 11, and selected essays will be posted for public viewing for the duration of the show. The Portland Flower Show runs from March 12 to 15 at the Portland Company Complex, 58 Fore Street.

Gulf of Maine Fisheries the Subject of Wednesday Forum

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- Three experts will discuss "Population Dynamics: Community, Science and Policy in the Gulf of Maine Fisheries" on Wednesday Jan. 28 from 12:10-1:30 p.m. in the University of Maine's Jenness Hall.

Scheduled panelists are UMaine Prof. Teresa Johnson, MacArthur Foundation Fellow Ted Ames and Glen Libby of Portland, president of the Midcoast Fishermen's Cooperative.

The event is part of UMaine's Environmental Forum: History and Policy in the Northeast series. It is funded by the Col. James McBride Research Endowment and the UMaine Dept. of History.

UMaine to Recognize National Wear Red Day Feb. 5

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Taylor Bloedon at (207) 581-4058

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Healthy U Employee Wellness Program, working with the American Heart Association, is planning a series of events for National Wear Red Day on Thursday, Feb. 5.

Members of the UMaine community are invited to participate in the Go Red for Women campaign, wearing red clothing on that day to increase awareness of heart disease and stroke. Heart disease is the leading killer of women in the U.S.

A program is scheduled for 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Memorial Union's Coe Room. That program will feature a 30-minute inspirational film scheduled for 11:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., about the lives of heart disease survivors. At the same event, those who make a \$5 donation can receive a hand massage or mini facial, along with a Go Red pin.

For more information, or to register for group or individual prizes, email Taylor Bloedon at taylor.bloedon@maine.edu or call 581-4058.

UMaine Launches First of Four Weekly Presentations on Maine's Economic Future

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A presentation by University of Maine economist Todd Gabe was added this morning to "Building a Vibrant Maine Economy," a UMaine Web project providing research-based insights on Maine's economic future. The site, described by UMaine School of Economics Director George Criner as "a virtual conference," is online. Gabe's is the first of four presentations to be posted on consecutive Monday mornings. The site also features commentary by Cianbro, Inc. CEO and President Peter Vigue and state economist Catherine Reilly. Bangor Savings Bank is the project's sponsor. UMaine's School of Economics; Maine Business School; College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and Cooperative Extension all participated in developing materials. Upcoming presentations: Prof. Gary Hunt, "Maine's Brain Gain," Feb. 2 Prof. Terry Porter, "Bottom Up Business Innovation," Feb. 9 Prof. Philip Trostel, "Investing in Maine College Students," Feb. 16

National Geographic Channel to Feature UMaine Homeland Security Project

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Habib Dagher (207) 581-2110

ORONO, Maine -- A National Geographic special commissioned by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will feature a University of Maine project that has created secure shipping containers equipped with sensors to tell handlers when the cargo unit has been tampered with.

"Hi-Tech War on Terror" is set to air at 10 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, on the National Geographic Channel. The show will feature a variety of new technologies being developed by the Department of Homeland Security, Science & Technology Directorate to detect, deter, and defeat terrorism.

"We're really delighted that they selected the University of Maine and our partner company, Maine Secure Composites, to be featured in this show," says Habib Dagher, director of the AEWCA Advanced Structures & Composites Center.

Dagher and UMaine graduate student Anthony Viselli spearhead the technical research at UMaine, being done in partnership with Maine Secure Composites LLC located in Bangor, and with management support from Angel Secure Networks, located at the Target Technology Incubator.

In 2005, Maine Secure Composites received a DHS Advanced Research Program Agency contract to develop a composite anti-tamper container with embedded sensors.

Then last year, the Maine team was awarded a \$12.9 million contract from the U.S. Department of Defense to continue the research and development, and to take the secure shipping containers developed in the campus laboratory to the marketplace. Dagher says the project benefited from the steadfast support of U.S. Sen. Susan Collins and her involvement with national homeland security efforts and her creation of the Port Security Act.

"We are fortunate to be working with Senator Collins and her staff in Washington on key Homeland Security issues," says Dagher.

Not only is the new design equipped with sensors to determine if the container was tampered with, the composite material that the containers are made of are lighter, more durable and require less maintenance than steel.

The fact that UMaine's work will be recognized on national television is rewarding to those who are working on the project.

"It's a testament to the quality of the work being conducted here at UMaine," says Dagher. "It is exciting for UMaine research and development to be featured on national TV."

American Revolution, 'Loyalism' Series Planned

26 Jan 2009

Contact: Liam Riordan, 581-1913; Betsy Arntzen, 581-4225 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Department of History and Canadian-American Center are presenting a series of public lectures and teacher workshops on the American Revolution, in Bangor, Belfast and Portland, to draw attention to and provide Maine teachers with educational material about the American Revolution, loyalism and Maine. In a program created by Liam Riordan, associate professor of history, the lectures and teacher workshops will precede a special four-day conference in June with a broader focus, "Loyalism and the Revolutionary Atlantic World. The conference June 4-7, is co-sponsored by the UMaine Canadian-American Center, the Maine Humanities Council, the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the University of New Brunswick, the Castine Historical Society and the Maine Historical Society. Lectures, "Loyalism and the Revolution in Maine," are being presented on three Friday evenings on Feb. 5 and March 12 at 6 p.m. and April 9 at 7 p.m. at no cost to the public, at the Bangor Public Library lecture hall, the UMaine Hutchinson Center in Belfast and the Maine Historical Society in Portland, respectively. Daylong workshops for registered K-12 teachers are offered on three Fridays, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., on Feb. 6, March 13 and April 10, in the same locations as above, except for the Bangor workshop, which will be held in the library board room. Workshop titles also are "Loyalism and the Revolution in Maine." "This series combines a free lecture open to the general public and a daylong workshop," says Riordan, who will lead the workshops and deliver the lectures. "Special attention will be paid to the role of Loyalists who opposed the Patriot movement." The public lectures will be illustrated and will reconsider three famed Revolutionary events in Maine: the naval engagement with the British war vessel, the *Margaretta*, off Machias, the burning of Falmouth, and the creation of a British military base and Loyalist refugee center in Castine on Penobscot Bay, according to Riordan. "The significance of maritime connections and the ambiguities of local allegiance should play a central role in our understanding of these major events of the American Revolution in Maine," he says. The daylong teacher workshops will be organized around four activities designed to develop specific classroom applications. They include discussion of the Thursday night lecture; use of a detailed memoir by a Revolutionary soldier; and use of selected portions of the HBO-series on John Adams. For more information about the workshops, contact Liam Riordan at 581-1913, or Betsy Arntzen at the Canadian-American Center at 581-4225. Workshop participants must register in advance and are expected to attend the Thursday night lectures. A registration fee of \$75 will defray the cost of pre-circulated reading material, a coffee break and lunch. To register for a teacher workshop, please visit the www.umaine.edu/teachingcanada/professional-development/. Continuing education credit is available for participants. The June conference, being held at UMaine in Orono and in Castine, will feature three main speakers: Robert Calhoon of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Philip Gould of Brown University and Maya Jasanoff of Harvard University. The conference brings together specialists "who employ trans-national perspectives to better understand opposition to the American Revolution and its broader significance throughout the Atlantic world," according to

Riordan. Scholarly papers to be presented will stem from a range of disciplines, exploring loyalism beyond a U.S. national framework and will include faculty and graduate students from British, Canadian and American universities. The general public is invited to attend the conference, which will include a nominal fee to cover meal and coffee break expenses, in addition to the option of staying in a UMaine residence hall. Most of the conference will be held on the UMaine Orono campus and will include an afternoon in Castine, formerly a prominent British military site and loyalist refuge on Penobscot Bay. In conjunction with the conference, the UMaine History Department will offer a graduate-level course on loyalism. Riordan can be contacted for additional course details.

University of Maine Faculty Member Receives Fulbright Specialists Award

27 Jan 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Professor Harlan J. Onsrud at the University of Maine has been selected for a Fulbright Specialists project in Law in Australia at The University of Melbourne during February and March 2009, according to the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Onsrud will develop and present five major lectures, known collectively as the 2009 Melbourne Fulbright Lectures on Cyberlaw and Spatial Technologies, focusing on key legal and policy issues with which the global spatial technology and mobile computing communities have been struggling. The lectures will be presented in a variety of academic forums and archived on the web to form a framework for global academic and practitioner discussions of the issues. Onsrud is one of over 400 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad this year through the Fulbright Specialists Program. The Fulbright Specialists Program, created in 2000 to complement the traditional Fulbright Scholar Program, provides short-term academic opportunities (two to six weeks) to prominent U.S. faculty and professionals to support curricular and faculty development and institutional planning at post secondary, academic institutions around the world. The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange activity, is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Over its 60 years of existence, thousands of U.S. faculty and professionals have taught, studied or conducted research abroad, and thousands of their counterparts from other countries have engaged in similar activities in the United States. Over 285,000 emerging leaders in their professional fields have received Fulbright awards, including individuals who later became heads of government, Nobel Prize winners, and leaders in education, business, journalism, the arts and other fields. Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement. Among thousands of prominent Fulbright Scholar alumni are Milton Friedman, Nobel Prize-winning economist; Alan Leshner, CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Rita Dove, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet; and Craig Barrett, Chairman of the Board of Intel Corporation. Distinguished Fulbright Specialist participants include Mahmoud Ayoub, Professor of Religion at Temple University, Heidi Hartmann, President and CEO, Institute for Women's Policy Research, Percy R. Luney, Jr. Dean and Professor, College of Law, Florida A&M University and Emily Vargas-Barone, Founder and Executive Director of the RISE Institute.

Igloo Building Workshop to be Held at UMaine

28 Jan 2009

Contact: Jesse Moriarity at (207) 581-1427

ORONO, Maine -- Building snow forts is one way to ward off winter boredom, but imagine how impressed your friends will be when they find out you can build a traditional igloo.

Dr. Bert Yankielun -- engineer, author, inventor and adventurer -- will hold an igloo building workshop on the Mall at the University of Maine from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4.

As an electrical engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers' Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, N.H, Yankielun recently moved to Maine but has spent a lot of time working in the sub-freezing climates of the Arctic and Antarctic.

After an outdoor session about how to build an igloo, participants will head to the Multipurpose Room at Memorial Union for hot chocolate and cookies where Yankielun will give an informal presentation titled "Inspiration, Creativity and Invention...a random look at an orderly process...or...an orderly look at a random process..."

The lighthearted lecture will take a look at invention and creativity through art, photos of famous creative people, quotes from great thinkers, and images of whimsical patents.

The event is being held in anticipation of this year's Winter Carnival, which will feature an igloo building contest over Friends and Family Weekend, February 13 - 15.

The workshop is free and open to the public. Registration isn't required.

The event is being sponsored by the Foster Student Innovation Center in partnership with MaineBound and Campus Activities. For more information please contact Jesse Moriarity at (207) 581-1427.

Maine Center for the Arts to Reopen in February; News Conference and Tours of Redesigned Facility on Thursday

28 Jan 2009

Contact: Elizabeth Sutherland, Sutherland Weston Marketing Communications, (207) 945-9999

ORONO -- The Maine Center for the Arts at the University of Maine will host a brief news conference and tours of the recently completed renovation on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at 10 a.m. in anticipation of the redesigned center's opening performance on Sunday, February 1, 2009.

MCA and UMaine officials will highlight the history of the newly redesigned performing arts center and share details about the new additions to the Center. Tours of the facility will be provided.

This initial phase of renovation cost approximately \$11 million. Richard R. and Anne A. Collins of Key Largo, Fla. pledged \$5 million toward renovations at the Maine Center for the Arts, which has been renamed the Richard R. and Anne A. Collins Center for the Arts.

UMaine Accounting Students Offer Free Help with Tax Returns

28 Jan 2009

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 filing assistance to the public on Monday afternoons, beginning Feb. 2.

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 from surrounding communities with basic tax assistance needs. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

Taxpayers will be assisted on an appointment basis Mondays from 1-3 p.m., except during Spring Break (March 2 & 9) in Room 312 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building. 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 necessary.

All student volunteers have taken tax preparation courses and are up to date on the latest tax law changes, and tax returns will be reviewed by Prof. Colburn prior to completion.

Taxpayers wishing to file electronically for a faster refund should bring the routing number for their bank and account number. All information provided is confidential, and no personal information will be kept in any university files.

The program benefits taxpayers in the community and also is good training for accounting students, Colburn says.

Taxpayers seeking assistance must call Colburn at 581-1982 to schedule an appointment or for additional details.

Spring Schedule for UMaine Socialist, Marxist Studies Lectures Announced

28 Jan 2009

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860

ORONO -- The Spring 2009 Socialist and Marxist Studies Luncheon Series (Controversy Series) at UMaine begins Feb. 5 with a lecture about the implications of the home heating oil crisis in Maine and continues into April with thought-provoking talks reflecting on education, politics, terrorism, human rights and climate change.

Sponsored by the Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor and co-sponsored by the Maine Peace Action Committee, Campus Activities and Events, and with support of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Thursday afternoon lectures are held 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted.

Speakers do not necessarily present socialist or Marxist viewpoints. The schedule is as follows:

Feb. 5

"The Home Heating Oil Crisis in Maine: One More Good Reason to Break the Oil Addiction," with Tom Jackson, widely acclaimed independent filmmaker and creator of "Greetings from Missile Street on Iraq" and "Out of Balance on Climate Change";

Feb. 12

"What Is to be Done? The Relevance of Lenin's Writings for American Progressives in the 21st Century," with professor David Gross, UMaine Honors Program and retired professor of English, University of Oklahoma;

Feb. 19

"Recent Reflections from India: The November 26, 2008 Terrorist Attacks in Mumbai and Gandhi in Times of Terror," with professor of philosophy Doug Allen;

Feb. 26

"Do They Hate Us for Our Freedoms? A Deweyan Analysis of the Bush Doctrine," with professor of philosophy Shane Ralston;

March 19

"Born without History: The Life of Amazonian Women," with anthropology professor Constanza Ocampo-Raeder;

March 26

"Better Read than Dead: Change, Politics, Class, and the Purpose of Public Higher Education," with professor John Wooding, former provost and vice-chancellor for academic affairs and current chair, Department of Regional Economic and Social Development, University of Massachusetts, Lowell; Wooding was a community and labor organizer in England and is author of *The Point of Production: The Political Economy of the Work Environment and Work, Health and Environment: Old Problems, New Solutions*. (Location: Coe Room)

April 2

"Economic Human Rights as a Way to End Poverty," with Cheri Honkala, who has more than 15 years of organizing poor people and is the national coordinator of the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, founder and former executive director of the Kensington Welfare Rights Union, co-chair of the National Welfare Rights Union and a member of the Interim National Council of the Labor Party;

April 9

"Writing Socialist History," with professor David Roediger, a Kendrick Babcock Chair of History and Afro-American Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and a long-time scholar-activist, whose books include *The Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class* and *How Race Survived U.S. History: From Settlement and Slavery to the Obama Phenomenon*. (Location: Coe Room)

For additional information, contact: Prof. Doug Allen, coordinator, Marxist-Socialist Studies, The Maples, University of Maine, Orono, Maine 04469. Allen can be reached at 581-3860.

Fraternity Sleep-Out Feb. 13 to Raise Assault Awareness

28 Jan 2009

Contact: Nick DeHaas, (207) 831-2083; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO--The Beta Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi, the University of Maine's oldest fraternity, will hold its 16th annual sleep-out Feb. 13 at the fraternity house at 12 Munson Road on the Orono campus.

The event raises money and awareness for the mission of Rape Response Services of Bangor, a non-profit organization providing education, counseling and sexual assault prevention services in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. Last year's Beta sleep-out raised in excess of \$5,000.

As part of this year's sleep-out, Beta Theta Pi's 50 members will be selling raffle tickets in the Memorial Union Feb. 9-13.

The sleep-out starts at 6 p.m., Feb. 13. Fraternity members will assemble on the front lawn of the Beta house and will remain outside until 6 o'clock the following morning. Members will have a bonfire for warmth and light during the night.

"We would like for this to be more than just a fundraising event," says Nick DeHaas, public relations chair of the Beta Eta Chapter. "Public involvement is essential to raising awareness."

Sexual assault remains an acute problem in society, according to DeHaas, who says statistics show that one in four young females will be sexually abused before reaching the age of 18. And only one in seven will seek help. The Beta Eta Chapter of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity encourages the public to stop by and help raise awareness for Rape Response Services of Bangor. Members of the university and surrounding communities also are encouraged to show support by visiting the sleep-out or making a donation prior to the event.

For more information, DeHaas can be reached at (207) 831-2083. Donations may be mailed to Beta Theta Pi at 12 Munson Rd., Orono, ME, 04469, Attn. Sleep-Out.

Student Musical 'Side Show' a Cause for Introspection

28 Jan 2009

Contact: Karen Cole, 581-4704; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine School of Performing Arts associate professor of theater Sandra Hardy knows she will raise eyebrows when she bandies the word "freak" around in explaining the latest student theatrical production opening in February in Hauck Auditorium.

"Side Show," the true story of conjoined twins Daisy and Violet Hilton, who worked as a circus act and later became famous stage performers in the 1930s, is a musical -- both tragic and comedic -- that Hardy says is sure to stir conflicting emotions.

Hardy directs the production -- and its cast of 35 characters with a host of physical conditions -- in a way that forces the audience to take an introspective look at how people who are different are treated.

The show runs Feb. 13-14 and Feb. 19-21 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 15 and Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$12 and free for UMaine students with a MaineCard.

Sideshow, written by Bill Russell, with music by Henry Krieger, opened on Broadway in 1997, ran for 91 performances at the Richard Rodgers Theatre, and closed after just a year, in spite of critical acclaim. It is a musical that can be fun and entertaining, yet challenging for the actors, says Hardy.

"I have a strong foundation in terms of cast," she says.

With its story told in song and dance, with a full orchestra providing music, the musical poignantly portrays how people with physical differences were viewed and treated by society in an earlier time in America. Many of them wound up exploited as carnival sideshow exhibits, the only work they could get.

The Hilton twins -- as characters in the musical and as they lived -- "were used and abused unmercifully," Hardy says. "But that is not what this is about. It's about their success."

Student actors bring to the stage characters of their own creation: dwarfs, giants, people with reptilian hands, four arms, snake-like bodies or elephant-skin characteristics, among others.

"'Freak' is an ugly word, but the fact of the matter is we are all freaks," Hardy says. "We fall in love with freaks, we have children who are freaks... A nicer word for it is we are different. Our differences physically, our differences in how we think. I think of the little boy who doesn't read well. If we had teachers who understood that everyone is special, then we could showcase this kid who may be a genius at Legos, but he can't read.

"That's where I'm going with this piece," she says. "Look at the people who are different, who have created wonderful things."

Because of unusual physical characteristics, "some marvelous spirits may be overlooked," even today, Hardy laments. "That's what I'm trying to say."

The production is suitable for all audiences, Hardy says. "I think people can expect great entertainment, a thoughtful

theme and really fun performances," set in a colorful carnival atmosphere.

Carrying the roles of the twins conjoined at the hip are Abigail Coulter and Hannah Kramer. Male leads include Dustin Sleight, Adam Blais, Kevin Child and Gregory Middleton. Female leads include Christine Larson, with Amanda Fahey and Phaelon O'Donnell as solo dancers. Anthony Arnista also is a solo dancer.

Music director for his sixth musical at UMaine is Daniel Williams, an alumnus of UMaine, who works for the University of Maine Foundation. Another alumnus, Brianne Beck, is the choreographer. Frank Champa oversees costume design and Dan Bilodeau is in charge of sets and lighting.

Call 581-1755 for more information or reservations.

New UMaine Art Exhibit Features Works of David Larson

28 Jan 2009

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

ORONO -- The Lord Hall Gallery, on the University of Maine campus, is presenting a new exhibit, "Articulating Mystery: The Art of David Larson," Feb. 6. through March 20.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. An opening reception is planned Feb. 6, 5:30-7 p.m., with a gallery talk scheduled at 6 p.m.

The works of David Larson (1931-2007) grew out of decades of meditation on the human condition, its mysteries and complexities. Larson believed that great art strives toward "articulating the mystery." The images in many of his works, such as "House and Moon," appear to flow organically from his imagination, addressing the mystery -- the dwellings from his subconscious.

Larson intricately addresses the great stories such as "Moby Dick" and "The Last Supper," redefining them and challenging viewers to recognize the stories in new ways. "The denser, the richer the thing is, the more I like it," Larson once said.

His work demands contemplation. This was his intention. Reflecting on dreams, birth, death, isolation, beauty and deformity, his work encourages the audience to journey through the artist's mind and, perhaps, their own.

David Larson's work has been shown at the Farnsworth Museum, the Portland Museum of Art, the Leighton Gallery in Blue Hill and the Clark House Gallery in Bangor. The University of Maine Lord Hall Gallery is pleased to present this exhibition of selected paintings and drawings.

Lord Hall is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

UMaine and EMMC Join Forces for Student Healthcare

29 Jan 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

FACILITY RIBBON-CUTTING FRIDAY AFTERNOON

ORONO -- A ribbon-cutting event at the University of Maine's renovated Cutler Health Center is scheduled for Friday afternoon, Jan. 30. Officials will celebrate a new public-private partnership between UMaine and Eastern Maine Medical Center, which is now providing medical services to UMaine students through its Norumbega Medical Associates subsidiary.

UMaine President Robert Kennedy and EMMC President and CEO Deborah Carey Johnson will both make remarks at the event, scheduled for 3:30 p.m. at the UMaine healthcare facility.

The university selected EMMC as its new medical service provider for students in late 2008, following an extensive process aimed at increasing access to on-campus healthcare while expanding available services. EMMC has modified the on-campus Cutler Health Center building and its staff began serving students this month.

UMaine Extension, Sea Grant working to keep Maine's beaches clean, safe

29 Jan 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3571; Keri Lindberg, (207) 832-0343

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant is working to keep Maine's coastal beaches safe and clean, and recently received funding to continue their work.

Since 2002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has provided Maine with money to implement a beach monitoring, assessment and notification program known as Maine Healthy Beaches

Most recently, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection administered nearly \$170,000 on behalf of the U.S. EPA to Keri Lindberg, a UMaine Extension marine professional, to continue the role of coordinating the The Maine Healthy Beaches Program in 2009.

The program is important, Lindberg says, because Maine's beaches are valuable resources and offer a variety of recreational and economic opportunities.

Currently, 25 towns and state parks participate in this voluntary program with 60 beach management areas routinely monitored Memorial through Labor Day. Participating beaches span from Kittery to Mount Desert Island, and in 2008 UMaine Extension and Maine Sea Grant trained approximately 200 local level staff and volunteers to collect water samples using quality assured protocols.

The Healthy Beaches Program is a partnership among municipalities, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant, state agencies and nonprofit organizations.

UMaine Extension and Maine Sea Grant bring together a variety of stakeholders to address pollution issues impacting Maine's inland and coastal water resources. The program works to educate both residents and visitors about the linkages between land-use practices and water quality, healthy beach habits, and how to avoid water-related illness at the beach.

"Beyond routine monitoring and notification, this program is an effective tool to combat non-point sources of pollution," Lindberg says. "When high bacteria levels are documented on the beach, the program works at the community level to investigate sources in the upland watershed."

For more information visit www.mainehealthybeaches.org.

UMaine Intermedia Student Selected for National MFA Biennial Exhibition

29 Jan 2009

Contact: Gabriella D'Italia, 234-2542 ORONO--Gabriella D'Italia, a student in UMaine's Intermedia master of fine arts program, was selected for a national biennial exhibition of MFA students. *Imaging Desire: Aegis First Biennial Graduate Student Exhibition* will be held at the Hite Art Institute at the University of Louisville, Ky. The exhibit will run from February 12 to March 21 at the university's Gallery X. The exhibit is held in conjunction with the school's symposium on visual culture, scheduled for Feb. 14. According to Aegis, the Hite Art Institute's graduate student organization, the theme for this year's symposium is inspired by a collection of essays by contemporary artist Mary Kelly, also titled *Imaging Desire*. Her writings discuss how desire has influenced the art and art history of the last four decades. D'Italia is a fiber artist from Newburgh. Her piece *Gold Quilts* was selected by a panel of jurors. Of the piece, D'Italia writes: "I want to explore the simultaneously created and creative aspects of the objects of home. I want to blur the boundaries between objects and magnify their mutability, their fragile definition. I want to make things so elaborately specific they become only precariously classifiable. I want to suggest this elaborate, created, precarious nature for the objects with which we are intimate. In this diptych, I used highly pieced and visibly discernable construction methods. I used a restricted color palette. I created objects, which from a distance look the same, but on closer inspection reveal vast material discrepancies. The materials and techniques suggest mutability and change. The objects reveal their constructed natures. Their definition is blurred by close relationships in construction and color. Creating two objects creates a language and dialogue, a system composed of commonality and, simultaneously, dissonance. This specific language created by the proximity of two parts enables them to become one piece held together by the tension of communication." For more information about the exhibition, visit http://louisville.edu/a-s/finearts/cressman_center.html 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.

Maine NEW Leadership Accepting Applications from College-age Women

30 Jan 2009

Contact: Rebekah Smith, 542-6015 (media inquiries only)

Maine NEW Leadership, a University of Maine initiative that aims to educate and empower women to become civic and political leaders, is accepting applications for its inaugural class. The program will take place at UMaine from June 11 to 16; applications are due March 20.

Twenty-five 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 nonpartisan program is offered through the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. It is provided at no cost to participants.

NEW Leadership began in 1991 at the Center for American Women in Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey. UMaine is the newest partner in the program's 17-member national network, and the curriculum has been altered to reflect Maine's unique political culture and climate.

"Participants in this program will experience an intensive, interactive training, taught by women leaders from all over the state, that will educate, engage, and empower them to be civic and political leaders," says Rebekah Smith, Co-Director of the program.

Maine NEW Leadership is designed to address the historic and contemporary under-representation of women in politics. Over the course of a week, participants will take part in interactive sessions on leadership development, networking, diversity training and the realities of holding public office. In addition, a trip to the State House -- with a stop at

Margaret Chase Smith's home and library in Skowhegan -- is on the agenda.

Participants must be from Maine, attending college elsewhere, or must attend college in Maine. Women of color, nontraditional students and students majoring in fields outside policy science are strongly encouraged to apply.

Those interested in applying should visit <http://mcspolicycenter.umaine.edu> to download informational pamphlets and application forms. For more information, contact Eva McLaughlin, program coordinator, at 581-1646.

UMaine Habitat Sleep-Out Adds Feb. 7 Concert to Schedule

30 Jan 2009

Contact: Brenton Murray, 480-201-4678 or Tim Brauer, 203-414-6143

ORONO -- Members of the Habitat for Humanity -- UMaine Campus Chapter A -- are sponsoring a concert Feb. 7 as a follow-up to the Feb. 2-4 sleep-out, when students at the University of Maine will camp out for three days in makeshift shanties on the university Mall to draw attention to local substandard housing.

As part of the "There's Snow Place Like Home" project, students will camp out alongside sponsorship banners bearing the names of community sponsors joining the group in raising awareness about poverty and housing. Proceeds from the sponsorships will help build houses for local families in need.

"Maine winters are particularly harsh for people trapped in poverty housing," says Brenton Murray, a spokesperson for the student group.

Murray says the poor economy is having "a terrible effect" on low-income families who rent because home ownership is out of reach.

"As many as two-thirds of all foreclosed units in New England in the last year housed renters," says Murray, citing National Low Income Housing Coalition information.

A "Thaw to Awesome Music" concert is scheduled as a follow-up event on Feb. 7 at 8 p.m. at The Keith Anderson Building, 19 Bennoch Road in Orono. Local bands will include Hungarian Hot Wax, the Exclusive, Broken 45 & James Gilmore. There will be raffles for music, clothing and more. Tickets are \$1 at the door, plus a donation of choice.

The Habitat for Humanity UMaine Campus Chapter is dedicated to eliminating poverty housing, and to making decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat for Humanity invites people of all backgrounds, races, religions and beliefs to build houses in partnership with families in need.

UMaine Hosting 'Nor'Easter Bowl 2009' Ocean Sciences Competition

02 Feb 2009

Contact: Brenda Zollitsch, (207) 772-4729 or George Manlove, 581-3756 (Contact number the day of the event will be (207) 240-0398.)

ORONO -- The University of Maine is hosting the "Nor'Easter Bowl 2009 Regional Ocean Sciences Competition" Feb. 7, a regional ocean sciences competition among more than 100 top-achieving math and science high school students from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the UMaine D.P. Corbett Business Building on the Orono campus, students will compete in a "Jeopardy"-like Nor'Easter Bowl, answering a range of questions about ocean-related biology, chemistry, geology, geography and social sciences.

The annual event is hosted every third year by the UMaine School of Marine Sciences, and is intended to kindle students' interest in marine sciences and in marine science careers. The event also fosters team-based camaraderie and fun with science, and it brings local and national recognition to the competing schools, according to the School of Marine Sciences. In addition, students who compete successfully in regional and national Ocean Sciences Bowl competitions receive thousands of dollars in scholarship funds each year.

Many of the questions require graduate school level knowledge and problem-solving skills. Competition rounds are fast-paced, exciting, and display the amazing knowledge and hard work students have invested to prepare for the event, according to Brenda Zollitsch, Nor'Easter Bowl 2009 coordinator.

The winning team will be awarded an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. in late April to compete in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl Competition. Second-through-sixth-place winners will receive field trip awards to ocean science laboratories with marine scientists and other prizes.

Students will begin round-robin competition at 9 a.m. and continue until noon. After lunch, teams resume competition in double-elimination rounds, semi-final and final competition rounds until about 4:30 p.m. An award ceremony will follow.

Maine teams participating include: Ashland Community High School; Bucksport High School; Capital Area Technical School; Islesboro Central School; Morse High School, Bath; Nakomis Regional High School, Newport; Poland Regional High School; Sanford High School; and Waterville Senior High School.

New Hampshire schools include: Contoocook Valley Regional High School in Peterborough and Souhegan High School in Amherst. South Burlington High School will represent Vermont.

For the first time, the news media is being invited to film the event's competition rounds.

The event is being generously sponsored by the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences; University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, Maine Sea Grant; University of New England; New Hampshire Sea Grant; Maine Coastal Program; Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences; and the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center. The regional Nor'Easter Bowl is made possible also through the contributions of more than 100 volunteers from the sponsoring institutions, as well as Darling Marine Center, the College of the Atlantic and Maine Maritime Academy. In-kind donations have been provided by Dairy Queen, Governor's Restaurant, BJ's Wholesale Club, NOAA, WHOI, NASA, and The Ocean Conservancy.

UMaine Professor Leading the Way for Wireless Networks in Space

02 Feb 2009

Contact: Ali Abedi, (207) 581-2231; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- The CANEUS Fly-by-Wireless Sector Consortium, part of an international non-profit organization that serves the needs of the aeronautics, space and defense communities, has tapped University of Maine Assistant Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Ali Abedi to help them pull the plug.

No, they're not closing down. The consortium is powering up to create wireless micro and nano technologies for

aerospace applications and has named Abedi to lead the effort.

Abedi came to UMaine in 2005 and is director of the university's WiSe-Net Lab for wireless sensor network research. He specializes in wireless sensor research and currently is working on a novel coding scheme for 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 CANEUS Fly-by-Wireless Sector Consortium is part of CANEUS International which focuses on the practical aspects of transitioning micro and nano technologies rapidly and efficiently from the concept phase to practical use in aerospace.

To do this, CANEUS brings together technology developers, aerospace end-users, governmental policy makers and investors from across the world.

Ultimately, the consortium's goal is to minimize cables and connectors across the aerospace industry by providing reliable, lower cost, and higher performance alternatives for a vehicle's or program's life cycle.

Abedi is slated to be a keynote speaker at the March CANEUS Conference at NASA AMES Center in Santa Clara, Cali. where he will present "Fly-by-Wireless: Mission, Goals, and Roadmap" to present the technology's state-of-the-art capabilities for aerospace sensing applications.

Several NASA centers, the Canadian Space Agency, the European Space Agency, the Federal Aviation Administration, and commercial businesses such as The Boeing Company will participate in the weeklong workshop. Abedi will work with these participants to define joint projects and lead the collective effort towards elimination of wires in aerospace vehicles.

UMaine Doctoral Student Completion Rates Surpass National Average

03 Feb 2009

Contact: Susan K. Gardner, 581-3122

ORONO -- University of Maine doctoral students complete their programs at higher rates than the national average, according to research by a faculty member in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development.

Susan K. Gardner, an assistant professor of higher education who studies doctoral student success and retention, spent the past nine months investigating doctoral completion rates at the UMaine, analyzing data for nearly 1,500 doctoral students who have enrolled in the advanced programs since 1990.

Her analysis revealed a completion rate of 54.6 percent for UMaine doctoral candidates, which is above the often-cited national average of 50 percent. In addition, Gardner was able to determine that graduating doctoral students completed their degrees in an average of five years, well below the national average of seven or more years.

According to Gardner, the numbers illustrate the effectiveness of doctoral education at UMaine and the quality of experiences available to students.

Gardner will continue the study in 2009 as she investigates the departments with the highest completion rates at UMaine. From this study, she plans to release a list of best practices that these programs have utilized to further facilitate doctoral student success.

UMaine Researchers Studying State's Winter Snow and Ice Removal Policies

03 Feb 2009

Contact: Jonathan Rubin, (207) 581-1528; Per Garder, (207) 581-2177 Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine -- Slippery travel conditions, snow drifts, and potholes are part of living in Maine in the winter, and keeping the state's roads as passable as possible during winter is costly.

"Maine spends \$23 million on winter road maintenance and snow and ice removal," says Professor Jonathan Rubin of the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and School of Economics.

In an effort to determine the effectiveness of winter road maintenance throughout the state, the Maine Department of Transportation has requested that the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center complete a comprehensive and independent review of the state's current winter road maintenance measures, including the use of road salt, the environmental impact, and driver safety.

Researchers at UMaine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research and other university departments also will assist in the study since the chemicals used to control ice and snow can pose some environmental, groundwater quality and corrosion concerns.

As part of the project, Rubin and colleagues have created an advisory committee consisting of stakeholders in the trucking industry, car manufacturers and others to provide their thoughts and observations on the issue.

"In the spring, public outreach meetings will be held to determine how the public thinks the state ought to be handling road maintenance issues," Rubin says. "Part of our job is to educate the public on who's responsible. Some of the actions of the DOT are really beyond their control and up to municipalities."

UMaine Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Per Garder also will contribute to the study by providing an analysis of road safety, comparing new types of winter maintenance and snow and ice removal to what was done years ago.

He currently is conducting research focusing on elderly drivers and winter driving safety thanks to a \$63,000 federal grant from the New England University Transportation Center.

Garder states that previous research shows that average drivers ages 25 to 65 have better eyesight and therefore can see obstacles and potential slick spots in the road long before older drivers. He also will look at where these accidents occur, comparing the number of higher-speed interstate crashes with those on rural roads where speed limits are lower and the weather conditions at the time of the accidents.

Garder explains that in the 1930s, roads simply were closed until the snow went away. Then crews began plowing and as the technology improved, the roads became clearer and driving speeds increased. Then salt was mixed with sand to increase tire traction.

"Then more and more salt was used until a few years ago when they started using anti-icing chemicals to coat the roads before storms," Garder said. "It prevents snow and ice from sticking to the road. We have clear dry roads immediately as opposed to letting it stick to the road and plowing."

In addition to providing the Maine Department of Transportation with information regarding the effectiveness of its current snow and ice removal procedures, the University of Maine will benefit from newly formed relationship with state transportation officials, and the project also contributes to UMaine's mission of public service.

The final report is expected to be presented to the Legislature by January 2010.

UMaine Speakers to Share Perspectives on Russia

04 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Two top scholars in the field of Russian politics will visit the University of Maine Wednesday and Thursday Feb. 11-12 for a series of presentations, "The Changing Role of Russia in the World: Menace or Opportunity?"

Prof. Brian Taylor of Syracuse University and Prof. Thomas Remington of Emory University and Harvard University will make three presentations, all of which are free and open to the public:

- Wednesday Feb. 11, 3-4 p.m.

Civilian-Military Relations in Russia and the Former Soviet Countries

219 Little Hall

- Wednesday Feb. 11 7-8:30 p.m.

Russia Resurgent: Implications for Global Security

Buchanan Alumni House

- Thursday Feb. 12 11-12:15 p.m.

Commentary: U.S.-Eurasian Relations, International Security and the War on Terrorism

100 Neville Hall

The Wednesday Evening event and also the Thursday event will feature audience discussion and question-and-answer periods.

Taylor is a faculty member in the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. Remington is Emory's Goodrich C. White Professor of Political Science. He is also a senior fellow in Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies and a Harvard visiting professor of government.

These events are supported in part by the UMaine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series fund.

UMaine Scientist Helps Study Toxic Algal Blooms Off Washington Coast

04 Feb 2009

Contact: Mark Wells, (207) 581-4322; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine – Toxic algal blooms have the potential to produce devastating impacts on fishing industries in coastal communities, and also can pose a threat to the health and safety of humans and animals. To better understand the

potential threat to coastal Maine waters, University of Maine marine sciences professor Mark Wells is studying harmful diatom blooms off the coast of Washington.

Toxigenic diatoms of the genus, *Pseudo-nitzschia*, also occur in the Gulf of Maine and sometimes produce domoic acid, a highly potent neurotoxin, according to Wells.

So far, toxic conditions have been infrequent and only measured in the Bay of Fundy region, but if the contaminated shellfish are consumed by humans the syndrome, known as amnesic shellfish poisoning, can be debilitating and fatal, says Wells.

"We were entirely unaware that these diatoms produced a toxin until late 1987 when three persons died and over a hundred were stricken on Prince Edward Island after eating blue mussels," says Wells.

The toxin attacks neurons of the brain and in addition to humans can cause adverse health effects or even death in birds and marine mammals that consume affected marine species.

It now is suspected that a toxic diatom bloom in the early 1960's was the cause of very unusual seabird behavior in the coastal town of Monterey, Cali. The event may have been the basis for Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds" since the filmmaker used to spend summers in the area, Wells noted.

The UMaine professor was one of several scientists who participated in the recent study, which was funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Science Foundation. Their research reveals that a part of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which separates Washington state from Canada's British Columbia, is a hot spot for toxic diatom cells that under certain conditions are transported to coastal areas where they can trigger blooms that ultimately force the closure of Washington state shellfish beds.

Scientists and their students took thousands of measurements at sea and conducted experiments onboard research vessels and in their laboratories to better understand the factors that initiate and sustain the growth of this toxic alga and determine why it produces the deadly biotoxin, according to a recent press release from NOAA.

"This eddy region off the West Coast is the only place known to consistently have toxic cells, and so it is an ideal field laboratory for us to study what conditions cause these cells to produce the toxin," says Wells. "What we learn there may help explain why blooms on the Maine coast generally produce little toxin, and determine whether human activities might increase the frequency of toxic conditions along the Maine coast."

The collaborative study, conducted by a team of scientists and students from NOAA's Fisheries Service, San Francisco State University and the universities of Washington, Maine and Western Ontario, is part of the Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms Pacific Northwest program.

The study, titled "Variability of *Pseudo-nitzschia* and domoic acid in the Juan de Fuca eddy region and its adjacent shelves," was published last month in "Limnology and Oceanography." Vera Trainer (NOAA Fisheries); Barbara Hickey and Evelyn Lessard (University of Washington); William Cochlan (San Francisco State University); Charles Trick (The University of Western Ontario); and Amoreena MacFadyen and Stephanie Moore (University of Washington) are the other authors listed on the paper.

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Training to be Offered in Fort Kent

04 Feb 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson, 207-581-2971

Fort Kent, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension, working in cooperation with the St. John Valley Soil & Water Conservation District will offer Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) training on Friday, Feb. 27 from 9 a.m. 3:30 p.m. at Fort Kent Community High School. Project WET's curriculum and activity guide represent a collection of over 90 broad-based water resource activities that are hands-on, easy to use and fun. This training is appropriate for teachers working with grades K – 12, but other community members such as conservation district staff and watershed managers may also find this information useful in their work. Participants will receive the Project WET curriculum & activity guide, practice implementation of activities, assessment ideas and 0.6 CEUs available.

Project WET is an award-winning, nonprofit water education program. The program facilitates and promotes awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources through the dissemination of classroom-ready teaching aids and the establishment of internationally sponsored Project WET programs. In Maine, Project WET is sponsored by the Portland Water District, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Poland Spring.

Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 13, 2009. For more information or to register, call Casey Bowie, District Coordinator, St. John Valley Soil & Water Conservation District at 207/834-3311 ext. 3 or e-mail casey.bowie@me.nacdn.net, or Laura Wilson, UMaine Extension, at 207/581-2971 or e-mail lwilson@umext.maine.edu. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine to Test Emergency Communication System Friday Feb. 13 at Noon

06 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will conduct a full-scale test of its emergency communications system at approximately 12 noon on Friday, Feb. 13. This will include a full-volume sounding of the external siren system, for a period of several minutes. A cornerstone of UMaine's emergency communications plan, the system includes three sirens atop buildings in various parts of the campus. The sound will be audible in parts of Orono and Old Town.

In the UMaine system, the siren serves as a signal to seek information through one of several means: information at www.umaine.edu/emergency; a posting that will appear to all logged-in users on UMaine's FirstClass communications system; a recorded message at 581-INFO and a cell phone text message delivered to those who are subscribed to the umaine.txt system.

UMaine New Media Students to Debut Friend Finder Technology at Feb. 11 event

06 Feb 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen at 581-3742

Sometimes, wearing your heart on your sleeve -- or your shirt -- is a good thing.

New Media students at the University of Maine have developed technology that allows those looking for love, friendship or business connections to do just that. In last semester's interactive Web development class, students created the electronic Friend Finder, a wearable device designed to help people make a personal connection and break the ice.

Several students involved with the project will demonstrate how the Friend Finder works at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the Department of Art Gallery, located in Lord Hall on the UMaine campus. The Friend Finder make a unique, unexpected Valentine's Day story. For a sneak preview, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKBGivGYGkk>.

Students initially envisioned the Friend Finder as a dating service on campus, working from the premise that if a person were given more information about the personalities of the people they pass by, other than what they see, they would be more likely to break the ice and start a conversation.

In a nutshell, it works like this: Users enter their preferences and personality traits into a computer program and upload the information to a small, portable device. The user then plugs the device into a shirt or handbag wired with small LED lights incorporated into the design. When users with similar preferences come within 30 feet of each other, the clothing or bag lights up, making it easier to spot a potential match in a crowd.

"The project development was basically like running our own business," says Sean Collins, a junior new media major from York, Maine. "We learned so much researching different hardware and how everything worked."

The Friend Finder project continues to evolve. Junior Timothy Howe of York is researching ways to make the device smaller and more affordable, and he plans to apply for a grant to test new fabrics, computer chips and electronic ink, which changes color when exposed to different charges. It is the hope that the project will continue to present new marketable ideas in wearable technologies.

"We just established that it is possible to do it," Collins says. "Now we have to take what we have and make it in a more compact size. Technology is going mobile now, and this could be the next step with wearable technology."

Next Wednesday, students Katherine Amato of Hancock, Sean Collins and Timothy Howe, both of York, will be on hand to demonstrate the Friend Finder. Owen Smith, director of UMaine's New Media Program, will also be available to answer any questions about the project, the program or the technology.

Annual Cost of Environmentally Related Childhood Illnesses in Maine Assessed at \$380.9 Million

06 Feb 2009

Contact: Mary Davis, (617) 627- 4719, or Joe Carr (207) 581-3571 Note: Prof. Davis will be available for interviews on Friday afternoon. She will also present a seminar on this research at 3:15 p.m. Friday in UMaine's Neville Hall.

ORONO, Maine – A new study by a University of Maine economist estimates the cost of preventable, environmentally related childhood illnesses in Maine -- including lead poisoning, asthma, childhood cancer, and neurobehavioral disorders – totals \$380.9 million annually.

Environmental economist and researcher Mary Davis says her study presents a conservative assessment of the damaging effects of childhood diseases and the costs of caring for these children. A report on her study, titled "An Economic Cost Assessment of Environmentally Related Childhood Diseases in Maine," also estimates the potential reduction in lifetime income and educational opportunity for children permanently afflicted by childhood diseases.

"Overall, the aggregate annual cost of environmentally attributable illnesses in Maine children is estimated to be \$380.9 million per year, ranging between \$319.4 million and \$484.4 million," Davis writes in her report. "It is important to note that the economic costs outlined in this report represent preventable childhood illnesses, and, as such, could be fully avoided if environmental exposures in children were eliminated."

Davis, an adjunct faculty member in the UMaine School of Economics, says she conducted her research independently because of her interest in children's health issues and because of the plethora of environmental initiatives expected to

surface in the Maine legislature as a result of LD 2048, "An Act To Protect Children's Health and the Environment from Toxic Chemicals in Toys and Children's Products," passed by the legislature last year. The bill requires Maine to adopt a list of priority chemicals of high concern, forces manufacturers to disclose the toxic chemicals they add to products, and authorizes the state to require safer alternatives. The report is "directly relevant to the state's investment in the process that the new law has set into motion," Davis says.

"The report says if you eliminated all the environmental exposures, you would stand to save this much money in these categories," says Davis, who also is an assistant professor in the Department of Urban and Environmental Planning at Tufts University and holds a joint appointment with the Department of Environmental Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Davis's research on the cost and effects on children of second-hand smoke contributed to a 2008 state law banning smoking in motor vehicles with children inside.

Davis says the findings of her research indicate the prevalence of a "new pediatric morbidity," a changing pattern of more childhood illnesses, including asthma and cancer, being caused more often by environmental factors than genetic susceptibility or infectious diseases.

Some highlights of Davis's findings:

The total annual cost of childhood lead poisoning is \$268 million, a number that represents the lost lifetime earning potential of children born in the state each year from lead exposure.

Treatment for environmentally attributable neurobehavioral disorders including autism, ADD/ADHD, cerebral palsy and mental retardation cost an estimated \$100.9 million annually, according to Davis's report.

The cost of treating asthma in children is estimated at \$8.8 million a year in Maine and treating childhood cancer costs more than \$2.5 million a year, Davis calculates.

Davis notes in her report that Maine, like other states, is working to address environmentally attributable exposure of children to toxins and pollutants, but more can be done. With better consumer education and improved chemical-management and control policies, children's health could be improved.

UMaine Onward Program Schedules Informational Workshops

09 Feb 2009

Contact: Alan Parks, 581-2320; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Onward Program is inviting prospective new students to a series of informational workshops to explain opportunities the program can offer people who might not see a college degree on the horizon. Most Maine adults do not have a four-year degree, according to Alan Parks, director of UMaine's College Success Programs, which administers Onward, but the Onward Program can help change that. Now may be the perfect time to consider a college education, Parks says. The program offers an alternate entry path for adults who lack the normally required academic credentials to be accepted at the university or those who may simply need extra help getting started at UMaine. Onward's unique support system helps students succeed while at UMaine and even afterward. Informational sessions to explain the program, the university and financial aid are scheduled Feb. 12, March 19, April 16 and May 14 from 2-4 p.m., and May 14, 5-7 p.m. in 104 East Annex, and include light refreshments. Current Onward students will be available to discuss their experiences and answer questions. People unable to attend any of the sessions are welcome to contact the Onward Program at (207) 581-2320 (207/581-2325 TTY) for information and applications.

UMaine Dance Festival Feb. 14 to Showcase International Student Talent

09 Feb 2009

Contact: Karen Boucias, 581-3433; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO – The University of Maine's fifth annual International Dance Festival is being held Saturday, Feb. 14, in the newly renovated Collins Centre for the Arts on the Orono campus, showcasing homeland dances and traditional costumes of some of the many international students at UMaine.

Two shows are scheduled -- at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. -- because of the immense popularity of the festival.

Traditional dances from India, Africa, Bulgaria, Mongolia, Tibet, Persia, Brazil, the Middle East, Cuba and the United States will be performed, in addition to some Western favorites like the waltz, swing, R&B and hip hop.

Typically, the production involves more than 100 dancers, technical staff and coordinators from as many as two dozen countries. This year, audiences can expect a greater array of traditional dances and colorful traditional costumes, says Andrea West, a festival volunteer coordinator.

The dance festival is free and organized by the International Student Association, a student club representing the diverse international community at UMaine. The Office of International Programs cosponsors the event, with financial support from UMaine's Office of Student Affairs, Student Government and the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

The idea for an international dance festival originated with a former Nepalese student who recognized an unusual opportunity to create an event that pulled local and international communities together to share the talents of the university's diverse population of international students.

"Each year the festival has grown in participation and diversity of performances," says Sarah Joughin, international student advisor. "It is exciting to be able to offer a selection of dances from such a wide range of countries and cultures. This year, we are looking forward to performing in the brand new Collins Center for the Arts. I think people will appreciate a chance to get a first look at the arts center free of charge."

Professor Paul Myer from the Maine Business School is to be the emcee this year.

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

UMaine Climate Change Lecture to Focus on Maine's Shifting Coastline

09 Feb 2009

Contact: Gregory Zaro at 581-1857

PLEASE NOTE DAY CHANGE

ORONO -- Joe Kelley, chair of the University of Maine's Department of Earth Sciences and a professor in UMaine's Climate Change Institute, will present "The Rise and Fall of the Maine Coast: People and a Drowning Shoreline" from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Bangor Public Library. Kelley's talk is the fourth installment in the Climate Change Institute's monthly lecture series, which is free and open to the public. Please note that the day has changed from Wednesday to Thursday for the month of February.

Kelley will discuss how Maine's shoreline is inherently dynamic and has shifted many miles as melting glaciers have fed a rising ocean. According to Kelley, in a few, brief human generations, people have thoroughly settled on coastal Maine's beaches and erected buildings intended to be permanent. The continuing rise in the sea — or an acceleration in the rise — has forced people to go to greater lengths and at greater cost to hold back the sea and retain their property. In

this talk Kelley will consider some examples of how beach systems are now coupled with human systems, leaving little flexibility in coping with future contingencies without losing either the beaches or properties.

Kelley is a marine geologist who focuses on research problems with societal implications. He has measured changes in sea level, as well as monitored and mapped coastal regions (including the sea floor of the Gulf of Maine) with the intent of providing information to the public. Kelley worked with the Maine Geological Survey for 18 years prior to coming to the University of Maine in 1999.

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 Professor Receives Prominent German Research Award

10 Feb 2009

Contact: R. Dean Astumian, (207) 581-1024; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine – University of Maine physics Professor R. Dean Astumian has received a Humboldt Research Award, one of the most prestigious scientific honors in Germany.

The prize from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is given to distinguished foreign scholars in recognition of their lifetime academic achievements. The Humboldt Research Award is presented annually by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to up to 100 internationally renowned scientists and scholars residing outside of Germany.

In addition to the cash award of 60,000 euros, or about \$77,000, Humboldt awardees are invited to conduct research in Germany. Astumian plans to spend the summer and next fall in the laboratories of the three scientists who nominated him: Professors Hermann Gaub, Dieter Braun, and Dr. Kay Gottschalk, all of the Ludwig Maximilian University (LMU) in Munich, Germany.

"The Humboldt Research Award is unique in that it is recognition not only of past achievement, but explicitly is also in anticipation of continued contributions," Astumian says. "The invitation to spend several months at LMU in one of the very best laboratories for single molecule biophysics is extremely exciting. I am really looking forward to working hand-in-hand with experimentalists testing some of the theories on the function of bio-molecular machines that I have proposed."

A physics professor, much of Astumian's research focuses on Brownian motors – molecule size machines that constructively use diffusion as a mechanism for controlled motion at the nanoscale.

Astumian points out that for macromolecules like proteins in water, friction against the water is enormous, and thermal noise due to collisions with water molecules is very strong.

"Moving in a straight line must be like swimming in molasses during a hurricane," says Astumian. "Yet cells thrive – they ferry materials, pump ions, and build proteins to make order out of seeming chaos."

Astumian has proposed that a basic mechanism by which they do this, known as the Brownian motor principle, is to selectively prevent motion due to thermal noise that is not desired, leaving behind the motion that is desired.

In addition to the recent Humboldt Award, Astumian is internationally recognized for his theoretical work on fundamental aspects of nanotechnology. He was invited to co-organize a Nobel symposium in Sweden entitled "Controlling Motion at the Nanoscale" in June 2005; In 2007 he was asked to participate and speak at the Solvay conference "From Noncovalent Assemblies to Molecular Machines"; and was a finalist for the Feynman prize for

theoretical molecular nanotechnology in 2008. He also is a fellow of the American Physical Society, and was the chair of the society's Division of Biological Physics from 2007-08.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation was established in Berlin 18 months after the death of Alexander von Humboldt in 1860. Although its operation briefly was interrupted during turbulent times in Germany's history, today the foundation annually allows more than 1,800 researchers from all over the world to spend time researching in Germany and maintains a network of some 23,000 Humboldtians from all disciplines in 130 countries worldwide.

One of the most recent media mentions of a Humboldt Research Award winner was President Barack Obama's appointment of Steven Chu to the position of U.S. Energy Secretary. In 1994, Chu received the Humboldt Research Award and three years later was granted the Nobel Prize for Physics.

Forty Nobel Prize winners are numbered among past recipients of the Humboldt Research Award.

Kennedy Staying on as UMaine President

10 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Robert Kennedy has announced that he will continue as the University of Maine's president. Kennedy had been under consideration for the president's job at Kansas State University, where he has been since Sunday as one of two finalists interviewing for that job.

"While I appreciated the opportunity to be considered for the Kansas State presidency, I am delighted to be continuing in my role at the University of Maine. With challenges come opportunities, and I continue to believe that UMaine is well-positioned to build on its recent successes and continue as a unique, invaluable resource serving its students and the state," Kennedy says. "Because of UMaine's incredible faculty, staff, students and supporters, we have been able to move forward on several fronts, despite the budget challenges faced by our state and public higher education in general. More than ever, I believe that UMaine is the state's best hope for the future of this great state. I look forward to working with Chancellor Pattenaude, the Board of Trustees and all those who care deeply about our state's future. We will continue to find ways to deliver on the promise that comes with our unique role as Maine's flagship university."

UMaine's 18th president, Kennedy has been at the university since 2000, serving first as executive vice president and provost. He was named interim president in August 2004 and was named president in April 2005.

Black History Month Events at UMaine

11 Feb 2009

Contact: Ana-Ramona Gilbert, 581-1428

ORONO -- In observance of Black History Month, lectures, discussions, a bake sale fundraiser and a poetry jam are some of the events scheduled through Feb. 23 at the University of Maine.

Events include:

"Grandchildren of the Buffalo Soldiers" - Feb. 12, 4-6 p.m., 120 Little Hall; sponsored by the English Department and Office of Multicultural Programs

Poetry Jam - 12-1:30 p.m. at the UM Bookstore; Black Student Union, sponsor

"Standing on My Sister's Shoulders: Women's Voices from the Civil Rights Struggle of the 1960s" - Feb. 17, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union; Women in Curriculum & Women's Studies, sponsor

Hip Hop Discussion - Feb. 17, 7 p.m., 120 Little Hall; Black Student Union, sponsor

Black Student Union Bake Sale - Feb. 18, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Memorial Union; Black Student Union, sponsor;

Black History Month Presentation - Feb. 23, 4-5:30 p.m., the University Club, Fogler Library;

"Rez Politics" - Feb. 23, 5:30-7 p.m., the University Club, Fogler Library;

For additional information, call the UMaine Office of Multicultural Programs at 581- 1428.

UMaine Researchers Receive \$500,000 Grant to Study Ocean Sediments

12 Feb 2009

Contact: Pete Jumars, (207) 581-4381; Sara Lindsay, (207) 581-2739; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine -- Two University of Maine researchers have received a nearly \$500,000 grant to combine and broaden their studies of the seafloor by looking at the ecological and biological processes of the creatures that live there.

The National Science Foundation awarded professors Pete Jumars and Sara Lindsay of UMaine's School of Marine Sciences a three-year grant that will allow them to study animals that feed on sediment in the seabed and how those animals mix the sediment.

The seafloor animals – primarily worms, crustaceans and clams – play a critical role in the mixing and burial of organic material that arrives on the seabed and is either remineralized into carbon dioxide, ammonia, nitrate or phosphate and returned to the water column or is buried.

This burial is a critical process to an understanding of global warming because it's the only major natural sink that takes both natural and anthropogenic carbon out of contact with the biosphere.

Many animals involved in this process have become locally extinct due to pollution and trawling by those in the fishing industry even before their functions are understood and despite the fact that marine muds cover the majority of the solid earth surface.

Separately, Jumars and Lindsay have studied different aspects of this process for several years, but are excited to combine their work.

With former UMaine doctoral candidate Kelly Dorgan, Jumars developed methods to visualize the burrowing of animals on the seafloor by making transparent polymer gels that mimic the mechanical properties of muds.

A major discovery of their work, aided by collaboration with UMaine engineering professor Eric Landis who is an expert on mechanical damage to concrete and wood composites, is that most animals burrow in muds by cracking them in a process analogous to splitting wood. In this next phase of work, Jumars and Lindsay will continue to use transparent analogs to identify the links between structure and function in subsurface burrowers.

They also will measure the consequences for sediment mixing and extend Lindsay's prior research on chemosensory

biology to test how chemosensory capabilities are involved in determining the way that animals steer cracks.

Chemosensory biology is the study of how the chemical senses of smell and taste interact with the environment, behavior, and success of organisms. For example, crabs find clams by the smell of their exhaled breath. Crabs are most successful when they hunt for the smell by moving across stream and then move upstream in the smell plume. Success is greatest at intermediate flow speeds; without flow the signal does not carry far, and in very turbulent flow the signal follows unpredictable paths and is dissipated quickly.

Humans on the other hand simply can use their sight to go after a piece of fruit in Jell-O with a fork or a spoon. Jumars and Lindsay expect to uncover how animals use smell and taste to locate rich patches of food in mud and sand and to understand the mechanics of how they free these materials from the surrounding medium and ingest them.

The timing of their award coincides with the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of his most famous book. Darwin's last book, "The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms," concerned the mixing of soils by earthworms on land.

Dorgan and Jumars' earlier work stirred some controversy by discrediting Darwin's idea that worms are able to move through sediments by eating holes in the soil in front of them.

Jumars and Lindsay's new work promises to reveal the details of eating and mixing in the vast submarine biome of marine sediments that cover the majority of Earth.

UMaine Engineers Introducing Young Women to Science, Engineering

13 Feb 2009

Contact: Chet Rock, 581-2218; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- With research showing men make up 80 percent of the nation's -- and 86 percent of Maine's -- engineering undergraduates, the University of Maine is launching an initiative Feb. 16-20 aimed at reducing the disparity.

UMaine's College of Engineering and UMaine Cooperative Extension will host as many as 48 young high school women from Maine 4-H clubs and Girl Scouts in four counties for a four-day adventure in engineering program during the public school vacation Feb. 16-20.

As part of the new "Engineering Awareness Day" program, made possible through a UMaine EPSCOR Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative outreach grant, at least 12 female high school students will visit UMaine engineering labs for a day. They'll work with chemical engineering faculty, researchers and students as they participate in converting wood stock to fuels and chemicals. They'll also learn about manipulating microscopic nanoparticles into molecular cancer probes in biological engineering laboratories as a way to detect pancreatic cancer.

Engineering Awareness Day is a continuation of university efforts to attract more young women into science, technology and engineering careers, says Hemant Pendse, chair of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Chet Rock, associate dean of the College of Engineering.

Research assembled by the college shows disparaging trends involving women in engineering. Statistics show Maine ranks 49th in the nation for graduating engineers, and the state ranks 38th nationally for the number of females enrolled in engineering programs, according to Pendse and Rock. It also shows the situation worsening since 2004 for females graduating with degrees in engineering and engineering technology in Maine.

The statistics are a problem nationwide, according to Rock, who notes that the United States produces fewer engineers than many other countries. Having more women in engineering might also have beneficial effects on engineered

consumer products, the invention of anything from automobiles to user-friendly household appliances, he says.

"Because of the low representation of women, the engineering profession tends to craft solutions to some of society's greatest challenges that do not address the needs of the full cross section of our population," Rock says.

Consider a PDA designed specifically to fit a male's shirt pocket, or automobile airbags that can injure smaller passengers when they deploy, or a square cup holder that can accommodate a child's juice box, suggests an editorial in the online publication "electronic design." The publication also cites the development of the Ford Windstar family van, designed primarily by female engineers, which has electronically operated sliding doors on both sides of the vehicle as being a more practical design.

The latest UMaine effort to bring more school-aged females into engineering labs early is a strategy supported by research that also shows that early career guidance can significantly help young women with career choices, according to Rock and Pendse.

Pendse is optimistic the early exposure to engineering will pay off.

"This first-time, coordinated, hands-on interaction with the Maine 4-H is sure grow, with much broader participation in coming years," he says.

As part of the Engineering Awareness Day, the College of Engineering, 4-H and Cooperative Extension educators will set up a virtual engineering club for participating 4-H females as a Yahoo Group. Students from throughout Maine will be able to receive forestry-related engineering exercises and projects they can do from home, with an online adviser providing guidance.

The project "will give these youths a chance to learn about the wide range of engineering opportunities at the University of Maine," Rock says.

23rd 'Expanding Your Horizons' for Middle School Girls Explores Math, Science Careers

11 Mar 2009

Contact: Leslie Blanchette (207) 581-1259; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO – Hundreds of Maine middle school girls will spend a day at college on Thursday, March 12, learning about math- and science-oriented careers historically pursued by males.

Coming from throughout the state, nearly 400 girls will attend the University of Maine's 23rd 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; creating a computer-generated aquifer model and see how groundwater can be contaminated; how to spot an imposter website created by a bully or stalker; how to put a stop to "sexting"; and how to use geographic information systems to monitor wildlife migration and behavior.

"Expanding Your Horizons" has been coordinated for the past 12 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 in university classrooms and laboratories with positive female role models active in math and science careers.

Women in math and science careers have been significantly underrepresented both nationally and in Maine, and the university is trying to balance the scale by exposing young women to both the university and its opportunities, and also

to female math and science faculty members and students.

This year, as some schools have cut back on student field trips, more parents than before have volunteered to drive students and their teachers to Orono, according to Sharon Barker, director of the Women's Resource Center.

"They said, if the school can't do it, then we're going to do whatever we can to help," Barker says. She also has noticed a larger number of home-schooled girls making plans to attend the day's events.

Barker suspects that as the tight economy changes the nature and availability of jobs, parents are taking note, and are aware that math and science careers pay well.

"Parents want to make sure their daughters are doing things that they love and they don't want anything left out," Barker says. "They really want their children to be all that they can be and not restricted by gender."

The day of career-field exploration begins with registration at 8:45 a.m. and a keynote address by a panel of UMaine women students majoring in science or engineering at 9 a.m. at Hauck Auditorium.

"I love having the women faculty involved, but I get particularly excited about the college women getting involved," Barker says. "This is all done by volunteers, including college students who show up during their spring break, and professional women coming from off-campus to participate."

After the keynote discussion, workshop sessions are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., with a lunch break 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 and presenters are as follows:

"Cat-A-Pult" with Victoria Abbott

Teams of three girls work together with the "cat-a-pult" device. Using measurement and data collection, teams will determine which settings will create the most reliable and consistent launch of the cat. The whole group's challenge is then to create a chain reaction of cats!

105 D.P. Corbett Business Building lobby, 12:15-1 p.m. and 1:15-2 p.m.

Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST) with George Bernhardt

A tour of the LASST lab will be provided during which students will learn about what surface science and technology is as well as what research goes on here at the University of Maine.

ESRB -193 Barrows Hall, 1:15-2 p.m.

Lumpy Liquids and Squishy Solids, with Alice Bruce

Students will explore the fascinating properties of polymers and suspensions. Come make slime, find out what makes diapers work, and play with "oobleck."

462 Aubert Hall (lab on the 4th floor), 10-11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Occupational Safety Engineering, with Adela Cifelli

Hands on workshop working with personal protective equipment such as safety glasses and gloves and the importance of safety on the job. Students will perform a risk assessment of current work activity they perform daily and some potential hazards.

201 Shibles Hall, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Using Geographic Information Systems to Monitor Wildlife Migration and Behavior, with Stacy Doore

Workshop uses industry standard GIS software and extensions to track seal migration and behavior after rehabilitation and release-introduces technology of GIS and how to represent movement of objects over time and space.

SIE Computer Lab (1st Floor Boardman), 12-1 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Is it Strong Enough? with Barbara Fleck

Students will design and test a bridge using a computer model. Materials will be tested to see how strong they are. Students will see how engineers use their knowledge of the strength of materials to make an efficient design.
318 Boardman Hall, 10-11 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Women in Nontraditional Professions, with Wynne Guglielmo

This workshop will discuss safety/OSHA/DOL regulations. Students will learn about how OSHA programs are composed of departments primarily populated by male employees and the trades (carpentry, electricians, plant operators, mechanics, etc). Students will learn about tasks involving lockout/tagout, confined space entry, cranes, hoist, slings, ladder use, forklifts, machine shop and machine guarding issues.
202 Shibles Hall, 10-11 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Bridge Building, with Lib Jamison

Design and build a popsicle-stick truss bridge using 4 ounces of materials. The bridges will load tested to determine the most durable design. Bridges will be weighed prior to testing, so the strongest bridge will win. There will be prizes for the winning designs.
201 Shibles Hall, 10-11 a.m. and 12-1 p.m.

Kristen McGovern

Fun with Fungi - Students will begin with a brief presentation describing fungi and their role in our lives. Afterward, small groups will move through the stations of activities to explore more about fungi. Examples of station activities include: making a mushroom spore print, eating some fungal food, identifying parts of a mushroom and using a dissecting microscope to examine mushroom parts.
203 Hitchner Hall (with a tour of Room 305), 10-11 a.m.

How to Stop Imposter Websites, with Vinitha Nair

Learn how to stop bullies from using a social networking profile as a weapon by creating a fake website or profile, such as on MySpace, about the victim, while getting bystanders to add content or comments. You can learn to identify the tactic and stop imposters in their tracks.
111 D.P. Corbett Business Building, 10-11 a.m.

And, How to Stop "Sexting" (sex text-messaging), with Vinitha Nair

With so many girls owning cell phones, learn about this national trend and what it can cost girls who naively take provocative photos of themselves with their cell phone cameras and send them to friends or boyfriends. This workshop will help teen girls protect their sisters, their friends, and themselves.
111 D.P. Corbett, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Sisters on Submarines, with Denise Nemeth-Greenleaf

Participants will become familiar with some non-traditional careers at the Department of Defense. This will include discussion of submarines and industrial environments, as well as hands-on experiments with glove-bags, acidity testing and submergence exercises.
100 D.P. Corbett, 10-11 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Are you 'Gel-in'?: An Introduction to Biotechnology and Genetics Research, with Renee Rioux

Instructors will discuss genetics/biotechnology research happening on campus, and introduce the girls to some basic techniques used, particularly gel electrophoresis but hopefully also some bio-informatics on the computer, and making/pouring of media.
102 Murray Hall, 10-11 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

How do they know how strong that is? with Olivia Sanchez

Participants will tour the AEW Center testing and manufacturing laboratory, with a demonstration on how structural products are made and tested.
AEWC Building, 10-10:45 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1:15-2 p.m.

Nanotechnology, with Rosemary Smith

A 30-minute presentation on nanoscale science and engineering with illustration followed by two or three demonstrations and show and tell.

263 ESRB, 10-11 am and 1:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Awesome Aquifers: What is in your drinking Water, with Teresa Thornton

Students will design and construct an aquifer model. Once completed, students will "contaminate" the soil and discuss the effects of land-use on the quality of well water supplied by a groundwater source.

203 Hitchner Hall or TBA, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Polymer Slime, with Helen C. Watts

Students will get a chance to play with some fun polymers.

101C Deering Hall, 10 a.m.-10:45 a.m., 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.-2 p.m.

Engineering is Fun, with Faye Woodcock Murray

An overview of women in engineering ad types available at UMaine, including some experimentation

Soderberg Lecture Hall, Jenness Hall, 10-10:45 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 a.m. and 1:15-2 p.m.

Exploring the Secret World of Phytoplankton, with Ashley Young

In this workshop, students will get a brief introduction to oceanography and what oceanographers do. In particular, students will learn about the diversity of phytoplankton and the importance of these microscopic marine plants in marine ecosystems. After talking about their unique adaptations to obtain light, the girls will become scientists with the mission of finding out which shapes and sizes are best at keeping phytoplankton afloat. Students will have an opportunity to observe live samples under the microscope and will then create their own phytoplankton using modeling clay, testing the models in a large settling tank at the end of the session. 488 Aubert Hall, 10-11 a.m., 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Page Farm and Home Museum Plans Maine Maple Sunday Event March 22

11 Mar 2009

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

ORONO – The Page Farm and Home Museum at UMaine is celebrating Maine Maple Sunday March 22, and invites area children and their families to join in the annual celebration and traditional rite of spring.

Events are from 1-3 p.m. The afternoon begins with the video "The Maple Sugaring Story" at the Page Farm and Home Museum. Grade K-5 children can participate in learning activities, play games and hear stories about one of Maine's oldest traditions and seasonal business enterprises.

Participants also will visit the University of Maine's maple sugaring operation on College Avenue Extension for a guided walking tour of the sugar bush, a tour of the sugarhouse, where sap is simmered into syrup, a sample of syrup straight from the evaporator and a "sugar-on-snow" party.

A \$4 per child reimbursement fee for materials is requested. Since space is limited, pre-registration is requested. Call 581-4100 for information and to register. Children must be chaperoned by an adult with transportation. The sugaring operation is about 1 1/2 miles from campus.

UMaine To Host Energy Conference

10 Mar 2009

Contact: Mohamad Musavi, chair of UMaine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, (207) 581-2223; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine College of Engineering will host the Haskell Energy Conference: Electricity's Role in Meeting Our Energy Needs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 250 Haskell Road, Bangor. The conference will focus on the important energy challenges ahead and the path forward for building a smart electrical grid. In response to President Barack Obama and the U.S. Congress's call to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, UMaine is aiming to assist the state electric utilities in the implementation of a Maine Smart Grid (MSG). Several of Maine's major electric utility companies, including Central Maine Power Company, Bangor Hydro-electric Company, Maine Public Service Company, actively are participating and will benefit from this initiative. The integration of the MSG with existing renewable energy sources, such as wind power, not only will satisfy the state's energy needs but also the needs of other states resulting in significant economic development opportunities for Maine. MSG will be a digital, connected, and controllable electrical energy network that will provide reliability, efficiency, security, and access to the state's vast energy resources. Specifics of the MSG project will be discussed at the Haskell Energy Conference, which is designed for industry personnel, students, researchers, and the public. The event will feature a keynote address by Larry Kazmerski, executive director for Science and Technology Partnerships, National Renewable Energy Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy. Other presenters will include representatives from Bangor Hydro Electric Company, Central Maine Power Company, Ocean Renewable Power Company, First Wind, Maine Public Utilities Commissioner Jack Cashman, and several UMaine researchers. The day will conclude with a panel discussion titled "Building Maine's Energy Future – Challenges and Opportunities." Participants can receive six Professional Development Hours toward the state's professional engineering educational requirement for attending. The registration deadline is Thursday, March 26. The Haskell Energy Conference is funded with support from the Haskell Professorship in UMaine's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Robert N. Haskell graduated from UMaine in 1925, and was the former president and chair of the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company Board. He also served in the Maine House of Representatives and Maine Senate. Haskell's contributions shaped the foundation of the electric energy network in Maine. For more information, call (207) 581-2223.

Department Accreditation Public Meeting March 26

09 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology is reviewing UMaine's Dept. of Communication Science and Disorders for reaccreditation. This process includes the opportunity for public comment at an open meeting during a CAA review team visit later this month. That meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 26, 4-5:30 p.m. in 126 Dunn Hall. Those interested in accessing copies of the Standards for Accreditation and/or the CAA's Policy on Public Comment may write the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Accreditation Office, 2200 Research Blvd., Rockville, Maryland 20850; visit the association's website at www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/default.htm; or call ASHA's Action Center at 1-800-498-2071. For more information contact the Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders at 581-2006.

Register Early for Maine Garden Day

09 Mar 2009

Contact: Contact: Frank S. Wertheim, Extension Educator, 207-324-2814 ORONO- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the 16th annual Maine Garden Day on Saturday, March 28 at Central Maine Community College in Auburn. The event features more than 35 gardening workshops presented by local gardening experts. Additional features include a trade show with educational displays and plants, seeds and tools for purchase. Those with interest are encouraged to register early, as space is limited and only the first 400 registrations will be accepted. To register contact UMaine Extension by calling 1-800-287-1482 or (207) 743-6329. The cost of this daylong gardening event is \$50 and includes breakfast, lunch, trade show attendance and workshops. Some of the new workshops for this year include Preserving the Harvest, Introduction to Root Cellaring, Painting Florals in Watercolor, Low-Maintenance Landscaping,

Getting the Most From Your Vegetable Garden and Essentials of the Backyard Apple Tree. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Wednesday Presentation on Energy Independent Danish Island

09 Mar 2009

Contact: Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Sören Hermansen, a professor of environmental studies at the University of Aarhus in Denmark, will discuss "Denmark's Renewable Energy Island: Success on the Path to Energy Independence," on Wednesday March 11 at 4:30 p.m. at UMaine's Wells Conference Center.

Hermansen will describe the island of Samsø, which has achieved energy independence by developing effective wind power, solar power and biofuels. Time Magazine named Hermansen a "Hero of the Environment" in 2008.

UMaine Community Engagement Gala to Celebrate Work for Public Good

06 Mar 2009

Contact: Contact: Audra Grady, 581-4194; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The first annual public Community Engagement Gala is scheduled April 2 at Wells Conference Center to recognize, support and celebrate partnerships between the University of Maine and community organizations, groups or causes.

The event is being planned and hosted by the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism, with support from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, to bring together a diverse set of guests to celebrate a growing university-community network and raise awareness about common goals.

Program highlights include recognition of the recently received Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement and Scholarship awards to students, staff, faculty and community members for their dedication to serving the public good, and bringing stories of community engagement to light.

The event begins at 4 p.m. with appetizers and socializing, followed by the program from 4:30-6 p.m. Black Bear Dining Services will provide catering. Space can be reserved by contacting the Bodwell Center at 581-3091 or emailing Katherine.Lumino@umit.maine.edu.

The Bodwell Center is the primary vehicle for student service and engagement at UMaine. Its mission is to create civic-mindedness by engendering an engaged campus through the promotion of service-learning and volunteerism to students, faculty and staff in order to strengthen local, national and global communities. The center is supported by Russell and Barbara Bodwell, class of 1944 and 1945, respectively, the UMaine Division of Student Affairs, and the University of Maine as a whole.

UMaine Professor Named TAPPI Fellow

05 Mar 2009

Contact: Joseph Genco, (207) 581-2284; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine - A University of Maine professor has received the distinction of being named a 2009 Fellow of the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI) for his extraordinary contributions to the industry.

Chemical Engineering Professor Joseph Genco was selected as one of seven TAPPI members to be named a 2009 Fellow, which is an honorary title bestowed upon less than three percent of TAPPI's membership. The designation is given only to those who have made extraordinary technical or service contributions to the pulp and paper market or the association.

Genco has taught pulp and paper courses, in addition to many of the core chemical engineering courses at UMaine for 35 years. He became a member of TAPPI in 1976.

"Many of my students are in the paper industry and have progressed very well," he says.

Genco's research deals primarily with the delignification of wood during paper formation, and he holds three patents on the subject.

During the papermaking process, lignin is removed from the wood and can be used for a variety of things, including fuel. Currently, Genco and his colleagues are working on the development of a process for producing carbon fibers from lignin extracted from wood. Carbon fibers can be used as a reinforcing material to reduce the weight of automobiles and significantly improve fuel efficiency.

Upon the announcement of his award, TAPPI said that Genco's contributions to the industry greatly have increased the technical knowledge to industry professionals working in the areas of delignification and paper formation. Genco previously was awarded the 2007 Johan Richter Award from TAPPI for his work on understanding commercial oxygen delignification systems.

The criteria for being selected a Fellow include the following:

- Publication of articles and books
- Patents granted
- Directions of important research or engineering work
- Management of major projects resulting in acknowledged improvements and new developments
- Leadership assignments in TAPPI
- Service to other organizations and/or to the public

"TAPPI is proud to welcome these exemplary industry leaders into the ranks of TAPPI Fellow," according to the association's press release announcing the awards. "This year's award winners enter a select group that is less than 1 percent of TAPPI's membership. As such, they are rightly considered industry thought leaders, and they richly merit the acclaim from TAPPI and their fellow members."

There have been 429 TAPPI Fellows from 14 countries since 1968.

TAPPI has about 14,000 members worldwide and for more than 90 years, the association has served four segments of the global industry:

- pulp and paper technical,
- pulp and paper operations,
- converting and packaging, and
- suppliers and consultants.

Through information exchange, events, and networking opportunities, TAPPI helps members elevate their performance by providing solutions that lead to better, faster, and more cost-effective ways of doing business.

The TAPPI Fellows Class of 2009 will be inducted at TAPPI's Annual Fellows Luncheon during PaperCon'09, May 31-

June 3 in St. Louis, Missouri.

UMaine Invited to Join National Advanced Forestry System

04 Mar 2009

Contact: Robert Wagner, (207) 581-4737; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine has received a \$350,000 grant to join the National Science Foundation's Center for Advanced Forestry Systems (CAFS).

This grant makes UMaine a member of a multi-university effort to help solve some of the most important problems facing forest managers in Maine and across the nation, according to Robert Wagner, director of UMaine's School of Forest Resources.

"The University of Maine has a long history of working closely with Maine's forest industry through the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit (CFRU) to find practical solutions to forestry problems," says Wagner. "This new grant will allow UMaine forest researchers and members of Maine's forest industry to work cooperatively on shared problems at the national level."

UMaine now will be part an exclusive group of nationally recognized leaders in forest research, including North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Purdue University and Virginia Tech.

Membership in CAFS will provide funding for graduate student research on the UMaine campus and also will link UMaine researchers and the Maine forest industry at the national level to cooperatively find solutions to common problems.

UMaine's effort within CAFS will seek to improve the computer models used to predict the future growth and development on Maine's forests.

"Improved models are vital to Maine's forest landowners if they are to accurately predict future wood supplies that support traditional forest products as well as emerging markets for bioenergy and bioproducts," says Wagner. "UMaine will bring a unique approach to this national research because its focus and expertise has been on naturally regenerated forests with many tree species, while other universities in CAFS have been focused on plantation forests of single species."

In addition to UMaine, forestry programs at the University of Georgia and University of Washington received grants to join CAFS this year. These seven universities and forest industry members across the country will now be able to more fully address ways to enhance the competitiveness of the United States forestry sector.

The broader scientific community also will benefit through refereed publications and presentations at scientific meetings that focus on key nationwide research questions.

UMaine Accepting "ArtWorks" Registration for Spring Session

03 Mar 2009

Contact: Laurie Hicks, 581-3247

ORONO – The University of Maine Department of Art is accepting applications for the spring 2009 after-school ArtWorks program for area children in kindergarten through grade 6.

ArtWorks classes will be held March 27-April 24, from 3:30-5 p.m., on Friday afternoons at UMaine's Lord Hall.

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.

Seats will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis until the class maximum of 22 students is reached, according to Hicks, and a waiting list will be kept in case 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.

New England Dance Festival at UMaine Ends Feb. 28 with Day of Master Classes, Performances

27 Feb 2009

Contact: Ann Ross, 581-4070, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine School for Performing Arts Dance Division is welcoming at least 350 college student dancers, dance instructors and adjudicators to campus this week and Saturday for the American College Dance Festival Association's New England Regional Conference.

The Feb. 26-28 conference includes three adjudicated concerts, feedback sessions, informal concerts, a faculty and guest artist concert Saturday evening, master classes, workshops, student and faculty receptions, and networking opportunities for students and faculty.

Interested reporters will have an opportunity to speak with dancers and conference coordinator Ann Ross at least 30 minutes prior to the am informal 1:30 p.m. dance concert Saturday at Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall.

Conference organizers say they would like this year's conference to "honor those artists who manage to endure despite socioeconomic hardships, genocide, and political censorship."

"Given the tough challenges we face globally today, we would like to ask that each of us thoughtfully regard the gift of dance, accept the responsibility to share wisely, and challenge ourselves to 'Soar to Our Strengths' as the theme for our conference," says Ross, a member of the UMaine School of Performing Arts faculty and conference coordinator on behalf of the American College Dance Festival Association for the New England Region.

The ACDFFA values diversity and the weekend's conference will reflect a commitment to valuing various forms, styles, cultural traditions and aesthetic dimensions of dance.

The conference has been taking place at multiple venues across campus for performances and master classes. Adjudicated and faculty-guest artist concerts are scheduled in the 550-seat Hauck Auditorium. Informal concerts, lectures and workshops will take place in Minsky Hall. Master classes will occur in the studios of the School for Performing Arts in the Class of 1944 Hall and Lengyel Gymnasium, in addition to the new Student Recreation and Fitness Center, with two dance studios and several large gym floor spaces.

On Saturday, classes will be held 9-10:30 a.m., 2-3:30 p.m., 4-5:30 p.m., with an adjudication concert from 11 a.m. - 1

p.m., a space informal concert, 9-11 a.m., and an informal concert at 1:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall. A faculty and guest dance concert will be held Saturday at 8 p.m. at Hauck Auditorium. Admission is \$6 for the general public and free for UMaine students with a MaineCard.

UMaine To Offer Free Personal Finance Workshops

27 Feb 2009

Contact: Sharon Hageman at 581-1853

ORONO -- The University of Maine Financial Education Program, in collaboration with the UMaine School of Economics, will offer a series of workshops related to household personal finance. All workshops are free and open to the public.

Topics include "Budgeting and Finance: Making Ends Meet," March 19; " Mortgage Primer: Navigating the Process and Bankers' Lingo," March 26; "Debt: Pros and Cons, Management, Restructuring," April 2; " Efficiency: Cost Cutting, Long and Short Term," April 9; and " Investing in Your Future: Kids, College, and Retirement," April 16.

All workshops will take place from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Thursdays in March and April in the Walker Room of the Memorial Union. Each workshop is a standalone session--combining lectures, exercises and discussion--but the topics are designed to complement one another. Light food and refreshments will be provided.

In addition to the workshops, program staff will be available for one-on-one consultation and assistance.

The Financial Education Program aims to provide UMaine employees, students and residents of surrounding communities access to high-quality, current and credible information, tools, and services designed to broaden personal financial management knowledge and decision-making skills. The program was established by the University of Maine School of Economics in cooperation with the University of Maine system, Maine Community Foundation, the Maine State Treasurer, and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

For further information or to set up an appointment, please contact the Financial Education Program at 581-3127.

Area High School Students Gathering Feb. 26 for Junior Achievement Titan Business Challenge

26 Feb 2009

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, (207) 581-1427; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- High school students from three regions -- Bangor, Portland and Castine -- will assemble Thursday, Feb. 26, for the 2009 Junior Achievement Titan Challenge, a state competition in which students, with adult advisers from the business community, team up to create virtual businesses to see which is most likely to succeed.

Ten student teams will gather at 8:30 a.m. at UMaine's Foster Student Innovation Center in Orono, at Glickman Library on the University of Southern Maine campus in Portland and at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine. At UMaine, a series of workshops will be led by Maine Business School graduate students, to be followed by a live, Internet conference broadcast in which the student teams present business plans for hypothetical companies.

The challenge coincides with Maine's observance of National Entrepreneurship Week.

At UMaine, high school juniors and seniors will be coming from Bangor, John Bapst, Orono, Corinth, Hermon and Bangor Christian Academy.

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.

Using video-conferencing software, winning teams in each area will compete for the state title. The winning Maine team will compete in a national competition.

This is the third year the Junior Achievement Titan Challenge has been held in Maine. At UMaine in Orono, organizers are pleased to introduce participating high school students and members of the business community to the university in a fun and memorable way, says Jesse Moriarity, coordinator of the Foster Student Innovation Center and co-organizer of this year's Titan Challenge.

"It's a great way for them to come and see what the university has to offer," she says.

The day-long event ends at 3:30 p.m. at all three locations.

This year's Titan Challenge sponsors include Diversified Business Communications, L.L. Bean, AAA Northern New England, Bangor Sam's Club, Bangor Savings Bank, Modern Woodmen of America, Camden National Bank, Maine Savings Federal Credit Union, Sprague Energy Corporation, Synernet, Inc. and the Galen Cole Family Foundation.

General sponsors and competing partners include: KeyBank, WABI TV 5, University of Southern Maine, University of Maine – Lewiston-Auburn Campus, University of Maine Foster Student Innovation Center, Maine Maritime Academy and its student entrepreneurs club, Students in Free Enterprise. Lenovo is providing the computers for the event in Orono.

For further details, Moriarity can be reached at (207) 581-1427.

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.

UMaine Scientists Present Report on Climate Future to Gov. Baldacci

25 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 AUGUSTA -- On Wednesday, University of Maine faculty members presented the report, "Maine's Climate Future: An Initial Assessment," to Gov. John Baldacci. UMaine professors described their findings to the governor and his cabinet at that group's weekly meeting. A State House session with news reporters followed the cabinet meeting. The report (PDF format) is online at <http://www.climatechange.umaine.edu/mainesclimatefuture/>. Printed copies are available upon request, via reply email. The report is the university's response to the governor's 2007 request for a preliminary analysis of the effects of climate change in Maine during the 21st century. The report considers past climate change, recent evidence of accelerated rates of change, and the implications of continued climate change in Maine as a result of greenhouse gas emissions and their

associated pollutants. Teams of participating scientists volunteered their time and expertise to initiate a process that can both inform and facilitate systematic planning and thoughtful decisions related to Maine's climate change challenges. "We knew at the outset that the University of Maine has a collection of world-class scholars in the climate sciences. They represented a critical knowledge base for Maine's efforts to prepare for future climate change," says Professor Emeritus George Jacobson, one of the report's primary authors. "During the past year, these scientists and colleagues from around the state have worked together to outline how climate might affect our natural ecosystems, and how those changes would influence the state's resource-based economy." "This initial assessment is intended to be a catalyst for informed decision-making on climate change and energy issues," adds Prof. Ivan Fernandez, who worked closely with Jacobson and others to develop the report. "Our goal was to promote adaptation strategies, define environmental monitoring and assessment needs, and identify important new economic opportunities." Several recent assessment efforts have addressed climate change in the Northeast, but the report authors noted that the state's unique characteristics warranted an assessment specifically focused on Maine. "Our social and economic well-being depends on the health and productivity of Maine's forests, fields, lakes, rivers, and the marine waters of the Gulf of Maine. Although many states have a wide variety of environments, few have anything approaching Maine's variety of climates in close proximity. Our unique diversity of climates means that change will not be uniform across the state; indeed we are already witnessing different responses in northern Maine compared to southern and coastal regions," they wrote in the report. The study documents an increasing rate of warming in Maine over the last century, as well as increased regional sea surface temperatures, increased precipitation, rising sea levels, and hydrologic changes in snow melt, lake ice-out, and spring runoff. Modeling of Maine's future climate performed for the assessment shows a strong trend toward warmer conditions with more precipitation in all four seasons. Subsequent sections of the report detail how these climate changes will affect Maine people, ecosystems, and various economic sectors such as agriculture, forest products, and tourism. The authors acknowledge Maine's leadership in addressing climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but stress that Maine also needs a plan for adaptation during what they describe as "a period of transition." The report highlights opportunities for Maine to benefit from a changing climate, and identifies gaps in knowledge and the information needed for a positive transition in the 21st century. "This assessment is an essential step in the process of understanding Maine's future," says Prof. Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute. "It provides a critical building block from which we can begin to make finer scale predictions, down to areas as small as a few miles square, that we hope will benefit Maine and her people. The report was prepared under the leadership of UMaine's Climate Change Institute and Maine Sea Grant with support from the Vice President for Research; Office of the Dean, College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture; Center for Research on Sustainable Forests; Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research; Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative; and the Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences. Click here for a [downloadable pdf version of this report](#)

Extension Master Gardener Program Plan Auction at March Flower Show

24 Feb 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, Tel. 207-780-4205 or amyw@umext.maine.edu

PORTLAND -- Volunteers from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Cumberland County Master Gardener program are preparing for the group's annual plant auction, scheduled for the Portland Flower Show on Sunday March 15. A silent auction is scheduled for noon-3:30, with a live auction and bargain table beginning at 5:30 p.m.

This 7th annual auction is an annual rite of passage to spring for UMaine Extension Master Gardener volunteers and the public alike. The live auction includes hardscape, perennials, shrubs and trees from the displays at the Portland Flower Show. Estabrook's Garden Center in Yarmouth will donate all of the plants in their exhibit. The silent auction includes items and services donated by local garden centers, professional landscapers, UMaine Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and many of the vendors participating in the show. The bargain table offers multiple lots of the same varieties, providing options to fill spaces with mass plantings. Portland Yacht Services donate space for the annual auction.

This event, the UMaine Extension Cumberland County Master Gardener volunteers' largest annual fundraiser, benefits Extension's Cumberland County home horticultural programs.

Registration for both auctions is scheduled from 12 noon-3:30, during the silent auction, in Building #11 (directly across from the main entrance to the flower show) or in Building # 3 at 5:00. There is no admission fee for either the silent auction or the live auction.

For more information about the auction, contact UMaine Extension in Cumberland County at 1-800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205.

Free Signs Increase Safety for Maine Farmers

23 Feb 2009

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 207-287-1471

ORONO, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension and several farm equipment dealers have joined forces to offer free "Slow-Moving-Vehicle"(SMV) signs to Maine farmers this year.

These bright signs—fluorescent orange triangles bordered with reflective red—are mounted on the rear of farm tractors and implements traveling slower than 25 miles per hour in order to warn motorists of the slow-moving vehicle. Farmers who would like to obtain a free SMV sign should contact UMaine Extension at 800-287-1471. Those farmers will receive a coupon and safety packet with information about how to use the sign and about the use of tractors on public roads. Farmers can then pick up their sign or signs (up to two per farmer) at their nearest participating farm-equipment dealer before June 1.

Many Maine farmers and farm workers move equipment, livestock, hay and crops with tractors, and on public roads this can represent a dangerous situation. The reflective border of the SMV sign defines the shape of the fluorescent color in daylight, and creates a hollow red triangle when illuminated by headlights at night.

Participating farm equipment dealers include the following businesses:

Beauregard Equipment Inc.—Scarborough

Hammond Tractor—Auburn

Greenway Equipment Sales—Bangor

Greenway Equipment Sales—Ellsworth

Hall Implement Co.—Windham

Hammond Tractor—Union

Hammond Tractor—Fairfield

Ingraham Equipment Ctr.—Knox

Kramer's Inc.—Sidney

MPG Truck & Tractor—Presque Isle

RS Osgood & Sons—East Dixfield

Shaw's Ridge Equipment—Sanford

Theriault Equipment—Presque Isle

Union Farm Equipment—Union

Wallingford Equipment—Auburn

Waterman Farm Machinery Co., Inc.—Sabattus

Wescott & Sons—Gorham

Catch a Bright Comet in the Maine Skies

20 Feb 2009

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

ORONO -- Maine will have a solar system visitor in the evening sky, which anyone can find from the backyard during the last week of February.

Comet Lulin will be closest to planet Earth on Feb. 24, and viewable from backyards through binoculars, or telescopes like the Clark refractor at the Maynard F. Jordan Observatory on the University of Maine campus, which will be open for free public viewing each clear evening Feb. 22 through March 1, from 10 p.m. - 12 a.m.

According to Alan Davenport, director of the Jordan Planetarium and Observatory, Lulin was discovered in 2007 by Japanese astronomers and officially labeled C/2007 N3. It has been growing brighter, so it should be visible in a clear sky to the unaided eye when it is closest to Earth on Feb. 24.

Comets do not streak across the sky like meteors, but they do move noticeably against the background stars from night to night, Davenport explains.

"The star chart here shows where Lulin will pass by Saturn in the constellation of Leo on the 23rd of February and visit the bright star Regulus, on the 27th of February," Davenport says. "It passed closest to the sun on January 10, but will appear larger on the 24th when it is just 38 million miles away."

The orbit falls entirely outside Earth's, so there is no chance of a perilous encounter, says Davenport.

Lulin was discovered on images taken at the Lulin Observatory in Nantou, Taiwan on July 11, 2007, by Quanzhi Ye from Sun Yat-sen University. Since its discovery, it has been observed all over the world in China, Taiwan, Australia, Spain, and here in the United States, by astronomers who have plotted the orbit of the comet with reasonable precision. Comet Lulin is a one-time visitor traveling a hyperbolic path that eventually will carry it out of the solar system, never to return.

The February approach is fortunate, as it will be accessible from many Maine sites, including the Jordan Observatory, which will be open for free public viewing of Lulin.

To verify that the observatory will be open, Davenport advises calling 581-1348 after 9 p.m. each evening before coming to campus. The Jordan Planetarium website (GalaxyMaine.com) has comet watching instructions for viewing at home.

UMaine Art Auction March 21 to Aid Student Service Projects

20 Feb 2009

Contact: Audra Grady, 581-4194; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The second annual public Alternative Spring Break Art Auction is scheduled March 21 at Buchanan Alumni House to raise funds for an endowment to help with expenses for student service trips around the United States and internationally.

More than 80 students -- who raise the majority of their travel and lodging expenses themselves -- will spend spring break this year, Feb. 27-March 13, volunteering at humanitarian aid sites in Texas, Utah, Florida, Georgia, West Virginia, and Peru in May.

"With a stable financial situation, students can spend less time stressing about fundraising and more time learning about social issues and responsibility, their place in society, and cultural and diversity issues around our nation and the world," says Audra Grady, assistant director for Student Engagement and The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism.

The UMaine Black Bear Chapter of the national Break Away organization contributes between 40-60 hours of service each over the year, logging 3,200-4,800 hours annually during spring break or service weekends.

The silent auction, created last year by students to assist with fundraising for ASB travel expenses, begins at 6 p.m. and concludes when all pieces have been auctioned. The event will be catered by the Muddy Rudder restaurant in Brewer, with music by Brian Cattell. The auction, which is free and open to the public, raised more than \$8,000 last year. The goal is to create an endowment of \$100,000-\$200,000 with an investment dividend of at least \$5,000 per year to support student service trips. The University of Maine Foundation manages the endowment.

At least 36 pieces of fine art by artists from Maine to California will be on the block, Grady says. A silent auction is planned prior to the main auction for smaller items, with final bids being placed during the short break in between.

All items will be bid, paid and delivered to purchasers at the event. Individual pieces generally sell for \$25-\$1,000. Space can be reserved for a suggested donation of \$25 per person, \$45 per couple, and can be obtained by contacting Grady at 581-4194.

The UMaine ASB chapter is in its twelfth year providing service to local, national and international communities. The mission of the local chapter is to enhance understanding of diversity, in addition to providing concrete help for human needs or environmental causes through group service projects. The mission statement also includes "advocating life-long social action to heighten social awareness by promoting service on the local, regional, national and international levels," according to the Bodwell Center.

ASB at UMaine is supported by the Bodwell Center, the Division of Student Affairs and the University of Maine.

UMaine Launches Civility Campaign - 'The New Commitment'

20 Feb 2009

Contact: Sandra Sigmon, 581-2049; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Stress and hardship can bring out the best in people, or the worst. With that in mind as the economic crisis

stresses so many people, the University of Maine President's Council on Women is launching a campus-wide initiative to promote civility.

In times of duress, civil interactions are most important, says psychology professor Sandra Sigmon, a President's Council on Women co-chair, and often it is in times of duress that thoughtful social interactions can fall by the wayside.

A central tenet of civility is respect, Sigmon says. "Civility can be conveyed by courteous expression, politeness, esteem or regard for others, and a general respect for others, regardless of differences from self," she says.

To promote civility and to educate the campus community about civility, the President's Council on Women has planned lectures, panel discussions and a student poster contest at UMaine, as part of a series of free and public activities scheduled through April 28.

With support from all of UMaine's colleges and administrative units, several departments and organizations, the initiative includes a series of panel discussions on civility that will culminate in a keynote address April 28 and a workshop on civility on Maine Day by Mark Kingwell, professor of philosophy at the University of Toronto, author of "A Civil Tongue: Justice, Dialogue, and the Politics of Pluralism." Kingwell also is a columnist and contributing editor for several magazines including Harper's and the (Toronto) Globe and Mail.

A "random acts of civility" box will be set up at the information desk in the Memorial Union, where individuals can be nominated for a "commitment to civility act." Information booths in the Union and at the Student Recreation and Fitness Center also will help spread the message. Volunteers who commit to being civil this semester will receive a button, and stress toys will be available in various campus locations.

Student groups on campus have been invited to submit poster ideas for the civility campaign. Monetary prizes will be awarded for the top three posters, to be displayed in the Union and Recreation Center.

Some of the planned dates and events include:

Feb. 25, 12 p.m. in the Coe Room of the Memorial Union, a panel discussion on "Civility and Culture";

March 25, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, a panel on "Civility in the Workplace"

April 3, student civility poster competition deadline;

April 17, poster winners to be announced;

April 6, 12 p.m., a panel discussion on "Civility in the Classroom";

April 28, 2:30 p.m., Aubert 316, keynote address by Mark Kingwell;

April 29, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Room 3 at Wells Conference Center, a public workshop on civility available to all employees, with Mark Kingwell;

The initiative, "Civility: The New Commitment," is sponsored by the Office of the President; Office of Student Affairs; Office of Vice President of Administration and Finance; Office of Vice President of Academic Affairs & Provost, Office of Vice President for Research; Office of Equal Opportunity; Office of Human Resources; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; College of Education and Human Development; College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, & Agriculture; College of Business, Public Policy and Health; College of Engineering; UMaine Graduate School; Canadian-American Center; Department of University Relations; the UMaine student chapter of the American Marketing Association; the Employee Assistance Program; and the Department of Psychology.

UMaine Scientists Present Report on Climate Future to Gov. Baldacci

20 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A team of University of Maine scientists will visit the State House in Augusta Wednesday, Feb. 25, to present a report, "Maine's Climate Future: An Initial Assessment," to Gov. John Baldacci. The governor and the UMaine professors, representing the university's Climate Change Institute and other units, will discuss the findings with reporters at 9 a.m. in the cabinet room.

The report is the university's response to the governor's 2007 request for a preliminary analysis of the effects of climate change in Maine during the 21st century. The report considers past climate change, recent evidence of accelerated rates of change, and the implications of continued climate change in Maine as a result of greenhouse gas emissions and their associated pollutants.

Teams of participating scientists developed the extensive report to initiate a process that can both inform and facilitate systematic planning and thoughtful decisions related to Maine's climate change challenges.

UMaine Technology Commercialization Announcements

20 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci, Sen. Susan Collins and Rep. Michael Michaud participated in a Friday morning University of Maine event announcing the commercialization of UMaine technology related to composites bridge construction.

"At a time when good economic news is hard to find, we are pleased to have this opportunity to talk about – and demonstrate – the economic development potential that comes from the power of the idea," UMaine President Robert Kennedy said to those assembled at UMaine's AEWComposites Center.

Approximately 100 people attended the event. The AEWComposites center, directed by UMaine Prof. Habib Dagher, employs 140 people and provides unique educational opportunities for UMaine students. More than 90 percent of the money that supports the center and its R&D activities comes from outside grants and contracts.

Kennedy, Dagher and University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude all praised Baldacci, Cohen and Michaud for their support of UMaine technology development, specifically in composites R&D.

"This would not have happened without their support," Dagher said.

Sen. Olympia Snowe was represented by Gail Kelly from her staff, who read a letter of congratulations from the senator.

The Friday event included three interrelated announcements related to the commercialization of composite bridges in Maine.

1. Dedication of "Bridge in a Backpack" in Pittsfield, Maine. The University of Maine, working with the Department of Transportation, has recently completed the construction of the 44 ft. wide x 35 ft. long Neal Bridge in Pittsfield,

Maine. The bridge is the first of its kind, utilizing a rigidified inflatable composite arch design. The arches can be inflated at the bridge site, bent to any shape to fit the geometry of the site and infused with a resin to become rigid overnight.

The inflatable lightweight hollow tubes can be set in place manually or with a boom-truck, then they are filled with concrete. The tubes have three functions: (1) They act as an "instant" stay-in-place form for the concrete, (2) they reinforce the concrete (no rebar is necessary) and (3) they create a protective layer for the concrete. The result is a bridge that can be built quickly, reducing shipping and labor costs. These bridges are more durable than those built from conventional steel or concrete. As opposed to those built from conventional materials, these bridge arches can be folded up and shipped in a bag to any job site.

Funding to develop this revolutionary technology was provided through the US Army Natick Soldier Center, the FHWA, and the Maine DOT.

2. Announcement of a new Orono, Maine spinoff company to commercialize the composite bridge arch technology. An investment team coordinated by Brit E. Svoboda has formed a new Maine company, Advanced Infrastructure Technologies (AIT), located at the Orono Maine Technology Park. This business will start commercializing the technology. The goal in the first year is to construct as many as 6 bridges in Maine, working with the MDOT and local contractors and engineering firms. The firm will also work with UMaine to begin design and testing of multiple bridge concepts using the arch technology platform. In time, the company plans to design and kit these bridges in Maine, and ship them around the country. After an initial incubation of 5 years, the company sees a growth potential to over 100 jobs. These employees will include engineers, technicians, manufacturing, and sales/marketing personnel.

3. Announcement of job growth in the composite bridge market at yet another UMaine spinoff company, Harbor Technologies in Brunswick, Maine. Harbor Technologies, formed by Martin Grimnes, is a relatively new company that has been working on commercializing composite pilings developed and designed at UMaine. The company has also been working with UMaine on a composite beam technology for bridge girders. The technology consists of stay-in-place composite forms that are filled with concrete at the site to make straight bridge girders. The company will be constructing a 500 ft.-long bridge in the summer of 2009 in Maine, and will be adding 20 new positions this spring and summer. Harbor Technologies is also looking at pilings and bridge contracts nationally with a potential job growth in excess of 100 new positions.

Collins noted that these projects, and others like them, "mesh perfectly" with the federal economic stimulus package emphasis on investing in transportation infrastructure projects.

"What most excites me about this news is the partnership with the private sector," she said. "It is, after all the goal of R&D to commercialize and create spinoff companies and create great jobs right here in Maine."

UMaine Class on Global Leadership Amplifies 2009 Camden Conference

19 Feb 2009

Contact: Tim Cole: 581-1882

ORONO -- How does the current financial situation affect the ability of the U.S. and other global leaders' ability to influence world affairs? It's a question being posed by organizers of the 22nd Annual Camden Conference Feb. 20-22.

It also is a question on the minds of millions as global leadership becomes ever more important in current times of political, religious, environmental and economic turmoil. Four University of Maine professors are addressing the subject in a specially designed class based on this weekend's two-day Camden Conference.

"With a new administration in place, succeeding the controversial tenure of the Bush administration, and with significant global challenges facing the United States and the world -- including the current global recession -- forums like the Camden Conference are crucial for gaining understanding and perspective for the near term future of global relations and U.S. foreign policy," says Timothy Cole, chair of the Political Science Department and one of the UMaine professors co-teaching the class.

About 50 students, both full time UMaine students and others who have signed up expressly for the exposure to world-class speakers, administrators and policy-makers -- including Brent Snowcroft, national security adviser to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush -- who will attend this year's conference.

"Global Leadership and the U.S. Role in World Affairs" is the title of the Camden Conference and the theme of the UMaine class, designed to amplify the Camden Conference topics.

"As always when I participate, I look forward to this year's conference and our course," Cole says. "For most of the students, attending the Camden Conference is their first exposure to speakers of this rank and experience. It's a great learning experience all around."

The UMaine course accompanying the 2009 Camden Conference is about what U.S. foreign policy will be and should be given the economic and political uncertainties facing the United States and the world. Like previous UMaine courses that explore in greater detail the themes and issues of the Camden Conference, this year's class is being held on three Saturdays. The class started Feb. 7 and continues March 21 and April 4 on the Orono campus, and includes conference attendance in Camden.

The course goal is for students to gain an appreciation of the dynamics of the global system in the contemporary period and an understanding of the constraints and opportunities facing U.S. foreign policy after the Bush administration, according to Cole and Robert White, associate provost and dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning, which is offering the course.

In addition to Cole, faculty members teaching the class are G. Paul Holman, visiting associate professor of international affairs, Ngo-Vinh Long, professor of history, and Seth Singleton, professor of political science.

"This year's Camden Conference is the 22nd in its storied history," says Cole. "The University of Maine has offered a for-credit course to accompany the conference every year since 1996, with one sole exception. This year's class is quite full."

In addition to Snowcroft, who has served as a foreign policy adviser to President Barack Obama, other speakers include world-class experts on global relations, climate change, energy policy, terrorism and national security who will shed new light on some of the most critical challenges facing the new administration and the United States. Speakers include Ambassador Morton Abramowitz, a senior fellow at the Century Foundation and former president Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and the Honorable Eileen Claussen, president of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change and Strategies for the Global Environment. Claussen also is the former assistant secretary of state for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

Further conference details, including a complete list of speakers, are available on the Camden Conference website (www.camdenconference.org). Tickets are still available at all venues, including the live show at the Camden Opera House. Special rates are available for high school and college students, with identification, at satellite venues at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, the Strand Theatre in Rockland and Hannaford Auditorium at the University of Southern Maine in Portland.

Baldacci, Collins, Michaud at UMaine Event Friday

18 Feb 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci, Sen. Susan Collins and Rep. Michael Michaud will all be at the University of Maine Friday, Feb. 20 for a news event related to UMaine research and technology commercialization efforts.

The event begins at 10:30 a.m. at UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Those elected officials will make brief remarks, as will UMaine President Robert Kennedy, University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude, Center Director Habib Dagher and representatives of two business partners working with AEWCA scientists and engineers to commercialize technology developed in the lab.

The Friday event will focus on three announcements:

- Dedication of the "Bridge in a Backpack," recently completed through a UMaine/State of Maine project in Pittsfield. Dagher and others will demonstrate, in a laboratory setting, how this unique construction technology works
- Announcement of a new company being developed to commercialize the composite bridge arch technology exemplified by the Pittsfield project
- Announcement of workforce expansion at another Maine company that has commercialized UMaine technology, in this case composite pilings and composite beam technology for bridge girders

New Resource About Coastal Access in Maine

18 Feb 2009

Contact: Natalie Springuel, 207-288-2944 x 298; Kristen Grant, 207-646-1555 x 115

ORONO – Throughout the Maine coast, conflicts over access to and from the water are becoming more common. Now, people on the coast have a new resource to help them understand the legal background and tools available to address access concerns. Maine Sea Grant, in partnership with University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Maine Coastal Program, and the Island Institute, announce the launch of Accessing the Maine Coast.

The project partners have assessed extensively the need for coastal access information through workshops, public meetings, and a 2007 report on access issues nationwide. Recognizing the confusing nature of Maine's coastal access laws, and the desire for diverse interests to resolve conflicts cooperatively, Maine Sea Grant created the site based on research conducted by the Center for Law and Innovation at the University of Maine Law School and funded by the National Sea Grant Law Center.

Accessing the Maine Coast is not a listing of public access points in Maine. Rather, it is an information resource for coastal property owners, beach and waterfront users, public and environmental interest groups, and municipal, state, and federal governments. The site offers legal tools to address the specific coastal access questions and needs of these stakeholder groups.

Are you outside of Maine?

While the site is based on Maine statutes, an assessment conducted by the National Sea Grant Law Center revealed that the vast majority of the legal content on the site could be directly applied in any other coastal or Great Lakes state. To facilitate adaptation of the site, seed funding is available for other states to adopt this website template via their local Sea Grant program. For more information, visit www.seagrant.umaine.edu.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Creates New Garden Publication

17 Feb 2009

Contact: Kyle McCaskill, 207-581-3185

ORONO, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension has announced publication of Maine Home Garden News, a statewide newsletter designed to equip home gardeners with practical information on successfully growing vegetables, fruits and herbs, as well as flowers, lawns, shrubs and trees. The newsletter will be published monthly from March through October and will be available in both print and electronic forms. Subscriptions to the electronic version are free; subscriptions to the print version cost \$10 to cover printing and mailing costs for the eight issues. Subscribe at extension.umaine.edu/gardennews or call 800-287-0274.

Maine Home Garden News is being developed in response to the sharp increase in requests UMaine Extension has experienced for information on gardening. Another indication of growing interest, as reported recently in the news, is a 20 to 30 percent sales increase realized by garden seed companies in Maine and elsewhere. Maine Home Garden News will include timely and seasonal tips as well as research-based articles on all aspects of gardening. The writers will be UMaine Extension specialists, educators, and horticulture professionals as well as Master Gardener volunteers from around the state, with Prof. Richard Brzozowski serving as editor.

UMaine Professor Looks at Link Between Lakes and Climate Change

17 Feb 2009

Contact: Jasmine Saros, (207) 581-2112

University of Maine biology and ecology Professor Jasmine Saros has co-authored a paper detailing the importance of lakes and reservoirs in understanding climate change.

Saros, also of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, along with the first author listed on the paper Craig E. Williamson of Miami University and David W. Schindler of the University of Alberta Edmonton in Canada, recently published an article titled "Sentinels of Change" in the Feb. 13, 2009 edition of "Science" magazine.

The paper details the significance of information held in the sediments and water levels of lakes and reservoirs worldwide as it relates to environmental changes. Saros and her colleagues are using this information to determine how climate influences land and water ecosystems and to clarify the role of inland waters in regulating climate change.

From the information that's been gathered, the future for lakes, reservoirs and the ecosystems they support looks bleak, according to the article. The authors, however, are hopeful that information gathered from inland waters may have some answers to address the challenges posed by climate change and the increase in human presence.

UMaine Art Museum Sets Summer Art Camp for Children Grades 1-9

13 Mar 2009

Contact: George Kinghorn at (207) 561-3350

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art's 11th annual Summer Art Camp will begin in late June with the first of seven week-long sessions where children can have a fun, educational art experience at the downtown Bangor museum. A professional museum educator will lead each session.

Classes will be Monday-Friday each week, from 8:30 a.m.-noon each day, according to the following schedule:

Session 1: 6/29-7/03 Grades 1 - 2
Session 2: 7/06-7/10 Grades 5 - 6
Session 3: 7/13-7/17 Grades 7 - 9
Session 4: 7/20-7/24 Grades 3 - 4
Session 5: 7/27-7/31 Grades 5 - 6
Session 6: 8/03-8/07 Grades 3 - 4
Session 7: 8/10-8/14 Grades 1 - 2

Sessions are held in the museum classroom and galleries. Campers will have the opportunity to view and talk about art and participate in a wide array of hands-on art activities. Projects may include painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and drawing. Children also enjoy time outdoors to draw, paint and photograph in one of Bangor's beautiful parks adjacent to the museum. Each week is packed with activities including scavenger hunts, gallery games, and a Friday reception and art show for family and friends.

New this year are a weekly snack chat and behind the scenes tour with museum director George Kinghorn.

Cost (includes all supplies):

Museum Members: \$100 per session

Non-Member: \$115 per session

Early Bird Special: \$90 per session (must register by April 18th, does not apply to Camp Bangor Scholarship recipients)

Call 561-3350 or visit www.umma.umaine.edu to register.

Career Center Event to Highlight Federal Jobs Availability

12 Mar 2009

Contact: Sherry Treworgy, 581-1356; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- In the next seven years, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management estimates that nearly half of the nation's more than 2 million federal workers will retire or leave government careers for other jobs, creating a labor shortage that needs to be addressed now to prevent a crisis later.

Compounding that potential labor crisis is the number of new jobs the Obama Administration is creating through its economic stimulus package. The Reuters news service reports that the Heritage Foundation estimates that the \$787 billion economic stimulus package signed into law last month could create at least 100,000 more government jobs next year and 120,000 by 2012.

To assist in addressing those needs, the University of Maine's Career Center, working with the Annenberg Speakers Bureau of the Partnership for Public Service, is presenting a speaker on campus March 30, to explain to UMaine students and members of the public how many and what kinds of federal jobs and internships are and will be available.

Julie Saad, federal human resources specialist, is visiting UMaine to discuss job and internship opportunities, the application process and salaries and benefits in federal government careers. She is scheduled to speak at 3:30 p.m. in

Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. The event, made possible by the Partnership for Public Service, is free and open to the public.

Sherry Treworgy, associate director of the UMaine Career Center and co-organizer of the event, says students were keenly interested in a similar presentation last year.

"I think the program is going to be even more important to students this year with the challenging economic climate," Treworgy says. "The federal government remains the largest employer in the U.S. and they are still trying to attract graduating college students in a multitude of career fields. In spite of rising unemployment, the federal government does have good jobs and internships."

A website (www.makingthedifference.org) designed by the Partnership for Public Service can help educate students and others about federal careers, jobs and internships, and how to navigate the federal employment system and its application process.

According to information from the Partnership for Public Service:

- By 2016, 40 percent of all current federal employees are expected to have retired from the federal government, the nation's largest employer;

- There are federal jobs suited to every interest and skill, from art history to zoology;

- Federal agencies may help pay back up to \$10,000 a year in student loans, or pick up the tab if an employee decides to pursue a graduate degree;

- Nearly 85 percent of federal jobs are located outside of the greater metropolitan Washington, D.C. area, and more than 50,000 federal employees work abroad;

- Average government salaries are competitive for most professions, and federal benefits, including health insurance, retirement and vacation, are competitive with the private sector.

For more information, contact Sherry Treworgy, associate director of the UMaine Career Center at 581-1356.

UMaine to Celebrate Women's History

12 Mar 2009

Contact: Ann Schonberger or Angela Hart, 581-1228

ORONO --Women, the environment and sustainability will take center stage during the University of Maine's Women's History Celebration, March 16-31 on campus.

Presented by Women in the Curriculum and the Women's Studies Program at UMaine, "Sustaining Our Lives: Women Take the Lead to Save Our Planet" underscores the important role women play in protecting the environment.

Highlights include:

- The Composters, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 20, Minsky Recital Hall

The Composters are an ecofeminist duo who use humor to promote advocacy. Their skit centers on the transformative power of composting.

- Louise Fortmann lecture, "Women and the Environment in the Context of Global Change: More Questions Than Answers," 7 p.m. Monday, March 23, 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building

Fortmann, a distinguished professor of forestry and sustainable development at the University of California-Berkeley, will discuss gendered division of labor, gendered property rights and the presence/absence of attention to gender in environmental policies. She will explore how changes such as globalization and climate change will affect both women and the environments in which they live and make their livelihoods.

- "From Maine to Minnesota: Community and Sustainable Projects Across the Country" panel discussion, 12:15 p.m. Friday, March 27, Totman Room, Memorial Union

Kirsten Walter, creator and director of the Lots to Gardens program in Lewiston; Andrea Reed, executive director of the New Forest Institute in Brooks; and Jacquelyn Zita, a professor of women and gender studies at the University of Minnesota and co-founder of the Women's Environmental Institute in Amador, Minn., will speak about their sustainable agriculture programs and how they impact women.

- The Beehive Collective, 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, 100 Lord Hall

The Beehive Collective, a Machias-based design team that uses graphic campaigns to spark dialogue about social justice issues, will present a series of posters. The posters, with themes of "Free Trade of the Americas" and "Plan Colombia," allow the audience to come to their own conclusions about the difficult issues presented.

A full schedule follows. Events are on campus, accessible, and are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For more information or to request accommodation, please contact Angela Hart at 581-1228. A full description of each Women's History Celebration event is available online at www.umaine.edu/wic.

Women's History Celebration 2009 schedule:

- 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, WIC Lunch panel discussion, "Women's Environmental Activism in Our Own Community," Bangor Room, Memorial Union
- 4 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, film about Rachel Carson, "A Sense of Wonder," 101 Fernald Hall.
- All day Thursday, March 19, book exhibit featuring new books and periodicals concerned with women's studies, feminism, and all aspects of women's lives, 101 Fernald Hall.
- 12:30 p.m., Thursday, March 19, Socialist/Marxist Lunch with Constanza Ocampo Raeder, "Born Without History: The Life of Amazonian Women," Bangor Room, Memorial Union.
- All day Friday, March 20, book exhibit, 101 Fernald Hall.
- 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 20, "The Composters Haul the Motherload," The Composters, Minsky Recital Hall.
- 7 p.m. Sunday, March 22, film, "Motherland Afghanistan," Peace and Justice Center, 170 Park St., Bangor.
- 7 p.m. Monday, March 23, Louise Fortmann lecture, 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building.
- 12:15 Tuesday, March 24, WIC Lunch, Linda Silka lecture, "Environmental Justice and Refugee Families," Bangor Room, Memorial Union.
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, "The Belle of Amherst," a one-woman performance about Emily Dickinson, Minsky Recital Hall.

- 4 p.m. Thursday, March 26, lecture by Jacquelyn Zita, "Feminist Agrarian and Environmental Justice in Minnesota, 115 Donald P. Corbett Business Building.
- 7 p.m. Thursday, March 26, film, "Fury for the Sound," 140 Little Hall.
- 12:15 p.m. Friday, March 27, "From Maine to Minnesota: Community and Sustainable Projects Across the Country," panel discussion, Totman Room, Memorial Union.
- 7-9 p.m. Saturday, March 28, Spruce Run Silent Auction and Chocolate Buffet, Buchanan Alumni House, \$15 per person, for information, call Spruce Run at 945-5102.
- 12 noon Monday, March 30, "The Story of How Agnes, Sister Benigna, and Literacy Volunteers Have Made a Difference in the Lives of Thousands," lecture and panel discussion, Bangor Public Library Lecture Hall.
- 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, The Beehive Collective lecture and art display, 100 Lord Hall and Lord Hall Lobby.

UMaine Museum of Art Spring Workshops Scheduled

11 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art will host workshops, one on flower arranging and one on making handmade books, in March and April. Those interested in participating should call 561-3350 or stop by the museum at 40 Harlow St. in Bangor.

Descriptions and schedules are as follows.

FLOWER ARRANGING

Instructor: Sandra Blake-Leonard

Sandra Blake Leonard will present a workshop on flower arranging as inspired by the works of Timothy McDowell, currently on display at the Museum of Art. Mr. McDowell's works relate to landscape and natural, organic forms that lend themselves well to interpretation by the art of flower arranging. The workshop will offer participants the opportunity to create their own design arrangements. All materials will be provided but may bring their own container if they wish.

Sandra Blake Leonard is a National Accredited Master Judge. She arranges flowers for competition and has judged flower shows throughout the Northeast. She studied under Ikebana masters while living in Tokyo and her designs often carry the feeling and spirit of the Orient. She has given many flower arranging classes and workshops throughout Maine.

Date: March 21st

Time: 10 am - Noon

Cost: \$10, Members. \$25, Non-Members

Place: UMMA Classroom

MAKE IT NEW: HANDMADE BOOKS

Instructor: Walter Tisdale

Participants will explore the fundamental skills of making books in this hands-on workshop. It will feature instruction on basic and timeless book binding methods including pamphlets and accordion-style. A few basic skills in folding and sewing paper with simple tools are all that will be necessary. Materials for the first class will be provided.

Bangor resident Walter Tisdale has been making books and collaborating with artists and writers since 1979.

Dates: April 18 & 25, 2009

Time: 9am – 12 pm

Cost: \$65 Members or UMaine students with ID. \$75 Non-Members

Place: UMMA Classroom, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor

Promotion/Tenure Approved for 18 UMaine Professors

17 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr, 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine System Board of Trustees, meeting March 16, promoted and/or tenured 18 University of Maine faculty members.

PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

College of Business, Public Policy, and Health

- Kenneth L. Nichols, Public Administration

College of Engineering

- Aria Amirbahman, Environmental Engineering
- William G. Davids, Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Roberto A. Lopez-Anido, Civil Engineering

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR

College of Education and Human Development

- Janet C. Fairman, Education

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

College of Education and Human Development

- Richard B. Kent, Literacy Education
- Mary Ellen Logue, Early Childhood Education
- Sarah V. Mackenzie, Educational Leadership
- Sidney Mitchell, Education

College of Engineering

- Philip A. Dunn, Construction Management Technology
- Michael D. Mason, Chemical and Biological Engineering
- Paul L. Villeneuve, Electrical Engineering Technology

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Amy M. Blackstone, Sociology
- Mark D. Brewer, Political Science
- Sudarshan S. Chawathe, Computer Science
- Samuel T. Hess, Physics and Astronomy
- Allan B. Smith, Communication Sciences and Disorders

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

- Vivian Chi-Hua Wu, Food Science and Human Nutrition

Maine-Based Performance Artist to Lecture, Lead Workshop March 26-27

17 Mar 2009

Contact: Julian Epps: julian.epps@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Deborah Wing-Sproul, a Maine-based artist, will lecture and lead a hands-on public workshop at the University of Maine March 26-27. Wing-Sproul works in video performance, sculpture and installation, photography, printmaking and projects of social engagement and exchange. Prior to studying film, video and printmaking, she was a modern dancer and choreographer. Wing-Sproul holds a Master of Fine Arts from the State University of New York at New Paltz, and has studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York, the Film/Video Arts in New York, and the International Film + Television Workshops in Rockport, Maine. Wing-Sproul's lecture, at 7 p.m., March 26, is in Room 100 of Lord Hall on the Orono campus, is titled "portable practices." Of her work, Wing-Sproul writes: "Through video, performance, installation, printmaking and photography Deborah Wing-Sproul utilizes aspects of time and impermanence to address and reflect upon current conditions of the world. Her work bridges the conceptual to the material, the individual to the social and the action to the object." For the workshop, "the physical side of virtual," at 10 a.m., March 27, Wing-Sproul will use subject matter unique to each participant in exploring the importance of intent, content and delivery. The lecture and workshop are free and open to the public. Please email julian.epps@umit.maine.edu to register and receive event location information. For more information about the artist, visit www.deborahwingsproul.com. The Intermedia Visiting Artist Program event is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, with funding from the New Media Department and Intermedia MFA program. 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. For more information, visit www.intermediamfa.org.

UMaine MFA Student Wins Grand Prize in John Lennon Songwriting Competition

17 Mar 2009

Contact: Daniel Flannery, 249-8466 ORONO--Daniel Flannery of Bangor, a student in the University of Maine's Intermedia master of fine arts program, has won a grand prize in the children's music category of the prestigious John Lennon Songwriting Competition. Flannery is a New Jersey native who moved to Maine to start a career in children's

media with his brother, Michael. The Flannery Brothers have previously won accolades in the Children's Music Web Awards and the International Songwriting Contest. Their song "One Wasn't Enough" is one of two grand prize winners for children's music in the John Lennon competition. Entries were judged on originality, melody, composition and lyrics by a distinguished panel including legends such as Al Jarreau, Bob Weir, Robin Gibb and Lamont Dozier. As a grand prize winner, the song is now a finalist for both the Lennon Award and the \$20,000 Maxell song of the year award. Voting for the Lennon Award begins March 19 and continues until the end of April. "We are really the underdogs here," said Daniel Flannery. "If we win the whole thing, that basically means a career for us." The CD on which "One Wasn't Enough" is featured is still a work in progress, and the Flannery Brothers are just getting started as a touring act. Their competition is a well-known professional who has won numerous awards and was declared best children's performer by New York Magazine in 2008. "Either way, having come this far is a great honor and will be a huge aid to the success of the Flannery Brothers," Daniel Flannery says. Though songwriting isn't considered an Intermedia pursuit, Daniel Flannery's studies have influenced the Flannery Brothers' website--the sculptural site design consists mainly of clay. His experience at UMaine has also caused Daniel to take a more interactive approach to music. "What's more important is what's about to happen," Flannery says. "Soon, 4-5- and 6-year olds will be able to upload their songs to The Flannery Brothers Website, and we will put music to their lyrics and melodies. In this way, our audience will also be our best collaborators." For more information about the John Lennon Songwriting Competition, visit www.jlsc.com. To hear "One Wasn't Enough," visit www.jlsc.com/winners. 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.

Flower Show Organizers Announce Student Essay Contest Winners

16 Mar 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, ME--Nine Portland-area students won prizes in the Portland Flower Show essay contest sponsored jointly with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Student essays addressed the subject "how to care for the environment by gardening." Winners were announced at the show's opening preview on Wednesday, March 11.

Maine residents between the ages of 6 and 18 were invited to participate in this contest. Judging criteria included creativity, focus, age appropriateness, and passion for the topic.

Three prizes (\$50, \$30 and \$20) were awarded in each of three age categories: 6-9, 10-13, and 14-18. The prize winners in the 6- to 9-year-old category were Miles McLellan (8) of Saco, first place; Ella Boyd (8) of Falmouth, second place; and Sierra Dann (9) of Hiram, third place. In the 10- to 13-year-old group, Ellie Sapat (10) of Falmouth came in first place, Reed Foster (11) of Brunswick came in second, and Alayna Frey (11) of Standish came in third. In the 14- to 18-year-old group, Kate Spies (15) of Topsham came in first place, Emma Sapat (14) of Falmouth came in second, and Aryn Martin (14) of Gorham came in third. Amanda Vanim-Botting (17) of Conway, NH received an Honorable Mention.

UMaine Jordan Planetarium Invites Star-Gazers to April 4 'Stella-Baloo'

16 Mar 2009

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

ORONO -- The universe will open for discovering stars, planets and more when "Stella-Baloo" comes to the UMaine

campus April 4, a public event sponsored by the Maynard F. Jordan Planetarium and the Penobscot Valley Star Gazers (PVSG).

As part of the International Year of Astronomy 2009 celebration, the Bangor-area day of discovery activities -- titled Stella-Baloo -- is open to the public from 1-10 p.m. It presents a rare opportunity for families to explore astronomy and the world of telescopes, and also to learn through hands-on activities and demonstrations.

Stella-Baloo is free, and includes refreshments. Program schedules can be downloaded at either the PVSG web site (www.gazers.org) or the Jordan Planetarium site (www.galaxymaine.com).

Afternoon events include an on-going "Star Cat Prowl," a series of activities that explore all types of space and sky topics. Children who complete the Prowl will earn a Science Lion certificate and a chance to win one of several Galileo telescope kits to be awarded. The Prowl includes identification of a glowing gas, making a constellation projector and four-season sky guide, seeing different telescope types and having a photograph taken with the Jordan Observatory's 10-foot Alvan Clark refractor telescope.

Stella-Baloo featured events, based at the planetarium in Wingate Hall, include a PVSG telescope clinic and a primer on buying telescopes for aspiring astronomers, an Astro-Science Demonstration program with physics lecturer David Clark and, weather permitting, daytime sun viewing and night sky talk and telescope party at the Jordan Observatory. Daytime activities run from 1-5 p.m.; night programs begin at 7 p.m., rain or shine.

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 celebrates the 400th anniversary of Galileo's work with an early, homemade optical tube that proved the Earth orbits the sun and not the other way around.

Many organizations around the world are participating in the celebration. Some of the events this month alone include "Globe at Night" (March 16-28), "Earth Hour 2009" (March 28), "100 Hours of Astronomy," (April 2-5), and National Sidewalk Astronomy Day (April 4). Earth Hour 2009 is an initiative in which billions of people world-wide are being asked to reduce light pollution by turning off the lights for an hour at 8:30 p.m. local time, and look to the skies.

The Jordan Planetarium also will celebrate the International Year of Astronomy with a special program on the history and modern uses of telescopes, "Two Small Pieces of Glass: The Amazing Telescope," which the planetarium will premier this spring.

For more information and mailed schedules, call the Planetarium 207-581-1341.

UMaine's Bassano, McConnon Receive National Award

16 Mar 2009

Contact: Jim McConnon, 581-3165

ORONO – Louis Bassano, Extension professor with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Washington County, and James McConnon, Extension specialist and professor of economics at the University of Maine in Orono, recently received the 2008 national team award for Excellence in Community Development Programming from the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP).

The award recognizes outstanding community economic development programs in the United States. NACDEP is a national organization dedicated to improving the visibility, coordination, professional status and resource base of community and economic development Extension programs and professionals within the land grant system.

McConnon and Bassano were recognized for their work developing the Washington County Business Conference and

Marketplace, conducting applied research to document impact, publishing the results in a peer reviewed journal, and providing the leadership needed to expand the community-based entrepreneurship model throughout Maine.

According to the NACDEP, "the Washington County Business Conference and Marketplace, a highly successful collaboration, organized by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in cooperation with business-support organizations and business owners, has contributed to business success in Down East Maine and served as the model for the Governor's Regional Conferences on Small Business & Entrepreneurship in Maine."

The award was presented at the NACDEP conference, held in conjunction with the Joint Council of Extension Professionals Galaxy III conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Lawyer for Guantanamo Detainee at UMaine Thursday

20 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Richard J. Wilson, a professor at American University's Washington College of Law (WCL), will make a Thursday March 26 University of Maine presentation, "Guantanamo: Reflections from a Lawyer for Detainees." Sponsored by UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs, the talk is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. in UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House.

The founder of WCL's International Human Rights Law Clinic, Wilson represents one of the suspected terrorists held at the Cuban detention facility in federal court and military proceedings.

The Bush Administration established the Guantanamo prison camp after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. President Obama has recommended closing the facility and there is a good deal of current discussion about how the U.S. and its allies would deal with released detainees.

"The controversy related to Guantanamo has brought into focus a number of important issues related to national security and human rights," says Prof. Bahman Baktiari, School of Policy and International Affairs director. "By nature of his background and his experience in addressing these issues, Prof. Wilson has unique perspectives to share with us."

The event is free and open to the public. Those interested in attending please contact Peter Fandel by email at peter.fandel@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Wildlife Ecology Major Receives P.F. English Award

19 Mar 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – University of Maine senior wildlife ecology major Ben Wasserman has been selected by the Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society as the outstanding undergraduate senior within the Northeast United States and Eastern Canada

"It's really an honor for the faculty of the department to nominate me for this, let alone to actually receive it," Wasserman says. "The names of previous UMaine recipients of the award includes some people that I've always looked up to, so I'm ecstatic that folks in the department would rank me with them."

The purpose of the award is to perpetuate the name of the late P.F. English, an outstanding educator, sportsman, and inspiration to youth, while acknowledging and encouraging students.

"Ben is a model student and wildlife conservationist," says UMaine wildlife ecology Professor Lindsay Seward who nominated Wasserman for the recognition.

The award is presented annually by the Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society. The international society was founded in 1937, and is a professional non-profit scientific and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The organization's mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society.

"[Wasserman] demonstrates exemplary personal commitment to wildlife conservation, public service, and wholly cares about the world around him. He not only takes advantage of each and every opportunity presented to him, but he actively seeks out opportunities to contribute to environmental conservation," says Seward. "I am confident that Ben will make invaluable contributions to wildlife conservation."

There have been several prior P.F. English Awardees with UMaine ties, but Wasserman particularly noted that he was pleased to be among the ranks of UMaine wildlife resources Professor Malcom Hunter, who also is the former president of the Society for Conservation Biology, and UMaine alumna Sarah Spencer.

Wasserman, who also is majoring in math, currently is conducting research on contemporary evolution which occurs over observable time scales.

"I'm interested in the intersection between the processes of evolution and community ecology," says Wasserman. "I'm also interested in conservation policy and the socioeconomic and political environments in which environmental conservation is practiced."

He recently applied to the Peace Corps and is awaiting an interview, but says he hopes to be able to take a community based approach to conservation if accepted into the program.

Wasserman plans to attend the 65th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in April in Lancaster, Penn. where he will accept the P.F. English Award.

Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert Scheduled March 31

18 Mar 2009

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256

ORONO -- The members of the University of Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present a formal concert Tuesday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall.

The organization is composed of soloists or small ensembles performing with piano accompaniment. The spring semester's group consists of 16 musicians, representing a variety of instruments and from a wide variety of majors at UMaine.

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble is a major component of the minor in jazz studies, which consists of classes in jazz improvisation, chamber jazz arranging and piano, jazz history, and the performance of jazz in the Chamber Jazz Ensemble.

The March 31 program will include great jazz standards and originals by Milt Jackson, Duke Pearson, Edward Kennedy

“Duke” Ellington, Eddie Harris, George & Ira Gershwin, John Coltrane, Ferde Grofe, John L. “Wes” Montgomery and Charlie Parker.

Tickets are \$6 for the public and free for UMaine students with a MaineCard. For more information, call the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or [visit the UMaine School of Performing Arts website](#).

The Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present free concerts on:

- April 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Story Room at the Bangor Public Library;
- April 20, 8:30-9:15 a.m. in the newly reopened Collins Center for the Arts;
- And April 22, 11 a.m.-noon in Union Central at the Memorial Union.

UMaine, Law School Roll Out New MBA-JD Degree

17 Mar 2009

Contact: Nory Jones, (207) 8581-1995; Peter Pitegoff, (207) 780-4344; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine business school and the University of Maine School of Law in Portland are rolling out a new joint degree option in the fall, allowing students to concurrently get an MBA and law degree sooner and less expensively than pursuing each degree separately. Through an arrangement between the Maine Business School on the Orono campus and the law school, both institutions will accept certain academic credits from one another's curriculum, which can reduce by a full year the time a student would spend earning consecutive degrees. The program means "an enormous savings in time and money" for students, says Nory Jones, associate professor of management information systems and director of graduate programs in the Maine Business School. "I think it's very exciting," she says. Peter Pitegoff, dean of the University of Maine School of Law, says the joint degree in business and law "provides our graduates with expanded opportunities and an edge in the marketplace. Today's complex economy requires lawyers, business analysts, managers and entrepreneurs with interdisciplinary expertise." Jones agrees. "In this turbulent economy, this dual degree prepares a student for a rewarding and exciting career in business and law," she says. "An MBA degree provides a fantastic foundation to go into corporate law with a Juris Doctorate. The combined degrees also could provide a great foundation for environmental law for graduate students in our business and sustainability track." Completing both degrees would require attending both institutions, according to Jones. Under the preferable academic structure, students take the first year of the law program in year one, followed by most of the MBA program in year two. Students would then complete the law program in year three or part of year four. In addition, students intending to pursue the joint degree need take only the Law School Entrance Exam (LSAT), since the business school has agreed to accept satisfactory LSAT results in lieu of the business school entrance exam. John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and director of the business school, says the new degree "is another example of the Maine Business School reaching out to the community in cooperation with other University of Maine System institutions to bring advanced educational opportunities. "This joint degree affords young men and women the option of obtaining an MBA and a JD in a compressed time frame, thereby preparing them to either engage in legal activities, manage a law office, or both," he says. "It is a very powerful and highly sought-after combination." For additional information, Jones can be reached at (207) 581-1971; Mahon can be reached at (207) 581-1968; and Pitegoff can be reached at (207) 780-4344. Details on the program also are available on the Web. Students can apply to the joint degree program immediately, according to Jones.

Harlem Superstars Planning UMaine Charity Game

18 Mar 2009

Contact: Audra Grady, 581-4194; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Members of UMaine's Athletic Department staff are fielding a team to play a benefit basketball game with the Harlem Superstars April 4 at Memorial Gym -- an event that promises an exciting evening of basketball highlights

and high jinks.

The game starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and proceeds will be split between UMaine's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) and the New England Blind Athletic Association (NEBAA). ASB will use the proceeds to travel to Peru in May for a two-week student service trip; NEBAA will use the funds to host children at a summer camp at UMaine this summer.

The Harlem Superstars is a team of talented, well-known and well-trained players who excel at comedy basketball. They travel to bring comedy basketball to towns and cities throughout the country for personalized games to benefit local communities. Players engage audience members before, during and after the game. A half-time show will include members of the audience, children and an array of comedic tricks.

The mission of the Superstars is to "entertain people of all ages with great classic comedy, dazzling basketball, and intermingling with the crowd." Players will test the basketball skills of children in attendance, and two will win a prize.

Tickets can be ordered by calling Audra Grady at 581-4194.

"If we can't take the call personally, we'd like people to leave a message with their full names, the number of tickets and a telephone number," says Grady, the assistant director of Student Engagement & The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism, and adviser for Alternative Spring Break, a program under the UMaine Division of Student Affairs. "The tickets will be available the evening of the game at a will-call area."

Members of the UMaine team for the benefit game with the Superstars include:

Katie Herbine, associate athletic director, Tanya Adorno, athletic event management coordinator, Justin Rees, assistant women's basketball coach, Bob Corkum, assistant men's ice hockey coach, Trevor Singer, assistant men's soccer coach, Josh MacDonald, equipment manager, Dwayne Wilmot, assistant football coach, Dennis Dottin-Carter, assistant football coach, April Bucheit, athletic trainer, and Brandi Rideout, student athlete services coordinator.

New York Times Journalist, Bureau Chief to Visit UMaine Students

23 Mar 2009

Contact: Mike Socolow, 581-1941; George Manlove, 581-3756

Abby Goodnough will be available to meet with reporters Monday, March 30, from 2-2:30 p.m.

ORONO -- Abby Goodnough, Boston bureau chief of the New York Times, will meet, discuss her work and offer career advice to University of Maine communication and journalism students on Monday, March 30, and Tuesday, March 31.

Goodnough, who worked for the Times in New York and Miami before transferring to Boston, is the author of "Ms. Moffett's First Year: Becoming a Teacher in America" (2006), a book based upon her reporting on the public education system in New York City.

Goodnough's visit is made possible by the Alan Miller Fund, created and designed to bring professional journalists into UMaine classrooms to share their experiences.

The Alan Miller Fund was established by UMaine alumnus Anne Lucey in memory of her husband, Alan Miller, who taught journalism at UMaine for two decades, and authored "The History of Current Maine Newspapers," a comprehensive and important history of Maine journalism.

Lucey's gift revived a program that had gratified generations of UMaine journalism students for many years. Previous visitors have included Goodnough's New York Times colleague Sara Rimer.

Michael Socolow, an assistant professor in the Department of Communications and Journalism, coordinates the Alan Miller Fund program today.

"We are enormously grateful for this opportunity, and I know our students are looking forward to it," Socolow says.

Goodnough will be available to meet with and share perspectives with news reporters from 2-2:30 p.m. Monday at the Wells Conference Center on the Orono campus. Call Professor Socolow for details at 581-1941 for additional information.

PBS Program to Feature Two UMaine Scientists

23 Mar 2009

Contact: Paul Mayewski, (207) 581-3019; Andrei Kurbatov, (207) 581-2840; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – Two University of Maine scientists will be featured March 31, on the PBS primetime series "NOVA."

The segment, "Last Extinction," follows prominent scientists as they explore the idea that a comet striking the Earth is to blame for the extinction of giant mammoths and other large animals and the destruction of several hunter-gatherer communities at the end of the Ice Age.

"NOVA" reports on the scientist's latest round of research on the Greenland ice sheet, carried out by Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute and by Andrei Kurbatov, an assistant research professor with UMaine's Climate Change Institute.

"The abrupt change in climate that occurred 12,900 years ago has undergone extensive study because of its implications as an analog for future climate, but we've added some new complexities and understanding to it," Mayewski says, referring to the comet-impact hypothesis.

The hypothesis that a comet struck Earth is supported by unusual discoveries in a distinctive soil layer known as the "black mat," found at more than 50 sites across North America.

Within the same time period of the Greenland ice sheet, Mayewski states that with colleagues Allen West and Jim Kennett found the presence of nanodiamonds, which are believed to have been created by the extraterrestrial impact.

On the PBS website, Mayewski likens the search for these nanodiamonds to "worse than looking for a needle in a haystack."

But their search was successful.

"It's the first time people have found nanodiamonds in an ice sheet that are created during meteorite impacts," Mayewski says. "In this layer on the ice sheet, one cup of water contains billions of these nanodiamonds."

This event is believed to be the last time the Earth was struck by a major meteorite, and according to Mayewski it may have been important in triggering a cold period that lasted for about 1,200 years. UMaine became involved in NOVA's project because Mayewski led a past project that discovered abrupt climate change events and documented in detail the characteristics of the 12,900 years ago event.

"The reason that this event is so important is because it coincides with the extinction of a lot of large mammals, such as

saber tooth tigers and mammoths," Mayewski says. "It's also an example of what a nuclear winter could be like."

For more information on the show which will air at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, visit www.pbs.org/nova/clovis.

Innovative MBA Scholarship/Service Plan for Recent UMaine Alumni

23 Mar 2009

Contact: John Mahon, 581-1968; Joe Carr, 581-3571 ORONO -- The Maine Business School has announced a pilot scholarship opportunity for students who graduated from the University of Maine in May 2006 or later and meet admission standards for business graduate education. Under the plan, devised by Dean John Mahon of UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health, those students would receive scholarships amounting to a 25 percent tuition discount in UMaine's Master of Business Administration (MBA) or Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) programs. This novel concept is designed to help a limited number of students navigate tough economic times or postpone entry into a tight job market. To be eligible, MBA/MSA students must enroll full time and commit to 10 hours a week of service to the Maine Business School or in community outreach activities, Mahon says. The scholarships will benefit UMaine graduates who have lost or cannot find jobs in the recessionary economy, or those who want to go back to school until the economy and job market recover and emerge with an advanced degree and enhanced personal skills. "We are interested in trying to offer the graduates of the University of Maine a way to continue their graduate educations at a reduced cost," Mahon says. "It's good for students; it's good for the university, it's good for the state. It is also positive in the sense that UMaine is stepping forward and saying we want to do something about the economy." "As Maine's flagship university, we have a serious responsibility to find ways to apply our resources and expertise in ways that have a positive impact on Maine and its economy," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This program will serve to add well-educated business leaders to our economy at a time when the availability of skilled managerial personnel is a critical need." The maximum number of students to be approved for a 25 percent tuition discount remains to be determined and will depend on applicant interest, Mahon says. The program likely will phase out when the economy recovers. "Every forecast you see says the economy will be turned around in three years or less," Mahon says. Because of the weak economy and rising unemployment -- currently the highest in two decades in Maine -- many college students nationwide are postponing plans to try to enter the job market. Some are opting to pursue advanced degrees instead. Others, who have found jobs since graduating in 2006 or later, may be among the first to be laid off as companies trim personnel. The Maine Business School can comfortably absorb a reasonable influx of new students who might otherwise not apply to graduate school at this time, according to Mahon. Currently, the school has about 70 graduate students. In-state tuition for the 42-credit program totals nearly \$15,000. A 25-percent discount would be almost \$3,800, enough of a reduction to cause graduates to rethink post-graduate career plans, according to the dean. Out-of-state tuition is higher, so those scholarships will be larger. Typically, a post-graduate education takes two years of full-time study, and often students obtain part-time jobs during their course of instruction that evolve into full-time positions. An MBA/MSA, says Mahon, can open doors to careers in management and broadens professional career options substantially. For additional details about the Maine Business School, contact the graduate office at 581-1995. The Maine Business School is internationally accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, by EdUniversal, a Paris-based international educational consulting organization, and has been listed by U.S. News & World Report as being among the top 200 business schools in the nation.

Media Invited to EMMC for UMaine Health Professions Club Knee Replacement Demo

23 Mar 2009

Contact: Rebecca Dyer, (207) 650-9600; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

A group of students from the University of Maine's Health Professions Club will have the chance to participate in a hands-on knee replacement demonstration and skills lab at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at Eastern Maine Medical Center's Brown Conference Room.

The session is being held by Dr. Ian Dickey, an orthopedic surgeon with UMaine ties. Working with a team of UMaine researchers, Dickey is testing the potential of foam metals for use in bone and joint repair.

"Typically students who are pre-professional are learning things on a cellular level or whole organism level when it comes to how systems work, but not how that applies to what they'll be doing in medical school," says Rebecca Dyer, the UMaine Health Professions Club president.

Wednesday will provide an opportunity for students to learn more about orthopedic surgery, but also what medical school might be like. Most students in the health club are planning to attend medical school, or want to be an optometrist, dentist or chiropractor.

"I don't think you can really know whether you like or dislike something by studying it without practical application," says Dyer.

Members of the media are invited to attend the session to speak with Dickey and the approximately 20 UMaine students expected to attend.

UMaine President Kennedy on National Energy Initiative Advisory Committee

24 Mar 2009

Contact: Paul F. Hassen, NASULGC, (202) 478-6073, phassen@nasulgc.org David Edelson, NASULGC, (202) 478-6072, dedelson@nasulgc.org Joe Carr, UMaine, (207) 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu

ORONO and WASHINGTON, DC – University of Maine President Robert Kennedy is one of 15 national public higher education leaders appointed today to help lead an effort related to energy independence. NASULGC, A Public University Association, has named Kennedy to the advisory committee that will provide leadership to that organization's initiative aimed at maximizing and advancing the contributions of public research universities to the energy independence effort.

NASULGC President Peter McPherson announced today a 15-person Energy Initiative Advisory Committee, co-chaired by E. Gordon Gee, president of The Ohio State University, and Elsa A. Murano, president of Texas A &M University.

"I am pleased to be included in this group and I look forward to working on this critical issue," Kennedy says. "UMaine is establishing itself as a leader in energy-related research, with projects underway related to biofuels, offshore wind power and ocean energy. This opportunity will enhance our ability to collaborate with top researchers around the U.S. and to have a real impact as we work together to find clean, renewable ways to power our lives."

"We have in this country, and in our institutions of higher education, an innovation imperative," says Gee. "We must solve the enormous challenge of energy independence by coalescing our vast human talent, creativity and innovation. This century's Sputnik moment awaits our solution."

"Public research universities have important contributions to make in addressing our need for energy independence," Murano said. "All sectors of society need to pull together as part of the solution, and our universities are uniquely positioned to help. We want to be clear about the capabilities offered by our member-institutions and explain these strengths to decision makers in Washington."

The 15-member advisory committee includes public university presidents and chancellors from across the country. In addition to Kennedy, co-chairs Gee and Murano, other committee members include:

- David B. Ashley, President, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- Jimmy G. Cheek, Chancellor, University of Tennessee
- George E. Cooper, President, South Carolina State University
- Michael M. Crow, President, Arizona State University
- Stephen Forrest, Vice President for Research, University of Michigan
- Gregory L. Geoffroy, President, Iowa State University
- Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor, University of Hawaii
- Robert Kelley, President, The University of North Dakota
- Michael V. Martin, Chancellor, Louisiana State University
- C.D. (Dan) Mote, Jr., President, University of Maryland, College Park
- Michael Telson, Science Advisor, University of California and former chief financial officer at the U.S. Department of Energy
- Mark G. Yudof, President, University of California

The Energy Initiative also includes two subcommittees, a Technical Group and an Advocacy Group. The Technical Group, led by Mike Witherell, vice chancellor for research at the University of California, Santa Barbara and former director of Fermi Lab, and Claude Canizares, vice president for research and associate provost of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will bring together expertise from a variety of robust public research universities.

Alison Fox, assistant director, Washington Office, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Stacy Rastauskas, assistant vice president, federal relations, Washington Office, The Ohio State University, will co-chair the Advocacy Group, which will identify and assess relevant legislation, promote public research university interests before Congress, and help develop presentations for Congress.

Based on preliminary input from the Advocacy Group, the Technical Group is already preparing to make contributions to the Congressional appropriations and authorization legislation now underway. It will identify the most appropriate areas for university contributions to specific federal programs and needs; quickly provide NASULGC staff guidance on responses to agency and Congressional energy program and funding proposals; promote the role of universities to federal agencies; and identify appropriate university faculty to participate in our planned energy/environment briefings before policymakers.

“America’s public research universities have long played a significant role in the research, development and deployment of in energy science and energy technologies.” McPherson said. “Collectively, we can channel the way for making more of these contributions a reality.”

UMaine Clean Snowmobile Team Ranks 5th at Competition

24 Mar 2009

Contact: Michael Peterson, (207) 581-2129; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine Clean Snowmobile Team ranked fifth in last week's 2009 Society of Automotive Engineers Clean Snowmobile Challenge in Michigan. The team also walked away with a cold start award.

UMaine's 2009 performance and reengineering of a stock snowmobile was an improvement over the team's ninth place finish last year.

The Clean Snowmobile Challenge is a collegiate design competition of the Society of Automotive Engineers, held annually at Michigan Technological University.

This year's UMaine team included the following students: Brendan Goodwin, Katelyn Wheeler, Joshua Collupy, Xibei Ding, Michael Lovett, Bennett Luja, and Drake Voisine.

The team's goal was to reduce emissions and noise while maintaining or boosting the snowmobile's performance. This year, the internal-combustion entries adapted their engines to run on flex-fuel, with varying ratios of ethanol and gasoline.

In redesigning their base machine, which is a second-generation, tuned four-stroke powered 2007 Yamaha Phazer, the UMaine team wanted to reduce exhaust emissions of hydrocarbon and carbon dioxide without changing the level of NOx pollutants.

They also needed to adapt the machine to use ethanol-based fuels, such as ethanol and butanol, while reducing the snowmobiles noise emissions.

All of these goals needed to be met in the most cost-effective way possible because teams are awarded points on the overall value of the sled they design.

"The greatest success of the year is the huge improvement in the UMaine paper score," says Michael Peterson, UMaine team advisor and Associate Dean for Research Engineering.~"This is a testament to the leadership of the team by Kate Wheeler and her co-captain Brendan Goodwin."

Goodwin was the designated snowmobile rider for the team during the competition.

"Most impressively the team worked productively throughout the year and right through the pressure of the competition," says Peterson.~"When emotions are high, the ability to work as a team is critical, and this years UMaine Clean Snowmobile Team was the most balanced and calm student competition team ever."

He also credited this year's performance to the team's many UMaine and area supporters, including Murray Callaway, the team's English department faculty advisor, Friend & Friend of Orono, Walbro and Lee Thompson of Flowmaster, and UMaine's College of Engineering and Thomas P. Hosmer Design Center.

More information is available at www.mtukrc.org/snowmobile.htm. Photos of the UMaine Clean Snowmobile Team and their sled also are available upon request.

Volunteers Sought for PTSD, Chronic Pain Study

24 Mar 2009

Contact: Anna Cassel, 581-2824; or George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A University of Maine graduate student studying the relationship between post traumatic stress disorder and chronic musculoskeletal pain -- including fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis and tendonitis -- is looking for women who

suffer from either or both afflictions to participate in research that could lead to better treatment.

Anna Cassel, a clinical psychology graduate student from Boston, is conducting the research through the summer as part of her doctoral dissertation. She and her research adviser, psychology professor Sandra Sigmon, hope to uncover psychological and biological corollaries between chronic musculoskeletal pain -- widespread pain of the muscles and skeleton -- and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The research could improve diagnosis and treatment, and also identify characteristics that predispose women to the two conditions.

"There are very high rates of both PTSD and fibromyalgia within female populations," says Cassel. "Both diagnoses tend to co-occur fairly frequently. Having a diagnosis of both PTSD and chronic pain tends to be associated with elevated levels of distress, greater reports of pain sensations, interference in daily activities, and high rates of disability.

"Findings from this study will not only help identify why they co-occur so frequently, but it also might provide some insight as to what some vulnerabilities are for each condition," Cassel says. "If we are able to find this out, then it would have important implications for both the treatment and prevention of each diagnosis."

Cassel hopes to get about 60 women to participate. Participants will complete a set of prescreening questions, make a 2-2 ½-hour laboratory visit and complete a packet of questionnaires, says Cassel. Women will receive up to \$20 upon completing the study, and may also be eligible to participate in a free treatment study. Cassel can be reached by email at anna.cassel@umit.maine.edu, or by calling (207) 581-2824.

Statistics show that more women than men suffer from both illnesses, and no one, so far as Cassel knows, has undertaken a study to research why PTSD and chronic pain might co-occur in women so frequently. Cassel says that 17 percent of women experience chronic pain, and about two in 100 are diagnosed with fibromyalgia. Incidents of chronic pain also rise significantly in women over the age of 50.

Studies also show that most people experience a traumatic event in their lifetime, and about 20 percent of the female population will develop PTSD.

"Both diagnoses tend to co-occur fairly frequently, and I am looking at a model that has been proposed for why this might be true," Cassel says. Participants do not have to have both diagnoses to participate.

UMaine Mathematics Professor to Present at Coalition for National Science Funding

24 Mar 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen, (207) 581-3742

WASHINGTON, D.C. — David Hiebeler, a mathematics and statistics professor at the University of Maine, will present a poster at the Coalition for National Science Funding exhibition tonight on Capitol Hill. "The Path to Innovation: Scientific Discovery and Learning" features the work of more than 30 researchers supported by the National Science Foundation.

In 2008, Hiebeler received the NSF's most prestigious honor for promising young scholar-researchers: the Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant. The \$400,000 award recognizes faculty who "most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization," according to the NSF.

In Washington, Hiebeler, whose research centers on mathematical population ecology and epidemiology, will present a poster, "Modeling Outbreaks in Agricultural Systems, Human Communities, and Computer Networks." 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 malicious

software, such as viruses and worms, through computer networks.

Members of Congress and their staffers will attend tonight's event, which showcases research in science, mathematics and engineering.

For more information on CNSF, visit <http://www.cnsfweb.org/>.

Ipsen Memorial Service Friday

24 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr, 581-3742

ORONO -- A Friday March 27 memorial service is scheduled for Prof. Wiebke Ipsen from the UMaine history department, who died on Jan. 27 at the age of 38. The memorial service is scheduled for 3:10 p.m. in the Collins Center for the Arts Bodwell Lounge.

More information about the service and Prof. Ipsen's life and career are online at <http://www.umaine.edu/history/>.

Canadian Studies Lecture April 15 to Feature Champlain Scholar

25 Mar 2009

Contact: Robin Parady, 581-4220; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Pulitzer prize-winning author David Hackett Fischer, an expert on the life of explorer and cartographer Samuel de Champlain, and author of "Champlain's Dream," will discuss insights on the man termed the Father of New France in a lecture April 15 at 6 p.m. at the University of Maine Buchanan Alumni Center.

Champlain founded Quebec four centuries ago, and was the most important leader in New France for more than 30 years.

Fischer is the 2009 UMaine Canadian Studies Distinguished Lecturer. The talk is free and open to the public. Buchanan Alumni Center doors open at 5:30 p.m. The evening also will include book signings and light refreshments. For more information, contact Robin Parady at (207) 581-4220.

Fischer's book is the first full-scale biography of Champlain in 20 years. Publisher's Weekly calls it "the definitive biography of Samuel de Champlain." Publisher Simon & Schuster describes it as "a vivid, groundbreaking account of the life of one of the most important and vibrant figures in American history..."

Fischer, a popular author, professor of history at Brandeis University and part time Mt. Desert Island resident, says he first became interested in Champlain after researching Mt. Desert Island's French connection with the man who named the island.

In addition to teaching history at Brandeis, Fischer also is a Harmsworth Professor at Oxford University and a trustee of the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, where he and his family spend time. He is a graduate of Princeton and Johns Hopkins universities, taught at the University of Washington and Harvard, and he has won many prizes and awards for teaching, scholarship and literature. Among his books are "Albion's Seed," "Bound Away," "The Great Wave," "Liberty and Freedom," "Paul Revere's Ride" and "Washington's Crossing," for which he won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize

for History.

Since Champlain's personal papers were lost over time and little is known about his early life or personal life, including what he looked like, Fischer's biography of Champlain resulted from exhaustive research in several countries through archives and archaeological records, in addition to traveling to major sites Champlain lived in or visited. Fischer's sources included narratives from the oral history and the inherited traditions of several First Nations who knew Champlain and retold stories of his character and deeds.

Champlain's relationship with Native populations differed from most other explorers of the time. Rather than seeking to enslave Natives, Champlain befriended them. In September 1604, for instance, Champlain, guided by a party of Natives, sailed up the Penobscot River to what is now Bangor, where he met with the Sagamore Chief Bessabez and as many as 60 other Native Americans. He joined them in a ritual tobacco feast, according to Fischer. His approach resulted in an alliance based on reciprocal trust that endured for generations.

Champlain also interacted similarly with Natives as he explored other Maine rivers, studying and mapping the Kennebec, Androscoggin and Saco rivers.

The Canadian-American Center recently commissioned cartographers Michael J. Hermann and Margaret W. Pearce to design an award-winning, explanatory map, published late last fall, about Samuel de Champlain in North America, titled "They Would Not Take Me There: People, Places and Stories from Champlain's Travels in Canada, 1603-1616."

"We are delighted to follow the publication of our Champlain map by presenting a public event with historian and scholar David Hackett Fischer, whose research and book, *Champlain's Dream*, reveals an enormous amount about the fascinating and important Samuel de Champlain," says Stephen Hornsby, Canadian-American Center director and professor of geography and Canadian studies.

The Canadian-American Center, established in 1967, is one of the leading institutes for studying Canada in the United States. Designated a National Resource Center on Canada by the U.S. Department of Education in 1979, the center coordinates an extensive program of undergraduate and graduate education; supports a major research library collection on Canada; promotes cross-border research in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and professions; and directs outreach programs to state, regional and national audiences.

UMaine Intermedia Students Present the Collaborative Work MCRCSM

27 Mar 2009

Contact: Nate Aldrich, nbaldrich@earthlink.com

ORONO -- Five University of Maine students from the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts program will present the collaborative multimedia work, "MCRCSM," April 18, from 6-10 p.m. at the Cyrus Pavilion Theatre on the Orono campus.

MCRCSM, which is free and open to the public, re-envisioned a 1969 media event, "HPSCHD," by 20th century avant-garde and experimental music composers John Cage and Lejaren Hiller. At the time, HPSCHD, a reference to the harpsichord, was a monumental multimedia production utilizing 80 slide projectors, 52 tracks of audiotape and live performers.

MCRCSM at UMaine will be an interactive multimedia installation that combines ideas present in the original piece with contemporary notions of emergent complexity. Multiple speakers and video projectors will generate a myriad of altered sights and sounds, reshaping them as the night goes on from information gathered via audience input.

Cage and Hiller used chance-based operations and technological representations of changes in scale to articulate their world view. MCRCISM updates the original piece by taking current ideas, technologies and the contemporary audience into consideration.

MCRCISM, which means microcosm/macrocosm, is a collaborative work by students Bethany Engstrom, William Giordano, Alexander Gross, Ryan Page and Abigail Stiers.

For more information on the Intermedia MFA Program, visit the program website (www.intermediamfa.org) or contact: Owen F. Smith, director of the Intermedia MFA, at ofsmith@maine.edu, or call (207) 581-4389.

New Exhibitions at University of Maine Museum of Art, April 17-June 18

27 Mar 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3350

High resolution digital images available upon request

BANGOR -- The University of Maine Museum of Art will open three new exhibitions on April 17, part of a show that will run through June 18 at the downtown Bangor facility.

Vessels Absent: Installation by Aaron Stephan
April 17 - June 18, 2009

Maine-based artist Aaron Stephan has created a site-specific installation for the Museum of Art. In *Vessels Absent*, the artist offers a witty critique of one's perception of art. He encourages individuals to question the relationship between the viewer and the art object within the context of a museum environment.

Stephan has created an assortment of large, freestanding wooden crates that take on the form of weighty oversized human figures. The wooden crates stored in the backrooms of museums are containers for transporting precious works of art, but in this installation, the crates themselves are the art. The eight foot tall sculptural works are arranged in the space as if they are observing art in the gallery. Each figure, constructed from low grade plywood and strapping material, appears to be contemplating the blank walls—heads cocked to the side and arms folded in contemplation. It seems as if the artist has cleverly turned the tables. Is the viewer in fact the subject in Stephan's installation?

Stephan received his MFA from the Maine College of Art and has completed five public art commissions around the state. Stephan is represented by Whitney Artworks, Portland, ME.

Successive Approximations: Works by Carol Prusa
April 17 - June 18, 2009

Carol Prusa's paintings are inspired by her on-going fascination with biology, alchemy, physics and botany. Highly finished elliptical and round birch panels serve as the supports for an expansive arena where the artist depicts images that resemble ambiguous microscopic cellular structures, flora and fungi, and cosmological symbols.

Prusa's meticulously rendered drawings are created in silverpoint, a medium employed by Renaissance masters Leonardo da Vinci and Albrecht Dürer. Instead of using graphite pencil the works are drawn with silver wire. The artist incorporates other materials into the compositions such as powdered sulfur, titanium white, graphite washes, and acrylic media. The exhibition features an installation of various-sized circular disks that are arranged on the gallery walls in a non-linear configuration. Also on display are several celestial domes that incorporate fiber optics and digital technologies that evoke the ethereal.

Prusa earned a BS in Medical Illustration from University of Illinois and an MFA in Painting and Drawing from Drake University. She is an Associate Professor of Painting at Florida Atlantic University.

Selected Works on Paper by Aaron Stephan
April 17 - June 18, 2009

Aaron Stephan exhibits a series of works on paper that attest to his preoccupation with process and perception. In several works, the artist has obsessively rendered iconic images from art history including paintings by Rembrandt and Caravaggio. Stephan has drawn 64 versions of Italian-Renaissance painter Antonello da Messina's Portrait of a Man painted in 1475. The miniature drawings are dramatically scaled-down interpretations of the original painting that inspired the work. Each drawing is rendered in ink and contains subtle differences such as shifts in value, inaccuracies in details, and varying line quality. The tiny works record the challenges confronted by the artist throughout the painstaking repetitive task.

Other works in the exhibition include a map of the world created from the colored material used for grass in architectural models. The meticulous application of bright green powdered turf renders the textured silhouette of each continent.

Stephan's works on paper are a visible manifestation of a deep commitment to exploring complex and often obsessive visual challenges, and of posing questions without necessarily offering the answer.

University of Maine Museum of Art
40 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401
207.561.3350
www.umma.umaine.edu

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Admission: FREE for 2009, thanks to the generous support of Machias Savings Bank

UMaine Extension Offers Training in Leading Groups

27 Mar 2009

Contact: Jane E. Haskell, Extension educator, (207) 342-5971 WALDO, Me.– University of Maine Cooperative Extension will present "Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills, Level 1, Training Series" later this spring. Classes are scheduled for 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays April 14, April 28, May 12, May 26 and June 9 at the UMaine Extension Waldo County office, 992 Waterville Rd., Waldo. The workshop is limited to the first 18 participants who pre-register and a commitment to all sessions is encouraged. The cost to participate in the training series is \$100, which includes a resource notebook and an option to buy a resource text. Limited scholarship assistance is available. "Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills, Level 1, Training Series" will help participants learn and practice facilitation skills, particularly those that will help get meeting-based group work completed efficiently, in an experiential setting. To date, more than 100 people from the mid-coast and mid-Maine area have been trained through this program, developed by Jane Haskell, Gabe McPhail and Louise Franck Cyr and produced by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. For more information, or to receive a brochure with a registration form, call UMaine Extension Waldo County at 1-800-287-1426. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine to Host Lumberjack Competition Saturday

27 Mar 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will host an intercollegiate lumberjack skills competition on Saturday, March 28 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The event is scheduled for the competition field at the end of Allagash Road, to the Park St. side of UMaine's Sawyer Environmental Sciences Center. It will also be visible from Park St. in Orono, across the field beside the Rangely Rd. entrance to campus.

UMaine Extension Offers Time Out--for Teachers

27 Mar 2009

Contact: Douglas G. Babkirk, (207) 712-1414

Portage, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will hold the first Courage To Teach® weekend retreat series for public school teachers and university faculty members in Aroostook County at Hewe sBrook Lodge in Portage. The five-weekend program will begin October 23-25 and will provide an opportunity for 13 educators from diverse backgrounds to develop their personal and professional lives as teachers. Registration deadline is May 1.

With a presence in all Maine counties, UMaine Cooperative Extension works closely with public school teachers and faculty across the state and it has selected Aroostook County as the first site to offer the first Courage To Teach® series. Bruno Hicks, professor of Education at University of Maine at Fort Kent and Dave Ouellette, director of the Central Aroostook Council On Education based at University of Maine at Presque Isle, are helping to promote the program to educators across the county.

The three facilitators for the series are University of Maine faculty members and are affiliated with the National Center for Courage & Renewal – which developed the national Courage To Teach initiative. They are Shirley Hager of Chesterville; Richard Ackerman of Brooksville; and Portland resident, Doug Babkirk, whose parents grew up in Fort Kent and Madawaska.

According to Babkirk, “With more teachers expecting to leave the profession as baby boomers approach retirement, the need for attracting and keeping quality teachers has never been greater. This program invites teachers and school leaders to set aside time in five weekend retreats to reflect on why they entered the teaching profession; what supports and hinders their love of teaching; and how they can create circles of support to feel connected to a larger group of professionals with similar stories.”

To keep the program fee affordable, the series is financially supported by University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the chancellor's office of the University of Maine System. Goals include promotion of inter-university collaboration in support of public school teachers, leaders and university faculty members. Total cost for each educator accepted into the five-weekend Courage To Teach® program, including meals and lodging, is \$500. Efforts are now underway to attract additional funding from local school districts, area businesses and foundations to underwrite the balance of costs for running the program.

Teachers, school leaders and university faculty members interested in the Courage To Teach® Aroostook County program can visit extension.umaine.edu/courage2teach or contact Doug Babkirk at University of Maine Cooperative Extension at dbabkirk@umext.maine.edu or 712-1414. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

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

Olympic Gymnast to Kick Off Women's Empowerment Symposium

30 Mar 2009

Contact: Andrea C. Hauck, 581-2410; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Motivational speaker and former Olympian Dominique Dawes, the first African-American to win gold in Olympic artistic gymnastics, will be at UMaine April 4 to lead the Fourth Annual Women's Symposium, a program dedicated to annual community education and female advocacy.

The event is free and open to the public. It's being held at the Memorial Union, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and will include breakout sessions on the topic of networking. The title of this year's symposium is "Women and the Power of Networking."

The event is sponsored by Student Government, Student Affairs, Panhellenic Council, IFC (Interfraternity Council), All Maine Women, Senior Skulls, ROC (Residents on Campus), and various local donors, including Maureen Elizabeth Handbags, according to Andrea C. Hauck, coordinator of Academic Advising and Student Services, who is assisting with planning this year's event.

"Once a year, this group of undergraduates and volunteers plans this event for women's advocacy," Hauck says. "It's a day devoted to women and the impact networking can have in their personal and professional lives. This year's theme is networking, skills-building and advocacy for women in general, particularly in view of the obstacles they face in life."

Hauck expects a turnout of 100 or more people. Dawes, a member of the gold-medal-winning "Magnificent Seven" at the 1996 Atlanta Games, will give a keynote address.

"Dominique Dawes is by far the biggest name we've ever brought in," says Hauck. "We are thrilled to bring Dominique to Orono to kick off our event."

Dawes' accomplishments were first internationally recognized in 1992, when, as part of the bronze-medal winning women's Olympic gymnastic team in Barcelona, she was the first African American gymnast to ever qualify and compete in the Olympics games. Throughout her career, the three-time Olympian "Awesome Dawesome" won more national championship medals than any other athlete, male or female since 1963, according to her website.

In addition to her motivational speaking, Dawes has appeared in the hit Broadway musical "Grease" and is establishing a fledgling career in broadcasting.

For additional information, contact Kendall Fitzpatrick, Women's Symposium chair, at kendall_fitzpatrick@umit.maine.edu.

2009 UMaine Juried Student Art Exhibition Opens Friday

30 Mar 2009

Contact: Laurie Hicks at 581-3245; Joe Carr at 581-3571

2009 Juried Student Art Exhibition
Department of Art

Lord Hall Galleries
University of Maine
Gallery hours: 9 to 4 weekdays

April 3 to May 1, 2009

Opening and Awards Ceremony: Friday, April 10, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

ORONO -- The 2009 Juried Student Art Exhibition in the University of Maine Department of Art will be on view from Friday, April 3 to Friday, May 1 in the university's Lord Hall Galleries. This splendid venue provides the opportunity for undergraduate students at all levels to exhibit their work. This year the exhibition presents 75 works of art selected from over 350 entered in a range of media. Two-dimensional work includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, collage and design in addition to three-dimensional work in sculpture, design and ceramics.

As in the past, approximately 40 awards will be given in studio, art history and art education areas. These include scholarships, travel funds and recognition, book and exhibition awards to students who have excelled in their work.

The UMaine community, family and friends are all welcome to attend the opening on Friday, April 10, 2009, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. At that time the annual student awards ceremony will also take place.

MIT Professor to Discuss "Personalized Energy" on Earth Day

31 Mar 2009

Contact: Francois Amar at (207) 581-1196; Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- One of the leading chemical researchers in renewable energy at the molecular level will be at the University of Maine for two lectures on Earth Day, April 22.

Daniel Nocera, the Henry Dreyfus Professor of Energy and Professor of Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak at 3 p.m. on "Personalized Energy: A Carbon-Neutral Energy Supply for 1 (x 6 Billion)." This talk will be held in the Hill Auditorium of the Engineering and Science Building. At 7 p.m., he will give the Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecture on "Powering the Planet: The Challenge for Science in the 21st Century." This lecture will be held in 316 Aubert Hall. Both talks are free and open to the public.

His appearance is sponsored by the Department of Chemistry and the UMaine Chapter of Sigma Xi with support from the Maine Section of the American Chemical Society and the UMaine Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

Nocera, the recipient of the American Chemical Society's 2009 Award in Inorganic Chemistry, appears regularly on ABC Nightline, PBS, NOVA and the Discovery Channel. Last summer in Science, he and a colleague announced the discovery of a process for storing solar energy in fuel cells, creating carbon-free electricity.

Nocera's research focuses on the basic mechanisms of energy conversion in biology and chemistry, including solar generation of hydrogen and oxygen from water. Among his pioneering contributions to the development of renewable energy, Nocera discovered multielectron photoreactions for hydrogen production and solved an 80-year problem in bonding theory. He created the field of proton-coupled electron transfer at the molecular level, and demonstrated light-driven hydrogen and oxygen generating cycles.

UMaine Extension Offering Watershed Training for Schoodic and Sebec Lakes

31 Mar 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson, (207) 581-2971

ORONO, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer its Watershed Stewards program again this spring with a focus on Schoodic Lake and Sebec Lake. The seven-week workshop series will teach participants how to preserve their area lakes. Participants will learn about threats to water quality and how recreationists, lakefront landowners and towns can protect these valuable resources. The program will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 -9 p.m., from April 30 through June 11 in the “dining room” at the Milo town office. The registration deadline is April 24, with a minimum of 20 participants required for the program. For information or to register, call Extension Assistant Scientist Laura Wilson at 581-2971.

There is no cost to enroll in the program and become a watershed steward. In exchange for the training that stewards receive from watershed experts, as well as a resource notebook valued at \$60, watershed stewards commit to 20 hours of volunteer lake and watershed protection activities.

Topics covered during the training will include Lakes 101, Shoreland Zoning, Camp Road Maintenance, and Septic System Care and Maintenance—as well as a session focusing on the status and trends of the available water quality data for Schoodic and Sebec Lakes. UMaine Extension is working with the Schoodic Lake Association and the Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District to provide this program.

Visit extension.umaine.edu for more information about UMaine Extension programs, which are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

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

UMaine ChemE Car Teams Take Top Spots at Regional Competition

01 Apr 2009

Contact: Matthew Scott, (207) 699-8747; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

The University of Maine's ChemE Car Teams took the two highest honors at last weekend's race sponsored by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

The Blue Team finished in first place out of nine teams, stopping less than two inches from the finish line on a course of about 70 ft. Their car will make the trip in the fall to the national competition in Nashville, Tenn.

The White Team finished second at a distance of about five feet from the finish line. The White team also won the Safety Award and received second place in the poster competition.

The goal of the race is to power a car by chemical means a given distance, and the winner is the car that can stop the closest to the line. A timing mechanism is used in each vehicle in an attempt to make it stop as close to the line as possible.

UMaine's cars have been works-in-progress since last fall. The Blue Team's winning car uses an aluminum air battery to

power two electric motors. The battery is made of aluminum foil, salt water, paper towel, and activated carbon, according to team captain and chemical engineering student Matthew Scott.

In all, the car runs on 13 batteries that are stacked together to produce upwards of 9.5 volts of electricity.

The second place team developed their car based on the everyday alkaline battery.

"The hard work we all put into the car finally paid off with an excellent showing at the regional conference in all the divisions," says White Team captain and UMaine senior Mark Gonyar. "We ran into many hurdles along the way, but the collaboration within our team and dedication to the project helped us prevail in the end."

In the past, UMaine's ChemE car teams have fared well, placing first three times in the last four years in the regional competition. UMaine didn't compete regionally in 2007.

During that period, they also received third and ninth place in the national competition.

UMaine 'Care A-Fair' to Celebrate Student Outreach, Volunteerism

01 Apr 2009

Contact: Nory Jones, 581-1971; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of UMaine students and faculty or staff advisors is expecting as many as 1,000-2,000 people will attend a special event, "Care A-Fair, a Celebration of Student Giving," on April 25, to celebrate relationships between the university student volunteers and the charitable organizations they serve.

From 8 p.m. to midnight, in the North Pod of the Marketplace in the Memorial Union, organizers will have live music, dancing, food and an indoor county fair atmosphere, all designed to create a cheerful social environment for students and mentors to network and mingle casually.

More than 20 organizations have been invited to send representatives. According to the Division of Student Affairs, UMaine has almost 100 student organizations, including fraternities and sororities, whose members do service or volunteer work for dozens of community entities.

The free event will be the first time all student volunteers and their charity mentors are being invited to a common event, according to Nory Jones, associate business professor and director of graduate programs in the Maine Business School.

The point of Care A-Fair, says Jones, who came up with the idea with Gustavo Burkett, director of campus activities and events, is to create "an event that brings together and showcases the many wonderful organizations that help the greater Bangor community, as well as the many students and student groups who help those organizations. This is a great opportunity to create awareness about the organizations that make a difference in our community and to say thank you to them and to our students who care."

Many of the volunteer efforts by students often go unnoticed, adds student Brenton Murray, who is helping a student committee with the planning. In addition, many worthwhile organizations also may be underappreciated by the public, he says. The event also is expected to raise awareness about volunteerism and also allow student volunteers to socialize with the people who administer the charitable agencies and organizations.

Care A-Fair will provide organizations an opportunity to set up display tables to promote and explain their work.

Jones says she was inspired to propose the celebration of volunteerism by President Barack Obama's community organizing background and emphasis on giving back to the community. Organizations served by students range from local scouting organizations, to healthcare, animal welfare, food pantries and emergency services.

For additional information, Jones can be contacted at 207-581-1971 or by email (njones@maine.edu).

Former House Speaker Michael Saxl at UMaine Thursday

01 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Former Maine Speaker of the House Michael Saxl will visit the University of Maine on Thursday April 2 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program.

Saxl 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.

News coverage possibilities exist during the 10:15-10:50 a.m. time frame, when Saxl will learn about UMaine's Forest bioproducts Research Initiative, which involves the development of cellulosic ethanol; a biochemistry lab tour with Prof. Mary Rumpho from 11-11:40; and demonstrations related to tidal power research and UMaine's New Media program between 2 and 3:30 p.m. Contact Joe Carr at 581-3571 or joecarr@maine.edu for schedule details.

David R. Foster, Director of the Harvard Forest, to Give 8th Annual Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture

02 Apr 2009

Contact: Judy Round (207) 581-5100

ORONO, Me. – David R. Foster, director of the Harvard Forest, will give the University of Maine's 2009 Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture. The lecture will be held on the UMaine's Maine Day, Wednesday, April 29 at 3 p.m. in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House. The topic of Foster's lecture will be "Reading and Conserving New England. Using History to Interpret and Manage Nature."

Foster is an ecologist and author of *Thoreau's Country—Journey Through a Transformed Landscape*, *New England Forests Through Time*, *Forests in Time—The Environmental Consequences of 1000 years of Change in New England*, and *Wildland and Woodlands: A Vision for the Forests of Massachusetts*. He has been a Harvard biology professor since 1983 and is director of the Harvard Forest, Harvard University's 3500-acre ecological laboratory and classroom in central Massachusetts. Foster is the principal investigator for the Harvard Forest Long Term Ecological Research Program, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, and involving more than 100 scientists and students investigating the dynamics of New England landscape as a consequence of climate change, human activity and natural disturbance.

Foster has a Ph.D. in ecology from the University of Minnesota and has conducted studies in the boreal forests of

Labrador, Sweden and Norway and the forests of Puerto Rico, the Yucatan, and Patagonia in addition to his primary research on landscape dynamics in New England. At Harvard University, Foster teaches courses on forest ecology and environmental change and directs the graduate program in forest biology.

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.

UMaine's Pelletier Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

03 Apr 2009

Contact: Ray Pelletier, 581-4227; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Ray Pelletier, associate professor of French and chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Classics at UMaine, has received the first annual Richard Williamson Award for Leadership in Modern and Classical Languages, a prestigious statewide award bestowed annually to an individual who has advanced modern and classical languages.

Pelletier received the award from the Foreign Language Association of Maine (FLAME), at its recent annual meeting. He was honored for innovation and excellence in teacher education and promotion of French throughout New England and also for "years of outstanding service to the language teachers of Maine," according to colleague Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, associate professor of German at UMaine and a member of the FLAME Advisory Board.

Richard Williamson was a French professor at Bates College, who worked closely with Pelletier over the years. Williamson died several years ago and FLAME created the award last year in his name. Pelletier is the first recipient.

He was nominated by Priscille Michaud, a French teacher at Cony High School in Augusta, with support from the UMaine Canadian-American Center and several of Pelletier's UMaine colleagues.

Pelletier has taught at UMaine since 1979. He earned an AB degree at Providence College, a master's from Michigan State University, East Lansing, and a Ph.D from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

At UMaine, Pelletier also is a cooperating associate professor of education and the associate director of the UMaine Canadian-American Center.

Criteria for the Williamson award includes having achieved outstanding results in promoting the study of modern and classical languages in the community or region. Teachers, administrators, students and community members are eligible for the award, and special consideration is given for individuals who employ innovative approaches that actively involve constituencies not routinely supportive of second language learning.

He is a resident of Hampden.

Education Professor Hoff Receives Outstanding Teacher Award

03 Apr 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Dianne Hoff, associate professor of educational leadership in the UMaine College of Education and Human Development, is the recipient of the college's 2009 Outstanding Teaching Award.

Hoff, who has been on the faculty at the University of Maine since 1999, received the award Wednesday evening at the "3.5 Presidential Pin Ceremony," the college's annual awards ceremony, held at Buchanan Alumni House. About 70 students who have maintained high grade point averages also received pins acknowledging their success.

Hoff was nominated for the teaching award by doctoral student Mary Mahoney-O'Neil, who praises Hoff for her sincerity in caring about students' success both in class and in the workforce as leaders in their schools.

"On a daily basis, students seek her out to talk about their course work or dissertation, to get professional advice about a problem they are facing in their schools, or to run a legal dilemma by her," Mahoney-O'Neil says in her letter of nomination. "Her enthusiasm for her students and for school leadership is contagious, and students leave feeling like they can tackle any challenge."

Hoff, who earned undergraduate and master's degrees from Indiana University and her Ed.D. in education at the University of Louisville, also serves at UMaine as president of the Faculty Senate.

Maine State Library and Fogler Library Collaborate on Town Reports Digitization Project

03 Apr 2009

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller (207) 581-1696 Orono, ME -- "The Kennebec bridge, at one time almost a wreck, has been thoroughly repaired as to be as strong and safe as ever. In place of the wooden and decaying railroad bridge, swept off by the flood, now stands a bridge of iron 960 feet long, a model of strength and beauty, and a lasting monument of the genius of its inventor, and of the energy and forecast of its owners." Augusta Town Report, 1871 This is one example of the information that is recorded in the town reports of Maine. Historical data, local budgets, infrastructure or education, it's all there, and Fogler Library's latest digitization project brings the information right to your computer screen. The Town Reports Digitization Project involves a key partnership with the Maine State Library, whose print holdings of town reports for the 500+ towns in Maine is the most extensive in the state with holdings stretching back to the 1850s. The web site combines these with reports from Fogler's Special Collections to provide comprehensive statewide coverage. Fogler Library hopes to add the participation of local historical societies and town offices to bring even more information to the project. The Litchfield Historical Society has already stepped forward providing scanned versions of their town reports, which have been added to the site. "We are very excited about having the Litchfield Historical Commission step forward to offer the town reports that they have scanned," says Sharon Quinn Fitzgerald, Head of Technical Services and Library Web Manager. "We encourage other towns to take the initiative in scanning their local holdings. The essential ingredient is staff time, often volunteers willing to take part in the emerging community project." The web site includes a section of town highlights as well as photographs from the Penobscot Marine Museum's extensive glass plate image archive. Kjerste Christensen, who oversees file preparation at Fogler Library adds, "We are happy to go over the specs with staff just learning to work with digital publishing software. We can accept files as JPEG images or in Adobe PDF format." Fogler library will continue to host the files, link them to the central web site, and provide optical character recognition (OCR) of the documents that enables full text searching. Where available, towns are visually represented by their distinctive seals which often depict a sense of the strengths or values of a particular community.

UMaine Museum Offers 'Pathways to the Past' for Children on April Vacation

03 Apr 2009

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-1400; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO –The University of Maine’s Page Farm and Home Museum is offering historical time-traveling for area youth through its annual "Pathways to the Past" heritage day camp during April school vacation.

The camp, for children ages 6-10, is 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, through Friday, April 24. It offers folk arts activities, bartering games in the museum's country store, a sugar-on-snow party, bug and worm fun, and a chance to make a 19th century toy. Children also will prepare their own healthy snack each day.

The educational day camp is limited to a small number of campers, according to museum Director Patty Henner. Pre-registration is required, and a \$15 fee per child per day covers the cost of materials.

Each day will offer its own novel hands-on explorations of what life was like before electricity came to rural Maine.

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. Details about this year's event can be found on the Page Farm and Home Museum website (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm).

May 1 Colloquium Explores Traumatic Stress Effects as Survivors Age

03 Apr 2009

Contact: Len Kaye, 626-7922; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The fourth annual geriatric colloquium being held by the University of Maine Center on Aging and partnering agencies on May 1 in Northport takes up some of the serious and potentially debilitating issues resulting from early-life trauma and how it affects aging survivors.

Geared for healthcare professionals, social workers, gerontologists and caregivers, the public also is invited to attend the day-long "Hidden but Not Forgotten: Early Trauma and Later Life," being held at Northport's Point Lookout Resort and Conference Center.

This year’s colloquium examines the challenges Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) survivors face in older age. Coping with past serious trauma can provide new difficulties to survivors as they reach the age of retirement and encounter increased physical limitations, memory problems, loss of peers, and other later-life stressors, according to Lenard Kaye, director of the UMaine Center on Aging.

The colloquium will address many kinds of trauma including childhood physical and sexual abuse, combat experiences, natural disasters and historical events.

Trauma experts from a variety of settings will address why this period of life can be more complicated for trauma survivors, how to assess the impact, interventions and consideration of differences in the availability of treatment services.

Failing to recognize the consequences of past trauma on these clients has the potential for misdiagnosis and ineffective treatment, says Kaye, who will deliver opening remarks.

Participants can expect to learn about: why PTSD symptoms that were kept in control for years can manifest themselves in older age; assessing what symptoms and behaviors might be related to PTSD as opposed to other challenges this age group faces; the role of psychopharmacology in the treatment of older trauma survivors; differences and similarities between the treatment of older adults and younger trauma survivors; and how groups can be effective with some populations.

"Early life trauma, especially instances of physical and sexual abuse by parents and other relatives often goes unrecognized and therefore untreated as people grow older," says Kaye. "Older adults are not apt to discuss these experiences with others, including health professionals, for reasons including personal embarrassment and the stigma attached to being seen as a victim."

The colloquium is sponsored by the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education at the University of Maine, the UMaine School of Social Work, the UMaine Center on Aging, and co-sponsored by the Maine Gerontological Society.

Other speakers include:

Marjie Harris, LCSW, coordinator, Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education at UMaine;

Jay Peters, Ph.D., assistant professor, UMaine School of Social Work;

Niamh Holohan, MD, geriatric and adult psychiatrist, private practice and consulting psychiatrist, Penobscot Community Health Center;

Daryne Rockett, LCSW, CMP, Clinical Social Worker, Bangor Vet Center;

Janis B. Petzel, MD, geriatric psychiatrist, private practice and research, and development coordinator, Togus VA Medical Center;

And Nancy Kelly, MSW, ACSW, field coordinator, UMaine School of Social Work.

The colloquium starts at 8 a.m. and wraps up at 4:15 p.m. For additional information, including attendance fees, call the Center on Aging at (207) 262-7925 or visit its website (www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging).

Jacobson Keynote to Highlight Day-Long Celebration

07 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- George Jacobson, Uuniversity of Maine professor emeritus and Maine's State Climatologist, will give the keynote talk at a Friday April 17 celebration of UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology. Jacobson will discuss "Ecological Dynamics and a World of Changing Climate: Perspectives from a Career in Paleoecology" at 3 p.m. in Murray Hall.

For more information, call 581-2531 or 581-2995. The event also features a 1:30-5 p.m. open house at Murray Hall.

UMaine Students Fundraising April 30 for Children's Service Dogs

07 Apr 2009

Contact: Shirar Patterson, 581-8300; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- A group of University of Maine students who successfully raised money last spring to buy a service dog for a local child with Muscular Dystrophy is planning another fundraising cookout this year, with three live bands, on the UMaine Mall.

"Rock the Dog II" will be held 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, and will include representatives from the Tail Waggin' Dog Training Center in Levant, and several of the center's clients and their service dogs.

The first Rock the Dog event was organized last year by H2O (Hart, Hancock and Oak residence halls) and the UMaine

Health Professions Club to raise money to help young Nathan Robichaud of Milford -- who uses a wheelchair because of his Muscular Dystrophy -- to buy a service dog to help him with his daily needs.

The event, supplemented by bottle drives, raised almost \$2,500 towards the purchase of the dog, according to Shirar Wilder Patterson, community coordinator for the Hancock, Hart and Oak halls community. Robichaud's grandparents, Mike and Maggie Conary of Milford, who care for him, raised the remaining funds for the purchase and training of the dog through Tail Waggin' Dog Training Center.

After months of special training, Nathan and the dog, Soren, were united this week.

With the success of their first fundraising initiative, students and staff at H20 and the health professions club set to raising addition money in the fall for their newly created fund, "The Nathan Fund," to benefit other children with debilitating illnesses. They raised \$800 through a pizza party.

Patterson says proceeds from the next and future Rock the Dog events will go to The Nathan Fund to assist other area families with a child or teenager in need of a service dog for emotional or physical disabilities.

The UMaine students initially learned about Robichaud's plight through UMaine Health Professions Career Specialist and Prelaw Advisor Crisanne Blackie, whose son is in the Cub Scouts with Robichaud. The students were immediately moved to try to help the child and others like him, Patterson says.

"It's really neat to see them doing this," Patterson says. "They're really coming out for this project."

Patterson expects as many as 600 students and members of surrounding communities will attend the April 30 barbecue fundraiser, including Robichaud and Soren, if Nathan is well enough.

Last year's barbecue theme was a carnival, with games and related activities, with Nathan attending, Patterson says.

"This little boy had so much fun when he came last year," she says. "He had a blast."

Donations for Nathan's Fund will be accepted at collection tables during the event.

Bands scheduled to play at the barbecue are the local band The Exclusive, opening for headliners The Sophomore Beat from Southern Maine and co-headliner A Good Night Sound Rush, a Bangor-based group.

Patterson can be reached for additional information at 581-9300.

Film Premiere at UMaine this Week

08 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- "The Way We Get By," an acclaimed film based on the experiences of the Maine Troop Greeters, will premiere at UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts on Thursday April 9.

There premiere, which will be attended by Gov. John Baldacci, U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud and U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree, is an invitation event. Public performances are scheduled for Friday April 10 (4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.) and Saturday April 11 (12 noon).

Ticket information is available at the Collins Center for the Arts Box office at 581-1755 or online at

www.collinscenterforthearts.com. Members of the military will receive free tickets to the public showings. Bangor Savings Bank and MPBN are sponsoring the event.

Maine Masque Presents 'Boys' Life' April 8-11 at UMaine

08 Apr 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- This year's Maine Masque student production is "Boys' Life," a play that should appeal to college-age young people dealing with the conflicts of early adulthood as they move from a largely carefree lifestyle to one with more commitment and consequence.

Written by playwright Howard Korder and directed by Simon Ferland, a fourth-year theater and math double major, the play opens April 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Hauck Auditorium and runs through April 11.

The play is about three friends, Jack, Don and Phil, whose relationships with one another and with wives, girlfriends or dates are affected by communication, or a lack of communication.

Ferland, of Old Town, says he chose "Boy's Life" because of its themes and relevance to younger audiences. It is a comedy with dramatic elements, he says.

"The play is largely comedic, but because of the serious nature of what is happening and what is being said, it then develops into something of a comedic-dramatic blend," Ferland says. "I also think that, given what the characters are going through -- the themes of growing up, relationships and friendships, and the importance of communication -- this will strongly resonate with both younger and older audience members."

Younger audiences can take a closer look at themselves by identifying with the characters, while older audiences may look back on their pasts and think about whether they played the same sort of games they see in Boys' Life, Ferland says.

The lead actors are Craig Douglas of Orono, Edward Benson of Mount Desert and Sam Watson of Manchester.

"Boys' Life" starts at 7:30 p.m. April 8-11, with a 2 p.m. matinee on April 11. Admission is \$10 and free for students with a MaineCard. For more information, call the Collins Center for the Arts box office at 581-1755.

Congressional Initiative Promotes Tidal Power Research

09 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Thanks to a \$951,500 federal appropriation, University of Maine researchers will lead a collaborative effort to advance efforts to develop Maine's tidal power resource. The funding comes from a Congressional initiative developed by the Maine delegation. The money will be used to continue assessing current prototypes and models of turbines that can be submerged in the ocean to produce power using tidal currents. "Once again, the Maine Congressional delegation has recognized UMaine's capacity, especially working in concert with research and industry partners, to address a critical issue," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Our natural resources have placed Maine in the center of the discussion about developing clean, renewable energy and we appreciate the delegation's support as we work toward tapping the enormous potential for generating power from the sea." Although UMaine will lead the project, Maine Maritime Academy and Portland-based Ocean Renewable Power

Company (ORPC) are partners in the ongoing research. "Tidal and ocean energy represents a tremendous opportunity for the State of Maine and I am encouraged that the funding provided in the budget will ensure that my alma mater, the University of Maine, will be on the vanguard of producing these advanced technologies," says Sen. Olympia Snowe. "UMaine's engineering program is world renowned and I look forward to continuing to be a partner in promoting this renewable energy." Researchers also will move forward in evaluating the potential environmental impact of harnessing tidal energy off the coast of Eastport in the Western Passage of Passamaquoddy Bay. "Maine stands to be a leader in tidal energy development." says Sen. Susan Collins. "The research this project will support is a key step toward diversifying our energy sources and providing affordable, renewable power to Mainers. I have called for the goal of energy independence by the year 2020 and I am proud that the University of Maine is playing an important role in achieving that goal." Estimates show that in the next five to seven years, tidal energy has the potential to be a billion dollar industry in Maine, creating several hundred jobs. "Our country needs to explore all sources of energy if we are going to reduce our reliance on foreign sources," says U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud. "I worked hard to secure this funding because I believe that our state has a natural resource that could be used to accomplish this goal. Maine has some of the best conditions in the world to capitalize on the natural power-generating capacity of tides and ocean currents. The partners involved have a proven track record and the expertise to make the most out of this opportunity for our state. I look forward to the results of this collaborative project." Each of the project's partners brings specialized skills and knowledge that will allow the research and turbine development to advance efficiently and safely, serving the state's economy and the environment. "We know how much power potentially could be produced, but we don't know how much you can extract commercially and have it be feasible and environmentally responsible," says Michael "Mick" Peterson, UMaine Libra Foundation Professor of Engineering. Tidal power is created by submerged turbines with foils that are turned by the ocean's currents similar to the way that wind moves turbines on land. Before full commercialization occurs, researchers and developers need to understand how the turbines will fit into the ocean environment. UMaine oceanography professor Huijie Xue is an expert in oceanographic computer modeling, which is key to understanding how much energy is produced by ocean currents and what amount can feasibly be extracted. Xue points out that Maine's jagged coastline contains many channels and passages perfectly suited for capturing tidal power, noting that Cobscook Bay and the Bay of Fundy "have the highest tides in the world." "[Eastport] is the most viable site in the continental United States," says Peterson, one of the driving forces behind the project. "If tidal energy is going to be commercialized in the U.S., it's going to be in Maine." "Since we've been talking about tidal energy, and it's been around for a long time, there's been obvious concern that when you put a turbine in the water that there could be potential [environmental] impact," says Gayle Zydlewski, a fish biologist with UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. "I think if we do it right, it can be done in a safe and sustainable way." Once the environmental and commercial viability questions are answered, it is likely that the technology can be implemented fairly quickly. "It's a technology that is something that we can implement in a fairly short term – a matter of years, not decades," says MMA engineering professor Rich Kimball. "For example, offshore wind has a much larger potential ... but that's going to be a lot longer timeframe to get that developed." Kimball agrees with many others who are researching alternative energy in that a single source of alternative power generation won't fix the problem, but he is confident that tidal power will have a considerable impact in reducing oil-based fuel dependency. "I think it's a significant part of our solution to renewable energy," Kimball says. In addition to involving students from both UMaine and MMA in creating a new industry, there is abundant opportunity for Maine's small coastal communities to benefit from the prospect of jobs and positive economic spin-off. "This funding will allow us to kick off an important project that is going to have significant economic impact in Washington County and throughout the state," says Chris Sauer, president and CEO of Ocean Renewable Power Co. This summer, the company will begin extensive in-water testing of the commercial design of its turbine generator unit, which has turbines made of a composite material developed by U.S. Windblade LLC of Bath and a composite structural frame to be made by Harbor Technologies Inc. of Brunswick – two companies with ties to UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Last year, ORPC proved that their turbine generator unit is technically viable, and now it's time to continue with the process to demonstrate that it's ready for commercial use. "It's critical that we are able to prove through this testing that this turbine generator unit is commercially viable," Sauer says. "It has the potential of catapulting us to the front of the tidal energy industry, while at the same time putting Maine on the world map as far as tidal energy."

UMaine History Professor Set for Two Portland Presentations

09 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- University of Maine Prof. Liam Riordan will make two Portland presentations on Loyalism and the American Revolution in Maine this week. He is scheduled for a public lecture at the Maine Historical Society on Thursday evening and a day-long workshop for teachers at the same location on Friday.

Loyalism and the American Revolution in Maine
A Thursday Night Public Lecture & A Friday Teacher Workshop

This series combines a free lecture open to the general public and a daylong workshop for pre-registered K-12 teachers about the American Revolution in Maine. All events will be led by Liam Riordan, Associate Professor of History, University of Maine, Orono.

Public Lecture
Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 PM
Shettleworth Lecture Hall, Maine Historical Society,
489 Congress Street, Portland

This illustrated public lecture reconsiders three famed Revolutionary events in Maine: the naval engagement with the Margareta off Machias, the burning of Falmouth, and the creation of a British military base and Loyalist refugee center at Castine on Penobscot Bay. The significance of maritime connections and the ambiguities of local allegiance should play a central role in our understanding of these major events of the American Revolution in Maine.

Teacher Workshop
Friday, April 10
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Maine Historical Society (489 Congress Street), Portland

The daylong workshop will be organized around four activities that each aim to develop specific classroom applications. Units include: discussion of the Thursday night lecture, use of a detailed memoir by a Revolutionary soldier (provided to participants), and use of selected portions of the HBO-series on John Adams. Participants will select a fourth workshop unit when they register. Workshop participants should register in advance and are expected to attend the Thursday night public lecture. A registration fee of \$75 will defray the cost of pre-circulated reading material, a coffee break, and lunch. Continuing education credit is available.

Climate Change Science Day for High School Students Friday

09 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Some 140 Maine high school students and adult educators will visit the University of Maine on Friday April 10 to learn more about climate change science. The students will engage in hands-on activities and interact with UMaine faculty members and graduate student scientists. The event runs from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at three UMaine locations: Bryand Global Science Center, Sawyer Environmental Research Center and South Stevens Hall.

Climate Change Science Day is sponsored by UMaine's Climate Change Institute, Dept. of Anthropology and Dept. of Earth Sciences.

Tour stops will include the following:

- UMaine's archaeology lab in South Stevens Hall, where students will examine and analyze stone tools and pottery from prehistoric Maine and other locations
- UMaine's zooarchaeology lab, also in South Stevens Hall, where visitors will examine human skeletal remains and animal bone from archaeological and reference samples
- The earth sciences sediment core laboratory in Bryand, where scientists will show the record of rising sea level and environmental change in cores from Penobscot Bay
- The paleoecology laboratory in Sawyer, where students will examine fossils from lakes that are used to reconstruct environmental change
- Ice core chemistry assessment facilities at Sawyer, where visitors will see the labs that measure chemistry used to reconstruct past climates; they will also have the opportunity to examine sections of ice collected from Antarctica
- Remote sensing facilities in Bryand, where scientists will show visitors the tools used to study glaciers from space

For more information, contact: Shelley Palmer at 581-1894 (shelley.palmer@umit.maine.edu)

UMaine to Host Robotics Competition for Middle, High School Students

09 Apr 2009

Contact: Ryan Foley, ryan.t.foley@umit.maine.edu; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine Robotics Club will host VEX, a robotics competition for middle and high school students, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11.

Opening ceremonies will begin at 9:15 a.m. at UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Building in room 100 with students from around the state and New Hampshire getting a chance to experience real world engineering while applying the math and science skills they learn in school.

The VEX league was piloted last year, when only one official event was held. This year the program has grown exponentially with more than 1,500 teams worldwide, and at least one VEX event being held in every state in the United States.

The UMaine event is being hosted by the robotics club and its founder, mechanical engineering student Ryan Foley. Foley started the university's robotics club in 2006 in hopes of getting a FIRST Robotics team running at one of the local high schools.

The FIRST Robotics Competition challenges teams of young people and their mentors to solve a common problem in a six-week timeframe using a standard "kit of parts" and a common set of rules.

Foley found the program both fun and rewarding when he was in high school and wanted to share the experience with others.

"In high school, I restarted my school's FIRST robotics team and served as a captain for three years, then a mentor for one year," says Foley.

Once he formed the robotics team at UMaine, students became interested in doing more than just the FIRST project.

"The club picked up other projects, including a T-shirt launching robot, a maze solving robot for the micromouse contest, and currently the club is working on a series of smaller robots built out of scrap parts from printers, remote control cars, and similar things," Foley says. "My main project with the club though is the FIRST Robotics Team from United Technologies Center in Bangor. A small group of us mentor them, and I have been the team manager since it's creation back in 2007. The Vex robotics program is my other main focus."

After a couple of seasons with the FIRST team, Foley realized that many Maine high schools don't have the resources needed for such a team.

"When VEX came out, it was designed to provide the same kind of experience at a much more affordable cost and size," Foley says. "I started to put things in motion for it last May, talking to VEX about hosting an event."

After holding a video conference with the interested teams, they decided to participate in a VEX event because there were fewer regulations, and only 12 teams are required to host an official event.

About six or seven schools were involved in the October video conference, and Foley says most of them have put together VEX teams for the upcoming event, although local budget restrictions resulted in a few schools being unable to participate.

"The goal of the event follows the VEX mission of giving students a way to apply their math and science skills, while learning about engineering at the same time," says Foley.

Those participating in Saturday's event, some with multiple teams, will include: Portland Arts & Technology High School, Greely High School, Falmouth High School, Jay High School, Cape Elizabeth, Sanford High School, United Technologies Center Region 4 of Bangor, and New Hampshire's Candia High School and Timberlane Regional High School, where Foley graduated in 2004.

In addition to his engineering studies, Foley is a member of UMaine's pep band and is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

"A lot of my free time goes towards coordinating and planning for FIRST and VEX, but I still manage to squeeze time out of my week to relax and hang out with friends from time to time," says Foley. "I put a lot of time into FIRST and VEX because FIRST is why I'm studying engineering now, and it's made me who I am and opened up a world of opportunities for me. I dedicate a lot of my time to these programs because I feel that its only fair of me to do what I can to make sure other students have the same chance I did back in high school."

Maine Studies Students Receive Research, Creativity Awards

09 Apr 2009

Contact: Carol Toner, 581-3147

ORONO -- The Maine Studies Program at the University of Maine has announced the 2009 winners of the Maine Studies Research and Creativity Awards.

Stephanie Leonard, a candidate in the Maine Studies Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program, won the graduate award for her paper, titled "Uncovering the Myth: LL Bean and the Maine Mystique." Leonard lives in Bangor and teaches art at the Fairmount School in Bangor.

Ian Larson of Kingfield won the undergraduate award for his project, "The Passamaquoddy Living Language Project." Larson developed educational media enabling Indian Township School students to tape-record and preserve their elders' native language speech. He is a fourth-year New Media major from Freeman Township.

Each award includes a \$250 prize, made possible by the generosity of the University of Maine Foundation.

UMaine to Host Ethernet Inventor

09 Apr 2009

Contact: George Markowsky, (207) 581-3940; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Robert Metcalfe, inventor of Ethernet computer networking technology, is scheduled to speak at 2:10 p.m. Friday, April 10, at the University of Maine.

The presentation, which will focus on using Internet technology to solve the energy crisis, will be held in Neville Hall, room 100. His appearance, titled "Ethernet: Internet Lessons for Solving Energy," is sponsored by the Department of Computer Science as part of an ongoing seminar series.

Metcalfe invented Ethernet, the local-area networking (LAN) standard on which he shares four patents, in 1973. Now, 35 years later, about 350 million new Ethernet ports are shipped annually.

The 1969 Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate later founded 3Com Corporation, a billion-dollar networking company.

He received a masters degree in applied mathematics from Harvard University in 1970, and three years later received his doctorate in computer science from Harvard, where his dissertation was Packet Communication.

Metcalfe also holds an honorary engineering doctorate from UMaine, and received the National Medal of Technology for leadership in the invention, standardization, and commercialization of Ethernet.

Metcalfe now is a venture capitalist with Polaris Venture Partners, which has offices in Boston and Seattle.

His presentation at UMaine will focus on how a look at the history and growth of the Internet can help solve the world's energy crisis, including how the technology can increase communication and dialogue.

Two UMaine Students Receive Prestigious Udall Scholarships

08 Apr 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen, 581-3742 We humbly apologize, but the original version of this release contained an error. Laura Wood's hometown is Scarborough, not South Portland. ORONO — Two University of Maine students have received the Morris K. Udall Scholarship. Established in 1992 to commemorate Udall's 30 years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, the Morris K. Udall Foundation encourages college students "to preserve and protect their national heritage through studies in the environment and Native American health and tribal public policy." The scholarship is considered the highest national recognition for students in environmental fields. Laura Wood of Scarborough, an honors student and Ecology and Environmental Sciences major, and Michael Parker of Bradford, a Mechanical Engineering major, are among 80 Udall Scholars chosen from 515 applicants nationwide. A total of four UMaine students have received Udall Scholarships, and two have received honorable mentions, since the program's

inception. It is unusual for two students from one university to receive the scholarship — only 12 campuses share that honor this year. Mark Anderson, Wood's adviser and a professor in UMaine's Ecology and Environmental Sciences Program and the School of Economics, says this underscores UMaine's longstanding commitment to environmental studies. "One of the most underappreciated elements of the curriculum and faculty at UMaine is our strength in environmental issues in general," Anderson says. "I think there's a sense that all of this 'green' stuff is new, but it's not new at all. We've been training students in these areas for a long time. Right now, the governor is talking about green jobs, but I've had graduates going into green jobs for the last 30 years." Wood, a junior, is no stranger to prestigious congressional scholarships. She is the past recipient of the George J. Mitchell Scholarship and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. In addition, she is a dedicated volunteer and a standout student. Her experience as a Hollings Scholar sparked her interest in NOAA's Coastal Environmental Initiative, which she may explore after graduation. Program participants track human waste disposal along the Florida coast and manage impacts on the coral reefs. On campus, Wood has worked with UMaine's facilities management directors and dining services managers to learn about composting, waste management and recycling efforts. "UMaine has taught me not only general classroom knowledge and career skills, but how to be a leader and active citizen," Wood says. "I also have to say that I have been fortunate to have had fantastic professors who really displayed experience and expertise in their subject, while at the same time being available to students." Parker's honor is a landmark for UMaine, where these scholarships typically go to students in the environmental sciences and ecology, rather than mechanical engineering. But his research and involvement on and off campus set him apart. "Generally, this doesn't happen to mechanical engineers," says Jean MacRae, an associate professor of environmental engineering and faculty adviser to the UMaine chapter of Engineers Without Borders. "Mechanical engineers can have a huge impact on the environment, especially if attention is paid to efficiency. Michael sees the whole picture. He's a mechanical engineer, but he's not fixated on the gadgets. He sees how the things we make can affect our environmental and social systems." Parker serves as the co-president of Engineers Without Borders at UMaine. He has been integral in working with the community of Dulce Nombre, Honduras, toward sustainable water and sanitation solutions. In Orono, he was a coordinator of the Green Campus Initiative, and he has worked to design the renovation of a building on campus to meet LEED certification standards. The idea of offshore wind power intrigues him, and to that end, he is considering staying on for his master's degree at UMaine in this field. "Mechanical engineering has been my vocation and sustainability has been my avocation," says Parker, who is also a junior. "In my time at UMaine, I've studied how to integrate these things. ... There are a lot of opportunities for technical developments that make an impact on the sustainability of our country, whether through wind power or more efficient manufacturing and housing systems, and there is the need for people with technical expertise. I'm very interested in pursuing how some of this technology could have an impact on the overall sustainability of our communities and, more generally, how we affect our future opportunities." More information about the Udall Scholarship can be found at <http://www.udall.gov/>.

UMaine to Host Robotics Competition for Middle, High School Students

10 Apr 2009

Contact: Ryan Foley, ryan.t.foley@umit.maine.edu; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

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UMaine Graduate Research Expo April 14-15

13 Apr 2009

Contact: Patrick Spinney, (207) 992-6649; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 11th annual Graduate Research Exposition is scheduled for Tuesday April 14 and Wednesday April 15 at UMaine's Engineering Science & Research Building.

Designed to showcase and reward graduate academic excellence and creative achievement, the event features demonstrations of ongoing work involving UMaine graduate students.

Oral presentations will be given from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., while poster presentations will be ongoing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on both days.

During the two-day event students compete for cash prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 in six categories: biological and chemical sciences; engineering/spatial engineering; physical and mathematical sciences; social sciences and humanities; education; and visual and performing arts.

Commercialization Potential Awards also will be presented with cash prizes of up to \$500 for the three winners. The award was developed last year 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.

The expo is hosted by UMaine's Graduate Student Government. For a schedule of events and directions to the Engineering Science & Research Building, visit www2.umaine.edu/gsg/gsgimages/0/08/Expo_agenda_2009.pdf.

Student Organization Schedules Fundraising Concert

14 Apr 2009

Contact: [Brian Harris](#)

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Intrafraternity Council will host the Pete Kilpatrick Band for a Friday May 1 Collins Center for the Arts Concert.

The show will begin at 7:30 p.m. and proceeds will benefit testicular cancer research.

Tickets are \$12 each, available at the Collins Center for the Arts box office or online at www.collinscenterforthearts.com.

The first 200 people who buy tickets will receive free t-shirts, courtesy of the UMaine Greek Life Office. More information about the Pete Kilpatrick Band is online at <http://www.petekilpatrick.com/>.

Grant Awarded for Study That Potentially Links Arsenic to Allergies, Asthma

14 Apr 2009

Contact: Julie Gosse, (207) 581-4833; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Millions of people worldwide drink water on a daily basis that contains high levels of arsenic, including millions here in

the United States who obtain their water from unregulated, contaminated, private wells. Additionally, high levels of arsenic contaminate many foods as well as industrial and mining waste sites.

But is there a connection between arsenic consumption and allergy and asthma symptoms?

In search of an answer, Julie Gosse, University of Maine assistant professor of biochemistry, has been awarded \$30,000 by the PhRMA Foundation for her research proposal on the topic.

"If I make reasonable progress, I will receive another \$30,000 in the second year of the project," says Gosse.

Recent studies regarding the prevalence of the disease suggest that arsenic exposure elevates asthma incidence, but the underlying molecular and cellular mechanisms that potentially trigger the symptoms are unknown.

The most common form of asthma is allergic asthma, and mast cells, which play a key role in the inflammatory process, are major effector cells in allergies and asthma. Mast cells also are important immune defense cells in the body, charged with fighting parasitic infections.

"Our studies will determine whether arsenic affects the function of mast cells, using a variety of biochemical, molecular, and cellular techniques," says Gosse. "Also, we will seek to determine the underlying molecular mechanisms of these effects."

If arsenic is found to enhance degranulation (the release of histamine and other allergic/asthmatic mediators) from mast cells, this effect could be a mechanism by which arsenic elevates asthma incidence, says Gosse.

If research finds that arsenic hinders mast cell degranulation, this effect could reflect a type of immune suppression, which is a decreased ability to fight off parasitic infections, caused by arsenic exposure.

Several UMaine students also are involved in the project.

Lee Hutchinson, a first-year UMaine graduate student, is working on his master's degree out of Gosse's laboratory in Hitchner Hall. He is the lead graduate student working on the project, and is joined by graduate student Christopher Preziosi.

Other students include Hannah Nelson, Jonathan Pelletier, Benett Trinh, James Lyons, and Elizabeth Brochu, who all are current or former biochemistry, microbiology and molecular biology undergraduate students.

Once this phase of research is completed, and if Gosse determines a link, she then will communicate the results with regulators, and attempt to determine the molecular mechanisms underlying the process.

UMaine to Host Two Energy Management Seminars

14 Apr 2009

Contact: Scott Dunning, (207) 581-2341; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – Energy management is the focus of two upcoming seminars next month at the University of Maine.

On May 18, UMaine will offer a one-day seminar from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on energy management. The session is targeted at managers who wish to develop a plan for reducing energy costs in their facility, and will include information on strategically determining building upgrades, lighting improvements, common issues that lead to poor performance, and heating and cooling systems.

Participants can receive seven Professional Development Hours toward the state's professional engineering education requirement. All participants will receive a workbook with copies of the presentation.

The cost for this session is \$275, with the optional text an additional \$95. Catered lunch is included with the registration fee.

For those seeking more in-depth training on energy management, a three-day seminar will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 19-21. This session will cover a variety of opportunities for energy savings in commercial and industrial facilities, and participants can earn 21 Professional Development Hours toward the state's professional engineering education requirement.

The cost for this session is \$750, with the optional text, "The Facility Manager's Guide to Energy Management" by Albert Thumann and Dunning, costing an additional \$95. Catered lunch is included daily with the registration fee.

Both sessions will be held at UMaine's Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall and will be led by Scott Dunning, director of UMaine's School of Engineering Technology.

Dunning is recognized as a national expert in energy efficiency and serves as one of six key instructors for the Association of Energy Engineers providing training for Certified Energy Managers. As founding director of UMaine's Industrial Assessment Center, he has led more than 200 industrial assessments of facilities throughout New England. He also has authored many papers on industrial energy efficiency, and previously served as a program manager at the U.S. Department of Energy in charge of supervising the Office of Industrial Technologies response to the requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

For more information or to register, contact UMaine's Conference Services Division at (207) 581-4092, or visit www.umaine.edu/conferences.

UMaine announces Earth Day activities

15 Apr 2009

Contact: Misa Saros, UMaine sustainability coordinator, (207) 581-1571; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – With its pledge to create a greener campus at an all-time high, the University of Maine has several events planned for this year's Earth Day celebration.

Held each year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

Highlighting UMaine's daylong schedule of activities are two presentations by Dr. Daniel G. Nocera, Henry Dreyfus Professor of Energy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Nocera is scheduled to speak at 3 p.m. at the St. John Hill Auditorium at UMaine's Engineering & Science Research Building. The afternoon discussion is titled "Personalized Energy: A Carbon-Neutral Energy Supply for 1 (x 6 Billion)."

Nocera's second presentation, "Powering the Planet: The Challenge for Science in the 21st Century," is slated to begin at 7 p.m. in room 316 of UMaine's Aubert Hall.

Earth Day at UMaine officially kicks off at noon with opening remarks in Memorial Union's Bangor Room. At 12:15 p.m., Maine State Climatologist and UMaine Professor Emeritus George Jacobson will discuss a report that was submitted to Gov. John Baldacci regarding the state's future in the context of changing climate during the 21st Century.

Jacobson is a professor in UMaine's School of Biology and the Climate Change Institute.

Following a short break, the events will continue with a presentation by Christopher Straka, president of Ascendant Energy of Rockland. His company is in the process of fabricating a solar energy system that will be installed on the rooftop of the university's Wells Commons.

From noon to 4 p.m. a wide variety of energy conscious groups from across campus will be on hand to represent and discuss the goals of their organizations, the Bookstore will offer a 20 percent discount on all of its environmentally friendly products, and Organic Fair Trade Coffee, available at all campus dining locations, will be on sale for \$1 for a 12-ounce cup.

There also will be presentations throughout the day in both the Bumps Room and the Coe Room at Memorial Union, and anyone who attends a session between noon and 4 p.m. and submits two suggestions for a greener UMaine will be entered to win a Cayuga 110 Kayak that's made from 100 percent recycled plastic. The kayak was donated by Johnson Outdoors/Old Town Canoe. The winner will be notified on April 23.

For a complete schedule of events, visit www.sustainability.umaine.edu.

UMaine Suspends Volleyball and Men's Soccer Programs

15 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Laura Reed at (207) 581-3646

ORONO -- As part of its response to budgetary issues necessitating expenditure reductions of \$8.8 million for the next fiscal year, the University of Maine will suspend its volleyball and men's soccer programs, effective June 30, 2009.

Individual UMaine units -- including the athletics department -- are responsible for developing budget reductions accounting for \$7 million of the total, for annual budgets beginning July 1.

The athletics department's share of that cut is \$253,000, an amount based on its allocation of the university's base budget.

On top of that cut, the athletics department's budget is adversely affected by other economy-related factors, including endowment losses, reduced annual gifts, declines in ticket sales, and lower-than-expected merchandise receipts and other externally generated revenues. Those factors will create shortfalls totaling another \$618,000 in the upcoming fiscal year.

All factors combined create an overall athletics department budget shortfall of \$871,000 for the next year.

The soccer and volleyball program suspensions will result in a projected first-year saving of approximately \$600,000 and eventual ongoing annual savings of more than \$900,000. The rest of the first-year budget reduction total (\$271,000) will be met through internal revenue-generating and cost-saving procedures, such as schedule reductions, guarantee games and other adjustments.

"This is the option of last resort," says Athletic Director Blake James. "We place a high value on the opportunities that all of our sports create for our student-athletes and we recognize the commitment of coaches, support staff and fans. We have taken these steps after exhausting every feasible option for managing these unprecedented budget challenges."

UMaine will honor its scholarship commitments to current volleyball and soccer student-athletes who wish to continue work toward a UMaine degree. Recruited scholarship student-athletes who have signed a National Letter of Intent to

play one of these sports will be eligible for one year of scholarship funding if they choose to attend UMaine.

Per NCAA guidelines related to discontinued sports, UMaine will grant any institution permission to contact an affected student-athlete by circulating an all-inclusive transfer release message to NCAA member institutions. In addition, NCAA guidelines allow student-athletes who transfer to be immediately eligible for financial aid, practice and competition provided they meet all academic requirements and are not under disciplinary suspension.

In 2008-2009, the Black Bear men's soccer had 26 players on its roster; the volleyball team had 15. Soccer provided 7.5 scholarships; volleyball, 12. The savings will result from those scholarship budget lines, in addition to operating costs (coaches' salaries, recruiting expenses, travel expenses and other miscellaneous expenditures). Each team had one head coach and one assistant coach.

"Like every institution, business and family, UMaine is faced with very significant financial challenges that require substantial responses," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "We regret the impact of this move on those individuals, especially our students, who are affected by this decision."

James says that the decision follows his review of all Black Bear sports, looking carefully at issues such as gender equity and requirements related to NCAA and conference membership. Seventeen Black Bear programs remain following the suspension of these two sports.

To arrange interviews with Blake James, please contact Laura Reed at 581-3646.

Maine Artist Robert Shetterly to Deliver Annual Honors College Lecture April 22

16 Apr 2009

Contact: Stephani Nola, (207) 581-3285

ORONO -- Maine artist and activist Robert Shetterly will present this year's John M. Rezendes Ethics Lecture on Wednesday, April 22, an annual lecture coordinated by the Honors College at the University of Maine.

Shetterly will speak at 4 p.m. in Room 100 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Shetterly's talk is titled "The Ethic of Collateral Damage." Afterward, Shetterly will sign copies of his book "Americans Who Tell the Truth" in the atrium of the building.

In his book, Shetterly features more than 100 past and present American activists, writers and political figures in his ongoing portrait project. His subjects range from Abraham Lincoln to Malcolm X, and include Maine "truth-tellers" Margaret Chase Smith and grade school peace activist Samantha Smith.

Shetterly, a Harvard graduate, lives in Brooksville, Maine. Additional information about Shetterly, his work and "Americans Who Tell the Truth" can be found on his website (www.americanswhotellthetruth.org/index.php).

For more information, contact Stephani Nola, honors associate, at (207) 581-3285.

Federal SBA Administrator to Address UMaine Graduates May 9

16 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO --Karen Gordon Mills of Brunswick, Me., President Barack Obama's choice to serve as Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, will be the University of Maine commencement speaker on Saturday, May 9. The U.S. Senate confirmed Mills' nomination earlier this month.

As Administrator of the SBA, Mills is in charge of a federal agency with more than 2,000 full-time employees. SBA takes a leading role in helping small business owners and entrepreneurs as they work to gain financing, secure technical assistance and training, and pursue federal contacts. At SBA Mills is leading an agency that President Obama has said he feels will play a critical role in the nation's economic recovery.

"We are honored and delighted that Karen Gordon Mills has accepted our invitation to address the UMaine Class of 2009," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "She has vast experience as a business and community leader, giving her unique and valuable perspectives to share with our graduates as they move into a new stage of their lives. Her leadership role in the federal government relates specifically to business development and job creation, issues that will have a tremendous impact on our graduates as they begin or resume professional careers."

Over the past decade, it is estimated that small businesses have created 60-80 percent of the net new jobs across the U.S. and that those businesses hire more than 40 percent of high tech workers across the country.

Mills has an economics degree from Harvard and an MBA from Harvard Business School, where she was a Baker Scholar. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, she formerly served as vice chair of the Harvard Overseers.

She has had a 25-year career as an entrepreneur, working in investing and as a leader in companies involved in consumer products, food, distribution, textile and industrial components. Most recently, she was president of MMP Group. In the late 1990s, she was co-founder and managing director of Solera Capital, a firm that focused on investing in small businesses owned by women. Mills also has extensive experience in the international business world, having worked in Europe and the U.S. for the management consulting firm McKinsey and Co. and in project management for General Foods.

Her contributions in Maine have also been significant. In 2007, Gov. John Baldacci appointed Mills to serve as chair of the state's Council on Competitiveness and the Economy. She has also maintained close connections with UMaine and led the statewide effort that resulted in voter approval of two R&D-related bond referenda in November 2007.

UMaine holds two commencement ceremonies inside Alford Arena, and Mills will speak at both. The 10 a.m. ceremony is for students graduating from UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Division of Lifelong Learning. A 2:30 p.m. ceremony is for those graduating from the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture.

UMaine Speaker to Address Diversity, Prejudice Among Youth

17 Apr 2009

Contact: Amy Kaye, (603) 969-0990; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Noted Boston College psychology professor Paul Poteat, an authority on diversity, prejudice and youth, will lecture at UMaine Monday, April 20, 10-11:30 a.m. in Room 316 of Aubert Hall.

The lecture is titled "Adolescent Sexual Prejudice: Its Effects among LGBT and Heterosexual Youth," and is sponsored

by the UMaine Department of Psychology clinical program's Diversity Committee. The event is free and open to the public.

Poteat is an expert on homophobia and the development of prejudice and its impact on teens. His research includes how sexual minority youths -- lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender -- experience peer victimization.

For additional information, contact Amy Kaye, a doctoral student and co-organizer of the event, at (603) 969-0990.

Business College Poster Presentations Set for April 22

17 Apr 2009

Contact: Carolyn Ball, 581-4142, George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The College of Business, Public Policy and Health will hold its annual Research Exposition on Wednesday, April 22, 3:30-5 p.m. in the atrium of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building.

Members of the public and campus community are invited to attend and learn about end-of-semester research and poster projects done by graduate students from the departments of Public Administration and Social Work.

Attendees will have an opportunity to meet and talk with the students who are presenting and learn about a variety of relevant administrative topics, including wind power, local waste management, public access to private lands, evidence-handling procedures for law enforcement, health services offered by municipalities, and nonprofit administration.

This year, public administration graduate students Carolyn Dodge, Kerrienne Falco, Sharon Fishel, David Lieber Charles, Rumsey, Michael Russo and Lindsay Utley will present. Jim Black, an interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidate in public administration and economic policy also will present his research on the influence of business and political climate on economic growth and economic development.

The D.P. Corbett building is next to the Collins Center for the Arts.

Refreshments will be served. Carolyn Ball, director of graduate programs, Department of Public Administration, can be reached for further details at 581-4142.

UMaine Student Receives Citizenship Award

17 Apr 2009

Contact: Nory Jones, 581-1971; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- UMaine Master of Business Administration student Brenton Murray of Orono has won the 2009 Active Citizenship Award in Community Service from the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism for his work organizing a UMaine chapter of Habitat for Humanity and other charitable work.

The Active Citizenship Award is given to a student, student group or campus organization that has dedicated many hours to volunteering, community service projects, or service to the University of Maine.

An individual recipient must: be enrolled full-time at UMaine; involved in community service as a volunteer in a variety of community service projects and events; demonstrate evidence of leadership and ongoing commitment to service;

demonstrate dependable and enthusiastic qualities, and be of good moral character.

Murray was nominated by Nory Jones, business professor and director of the graduate business program in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health.

In her nomination letter, she cites Murray's founding of a UMaine chapter of Habitat for Humanity and his leadership in organizing several campus fundraising events, including the "There's Snow Place Like Home" sleep-out and a community rock concert to benefit Habitat, in addition to the April 25 Care A-Fair, organized to recognize UMaine student volunteers and the organizations they support.

"In these events, he worked with the UMaine community as well as many people in the greater Bangor community," Jones writes. "In addition, he works well with everyone regardless of age, gender, socioeconomic background. He has the ability to bring people together to work collaboratively and achieve great results."

Jones adds that Murray "selflessly uses his superb creative, technical and artistic talents to help all of these causes. He consistently demonstrates qualities of dedication, leadership, teamwork and a commitment to helping society."

Murray also has been involved with working for the homeless in his home town of Tempe, Ariz. He received the Bodwell Center award at the Community Engagement Gala, held April 2.

University Singers, BSO to Present Massenet's 'Marie Magdeleine' April 26

17 Apr 2009

Contact: Lud Hallman, 581-1249; George Manlove. 581-3756

ORONO -- The Bangor Symphony Orchestra in collaboration with the University Singers and University of Maine Oratorio Society will present Massenet's "Marie Magdeleine" April 26 at 3 p.m. in Hutchins Concert Hall of the Collins Center for the Arts.

Soloists will be music professor Nancy Ogle (soprano) in the role of Marie Magdeleine, Marcia Gronewolt Sly (mezzo-soprano) as Marthe, John Grover (tenor) as Jésus, and Seth Grondin (bass) as Judas. The performance, sung in French, will be conducted by music professor Ludlow Hallman, who has served as conductor for scores of performances, ranging from opera and musical theatre productions to orchestral and oratorio repertoire.

"The Oratorio Society and University Singers have enjoyed a long relationship with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra and have collaborated on many major choral works," says Hallman. "It's a great honor to have been asked to conduct this year's project, Jules Massenet's 'Marie Magdeleine.'"

Marie Magdeleine is a three-act, four-part oratorio that was first performed at the Odéon Theatre in Paris on Good Friday in 1873. The libretto by Louis Gallet traces Marie Magdeleine's redemption through Christ from her life as a courtesan, beginning with her vision of the savior through his visit to her home, his crucifixion, and ultimate resurrection, according to Hallman.

The premiere was a success, and brought Massenet recognition as a major composer. It was the beginning of the career of the most successful and prolific French opera composer of the 19th century. His lyric gift, sensitivity in presenting female characters, sense for the dramatic, prowess in setting the French language, and skill as an orchestrator are all very much in evidence in this work. Marie Magdeleine is a major, although seldom performed, masterwork of the French repertoire.

The University of Maine has been the depository and caretaker of the archive collection of Massenet scores previously

held by the American branch of the Massenet Society since 1996. As part of the arrangement with the Society, the university committed to a series of annual concerts featuring French music and the works of Jules Massenet, in particular. The first of the concerts was a performance of the master's oratorio presented by the UMaine Oratorio Society and University Orchestra in St. John's Catholic Church in Bangor in 1996.

"This gala performance of Marie Magdeleine features more than 200 performers and will officially mark the end of the university's series of French music concerts, book-ending the entire series with his two great oratorios," Hallman says.

About the soloists:

Nancy Ogle is a UMaine music professor who teaches voice and opera; Marcia Gronewolt Sly teaches voice at UMaine and at a private studio in Blue Hill. Both have long histories of performing and recording throughout the United States and internationally.

John Grover works as assistant director of systems and operations at the University of Maine System Computing Center and is a member of the Oratorio Society and a veteran performer in many community theater and classical productions.

Bangor native Seth Grondin is a 2008 graduate of the School of Performing Arts and has had major roles in many university concerts, including the lead in last year's performance of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro," and is now pursuing graduate studies in music in Boston.

Dennis Cox, director of choral activities and graduate coordinator in the School of performing arts, directs the University Singers and prepared the group to join with the Oratorio Society for this large, joint chorus for the performance.

Tickets for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra's concert, also being called "Through the Eyes of Mary," start at \$16 for adults and \$10 for students, and are available through the Collins Center for the Arts box office (207-581-1755 or 1-800-622-TIXX) or online (www.bangorsymphony.org). Tickets also may be purchased at the Collins Center in advance or the day of the performance, starting 1:30 p.m.

UMaine Holding Public Business and Sustainability Workshop April 29

17 Apr 2009

Contact: Terry Porter, 581-1990; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The Maine Business School and UMaine Campus Sustainability Alliance are teaming up for a half-day public workshop starting at 8 a.m. on April 29 at the Foster Student Innovation Center to explore "greening" and sustainability in business and the emerging green job market.

Workshop co-organizer Terry Porter, assistant professor of management in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, says the panel and discussion to follow individual presentations will be of particular interest to students considering the job market in Maine and elsewhere.

Speakers will share their experiences and insights into what's ahead, "sort of a business and sustainability state of the state update" on how business and the job market are changing to accommodate environmentally sustainable policies and practices, she says.

Coffee and pastries will be served from 8-8:30 a.m., followed by a presentations and a question and answer session until 10 a.m. Panelists include Jen Richards and Frank Brooks from WBRC Architects in Bangor, designers of the new UMaine Student Recreation and Fitness Center, and other green buildings, and Jon Sorenson of Green Energy Solutions

in Portland.

At 10 a.m., those who wish to will walk to the former dairy store behind Hitchner Hall to participate in a service-learning activity: spending an hour or two helping students and others with the conversion of the building to a new on-campus thrift store.

The event is free. For further information, Porter can be reached at 581-1990.

Professor to Share Insights Into Life of Britain's Greatest Orientalist

21 Apr 2009

Contact: George Markowsky, (207) 581-3940; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – In the 1800s, Edward William Lane was Britain's greatest orientalist. His "Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians," one of the most influential and widely-cited works in Middle East studies, has never gone out of print.

Jason Thompson, who began his teaching career at the University of Maine at Orono 20 years ago will share his insights into Lane's life and work at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Hall, room 105. The presentation is titled "I Felt Like an Eastern Bridegroom."

Thompson, a visiting associate professor at Colby College also will share the scholarly adventures and misadventures he experienced during his long-term study of Lane

Throughout his research, Thompson has published more than a dozen articles and two book-length publications over the years, which will culminate in his biography of Lane later this year.

Thompson is a historian who specializes in the Western encounter with the Middle East, ancient and modern. His first book, "Sir Gardner Wilkinson and His Circle" (1992) was a collective biography of the first cohort of British scholars to work in Egypt in the early 19th Century. His "Edward William Lane," to be published later in 2009, is a comprehensive study of Lane and his social and intellectual milieu. Thompson's most recent published book is "A History of Egypt: From Earliest Times to the Present" (2008).

The professor has taught at universities in the United States and the Middle East, is a member of the Dakhleh Oasis Project in Egypt's Western Desert, and now is engaged in writing a comprehensive history of Egyptology.

Next week's lecture is sponsored by the UMaine Classics Club, the Department of Modern Languages and Classics and the History Department.

UMaine Climate Change Lecture to Focus on Ice Sheets and Sea Level Rise

21 Apr 2009

Contact: Gregory Zaro, 581-1857

ORONO -- Gordon Hamilton, research associate professor in the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute, will present "On Thin Ice: Ice Sheets and Sea Level Rise" from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at the Bangor Public Library. Hamilton's talk is the final installment of the season in the Climate Change Institute's monthly lecture series,

which is free and open to the public. The series will resume in the fall.

Hamilton will discuss what would happen if the great polar ice sheets of Greenland and Antarctica, which contain most of the world's supply of freshwater, were to melt. Though such a scenario is unlikely to happen over the next few decades or centuries, recent observations have shown parts of Greenland and Antarctica to be changing much more rapidly than conventional theories and models would predict. These changes indicate that a global sea level rise of 1 meter (3 feet) is a realistic possibility by the end of this century.

Hamilton will review recent observations of change, including groundbreaking work conducted by UMaine scientists, and discuss some of the catastrophic societal impacts of a modest-sounding 1-meter rise in sea level.

Hamilton is a glaciologist who focuses on the dynamic behavior of polar glaciers and ice sheets, and their interaction with the climate system. His research group at the University of Maine has pioneered the measurement of fast-moving glaciers from space and ground-based experiments. He has led more than 20 expeditions to Greenland and Antarctica, and is a member of several NASA mission science teams. Prior to joining the UMaine faculty in 2000, Hamilton was a research scientist at The Ohio State University and the Norwegian Polar Institute.

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 Creates Dual Degree in Engineering, Liberal Arts and Sciences

22 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO — The University of Maine's College of Engineering and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have teamed up to offer a formal dual-degree program, in which students can graduate in five years with degrees from each college.

“Combining an engineering degree with a liberal arts degree gives students the technical skills and broad perspective they need to be extremely successful in addressing the world's most pressing problems, including energy, environmental stewardship and managing our nation's infrastructure,” says Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering.

Beginning in fall 2009, this on-campus partnership will allow students to stay in Orono and follow a formal course of study that integrates engineering and liberal arts coursework through all five years. Students will have an adviser in each college.

The dual degree program makes it possible for students to major in virtually any engineering program and obtain a liberal arts degree of their choosing in five years. Already, the colleges have created curricula for civil engineering and a variety of liberal arts majors — English, philosophy, economics, as well as French, German or Spanish — the latter are an ideal fit for students interested in working for an engineering firm that conducts business on an international level. Additional engineering-liberal arts combinations will be in place by the start of the fall semester.

“This will help students think differently about the engineering skills they develop and how they might be used toward broader goals, a broader context than they might otherwise,” says Jeffrey Hecker, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “They really are getting the best of both worlds.”

UMaine currently offers a three-plus-two dual-degree program with Bowdoin College in Brunswick — students in that program spend three years at Bowdoin and two years at UMaine.

"Initiatives like these demonstrate UMaine's responsiveness to student needs and our commitment to educating people

who can contribute to our businesses and communities in meaningful ways," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Students in these programs will graduate well-prepared for excellent careers, truly educated and prepared to have an immediate, positive impact.

UMaine Psychology Research Relates Stiff Arteries to Cognitive Decline

22 Apr 2009

Contact: Professor Merrill Elias, 581-2097; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- A team of University of Maine psychology and epidemiology researchers and Australian colleagues reported in a recent issue of the medical journal "Hypertension" that arterial stiffness related to high blood pressure and advancing age are associated with performance deficits in multiple cognitive abilities. "Hypertension" is a peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the American Heart Association. Using a new and sophisticated blood pressure monitoring method that measures "aortic pulse wave velocity" -- the speed of arterial blood pressure waveform as it leaves and returns to the heart from the periphery of the circulatory system -- researchers found the combination of higher pulse wave velocity associated with high blood pressure and age resulted in increasingly poor cognitive performance. The poorest cognitive performance was seen in older adults with high pulse wave velocity. The findings, initially controlled for age, education, gender and race, were replicated in an expanded model, which additionally adjusted for a variety of cardiovascular risk factors and excluded persons with a history of stroke and dementia. While there is other evidence that stiff arteries are bad for cognition, pulse wave velocity measurements are considered the gold standard for indirect, non-invasive measurement of stiffening of arteries throughout the cardiovascular system, including the brain, according to UMaine psychology professor Merrill F. "Pete" Elias, principal investigator for the research and senior author of "Arterial Pulse Wave Velocity and Cognition with Advancing Age." Co-authors included UMaine professors of psychology Michael Robbins and Penelope Elias, and graduate student Greg Dore, with Marc Budge and Walter Abhayaratna, experts in pulse wave velocity measurement from the College of Medicine, Biology and Environment, Australian National University Medical School. Arterial stiffness, commonly known as hardening of the arteries, can set the stage for stroke and a variety of cardiovascular diseases, in addition to vascular cognitive impairment and vascular dementia. Previous research shows that delaying the progression of arterial stiffness through exercise and diet is "very possibly" one way to prevent dementias related to strokes, mini-strokes, and other disorders of the arterial system in the heart, brain and kidneys, according to Merrill Elias. The extensive neuropsychological testing and pulse wave velocity measurements were done as part of the ongoing Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study, begun by Elias and D.H.P. Streeten, M.D., distinguished blood pressure researcher and professor of medicine at State University of New York, Syracuse, when Elias was an associate professor of psychology at Syracuse University in 1974. In the study, which moved to the University of Maine in 1976, an estimated 2,400 participants are followed across the United States, including Maine and Syracuse, N.Y., for medical diagnostic and neuropsychological examinations in three- to five-year intervals, according to Elias. One of the longest running research projects at the University of Maine, the 33-year study recently received \$636,836 in new funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, for an additional year of work on the pulse wave velocity component of the study. Renewed funding for the Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study will enable Elias, Robbins and colleagues to generate new research on relationships between cognitive function and such health risks as diabetes, obesity, cholesterol, high and low blood pressure, renal disease, nutritional deficiencies and genetics. "After examining many risk factors for cardiovascular disease in relation to mental performance, we have now been able to examine the relation between arterial stiffness and cognitive functioning with advancing age," Elias says. Using PWV in the testing makes the results much more accurate than previously was possible, Elias says. "These findings are important to this emerging area of research because we examined people from a broad range of populations, from 24 to 92, and used an extremely extensive battery of cognitive testing," he says. Use of pulse wave velocity measurement may, with eventual reductions in cost, become a routine part of physical exams in the doctor's office, yielding more precise detection of cardiovascular risks associated with hypertension. It also may lead to better evaluation of the success achieved with specific antihypertensive drugs, Elias says. The article appeared in the online version of Hypertension on Feb. 23 and April 1, 2009.

Phi Beta Kappa Ceremony, Lecture Set for April 23

22 Apr 2009

Contact: Howard Segal, 581-1920

ORONO -- The annual initiation of UMaine's Phi Beta Kappa chapter will take place Thursday, April 23, at 3 p.m. in the McIntyre Room of Buchanan Alumni House.

Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's oldest scholastic honor society, and UMaine has one of only four chapters in the state. Phi Beta Kappa recognizes exceptional academic achievement in the liberal arts and sciences and initiates current juniors, graduating seniors and August and December graduates of the preceding year.

Following the initiation, Professor George Saliba of Columbia University will give a talk for a general audience on "Europe and the Arabic/Islamic Scientific Legacy." The public is welcome to attend this free event.

For information, please contact chapter president Howard Segal at 581-1920 or at howard.segal@umit.maine.edu.

New Media Students to Showcase Their Innovations Thursday Evening

23 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 or joecarr@maine.edu.

ORONO -- Students from two University of Maine Dept. of New Media classes will present their work at a Thursday evening Idea Expo, scheduled for 6-8:30 p.m. at the Foster Student Innovation Center. The event will include both displays and informal presentations featuring the work of students from Project Design Lab 1 classes. Examples include video games that allow the user to control on-screen characters through body movement (without a controller), a documentary film website where the user can interact with all of the footage the film's director shot and a presentation about how to organize peaceful protests.

More information is available online at <http://newmedia.umaine.edu/feature.php?id=929>.

UMaine College Honors Faculty Members

23 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 or joecarr@maine.edu

ORONO -- The University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture has recognized three faculty members with annual awards. Dean Edward Ashworth announced the 2009 award winners for research, teaching and public service at the college's April 15 awards event. Prof. Paul Mayewski received the research award, Prof. Mary Tyler the teaching award and Prof. John Daigle the public service award.

NSFA Outstanding Research Award—2009

Paul Mayewski, Professor & Chair of Climate Change Institute, Department of Earth Sciences

Paul Mayewski is director of the Climate Change Institute at the University of Maine and a professor of earth sciences. An internationally acclaimed scientist and explorer, he has led more than 50 expeditions to some of the remotest reaches

of the planet. He was one of the first environmental scientists to document the massive retreat of mountain glaciers throughout the Himalayas and in coastal Antarctica, and his research related these changes to change in climate. Using ice cores as archives of past environmental change, Mayewski has been instrumental in discovering major advances in environmental change and in bringing these findings to the attention of the scientific community. He is the author of numerous scientific publications and of a climate change book written for the public, *The Ice Chronicles*. He has received many honors including the first-ever internationally awarded Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research and the Explorers Club Lowell Thomas Medal.

NSFA Outstanding Teaching Award—2009

Mary Tyler, Professor of Zoology, School of Biology and Ecology

As an educator, Mary Tyler continually explores new ways to make learning interesting and effective for her students. Tyler teaches courses in developmental biology and histology along with honors thesis and directed study classes. In addition to her classes, she has taken leadership roles in new programmatic initiatives in the School of Biology and Ecology. She has led a team of instructors and graduate students in an effort to redesign and implement new inquiry-based labs classes. She has been part of efforts to develop the Bio Media Laboratory and SYNAPSE, a course-management platform. Mary has also rewritten the lab manual for BIO100 and worked with others to better train graduate student teaching assistants.

NSFA Outstanding Public Service Award—2009

John Daigle, Associate Professor of Forest Recreation Management, School of Forest Resources

As associate professor of forest recreation management, John Daigle focuses on recreation planning and management and the human dimensions of natural resources management. In a state such as Maine, with its strong nature-based tourism industry, Daigle's expertise is called upon often. In addition to his teaching and research on these topics, John has been actively engaged with several nonprofit organizations. He was the volunteer director of the Orono Bog Boardwalk for two years and is currently the university liaison to that group. He has been part of the Maine Envirothon, an environmental education program for high school students, and serves on the boards of the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and the Maine Forest and Logging Museum. Combining his role as a teacher with his own volunteering, John has helped to develop service-learning projects for UMaine students at the Orono Bog Boardwalk and Leonard's Mill in Bradley.

4th Annual Regional Stream Cleanup Begins this Weekend

23 Apr 2009

Contact: Sarah Johnson, (207) 581-3213

ORONO -- The Bangor Area Storm Water Group (BASWG) is looking for community groups, businesses, families, and individuals to help with the fourth annual Regional Stream Cleanup, beginning in Bangor on Saturday April 25.

The BASWG, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Maine Conservation Corps will host the event in seven area municipalities (Bangor, Brewer, Orono, Old Town, Veazie, Hampden, and Milford) and on the UMaine campus throughout late April and May 2009.

This event is a coordinated regional effort to clean up local waterways and protect water quality, while building community awareness about storm water pollution.

The schedule and municipal contact information:

Bangor

- April 25 and May 16
- Wendy Warren 992-4255

Brewer

- May 16
- Ken Locke 949-5417

Hampden

- May 9
- Bob Osborne 862-6527

Milford

- May 30
- Barbara Cox 827-2072

Old Town

- May 11-15
- Dave Wight 827-3974

Orono

- May 16
- William Murphy 866-5051

Veazie

- May 9
- Allan Thomas 947-2781

UMaine

- April 29
- Scott Wilkerson 851-3049

At each stream cleanup gathering, volunteers will meet in the morning for a short safety discussion before heading out to the designated cleanup sites. All volunteers will be provided with free T-shirts as well as gloves and safety vests to wear during the event. Afterwards, everyone is invited to stay for a picnic lunch to recognize the volunteers' hard work.

"Last year was our third annual regional cleanup, and it was a huge success with over 300 volunteers participating in the collection of trash along the Penobscot River and its tributaries throughout the region, says BASWG chair Allan Thomas. "We have estimated that so far over 15 tons of trash have been removed from our waterways as a result of our annual cleanup events."

Thomas says he is hopeful that this year's events will be as successful as those in past years.

Laura Wilson of the UMaine Cooperative Extension Water Quality Office believes that participants think beyond the litter they are cleaning up.

"All of the litter removed during the cleanup events would have otherwise been washed into local water bodies during heavy rains," Wilson says. "I think that many participants also realize that less visible pollutants such as soil, pesticides,

and fertilizers are washed into our waterways, just like the litter. The combination of removing the litter and reducing polluted runoff can dramatically improve water quality."

The regional stream cleanup started in 2006 as a way to comply with the public education and participation requirements of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Storm Water Permit. All of the funds necessary to perform the event are raised locally through donations.

Legendary Computer Hacker to Speak at UMaine

24 Apr 2009

Contact: George Markowsky, (207) 581-3940; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Computer hacking isn't always a bad thing, despite what typically comes to mind when you hear the term. Historically, in some technical communities, a hack was an especially elegant solution to a problem. Hence a hacker was someone who could write beautifully elegant code to solve problems.

Richard Greenblatt is one of the most highly regarded hackers of all time and has been contributing significant and elegant programs since the 1960's when he first entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a student. He is scheduled to give a presentation at the University of Maine at 2:10 p.m. Monday, April 27, in room 107 of Donald P. Corbett Hall as part of the Computer Science Department's Seminar Series.

His lecture, "Artificial Intelligence and LISP: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" will be a relatively non-technical presentation about progress in artificial intelligence.

Hacking was especially important in the early days of computing because of the very limited capabilities of early computers. Unfortunately, the term hacker has come to mean someone who engages in criminal activity, but this is not the original meaning of the word.

Greenblatt is described as a "hacker's hacker" and is noted for his programming expertise as described in Steven Levy's book, "Hackers: Heroes of the Computer Revolution."

He was the main implementer of MacLisp on the PDP-6. He wrote "MacHack" in response to the claim by skeptic Hubert Dreyfus that computers would not be able to play chess. Dreyfus was beaten by the program, marking the beginning of computer chess. He also wrote The Incompatible Timesharing System with Tom Knight and Stewart Nelson. The timesharing operating system was highly influential and was used at MIT.

Later, Greenblatt was the main designer of the MIT Lisp machine along with Tom Knight. He founded Lisp Machines, Inc. according to his vision of an ideal hacker-friendly computer company.

Greenblatt's presentation is free and open to the public. For directions to campus, visit www.umaine.edu.

Sophomore Eagles Induct New Members for 2009-2010 School Year

24 Apr 2009

Contact: Jennifer Vincent, (207) 776-3129

ORONO -- With friends and family in attendance, the University of Maine's second-year women's honor society, the

Sophomore Eagles, inducted 13 young women into the society during a ceremony at the Sigma Chi Heritage House on April 19.

The women were chosen from a pool of about 35 first-year female applicants after several events and an interview process.

The new members are: Karin Baard of Brunswick, Morgan Brockington of Biddeford, Anne Campbell of Belfast and Millinocket, Casey Faulkingham of Houlton, Ashley Ferrucci of Wiscasset, Caroline Freeman of Presque Isle, Kalie Hess of Orono, Tanna-Marie Jellison of Bangor, Sarah Lockhart of Cumberland, Sarah Pacheco of Winthrop, Samantha P. Paradis of Madawaska, Olivia Teer of Ferrisburgh, Vt. and Chantal Marie Tijssen of Gorham.

The women represent the top one percent of their class in scholarship, leadership, character, friendship and dignity -- the five points of the Sophomore Eagles' symbol, the blue star.

The Sophomore Eagles formed originally in 1926 as a younger counterpart to the All Maine Women, with the purpose of helping incoming first-year women acclimate to the university. Today, they participate in a number of charitable and campus events, often in partnership with the All Maine Women, Senior Skulls, or Sophomore Owls honor societies.

Scene Set For a Productive, Fun Maine Day on Campus

24 Apr 2009

Contact: Barbara Smith, Division of Student Affairs, (207) 581-1734; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571

ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine campus will be filled with Black Bear pride Wednesday, April 29, with the annual celebration of Maine Day.

In 1935 President Arthur Hauck inaugurated Maine Day, a day set aside for spring clean-up throughout the campus. Classes are suspended for the day and the UMaine community – students, faculty, staff and alumni – pitches in to spruce up the campus.

There also are plenty of activities throughout the day to bring out that Go Blue spirit, raise money for local charities, and showcase student work.

The day kicks off at 8:30 a.m. with the annual parade, which travels from the Hilltop area, down Long Road and across campus behind Balentine and York halls before circling back to the Mall. The theme for this year's parade is "UMaine to the Rescue," featuring favorite superheroes both past and present, and everyday superheroes such as military and emergency rescue personnel.

The Maine Day event schedule is as follows:

- Mechanical Engineering Technology Design Exposition, 9 a.m. presentations followed by 10 a.m. demonstrations at the Machine Tool Lab. Five student teams will test new designs they have created throughout the semester for biomass-fueled residential water heaters.
- Campus service projects will begin at 9 a.m. Projects include:
 - Buchanan Alumni House: Students will put new mulch around the gardens and trees outside.
 - York Village: Sisters of Pi Beta Phi sorority will rake leaves.
 - H2O Cleanup: Staff members, the Community Governing Board, and residents of Hart, Hancock, and Oak halls will clean up around the complex and plant flowers.

Nutting Hall Courtyard Cleanup: Society of American Foresters will rake, sweep, prune, and pick up litter in the courtyard.

- Child Development Center Playground: Staff and residents from Knox and Androscoggin Halls will assist with several projects on the playground at the Child Development Center at Merrill Hall, including sandbox maintenance, varnishing a row boat, constructing a gazebo and gardening.
- Fountain Project: Rotaract, a UMaine student organization that works in association with the Old Town Rotary Club, will clean out the fountain near the UMaine Bookstore in Memorial Union.
- Picnic Tables: New picnic tables will be assembled and stained on the Mall.
- Bike Racks: Old bike racks will be replaced with new double-sided racks throughout campus.

- Oozeball, a UMaine tradition, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Steam Plant Parking Lot, sponsored by Alpha Delta and Gamma Sigma Sigma with registration proceeds benefiting Alex's Lemonade Stand.
- The Black Bear Exchange grand opening of the new thrift store/food pantry, 11:30 a.m. at the old Farm Store. Students will paint a logo on the outside of the building from 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. prior to the ribbon cutting by Dean of Students Dr. Robert Dana.
- Barbecue, noon, Steam Plant Parking Lot. Rain location is at the Field House.
- Human Foosball, noon to 3 p.m., next to Steam Plant Parking Lot, UMaine Residents on Campus (ROC) will donate registration fees to the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Bangor.
- Paintball Tournament, noon to 5 p.m., next to the Steam Plant Parking Lot. Sponsored by UMaine Army ROTC and the UMaine Paintball Club.
- UMazing Race, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., starts at Steam Plant Parking Lot, sponsored by Campus Recreation. Participants will compete in mental and physical challenges at checkpoints across campus.
- Ultimate Frisbee Tournament, 3 p.m., football field.
- 5K Road Race, 4 p.m., starts outside the Student Recreation and Fitness Center, hosted by UMaine Alternative Spring Break and Sigma Phi Epsilon. A portion of the registration fees will benefit Crossroads Ministries Resource Center.
- Delta Tau Delta fraternity Car Bash, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Steam Plant Parking Lot. Car smashing to raise awareness about drunken driving. Three hits for \$1.
- The sisters of Chi Omega sorority Wash-For-Wishes car wash, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Beta Parking Lot. Donations from car wash will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Raffle tickets for a variety of prizes also will be available with proceeds going to the Foundation.

The Steam Plant parking lot will be closed from 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 29.

Maine Day is organized by the Maine Day Committee. Funding for Maine Day is provided by The University of Maine President's Office, the Division of Student Affairs, the Vice President for Administration and Finance and Black Bear Dining.

UMaine Grad Assistants Receive Teaching Awards

24 Apr 2009

Contact: Jeff St. John, (207) 581-3477

ORONO, Maine -- The UMaine Center for Teaching Excellence has honored graduate teaching assistants Anna J. Schliep and Adam Barker-Hoyt with 2009 Teaching Assistant Awards.

Schliep, a Bangor native, who teaches in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, will receive the Teaching Instructor Collaboration Award. Barker-Hoyt, of Veazie, Maine, will receive the Teaching Instruction Award; he teaches in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

The Teaching Instructor Collaboration Award is given to teaching assistants who demonstrate an exceptional level of commitment to professional development, show strong collaboration skills and exhibit a mastery of appropriate instructional techniques.

The Teaching Instruction Award recognizes outstanding teaching assistants who demonstrate a high degree of professional skill and knowledge, and who achieve excellent learning outcomes in the classroom.

Each award includes an Exemplary Teaching Instruction Certificate and a Book Award. The awards will be conferred at the Graduate Board-Graduate Student Government meeting on Thursday, April 30 in Stodder Hall on the Orono campus.

UMaine Student Receives Prestigious Goldwater Scholarship

27 Apr 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen, 581-3742

ORONO -- Emily Miller, a University of Maine Molecular and Cellular Biology major from Lamoine, has received the prestigious 2009 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. She will receive up to \$7,500 per year for up to two academic years for tuition, books or room and board expenses. Ryan Whipkey of Portland, an Honors student who is triple-majoring in Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Molecular and Cellular Biology with a minor in Neuroscience, received an honorable mention. This year, 278 Goldwater Scholars were chosen from a field of 1,097 nationwide on academic merit.

“The recognition our students receive through the Goldwater Scholarship competition is significant and well-deserved,” says Charlie Slavin, dean of the Honors College and UMaine’s faculty representative for the scholarship program. “For students in the sciences and engineering this is nationwide recognition befitting for outstanding students taking advantage of first-class opportunities here at the University of Maine.”

The scholarship was established to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. Miller, a sophomore, intends to pursue a dual M.D. and Ph.D. in Clinical Pathology and Molecular Biology, and she says the Goldwater Scholarship will benefit her both academically and professionally.

“This will hopefully help lead me to more internships in the biological sciences and also a top graduate or medical school in the future,” Miller says.

Since her first year at UMaine, she has worked in the lab of Sharon Ashworth, Miller’s faculty mentor and an assistant professor of Biochemistry. She spent last summer doing collaborative research at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory with Ashworth and her German colleague Mario Schiffer on kidney dysfunction. As a result, Miller has spent the 2008-2009 academic year conducting cellular research with Schiffer at Medizinische Hochschule Hannover in Germany.

“These are all connections I wouldn’t have been able to make without quality UMaine professors and early opportunities for research,” Miller says.

More information and a news release about the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship are available online at <http://www.act.org/goldwater/>.

UMaine College Honors Outstanding Faculty, Students

27 Apr 2009

Contact: Kathryn Olmstead, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 581-3844

Outstanding faculty and students in the University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences received awards for their accomplishments from Dean Jeff Hecker at an April 16 reception on campus. The annual ceremony, co-sponsored by the University Credit Union, also recognized faculty members recently promoted to associate professor with tenure, and graduating seniors earning top honors in their academic departments.

Faculty awards recognize professors accomplished in all three areas of the university's mission – teaching, research and public service – who demonstrate exceptional achievement in one of the three. Student awards are presented to a graduating senior, teaching assistant, doctoral student, master's student and international undergraduate for academic excellence and service.

Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, associate professor of German, received the faculty award for outstanding teaching and advising. A nationally recognized teacher and scholar, Hoecherl-Alden was cited for her leadership in strengthening the German curriculum, her acclaim among students as a deeply committed teacher and adviser, and her ability to link teaching and research. She also excels as a teacher of teachers and is co-author of a best-selling German textbook.

Deborah C. Rogers, professor of English, was honored with the award for research and creative achievement. The author of four scholarly books, Rogers has earned an international reputation in the fields of eighteenth century studies and twentieth century popular culture. Best known for her work on Ann Radcliffe, a major gothic novelist of the 1790s, Rogers' latest book links 18th century gothic novels to popular 21st century forms that deal with issues of motherhood.

Neil Comins, professor of physics and astronomy, received the service and outreach award. A popular speaker and author of widely read books, textbooks and articles, Comins was recognized for bringing his scientific expertise in astronomy to the public in the US and abroad. He developed a board game, Stellar 28, to help teach the constellations, and is a frequent reviewer and radio commentator discussing astrophysical events. His book *What if the Moon Didn't Exist?* was the theme for a pavilion at the 2005 World Expo in Japan and the basis for a play performed in Nagasaki.

Havah Gershman-Tewksbury of Presque Isle, Maine, was named the 2009 outstanding graduating senior in the college. With an exceptional academic record in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, she was cited for an independent study of dementia patients and for extensive volunteerism on campus. A member of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Kappa honorary societies, she will begin graduate study at UMaine in the fall.

Three graduate students were honored for their achievements. Robert Hodges was named the outstanding teaching assistant in the college for his work as a graduate assistant in the history department. Hodges earned high praise from both faculty and students for his effectiveness as a guest lecturer, grader and leader of weekly discussion sections, while maintaining an excellent record as a graduate student.

Abigail Chandler, also in the history department, was recognized as the outstanding doctoral student in the college, and Mark Tabone of the English department received the outstanding master's student award. Chandler was lauded for her ambitious comparative analysis that led to a dissertation on sexual crime and New England law, 1636-1718, and for her success as a teacher in a wide range of courses. With a master's degree in public history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, she has museum experience that enriches her classroom work.

Tabone earned the respect of peers, professors and students in the English department for his performance as a graduate student and teaching assistant. With a background in science and six years leading in an Upward Bound program, Tabone applied meticulous research skills and "profound sympathy" for students to his work both as scholar and teacher. His abilities and dedication earned him highest praise on student evaluations and from faculty supervisors.

Dahan Kim, an undergraduate in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, was named the outstanding international

student in the college. With a double major in physics and biology, he has maintained an exceptional grade point average earning him the Ralph Maynard Holmes Scholarship as well as top scholar and presidential awards from UMaine. He was praised for his work on service projects, including the installation of a radio telescope on the roof of Bennett Hall for astronomy experiments, and for his work as a tutor for students in introductory classes.

Dean Hecker also introduced the professors who were promoted from assistant professor to associate professor with tenure, after detailing the rigorous tenure process. The newly promoted faculty members are Sundarshan Chawathe, computer science; Alan Smith, communication sciences and disorders; Samuel Hess, physics and astronomy; Mark Brewer, political science and Amy Blackstone, sociology.

Civility Presentations at UMaine Tuesday, Wednesday

27 Apr 2009

Contact: Laura Brothers at (207) 581-1998

ORONO -- The University of Maine President's Council on Women will present two sessions on the subject of civility next week. Author Mark Kingwell will discuss "'%#@*\$!&' and Other Salutations: The Unstable Politics of Civility" on Tuesday April 28 from 3-4 p.m. in 316 Aubert Hall. That session is open to members of the UMaine community with no registration necessary.

"A Workshop on Campus Civility" is scheduled for 9 a.m.-12 noon on Wednesday April 29 in Room 3, Wells Conference Center. Due to space limitations please register for the Workshop by calling or emailing, 581-1998 or laura.brothers@umit.maine.edu. This event is free and open to the entire UMAINE community. Breakfast will be provided at the workshop.

UMaine Extension to Provide Dietary Guidance for Passamaquoddy Tribe

27 Apr 2009

Contact: Alan Majka, (207) 622-7546; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Tribal members who live on the Passamaquoddy Indian Township Reservation in Washington County now have access to a registered dietitian through University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

The nearly \$60,000 in funding was allocated to UMaine Cooperative Extension by the Passamaquoddy Indian Township Tribal Government. The Passamaquoddy Indian Township health center receives funds for the project from Indian Health Service, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC), a program administered by USDA, and medical insurance received through health center billing.

Like other American Indians, members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe suffer from high rates of diabetes, cancer and heart disease, all of which result in disability, shorter life spans and enormous expense.

The remote geographic location of the Indian Township Reservation means that many have to drive long distances for specialized medical services and stores with a variety of inexpensive nutritious foods, according to Alan Majka, UMaine Cooperative Extension assistant professor.

Other barriers to addressing the problem include a lack of adequate transportation, low incomes, shortages of qualified

health personnel, prejudice, racism and cultural differences, says Majka.

He intends to use the \$58,212 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide nutrition expertise through March 31, 2011 to help tribal members lower their risk for chronic disease through improved dietary and physical activity habits.

“I have a great working relationship with Passamaquoddy community members. I know them and they know they can trust me,” says Majka. “Not only can I help tribal members to prevent the onset of diseases like diabetes, I can help those who already have the disease to prevent amputations, blindness, heart disease and renal failure.”

Majka will provide culturally appropriate education at the elder meal site, school, daycare center, and other locations throughout the community. He also will help those who already have been diagnosed with health problems to lessen the effects of the conditions.

Before coming to UMaine in 2005, Majka coordinated a model diabetes program at Indian Township for a total of 10 years.

“UMaine Cooperative Extension makes every reasonable effort to reach out to minorities and other under-served groups, to provide practical education that’s focused on real life problems,” says Majka. “This will ultimately save taxpayer dollars while helping tribal members to live longer, healthier lives.”

UMaine Advertising Students Present Campaigns to Local Businesses

28 Apr 2009

Contact: Changmin Yan, 581-2330; Kristen Andresen, 581-3742

ORONO – Bangor, Maine, is a long way from Madison Avenue. But the advertising lessons that University of Maine students have learned by working with local businesses are as real as those in New York.

Students in UMaine’s Advertising Campaigns class have spent the spring semester creating integrated marketing campaigns for the Maine Discovery Museum, The Grasshopper Shop and The Henry’s Bridal Boutique & Formal Wear. The students will present their campaigns from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, in the Bangor City Council Chambers. The event is open to the public.

“They’re dealing with real problems, not simulated problems,” says Changmin Yan, an assistant professor of communication and journalism at UMaine. “In this class, they’re dealing with real clients and they start to realize the limitations. They learn how to present themselves professionally and how to seek out information — in many cases sensitive information — from a client.”

All of the students in the class are seniors, and though they have created hypothetical advertising and marketing campaigns for companies like Apple in previous classes, this is intended to give them a taste of the real world before graduation. Over the course of the semester, teams have met with clients, conducted original consumer research, created print and broadcast and online advertisements and surveyed local media outlets to find out advertising rates.

During the May 5 presentation, students will unveil their final advertising and marketing plans, portions of which the businesses can immediately implement, if they so choose. Because this is considered a service-learning course, it is intended to encourage UMaine students’ involvement in the communities that surround campus.

“It’s a very nice graduation gift for them to realize, to see that they can be proud of where they come from,” Yan says. “At this moment, they start to see the Greater Bangor area as their own community. It’s equally important as the

professional skills they learn — that civic engagement.”

A University of Maine-Bangor Community Outreach Partnership grant from the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center allowed students to create professional-quality campaign materials. The public event was made possible by the City of Bangor’s Economic Development Department.

UMaine Statement Regarding H1N1 Virus

28 Apr 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (207) 581-3571 UPDATED: Wednesday May 22, 11:00 a.m. Working in conjunction with state health officials, UMaine continues to closely monitor developments related to H1N1 virus. UMaine has a response plan for situations like this and certain steps have been taken to help assure the health and safety of the UMaine community should this virus become a threat. UMaine personnel continue to meet on a weekly basis, developing specific responses and informational materials related to seasonal activities, such as the upcoming summer camps and other on-campus activities. State officials continue to recommend that Maine residents, including members of the UMaine community, follow these recommendations: • Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve. • Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective. • Try to avoid close contact with sick people. • If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to avoid infecting them. People returning from visiting areas with confirmed swine flu, such as Mexico, Southern California, Southern Texas and more areas as added by CDC, should pay close attention to their health for seven days. More information is online at: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/swine-flu-2009.shtml> <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> <http://www.coughsafe.com/media.html> <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/maineflu/index.shtml>

Two UMaine Students Receive Prestigious Hollings Scholarships

29 Apr 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen, 581-3742; NOAA contact: Bob Hansen, (202) 482-4594 ORONO — Two University of Maine sophomores have received the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. Samantha Bond, a marine science major, zoology minor and honors student from Temple, N.H., and Jeremy Bender, a marine science major and honors student from Saint Paul, Minn., each will receive up to \$8,000 per year for their junior and senior years. In addition, they will each have a summer internship at a NOAA facility. “This has opened my eyes about what I want to do after I finish my undergraduate degree,” Bond says. According to NOAA, the scholarship program is designed to: increase undergraduate training in oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology, and education and foster multidisciplinary training opportunities; increase public understanding and support for stewardship of the ocean and atmosphere and improve environmental literacy; recruit and prepare students for public service careers with NOAA and other natural resource and science agencies at the federal, state and local levels of government; and recruit and prepare students for careers as teachers and educators in oceanic and atmospheric science and to improve scientific and environmental education in the United States. Since her first year at UMaine, Bond has been involved with research on campus and at the Mount Desert Island Biological Lab. Working alongside Sharon Ashworth, an assistant professor of biochemistry, microbiology and molecular biology in the School of Biology and Ecology, Bond has studied genes that impact kidney function in zebrafish, a model organism used to study human diseases. This summer, Bond will study the impact of visible and invisible trash in the Pacific Ocean as she participates in Sea Semester at Woods Hole. The program combines study at the famed Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Woods Hole, Mass., with a research-intensive sailing voyage in the Pacific Ocean. In her spare time, Bond is on the UMaine swimming team and actively volunteers with Rotaract. “It’s a real honor to get this scholarship,” Ashworth says. “Samantha is one of those people who is a true leader. If you ask her to do anything, it’s done. She’s a very productive student and a pleasure to have in my laboratory.” For Bender, the internship opportunity is the highlight of the Hollings Scholarship program. He says it will be invaluable in terms of getting into graduate school and eventually getting a job in marine science. Next year, he will study at James Cook University in Australia. Bender has also been heavily involved in undergraduate research, working with Sara Lindsay, an assistant professor of

marine sciences, to study injury and regeneration in marine worms. Bender also is a member of the UMaine swimming team, and he serves on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. "He's one of our best and brightest, and he's also a Division I athlete," says his adviser, Andrew Thomas, a professor of oceanography. "When you see a student who gets straight-A's in the sciences and competes in a sport as demanding as swimming, you know that's a student who is very focused and I can only guess this came through in his essays." In recent years, four University of Maine students have received Hollings Scholarships: Kyle Molton, now a senior; and James Spilsbury, Dominique Leclerc and Laura Wood, all juniors.

New Tri-College Collaborative Advocates for Early Childhood Education

29 Apr 2009

Contact: Susan Bennett-Armstead, 581-2418; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- Students from UMaine and Eastern Maine Community College recently joined forces to create a networking organization dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of giving very young children the best educational opportunities possible, even before they reach school age.

They began their advocacy with a message to the Maine legislature.

A child's early years, up to age three, are critical for child development and can make a significant difference in how children continue to develop as they enter school, says Susan Bennett-Armistead, assistant professor of literacy in the College of Education and Human Development at UMaine and an adviser for the group.

With membership at about 80 students, with more from Husson University poised to join, the organization, the Early Childhood Organization (EChO), is the largest college-based early childhood education advocacy group in the nation, Bennett-Armistead was told by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Students formed the organization in February under the guidance of Bennett-Armistead and four UMaine colleagues, and two faculty members from Eastern Maine Community College.

EChO members want to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood education and create an active network among professionals working with young children and their parents with college students who eventually will join them in the field.

Bennett-Armistead says such a network will be novel, as social workers, elementary school teachers and nurses, and others involved with young children, often do not always enjoy coordinated professional support in the field. The students intend to change that by engaging a broader array of early childhood professionals in a series of information-sharing activities.

"One of the things we hope to do is have the next generation of early childhood professionals be interconnected," says Bennett-Armistead, who advised a similar group when she was at Michigan State University.

Because of the unparalleled capacity for children to learn in the early years, early experiences should focus on quality interaction between adults and children, building their language and world knowledge, in addition to important social skills, says Bennett-Armistead.

"The one thing that has sort of taken the country's imagination is the window between birth and age three," she says. In that time a toddler's brain develops faster and absorbs more information than at any other time in life. Between ages two and three, for instance, a child's vocabulary, burgeons from about 50 words to more than 1,000, Bennett-Armistead says.

If children don't receive quality education and childcare during that period, they miss an opportunity to take advantage of that special learning capacity. "Missed opportunities at that age are very hard to make up," Bennett-Armistead says.

In an effort to improve childcare and pre-kindergarten educational opportunities in Maine, the students made more than 1,000 purple ribbons, each with a list of early childhood facts. They have been passing them out at UMaine, in home towns and, on April 22, handed over hundreds to state Rep. Adam Goode, a Democrat from Bangor, to pass out among members of the 124th Legislature in observance of the National Week of the Young Child, April 20-24.

Knowledge of early childhood issues could lead to more informed decisions by parents, policymakers and lawmakers when issues like insurance regulations for childcare providers, educational funding and anything else that affects children and families arise, they say.

The organization members also plan to do volunteer work with Spruce Run domestic violence project in Bangor, and are collecting books for the Ethiopia Reads project.

The other EChO faculty advisers include Mary Ellen Logue, Julie Dallamatter and Margo Brown from the College of Education and Human Development, and Deborah Rooks from the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, with Cynthia Geaghan and Connie Ronco from EMCC.

Fiddleheads and Rhubarb: Maine Food for May

29 Apr 2009

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205 ORONO, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension information is available to those who wish to find, grow, use and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine. Visit <https://extension.umaine.edu/> to order or download bulletins to fit the season, including May favorites such as Facts on Fiddleheads, Facts on Edible Wild Greens in Maine, and Fruits for Health: Rhubarb. Kathy Savoie, an Extension educator based in Cumberland County, recommends that consumers get up-to-date information in preparation for canning food. Over the years there have been changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment, so there is new information on the best methods, canners, jars, and seals to use to ensure a safe result. Updated recommendations are available statewide at local UMaine Extension offices, with a directory at <https://extension.umaine.edu/> or by phone at 800-287-0274. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has investigated a number of outbreaks of food-borne illness associated with fiddleheads. The implicated ferns were eaten either raw or lightly cooked (sautéed, parboiled or microwaved). The findings of this investigation suggest that consumers should cook fiddleheads thoroughly before eating (boil them for at least 10 minutes). UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

21 UMaine Math Students Recognized for Academic Excellence

30 Apr 2009

Contact: Steven Kimball, 581-3904

ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Mathematics and Statistics has announced the student winners of more than \$14,000 in scholarships for 2009.

The department also awarded 13 students book awards and inducted 19 new members into the Pi Mu Epsilon math honor society during ceremonies April 30 in Barrows Hall.

Award winners are:

Timothy Baker of Bowdoin, the Matthew and Ramona Highlands Mathematics Scholarship of \$3500;

Nick Millett of Hermon, Sarah Davee of Rockport, Yin Chiu of Portland and Jeff Merckens of Palermo, the George and

Helen Weston Scholarship Fund award of \$3,000 each;

Matthew Sawyer of Bangor, the Theodore and Dorothy Whitehouse Scholarship award of \$1,000;

Nick Millett of Hermon, the Frederick M. Viles Scholarship math and physics award of \$750;

And Christine Young of Westbrook, president of the math honor society Pi Mu Epsilon, the John and Beverly Toole Award of \$150, given annually to the Pi Mu Epsilon president.

Department Book Awards for graduating seniors are awarded to Kevin Bonarrigo, David Clifford, Michelle Fields, Jack Hill, Sarah Krause, Matthew LeClair, Kathleen Lyons, Isaac Michaud, Andrea Morrill, Joseph Normand, Mary O'Brien, Christine Young and Ben Wasserman.

Members of the department's scholarship committee are Bill Bray, department chair, Ali Ozluk, professor of mathematics and statistics, and Steven Kimball, mathematics lecturer.

Harold W. Borns Symposium to Address Climate Change Research

01 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 (jocarr@maine.edu) The University of Maine Climate Change Institute will host the 2009 Harold W. Borns Symposium May 7 and May 8 at Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall. This symposium brings together the UMaine community each year for a focused discussion of emerging research and topics related to global environmental change. This year's keynote speaker is National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration meteorologist Martin Hoerling from the organization's Earth System Research Laboratory in Colorado. Hoerling also is lead scientist for NOAA's Climate Change Attribution Team. His presentation is titled, "What is Causing Temperature Trends Over the Americas?"

Nearly 2,000 to Receive University of Maine Degrees on Saturday

03 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine will award degrees to its Class of 2009 at the university's 207th commencement ceremonies, scheduled for Saturday May 9 at Harold Alfond Arena in Orono. A 10 a.m. ceremony is for graduates in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning. Graduates in the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture will receive their degrees at a 2:30 p.m. ceremony.

UMaine's commencement is the state's largest graduation. With an expected total of more than 12,000 people in attendance, it is one of the state's largest annual single-day events.

An estimated 1,871 people will receive a UMaine degree on Saturday, including 40 at the doctoral level, 15 certificates of advanced study and 327 master's degrees. The balance, 1,489, will receive bachelor's degrees.

Karen Gordon Mills, the new head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, will deliver the commencement address at both ceremonies. A Brunswick resident, Mills is in charge of a federal agency with more than 2,000 full-time employees and a critical role in the nation's economic recovery. She has had a 25-year career as an entrepreneur and venture capitalist. Mills has also taken a leadership role in statewide economic development initiatives, including work as chair of the state's Council on Competitiveness and the Economy.

Retired U.S. Navy admiral Gregory Johnson of Harpswell, a 1968 UMaine graduate, will receive an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the morning ceremony, in recognition of his exemplary career in military and public service. David Francis of Pleasant Point will also receive an honorary doctor of humane letters degree, at the afternoon ceremony. Francis, a Passamaquoddy elder, is being recognized for his work in preserving the Passamaquoddy language and culture.

Adrienne Sturgeon, an elementary education major from Bangor with concentrations in history and social studies, along with a minor in sociology, is the Class of 2009 valedictorian. The salutatorian is Alexandra Albert of Eagle Lake. Albert majored in biochemistry and molecular and cellular biology with a minor in microbiology.

William Johnson of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees will bring greetings from the board at the morning ceremony and assist in the conferral of degrees, while trustee Wayne Newell will fill that same role in the afternoon. Suzanne Hart, chair of the University of Maine Alumni Association board of directors, will welcome the new graduates to the ranks of the more than 95,000 UMaine alumni.

UMaine Museum of Art Director George Kinghorn Serves as Juror for National Publication

03 May 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli at (207) 561-3350

BANGOR -- George Kinghorn, Director of the University of Maine Museum of Art, was invited to serve as juror of the 81st edition of the national publication "New American Paintings" that will be released at major booksellers such as Borders and Barnes and Noble later this week. "New American Paintings" is a juried art exhibition in print that surveys the finest contemporary painters working in a wide range of styles from abstract to representational. Kinghorn reviewed over 800 artist submissions and selected the 40 painters to be featured in the publication.

"This was a most rewarding project which allowed me to view an enormous amount of exceptional art. It was a daunting task to select only 40 artists for the publication," Kinghorn says.

Previous jurors for the publication were selected from many of the nation's finest museums including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn; among other prominent institutions.

Kinghorn is the first director and curator from a Maine museum to be invited to serve as juror of the publication.

John Patches Receives 2009 Hartgen Award

04 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Photo available upon request

ORONO – This year's Vincent A. Hartgen Award has been given to Collins Center for the Arts Executive Director John Patches, who for nearly 17 years has overseen both day-to-day operations and long-term goals for one of the most dynamic cultural arts centers in New England.

Presented by the University of Maine Patrons of the Arts, the Hartgen award recognizes outstanding contributions by individuals who advance the arts at the University of Maine.

The patrons agreed Patches was a natural choice for the award because of his dedication and accomplishment -- and his oversight of recent renovations at the Maine Center for the Arts, renamed the Richard R. and Anne A. Collins Center for the Arts with its reopening in February, according to Danny Williams, chair of the Patrons.

"I think this year, with the reopening of the Collins Center for the Arts, the timing was right and the decision was unanimous by the selection committee," says Williams, a graduate of UMaine's music program, and an original member of the center's advisory board. "It is clear what the Collins Center has done for the campus and the community, and John has been the driving force."

Williams credits Patches with expanding the use and purpose of the center and its 1,629-seat Hutchins Concert Hall, making them much more accessible to the public, affordable for students, and making the facility "a must-see destination" for visitors and elegant "gateway" to the university for thousands of new UMaine students, parents and family.

"John is both the big picture and the little picture person," Williams says. "He oversees the entire operation: marketing, and booking events and activities, and board activities and fundraising and friend-raising. I think that anyone who has worked closely with him knows he wears many hats. That there is very little turnover in the office is a testament to his leadership."

Indeed, one of the first things Patches did upon arriving in 1992 was take steps to eliminate pigeon droppings on the sidewalk under the archway entrance. In a more substantial move that year, he also created the center's advisory board, which included members from surrounding communities.

The advisory board opened the center and its functions to the community and increased public engagement, which led to the formation of a friends group.

"That got us rolling and we've been building on it ever since," Patches says.

Under Patches' leadership, the center has become a theater for distinguished lectures, university awards ceremonies, in addition to being a premier cultural and performing arts center. In the fall, the center, which includes the Hudson Museum on the second level, also will host regular independent films and community cultural activities and events.

Patches says he believes the center should be even more accessible to the public as a fundamental component of its mission.

"The arts are for everyone," he says, "and it's unfortunate that we have, at times, attributed a word like elite to the performing arts, because that does, for some people, set up a barrier. Arts should be visible to everyone without any impediments whatsoever."

Patches' career has included teaching, producing and performing arts management, fund development, administration and consulting for colleges, universities, arts associations, performance consortiums and related organizations throughout the country.

After earning a bachelor's degree in music at Bethany College in Kansas, Patches began his career in the arts in 1968 at State University of New York at Stony Brook in the music department. Over the next two decades, he served as the music department's concert manager and arts coordinator, and then associate director of the Staller Center for the Fine Arts at Stony Brook. Patches also co-founded the Slavic Culture Center at Stony Brook as a venue for plays, art exhibits, workshops and film presentations and also an international theater festival there.

Prior to coming to UMaine in 1992, Patches worked as a consultant in New York. He was invited to serve less than a year as interim director of the Maine Center for the Arts, but the temporary appointment became a 16-year engagement.

Patches says he continues to be moved by audience satisfaction with performances, by "that inexpressible experience of joy and sorrow, and the electricity that opens doors in people's minds. To have people go out the door exhilarated by what they have just seen is wonderful," he says. "I love it. I've been fortunate to be in this profession."

Patches received the award in ceremonies held in late April.

UMaine Hosts Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Celebration of Achievement

04 May 2009

Contact: Sandra Horne, (207) 581-1236

ORONO - Ten University of Maine undergraduates recently were recognized for successfully completing a 24-credit concentration in interdisciplinary disability studies during a ceremony at the Wells Conference Center.

Christa L. Carlson, elementary education major, delivered the student address. Lu Zeph, director of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, welcomed the students and invited guests. Elizabeth DePoy, coordinator and professor of interdisciplinary disability studies, and Stephen Gilson, professor of interdisciplinary disability studies, made remarks and presented the concentration certificates and stoles.

The interdisciplinary disability studies curriculum, administered through the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies, provides students with a means to explore disability within the larger context of diversity and human rights, and to examine scholarship, practice and policy related to persons with disabilities.

The students honored at the celebration of achievement have mastered complex and diverse theories of disability. Particular emphasis is placed on promoting equality of opportunity and full access and participation in all areas of daily life, and in creatively fashioning environments to fit the full range of human variation.

Students who enroll in the interdisciplinary disability studies courses represent majors from all colleges, schools and departments throughout the university, and apply their learning to their individual disciplines, interests and lives outside of the academic environment.

Business Professor Strong Cited for Teaching Excellence

04 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756

Photo available upon request

ORONO -- UMaine professor of finance Bob Strong has received the Maine Business School's 2009 Outstanding Teacher of the Year award, bestowed annually upon a faculty member who has demonstrated exceptional dedication and accomplishment in teaching.

Strong, also the University of Maine Foundation Professor of Investment Education and the UMaine NCAA faculty athletic representative, was the recipient of the University of Maine General Alumni Association's 2005 Distinguished Maine Professor award and also was the Carnegie Foundation's selection as Maine's 2007 Professor of the Year.

"Professor Strong has consistently and quietly pursued excellence both in and out of the classroom," says John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and director of the Maine Business School. "He challenges students to think and holds them accountable for their analysis and recommendations. He personifies excellence in teaching by performance year in and year out."

Strong has been on the UMaine faculty since 1983.

Strong holds a bachelor of science degree in engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point, a master of science degree in business administration from Boston University, and a Ph.D. in finance from Penn State. He has been a visiting professor of finance at Maine Maritime Academy and at Harvard University. A chartered financial analyst, Strong also advises the student investment club SPIFFY at UMaine.

Strong is the author of three textbooks on investments, portfolio management and derivatives.~The books are used at more than 100 universities across the globe, and two have been translated into Chinese.

Strong's consulting focuses on risk management and asset valuation. Among the organizations for which he has consulted are Eastern Maine Healthcare, Bangor Hydro Electric Company, Maine Public Service Company, the Maine State Police, the Maine Forest Service, Heritage Bank of Schaumburg, Texas Instruments, and the CFA Institute. He is frequently an expert witness and has been a conference speaker for the Chicago Board Options Exchange, the Chicago Board of Trade and the American Stock Exchange.

Strong is past president of the Northeast Business and Economics Association, the Bangor Rotary Club and the Maine Security Analysts Society. He also serves on the boards of directors for Bangor Savings Bank, Bangor Savings Bank Foundation, the James W. Sewall Company, John Bapst Memorial High School, the Maine CFA Society and the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ.

UMaine Extension Offers Trip to Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Mass.

04 May 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

PORTLAND, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a trip to Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Friday, June 5, 2009. Mount Auburn Cemetery is a National Historic Landmark and one of the most beautiful landscapes in America. Participants will be led on a guided tour of the 175- acre grounds which include over 5,000 trees, thousands of shrubs and herbaceous plants, hills, dells, ponds, and woodlands. For a glimpse of the grounds, visit the Mount Auburn Cemetery website www.mountauburn.org.

The bus will depart from South Portland, and it will pick up passengers in Wells on the way to Cambridge.

The cost of the trip is \$40 per person which includes bus transportation and tour fees. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch. Contact Colleen Hoyt at UMaine Extension Cumberland County at choyt@umext.maine.edu or 1-800-287-1471(in Maine) or 207-780-4205 for more information and to register for the tour. Registration deadline is Friday, May 15, 2009.

UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Lobster College, a Learning Vacation on the Maine Coast

04 May 2009

Contact: Cathy Billings, Lobster Institute, 207-581-2751, Dianne Ward, Kenniston Hill Inn B&B, 207-633-2159
ORONO, Me. – No SATs required, no essay tests, and some of the most luxurious dorm rooms ever -- those are some of the inviting characteristics of Lobster College, a popular program from the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine. Organizers are accepting registrations for this unique learning vacation, organized by the Lobster Institute and hosted again 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 and anything there is to know about Maine's premier crustacean. The event is scheduled for September 17-20. Kenniston Hill Inn B&B will serve as home base for Lobster College. Participants will enjoy the gracious hospitality of host Dianne Ward at this classic 1786 shipbuilder's mansion. More about the inn is online at <http://kennistonhillinn.waffl.com/>. 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 who work 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 Prof. 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," he adds. 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," Bayer says. "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 last year's Lobster College came from Illinois, Michigan, Massachusetts, Florida, Maine – and even Australia. 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 people from the lobster industry and faculty at the University of Maine. Enrollment for Lobster College is limited to the first 20 "students", and the deadline to enroll is August 31. Tuition is \$575 per person (including all lobster meals) and room rates range from \$450-\$570 for the entire weekend. 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.

Peter Vigue Receives Maine Business School 'Achievement in Business' Award

05 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Photo available upon request

ORONO – The Maine Business School recently named one of Maine's top business advocates, Cianbro president, chair and CEO Peter Vigue, as the recipient of its 2009 Achievement in Business Award.

Vigue, a member of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation board of directors and former board president, has been a long-time champion of the University of Maine, and has demonstrated a deep 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.

Citing Vigue's leadership at the Pittsfield-based Cianbro Companies, John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health and director of the Maine Business School, says Vigue was a natural choice for this year's award.

With nearly \$500 million in annual sales and 2,500 employees, Cianbro is one of Maine's largest companies. The corporation has played key roles in renewing the Maine economy by repurposing several closed paper mills, retraining and employing hundreds of workers.

In a recent article in New Brunswick, Canada's Telegraph-Journal, Vigue was called a "one-man economic stimulus package," known for his successful entrepreneurial spirit.

A Pittsfield native, Vigue began his career with Maine's largest construction company in 1970 as a laborer, after graduating with a degree in marine engineering from Maine Maritime Academy. He held various positions, including foreman, field engineer, project engineer, superintendent, project manager and purchasing director, before becoming an executive in the company's operations. He had been president since 1991, and added chairman and chief executive officer to his titles in 2008.

In addition to a lifetime of community service and advising and consulting on a state-wide level, Vigue is credited with elevating Cianbro's reputation nationally through his work and dedication to the concept of workplace safety and total quality management.

Among the successes the company is known for today is its corporate wellness plan, with its goal of improving employees' quality of life and healthy lifestyle at work and off the job.

In addition, Vigue helped revolutionize Cianbro's dealings with subcontractors, suppliers and clients by focusing on partnerships among stakeholders.

Under Vigue's leadership, Cianbro has expanded over the years into other construction-related market areas, including construction management, commercial building, power plant maintenance and construction in Brewer of large floating modules for an expanding oil-refinery facility in Port Arthur, Texas, near the Gulf of Mexico.

Vigue also has advocated for an east-west highway, linking New England states and Canada through Maine and New Brunswick. He recently discussed Cianbro's intentions to explore commercial ventures in the Canada's Maritime Provinces.

Vigue lives in Pittsfield with his wife Carole. One of their two children, Andi, is a civil engineering and MBA graduate from the University of Maine.

UMaine Student Places in International Photo Competition

05 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Part time University of Maine student Kevin Wellenius has placed third in an international photojournalism competition with a feature audio slideshow of a Belgrade Lakes man coming to terms with a violent temper and rebuilding a marriage. More than 3,700 journalists from 147 counties submitted 53,000 still images, video and Web entries for the National Press Photographers Association's Best in Photojournalism 2009 competition. Wellenius, formerly a student in Bill Kuykendall's New Media NMD301 photojournalism class at UMaine, who later taught the class during Kuykendall's sabbatical, entered his piece, "Precious Moments," in the feature audio slideshow category. He won third place in the independent subcategory. Wellenius, a 35-year-old photographer who lives and works in Belgrade Lakes, describes himself as a continuing student who has been taking Kuykendall's classes. The 'Precious Moments' project grew from an audio assignment in the NMD301 class in the spring of last year, Wellenius says. He developed the work into a multimedia project, and continued working on it after the semester ended. Late last year, he says he revisited the piece "with a fresh eye and ear," and submitted it to the major photojournalism contests. Wellenius, whose work can be seen on his website (www.kevinwellenius.com) recently completed a three-part project on a man who was a foster dad to men with autism and the transition following his decision to retire after nearly 30 years. "Working with Bill and being in his classes provided a framework for pursuing photography projects on a regular schedule, and getting feedback along the way from one of the pillars of photojournalism education," Wellenius

says.

Heavy Interstate Traffic Anticipated Saturday; Those Traveling to UMaine Commencement Encouraged to Plan Accordingly

06 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 207th commencement, scheduled for Saturday May 9 at Alfond Arena, will bring a total of approximately 12,000 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, of perhaps as much as an hour, are likely.

Those traveling from southern Maine should note that the Maine Dept. of Transportation is planning weekend work on I-295 northbound, reducing traffic between Brunswick and Gardiner to one lane.

In addition, those driving from anywhere south of Bangor should anticipate one-lane travel (in both directions) at the I-395 overpass on I-95 at the southernmost Bangor exit.

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 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.

UMaine Professor Named Fellow for Contributions to Food Science

07 May 2009

Contact: Alfred Bushway, (207) 581-1629; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – University of Maine Professor Alfred Bushway has been selected as an Institute of Food Technologists Fellow for 2009 for his contributions to the industry in the areas of food processing and food safety for fruits, vegetables, seafood, meat and poultry.

Founded in 1939, the Institute of Food Technologists is a nonprofit scientific society with 22,000 members working in food science, food technology, and related professions in industry, academia, and government.

Fellow is a professional distinction conferred on individuals with extraordinary qualifications and experience for their contributions to the food science and technology field. Nominees typically have been IFT members for 15 years and are professional member at the time of their nomination.

"When hearing that one has been selected as an IFT Fellow, you think back on your career and the role all previous colleagues and students played in making it possible," says Bushway. "It is the greatest honor one can receive from their professional society."

Bushway previously was honored by IFT in 2003 with the Elizabeth Fleming Stier Award for his achievements in the industry. In 2007, he was named IFT's Fruit and Vegetable Products Division Outstanding Member of the Year.

Bushway received his bachelor's degree from UMaine in 1968. He then went on to receive his masters and doctoral degrees from Indiana's Purdue University before returning to work at UMaine 10 years later.

During his 30-year career, Bushway has addressed issues affecting food production for local growers and processors throughout New England.

His lowbush blueberry research program focuses on food quality and safety and product development, as well as uses for by-products of blueberry harvest. Bushway and colleagues currently are developing chemical and biocontrol methods to reduce the mycotoxin patulin in and on apples being stored for later processing.

When he's not teaching or conducting research, Bushway enjoys gardening, fishing, and reading and spending time with family.

Bushway will receive his award June 6 at the IFT Annual Meeting in Anaheim, Cali.

A complete list of Fellows can be found on the IFT website at www.ift.org.

UMaine Cooperative Extension to Offer Cheese-making Safety Session

07 May 2009

Contact: Melissa Potts, (800) 287-7170 or (207) 581-2788; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – Recognizing that it's crucial to be aware of proper sanitation practices and ensuring the safety of Maine artisan cheese, University of Maine Cooperative Extension is helping the Maine Cheese Guild by promoting food safety awareness, proper sanitation practices and an introduction to incorporating food safety plans at their farm and/or cheesmaking facilities.

UMaine Cooperative Extension will offer a sanitation training and introduction to Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) for cheese makers on Monday, May 11, at Buchanan Alumni House on the Orono campus.

The program is free for Maine Cheese Guild Members, and \$10 for non-members. Lunch will be provided.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

-10 a.m. Registration

-10:30a.m. Beth Calder, Extension food science specialist: Bacteria, bacterial growth and food safety.

-11:15a.m. Gary Anderson, Extension animal and bio-sciences specialist: Farm and milk room sanitation, cleaning equipment, recommended water temperatures, appropriate cleaning/sanitizing products and how to use them, quality testing and thoughts from a dairy inspector's perspective.

-12:30 p.m. lunch

-1:15 p.m. Anderson's presentation continued.

-1:45 p.m. Barbara Brooks of Seal Cove Farm in Lamoine: Sanitation from the farm/cheese processing perspective; what has worked for her and problems she has encountered and what she has done to correct the situation.

-2:30 p.m. Calder: Recommended cleaners/sanitizers for the cheese room and U.S. Food and Drug Administration recommendations at what level to use the products.

-3 p.m. Calder: Brief description of HACCP principles and how to incorporate HACCP into your cheese-making process along with worksheets to take home.

- 4 p.m. Questions & answers.

To register, call Melissa Potts at (800) 287-7170 or e-mail mpotts@umext.maine.edu.

The event is limited to 30 people. Registration will close when all spaces have been filled. Directions to campus are available at www.umaine.edu/locator.

Information for Reporters Covering UMaine Commencement

08 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine's 207th commencement is scheduled for Saturday May 9, inside at Alfond Arena. As always, the event consists of two ceremonies, one at 10 a.m. and one at 2:30 p.m. Each will last approximately 2 hours.

Northbound I-95 traffic and traffic between the Interstate and campus will be very heavy, as each event will draw more than 6,000 people.

Media parking will be available near the arena.

An audio mult box will be accessible in the penalty box areas at floor level, where there will also be space for cameras on tripods. Photographers are welcome to move through the arena during the ceremonies, but space for shooting will be at a premium. Reporters may observe the ceremonies from the penalty boxes or the press box area, with the latter located at the top of the east and west seating areas.

Graduates will assemble at the UMaine Field House before the ceremonies, and they will walk together to the Alfond Arena. The Field House may represent a good possibility for interviews and photography.

Nearly 2,000 people, from all over Maine and beyond, will receive UMaine degrees on Saturday. The UMaine commencement is the state's largest graduation event. More details about the ceremony and the Class of 2009 is online at http://www.umaine.edu/news/view_release.php?x=1241393562.

Journalists in need of assistance on Saturday should call Joe Carr at (207) 949-4149. Regular updates will be posted on the University of Maine News Facebook page and the UMaineNews Twitter feed.

UMaine Names Winners of Annual Employee Awards

08 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine has recognized four employees, two from its classified staff and two from its professional staff, as winners of annual outstanding employee awards. These awards recognize outstanding professional accomplishment and dedicated service. Formal presentation of the awards is scheduled for the Employee Recognition and Achievement Banquet, Monday May 11 at 5 p.m. at Wells Conference Center.

The 2009 Outstanding Classified Employee Award recipients are Doreen Thibodeau of Residence Life and Carol Rickards of the Student Services Center in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Thibodeau, an administrative assistant II, has worked at UMaine for 20 years; the last 14 have been in Residence Life. In her nomination, she was cited as an inspiration to others through her dedication, commitment, work ethic, care and compassion. In recognition of her service to Residence Life, a new award has been established in her honor; she was the first recipient of The Doreen Thibodeau Unsung Hero Award, presented at the staff's annual recognition banquet in April. In her position, Thibodeau works with nine professional employees, eight graduate assistants and more than 150 student employees, in addition to the 3,800 residential students and their parents. Her coworkers describe her as "the heart and soul of Residence Life," demonstrating exemplary customer service and selflessly giving of her time, energy and positive attitude.

Rickards has been an administrative assistant I in the Student Services Center for six years, and has worked at UMaine for more than two decades. In her nomination, she was cited for her work ethic, dedication and commitment to providing inspirational student service. Students and coworkers also appreciate her spontaneous, generous and heartfelt acts of kindness that occur daily. Rickards, who is usually the primary contact for prospective and incoming students in the college, can be counted on to convey a superb first impression of UMaine with her warmth, tact and patience. Many liberal arts and sciences majors consider her the "go-to" person in the college because of her knowledgeable assistance, courtesy, accessibility and genuine interest in their academic well-being. Plus, she daily stocks the college's Student Services Center in Stevens Hall with her home-baked treats.

The 2009 Outstanding Professional Employee Award recipients are Martha Kelley, an advisor in the Maine Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC), and Nancy Boyington, assistant director of the Hutchinson Center.

Kelley joined the MEOC Advising Team in 2005, with responsibility for mentoring adults from Waterville to Millinocket who want to enter college. She and the other advisors in the federal education initiative assess academic readiness, provide career counseling and recommend community resources for the students, many of whom come from traditionally under-represented adult populations in Maine. Since her start, Kelley has helped place 549 adult students in college. According to one of her nominators, Kelley's "holistic approach to advising and her nurturing follow-through have paved the way for a disproportionate level of student success." In addition, Kelley is a lifelong community volunteer. She is involved locally with the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine and its Voices for Peace choir, which she directs. She has participated in Somerset County's Food Stamps Nutrition Education project and the Penobscot County Hunger Project.

Boyington joined the Hutchinson Center when it opened in fall 2000. She began her career at the University of Maine in 1988 with Cooperative Extension. As assistant director of the Hutchinson Center, she is responsible for supervising staff, managing facilities, marketing and advertising, purchasing and overseeing faculty contracts. One of her nominators characterized her as "the heartbeat of the center." Boyington also has an active role in student services at the center. Many Hutchinson Center students have attributed their academic success to her devotion to their education. Boyington established a scholarship fund for Hutchinson Center students, raising money through such events as the annual Best of the Best in Waldo County celebration. In addition, she has been integral in the development of Hutchinson Center programs, including the Midcoast Leadership Academy and the Nonprofit Management Certificate Program. Last year, Boyington cochaired the first Midcoast Women's Health Conference, held at the Hutchinson Center. She also dedicates time to community organizations and services, including the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, United Midcoast Charities and Healthy Waldo County.

Four UMaine Professors Honored at Convocation

08 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Four esteemed University of Maine professors, each with long and distinguished records of service to the university 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 the Collins Center for the Arts.

Professor of Anthropology and Marine Sciences James Acheson is the University of Maine Alumni Association Distinguished Maine Professor. Acheson, an Augusta, Maine native, received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Rochester in 1970 and has taught at UMaine since 1968. Colleagues describe him as the consummate professor for his rigorous teaching and internationally recognized interdisciplinary research in environmental policy related to forests and fisheries. As a social scientist and economic anthropologist whose research connects the social, cultural and environmental components of marine policy, Acheson has provided invaluable service to the state. Acheson was integral in the establishment of a comanagement system in Maine's lobster industry that has since become a national model. Acheson's forestry landowner research was cited last year as a National Science Foundation Highlight. He is the author of 82 articles, focused primarily on the social science aspects of resource management. He also has written five books, including *The Lobster Gangs of Maine* and *Capturing the Commons: Devising Institutions to Manage the Maine Lobster Industry*. He received the American Anthropological Association's Solon T. Kimball Award for Public and Applied Anthropology in 2004 and the UMaine Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 2005.

Associate Professor of Biological Sciences Leonard Kass is the recipient of the Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award. Kass has been a member of the UMaine faculty since 1985. He was cited for his high level of commitment to students, coupled with creative teaching approaches, an expansive knowledge base, enthusiasm and engaging class presentations. Kass is as comfortable teaching a lecture hall of 350 first-year students as he is an advanced seminar class of 20. He is dedicated to creating and delivering the best educational experience possible to students in his biology classes, and applies his talent to innovation and reform in science education at all levels — K-12 and postsecondary. An experimental scientist whose research interests include visual physiology and other areas of neuroscience, Kass has developed innovative teaching laboratory experiments to nurture the excitement of discovery for students. His popular teaching innovations in the biology curriculum motivate students and facilitate meaningful, effective learning of content and the process of science. He has been involved campuswide in the assessment and improvement of student learning. In 2007, Kass received the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture Outstanding Teaching Award.

Professor of Art Owen Smith, chair of the Department of New Media, is the recipient of the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award. Smith's primary research focus is contemporary nontraditional art, specifically the Fluxus Group. He is a historian of Fluxus, a revolutionary movement rooted in the 1950s that continues to be pivotal in the development of contemporary art, music performance and new media. The genre seeks to make art part of people's lives and encourages audience participation in creative work that values simplicity over complexity. In 1998, Smith wrote what is considered the seminal book on the genre, *Fluxus: The History of an Attitude*. Smith has been a professional artist since the mid-1980s. He joined the UMaine faculty in 1991 and became chair of the New Media Department in 2004. He also directs UMaine's new Intermedia MFA program. Smith's art has been included in more than 60 solo and group exhibitions worldwide. In addition to creating and showing his own work, he has been curator or co-curator of more than 20 exhibitions. Smith received the Presidential Outstanding Teacher Award in 2000 and serves as vice chair of the Maine State Arts Commission.

Associate Professor of Journalism Kathryn Olmstead, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the recipient of the Presidential Public Service Achievement Award. Olmstead was cited for her long-term service to the state and region as a volunteer editor, teacher and mentor for student journalists. She joined the UMaine journalism faculty in 1984 where she taught print journalism and media ethics until becoming associate dean in 2003. In 1988, she co-founded ECHOES: Rediscovering Community, a quarterly magazine celebrating the cultural heritage and beauty of northern Maine, which she has edited after hours for 20 years and continues to publish from her home in Caribou,

Maine. She also founded the Maine Center for Student Journalism at UMaine to foster the practice and teaching of journalism in Maine secondary schools, serving as its director from 1993 to 2004. In addition to inspiring young Maine writers' aspirations in journalism, she has played an integral role in an evolving conversation about the meaning, challenges and future of rural communities through her work on the magazine and as a board member for state press and cross-national organizations. Her achievements in journalism have been recognized with awards from the New England Scholastic Press Association, the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community, the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources, the Maine Chapter of the American Association of University Women, the Gannett Foundation, the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, the New England Press Association and the Maine Press Association.

Class of 2009 Commencement Ceremonies Held at UMaine

09 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 *More information about UMaine commencement, including the text of the commencement speech and details about the honorary degree recipients, the valedictorian and the salutatorian, is online.* ORONO -- Encouraging graduates to embrace America's entrepreneurial spirit and to approach their careers with passion and enthusiasm, the head of the U.S. Small Business Administration told the University of Maine Class of 2009 that "this economy will not define you." Karen Gordon Mills of Brunswick, confirmed last month as the federal SBA administrator, addressed the approximately 1,871 graduates at two ceremonies inside UMaine's Alford Arena. Mills, whose career is characterized by notable successes in managing various kinds of businesses and in raising capital to support entrepreneurs, had an upbeat message for graduates entering the job market during difficult economic times. "You will succeed," she said, "and your success will define you and the future of America." Mills pointed to passion as the defining characteristic of successful business owners, particularly in the context of small business operations. She noted that small businesses are responsible for half of private sector jobs and that they have created 70 percent of new jobs in the past decade. "Passion is the driver of America's successful small businesses," she said. "It is the basis for our country's entrepreneurial spirit. And I strongly believe that this class has both an opportunity -- and a responsibility -- to discover and pursue your passion." UMaine President Robert Kennedy presided over the ceremonies, which were held at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. An estimated total of 12,000 people attended the ceremonies. "We hope your time at UMaine has inspired in you a lifelong passion for learning and a concern for the future of our state, our country, and our culture," Kennedy said in addressing the graduates. "Power and responsibility come with your education. Use them to make the most of your life, to enrich those around you, and to return the gifts that have been bestowed on you to the society that bestowed them." Adrienne Sturgeon, an elementary education major from Bangor is the Class of 2009 valedictorian. She earned her degree with concentrations in history and social studies, and a minor in sociology. An honor society member who is active in university and community service activities, Sturgeon is planning to move to Germany where she hopes to teach at a Dept. of Defense school. Eagle Lake native Alexandra Albert is the class salutatorian. Also a member of UMaine honors societies and an Honors College graduate, Albert is a double major in biochemistry and molecular/cellular biology, with a minor in biochemistry. She plans to enroll in a Ph.D./M.D. program where she will continue to work in scientific research, as she had done throughout her time at UMaine. University of Maine faculty members also played a prominent role in today's commencement ceremonies. James Acheson, an anthropology and School of Marine sciences faculty member who is the 2009 UMaine Alumni Association Distinguished Maine Professor, delivered the traditional Celebration of Academia address. The ceremony also featured recognition of three UMaine professors honored earlier this week with UMaine's top annual faculty awards: Prof. Leonard Kass of the Dept. of Biology and Ecology (Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award); Prof. Owen Smith of the Dept. of New Media (Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award); and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Kathryn Olmstead, a Dept. of Communication and Journalism professor (Presidential Public Service Achievement Award). The ceremony featured the conferral of honorary doctorates on two distinguished Maine residents. Retired U.S. Navy Admiral Gregory "Grog" Johnson, a 1968 UMaine graduate who grew up in the northern Maine town of Westmanland and now lives in Harpswell, was recognized at the morning ceremony. A member of the UMaine Board of Visitors, Johnson's distinguished 36-year military career included service as Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe and Africa, and Commander in Chief, Allied (NATO) Forces Southern Europe. In the afternoon Passamaquoddy Tribe elder David Francis of Pleasant Point was similarly honored. Francis has been active for decades in developing a written form of the Passamaquoddy language. Francis was a lead collaborator in the creation of a Passamaquoddy-Maliseet

dictionary, published last year by the University of Maine Press. William Johnson of Saco brought greetings from the University of Maine System Board of Trustees at the morning ceremony, while Wayne Newell of Princeton filled that role at the afternoon event. Suzanne Hart, chair of the University of Maine Alumni Association board of directors, welcomed the new graduates to the ranks of the nearly 95,000 UMaine alumni.

Engineering Society Names Fellow, Makes Scholarship Awards

11 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Benjamin Gordon Freedman of Caribou has been awarded a 2009-2010 graduate fellowship from Tau Beta Pi, the world's largest engineering honor society. Freedman, the son of Dale Gordon of Caribou and Jon Freedman of Bangor, will pursue a doctoral program in bioprocess engineering at Virginia Tech, focusing on the research and development of renewable fuels. Tau Beta Pi Fellowships are awarded on the basis of scholarship, campus leadership and service, and the promise of future contributions to the engineering profession. Freedman is a graduate of the Honors College at University of Maine, with dual degrees in biological and chemical engineering. He served as president of the Maine Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He also is a 2005 graduate of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. A Tau Beta Pi fellowship can result in a \$10,000 academic scholarship if a fellow demonstrates financial need. In addition to Freedman's fellowship, Tau Beta Pi junior members Evan McLellan, an electrical and computer engineering major from Freeport, and David Hunter, an electrical engineering major from Unity, have been named 2009-2010 Tau Beta Pi Scholarship recipients and are receiving \$2,000 scholarships.

Maine Sea Grant Communications Coordinator Awarded for Book

12 May 2009

Contact: Catherine Schmitt (207) 581-1434; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

Critics have called her work "enchanting," "a rare treasure," and "a superb effort to make natural science interesting, entertaining, and educational."

They all appear to have gotten it right because University of Maine Sea Grant Communications Coordinator Catherine Schmitt recently received a silver award for her work "A Coastal Companion: A Gulf of Maine Almanac, from Cape Cod to Canada."

Schmitt was selected as one of the winners from 241 submissions to this year's annual Association for Communication Excellence (ACE) in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences Critique & Awards Program.

The program is designed to help ACE members achieve professional excellence through constructive criticism and to recognize those individuals who exhibit excellence in their work. Entries are evaluated on content, effectiveness, creativity and technical production.

Schmitt's work is a 176-page journey spanning 12 months in the Gulf of Maine and its watershed. The book is illustrated by Maine artists Kimberleigh Martul-March and Margaret Campbell and published by Tilbury House.

Schmitt's work serves as a chronicle of changes in the Gulf through the seasons and follows the arrival and departure of migrating shorebirds, schools of fish as they move in and out of the region, and the natural cycles of Maine's bays, rivers, marshes, and coastal forests.

The Maine Sea Grant College Program, a state-federal partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and based at the University of Maine, has supported marine science education, research, and outreach since 1980.

UMaine-Virginia Tech Pair Up to Receive Nearly \$800,000 for Watershed Research

12 May 2009

Contact: Kevin Simon (207) 581-2618; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – Three University of Maine professors, in collaboration with colleagues at Virginia Tech, recently received nearly \$800,000 to study the impact that pollution from excess nitrogen is having on the environment.

"Nitrogen in general is a huge problem," says Kevin Simon, UMaine assistant professor of stream ecology. "Human activity has more than doubled the amount of nitrogen on the landscape, creating a pollution problem and changing the balance among multiple nutrients that limit biological activity in ecosystems."

Simon and UMaine Professors Ivan Fernandez and Stephen Norton have received \$522,857 from the National Science Foundation's Division of Environmental Biology to study the Bear Brook Watershed in Maine – a long-term experimental forested watershed in eastern Maine where research began in the mid-1980s as part of the national agenda of research to determine the effects of acid deposition on surface waters and their related watersheds.~

This current project builds on the Bear Brook program of research by examining the interactions among multiple elements such as nitrogen, phosphorus, carbon, metals, and the process of ecosystem acidification. This is whole ecosystem research that studies the changes in chemicals and water as they travel from the atmosphere through the ecosystem, including the soils and eventually the streams draining the watershed.

Although nitrogen occurs in the environment naturally and is essential for plant growth, too much nitrogen from pollution can result in negative effects on forests, animals, such as fish and amphibians, and water quality.

Simon explains that the Bear Brook site is unique in that half of the site remains in a natural condition, while the other half is treated by helicopter with ammonium sulfate every other month for scientists to study the impact of the extra nitrogen and sulfur in the environment. Ammonium sulfate, commonly used as fertilizer and a byproduct given off by many power plants, reduces the pH of the soil and increases ecosystem nitrogen and sulfur similar to the effects of acid rain.

By combining a study of the Bear Brook Watershed with work being done under the NSF funding by researchers at Virginia Tech and the U.S. Forest Service at their research watershed, the U.S. Forest Service Fernow Experimental Forest in West Virginia, researchers will be able to test a wider range of nitrogen pollution.

"West Virginia gets a much higher loading of nitrogen deposition than Maine, so the comparison of the results from these two watersheds provides valuable insights into ecosystem response to air pollutants" says Simon.

Simon, Fernandez and Norton will be assisted in the project at UMaine by a post-doctoral fellow and graduate student. Professor Maury Valett at Virginia Tech and Dr. Mary Beth Adams of the U.S. Forest Service also will work with a graduate student on the project using their portion of the grant funding, \$275,573.

"There's an exciting educational component to our research," says Simon.

Old Town High School teacher Ed Lindsey will expose some of his students to the science by collaborating in the research at the Maine and West Virginia field sites.

"It's an opportunity they really don't have unless it's managed for them," says Lindsey. He hopes the experience will show students what is available to them after high school by exposing them to a whole other world of educational opportunities in their backyard.

The project is expected to run for three years, and researchers will hold a series of workshops in which high school, undergraduate, and graduate students work with researchers and teachers to promote multidisciplinary learning. They also will develop a computer simulation model of the impacts of nitrogen deposition for use in high school and college science curricula. A website and direct interactions among researchers, high school students and teachers will be used to disseminate results to the public.

Once this portion of the study is completed, Simon says he hopes more funding will be made available to turn the educational computer simulation model into a computer modeling program that can be used to predict environmental impacts from nitrogen pollution.

In the meantime, the research team is working to expand the study to include colleagues from around the world and to study entire drainage networks.

Renewal for Teachers/Aroostook County Workshops

13 May 2009

Contact: Douglas G. Babkirk, (207) 712-1414 Portage, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension has extended its deadline to May 29 for accepting applications for its first Courage to Teach® series. The weekend retreat workshops are scheduled for five weekends at Hewes Brook Lodge in Portage, beginning Oct. 23. The series, which will bring continuing education credits to those who participate, is open to 13 K-12 teachers and college faculty members from anywhere in Maine. It represents an opportunity for educators and school administrators to renew their personal and professional lives. UMaine Cooperative Extension, which is organizing the program, has chosen Aroostook County as the first site for the series. The University of Maine at Fort Kent and the University of Maine at Presque Isle are partners in the effort to market the program to educators throughout Maine. Registration deadline is May 29. UMaine Cooperative Extension and the University of Maine System chancellor's office are sponsors of the program. Total cost for each educator accepted into the Courage to Teach® program, including meals and lodging, is \$500. Efforts are now underway to attract additional funding from local school districts, area businesses and foundations to underwrite the balance of costs for running the program. The three facilitators are University of Maine faculty members affiliated with the National Center for Courage & Renewal – which developed the national Courage to Teach® initiative. They are Shirley Hager of Chesterville, Richard Ackerman of Brooksville and Portland resident Doug Babkirk. Teachers, school leaders and university faculty members interested in the Courage To Teach® Aroostook County program can contact Doug Babkirk at University of Maine Cooperative Extension at dbabkirk@umext.maine.edu or 712-1414. For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine County. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Writing Rules at Young Authors' Camps

13 May 2009

Contact: Heather Pullen at (207) 581-2443

ORONO, Me. – Young writers can sharpen their skills and express their creativity during the University of Maine's annual Young Authors' Camps scheduled for seven sites in summer. Sponsored by the Maine Writing Project, the half-day camps will be held in Orono, Benton, Newport, Brunswick, Topsham, Portland and Bar Harbor.

In addition to working on skills, camp participants explore different genres of writing, compose for creativity, experiment with electronic texts, and publish and share their writing.

Young Authors' Camps are half-day camps that include mid-morning snacks, a t-shirt, a Young Writers' Anthology, a

group photograph and certificate of accomplishment. For more information and registration, contact the Maine Writing Project at (207) 581-2443; e-mail heather.pullen@umit.maine.edu or please visit www.mainewritingproject.org to download an application.

Young Authors' Camps are led by teacher-consultants from the Maine Writing Project, a National Writing Project site that is part of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. The National Writing Project is a federally funded professional development program dedicated to improvement of the teaching and learning of writing across the curriculum at all grade levels.

Camps will be offered at the following locations and dates:

Orono: July 13 -17
Grades 3 to 12
University of Maine

Benton: July 13-17
Grades 1 to 12
Benton Elementary School

Newport: July 13-17
Grades 3 to 12
Sebaicook Valley Middle School

Portland: July 13-17
Grades 4 to 6
The Telling Room

Topsham: July 20-24
Grades 3 to 12
Woodside School

Brunswick: July 27-31
Grades 3 to 12
Brunswick High School

Portland: July 27-31
Grades 7 to 8
The Telling Room

Bar Harbor: Aug 10-14
Grades 3 to 12
College of the Atlantic

UMaine Business Lecturer to Receive International Psychology Award

13 May 2009

Contact: Scott Anchors, (207) 581-1927; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756

Photo available upon request

ORONO -- Maine Business School faculty member Scott Anchors has been selected as the 2009 recipient of a prestigious international educational achievement award in recognition of his work and research with the Myers Briggs Type Indicator.

Anchors, a lecturer in management at UMaine who has an academic background in both education and psychology, will receive the Gordon Lawrence Educational Achievement Award from the Association of Psychological Type International in Dallas, Texas in August.

The association recognizes an individual every two years to acknowledge "outstanding contributions to promoting the constructive use of psychological type," a theory developed by psychology pioneer Carl Jung, and the basis for the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI).

The MBTI provides information about an individual's approach to processing information and decision-making.

Anchors, who was a student affairs administrator and executive assistant to President Peter Hoff earlier in his career at the University of Maine, estimates he has used the Myers Briggs personality instrument with more than 20,000 UMaine students and staff throughout his career. He has conducted a variety of research projects over the years using the MBTI in conjunction with retention studies, student activity patterns and academic success. In the 1980s, he used the instrument to match roommates, for academic advising, program planning, and as a way to approach management challenges.

"My goal was to use the results to design effective programs and efforts that would contribute towards retention, assist students and faculty in understanding learning styles, as well as use it for career counseling," Anchors says.

A recognized authority on the MBTI instrument, Anchors has written more than a dozen articles, co-edited two books on the subject and routinely applies Jung's theories in his current job advising and teaching management and leadership.

Outside the classroom, Anchors also serves as a consultant with managers and businesses, using the MBTI for coaching, assistance in goal-setting and team development.

"More recently, I have applied my energy to teaching and applying my knowledge of Jung's theory to differences in how managers use their time, how personality is related to a student's choice of major, and, currently, I am exploring with a colleague how understanding the MBTI framework can help managers structure more effective meetings," Anchors says. "Eventually, these will work into a publication."

Anchors says his nomination for the award, by a former doctoral adviser at Iowa State University, was a surprise.

"Just totally out of the blue, I got a call saying I was receiving the award," says Anchors, who is member of the Association of Psychological Type International. Anchors says he feels "flattered, humbled and honored."

"The University of Maine has been essential in helping me cultivate my knowledge and experience in this area," he says, citing administrative support when he requested a leave of absence to pursue a doctorate to deepen his knowledge.

Anchors also praises colleagues, with whom he is collaborating in continuing research.

"My current assignment in the Maine Business School has provided me excellent support and a great opportunity to integrate my decades of experience with this instrument into preparing managers and leaders of the future," he says. "Effective managers and leaders need to have self-awareness of themselves, and this instrument provides an excellent framework."

UMaine Center Collaborates to Improve Volunteer Opportunities for People with Disabilities

14 May 2009

Contact: Sandra Horne, 581-1236; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO – The UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) is partnering with the Maine Commission for Community Service in a year-long collaboration designed to facilitate the recruitment and participation of people with disabilities as community service volunteers. The endeavor, "Project Ready to ServeMaine," is made possible through a 2009 National Service Inclusion Project grant, and is expected to result in an increase in the application, enrollment and retention of national service members and volunteers with disabilities in Maine. The project will forge strong partnerships among Alpha One, a Center for Independent Living; Speaking Up for Us, Maine's Self-Advocacy Network; the Maine Commission for Community Service; and the AmeriCorps/AmeriCorps VISTA programs in the state. "[Project Ready to ServeMaine](#) is exciting because it will provide key people with an opportunity to work together in efforts to expand volunteer placements for individuals with disabilities," says project director Janet May, CCIDS's coordinator of transition and adults. The [National Service Inclusion Project](#) (NSIP) is a training and technical assistance provider operating under the auspices of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). NSIP works through the [Institute for Community Inclusion](#) at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, in collaboration with the [Association of University Centers on Disabilities](#). The University of Maine CCIDS, established in 1992, is part of a national network of 67 congressionally authorized University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. Those centers are sponsored by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CCIDS at UMaine brings together the resources of the university and Maine communities to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families. The CCIDS's statewide mission is met through interdisciplinary education, research, community service and dissemination of state-of-the-art information that reflect the guiding principles of inclusion, diversity, universal design and access and social justice. More information about CCIDS is available on its web site www.ccids.umaine.edu.

UMaine Details Expenditure Adjustments to Meet Budget Shortfall

15 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

Note: President Kennedy and Vice President Waldron will be available at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House between 1:15-3 p.m. on Friday for interviews. Please call Joe Carr at 581-3571 to schedule in-person or telephone interviews.

ORONO -- In response to unprecedented budget challenges, the University of Maine has reduced its expenditures by \$8.8 million for the year beginning July 1, 2009. The impact on personnel is significant, with 32 layoffs and another 31 full-time positions affected by reduced work hours. In addition, 77 other positions were held vacant for elimination, bringing the total number of affected positions to 140. This brings UMaine's three-year total of eliminated faculty, professional and hourly positions to over 200, equal to a workforce reduction over this time period of approximately 10 percent.

In addition to the personnel actions, which reduce the university's salaries and benefits budget by \$5.8 million, UMaine department managers have taken dozens of measures that will reduce operating costs by a total of at least \$1.7 million through the elimination of operating expenses including supplies, service, maintenance, travel, equipment and other expenses.

UMaine will realize the balance of the \$8.8 million in savings (\$1.3 million) through administrative efficiencies, mostly related to the management of energy costs through improved purchasing mechanisms and conservation.

"We have developed this budget through a painstaking, thorough process aimed at preserving UMaine's core educational capacity to the greatest possible extent," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "These budget reductions will affect every part of UMaine's operation in some significant way but we have worked strategically to find ways to maintain excellence and continue providing service to our students and our state. More than ever, Maine needs a strong flagship

state university. That is why we continue to focus on sustainable ways to continue the university's momentum within the current budget realities."

UMaine's total budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1 (Fiscal Year 2010), is \$248 million. A number of economic factors, including reduced state appropriation and declining returns on investments, have converged to create the structural budget gap being addressed by these expenditure reductions.

The largest number of layoffs comes from UMaine's professional (salaried) staff, affecting 15 positions, 10 of which were at Cutler Health Center. UMaine entered a public-private partnership earlier this year, transferring the center's operations to a private healthcare provider. Five of the layoffs involve people in the faculty category; including the four coaches whose jobs were eliminated with UMaine discontinued its volleyball and men's soccer programs. The other faculty layoff affected a person whose primary assignment was in Cooperative Extension. The remaining 12 layoffs involve hourly-paid employees, including 8 who were on the Cutler Health Center staff.

The work-year reductions affect employees in nearly 20 UMaine units, converting a total of 31 full-time jobs to part-time, most of them now ten months but some half time or three-quarters time.

The 77 unfilled vacancies include 43 faculty lines (including adjunct faculty), 17 professional staff positions and 17 hourly positions.

"I truly regret the toll on our valued colleagues," Kennedy says. "Every single person affected has worked hard, most of them for many years, to serve our students and make UMaine the institution that it is today. UMaine is a community made up of wonderful people, and it is difficult to take these actions which adversely affect so many."

Those who manage UMaine colleges, departments, divisions and schools have also eliminated or reduced dozens of services and taken other measures to help meet the budget target. Examples include discontinuation of certain outreach programs, the conversion of units from base budget funding to funding from outside grants and contracts, the reduction or elimination of some publications, and reduced hours of operation in some units. In addition, clerical and office support will be sharply reduced in several areas.

"These budget reductions, while difficult, were taken to ensure a balanced budget for the University of Maine," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance.

Folklife Center Collaboration Offering 'Story Bank' Training Workshops

15 May 2009

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO – First-person accounts of the lives of a coastal crab-picker, a logger, a Northern Maine bateau builder and newly arrived Hispanics in the Bangor area are a few of the colorful Maine residents interviewed for "Story Bank," an ongoing project by the Maine Folklife Center at UMaine and Cultural Resources, Inc. of Rockport.

Hoping to help community groups add to the collection of first-person stories, by learning to preserve cultural traditions in Maine before they vanish, the two non-profits are co-sponsoring a workshop to train others on perfecting methods of collecting, documenting and presenting local vignettes about past and present vocations that help define Maine.

A team of documentary specialists and folklorists will lead the second "Story Bank Institute" workshop, July 7-10 at the University of Maine. Participants will learn fieldwork techniques, audio and video recording, digital photography, archiving and developing public presentations.

The four-day institute is being held in the Bumps Room of the Memorial Union and Room 113 of the D.P Corbett Business Building. Stories resulting from the workshop will be archived at the Folklife Center and possibly included at the Narrative Stage at this year's American Folk Festival in Bangor in August.

Funded in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, Story Bank Institute scholarships are available for a limited number for participants. Workshop fees otherwise will be \$20 per day or \$75 for all four days.

Local stories include personal experiences and local folklore, which can contribute to identifying a "sense of place" for people, according to Pauleena MacDougall, director of the Folklife Center. 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, MacDougall says.

"All these little vignettes of Maine life are precious because they change over time," she says. "We really want to try to get stories from everywhere in the state. We want people to talk about what it means to be from Maine."

The workshop schedule is as follows:

July 7: Workshop I: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Identifying Themes/People, with Jo Radner, a Maine folklorist, and Peggy Yocom, a folklorist at George Mason University and the Rangeley Lakes Logging Museum (Bumps Room); Workshop II: 1-4 p.m., Interviewing & Fieldwork, with Radner and Yocom (DPC 113), followed by a reception with storytelling presentations, 4:30-5:30 (DPC Atrium);

July 8: Workshop III: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Archival Processing, with MacDougall and Pamela Dean, Folklife Center archivist (DPC 113); Workshop IV: 1-4 p.m.: Audio Interviewing, with Rob Rosenthal of the SALT Institute in Portland (DPC 113);

July 9: Workshop V: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Fundamentals of Digital Photography, with photographer and senior lecturer Bill Kuykendall of the Department of New Media (DPC 113); Workshop VI: 1-4 p.m., Fundamentals of Digital Videography, with Jim Sharkey, a Brunswick school teacher and videographer (DPC 113);

July 10: Workshop VII: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Creating Public Programs, with Kathleen Mundell, folklorist with Cultural Resources (DPC 113); Workshop VIII: 1-4 p.m., Project Planning and Grant Writing, with MacDougall (DPC 113), followed by informal conversations, a wrap-up and evaluation.

To register or for more information, contact MacDougall, Maine Folklife Center at (207) 581-1848.

UMaine to Offer Free Personal Finance Workshops

18 May 2009

Contact: Glen McDermott, 581-3127

ORONO — The University of Maine Financial Education Program, in collaboration with the UMaine School of Economics, will offer a series of workshops related to household financial management. The set of five workshops will run continuously through the summer in a rotating cycle that starts Thursday, May 21. All workshops are free and open to the public.

Topics include "Budgeting: Making Ends Meet," "Debt: Pros and Cons, Management, Restructuring," "Efficiency: Cost Cutting, Long and Short Term," and "Investing in Your Future: Kids, College, and Retirement," and "Mortgage Primer: Navigating the Process and Bankers' Lingo."

All workshops will take place from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Thursdays in the Totman Room of the Memorial Union. Each workshop is a standalone session— but the topics are designed to integrate and complement one another.

In addition to the workshops, program staff are available for one-on-one consultation and assistance.

The Financial Education Program aims to provide UMaine employees, students and residents of surrounding communities access to high-quality, current and credible information, tools, and services designed to broaden personal financial management knowledge and decision-making skills. The program was established by the University of Maine School of Economics in cooperation with the University of Maine system, Maine Community Foundation, the Maine State Treasurer, and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

For further information or to set up an appointment, please contact Glen McDermott at (cell) 902-0354 or (home) 469-1057.

Innovation, Engineering for Youth among Summer Camps at UMaine

18 May 2009

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine is offering a variety of summer day camps, workshops and special events geared toward engaging Maine's youngsters and introducing them to an exciting environment of creativity, innovation, invention and adventure. A more complete list of other summer camps and events at the University of Maine is available at the Summer Youth Programs website. Here are three designed to offer young people a simplified introduction to innovation and engineering concepts. Maine Summer Transportation Institute The Maine Summer Transportation Institute, July 13-24, with full scholarships for up to 20 middle school students from the greater Bangor area, is designed to introduce area students at an early age to the jobs and careers available in Maine's transportation industry, and also to expose them to UMaine engineering education and university life. Students participate in field trips, leadership and team-building activities, and a series of age-appropriate workshops and hands-on laboratory experiences, all related to transportation mode, safety, and products, alternative fuels, construction materials, and computer-assisted design. Students also will participate in recreational activities at the new Student Recreation and Fitness Center. Participants will be selected on the basis of interest, academic achievement and recommendations from their school administrators. The majority of the day-long activities, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., will be offered at the Bion and Dorain Foster Student Innovation Center and other nearby campus facilities. For details or registration information, contact Sheila Pendse in the UMaine College of Engineering at 581-2225, or visit the [program website](#). The institute is cosponsored by the Maine Department of Transportation, the UMaine College of Engineering and the Federal Highway Administration. Innovation Adventure Day Camp New this year is the Innovation Adventure Day Camp, July 27-31, a week of creativity and invention combined with outdoors adventures, including canoeing, a climbing wall and the MaineBound challenge course. Activities are planned from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and exposes participating youngsters in grades 3-8 to various aspects of inventiveness and problem-solving, along with outdoor adventures. Students will be challenged to invent cool products ranging from new snack foods, using a wide variety of available ingredients, to a new board game or a card game. They'll test their creations on other campers and figure out what works and what doesn't -- all the while learning how inventors come up with new ideas and inventions. The program is a partnership between the Foster Innovation Center, MaineBound Adventure Center and Campus Activities. Registration information, including cost, is available by calling Jesse Moriarity at 581-1427 or visiting the Foster Student Innovation Center website. Computer Assisted Design/Adventure Camp CAD Camp, July 5-10, lets encourages participants in grades 9-12 to mix their interests in computers and the outdoors with a week of creativity, new friends and adventure inside the classroom and out. Students will be introduced to computer-aided design (CAD) by designing something uniquely their own. Outdoors activities will be coordinated through MaineBound adventure activities, including a climbing wall, canoeing and a ropes and challenge course. Students can be housed on campus or may commute. For more information or to register, call Karen Horton, associate professor of mechanical engineering at 581-2136 or visit the program website. CAD Camp is co-sponsored by the College of Engineering, Maine Department of Transportation, Bentley Systems, Inc., UMaine Campus Recreation and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Conference on 'Loyalism' to Explore Counterrevolutionary Patriotism

19 May 2009

Contact: Betsy Arntzen, (207) 581-4225

ORONO -- The public is invited to an international conference, "Loyalism and the Revolutionary Atlantic World," June 4-7 at the University of Maine and in Castine.

Organized by the UMaine Canadian-American Center and the Department of History, the conference has attracted dozens of scholars from the United States, Canada, the U.K. and Australia to present research and explore critical aspects of the American Revolution.

The conference will examine the role of perhaps the most understudied Revolutionary topic among historians in the United States: Loyalists -- those who opposed the Patriot movement. It also will introduce an "Atlantic" perspective, which will help move analysis of the American Revolution beyond its familiar nationalistic boundaries into a larger trans-national region of influence and significance, according to co-organizers Liam Riordan, associate professor of history and authority on early America and its political, religious and ethnic makeup, and Stephen Hornsby, Canadian-American Center director.

A \$75 fee covers meal and coffee break expenses. Conference organizers can assist with local accommodations for travelers.

The conference will take place at Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, on the UMaine campus, and on June 6 at the Castine Historical Society. Castine was a prominent British military site and loyalist refuge on Penobscot Bay.

Conference sponsors include Canadian American Center, the Maine Humanities Council, the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the University of New Brunswick, the Castine Historical Society and the Maine Historical Society.

Additional details, including schedule, presentation locations, and information about accommodations, can be found on the [Canadian-American Center website](#), or by calling Betsy Arntzen at the center at (207) 581-4225. The conference is free to UMaine faculty, staff and students; advance registration by May 31 is requested.

Gilson to Inaugurate New UMaine Psychology Lecture Series

19 May 2009

Contact: Beth Matano, (401) 595-8551

ORONO -- Stephen Gilson, professor of interdisciplinary disability studies and social work, has been selected as the keynote speaker for the first annual Stanley Sue Distinguished Diversity Lecture Series, Tuesday, May 26, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 107 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building.

The series was created by the diversity committee in the Department of Psychology's doctoral training program in clinical psychology.

As part of its ongoing commitment to diversity, the committee created the annual event in honor of Stanley Sue, professor of psychology and Asian American studies at the University of California-Davis, and pioneer in the field of diversity as it pertains to clinical psychology. Sue has studied mental health and personality issues within the Asian

American community, and has examined the validity of traditional assessment measures when used to assess diverse clients.

Each year, the diversity committee, composed of graduate students, will nominate a researcher from a New England college or university who has demonstrated a commitment to diversity in his or her research.

Gilson was selected for the inaugural lecture because of his work with the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies and the Department of Social Work to expand the definition of diversity to include disability, an important contribution to the field, with profound implications for psychology in its interface with individuals with disabilities.

Gilson's lecture will be followed by a brief question and answer period.

The event is free and open to the public.

UMaine Conference to Examine Child Welfare Issues

20 May 2009

Contact: Robin Arnold, 581-2398

ORONO -- The 16th Annual Child Welfare Conference, being held June 18 at the University of Maine will examine a wide range of issues most affecting children today, including poverty, education, substance abuse, serious child injury and child exploitation.

The conference, titled "Hot Topics in Child Welfare," is designed for professionals working with children, and is open to the public. It begins at 8 a.m. at the Wells Conference Center on the UMaine campus. Registration forms and information about fees can be obtained by calling 581-2398 or emailing: RArnold@maine.edu.

Keynote speaker for the day-long event is Paul Tough, editor of the New York Times Magazine and author of "Whatever It Takes." Tough is one of the nation's leading authors on poverty, education and the achievement gap. Plenary speaker is Kim Strom-Gottfried, author of many books on ethics. Her talk is titled "Moral Courage: Ethics When Working with Children and Families."

The conference is organized by the Greater Bangor Area Child Welfare Conference Committee: Eastern Maine Medical Center SCAN Committee, EMMC Family Service & Support Team, EMMC Women's and Children's Services, Bangor Police Department, Maine Department of Health Human Services, Penobscot Community Health Center, University of Maine School of Social Work, Casey Family Services and is supported by a grant from Casey Family Services and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

UMaine Sponsors Tree Tour of Clifford Woods

20 May 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205

FARMINGTON, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will be offering a tree tour of Clifford Woods off Titcomb Hill Road in Farmington, on Friday, May 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. Patty Cormier, district forester with the Maine Forest Service, will lead the tree identification walk and discuss basic forest ecology in Clifford Woods. 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 Tuesday, 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 Maine, their ecosystems and their economy. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine's Francis Crowe Society Announces New Inductees

20 May 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777; Victoria Blanchette, (207) 581-2204 ORONO, Maine – Eight engineering professionals recently were inducted into the University of Maine College of Engineering Francis Crowe Society for their outstanding contributions to the engineering industry. Each year, members of UMaine's engineering programs are invited to nominate an individual who has made distinguished contributions to advancing the art, science or practice of engineering. Under unique circumstances, individuals that do not hold an engineering degree, yet made a significant contribution to the profession are elected as honorary members. The society is named in honor of UMaine Engineering alumnus Francis T. Crowe, a renowned civil engineer who graduated in 1905 and went on to design and construct 19 major dams in the western United States, including Hoover Dam, considered to be one of the greatest engineering accomplishments of the world. Water from Crowe's dams enabled California to become the most successful agricultural region in the world. This year, the following professionals were inducted as distinguished and honorary engineers:

College of Engineering Distinguished Inductees:

- Chemical and Biological Engineering – Ralph Carter was born in Portland, Maine, attended Mexico High School and graduated from UMaine in 1985 with a bachelor of science in chemical engineering. He currently is president of Rockwell Software, a business unit within the architecture and software segment of Rockwell Automation in Austin, Texas. Carter is a former board member of the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation, the North Carolina State Pulp and Paper Foundation, and the University of Miami, Ohio Pulp and Paper Foundation.
- Electrical and Computer Engineering – Dale Flanders, a native of Guilford, Maine, attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his bachelors of science and master's degree. Flanders, a strong supporter of UMaine and member of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board, created the Dale and Julia Flanders Engineering Scholarship Fund to promote entrepreneurship in engineering students. Flanders holds 74 U.S. patents and was the founder of Axsun Technologies in Billerica, Mass.
- Mechanical Engineering – David Sleeper of Hermon graduated from UMaine in 1958 with a mechanical engineering degree, and currently is president and owner of Realty of Maine. David has a strong engineering background, starting his career as a nuclear submarine engineer in Connecticut for Electric Boat. He also worked for several years at James W. Sewall Co. in Old Town and at GE in Burlington, VT. where he worked on missile systems and had one of the early patents on an electric dishwasher.
- Spatial Information Science and Engineering – Mark Jadkowski of Hampden is chair of UMaine's Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering Advisory Board. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Humboldt State University, Jadkowski went on to earn his master's degree in applied mathematics and doctorate in engineering at Utah State University. He also worked for several years at James W. Sewall Co. in Old Town. He currently is president and chief operating officer of Global Relief Technologies in Portsmouth, N.H. Jadkowski also has an office at the Target Technology Center in Orono.

School of Engineering Technology Distinguished Inductees:

- Electrical Engineering Technology – Paul Elkin received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from UMaine in 1986, and went on to earn his master's degree at Washington State University in 1988. He worked at Central Maine Power Company for more than 10 years, and since 1999 he has worked for E/PRO Engineering and Environmental Consulting and TRC as a principal electrical engineer. Elkin currently resides in Sidney and is the manager of the company's electrical engineering department.
- Surveying Engineering Technology – Gunther Gruelich is a retired licensed land surveyor and engineer in Massachusetts, and has presented, published, and co-authored 150 papers and books. From 1957 to 1965 Gunther worked for New England Survey Service in Boston and provided survey control and construction survey services on the Callahan Tunnel under Boston Harbor and managed design

computations of the Massachusetts Turnpike extension from Newton to Boston. He understands the demand for higher education for surveying engineering and has been a strong supporter of UMaine in its effort to meet the need. Honorary Engineers Inductees - Construction Management Technology – Bollie Bollenbach, vice president of Pizzagalli Construction Company of Portland, has more than thirty years of business experience, including twenty in construction and ten in international consumer products. Bollenbach is a member of the CMT Industrial Advisory Committee and is active in directing internships of CMT students. Bollenbach received his bachelor's degree in economics from Dartmouth College in 1978. He went on to earn his master's degree in business from the Amos Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College in 1982. - School of Engineering Technology – Douglas Cutchin grew up in Aroostook County and has worked in Maine all of his life. He received a bachelor of arts in economics and history from UMaine in 1965. Cutchin is the immediate past president of The Sheridan Corporation, a full-service construction company, with locations in Fairfield and Portland. He currently serves as co-chairman and treasurer of the Mid Maine Interfaith Shelter, president/director of the Central Maine Growth Council, director of the Mid Maine Chamber of Commerce, and as chair of the Governor's Business Excellence Committee. For more information about the Francis Crowe Society, visit www.engineering.umaine.edu.

Board of Trustees Approves Pooler as UMaine Dean

21 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine System Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of Anne Pooler to serve as dean of the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development. UMaine President Robert Kennedy nominated Pooler, who has served as interim dean since July 2007. The board ratified that appointment at its Monday May 18 meeting.

Pooler is a Brewer native who earned both her master's degree and doctorate from UMaine, along with a bachelor's degree from College of New Rochelle in New York. She joined the UMaine faculty in 1976 and became associate dean in 1979.

"Anne Pooler has served UMaine and its students with distinction and I am delighted to appoint her to this critical position," Kennedy says. "She is an established leader in our academic community, respected and appreciated by all. Through her work in developing statewide policy and in working to educate hundreds of Maine teachers, Anne has had an immeasurable impact on our state and on UMaine."

"I have worked with Anne for many years, and am pleased that she will continue as dean," says Susan Hunter, UMaine's vice president for academic affairs and provost. "I am certain that the College of Education and Human Development will thrive under her leadership."

A former social studies teacher and school administrator, Pooler worked in Brewer, Lewiston and Auburn school systems before becoming a professor.

Pooler is a respected educational scholar, with a distinguished scholarship record. She has also provided vast public service, applying her insights and expertise to helping address regional and statewide issues related to K-12 education.

Strawberries and Peas: Maine Foods for June

22 May 2009

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205

ORONO — University of Maine Cooperative Extension publishes information to help consumers find, grow, use and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine. Visit extension.umaine.edu to order or download bulletins to fit the season, including June favorites such as "Let's Preserve Strawberries," "Let's Preserve: Jams, Jellies and Spreads," and "Vegetables and Fruits for Health: Peas."

Extension Educator Kathy Savoie from the UMaine Extension Cumberland County office cautions that consumers should get up-to-date information before canning food. Over the years there have been changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment, so there is new information on the best methods, canners, jars, and seals to use to ensure a safe result. Updated recommendations are available local UMaine Extension offices, with locations available at extension.umaine.edu or by calling 800-287-0274.

Freezing berries in season and making low sugar jams and jellies will increase access to a year-round supply of local foods, cut back on sugar and reduce grocery bills. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Student Tech Team Conference at UMaine Friday

25 May 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Some 800 middle school students from all around the state will visit the University of Maine on Friday May 29 for a day-long conference that will lead to more effective use of computer technology in schools while promoting technical and interpersonal skill development for the students.

The Maine Learning Technology Initiative Student Team Tech Conference features hands-on participation, with students and teachers using their MLTI laptop computers that they use in school. The UMaine Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering is one of the event's sponsors. This year's focus is "M-STEM, Maine Learners, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math."

A full schedule of workshops is online here.

A few examples:

- Coding for Apple - Using Big Ideas to Make Little Apps (Zev Eisenberg & Colleagues - New Media Students, UMaine) Ever wonder what it takes to make an app for the iPhone? Do you have questions like, "Do you have to be part of a big company to start doing this kind of stuff?" And the answer is, "No, you don't. They're being built right here in Maine by current UMaine students!" Come hear from these folks who are doing it. Turns out it's all about thinking big and working hard. Participants in this session will get an inside look at what can happen when a team works collaboratively in a digital world! Block 1 from 9:20 - 10:20 - Little Hall 140
- Searching the Web - It Is Far From Trivial! (Phil Brookhouse - MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor, Sylvia Norton - Maine State Library; Emily Albee - UMaine Graduate Student) Back for another year... In an ongoing game of "Not so trivial pursuit," participants will be competing for prizes for themselves, and for their school! Dust off those Boolean Logic skills, and come ready to search! Offered twice: Blocks 1 & 2; 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - DP Corbett Business Bldng 100
- Games 4 Change (Ed Latham & Olga LaPlante - MLTI Regional Mentors) Your textbook bores you to tears? Put a new spin on the old curriculum. Learning may not be child's play, but it can be a fun game! Everyone likes playing games, but have you seen fun games that teachers would actually use in your class? Have you ever thought of creating these games or being part of a global team to make them? Come join us as we explore tons of games about the critical

issues around the world. These games are interactive, free, and best of all, FUN! Engage your learning by exploring how you can teach others about the power of playing. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Little Hall 219

- **Oh My Goodness! I Blew up the Screen!** (Bruce Segee - Super Computing, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at UMaine) This session will explore high resolution visualization using tiled displays. Students will generate large images (the current idea is fractals, but may be something else) based on inquiry-based exploration. Students will work in teams to not only create the images, but also to view them. Each student's laptop will be used to display a piece of the overall image, allowing both a larger display and higher resolution than could be attained with a single laptop. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Barrows Hall 119
- **Intro to Secondlife** (Blake Bourque, Sophomore Messalonskee High School; Roderic Carmichael, Senior Messalonskee High School) Second Life is a free online 3D virtual world imagined and created by its Residents. From the moment you enter Second Life, you'll discover a fast-growing digital world filled with people, entertainment, experiences and opportunity. You will go through the process of setting up an account, and we will provide a list of areas that are educationally based, such as UMO's BlackBear Island. We would also like to familiarize you with the unlimited possibilities of 3D construction, show some creations, and begin a discussion to see what people can imagine for possible uses of SecondLife, such as research, collaboration, exploration and experimentation. Block 2 from 10:40 - 11:40 - Neville Hall 100
- **Using Social Networks in Education: Setting Up and Using Nings In a Classroom** (Ernie Easter & Students from New Sweden School) Ernie Easter and his students set up the Maine Holocaust Education Network as part of their Holocaust Studies Unit. Students shared their work with each other and with other teachers and survivors who became members. In this workshop you will view this Ning which was nominated for an Edublog Award for the Best Educational Use of a Social Networking Service. Each participating school will set up a Ning that will be ready to use. Adults and students should attend this workshop together to collaborate. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2 from 9:20 & 10:20 and 10:40 - 11:40 - Shibles Hall 316
- **Arrrgh! Pirates at WJHS! or How We Made a Teacher-Approved You Tube Video** (Beth Goodwin & Students - Wells Junior High School) Discover how easy it is to make a pretty decent YouTube video to demonstrate learning. We'll show you how we combined a Language Arts assignment, a Flip camcorder, Garage Band, and photo permissions, and made a YouTube that demonstrates learning. Watch our video for content ideas, and learn how to convince teachers and administrators with our "Top 10 Really Good Reasons For Making A YouTube video". We'll show you how to get your own YouTube channel, and we'll even share our sources for talking like a pirate and acquiring your own pirate name. Block 2 from 10:40 - 11:40 - Shibles Hall 217
- **DataStudio Sensors - Real Time Data Collection** (Kevin Crafts & Students - Bristol Consolidated) Data Studio software teamed up with Pasco digital sensors encourage the "doing of science as meaningful work." Participate in several hands on science experiments (we will be wearing safety goggles) facilitated by students that demonstrate the use of Data Studio with Pasco digital sensors to record and graph data in real time. The instantaneous, graphically represented results make a real difference; the time between hypothesis and conclusion is shortened because the data collection is not dependent upon traditional tedious lab procedures. Activities that would not be possible with traditional lab equipment are now available to all! Come do science! Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2 from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Barrows Hall 221
- **Multi Track Recording, Editing and Mixing in Garageband** (Alan Kaschub - USM School of Music) Garageband is a useful tool for producing podcasts, adding sound to movies and also great fun to experiment with. It also happens to be a very powerful music production tool. This session will explore some of the more advanced features of Garageband and show students how they can be the musician, engineer, producer and distributor of their own music. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Little Hall 110
- **All About Me: Learning to Use Keynote** (Georgina Grenier - MSAD #17) Have fun learning to use transitions, builds, and actions, as well as adding movies, music and hyperlinks to tell the world about yourself in a visual presentation using Keynote. A library of images, shapes, and actions will be provided to help you begin, and may be kept on your

laptop for use in future projects. Block 1 from 9:20 - 10:20 - Jenness 104

- Museum Box - Thinking Cubed (Dan Ryder, English Teacher; Travis Tierney, English Teacher, Kim Ferrari, English Department Senior Student Intern - MSAD #9 - Mt. Blue High School, Farmington) Discover how a scrappy, ragtag collection of teachers and students from both sides of Routes 2 & 4, took a chance on awesome and used the online archiving organizer, Museum Box, to craft new ways of demonstrating their understandings about life, literature, and Web 2.0. Participants will laugh, cry, and learn how art, technology, language arts, student aides, and calculated risk-taking integrate for the betterment of all mankind -- or at least the students and educators of Maine. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - D.P. Corbett Business Bldng.
- Play Ball! Using Video and Your MLTI Laptop to Improve in Your Sport (Jake Bailey - MSAD #4) You will be using a math formula and video to determine speed or to watch your mechanics to help you improve your game or overall skills. It is fairly simple - you only need basic math abilities and your laptop! And trust me, the math involved is nothing too hard. You can do it! I promise. And hey, you'll get better at your sport! Block 2, 10:40 - 11:40 - DP Corbett Business Bldng 111
- Gimp & Comic Strip Design (Scott Bosworth & Students - Skowhegan Middle School) Have you ever dreamed of being a comic book artist or an illustrator? Well, now there is a program called Gimp that can help you do just that. Gimp is a program for editing pictures that uses layers to help organize your image. You can create special effects to add artistic pizzazz to your photos. You can design name tags, create characters or just experiment. You can then put your new image creations into Comic Life to create your own personal comic book. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Jenness 100
- Beyond Your Front Yard: Using Google Earth For More Than Finding Your House (Jim Wells - MLTI Statewide Integration Mentor) Google Earth has so many amazing uses, it will be hard to fit even a few of them into an hour! Create a tour of Maine, use placemarks to show why and where your town should build a skatepark, simplify your history project, and then buzz the summit of Everest in a jet fighter. Bring some ideas to share, and leave with a fresh view of the planet. Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2, from 9:20 - 10:20 & 10:40 - 11:40 - Barrows Hall 131
- Photocharades (Carol Waldron, Technology Coordinator/Teacher at Appleton Village and Hope Elementary Schools; Argy Nestor, Visual and Performing Arts Specialist, Department of Education) Join us in Photocharades for some fun with digital photography. Work in groups to make words come alive as you act out quotes or phrases and capture them on the screen. The arts, social studies, science, health, math, world languages, literacy, and technology can all be creatively connected as we play with words. Come join the fun! Offered twice: Block 1 & Block 2 from 9:20 - 10:20 and 10:40 - 11:40 - Shibles Hall 311
- Faces and Places in iPhoto '09 (Trey Bachner - Apple, Inc.) Browse and search photos not just by when they were taken, but by who appears in them and where they were taken. In this session we will explore some of the powerful new options for organizing photos in iPhoto 09 using "face detection" and GPS location tags. Block 1 from 9:20 - 10:20 - DP Corbett Business Bldng 113
- Photo Booth & iSight Overview (Jonathan Carr - Apple, Inc.) The MLTI laptops now run Leopard, the latest version of Mac OS X, which includes a new application called Photo Booth. With the built-in iSight (if your computer is so equipped), or an external USB or FireWire camera, you can do all kinds of cool stuff with Photo Booth, ranging from pictures of your friends in Ancient Greece for history class to fractals for math and physics, and all kinds of cool stuff for art. Photo Booth is a great way to get creative on your Mac! So bring along a camera if you can, and be sure to come to this session ready to be excited about the possibilities. Block 1 from 9:20 - 10:20 - Jenness 102
- The Past Meets The Future! Help Your Town's History Come to Life! (Laura Richter & Students - Skowhegan Middle School) Have you ever wanted to get involved with helping out your town by providing visitors and residents with a lively, informative and interesting podcast about the history of the area? Well, we can show you how to access old photographs of your town, import them into iPhoto and make a nice podcast in Garage Band. Your whole town will thank you over and over! Block 2 from 10:40 - 11:40 - Little Hall 130

Onward Program Students Receive First Schmelzer College Transition Scholarships

25 May 2009

Contact: Alan Parks, Director, University of Maine College Success Programs, 581-2320 alan.parks@umit.maine.edu

ORONO—Paying for college just became a bit easier for four students in the University of Maine Onward Program, thanks to a scholarship from the Maine Community Foundation (Maine CF). Christine Boobar of LaGrange, John Goater of Old Town, Nawal Dekkaki of Bass Harbor, and Dianne Herring of Bangor are recipients of the first Henry L.P. Schmelzer College Transitions Fund Scholarship presented at the Onward Program Graduate Recognition Reception on May 2.

Throughout his tenure as president of the Maine Community Foundation, Hank Schmelzer was an advocate for higher education in Maine, helping to launch the Maine Compact for Higher Education in 2003. At his retirement in December 2008, generous donors recognized his leadership by establishing the Schmelzer College Transitions Scholarship Fund to support the post-secondary aspirations of Maine adults returning to school.

"The generosity of Mr. Schmelzer and the Maine Community Foundation will have enormous impact on our students," says Alan Parks, director of the Onward Program, "especially at a time of shrinking financial aid and rising college costs." He welcomed the support for older students who often have families, mortgages and other financial commitments. "They're highly motivated students," Parks says, "and they need all the help they can get."

"MaineCF chose to partner with the University of Maine Onward Program because of its demonstrated success in helping Maine adults enter and complete college," says Jean Warren, scholarship funds manager at the foundation. MaineCF manages more than 400 scholarship funds.

Scientists to Extend Antarctic Ice Records Back to 3 Million Years

26 May 2009

Contact: Andrei Kurbatov (207) 581-2840; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – Scientists at the University of Maine have received a \$436,546 grant from the National Science Foundation to extend climate records back to three million years using ice samples from the Allan Hills Blue Ice Area in East Antarctica. Andrei Kurbatov, an assistant research professor at UMaine's Climate Change Institute, will lead the project, in cooperation with Princeton University, which aims to reconstruct details of past climate changes and greenhouse gas concentrations for certain time periods by applying emerging methods for absolute and relative dating of air bubbles trapped in the ice. During two field expeditions, researchers will collect ice core samples and conduct surface trenching activities at the Allan Hills Blue Ice Area. In addition to developing a new climate record from the information preserved in some of the oldest ice on Earth, a major long-term scientific goal is to establish a framework for an International Climate Park at Allan Hills. Students also will be trained in advanced field, laboratory and numerical modeling methods as part of the project. The University of Maine is involved in cyber infrastructure development, which can provide a wide community of scientists with fast access to the results of our research, Kurbatov pointed in his grant proposal. Extending ice core based climate records beyond 850,000 years will contribute to the broad array of climate change studies and improve our understanding of natural and anthropogenic forced climate change, and the options for responding.

Intertwined - An Exhibition of Maine Fiber Arts

26 May 2009

Contact: Laurie Hicks (laurie.hicks@umit.maine.edu), (207) 581-3245

INTERTWINED

An Exhibition of Maine Fiber Arts

June 5 — August 9, 2009

The University of Maine
Department of Art
Lord Hall Gallery
Orono, Maine

INTERTWINED, an Exhibition of Maine Fiber Arts, will be on view at the Lord Hall Gallery of the Department of Art, University of Maine, June 5-Aug. 9, 2009.

This diverse and vibrant exhibition was curated by Laurie E. Hicks, professor of art at the University of Maine, and includes 59 works by 29 artists. The selection represents both traditional fiber work and contemporary new forms: woven tapestries, knit and felted pieces, quilts, basketry, crochet and hand appliqué as well as installations. Materials used include: wool, cotton, silk, and other fibers, brown ash, hair, pine needles, paper, plastic, and hand-made papers. The public is welcome.

Sponsored by the Department of Art, University of Maine, with assistance from Maine Fiberarts.

Gallery hours: Monday–Friday 9:00–4:00

Free and open to the public

Handicapped accessible

For more information: (207) 581-3245

ARTISTS:

Allison Cooke Brown
Towanda Brown
Elizabeth Busch
Mary Allen Chaisson
Jodi Clayton
Katharine Cobey
Stephanie Crossman
Gabriella D'Italia
Jo Diggs
Barbara D. Francis
Kathleen Goddu
Sarah D. Haskell
Mia Kanazawa
Natasha Kempers-Cullen
Richard Lee
Stephanie Green Levy
Laney Lloyd
Carol Logie
Phyllis Harper Loney
Andy Mauery
Susan Barrett Merrill
Susan Mills
Arlene Morris
Nan Morrissette
Sandy Spiller

Anne Walker
Jill Snyder Wallace
Catherine Worthington
Rebekah Younger

Values and Benefits of Maine Beaches Focus of July 10 Conference

27 May 2009

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, 581-1434, catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu

ORONO -- Every summer, millions of people visit the sandy beaches of southern Maine, and thousands more own or rent homes in beach communities. Yet it is not always clear how these visits to the beach translate into dollars.

At the 2009 Maine Beaches Conference, Friday, June 10, in South Portland, Michael LeVert, Maine State Economist; University of Southern Maine economist Charles Colgan; and Linwood Pendleton, Senior Fellow at The Ocean Foundation will discuss how beaches contribute to the state's economy, how sea level rise and coastal erosion may affect those values, and actions communities can take to protect their beach assets.

Other presentations include a summary of trends at many of Southern Maine's beaches highlighting beach profiles, shoreline erosion, dune restoration, and water quality. Richard Lindzen of MIT and Beth Nagusky of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection will present different perspectives about climate change, sea level rise, and related public policies. Paul Kirshen of Battelle Memorial Institute will discuss the costs of various strategies for adapting to sea level rise. Ideas and tools for preserving beach communities will be shared, such as a new resource for property owners and beach users seeking more information about access to the Maine coast; Kennebunkport's Watershed Improvement Program; and how Ogunquit residents are protecting their barrier dune system.

Steve Dickson of the Maine Geological Survey will lead a walking tour of hazard-resilient coastal activities and construction projects, and state regulators will be on hand to explain how state and federal laws affect coastal property owners.

"Sandy beaches are such a unique resource along our mostly rocky Maine coast. This year's conference provides an opportunity for us to more fully appreciate the related economic, social, and ecological values Maine's beaches provide," said conference coordinator Kristen Grant of Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension.

The biennial Maine Beaches Conference provides continuing opportunities for beach stakeholders with diverse interests to exchange the most current information. Valuing Maine's Beaches: Assets, Challenges, and Actions for Today and Tomorrow takes place July 10, 2009, at Southern Maine Community College in South Portland. For more information and to register, see <http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mgs/explore/marine/beach-conference/beaches-2009.htm> or contact Kristen Grant, 207-646-1555 x115.

The conference is sponsored by Southern Maine Community College, Maine Coastal Program, Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, SOS Maine, Maine Geological Survey, Surfriders Northern New England Chapter, and Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Maine Workforce Conference May 29 to Focus on Developing, Honing Skills for Tourism Industry

28 May 2009

Contact: Harold Daniel, (207) 581-1933; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 HALLOWELL, Maine -- In the last year, educators and stakeholders in Maine's tourist industry have identified some of the training needs to develop and sharpen the skills of workers and managers in the hospitality industry. Now, they're meeting in Hallowell May 29 to discuss how to make that happen and who should be doing it. The Maine Workforce Development Conference, being held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell, has attracted an estimated 50 participants, ranging from representatives from the tourism industry to educators, state and municipal policymakers and people working in the business of accommodating vacationers and visitors. "The conference takes on even more urgency as we contemplate a transition from manufacturing jobs to service sector jobs in the current economic environment, and how we can provide for that with regard to the tourism industry," says Harold Daniel, a University of Maine associate professor of marketing and director of the UMaine-based Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO). Options for educating and training tomorrow's tourism workforce may be done through community colleges or universities, private contractors or professional development certificate programs. The conference will be a work session to determine how to implement the strategies and ideas that stem from previous assessments and evaluations of current and future needs in the industry. "We're really trying to take it to the next step of designing a system to meet these needs," Daniel says. Speakers include John Richardson, commissioner of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, Laura Fortman, commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor and Kenneth Bartlett, editor in chief of "Advances in Developing Human Resources" at the University of Minnesota, and Charles Colgan, associate director of CenTRO and professor with the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. Additional information about the conference, including a schedule, is available on the CenTRO website.

Spaghetti Bridge Breaking Competition at UMaine

29 May 2009

Contact: Victoria Blanchette, 581-2204; Eric Landis, 581-2170 ORONO, Maine - Students from Monmouth Academy will put spaghetti noodles -- Delverde perciatelli #6, to be precise -- to the test during the seventh annual Spaghetti Bridge Breaking Competition at the University of Maine. The event will be held on Tuesday, June 2 in Boardman Hall, room 8, from 9:15-10:30 a.m. Thirty-two Monmouth students, including freshmen, sophomores and juniors, are working in pairs to design and build bridges, according to Jeff Gosselin, Monmouth Academy math teacher who first put this competition together. Gosselin retires this June, but hopes that the math department at Monmouth will continue the competition. "The project is not an easy one to do and do well. Most of the students work with a partner and they learn about teamwork, patience, overcoming obstacles, deadlines, engineering applications and have fun at the same time. The competition has grown as the bridges have become better," said Gosselin. When asked what got him started, Gosselin replied, "I was at a conference in Providence, Rhode Island circa 1996 and heard a commotion coming from one of the meeting rooms. I followed the noise and saw a video being shown of a Spaghetti Bridge competition at a Rhode Island high school. It looked like fun. You can't survive at the high school level if you and the kids can't enjoy what's going on." Twenty bridges that passed the preliminary round at Monmouth Academy last Friday will be entered in to the competition. The bridges were built in geometry (first year builders) and Algebra II (second year builders). A first-year bridge must hold 200 pounds (300 if it fails a spec: span; height; roadbed); second-year bridges must hold 300 pounds (400 if it fails a spec). If a bridge fails two specs, it is eliminated from the competition. Competition is stiff and bridges have to hold up to not only a lot of weight, but to these criteria. Perciatelli is thick hollow pasta, and students must use Elmer's glue to bond individual strands. Bridges must be at least three inches high and span at least five inches. They can weigh no more than one pound. Gosselin remembered, "When the bridge won that held 12,250 pounds the entire group was going "crazy" as the numbers flew toward 10,000 lbs. When the bridge finally failed, ALL of the kids were screaming and giving high fives, not just the builder - who went to study engineering." The UMaine Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering will host the event.

University of Maine Foundation to Honor Five Alumni at 75th Anniversary Celebration

02 Jun 2009

Contact: Amos Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, (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 those that have followed has resulted in total assets exceeding \$140 million today. This includes over \$100 million of endowed funds that provide scholarships and other forms of financial support for University of Maine students, faculty and programs.

The Foundation will honor alumni, donors and friends with a special 75th anniversary celebration on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at Wells Conference Center in Orono, Maine. The event begins with a 5:30 p.m. reception. Special honorees include five alumni, one from each of UMaine's degree-granting colleges, who have gone on to serve their professions and their communities at the highest level and who have not been honored previously by the university, the University of Maine Alumni Association or the Foundation.

Honorees include:

Karen W. Baldacci of Augusta and Bangor, a teacher and registered dietician. Baldacci focuses her attention on issues relating to education, family literacy, wellness and nutrition, the arts, local agriculture and gardening. Baldacci received a UMaine B.S. in Food and Nutrition in 1983 and an M.A. in Teaching in 2001. She is married to Gov. John Baldacci.

Lawrence K. Bender of Los Angeles, California, a renowned film producer and political activist. His films include influential mega-hits "Kill Bill, Vol. 1" and "Kill Bill Vol. 2," "Good Will Hunting," "Pulp Fiction," "Anna and the King," "Jackie Brown," and "Reservoir Dogs." Those films have been honored with 21 Academy Award nominations, including two for Best Picture. Bender graduated from the University of Maine in 1979 with a degree in Civil Engineering.

Joline D. Godfrey of Santa Barbara, California, CEO of Independent Means, Inc., is an innovator in financial education for children and parents. Originator of a unique developmental approach to financial education, her work gives families new tools for raising children growing up in the midst of abundance. She received a B.S. in Child Development and Family Relations in 1972. Godfrey will be unable to accept her honor in person

Edward J. Keefe of Belmont, Massachusetts, is Chief Financial Officer for M/C Venture Partners in Boston, where he is responsible for oversight of financial and administration activities, information technology and financial reporting. Keefe plays a leadership role in UMaine Alumni activities in the Boston area. He graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from UMaine in 1986, an MBA from Suffolk University and an MS in Taxation from Bentley University.

Patrice M. Krant of Atlanta Georgia, director of global procurement in Coca Cola's Global Business Services organization, is responsible for building procurement capability by implementing best practices for the company's global procurement community. Krant graduated from UMaine with a M.A. in Journalism in 1977.

Darryl N. Brown, chair of the Foundation Board of Directors, will host the event. Brown, a UMaine graduate, is president/owner of Main-Land Development Consultants in Livermore Falls.

"I am honored to be a part of the anniversary celebration and am grateful to all the donors, past presidents and chairs whose leadership, generosity and vision have resulted in our success," Brown says. "Since 1975, the Foundation has paid more than \$75 million to support University of Maine programs, students and faculty. That support is possible only because of our thoughtful, generous donors."

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that exists to encourage gifts and bequests 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, 100 Foden Road in South Portland and online at www.umainefoundation.org.

Surplus, Discarded Property Sale Slated June 10

02 Jun 2009

Contact: Gordon Nelson, 581-4799; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine's annual yard sale to dispose of tons of discarded student property -- ranging from coffee makers and computer components to clothes, carpets and cleaning equipment -- is being combined this year with an Auxiliary Services surplus property sale. The sale is Wednesday, June 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Stewart Commons on Hilltop Road. Departing students typically leave small appliances, electronics and room furnishings like lamps, rugs, carpets and articles of clothing behind when they leave the university in May. Items are sold at an annual campus yard sale to the UMaine community and the public at very low prices. What is left over is donated to charity, according to Gordon Nelson, director of property management for Auxiliary Services. Combined with the students' discarded property this year will be the liquidation of surplus residence hall, dining services and Cutler Student Health Center items, including beds, desks, dressers, benches, chairs, mirrors, bookcases and file cabinets, among other things.

UMaine Museum of Art Announces Summer Exhibitions

02 Jun 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, 207.561.3350

Bangor, Maine - The University of Maine Museum of Art is pleased to present the following exhibitions to open to the public on June 26, 2009: Highway of Thought: Photographs by David Hilliard; Elegant Darkness: Photographs by Connie Imboden; Recent Sculptures by Christopher Frost.

Highway of Thought: Photographs by David Hilliard
June 26 - September 19, 2009

David Hilliard's multiple paneled, panoramic photographs explore issues of masculinity and capture a range of cross generational experiences---from childhood insecurities and the awkwardness of adolescence, to the complexities of manhood. On the road to self discovery, Hilliard's subjects encounter a series of physical and emotional tests. While the images vary from a cluttered basement to colorful country fairs, the majority of the works reveal the photographer's connection to landscape and nature.

The settings of several of the images are located on scenic lakes in Maine, in rustic cabins and summer retreats. These natural environments are the backdrop for exploring the intricacies of relationships and self identity. The father/son relationship, which has been a recurrent theme throughout Hilliard's career, is the subject of several compositions in the exhibition. These emotionally charged photographs attest to the strength of familial bonds, respect despite individual differences, and the inevitability of aging.

David Hilliard received his MFA from Yale University and has taught at Harvard University, Yale University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. His photographs are in the collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, among others.

Elegant Darkness: Photographs by Connie Imboden
June 26 - September 19, 2009

Connie Imboden has been taking beautifully seductive photographs for over 25 years. Her works are the subject of a recently released book, Reflections: 25 Years of Photography by Connie Imboden, which surveys her extensive creative output. Many of these seminal works are featured in this exhibition. Imboden's black and white photographs explore the terrain of the human body in images that are both beautiful and mysterious. Some images strike an unsettling feeling for that which is unknown, while others capture elegant abstractions of the figure.

The photographer harnesses the seductive qualities of water, manipulating its reflective nature with dramatic results. Her

images are visually perplexing; through the camera lens, Imboden captures the exact moment when flesh and water intersect to create a new visual conundrum.

Connie Imboden teaches at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Her photographs are in the collections of the nation's most prestigious museums including: Museum of Modern Art, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; National Museum of American Art, Washington; Philadelphia Museum of Art, among others. She has taught for numerous years at the Maine Media Workshop in Rockport, ME.

Recent Sculptures by Christopher Frost

June 26 - September 19, 2009

Sculptor Christopher Frost exhibits a series of whimsical sculptures that express a childlike playfulness. Frost's large scale constructions often combine a range of materials including: cast bronze elements, wood, concrete and found objects. In addition, the artist often incorporates random objects, from grandfather clocks to sewing machines, into constructions that evoke colorful narratives and historical references.

Many of Frost's sculptures are inspired by his childhood love of reading adventure books such as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *Treasure Island*. A featured work in the exhibition, *Hawkeye's Cave*, is a reference to James Fenimore Cooper's novel *The Last of the Mohicans*. In this sculpture a stack of colored and various style chairs are encapsulated by undulating strips of wooden strapping. The organic form brings to mind a child's rickety fort or fanciful huts pieced together from discarded wood and old furniture. The large scale work *Acanthus*, featured in the Zillman Gallery, consists of a ten foot tall wooden tree with an array of hand constructed wooden buildings in place of the foliage.

Christopher Frost received his MFA in sculpture from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, MA, and a BA in studio art from Bates College in Lewiston, ME. He has been awarded numerous public art commissions and was the artist-in-residence for The Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston. Frost's sculptures have been featured in outdoor exhibitions at the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Fuller Museum and The Art Complex Museum.

School of Social Work Plans Anniversary Celebration and Remembrance

03 Jun 2009

Contact: Gail Werrbach, 581-2386

The UMaine School of Social Work is inviting members of the university community to an anniversary celebration for the school and a remembrance of an admired former faculty member June 18 at Wells Commons Conference Center.

The school is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the baccalaureate social program and the 20th anniversary of the Masters of Social Work program with a dinner banquet from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Speakers for the anniversary celebration are Julia Watkins, executive director of the Council on Social Work Education and a former UMaine dean and social work faculty member, and UMaine alumnae Kim Strom-Gottfried, currently the Smith P. Theimann Jr. Distinguished Professor of Ethics and Professional Practice at the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and.

From 4:30-5:30 p.m., the school is planning a memorial gathering to honor Patty Coleman, a former UMaine professor of social work and one of the professors involved with the creation of the school's Master of Social Work program. Coleman, who died last November, had battled multiple sclerosis for 26 years, and was known for her advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities. She spoke regularly throughout the state to promote understanding of chronic illness.

"Since many graduates couldn't attend Patty's memorial service in November, we planned something to coincide with

the anniversary banquet," says Gail Werrbach, associate professor of social work.

For information, Werrbach or the School of Social Work can be reached at (207) 581-2386 or (207) 581-2398, respectively.

Henry Metcalf Receives 2009 UMaine Hikel Service Award

04 Jun 2009

Contact: Kelly Hoovler, 581-1581 ORONO -- Henry B. Metcalf, associate professor emeritus of general engineering at UMaine, has received the university's 2009 Barbara Hikel Award, presented annually to a retiree who has continued to serve the institution as a volunteer. The annual award was established in 2006 by the president of the University of Maine in memory and recognition of former Orono resident Barbara Hikel, a long-time employee who continued to serve the university in an exemplary manner after her retirement in 2000. The award is given each year by the president to a University of Maine retiree who, after retirement, provides extraordinary voluntary service to the University of Maine. Since his retirement in July 1999, "Hank" Metcalf has served, and continues to serve, on numerous committees and boards of directors of organizations that directly affect the day-to-day operations of the university and surrounding communities.~ He is a member of the School of Engineering Technology (SET), Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC), and the Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET) program and also serves on the board of directors for Penobscot Valley Senior College. In addition, Metcalf has been a member of the Maine Education Association, serving in several capacities as a member of the board of directors, a member of the Legislative Contact Team and as president of the Higher Education Association. Since 1999, he has served on the Selection Committee for the Distinguished Maine Professor as a member of the University of Maine Alumni Association.~Until 2006, he also served as a member of the President's Council for Retired Employees. An Orono resident, Metcalf received the award during the annual Retiree Homecoming on June 2. Recipients of the Barbara Hikel Award must be University of Maine retirees with at least 10 years of university service and age 55 or older. Primary criteria is exceptional voluntary service to the university during retirement. The award recipient is selected by the president of the University of Maine after receiving recommendations from the President's Council of Retired Employees.

University of Maine Alumni Association Presents Annual Award

04 Jun 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- The University of Maine Alumni Association has recognized seven individuals and a family with a series of awards signifying exemplary, long-term support for the university, its students and its alumni association. Presentations were made on Sunday, May 31 during UMaine's annual Reunion Weekend.

"UMaine has an extraordinary alumni community, along with countless other supporters and advocates," says Todd Saucier, the alumni association's president and executive director. "Without the efforts of these tireless alumni and friends, UMaine would not be the exceptional institution that it is today. It is an honor to recognize a few of UMaine's most extraordinary alumni and friends each year, and this year's group is truly exceptional."

Those honored on May 31 were:

- Prof. James Acheson of Bangor, a UMaine anthropology and School of Marine Sciences professor, is the 2009 UMaine Alumni Association Distinguished Maine Professor recipient. Funded by the Class of 1942, the award recognizes outstanding faculty achievement in teaching, research and public service.

- Andrea Hayes Lott of Eliot and the UMaine Class of 1969, was announced as winner of the Hilda A. Sterling '55 Class

Correspondent Award. This honor is presented annually in recognition of exemplary service as a class correspondent, demonstrated by long-term commitment to quality class communications.

- Al Curran of Gorham, UMaine Class of 1971 and Michael Trainor of Veazie are winners of the 2009 Black Bear Awards for outstanding service to UMaine through multiple endeavors. Curran and Trainor are both members of the University of Maine Board of Visitors, with Trainor completing his term as board chair later this month. Curran is CEO of Woodard and Curran, an engineering, science and environmental service company with offices in Maine and Massachusetts. Trainor is an attorney with the Bangor law firm Eaton and Peabody.

- The Doten family received the 2009 Fogler Legacy Award, presented to one family with a strong tradition of attending the University of Maine, with a minimum three generations of graduates. The Dotens are a four-generation UMaine family dating to the Class of 1923, which included Henry Doten and Cora Russell, who later married. Their two children also graduated from UMaine and one of their granddaughters, Sharon Oliver, a 1977 graduate, currently serves as UMaine's admissions director. The fourth generation of the Doten family includes Jonathan Pirruccello, a 2009 biology graduate who was a member of the Black Bear football team. Jonathan's brother Anthony is a current UMaine student.

- Henry "Hank" Woodbrey, who lives in Orono and is a member of the UMaine Class of 1953, received the 2009 Pine Tree Emblem Service Award, presented annually in recognition of leadership and service to the UMaine alumni community. Currently president of the UMaine Senior Alumni, Woodbrey received the Black Bear Award in 1993.

- Franklin Van Antwerpen, a Class of 1964 graduate who lives in Easton, Penn., is the winner of the 2009 Alumni Career Award, the most prestigious recognition given by the UMaine Alumni Association. One of just 150 Circuit Court of Appeal judges in the U.S., Van Antwerpen has had a long and distinguished career in the legal profession, mostly based in Philadelphia.

- Ashok Jhunjhunwala of Calcutta, India, who earned a master's degree in 1977 and a Ph.D. in 1979, earned the Bernard Lown '42 Alumni Humanitarian Award for distinguished work in service to humanity. It is named for Lown, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Jhunjhunwala earned the first physics and electrical engineering doctorate at UMaine. He is a professor at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras who has worked to bring his fellow Indian citizens affordable telecommunications and improved computer networks.

Paving Scheduled at UMaine, June 16 and 17

08 Jun 2009

Contact: Joe Carr, 207.581.3571 ORONO -- Paving is scheduled for Sebec Road and Long Road at the University of Maine next week, weather permitting. Those planning to drive on the Orono campus June 16 and 17 are asked to note the following schedule: Tuesday June 16 Sebec Rd. will be closed for paving along with the Fernald Hall handicapped parking area. Wednesday June 17 Long Rd. will be closed for paving from the West Mall to Rangely Rd. The following parking lots will be closed all day: Knox Hall Innovation Ctr Boardman Hall Corbett/Hart Hall Cutler/Bennett Hall In the morning on June 17: Traffic will be detoured at Long Rd.-Munson Rd. down Munson south Long Rd. will be barricaded at Gym Drive Gannett will be barricaded at Gannett/Cutler Lot Hebron Rd. will be barricaded at Cumberland Hall Androscoggin Rd. will be barricaded at Cumberland Hall Long Rd. will be barricaded at Jenness Hall Flagstaff Rd. will be barricaded at AEWB Beddington Rd. will be barricaded at Crosby Lab In the afternoon on June 17: Long Rd. will be barricaded at Rangely Rd. Long Rd. will be barricaded at Jenness Hall Flagstaff Rd. will be reopened for traffic Beddington Rd. will be reopened for traffic Thursday June 18, the entrances to all parking lots on Long Rd. will be paved. Those lots will be open while paving but motorists should expect short delays. A UMaine campus map is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/locator/>.

Whole Foods Market Partners with University of Maine Cooperative Extension for Food Preservation Expertise

08 Jun 2009

Contact: UMaine Extension: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205; Douglas Babkirk, (207) 712-1414. Whole Foods Market: Barbara Gulino: Barbara.gulino@wholefoods.com, (207) 774-7711. Members of the news media are welcome to cover any of the food preservation classes in the Portland store. To do so, please coordinate with Barbara Gulino. ORONO, Maine— Whole Foods Market has called on the University of Maine Cooperative Extension for food-preservation advice. The UMaine Extension's canning and preserving website is featured in "This Is What Summer Tastes Like," a seasonal entertaining guide available in Whole Foods Market stores throughout the country. "Preserving delicious summer fruits and vegetables is an amazing way to enjoy the tastes of flavors of summer's seasonal harvest year-round," said Barbara Gulino, marketing team leader at the Whole Foods Market Portland store. "With UMaine Cooperative Extension's extensive knowledge of food preservation we hope the partnership will help educate our shoppers and other people in the community about how simple and cost effective it can be to preserve locally grown summer favorites." In addition to the website (www.extension.umaine.edu/food/) Whole Foods Market has sponsored food preservation outreach throughout southern Maine this summer, including a series of classes at the Portland store, located at 2 Somerset St. Cooperative Extension educators will present free workshops at Whole Foods Market from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays June 27, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 12, and Oct. 3; 9-10:30. The classes will cover jams and jellies, pickles, tomatoes, apples and root cellaring. "It's a partnership," says Extension educator Kathy Savoie, a food safety expert based in Cumberland County. "This reinforces that we are the go-to place for food preservation information." Whole Foods Market's sponsorship will allow UMaine Extension to hire two program aides to assist in offering food preservation education, including the Master Food Preservation training series. The partnership will continue this fall with a "5 Percent Day" fundraiser, in which five percent of the Portland store's daily sales will benefit UMaine Extension's ongoing food safety and preservation efforts in Cumberland County. "A large part of it is Barbara Gulino realized we were credible, timely, relevant and we can respond immediately," Doug Babkirk, associate director of UMaine Extension, says of the partnership. UMaine Extension leads food preservation workshops statewide and offers up-to-date information online and through a variety of publications. The Cumberland County office also offers the Master Food Preserver program, a more intensive course that gives participants the expertise to go out and teach others how to preserve, extending the organization's outreach. This summer, UMaine Extension educators also will visit farmers markets throughout Maine to give informal food preservation demonstrations. For a county-by-county list of UMaine Extension's food preservation workshops, visit <http://umaine.edu/food-health/food-preservation/hands-on-workshops/> or call 1-800-287-0274. To ensure safe canning practices, UMaine Extension also provides testing for pressure canning gauges. For information, contact your county office: <http://www.umext.maine.edu/counties.htm>

Program for Women Leaders Begins Thursday; State House Sessions Monday, June 15

08 Jun 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- Maine NEWLeadership, a University of Maine initiative that aims to educate and empower women to become civic and political leaders, will take place at UMaine from June 11 to 16. It is part of a national program that began at the Center for American Women in Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

The curriculum features a number of news coverage opportunities, including some on Monday June 15 when the group visits the State House in Augusta. Several prominent women leaders in Maine state government will spend time with the group on that day, sharing their insights on civic and political leadership.

The schedule is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/news/leadership.php>.

UMaine is the newest partner in the program's 17-member national network, and the curriculum has been altered to reflect Maine's unique political culture and climate. Among the highlights is a trip to the State House on Monday, June 15, which includes a session with prominent women legislators. Maine NEW Leadership is offered through the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. It is provided at no cost to participants.

Hampden to install rain garden with help of UMaine Cooperative Extension

08 Jun 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson, (207) 949-2167; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 **Note to members of the media – The best opportunity to see the garden in progress and speak to volunteers and Hampden Mayor Matthew Arnett will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 18.* HAMPDEN, Maine – Hoping to set an example for residents, the town of Hampden has teamed up with University of Maine Cooperative Extension and others to create a large-scale rain garden in front of the town office. The garden will be installed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, and Friday, June 19, by UMaine Cooperative Extension Assistant Scientist Laura Wilson and a group of volunteers, including three cadettes from the Hampden Girl Scout Troop and members of the Cyberhounds 4-H Club. Wilson welcomes more volunteers, who will work in shifts from 9 a.m. to noon and noon to 3 p.m. both days. There are several environmental benefits to installing rain gardens, which help reduce rainwater runoff by allowing it to soak into the ground as opposed to flowing into storm drains and surface waters causing erosion, water pollution, and flooding. Hampden's garden will include all native Maine plants, such as swamp milkweed and high bush blueberries. As part of the collaborative effort, both the town and the Bangor Area Storm Water Group paid for the garden to be designed by CES, Inc., an engineering consulting firm in Brewer. The Town purchased the materials, which were obtained with help from the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District. The native plants all are hardy perennials and don't require fertilization so are more environmentally friendly. "The town of Hampden wants to provide an example to the community of what can be done to treat stormwater before it reaches the local streams," says Wilson. "They hope individuals will also install these on a smaller scale on their own property." A free guide from UMaine Cooperative Extension about how to install a rain garden in your yard is available. For more information or to volunteer, call Wilson at (207) 949-2167.

Fogler Library to Host Statewide Summit

08 Jun 2009

Contact: Joyce Rumery at (207) 581-1655

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Fogler Library will host a statewide Collection Development Summit on June 15, 2009. The Summit, organized by the Maine InfoNet Board, will bring approximately 100 librarians from around the state.

The purpose of the summit is to explore library collection development issues, priorities, and opportunities on a statewide basis. Declining budgets, new information formats, mandates for collaboration, and increased requests for services and collections provide a strategic opportunity for libraries of all types within the state of Maine to step back and think about what might be done collectively and collaboratively that would benefit both library users and coordinating institutions.

UMaine Extension Boat Inspecting Training: How to Examine Boats for Invasive Aquatic Plants

09 Jun 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson (207) 581-2971

Orono, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in conjunction with the Maine Congress of Lake Associations, has scheduled a courtesy boat inspection workshop to help protect lakes from invasive aquatic plants. The session will be held on June 15 at the Milo town office from 6-7:30 p.m.

Registration is free.

For more information or to register, contact Maggie Shannon at the Maine Congress of Lake Associations at 1-877-254-2511 or e-mail info@mainecola.org.

Boat owners and those who desire to help protect Maine lakes will benefit from the training. Participants will learn how to inspect boats for invasive aquatic plants which are a threat to lakes nationwide.

UMaine Receives \$6.8 Million in R&D Awards

09 Jun 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Aimee Dolloff at (207) 581-3777

ORONO, Maine – The Maine Technology Institute (MTI) has selected four University of Maine projects to receive a total of \$6.8 million from the Maine Technology Asset Fund. That fund, administered by MTI, was established when the Maine Legislature and voters approved a \$50 million research and development bond in 2007. Research institutions are required to use the money for capital and related expenditures supporting research, development and commercialization projects that will lead to significant economic benefits for Maine.

In addition to direct funding for the four projects, UMaine is a partner in seven other projects awarded more than \$9 million in MTAF funding.

[Gov. John Baldacci announced a total of 16 awards in Augusta earlier this afternoon.](#) MTI funded 14 projects last year, with six of the 2008 awards going directly to UMaine projects. UMaine's two-year total of 10 awards is the largest number to any Maine research institution.

"At UMaine, we are proud and gratified that Maine's science and technology experts have placed such a high degree of faith in our researchers' abilities to lead the way to accomplishing the goals associated with the Maine Technology Asset Fund," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy.

The UMaine proposals were chosen from a pool of 22 applicants from throughout the state who were invited last month to present their projects to the MTAF Interview Panel to compete for 2009 MTAF awards.

"When Maine voters approved the R&D bond in 2007, they did so with the hope that it would inspire creative approaches to fostering economic development in our state," Kennedy says. "That promise has been fulfilled and Maine has a brighter future because our research institutions and businesses are working together to optimize the use of these funds to create new knowledge, new businesses and new jobs."

The new UMaine proposals receiving awards are:

The University of Maine Innovative Industries Initiative, \$3.69 million

Prof. Owen Smith

The award will fund the construction the New Media Innovation, Research, and Development Center at UMaine, which will support expanded innovation and development in new media for the entire state.

The center's goal is to develop a new culture of innovation and creativity for Maine by establishing needed technical facilities for continued and new training, research, development and commercialization; pursuing collaborative research and development initiatives with potential for beneficial economic and social impact; and working directly with

individuals and businesses to take ideas and prototypes through the stages of development to commercialization.

To accomplish this, Director and new media Professor Owen Smith will be working with UMaine's ASAP Media Services, and at least eight independent Maine-based new media companies.

Maine Center for Autonomous Marine Survey (MCAMS), \$1.2 million

Prof. Neal Pettigrew

Funding will be used to establish a coordinated technical center for autonomous survey vehicles that will make new technologies for measuring crucial ocean properties in the Gulf of Maine easily accessible to Maine researchers, aquaculturists, resources managers, wind and wave energy companies, and the marine construction industry. At the center, they will be able to conduct experiments and marine surveys without the high cost and logistical complications of shipboard operations, and without having to maintain a dedicated technical group and fleet of autonomous survey vehicles.

By creating the center, the state will be better positioned to compete for federal funding, and it also will allow for the commercialization of the marine survey service that will support several new externally-funded technical jobs within UMaine.

Partners in the project include, NavOceanLLC of South Portland, GoMOOS of Portland, and Autonomous Undersea Systems Institute (AUSI) of Kittery.

University of Maine Process Development Center, \$1,083,000

Michael Bilodeau

The UMaine PDC offers its facility, equipment, and expertise for cooperative research and development projects to businesses that are just beginning all the way up to established global companies, but after 25 years the pulp and paper pilot plant is in need of an upgrade.

As a supporter of public-private partnerships, particularly with the forest products industry, the center assists with all stages of projects, from concept development and innovation, to demonstration and validation, to successful commercialization. The updates will help keep the facility competitive at the national and international level.

Community partners in the project include, Honeywell Process Solutions of Westbrook, OsiSoft Inc., Fraser Papers of Madawaska, Sappi Fine Paper of Westbrook, Verso Paper of Bucksport, Cerealus Holdings of Waterville, Zeomatrix Inc. of Orono, and MeadWestvaco of Raleigh N.C.

Strengthening Biotechnology & Supporting the STEM Education Initiative in Maine, \$883,000

Prof. Susan McKay and Prof. Sam Hess

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.

The MTAF funding will be used to renovate and expand Bennett Hall to include an image processing laboratory, equipment to enhance FPLAM capabilities, an office suite for visitors, collaborators and graduate students, an incubator space for commercialization, and a business and communication laboratory for multimedia presentations and internet video conferencing.

The upgrades will enhance the types and number of samples which can be imaged by FPALM and will increase new technology development.

Project collaborators include, Cancer Care of Maine, the Eastern Maine Medical Center, Jackson Laboratory, and the Center for Science and Mathematics Education Research.

Other MTAF award recipients with which UMaine will partner on the research total \$9,363,900.

Ascendant Energy, Owls's Head, \$575,000 (working with Professors Rosemary Smith and Robert Lad) "A Solar Center of Excellence: Advanced Photovoltaic Production Facility" (APPF)

Aquaculture Innovation Center, Orono, \$213,900 (working with UMaine's Professor Paul Rawson and Darling Marine Center Director Kevin Eckleberger) "Expansion of the Shellfish Aquaculture Business Incubation Space at the Darling Marine Center"

Dielectric Communications Corporation, Raymond – a division of SPX Corp., \$2.2 million (working with UMaine's Professors Mohamad Musavi and Ali Abedi) "A New Design for Universal Rural Wireless Connectivity to Fixed and Mobile Users"

Hodgdon Defense Composites, Portland, \$3.8 million (working with UMaine's Robert Lindyberg) "A World Class Composite Materials Shipyard & 21st Century Manufacturing Complex"

Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, \$1.2 million (working with UMaine's Professor Robert Wheeler) "Maine Regional Flow Cytometry Consortium,."

ORPC Maine, Eastport, \$800,000 (working with UMaine's Professor Michael "Mick" Peterson) "OCGen Turbine Unit Commercialization Project"

Seldon Technologies Inc., Old Town, \$575,000 (working with UMaine's Michael Bilodeau) "Manufacturing Nanocomposite Material for Structural and Filtration Applications"

The full listing of awards is online at <http://www.mainetechnology.org/>.

Four Districts Earn Sports Done Right Standing

11 Jun 2009

Contact: Karen Hawkes at (207) 581-2443

ORONO — Four more communities are now recognized as official Sports Done Right school communities, joining eight other school districts and six parks and recreation departments that already share this distinction.

Cape Elizabeth School Department, Cape Elizabeth Community Services, Scarborough School Department, Scarborough Community Services, and the Auburn School Department received unanimous approval for Sports Done Right accreditation from the Sports Done Right Board of Directors on Monday June 8. The board also granted Sports Done Right endorsement, a first level of recognition, to Vinalhaven School.

"The school department and community services in both Scarborough and Cape Elizabeth serve as outstanding examples of the power of community partnerships," says Karen Hawkes, director of the Maine Center for Sport and Coaching (MCSC) at the University of Maine, which is the headquarters for the Sports Done Right program. "In both

communities, the partnerships have led to increased athletic and leadership opportunities for students of all ages. Furthermore, the partnerships have ensured a consistent athletic philosophy throughout the community.”

Sports Done Right serves as a guide for schools and youth sports organizations to identify strengths in sports programs as well as areas of potential concern. The intent of the program is to generate local discussions about the overall sports program while forming local partnerships to ensure students are offered a healthy and positive sports experience.

The Auburn School Department first became involved in the Sports Done Right program in 2005, in partnership with Lewiston Public Schools, as a Sports Done Right pilot site. Since then, Auburn has been using Sports Done Right to educate parents, coaches and student-athletes about appropriate behavior and sportsmanship.

“Auburn has done an excellent job informing parents of the school’s expectations and the Sports Done Right program,” said Hawkes. “Over the course of four years, Auburn has remained committed to the Sports Done Right philosophy.”

Vinalhaven School becomes the first school community in Maine to receive Sports Done Right standing. The board noted that Vinalhaven School has demonstrated a commitment to student leadership and engagement while using the principles of Sports Done Right to assist in shaping athletic policy and procedure.

Sports Done Right was co-founded in June 2003 by Robert A.Cobb, former dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine, and J. Duke Albanese, co-executive director for the Great Schools Partnership at the Mitchell Institute and former Maine Commissioner of Education. More information is available by calling the MCSC at (207) 581-2443 or online at www.sportsdoneright.org.

Update Related to H1N1 Virus Case

11 Jun 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571

ORONO -- A University of Maine student has been diagnosed with H1N1 virus.

The student lives off campus, in Penobscot County. Except to seek medical treatment at Cutler Health Center this week, the student has not been on campus since the end of the spring semester, approximately five weeks ago. The student is not enrolled in summer classes, but is planning to take courses in the fall.

The patient is being treated without hospitalization and is recovering.

UMaine is in contact with state health officials, who advise members of the UMaine community to continue to follow these recommendations:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you get sick, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to avoid infecting them.

A series of frequently asked questions is on the state's website at <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/swine-flu-public-faq.shtml>.

Gift Boosts Judaic Studies at UMaine

12 Jun 2009

Contact: Phillip Silver, 581- 1783; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO - The University of Maine's new Judaic Studies curriculum is being strengthened by two new classes this summer, two more in the 2009-2010 academic year, and a speaker and film series, all the result of a gift to the university. Judaic studies at UMaine has been largely supported by private donations, according to associate professor of music Phillip Silver, who is coordinating the creation and growth of that curriculum at UMaine. Understanding the history of modern Israel and the cultural aspects of Israel are particularly relevant in today's world. Politically oriented news coverage of Israel and the Middle East seen by most Americans is an incomplete and imperfect picture, Silver says. "It is one that portrays that nation solely in the context of an ongoing conflict," he says. "There is so much more outside of the political arena that is unfairly overlooked." Judaic Studies at UMaine will offer students of all religious or ethnic backgrounds opportunities to learn about 5,000 years of Jewish history, religious practices, philosophies, cultures and language, according to Silver. The new classes will provide a historical and cultural view, and will include films popular today in Israel, in addition to the many classics in the Minsky Jewish Heritage Video Collection in Fogler Library's media collection. The program expansion was enabled by an anonymous donation. "The college is very excited to be able to offer a series of courses in Judaic studies and we are very grateful for the gift, which helps to make this happen," says Jeff Hecker, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "Deepening students' understanding of the world's major religions will help them to be more successful global citizens." Silver and Hecker hope classes in Judaic studies will generate enough student interest and growth to eventually become an academic minor. "Based upon the experience of Judaic Studies programs at other institutions of higher education, we know that programs like this have a wide appeal, to both Jewish and non-Jewish students," Silver says. Later in June, Silver will offer "Entartete Musik," an examination of music by composers of the Holocaust era. The title, translated from German, means "degenerate music," the term applied by the Nazis to characterize any music influenced by jazz, the avant-garde, or written by composers of Jewish descent. The class is offered June 22-26. Adjunct lecturer Jonathan Goldstein, a visiting professor of East Asian history from the University of West Georgia, is currently teaching The History of Modern Israel, which reviews the history of modern Israel from the inception of Zionism to the present. It continues through June 19. In the fall or the spring 2010 semester, Rabbi Steven Schwarzman, rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel in Bangor, will offer Modern Hebrew 1, a reading, writing and speaking immersion-format introduction to the ancient language that is still spoken by many Jews around the world; and Rabbi Darah Lerner, from the Congregation Beth El in Bangor, will teach "The American Jewish Experience: 350+ years of Jews in America," a survey the political, cultural and social interaction of the Jewish Community in America. Over the summer, Silver also will arrange a Jewish studies speaker and film series to start in the fall. Previously, UMaine has offered several Judaic studies classes, Introduction to the Jewish Bible and Modern Jewish Thought, on an occasional basis through the Philosophy Department. For additional information on other Judaic studies classes, contact the dean's office in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at (207) 581-1954.

Association Honors UMaine Women's Resource Center Director

12 Jun 2009

Contact: Sharon Barker, 581-1501

ORONO -- Sharon Barker, director of the UMaine Women's Resource Center, recently received the American Association of University Women's 2009 Achievement Citation Award for Maine.

Criteria for the award includes a requirement that a recipient be a woman in Maine who has made a distinctive contribution in an AAUW field of interest or study, such as service to the state, education, the arts, humanity or women's issues. A recipient also must exhibit achievement over and above job-related activities and be a pioneer in her area of specialization.

Each of the nine AAUW branches in Maine nominates a candidate for the state achievement citation award. The Penobscot Valley Branch nominated Barker, a statewide committee made the final selection, and she received the award at the AAUW state convention in Presque Isle in May.

UMaine Is Host Site for Native American Theater Video Conference June 18

16 Jun 2009

Contact: Margo Lukens, 581-1401; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- The University of Maine's Foster Center for Student Innovation will host a 5-hour, national videoconference Thursday, June 18, dedicated to reflecting upon and encouraging Native American theater and playwriting.

The conference, free and open to the public, will originate from the UCLA American Indian Studies Center, the home of Project HOOP, "Honoring Our Origins and Peoples through Native American Theater." Details about the HOOP Project are available on its website (www.hoop.aisc.ucla.edu).

The videoconference will run from 1-6 p.m. in the Room 102 of the Foster Center. As part of the videoconference, a panel of women from the Penobscot Nation and a University of Maine professor will discuss theater in Native community contexts, and a group of actors from UMaine and from the Penobscot Nation on Indian Island will present a scene from Native American playwright William S. Yellow Robe's "Pieces of Us."

Yellow Robe, a part-time instructor at UMaine, will participate from Columbia University in New York, where he is attending rehearsals for his new play "Thieves."

Videoconference participants will discuss creating two new nationwide associations: a national Native American playwrights' association and a national Native American theater association. Further information is available at the Foster Center for Student Innovation, at 581-1401.

Education Professor Offers Children's Summer Reading Tips, Titles

17 Jun 2009

Contact: Jan Kristo, 866-3318; George Manlove, 581-3756

ORONO -- With Maine schools letting out for the summer, Jan Kristo, author and UMaine professor of literacy education, says keeping reading on children's radar will help them maintain and strengthen the gains made in reading over the school year.

Summer vacation also provides great opportunities to help young people discover adventure through reading, both in fiction and non-fiction.

Parents can make reading meaningful and memorable for children by suggesting reading about topics that augment family trips, outdoor hobbies, exploring nature or gardening, Kristo says. Connect books to long or short family trips ahead of time and find books about the places they'll visit - the ocean, other states or countries, for instance, she says.

"Link books to what children may study in the back yard, from ants to bees, to planting a garden, and visit your local library for great book suggestions that capitalize on your child's interests," Kristo adds. "Read together as a family, and read aloud."

CDs of children's books from the library also can make long rides in the car educational experiences, she says. Other ideas include having a lunch break with children to share children's poetry, a book of jokes and riddles, or a book of facts. Planning a book party for friends, where each child brings a book to share, is another way to inspire reading. Adults can help children prepare a food that goes along with the book, and children can come to the party dressed as a character from the book.

Also, adds Kristo, "let your children catch you reading. It's contagious."

Kristo recommends the following 2009 titles.

For very young children:

Read It, Don't Eat It! by Ian Schoenherr, a delightfully funny book about the proper way to treat a book;
Wombat Walkabout by Carol Diggory Shields, illustrations by Sophie Blackall, a fun counting poem, complete with a glossary of Australian words in the book;
And A Very Curious Bear by Tony Mitton, illustrations by Paul Howard, a story of Big Bear and Little Bear taking a walk, with Little Bear's never-ending questions about everything along the way.

For young children and up to age 9:

Posy by Linda Newbery, illustrations by Catherine Rayner, about an adventurous day with Posy, a kitten;
Once Upon a Saturday by Leslie Lammler, about June, who wants to have adventures all day, but first must tend to all her chores, so she looks at her chores as adventures;
The Underground Gators by Tina Casey, illustrations by Lynn Munsinger, a hilarious story with illustrations about alligators in the sewers of New York City, complete with an author's note about this urban legend;
The Plot Chickens by Mary Jane and Herm Auch, about Henrietta, the star of Souperchicken, who entertains readers by sharing her enthusiasm for books and the "eggshilarating" experience of creating her own.

For older readers:

Waggit Again by Peter Howe, a sequel to Waggit's Tale, the story of Waggit, determined as ever to rejoin the team of dogs he considers his real family in Central Park after trusting a person and being taken far away;
Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking, and Other Natural Disasters by Lenore Look, about a little boy who is afraid of everything, and now his dad is taking him camping;
Wild River by P.J. Peterson, about Ryan, a 12-year-old who's more interested in video games than athletics, and experiences a frightening kayaking trip down the Boulder River;
Faith, Hope, and Ivy June by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, about two seventh-grade girls from Kentucky who participate in a student exchange program and share their different homes and communities with one another;
T Minus: The Race to the Moon by Jim Ottaviani, Zander Cannon and Kevin Cannon, a graphic novel and fascinating historical and fictional account of the countdown to send the first men to the moon.

Some suggested nonfiction titles:

Cat by Matthew Van Fleet, photographs by Brian Stanton, an over-sized interactive board book with flaps, pull tabs to showcase photographs of different breeds of cats in a variety of situations (For toddlers and young children);
What Can You Do with an Old Red Shoe?: A Green Activity Book About Reuse by Anna Alter teaches young children, assisted by adults, to create new things from throw-away household objects (Ages 4-7);
Don't Lick the Dog: Making Friends with Dogs by Wendy Wahman, a delightfully illustrated picture book sharing important messages about what young children need to know about approaching new dogs (Ages 4-8);
You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?! by Jonah Winter, illustrated by Andre Carrilho, a visually graphic picture book biography depicting Sandy Koufax's rise to fame as the greatest lefty baseball pitcher (Ages 4-9)
A Young Dancer: The Life of an Ailey Student by Valerie Gladstone, photographs by Jose Ivey, a beautifully photographed essay of a 13-year-old African-American girl, a gifted dancer training at the famous Ailey School in New York City (Age 7 and up);
Mermaid Queen: A True Story by Shana Corey, illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham, an excellent picture book biography of Australian Annette Kellerman, a frail child born in 1886, who became a record-setting swimmer, movie star, and even designed a bathing suit for women that broke with the style of the times (Ages 7-12);

How Weird Is It: A Freaky Book All About Strangeness by Ben Hillman, an over-sized book features two-page photographs of strange phenomena and descriptions. (Age 10 and up);
Butterflies and Moths by Nic Bishop, an exquisitely photographed collection of butterfly images and interesting text about them. Also see Bishop's other titles, Spiders and Frogs (All ages);
And Crocodile Safari by nature writer Jim Arnosky, about a trip to the Everglades to research alligators; included is a DVD depicting Arnosky researching and sketching crocodiles (All ages).

UMaine Composites Center Recognized as Pioneer in Ocean Energy

19 Jun 2009

Contact: Habib Dagher, (207) 581-2123; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

The University of Maine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center received an Academic Pioneer Award Thursday for its contribution to the field of ocean energy.

Habib Dagher, the center's director, was on hand to accept the award at the sixth annual EnergyOcean Conference at the Samoset Resort organized by the Ocean Energy Council.

Dagher, known internationally as an offshore wind and composites expert, also was part of a panel that discussed Maine's plans for renewable ocean energy projects.

The goal of the two-and-a-half day conference, which gathered nearly 500 researchers, policymakers, and financiers, was to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the ocean energy market. During the past several years, AEWCA has been solving challenges driven by the state's imminent energy crisis; the vast potential of Maine's offshore wind resource; and the need for expertise and innovation in advanced structures and noncorrosive composite materials to harness the wind resource in the Gulf of Maine.

AEWCA's vision is to position the State of Maine and its University and its workforce as pioneers in offshore wind energy generation.

"There is the equivalent of 40 nuclear power plants of wind energy within 50 miles off Maine's coast," Dagher says.

The center already is working with experts both at the university and in partnerships with industry professionals who specialize in different areas that all will need to come together to make offshore wind energy generation a reality.

This expertise will be supported by an AEWCA facilities expansion – an Advanced Wind Blade Prototyping Facility – to be completed in December 2009.

"Being recognized as a pioneer in ocean energy means that our hard work is paying off," says Dagher. "We've come a long way and AEWCA and the University of Maine are committed to making offshore wind energy a reality."

Two other organizations also received Academic Pioneer Awards: New England Marine Renewable Energy Center (MREC) and The Center for Ocean Renewable Energy (CORE) at the University of New Hampshire.

University of Maine Foundation Announces 75th Anniversary Matching Gift Program

22 Jun 2009

Contact: Amos Orcutt, University of Maine Foundation, (207) 581-5100

ORONO -- On June 9, the University of Maine Foundation celebrated its 75th anniversary with a dinner at the Wells Conference Center on the Orono campus. More than 250 guests attended the special event, held exactly 75 years after the Foundation's date of incorporation.

At that event, Darryl Brown, chair of the University of Maine Foundation board, announced a matching gift program to encourage the establishment of new scholarship endowments for UMaine. The university's minimum level for a named, endowed scholarship fund is \$20,000. The Foundation will match a gift of \$15,000 (may be payable over three years) with \$5,000 to establish a new named, endowed scholarship fund to provide support for deserving students attending UMaine. The matching gift offer will be in effect until December 31, 2009. For more information, contact the Foundation at Two Alumni Place in Orono, the Foundation's Foden Road location in South Portland, or online at www.umainefoundation.org.

The University of Maine Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that exists primarily to encourage gifts and bequests designed to nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

'Take-A-Chance' Silent Auction at Maine 4-H Days in Windsor

22 Jun 2009

Contact: Michael Bailey, (207) 581-3872 ORONO, Me.—4-H, the youth development program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will hold a Take-A-Chance silent auction on June 27 at Maine 4-H Days at the Windsor Fairgrounds. The auction opens at 5 p.m., with the drawing beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets for the auction will be 10 for \$2.50, packaged in envelopes worth \$2.50, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00. Dollar tickets will be sold for items valued at more than \$100. UMaine Extension 4-H youth are collecting gift certificates, hand-made items, and fresh products like goat's milk cheese. There will be a food booth open during the auction. For more information contact UMaine Extension's 4-H office at (207) 581-3872 or (800) 287-0274 (in Maine), or e-mail [mbailey@umext.maine.edu](mailto:m Bailey@umext.maine.edu). You can also visit the events calendar at extension.umaine.edu. Auction proceeds will help send 4-H youth and their animals to the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts, where more than 100 4-Hers from Maine participate in animal events. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Home Energy Evaluation Can Guide Summer Home-Improvement Projects

22 Jun 2009

Contact: Kathryn Hopkins, (207) 474-9622 ORONO, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published "How to Do a Home Energy Evaluation," part of "Maine Home Energy," a new series of educational bulletins on home energy use. "How to Do a Home Energy Evaluation" includes a checklist to help homeowners determine how to increase energy efficiency and reduce energy use. It is available for purchase or free download, along with the other "Maine Home Energy" bulletins, at extension.umaine.edu—or by contacting the local county UMaine Extension office (call 800-287-0274 for contact information). UMaine Extension's energy evaluation bulletin recommends that homeowners begin by reviewing a year's worth of energy bills to estimate how much energy one's home uses. The bulletin's checklist will guide the detection of drafts and checking of insulation, windows, and fixtures, along with the determination of which energy-saving improvements might make sense. For instance, a homeowner could repair leaky faucets, clean radiators and hot-air outlets, service the home's furnace, install florescent or LED lighting, or install window treatments to reduce energy costs. Experts recommend that homeowners evaluate the cost and the potential payback of high-cost changes such as new appliances before investing. Those interested in a comprehensive understanding of their energy use, or who wish to apply for rebates, loans or grant funds, will need to hire a certified auditor. The Maine State Housing Authority maintains a list of certified energy auditors at www.mainehousing.org.

Those who use certified ENERGYSTAR materials will find that many of their energy conservation improvements could qualify them for a 30 percent tax refund, up to \$1,500. A joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, ENERGY STAR provides a labeling system for products that deliver the same or better performance as comparable models while using less energy and saving money. There are also tax refunds available for alternative energy systems and fuel efficient cars. To learn about the tax refunds and incentives, visit the U.S. Department of Energy's Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency at www.dsireusa.org.

Young Authors Publish Work at UMaine Writing Camp

16 Jul 2009

Contact: Heather Pullen, 581-2443 ORONO -- Hailing from Houlton to Hope, from Millinocket to Jonesboro, more than 55 aspiring writers in grades 3-12 are tapping their creativity and penning their thoughts at the annual Young Authors' Camp taking place this week at the University of Maine. Campers spent the week exploring different genres of writing, had the opportunity to develop proficiency in their academic and creative writing, and shared their creative pieces with peers, all in a relaxed atmosphere with their teachers. On Friday, July 17, the young writers will celebrate their works with a party and will receive an anthology of their writing. News reporters are welcome to attend the party, which starts at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of Shibles Hall on the Orono campus. 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. Further information is available on its [website](#).

Mariner Beverages, USA Wine West Unveil New Wine to Benefit UMaine's Lobster Institute

15 Jul 2009

Contact: Tim Wissemann - Mariner Beverages (207)699-2939 – co-creator of Big Claw Steve Melchiskey - USA Wine West (207) 653-3293– co-creator of Big Claw Dr. Robert Bayer – Executive Director, Lobster Institute (207) 581-2785 Steve DiMillo – Owner, DiMillo's Floating Restaurant (207) 772-2216 PORTLAND – The Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, USA Wine West, and Mariner Beverages introduced Big Claw –a new wine specifically designed to pair with lobster – at a “first pour” event on July 13 at Dimillo's Floating Restaurant in Portland, Maine. It was announced at the event that a portion of the proceeds from sales of Big Claw would be donated to the Lobster Institute to further their research and outreach work for and with the lobster industry. Big Claw is a crisp, balanced blend of Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Colombard, and Chenin Blanc from the North Coast, and was the unanimous choice as “the perfect wine to go with lobster” by members of a panel of wine and food professionals that guided the design of Big Claw. Steve Melchiskey of USA Wine West (with offices in California and Maine) and Tim Wissemann of Mariner Beverages (Portland, Maine) are the designers of the wine, and offered the first pour to Steve DiMillo, host of the event and owner of DiMillo's Floating Restaurant, and Dr. Bob Bayer, Executive Director of the Lobster Institute. DiMillo was a member of the design panel and also is a long-time volunteer with the Lobster Institute. “I was excited to hear that Steve and Tim were partnering to develop a wine specifically to pair with lobster. At our restaurant, we are always asked to recommend a wine to go with Maine's signature dish. When I tasted Big Claw, I knew they had a winner,” DiMillo said. “And when I heard they were giving back to the lobster industry by supporting the Lobster Institute, I was totally onboard. DiMillo's already has its order in for the year.” Bayer also is pleased with the arrangement and the wine. “Big Claw has a very refreshing taste, and is a terrific complement to lobster – my favorite dish, by the way,” Bayer said. “Not only have they done a great job with the wine, their willingness to support the lobster industry is also very commendable. The Lobster Institute is very appreciative of being chosen as the beneficiary of their support.” Wissemann noted that “giving back” was a decision he and Melchiskey made early on. “Since we are capitalizing on Maine's lobster fishery, we wanted to support the industry,” said Wissemann. “We are doing that by giving back financially to the Lobster Institute as well as trying to increase the awareness of the Institute. We chose the Lobster Institute because of their history of working closely with lobstermen to maintain the vitality of both the resource and the fishery.” Melchiskey is the managing partner of USA Wine West, a national wine import company. His experience also includes winemaking and grape growing, and his motivation for developing Big Claw came from several friends, in Portland and on Little Cranberry Island, who are commercial lobstermen. “I've always admired the hard work they do with good spirit, and wanted to develop a wine that would match both that spirit and Maine's best known resource,” said Melchiskey. “Big Claw and lobster make a perfect combination,” said Wissemann, who owned a wineshop on Portland's

waterfront prior to founding Mariner Beverages. “[I] was constantly being asked by customers as to what wine they should serve with lobster and wondered why no one had created one.” Melchiskey and Wissemann met in 2003 when their sons became classmates in kindergarten. They bantered the idea of a designing a wine to pair with lobster around while Melchiskey was coaching their sons’ Little League baseball team. Everything came together in 2009, and in July the first cases of Big Claw arrived in Maine for distribution throughout the state. BigClaw is distributed by Mariner Beverages, a wholesale distributor of fine wines and craft beers in Maine. The wine is available for sale at restaurants and retailers throughout southern and coastal Maine. To learn more about Big Claw, contact Mariner Beverages at (207) 699-2939 or visit the Lobster Institute’s website at www.lobsterinsitute.org.

UMaine Announces \$20M National Science Foundation Grant for Sustainability Initiative

15 Jul 2009

Contact: Vicki Nemeth, Maine EPSCoR Director, 581-3399, maineepscor@umit.maine.edu Joe Carr, 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci and other state leaders joined University of Maine and University of Southern Maine officials on Wednesday morning to announce a \$20 million National Science Foundation EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) grant for a wide-ranging new project called the Sustainability Solutions Initiative. The research portion of this five-year initiative Maine EPSCoR initiative, led by UMaine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center, will bring together core research teams from UMaine and USM, as well as government and industry stakeholders, to improve the science and practice of sustainable development. "The project recognizes that our state's identity is inseparable from its natural resources and our future economic prosperity depends on our ability to distinguish what makes Maine so special, To preserve and build on Maine's quality of place we must address issues such as sprawl, management of our forests and climate change. This project will provide us with expanded options in our pursuit of renewable energy, and management of our precious resources. It's important to our environment and our economic future," Baldacci said, speaking to a group of nearly 150 people who assembled at UMaine's Wells Conference Center for this morning's formal program announcement. The initiative will create partnerships with many of Maine’s colleges and universities for research and education efforts designed to advance economic and community development while protecting the environment. It will also provide support for 200 to 300 jobs, mainly in the research sector, with the ultimate goal of building capacity for generating solutions to a range of challenging problems. “I am delighted by this exciting news, and am convinced that the Mitchell Center, the University of Maine, and their many partners can play a pivotal role in creating a brighter economic, social, and environmental future for the people of Maine,” Sen. Mitchell, who was unable to attend the event, said in a prepared statement. “At UMaine, we are pleased to play a central role in this project but, even more important, we are delighted that virtually every Maine institution of higher learning, plus businesses, government agencies and other constituencies, will join in this effort,” said UMaine President Robert Kennedy, who hosted the event and made the formal announcement. “This is when Maine is at its best, when we work together to pool our expertise and share our resources while working toward a common goal.” In addition to the five-year EPSCoR grant, UMaine will be contributing \$1 million per year for five years from its state-supported Maine Economic Improvement Fund allotment. An additional \$1 million per year of in-kind contributions will also be contributed by UMaine and all collaborating partners in the form of faculty salaries and use of research facilities. “Maine’s future depends on the ability to move forward with economic development in a manner that sustains our vital natural resources,” said Michael Eckardt, UMaine’s vice president for research. Initially, the project will include a focus on problems related to urbanization, forest management and climate change. For example, portions of southern Maine have experienced rapid sprawl while record sales of private forest lands and mill closures are transforming the social and economic fabric of northern and western Maine. To address these multifaceted problems, the research team includes more than 30 faculty members with expertise in a wide range of fields, including environmental science, engineering, economics, communication and public policy. “I’ve never seen such an extraordinary group of talented, passionate, and dedicated researchers work together so effectively towards a common goal. When you couple this unparalleled level of teamwork with our breadth of expertise and unwavering commitment to problem-solving, you have a one-of-a-kind initiative that can generate broad-based benefits for Maine,” said David Hart, director of the Senator George J. Mitchell Center and research project director for Maine’s Sustainability Solutions Initiative. "(This initiative) is the perfect project for our great state and Maine is a perfect living laboratory for a project of this type," said Miles Theeman, chair of the Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board in addressing the audience at this morning's event. "NSF EPSCoR had made a wonderful decision to fund this proposal and I am confident that UMaine and its partners will develop and create a series of critically interrelated projects that will make us all proud."

Collaboration is a hallmark of this initiative, which features close connections among all the partners, including Maine's two largest universities, UMaine and USM. "As Maine's only regional comprehensive university, USM, through our Muskie School and other programs, is committed to collaborating with our higher education partners to improve our state's economy and quality of life for its citizens," said USM President Selma Botman in a statement provided in advance. Teams of faculty and students will work with a variety of partners, including leading businesses and industries. "Business and communities are being transformed by changes in the global economy, rising energy costs, and a realization that a healthy environment is needed for long-term prosperity. We all need to learn sustainable practices to survive and thrive. The Sustainability Solutions Initiative will position Maine as a leader in the field by conducting research and providing training to solve some of the most challenging problems of our times," Albert Curran, co-founder and Chairman of the Board at Woodard & Curran, said in a prepared statement. Woodard & Curran, one of the project's business partners, is an engineering, science and operations company with offices in Portland, Bangor and six other locations in the eastern U.S. Researchers will also collaborate with non-profit organizations focused on community development in rural Maine. "The Sustainability Solutions Initiative, with its commitment to translating research into on-the-ground impact in support of healthy economies and ecosystems, is greatly needed in Maine and can help catalyze a variety of business development opportunities related to forest-based industries, agriculture, and workforce development," said Carla Dickstein, vice president for research and policy development at Coastal Enterprises Inc., another project partner, in a statement she provided in advance of Wednesday's event. The project also will provide for statewide education initiatives at all grade levels in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). "The National Science Board has indicated that the nation is failing to meet the needs of our students in STEM education, which has serious implications for our future workforce. Maine's educational partners are in a very strong position to have a significant impact on STEM education for the state," said Vicki Nemeth, UMaine's director of research administration and EPSCoR. "Our coordinated strategy will develop students' STEM skills, interest, and career paths for all levels of K-20 education." EPSCoR is a federal program directed at states that have historically received smaller portions of federal research and development funding. The program provides states with financial support to develop partnerships between their higher education institutions, industry, government, and others to affect lasting improvements in infrastructure, capacity, and national competitiveness. Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine is responsible for administering and implementing the NSF EPSCoR program for the state. For more information see www.maine.edu/epscor.

Global AIDS Expert to Speak Thursday

15 Jul 2009

Contact: Paul Grosswiler, 907-5596; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Author and international authority on HIV-AIDS Susan Hunter will give a public talk, "Hadithi, Hadithi: Telling the Story of AIDS in Africa," Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bangor at 120 Park St. The lecture is free. Hunter is largely credited with bringing the plight of AIDS orphans to the attention of the United Nations. From upstate New York, she an independent consultant to world health organizations, including UNAIDS, UNICEF and USAID, and author of five books on HIV-AIDS. Her books include "Black Death," selected by the London Times online as one of the top five books ever written on HIV-AIDS. Her appearance is made possible by a USAID-University of Maine program, which is currently hosting nine visiting Tanzanian news reporters learning about Western news gathering and reporting. They're spending the majority of their time on the UMaine campus, but also are visiting newsrooms around the state, and will visit Washington, D.C. before returning home. Associate professor of journalism Paul Grosswiler and assistant professor Mike Socolow of the Department of Communication and Journalism are leading the group. The program, in its second year, is funded by USAID (United States Agency for International Development). Covering HIV-AIDS issues is a component of the program this year. Hunter will spend two days -- Thursday and Friday -- talking with the visiting journalists about reporting on HIV-AIDS. # Editors' note: Please contact Paul Grosswiler or George Manlove to arrange interviews with Susan Hunter.

H1N1 Recommendations--AEWC

14 Jul 2009

Contact: Ron Lisnet, (207) 581-3779 We received word that a visitor attending a seminar at the AEWC-Advanced

Structures and Composites Center this past Friday, July 10, 2009, has been confirmed as having H1N1. This person started to present symptoms on Saturday around noon and has returned home. UMaine will continue normal operations while increasing monitoring and communications. The incubation period for H1N1 is on the order of a week. Should you develop influenza-like symptoms over the next week, please contact your personal physician. If you are experiencing a sudden onset of the following symptoms, please contact your personal physician.

- A fever over 100 F
- A sore throat
- Severe cough
- Headache, chills, body aches or sniffles

If you experience symptoms such as sniffles or sneezes which came on gradually, you most likely have a cold or are suffering from allergies. If you are in doubt, contact your personal physician. We remind everyone to wash your hands and practice sound personal hygiene.

Selective College Guide Picks UMaine

13 Jul 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen, 581-3742 The University of Maine has been selected as one of 330 colleges and universities profiled in the “Fiske Guide to Colleges” 2010 Edition. The guide, written by former New York Times education editor Edward B. Fiske, is a selective, independent guide that focuses on “the best and most interesting institutions in the United States and Canada.” It is a subjective presentation rather than a statistical one, assessing the strengths and weaknesses of each institution in terms of academics, social life and overall quality of life. Of the University of Maine, Fiske writes, “UMaine is a big school with a small-school atmosphere. Combine the state's natural beauty with an increased emphasis on top-quality facilities and more intimate students/faculty interaction, and it's no surprise that this campus draws more die-hard "Maine-acks" each year.” The Fiske Guide accepts no consulting, advertising or other fees from colleges and has no outside relationship of colleges working on its behalf. Fiske has included UMaine since 2004. For media information about the Fiske Guide, contact Carrie Gellin, Sourcebooks, Inc., 630-961-3900 ext. 258 or carrie.gellin@sourcebooks.com

Federal Grant to Support Statewide Research, Outreach Project

13 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571 ORONO – Gov. John Baldacci and other state government leaders will join University of Maine and University of Southern Maine officials on Wednesday to announce a \$20 million National Science Foundation EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) grant to create the Center for Sustainability Solutions. The announcement event is scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday July 15 at Wells Conference Center. The five-year project is focused on creating a sustainable society by bringing together core research teams from UMaine and the University of Southern Maine, as well as government and industry stakeholders. The center will also create partnerships with most of Maine’s colleges and universities for research and education efforts in the area of sustainability. The project will directly support 200 to 300 jobs, mainly in the research sector, while also providing for statewide education initiatives at all grade levels in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The ultimate goal is to build capacity for generating solutions to sustainability problems such as renewable energy, alternative transportation, and water resource management. In addition to the five-year EPSCoR grant, the Maine Economic Improvement Fund is contributing \$1 million per year for five years, along with a \$ 1 million per year in-kind contribution from UMaine in the form of faculty salaries and use of research facilities.

UMaine-Based Drug Mail-Back Program Refunded, Expands

13 Jul 2009

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7922; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine – The first-in-the-nation pharmaceuticals mail-back program launched in 2007 by the University of Maine’s Center on Aging with partnering

agencies has been refunded for another two years, and will more than double in size and scope as a result. In the new phase of the program, 20,000 mail-back envelopes will be distributed throughout Maine to more than 100 pharmacies, medical facilities and community agencies, according to Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging. So far, more than 1,000 pounds of unused and unwanted medicines have been mailed by 2,000 participants to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency's Westbrook office for proper disposal, Kaye says. The pharmaceuticals mail-back program is free, confidential and "remains the first and, as far as I know, continues to be the largest statewide mail-back program in the country," Kaye says. Agencies from other states continue to call the Center on Aging for advice about starting similar mail-back programs, he says. The program, created by the Maine Legislature, was launched two years ago after receiving a \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This month, the state took over funding with a two-year commitment from the Maine Department of Public Safety and the Drug Enforcement Agency with \$150,000 from the Fund for Healthy Maine. The program is cutting the flow of medications into the environment or into the hands of children or criminals. Flushing unwanted drugs down toilets simply mainlines them into the environment, according to Kaye and members of the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group, which formed in part to combat improper disposal methods of unneeded pharmaceuticals. Pharmaceuticals do not break down naturally and contaminate lakes, streams and water supplies, even after passing through people and wastewater treatment plants. The largest category of mailed-back drugs -- 25 percent -- includes pharmaceuticals like antidepressants and antipsychotic drugs, followed by heart medicines. Maine DEA Director Roy McKinney says the renewed funding ensures the statewide reach of the program. "What I've seen in the first phase is of tremendous value," McKinney says. "People are struggling: 'What do I do with these unused medications?'" Public Safety Commissioner (Anne) Jordan and I think this is a valuable program for the citizens of Maine," he adds. Information about the program and the Center on Aging is available by calling 1-866-637-9743, or click the link to Safe Medicine Disposal for ME Program under "UMCoA News" on the [Center on Aging website](#).

Maine Summer Transportation Institute Underway July 13-24

13 Jul 2009

Contact: Sheila Pendse, 944-9263; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- Up to 20 middle school students from the greater Bangor area are getting a close look at careers in engineering and transportation over the next two weeks as participants in the annual Maine Summer Transportation Institute at the University of Maine. Cosponsored by the Maine Department of Transportation, the UMaine College of Engineering and the Federal Highway Administration, the program is designed to introduce area students at an early age to the jobs and careers available in Maine's transportation industry. Students are participating in field trips, leadership and team-building activities, and a series of age-appropriate workshops and hands-on laboratory experiences, all related to transportation mode, safety and products, alternative fuels, construction materials, and computer-aided design. Students also will participate in recreational activities at the new Student Recreation and Fitness Center. The majority of the day-long activities, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., will be offered at the Bion and Dorain Foster Student Innovation Center, at other campus facilities and at various off campus locations. Highlights of the institute include: Monday, July 13: an introduction to computer-aided design (CAD) on campus, 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 14: morning tour of the Cole Transportation Museum, Bangor, and an afternoon tour of the Penobscot Narrows Bridge Wednesday, July 15: traffic safety workshop, Foster Innovation Center, 9:15 a.m., an introduction to CAD, about 1:15 p.m., Boardman Hall annex Thursday, July 16: morning tour of Owls Head Transportation Museum, Owls Head, and afternoon tour of the U.S. Coast Guard station, Rockland Friday, July 17: a morning tour of the bio-fuels lab at UMaine, followed by a discussion about alternative fuel cars, 10:30 a.m., Jenness Hall, and a tour of the AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, 1:15 p.m. Monday, July 20: morning tour of the Maine Department of Transportation facilities, Augusta Tuesday, July 21: a workshop on how cruise control works in motor vehicles, 9:15 a.m., Boardman Hall, UMaine, a concrete workshop, 10:30 a.m., Boardman Hall, and a narrow bridge design and competition, Boardman Hall annex, 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 22: a morning tour of the Challenger Learning Center of Maine and an afternoon visit to the Sign Shop, Old Town, where students can design their own signs Thursday, July 23: a morning tour of Bangor International Airport and afternoon tour of the flight control tower Friday, July 24: art collage project and awards and presentations, Foster Innovation Center For details, Sheila Pendse in the UMaine College of Engineering can be reached at 944-9263.

Business School Dean Honored for Most-Cited Journal Submission

09 Jul 2009

Contact: John Mahon, 581-1968

ORONO -- John Mahon, Maine Business School director and dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, has received a unique award for a paper he published more than a decade ago in the scholarly journal "Business&Society."

During the 20th annual meeting of the International Association for Business & Society (IABS) June 18-21 in Snowmass, Colo., Mahon received the association's "20th Anniversary Commemoration Award for the Best Paper" ever published in its journal.

Mahon, a co-founder and former president of the association, was honored for "Corporate Social Performance and Corporate Financial Performance: Twenty-Five Years of Incomparable Research," co-authored with Jennifer Griffin, and published in 1997. The paper has remained to date the most cited paper in the nearly 50 years of publication of Business&Society, a quarterly peer-reviewed, management journal focusing on social issues, ethics and their influence on organizations.

Mahon also received a second award, the "2009 Conference and 20th Anniversary Celebration of the International Association for Business & Society Award for Best Paper" for a submitted paper that did not focus on the conference theme, "nature, humans and management." Mahon presented that paper, "Corporate Social Performance Profiling: The Importance of Multiple Stakeholder Perceptions," co-authored with Steven L. Wartick, also during the annual meeting.

UMaine Lobster Institute, Mariner Beverages to Hold "First Pour" and Unveil New Wine

09 Jul 2009

Contact: Lobster Institute Associate Director Cathy Billings – (207) 581-2751 or cell (207) 949-2028 When: 3 p.m. Monday, July 13 Where: DiMillo's Floating Restaurant, 25 Long Wharf, Portland, ME 04101. What: The Lobster Institute at the University of Maine and Mariner Beverages of Portland will introduce Big Claw – a new wine specifically designed to pair with lobster. A portion of the proceeds from sales of Big Claw will be donated to the Lobster Institute to further their research and outreach work for and with the lobster industry. The wine was designed with guidance from a panel of wine buyers and distributors, and food professionals. Big Claw is a blend of Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Colombard, and Chenin Blanc from the North Coast, and was the unanimous choice as "the perfect wine to go with lobster." Samples of Big Claw and lobster will be available at the event, and representatives from UMaine, Mariner Beverages and DiMillo's will be on hand to answer questions. Who: Tim Wisseman - Mariner Beverages (207) 699-2939 – co-creator of Big Claw Steve Melchiskey - USA Wine West (207) 772-2074 – co-creator of Big Claw Dr. Robert Bayer – Executive Director, Lobster Institute – University of Maine (207) 581-2785 Steve DiMillo – Owner, DiMillo's Floating Restaurant (207) 772-2216

UMF, UMaine Create Dual Degree in Liberal Arts, Engineering

08 Jul 2009

Contact: Chet Rock, 581-2218; April Mulherin, 778-7081 ORONO -- The University of Maine and the University of Maine, Farmington, are collaborating to offer a five-year dual degree program resulting in liberal arts and engineering degrees. Beginning in the fall of 2009, students can spend three years pursuing a bachelor of arts degree at Farmington, then attend UMaine for two years of study toward a bachelor of science degree in engineering. They would graduate with a UMF BA in environmental sciences and a UMaine BS in any one of several engineering tracks. Rock says combining engineering and liberal arts programs is becoming more popular as engineers recognize the need for greater exposure to humanities along with their technical skills, and also as engineers are called upon to work in community,

corporate, legal, international and other diversified settings. "It provides a much broader education for a student," UMaine College of Engineering Associate Dean Chet Rock says. "That is the key point. You're getting the best of both worlds -- a liberal arts degree and an engineering degree. I think it will allow graduates to be flexible in the kind of work they do," he says. Engineering students already are required to take a number of general education and liberal arts courses, including communications and writing. "You can't just be an engineer without having people skills," Rock adds. One popular track, according to Chet Rock, associate dean of the College of Engineering, is expected to be a BA in environmental sciences and a BS in civil and environmental engineering. Students will start by applying to UMF. After three years, those in good academic standing would transfer to UMaine. While at UMF, students will take general education, math and science, along with liberal arts elective classes, to prepare them for engineering coursework at UMaine. "This program is tailored for the student interested in obtaining a degree in engineering, but who wants a liberal arts college experience at a smaller campus as part of their education," says Rob Lively, UMF associate provost and dean of academic services. "Increasingly, today's engineer needs to be a good communicator, understand how engineering impacts society, and have a broader educational background as they aspire to higher level promotion." The UMaine College of Engineering currently has a similar agreement with Bowdoin College and recently created a dual degree program with the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

UMaine Publishes Pest Management Guide for Home Gardeners

07 Jul 2009

Contact: Mark Hutton at (207) 933-2100

ORONO, ME—University of Maine Cooperative Extension has published a vegetable pest management guide for home gardeners, "Pest Management for the Home Vegetable Garden in Maine" (bulletin #2188). Based on research conducted at UMaine's Highmoor Farm in Monmouth, a Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, the booklet covers pests and associated management practices specific to vegetable gardens in Maine and New England. Developed by Extension professors Mark Hutton and David Handley, the 20-page publication includes a crop grouping rotation chart and organizes descriptions of pests, diseases, and deficiencies by garden crop, with color photos. It is available for \$6.90 from extension.umaine.edu ("publications") or by calling (207) 581-3792.

Extended periods of wet weather such as Maine has been experiencing tend to set up favorable conditions for pest and disease infection, so home gardeners may need to be especially vigilant in monitoring their plants this year. "Pest Management for the Home Vegetable Garden in Maine" explains how to recognize plant deficiencies and diseases and suggests management practices based on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which relies on integrating a variety of control approaches with minimal pesticide use.

This year's unusually heavy June rains have taken their toll on area garden beds. Hutton advises that gardeners may benefit from simply starting over in some beds.

"It's not too late to think about July and August sowing for fall harvest," he says. "Carrots, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and kale can be planted in July, and spinach, lettuce and beets can be planted in August."

Hutton and Handley work closely with regional growers to conduct variety trials and to test pest management, soil improvement, and crop rotation strategies.

Advanced Microscopy Open House at UMaine July 29

07 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) ORONO - The Institute for Molecular Biophysics will sponsor a technical workshop on UMaine's advanced microscopy capabilities on Wednesday July 29 in the Hess Lab (Rooms 15/16 and

19/20 Bennett Hall). The open house, which will showcase FPALM (Flourescence Photoactivation Light Microscopy) technology, is scheduled for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The microscope will be operational during the open house, and scientists will be imaging a variety of samples. FPALM is a super-resolution microscopy method that can image single molecules with resolution roughly ten times better than ordinary light microscopy. A story from the March/April issue of UMaine Today Magazine describes the technology in more detail.

New Minor in Professional Writing Adds Credential to Undergraduate Degree

02 Jul 2009

Contact: Naomi Jacobs, (207) 581-3823; Charlsye Diaz, (207) 581-3839

ORONO – University of Maine students looking to boost their resumes can now add a professional writing credential to their degrees, according to Naomi Jacobs, chair of the English Department.

The credential, an 18-credit minor in professional writing, provides training and hands-on experience in writing.

“The minor is designed to add a professional credential to any student’s degree,” Jacobs said. “Students from all majors are welcome.”

Once enrolled in the minor, students become part of a network of students focused on their professional goals.

Minors are advised each semester and advising focuses on choosing classes as well as making career choices that build on an interest in writing or the desire to be a stronger writer in a specific field, Charlsye Diaz, who teaches in the minor, explained.

In the past, Diaz has worked with history and philosophy majors who want to stand out when applying to law school; music majors who want to go into music management; new media majors who will write client proposals; and business majors who use the professional credential to stand out from the pack when applying for highly competitive jobs.

Students choose classes that support their career goals and are able to create portfolios of writing samples by working with clients on and off campus. Students complete the minor with their major and career goals in mind.

“Students have opportunities to write proposals, grant applications, brochures, and newsletters,” Diaz said.

This fall, ENG 416: Technical Editing and Document Design, will focus on learning close editing skills, refining personal writing styles, practicing with software applications like InDesign and PhotoShop, and working on brochures.

The English Department also has an English major with a concentration in professional writing.

The concentration and minor complement the state of Maine’s work to further research and development because we are teaching students to write proposals and grant applications, Jacobs said.

Because of the focus on proposal writing, graduate students gravitate toward some of the classes.

“We have three classes for graduate students,” Diaz explained, including ENG 515: Reports & Proposals; ENG 516: Technical Editing & Document Design; and ENG 596: Fieldwork in Professional Writing.

Also, starting in the fall, professional writing students have access to a computer lab where they can work collaboratively or practice their own technological skills. The lab was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation's EPSCoR program.

For more information, go to: www.umaine.edu/ptw.

Public Invited to Second UMaine Surplus Property Sale July 8

01 Jul 2009

Contact: Gordon Nelson, 581-4799; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Auxiliary Services is holding a second yard sale, on July 8, to dispose of remaining discarded student property and office and residence hall furniture that's being replaced. The sale at Stewart Commons on Hilltop Road is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The public is welcome. Items, including tables, desks, bureaus, chairs, mirrors, beds, and other furnishings from dining and student residence halls, are priced low in order to dispose of them quickly. "It's been used by the university and is in fair to good condition," says Gordon Nelson, director of property management for Auxiliary Services. "Anything that was in poor condition we've disposed of."

UMaine Participating in Yellow Ribbon Program for Veterans

01 Jul 2009

Contact: EJ Roach, (207) 581-1316; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine is participating in the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program (Yellow Ribbon Program), which is a provision of the Post-Sept. 11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. This voluntary program will help fund tuition expenses that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate rate for eligible veterans. UMaine has agreed to contribute up to \$6,300 for each undergraduate student, \$1,000 for each graduate student, and \$1,000 for each doctoral candidate who applies and qualifies for the program. A maximum of 20 students will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. A complete list of schools in Maine that are participating in the program is available at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website at www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/YRP/states/me.htm. Eligible veterans may apply by visiting [the Student Affairs website](#) and downloading and completing the application. Copies of the application also may be picked up at UMaine's Veterans Education and Transition Services Office in room 314 Memorial Union or the Division of Student Affairs in room 315, Memorial Union. Applications for the 2009-2010 academic year will be accepted beginning July 1, 2009. Questions regarding the Yellow Ribbon Program or the application process should be directed to the Veterans Education and Transition Services office at (207) 581-1316. More information about the Yellow Ribbon Program is available at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website at www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/CH33/Yellow_ribbon.htm.

UMaine Extension Offers Summer Workshops on Organic Grain and Forages

01 Jul 2009

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, (207) 342-5971, richardk@umext.maine.edu Waldo, ME—Interest in growing organic grains has sparked research development within the University of Maine and the farming community in the Northeast. UMaine has received several research and development grants to investigate growing organic grains for both livestock feed and for an increasing demand for human consumption. A series of workshops has been organized to help interested growers learn more about how to grow and harvest these crops. On July 10 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., the W.R. Sherburne and Sons Dairy in Dexter will host a field day that will highlight some innovative weed management strategies in small grains. Fred and Shawn Sherburne are integrating oats, barley, bread wheat and sunflowers into their rotation to feed their cows and also to produce some higher value human grade grains. On July 17, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Rainbow Valley Farm in Sidney and Bullridge Farm in Albion will play host to another field day that will showcase their efforts to expand their production and use of organic gains on their dairy farms. At Rainbow Valley Farm participants will look at spring oats and discuss rotation strategies for organic producers who want to start growing grains in fields that are currently in sod crops. At Bullridge farm, participants will look at sunflower and soybean production. At Bullridge farm, Henry Perkins has set up an oil seed pressing operation for oil and protein meal for his livestock. The field day will start in Sidney and travel to Albion for lunch and the afternoon program. Please call 1-800-287-1426 to pre-register. The University of Maine's Rogers Farm will open its doors on July 27 from 1-4 p.m. for producers and interested individuals to highlight research on organic grain and forage production. The university is finishing up four years of organic forage and grain

production and researchers will be on hand to discuss results. Other research at the Sustainable Agriculture research farm will be featured as well. No registration is required for this event. For more information about these events or to register, please call the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office at 1-800-287-1426 Funding is provided through Northeast SARE project LNE06-240 "Expanding grain production and use on organic dairy farms in Maine and Vermont." UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Wabanaki Director Dana-Sacco Named Hanley Center Fellow

30 Jun 2009

Contact: Gail Dana-Sacco, 581-1417

ORONO -- Gail Dana-Sacco, Ph.D, director of the University of Maine's Wabanaki Center, has been selected as a fellow in the 2009 Daniel Hanley Center for Health Leadership program, a mentorship program established to identify and train emerging leaders in the field of health across the state.

The program is designed to help prepare a small select group of highly experienced leaders to effect substantive change in health and health care systems in Maine, according to the Portland-based Hanley Center. Mentors are selected from a pool of distinguished leaders from Maine's health and healthcare communities and other professions.

Dana-Sacco was selected for the program because of her experience, leadership qualities, and "her strong commitment to decreasing health disparities facing Native Americans and other underserved populations in Maine," according to Sean Hanley, M.D., chair of the Hanley Center Board of Directors.

Daniel Hanley was head physician at Bowdoin College for 33 years and served as executive director of the Maine Medical Association. Also an internationally known sports medicine physician, he served as chief physician of the United States Olympic team from 1964-1972 and was a member of the International Olympic Medical Commission.

UMaine to Host Diadromous Fish Conference

29 Jun 2009

Contact: Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research, (207) 581-3244

The 2009 Diadromous Species Restoration Research Network Science Meeting will be held July 22 to 24 at the University of Maine to help shape dialogue about the future of diadromous species restoration and research. The three-day event will feature guest speakers and poster sessions, networking and workshop opportunities, and field excursions.

Diadromous fish migrate between fresh and salt waters. Housed at the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental & Watershed Research at UMaine, the Diadromous Species Restoration Research Network is an NSF-funded network whose goal is to advance the science of diadromous fish restoration, promote state-of-the-art scientific approaches to multiple-species restoration on a watershed scale, and facilitate interactions among scientists, managers, and stakeholders.

Conference participants will have the opportunity to meet a growing network of researchers and managers focused on the restoration of diadromous fish, other species, and their habitats in the north Atlantic region, including the dam removal project in the Penobscot River watershed.

For more information about the conference and the DSRRN, visit <http://www.umaine.edu/searunfish> or call (207) 581-3244.

Patent Issued to UMaine Researchers for Technology That Could Change Building Industry

24 Jun 2009

Contact: Douglas Gardner, (207) 581-2846; Stephen Shaler, (207) 581-2886; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

ORONO – Researchers at the University of Maine’s AEWG Advanced Structures and Composites Center recently were issued a patent for technology that could change the way we build homes and other structures, while cutting the economic losses caused by natural disasters.

The invention is an improvement to Oriented Strand Board (OSB) that’s used in the majority of single family homes in North America, as well as a significant portion of multi-family, commercial and industrial facilities. Primarily it’s used as sheathing for roofs, walls and floors, but the existing material does have some drawbacks.

While OSB has become the dominant wood-based sheathing material used in construction over the last 20 years, displacing plywood, the OSB has certain disadvantages, such as high vulnerability to thickness swelling and water absorption.

The new technology increases OSB’s resistance to high winds and earthquakes, but also contains a coating which both hinders water uptake and prevents the boards from swelling.

UMaine wood sciences and technology professors Douglas Gardner and Stephen Shaler are the lead inventors on the patent. Post doctoral research associates Ciprian Pirvu, Lech Muszynski and Jungil Son also worked at AEWG when the initial work for the patent was done from 2001 to 2003.

In their patent documents, the inventors note that the economic losses from natural disasters in the United States have averaged about \$1 billion per week in recent years.

Roof sheathing often flies off in the turbulent hurricane winds, and the problem often has been attributed to improper fastening of the sheathing to the framing, many times causing the entire roof to fail. Without the protection of a roof, water damage often follows.

One potential application for the multifunctional OSB panel would be to eliminate the problem of roof shingle "telegraphing" in roof systems. This occurs when conventional OSB panels experience edge swell under shingles in a roof system and the outline of the panels can be seen on the roof of the building.

“This is an aesthetic problem that might benefit from our technology,” says Gardner.

Surveys also show that a significant portion of the damage resulting from hurricanes or earthquakes occurs in nonstructural parts of the home because of the movement of the structure. The cost to repair nonstructural damage often makes it necessary to rebuild the structure rather than to repair it.

While there are building codes in place to minimize the damage from natural disasters, regulations often are misunderstood and enforcing compliance is difficult because it’s not easy to inspect for these internal building practices.

UMaine’s technology reduces edge swelling of the OSB while simultaneously improving its ability to stay fastened in place when installed properly.

Public Invited to Surplus Property Sale, Fundraiser July 25

21 Jul 2009

Contact: Michelle Martin, 581-3091ORONO -- The University of Maine's Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism and the Department of Auxiliary Services are teaming up to offer a third surplus property yard sale, on July 25, to raise money to fund the newly opened Black Bear Exchange, an informal food pantry and clothing store on campus. Items to be sold include various household items abandoned in May by departing students and office, residence hall furniture that's been replaced and also "gently used" clothing, according to Michelle Martin of the Bodwell Center and Black Bear Exchange. The sale at Stewart Commons on Hilltop Road will be from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 25. The public is invited. Martin says the yard sale Saturday serves two purposes: to generate operating expenses for the food pantry, located in the former farm store behind Hitchner Hall, and to increase awareness of both the food pantry and the used clothing outlet, which is in need of a new permanent location. The food exchange is for members of UMaine's and surrounding communities who are in need; its summer hours are Saturdays, 2-6 p.m., and Mondays, 8 a.m. to noon.

Thursday Steam Planet Maintenance to Cause Loud Noises

21 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571ORONO -- UMaine facilities staff members will conduct maintenance operations at the UMaine Steam Plant from 8 a.m.-12 noon on Thursday July 23. This activity will involve a series of controlled, but loud, releases of steam from the plant, lasting approximately 15-30 minutes each. This is part of a process to thoroughly clean new piping so that new turbines can be installed.

'Passport to the World' Camp Being Held at UMaine

21 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Alex, 356-1817; Patty Henner, 581-4100ORONO -- The UMaine Page Farm and Home Museum is hosting area children this week for the annual Passport to the World Camp, exploring countries, cultures and customs from around the world. The camp is sponsored by the Maine CISV (Children International Summer Village) chapter and involves a week of international studies held on the UMaine campus. Children in the camp range from ages 5-10 years old. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day of the week, July 20-24, children ranging in age from 5-10 years explore the traditions, food, literature, stories, games and songs from selected countries. They learn traditional crafts and activities, make and eat food from other countries, and also learn how alike and different people are by exploring skin color and fairy tales that are the same in all cultures but written in different settings and styles -- such as "Cinderella," "Little Red Riding Hood" and "Rumpelstiltskin." The schedule for the remainder of the week is: Tuesday afternoon, Germany; Wednesday, Japan; Thursday, Argentina and Israel; and Friday, Wyoming, USA. For detailed information, contact Page Farm and Home Museum Director Patricia Henner at 581-4100 or Joe Alex at 356-1817.

UMaine Sustainable Agriculture Field Day July 27

21 Jul 2009

Contact: Ellen Mallory, 207-581-2942 STILLWATER, Me. —University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host its annual Sustainable Agriculture Field Day on Monday, July 27. Designed for farmers, crop advisers and other members of the agricultural community, the event will take place at Rogers Farm, UMaine's 100-acre forage and crops research facility, located on Bennoch Road in Stillwater. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., and events will run until 12:30 p.m. This free event will feature talks on many agricultural topics. Participants will receive one pesticide certification credit and three Certified Crop Adviser credits. For more information, contact Ellen Mallory at 207-581-2942 or John Jemison at 207-581-3241. UMaine agricultural researchers and Extension faculty members will present their field research on vegetables, grains, and forages. Specific topics will include bread wheat and specialty potato production issues, weed management tools for small-scale vegetable producers, organic fertilizers for sweet corn, and feed and forage rotations for organic dairies. Students from the Black Bear Food Guild will also talk about their community-supported agriculture project. Presentations will be offered by: Eric Gallandt, associate professor of weed ecology and management; John Jemison, Extension water quality specialist; Rick Kersbergen, Extension educator in Waldo County; Lauren Kolb,

graduate student in weed ecology; Ellen Mallory, Extension sustainable agriculture specialist; and Marianne Sarrantonio, associate professor of sustainable crop production, in addition to students and members of the Black Bear Food Guild.

Country Music Star Bentley at UMaine Sept. 4

23 Jul 2009

Contact: Abtin Mehdizadegan at 581-1701 ORONO -- Dierks Bentley, the country music star whose current single, "Sideways," is at the top of the country music charts, will perform at the University of Maine's Alford Arena on Friday Sept. 4. The concert, scheduled for 8 p.m., is presented by University of Maine Student Government, in collaboration with WQCB-FM. Tickets are available online at umainetix.com.

UMaine Math Colloquium Aug. 3

23 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Marc Chamberland, a professor at Grinnell College in Iowa, will give an Monday Aug. 3 University of Maine talk, "The Computer's Role in Mathematical Discovery and Proof." The talk, scheduled for 2-3 p.m. in 421 Neville Hall, is a UMaine Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium. Prof. Chamberland will provide perspectives on computing and experimental mathematics, including examples related to geometry, integrals, binomial sums, dynamics and infinite series.

UMaine Extension Offers Hay Directory

23 Jul 2009

Contact: Rick Kersbergen, 1-800-287-1426 or (207) 342-5971 ORONO -- With the large amount of rain Maine has experienced this summer, it has been a challenge to produce quality hay for Maine's livestock industry. If hay growers did not take advantage of excellent weather for dry hay production at the end of May and very early part of June, they are now faced with crops that are of low nutritional quality and weather patterns that are not conducive to good drying. "Many livestock owners purchase their hay from other growers," says Prof. Rick Kersbergen of the Cooperative Extension faculty in Waldo County. "Supplies may be low this year due to the weather. Hopefully, things will turn around and producers can get the first cutting of hay completed and a second crop of better quality could be harvested later in the summer." University of Maine Cooperative Extension maintains a "hay directory" for producers looking to market their hay and for livestock farmers looking to purchase hay. The website <http://umaine.edu/livestock/hay/> is currently being revised for 2009. Growers who have hay for sale can contact the UMaine Extension Waldo County office by calling 1-800-287-1426 to be added to the directory. There is also a form available on the website for updates. Inquires can be directed to Sonia Antundes at santunes@umext.maine.edu University of Maine Cooperative Extension also offers numerous resources for growers and purchasers of hay and hay products. The listing of resources includes information on hay quality, testing labs, sampling as well as equine fact sheets, online at <http://www.umaine.edu/livestock/hay.htm> For more information about growing and buying quality feed, contact UMaine Extension educators Rick Kersbergen at 1-800-287-146 or Richard Brzozowski at 1-800-287-1471.

UMaine Hosting Dropout Prevention Summit July 27-28

24 Jul 2009

Contact: Jim Artesani, 581-4061 ORONO -- More than 250 state policymakers, stakeholders, lawmakers and educators will gather at the University of Maine July 27-28 for the 2009 Maine's Dropout Prevention Summit. With funding this year from America's Promise Alliance, founded by General Colin Powell and his wife Alma Powell to reduce school dropout rates, summit participants will review and consolidate for the first time multiple high school completion initiatives into a new statewide high school completion plan, according to UMaine associate professor of special education James Artesani, who is helping to coordinate the summit. The conference, cosponsored by the UMaine College of Education and Human Development's Institute for the Study of At-Risk Students and the Maine Department

of Education, is scheduled 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. primarily in the D.P. Corbett business building on the Orono campus. Maine's First Lady Karen Baldacci is scheduled to participate. Maine's 20-30-percent dropout rate ranks 13th nationally, but Artesani says the goal of educators and policymakers is to further reduce dropout rates by promoting high school completion through a multitude of methods. Studies show that high school dropouts tend to live substandard lives economically and socially, and also are more susceptible to health problems and divorce.

Six Consecutive Years in Princeton Review for UMaine

28 Jul 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 or Kristen Andresen at (207) 581-3742 ORONO -- Princeton Review once again lists the University of Maine among the best colleges in the country. The New York-based publisher announced today "The Best 371 Colleges," according to its annual guide book. The publication, which rates the nation's best choices for undergraduate education, has selected UMaine for its list six years in a row. Only about 15 percent of the four-year colleges in the U.S. are chosen for the list. "We are pleased that Princeton Review continues to affirm UMaine's standing as a top-quality university and we appreciate inclusion on a list that includes the nation's top colleges and universities," says UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy. Princeton Review bases its rankings, to a significant degree, on surveys of current students. An average of 325 students per institution respond to Princeton Review's 80-question survey. "To me, this makes inclusion on the Princeton Review list all the more gratifying," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "Our own students are helping spread the word about the quality and value of the UMaine student experience, which certainly validates Princeton Review's choice." "Each of our 371 'best' colleges offers great academics," says Robert Franek, author of the book and vice president and publisher of The Princeton Review. "However, we don't rank schools academically because our goal is to help students find and get into the best school for them. Instead, we tally 62 ranking lists based how students at these schools rated their campus experiences, plus ratings based on institutional data we collect on issues important to applicants. It's all about the fit." Fall semester classes begin at UMaine on Monday, Aug. 31.

Maine Foods for August: Cooperative Extension Recommendations

28 Jul 2009

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205 ORONO, Me. -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension has information ready for consumers who wish to take advantage of the best of Maine foods during August. Online bulletins at extension.umaine.edu help Maine residents find, grow, use, preserve and store in-season fruits and vegetables. Among those most applicable in August are "Let's Preserve: Sweet Corn," "Let's Preserve: Tomatoes," "Let's Preserve: Berries and Vegetables" and "Fruits for Health: Wild Blueberries, Tomatoes, and Sweet Corn." Cumberland County-based Extension Educator Kathy Savoie cautions that consumers should get up-to-date information before canning food. With tomato season upon us, it is important for home canners to know that additional acid is needed to ensure the safety of whole, crushed or juiced tomatoes. To acidify tomatoes, add 1 tablespoon of bottled lemon juice per pint of tomatoes or 2 tablespoons of lemon juice per quart of tomatoes. Over the years there have been changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment, so there is new information on the best methods, canners, jars, and seals to use to ensure a safe result. Updated recommendations are as close as the local UMaine Extension office. Visit extension.umaine.edu or call 800-287-0274 to find an office and local food preservation workshops. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals. -30- For more than 90 years, University of Maine Cooperative Extension has supported UMaine's land-grant public education role by conducting community-driven, research-based programs in every Maine county.

Folklife Center Publishes Book on 'Lost' Downeast African-American Community

29 Jul 2009

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, (207) 581-1891 ORONO -- "Tales plucked from the brink of oblivion" is how author Marcus LiBrizzi, associate professor of English at the University of Maine at Machias describes his new 118-page, illustrated book, recently published by through the UMaine Folklife Center. "Lost Atusville: A Black Settlement from

the American Revolution" provides a rare look at African-American life in early New England. Shedding light on the history of slavery, segregation, and integration in Maine, the book traces the rise and fall of a long-forgotten black community, the settlement of Atusville. The book chronicles the facts, fiction and folklore of a small community founded by London Atus, a slave who earned his freedom in part because of his role in the American Revolutionary War and the famous attack -- the first naval battle of the war -- on the British warship The Margareta in the Machias in 1775. While Atusville had six African-American families with 36 residents and its own school at one time, the last of its residents died in the mid-1960s. LiBrizzi also is the author of "Dark Woods, Chill Waters," a collection of Downeast ghost stories. The book is the forty-second volume in the Northeast Folklore series, edited by Pauleena MacDougall, director of the UMaine Folklife Center. It is available for \$19.95 from the Maine Folklife Center, at local booksellers and on Amazon.com. The Folklife Center can be reached at folklore@maine.edu or by calling 581-1891.

UMaine Economists Find Portland Cruise Ship Passengers Generate \$5.8 Million-\$8 Million

29 Jul 2009

Contact: Todd Gabe, 207-581-3307 ORONO, Maine -- Research by two University of Maine economists shows that spending by cruise ship passengers delivered \$5.8 million to \$8 million to the Portland area last year, representing an expanding revenue source that could increase if cruise ship visits to the city continue to increase. The spending estimates are conclusions drawn from surveys of nearly 1,300 passengers disembarking in Portland last fall for shopping, sight-seeing and dining in or around Portland. Economists Todd Gabe, associate professor of economics and a fellow with CenTRO (Center for Tourism Research and Outreach) at the University of Maine, and Jim McConnon, Extension specialist and professor of economics, with assistance from several UMaine students, conducted the research in September and October of 2008 at the request of the city of Portland, which funded the study. The city is assessing the economic impact of the cruise ship industry on the region and establishing a baseline as it develops strategies to maximize the economic benefits and diversify its economic base. "The Portland waterfront is a vital economic engine for the state and regional economies," says Assistant City Manager Pat Finnigan. "Having the solid, current data, which this report provides, will help us develop long term strategies to maximize the impact of the cruise industry. The scheduled, reliable delivery of tourists to the city during the summer and fall is an opportunity we need to make the most of." Gabe and McConnon presented their findings Tuesday in Portland at a meeting among the Maine Port Authority, regional tourism leaders and maritime-related businesses, including port agents, pilots and stevedores who serve the cruise industry. The cruise season begins today with the first of two cruises scheduled to dock. The researchers found that the typical cruise ship passenger spends \$80 per day in the Portland region, and that amount swells to \$110 if cruise-ship sponsored tours are taken into account. These figures are used to estimate the total spending of 48,000 passengers from 32 ships that docked in Portland last year. "The cruise ship industry generates between \$5.8 and \$8 million in sales, 69-96 jobs and between \$2 million and \$3.2 million in wages and salaries for the Portland region," Gabe says. "Tourists arriving by water represent a growing new market of often first-time visitors for the state," McConnon notes. Portland's cruise ship passengers tend to be older, well-educated, affluent and veterans of previous ocean cruises. Many are from states west of the Mississippi River, notably California, Texas, Arizona and Missouri. Maine's traditional tourist profile has been the vacationer who drives here from nearby New England states. Cruise ship dockings are increasing each year. This year, 45 ships with nearly 70,000 passengers are expected in Portland. Next year, 68 ships are scheduled, more than doubling the number of ships visiting Portland in two years. Gabe and McConnon have completed several past studies on the cruise industry and have published journal articles on the topic. In 2002, they studied the economic impact of cruise line visits to Bar Harbor.

UMaine Student Planning First Responder Horse Safety Seminar

05 Aug 2009

Contact: Lauren Mack (860) 992-8735; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 University of Maine pre-vet senior Lauren Mack sees a real problem arising when public safety officials are called out in horse emergencies and no one in the department is trained to handle horses. In the last six months in the Bangor area alone, a racehorse got loose on Interstate-395 in Bangor, and horses have broken through fences and been found running loose on Interstate-95. In an attempt to assist and educate rescue personnel, Mack is coordinating a training course for first responders. The course will be taught by Dr. Shea Porr, the Superintendent of the Virginia Tech Mare Center in Middleburg, Va., and will be

offered Saturday, Sept. 19, at the J. F. Witter Large Animal Research Center in Old Town. Two sessions will be scheduled, the first from 8 a.m. to noon, and the second from 1-5 p.m. Participants will include area police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians who are often called out when there are horse emergency situations. Participants will hear lectures on such topics as "What to do until the vet arrives?" and "Horse handling techniques." They also will be given hands-on experience handling, haltering and leading horses that are part of the UMaine herd of retired Standardbred racehorses. Each participant will be asked to pay a minimal fee, the funds from which will be used to send each participant home with a halter and lead rope for department use. First responder personnel who are interested in knowing more about this seminar should contact Lauren.Mack@umit.maine.edu or call Mack at (860) 992-8735.

Maine Foods, Agricultural Heritage to be Featured at Highmoor Centennial Aug. 19

04 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Aimee Dolloff at (207) 581-3777 MONMOUTH -- Events highlighting Maine's rich agricultural history will take center stage on Wednesday Aug. 19 when the University of Maine hosts a centennial celebration of its Highmoor Farm in Monmouth. The state established the facility in 1909 to conduct research and demonstrations related to apples. UMaine later took over the farm, which has expanded over the decades both in size and research scope, to now include cutting-edge research involving apples, strawberries, sweet corn and other fruits and vegetables, along with composting. Highmoor Farm is home to activities conducted by both the UMaine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and UMaine Cooperative Extension. Activities are scheduled from 9:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. at the research facility, located on Rte. 202 in Monmouth, approximately 15 miles outside Augusta. Representatives of state government, the University of Maine and the agriculture industry will offer comments during a brief program in the morning. After a lunch for invited guests, afternoon tours, beginning at 12:30 p.m., will highlight ongoing research on vegetables, berries, apples and composting. A tomato variety testing event is planned for 2:15 p.m. "Research scientists continue their work today in the proud tradition established over the past century at Highmoor Farm," says Edward Ashworth, dean of UMaine's College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture. "This centennial anniversary provides the perfect opportunity to recognize that heritage while also taking note of the immense current impact of the research activities on Maine agriculture, which is a critical part of our state's economy."

Legendary Prof. "Sandy" Ives Dies at 83

04 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at jocarr@maine.edu ORONO -- Edward "Sandy" Ives, a UMaine English and anthropology professor from 1955-1999, died on Sunday at the age of 83. A renowned expert on folklore and folklife, Ives founded UMaine's Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History, now known as the Maine Folklife Center, in 1971. "I was saddened to hear of Sandy Ives' death," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He was a seminal figure in UMaine history who influenced generations of students and contributed to our academic community in innumerable ways. The impact of his remarkable scholarship is enhanced by the invaluable record of our state and regional culture that he leaves as part of his legacy. Sandy was a UMaine legend whose impact will continue for years to come." A Tuesday Bangor Daily News story on Ives' life and impact includes comments from Pauleena MacDougall, director of the Maine Folklife Center. An obituary is online at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bangornews/obituary.aspx?n=edward-d-ives-sandy&pid=130917482>. A memorial service is planned for the fall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ives' name to the Maine Folklife Center, care of the University of Maine Foundation, Buchanan Alumni House, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792 or New Hope Hospice, P.O. Box 757, Holden, ME 04429.

Lobster Gram and UMaine's Lobster Institute Team Up to Offer a "Lobster Stimulus" Package to Seafood Fans

05 Aug 2009

Contact: Robert Bayer, Lobster Institute, (207) 581-2785; Dan Zawacki, Lobster Gram, dan@livelob.com ORONO -- Lobster Gram®, an Internet business that markets live lobster for home delivery, is joining forces with the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine to offer a "lobster stimulus package" to support the Maine lobster industry during

August. This month is Maine's officially designated "Lobster Month." The stimulus sale offer includes free large shrimp with the purchase of Maine lobster tails packages. Additionally, Lobster Gram® will contribute a portion of proceeds from this promotion to help support Lobster Institute sustainability efforts. The Lobster Institute is a non-profit lobster research and industry service organization that works to maintain a vital resource and thriving fishery. "Families associated with the lobster industry are in need of an economic boost – a 'stimulus' if you will," says Dan "The Lobster Man" Zawacki, chair and founder of Lobster Gram. "Though lobster stocks are healthy, the economy is not. The boat price for lobster has nose-dived yet again this summer. We want to help our friends in the lobster industry. If we can help move some lobsters with our Lobster Stimulus Package, and put more money in their pockets – plus support the work of the Lobster Institute – it is really a win-win situation." Lobster Gram® ships premium live lobster, lobster tails and other gourmet products all over the U.S. from its distribution center in Biddeford, Maine. Its corporate headquarters and call center have been located in the Chicago area since 1987. "Dan and the folks at Lobster Gram have been loyal friends of the Lobster Institute and the lobster fishery," says Prof. Robert Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute. "Their willingness to donate a portion of the stimulus package sales to support the work of the Lobster Institute is just another example of their commitment to giving back to the lobster industry." To take part in the lobster stimulus effort, visit the Lobster Gram website at www.livelob.com. More information about the Lobster Institute can be found at www.lobsterinstitute.org.

UMaine Extension Offering Resources, Webinar to Help Stressed Farmers

11 Aug 2009

Contacts: John Rebar, (207) 581-2811; Jennifer O'Leary, (207) 353-5550; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 Farming can be stressful in the best of times. Financial worries, unpredictable weather, plant pests, livestock diseases, and isolation all contribute to farmers' anxiety. To assist farmers and their families who are experiencing stress, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension has organized a Web seminar and assembled a Web page filled with a variety of resources. "The unprecedented combination of low prices paid to farmers for their products, bad weather, and plant and animal diseases have made this year very challenging for Maine farmers," says UMaine Cooperative Extension Director John Rebar. "Independent by nature, farmers may not seek help in dealing with the enormous stress they are under. UMaine Extension is getting out information that can help families realize that they are not alone and there are resources to consider." The webinar, "Recognizing Farmer Stress, Anger, Depression, and Suicide: Thinking and Knowing What to Do Next," will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3 and will be presented by Dr. Robert Fetsch. Fetsch is an Extension specialist and professor of Human Development at Colorado State University. All agricultural service providers and farmers are invited to participate in the free online webinar. Registration information is available on the new UMaine Extension Farmer's Assistance site at <http://umaine.edu/agriculture/programs/farmers-under-stress/>. The website also contains contact information for the Maine Statewide Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline and numerous other resources that are available to farmers and their families who are experiencing difficulties. For more information, contact UMaine Cooperative Extension Director John Rebar at (207)581-2811.

UMaine Set to Unveil New Website; Updated Format Improves Functionality and Accessibility

12 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO – The University of Maine will launch a new website at umaine.edu on Saturday, Aug. 15. The site will feature a contemporary appearance, new functionality aimed at communicating effectively with prospective students and other audiences and improved accessibility for users with disabilities. "The Web is a primary mechanism that we use for communications and marketing activities in support of UMaine's teaching, research and public engagement activities," says Joe Carr, director of UMaine's Dept. of University Relations. "The new format will enhance our online communication capabilities and provide new, more effective ways for UMaine departments to interface with target audiences." The new site is built on the open-source WordPress software, adapted by the UMaine Web staff, part of the Dept. of University Relations, to be a content management system and to provide the foundation for the university's extensive Web presence. This proven system is now being used by hundreds of institutions, including Harvard, the Wall Street Journal, Best Buy, the New York Times, Le Monde, several universities and more. The format involves two compatible template pages, one slightly narrower than the other, that units and individuals can customize through the selection and placement of "widgets," plug-and-play pieces that provide

functionality for creating customized news feeds, calendars, slideshows, blogs, and much more. With the new system, it is also possible to easily integrate social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. The system also allows the university to more effectively communicate with the community in an emergency situation, increasing safety on campus. "This format is all about Web 2.0," says Chris Smith, UMaine's manager of electronic communications. "The Web is at its best and most useful when it is customizable and interactive, and the format we will launch on Saturday provides that functionality in an attractive and easy-to-use way. It also enhances our ability to effectively comply with standards related to users with disabilities, further fulfilling that ongoing institutional commitment to widespread accessibility. We still have some ways to go in completing that important effort, but this is a substantial move in the right direction." Saturday's launch will include umaine.edu, the university's primary Web page, sites related to university news and UMaine Today Magazine, sites for the UMaine colleges, the president's office sites and several other pages. A centerpiece of the redesigned site will be the new undergraduate admissions site, go.umaine.edu. Managed by the Dept. of University Relations and the Dept. of Admissions, this site will feature student blogs, extensive slide shows, student-oriented information about the admission process and life at UMaine, along with details about academic programs. Its emphasis on student-generated content enhances the dynamic nature of the site. "Communicating effectively with prospective students involves taking a multi-faceted approach through which we work to deliver a consistent message and image," Carr says. "The Web is perhaps the most important mechanism we can use to reach those students and their families, because it can really bring the student experience to life. Developing this site has been one of our primary focus areas over the past few months, involving hundreds of hours of effort, and the result is state-of-the-art." Saturday's launch represents an important step in a process that will involve further extending UMaine's new Web brand throughout the university's extensive Web presence. The three-person central Web staff will work with schools, departments and other units to help them convert, if they wish, to the new format. "Like any content management system, this new format is easily adapted and users can update their sites through their browsers, for free, and without using pricey Web authoring software that requires specific expertise," Smith says. "We will work with units to convert the material on their current sites to the new format, provide training necessary to make updates and to work toward desired enhancements. We're certain that those who manage websites will enjoy the new format and find the content management system to be user-friendly." Unit website managers interested in scheduling a conversion or gaining more information should contact Smith at chris.smith@umit.maine.edu or 581-3744. To optimally utilize the new site, users are encouraged to update their Web browsers. In fact, the site will not work properly with Internet Explorer 6.0, a nine-year-old browser that also creates online security vulnerabilities and is no longer supported by a number of Web providers. Links to sites that will provide simple instructions about downloading free updates are at www.umaine.edu.

Building a Resilient Coast: Maine Confronts Climate Change

11 Aug 2009

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, Maine Sea Grant, 207-581-1434 SURVEY RESULTS, DOCUMENTARY VIDEO HIGHLIGHT COASTAL COMMUNITY VIEWS ON COASTAL CHANGES Property owners along Maine's sandy beaches are noticing higher water levels during storms and increased erosion. A recent landslide in Stockton Springs was a reminder for residents along other parts of the Maine coast that they also are vulnerable to extreme weather patterns like this summer's record rainfall. These effects are expected to intensify with predictions of altered precipitation patterns and a rise in sea level of two feet or more in coming decades. A majority of Maine coastal property owners who participated in a recent survey are concerned about climate change, and believe that both government and individuals should take steps now to prepare. The results of the survey were released today by Maine Sea Grant. Despite being concerned, people who participated in the study were unsure about what, if anything, they can do about making their properties more resilient to the effects of a changing climate. "There are things you can do, and they may cost money, and these are difficult decisions. But we cannot wait. It's time to partner up and find solutions," said Steve Dickson of the Maine Geological Survey, who has produced bluff stability maps and projections of sea-level rise to help homeowners and potential buyers assess their risk. "By treating the shore as a living system, entire neighborhoods can protect themselves and prepare for the next storm," said Dickson. These issues are addressed in a new documentary produced by the Oregon and Maine Sea Grant programs. The five-part video series describes Maine's unique climate and coastal conditions, such as storms and sea level rise, and construction techniques and other strategies for safeguarding property, such as elevating buildings and protecting dune systems. Local government representatives have a greater sense of urgency about Maine's future climate. Seventy-two percent of municipal officials surveyed

expect to take some actions within the next two years. In the video, municipal officials offer their perspective on what steps are needed to protect their communities. "We hope that towns and community groups will use the documentary on their own, in meetings and local gatherings. Every DVD includes a discussion guide to help spark discussion," said Kristen Grant, a marine extension associate who worked on the project. "We will also organize a limited number of public viewings over the coming year. We really see this video as a beginning." Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension worked with the Center for Research and Evaluation and the Maine Coastal Program to survey 548 coastal property owners and 55 town officials in southern and midcoast Maine in 2007-2008. The project was funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For more information on the survey and to view the documentary program, visit <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/extension/coastal-community-resilience> or call 207-581-1435 to receive the free DVD or inquire about hosting a viewing session. The Maine Sea Grant College Program, based at the University of Maine, is a partnership of the State of Maine and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Lobster College: An Expeditionary Learning Vacation Offered by UMaine's Lobster Institute

11 Aug 2009

Contact: Cathy Billings at (207) 581-2751 ORONO -- It's time to roll up your sleeves and don your Sou'wester hat for this year's Lobster College, offered by the University of Maine's Lobster Institute and scheduled for Sept. 17-19, 2009 in Boothbay, Maine. "With expeditionary learning, we take the old-fashioned field trip to a whole new level," says Cathy Billings, associate director of the Lobster Institute. "Lobster College is the ultimate in hands-on, community-based learning, disguised as a vacation. It is designed for the layperson who is interested in enjoying a fun, extended weekend on the Maine coast and a chance to learn everything and anything there is to know about Maine's premier crustacean." Home base for Lobster College will be the Kenniston Hill Inn Bed & Breakfast. 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 Schoodic Peninsula and Frenchman Bay 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 lobstermen and lobster dealers themselves, as well as from University of Maine faculty," says Robert Bayer, executive director of the Lobster Institute. "We'll be taking a trip on a lobster boat to see how traps are hauled, we'll visit a working lobster wharf, and we'll provide lectures on a variety of lobster-related topics – including a culinary workshop. And of course, there will be plenty of lobster to eat. 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." Just a few slots remain for those interested in enrolling in this unique learning vacation. According to Billings, the registration deadline is Sept. 5. "We should fill up quickly though," she says. "There is a diverse group of enrollees so far, with people coming from such places as Missouri, Illinois, and Massachusetts." In addition to being an educational program, Lobster College doubles as a fundraiser for the Lobster Institute's operating fund. The Lobster Institute is a research and outreach organization with a mission of protecting, conserving and enhancing the vitality of the lobster resource and lobstering as an industry...and as a way of life. It was founded jointly by members of the lobster industry and faculty from the University of Maine. The Institute links industry expertise with academic resources to solve problems and challenges facing the lobster fishery. 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 Sept. 5. Tuition is \$575 per person (including all lobster meals) and room rates range from \$140-\$180 per night. Information about Lobster College, including cost and how to register, as well as information on other programs and services of the Lobster Institute, is available at www.lobsterinstitute.org or by calling (207)581-2751 or (207)581-1443.

Gardens, Root Cellars, Greenhouses Are Focus of Extension Presentations

17 Aug 2009

Contact: George Manlove, (207)-581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is holding several public events in the next few weeks -- beginning Tuesday, Aug. 18 -- related to farm energy use and production, root cellars, and gardens and green houses. Events will be held rain or shine. **Gardens and Greenhouses** On Aug. 18 at 6 p.m., Extension will hold free a "Gardens and Greenhouses" seminar at the UMaine Master Gardener Volunteers Demonstration Garden at the Rogers Farm on Bennoch Road in Stillwater. Participants will visit the greenhouse next to

the garden and hear about the experimental gardens planted indoors and outdoors for comparative purposes by master gardeners. The program also includes visiting the university's All-American Selections demonstration garden at Rogers Farm. For more information the UMaine Extension Penobscot County Office can be reached at 1-800-287-1485 in Maine or (207) 942-7396. **Maine Farm Days** On Aug. 21, several Extension educators will participate in free presentations on farm energy at Maine Farm Days events at the Barker Farm at 9 Barker Road in Leeds. From 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Jeff Bragg of Rainbow Valley Farm, Will Brinton of Woods End Laboratory and Caragh Fitzgerald of Cooperative Extension will review results of a feasibility study of methane digestion on a medium-sized Maine dairy farm. The focus will be on a high-solids procedure that appears to be suited to smaller farms. The technology can be used to produce methane from manure. Methane can be burned for heat or to fuel a generator and produce electricity. Cooperative Extension specialists Rick Kersbergen, Ellen Mallory and Caragh Fitzgerald will talk from 12:45 p.m.-2:15 p.m. about growing oilseeds and small grains and also basic production practices, pest management and potential markets. Both types of crops can provide livestock feed, and the oil from oilseeds can be burned or used to produce biodiesel. The presentations are scheduled at the oilseed-small grain demonstration area near the sunflowers. Other energy topics being presented include community wind technology, solar energy and carbon sequestration. For more information about Farm Days and for a full list of presentations, see the Farm Days website www.maineфарmdays.com. **Root Cellars** Cooperative Extension will hold a root cellar class Sept. 8~and Sept. 10 at the Cape Elizabeth Community Center at 343 Ocean House Road, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Extension professor Richard Brzozowski will explain building a root cellar for winter vegetable storage. The fee is \$30 per person or couple, with a \$5 discount for Cape Elizabeth residents. An online registration form available online and can be mailed with a check payable to Cape Elizabeth Community Services at 343 Ocean House Rd., Cape Elizabeth, 04107. Those who prefer can call 799-2868 to have a form mailed to them.

Camp Susan Curtis to Bring 18 Children to UMaine Wednesday, Thursday

17 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will host 18 youngsters from Camp Susan Curtis on Wednesday, Aug. 19 and Thursday, Aug. 20. During their time at UMaine, the students will experience what campus life is like and they will visit several UMaine facilities to learn more about academic opportunities. The Portland-based Susan L. Curtis Foundation operates Camp Susan Curtis. The foundation's mission, described on its website, is "to help lift Maine children out of the cycle of poverty through outdoor experiential education." In addition, the camp features an annual Camp to Campus tour, where the students visit Maine institutions of higher education. The foundation reports that 8 of every 10 youngsters participating in the program for at least four years has gone on to college. A number of news coverage opportunities exist on Wednesday: - 10 a.m., the group departs Buchanan Alumni House for campus tours - 12 noon, lunch at the Class of 1944 Bears Dean in Memorial Union, with Rep. Emily Cain as guest speaker - 1 p.m., Physics Road Show in Bennett Hall or a visual arts tour in 107 Lord Hall - 2:30 p.m., School of Performing Arts tour in Class of 1944 Hall or an Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center tour The group will stay overnight at UMaine on Wednesday. After Thursday morning breakfast at Wells Central, they will enjoy a Jordan Planetarium show before departing.

Fall Semester Course, Events to Recognize and Celebrate Darwin's Influence

24 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu Kristin Sobolik at (207) 581-1893, sobolik@maine.edu ORONO -- This year marks the 150th anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin's "The Origin of the Species," described by scientists as one of the most important publications of the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. This seminal work discusses the Theory of Natural Selection and lays out the framework on how biological organisms change through time. The University of Maine has scheduled a number of associated events throughout the fall semester, including a special course entitled "A Celebration of Darwin" which involves 14 faculty members from across campus who teach about or use natural selection in their research. The course runs Aug. 31 through Dec. 9 and each of the lectures is open to the public. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is sponsoring an Oct. 15 keynote lecture by Daniel C. Dennett, an award-winning Darwin scholar who is co-director of the Center for Cognitive Studies and the Austin B. Fletcher Professor of Philosophy at Tufts University. He has written more than 300 academic articles, nine

books, including "Darwin's Dangerous Idea," and has edited or co-edited many others in the field of cognitive studies. The week of Nov. 9-12 will feature a series of lectures, panel discussions and an overview of evolutionary research at UMaine. Additionally, Fogler Library will have special Darwin displays throughout the semester. "'Origin of the Species' is probably the most significant work in the last three centuries," says Kristin Sobolik, professor of anthropology and climate change, and a key organizer of the Darwin celebration at UMaine. "It basically focuses on the foundation of all biological science. It is the foundational theory from which every single biologist is working." Darwin's theory also has wended its way into scientific thought in the liberal arts and sciences, Sobolik adds. The Darwin events, including each of the lectures, are free and open to members of the public. "I think the important highlight is, even 150 years later, researchers on this campus are still using natural selection for the basis of everything they do," Sobolik says. "We want to bring this to the public to help people understand what natural selection is and what natural selection isn't."

New Media 'Without Borders VI: Conjunction' Exhibit Opens at UMaine

25 Aug 2009

Contact: Krista Smith, 581-3258 ORONO -- UMaine's Department of New Media's "Without Borders" annual exhibit and presentation of works by more than 30 new media artists, including UMaine graduate students, runs through Sept. 25 at the Lord Hall Gallery, with an opening reception Sept. 10, from 5:30-7 p.m. The variety of works in "Without Borders VI: Conjunction" reflects collaborative engagements of UMaine graduate students with selected partner artists from an international body of applicants. The works explore spaces between, boundaries, and horizons. Without Borders is an annual arts presentation and part of the Intermedia Master of Fine Arts degree program at UMaine. Lord Hall Gallery, an accessible facility, is open weekdays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The show is free and open to the public, and is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, and with funding from the New Media Department and Intermedia MFA program.

Council of Canadian Academies Appoints UMaine Professor

25 Aug 2009

Contact: Professor Darrell W. Donahue, (207) 581-2728 The Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) has selected University of Maine Chemical & Biological Engineering Professor Darrell W. Donahue to serve as an expert on a panel on Approaches to Animal Health Risk Assessment. As a panelist, he will aid in the preparation of a report for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on the condition and comprehensiveness of risk assessment techniques used in animal health science, pertaining specifically to risks that may impact on human health. The Council of Canadian Academies is a not-for-profit corporation with a mandate from the Government of Canada to provide independent, expert assessments of the science that is relevant to matters of significant public interest. The Council's mission is to inform government decision-makers, and the public, of the underlying science and gaps in knowledge. The CCA is equivalent to the U.S. National Academies of Sciences. Those appointed to CCA's expert panels come from Canada and abroad.

UMaine Department of Art's ArtWorks! Program Accepting Applications

26 Aug 2009

Contact: Constant Albertson, 581- 3251 ORONO -- The UMaine Department of Art's ArtWorks! program for area children in grades K-7 is accepting applications until Oct. 1 for the Fall 2009 session. Classes are Friday afternoons, 3:30-5 p.m. in Lord Hall, Oct. 16 through Nov. 13. The program provides children an opportunity to explore the world of art through: hands-on experiences with a variety of visual media, the history of art, and the viewing of art. Lessons are taught by advanced art education students under the supervision of art professor Constant Albertson. For more information, contact Albertson at constant.albertson@umit.maine.edu or by calling 581-3251; Catherine Russell or Cynthia Knowles in the Department of Art also have information and can be reached at 581-3245. A \$25 fee covers the cost of materials.

Class of 2013 Arrives at UMaine on Friday

26 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571 ORONO -- Members of the University of Maine Class of 2013 will arrive on campus Friday, Aug. 28, the beginning of Fall Welcome Weekend, a traditional series of events aimed at helping the students get acclimated and prepared to begin classes next Monday, Aug. 31. One annual highlight is the "Maine Hello," where students, faculty members, staff members and others volunteer to greet the new students and their families at the UMaine residence halls and assist in moving belongings into the students' rooms. This activity begins at 8 a.m. and continues to 4 p.m. UMaine President Bob Kennedy will participate in the Maine Hello during the morning. Reporters interested in catching up with President Kennedy for interviews should call Joe Carr at 949-4149 to determine his location. The 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. time frame is recommended. For more information about Fall Welcome Weekend, please visit: <http://umaine.edu/orientation/fall-welcome-weekend/>

UMaine Alumni Create Three Endowment Funds Through Foundation Matching Program

26 Aug 2009

Contact: Amos E. Orcutt University of Maine Foundation President/CEO (207) 581-5100 ORONO -- News of the University of Maine Foundation's 75th Anniversary Matching Gift Scholarship program came just in time for UMaine alumni Mike and Ellen Flaherty of Huntsville, Alabama. They had been thinking of establishing scholarship funds in memory of Mike Flaherty's father, Virgil E. Flaherty, who died in 1990 and his mother, Beatrice P. Flaherty, who died this past May. They were motivated to act when they learned that the Foundation would complement a gift of \$15,000 with a match of \$5,000 to boost a new scholarship fund to meet the UMaine's minimum level of \$20,000 for a named, endowed fund. They even decided to give a gift to start a fund in their own names, included in their wills. "We are grateful that the Foundation's 75th Anniversary Matching Gift Scholarship program made establishing these funds so easy," Mike Flaherty said. "This opportunity allowed us to pay tribute to both my parents, to help University of Maine physics students and to start our own legacy." "We are very thankful for the foresight and generosity of Mike and Ellen Flaherty," said Foundation President and CEO Amos Orcutt. "In addition to creating meaningful legacies for the Flahertys and their loved ones, these funds will provide educational opportunities for deserving students for generations to come." UMaine President Robert A. Kennedy noted the timeliness of the gift. "The need for private support has never been greater," Kennedy said. "Because of the weak economy and the downturn in the stock market, many endowments have no earnings. This greatly impacts our students. We are grateful for the efforts of the Foundation and to Mike and Ellen Flaherty for the generous support of their alma mater." The Foundation's 75th Anniversary matching gift program ends December 31, 2009. The University of Maine Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that exists primarily to encourage gifts and bequests 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, 100 Foden Road in South Portland and online at www.umainefoundation.org.

New Free Shuttle to Connect UMaine, Downtown Orono

27 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A new shuttle service will enhance travel between the University of Maine and downtown Orono, providing greater access to Orono business for UMaine students while making it easier for town residents and others to visit UMaine for sporting events and other activities. The "Black Bear Orono Express" will begin operation at 6:55 a.m. Monday Aug. 31, departing from Mill St. in Orono. After stops on North Main St., at the Orchard Trails residence facility and UMaine's Student Recreation and Fitness Center, it will arrive at UMaine's Memorial Union 13 minutes later. It will leave the Union at 17 and 47 past the hour to return to Mill St. The service is free to anybody who wishes to take advantage of it. The shuttle will operate Monday-Friday from 6:55 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Saturdays from 12 noon-10 p.m. It will not run on days when UMaine classes are not in session because of scheduled breaks. [The UMaine calendar is online here](#). Eight partner organizations have joined forces to create this service, including the University of Maine, the Town of Orono, the Orono Village Association, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Maine Dept. of Transportation, the City of Bangor (BAT), the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System (BACTS) and Orchard Trails. Those partners have committed to the program for a period of three years, with plans to evaluate it during that time frame for consideration of continued service. The Maine Dept. of

Transportation purchased the two shuttles to be used for this service, which complements the existing public transportation system operated by BAT. Both shuttles are designed to be accessible by people with handicaps and they have built-in bicycle racks. A ribbon-cutting ceremony related to this service is scheduled for 3 p.m. on Thursday Sept. 3 in the Orono municipal parking lot behind Pat's Pizza.

UMaine Extension to Lead Trip to Award-Winning West Baldwin Tree Farm

27 Aug 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, (207) 780-4205 *Note: "Jo" is the correct spelling of Mr. Pierce's first name.* WEST BALDWIN, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension offer a tour of the nationally acclaimed Pierce Tree Farm in West Baldwin on Friday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m.-12 noon. Jo and Kathy Pierce will lead the tour of their farm which includes white pine/red oak forest along with typical trees that grow with them. Jo will identify the various tree species and will also talk about invasive species. The farm has been in the same family for six generations and the trees vary in age up to 200 years. 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 Friday, September 4. This tour is an organized outing of the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to teach people, young and old, how to identify 50 trees of Maine over a two-year period, 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. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine Alternative Energy Course Begins Sept. 4

27 Aug 2009

Note to reporters: the list of lecturers and their subjects may provide a useful directory of expertise related to various energy-related issues. Please let us know if you would like help in contacting any of the experts listed. Contact Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Electrical Engineering Technology program and the Maine Association of Engineers will offer a 14-lecture course on the subject of alternative energy, beginning on Friday Sept. 4. The course will take place in 126 Barrows Hall Fridays from 12:10 p.m.-1 p.m. through Dec. 11. Open to anybody who is interested, the course will also be available through Web-based instructional technology, a feature that should be particularly attractive to professional engineers interested in the subject matter and the opportunity to earn up to 14 credits (one for each session) applicable to license renewal. UMaine students should register for the course (EET 498-002) as they would any other course. The cost for taking only selected course lectures breaks down as follows: 1-3 sessions: \$25/session 4-8 sessions: \$20/session 9 or more sessions: \$15/session Payment by check, payable to the Maine Association of Engineers, will be accepted. Such payments, along with a list of applicable sessions, should be mailed to: Maine Association of Engineers Attention: Judith Pearse, PE 5711 Boardman Hall, Room 119 University of Maine Orono, ME 04469-5711 For more information, contact Pearse at jude_pearse@umit.maine.edu or (207) 542-5523. UMaine professors, industry executives and government leaders will lead the discussions. A complete list of the sessions and instructors follows: EET 498 (002) – Alternative Energy Agenda 9/4 Energy: Will the Future Ever be Like the Past? Jim LaBrecque 9/11 Biofuels from Non-food Resources Peter VanWalsum, Associate Professor, Forest Bioproducts Research Initiative, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of Maine 9/18 Fuel Cell Systems and Applications S. David Dvorak, Professor, Mechanical Engineering Technology, University of Maine Coordinator, Fuel Cell Systems and Hydrogen, RES: the School for Renewable Energy Sciences Akureyri, Iceland 9/25 Intelligent Heterogeneous Energy from Alternative Resources (iHEAR) Ali Abedi, Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Maine 10/2 Electrical Smart Grids Mohamad Musavi, Chair and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Maine 10/9 Forest Biorefinery Producing Pulp, Transportation Fuels and Chemicals Adriaan van Heiningen, J. Larcom Ober Chair in Chemical Engineering, University of Maine, Orono and FiDiPro Professor, Helsinki University of Technology, Espoo, Finland 10/16 Co-Generation in Maine Industry and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Glenn Poole, Manufacturing Support Manager – Energy, Verso Paper in Bucksport, ME 10/23 Building Energy Modeling Seminar George Callas, Director of Sustainability at the Newforest Institute 10/30 The GridSolar Project Richard Silkman, GridSolar LLC 11/6 Electric Power from Tidal

Energy: Is This Part of the Answer? Rick Armstrong, Executive Director of the Tidal Energy Demonstration and Evaluation Center (TEDEC) 11/13 Offshore Wind Energy, Part I Habib Dagher, Bath Iron Work Professor and Director of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC) and Professor of Civil/Structural Engineering, University of Maine 11/20 Offshore Wind Energy, Part II Habib Dagher Bath Iron Work Professor and Director of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center (AEWC) and Professor of Civil/Structural Engineering, University of Maine 12/4 Nuclear: Is It Part of the Energy Supply Future? Paul Villeneuve, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, University of Maine 12/11 Maine's Energy Future John Kerry, Governor's Office of Energy Independence & Security

Darwin Lectures Begin Monday

27 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series begins on Monday, Aug. 31 with a talk by UMaine psychology professor Larry Smith, who will discuss Charles Darwin's contributions in their historical context. Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Women in the Curriculum Presentations Series Begins Sept. 15

28 Aug 2009

Contact: Ann Schonberger or Mazie Hough, (207) 581-1228 ORONO -- The Fall 2009 Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program lunch series gets under way Sept. 15, with noon presentations on feminist topics by UMaine faculty, graduate students and guest speakers. The series includes lectures, panel discussions, and films on topics such as North American writers and the Spanish Civil War, Kenyan Nobel prize winner Wsangani Maathai, the marriage-equality referendum and women writing about Maine, in addition to a feminist fashion show. Programs are Tuesdays from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in September and November and Wednesdays in October and December. They will be held in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union, unless otherwise noted. All are free and the public is welcome. The Memorial Union is fully accessible. Information about the Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program is [available on its website here](#).

UMaine Welcomes Class of 2013; Overall Enrollment Projected to Grow

28 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 jocarr@maine.edu ORONO -- Approximately 700 University of Maine students, faculty members, staff members and others turned out today to welcome the university's new first-year students, the Class of 2013. The backbone of UMaine's traditional "Maine Hello" program, those volunteers met the new students and their families as they arrived at residence halls, greeted them warmly, and then moved their belongings into rooms. "We do all the lifting when new students join our community," says Robert Dana, vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "The new students and their parents appreciate the contact with our volunteers, and we all enjoy playing a role in this exciting transition for those families." UMaine's overall student population is expected to grow for the 12th consecutive year. While enrollment numbers do not become official until Oct. 15, total enrollment is projected at 11,925, approximately one percent higher than last year's official enrollment. The increase is partly attributable to a projected significant improvement in student retention -- those students who remain enrolled at the university, as opposed to transferring or suspending their studies. Based on current information, the retention rate for those students who enrolled last fall is 79.4 percent, a three percent increase over the previous year's rate. Since the class that began in 2008 was the largest in UMaine's history, the number of returning students from that group helps offset a year-to-year decline in new first-year students. "The retention news is most encouraging," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "It tells us that our students are having good experiences in the classroom and in our community, and that they appreciate the quality and value of the University of Maine. Our faculty and staff work hard to assure that all of our

students have appropriate opportunities to succeed and thrive as members of our community. We have focused a lot of effort on retaining our students, and this increase suggests that those efforts are paying off." The Class of 2013 numbers 1,803 students, down from last year's final total of 2,094. "While we would have liked to have seen the number of new first-year students continue to grow beyond last year's high-water mark, it has been obvious to us for quite some time that we would see a decrease in that number," Kennedy says. "The decline in the number of students graduating from Maine high schools, along with difficult economic conditions, have conspired to cause this decrease. Once those factors abate, I am certain that first-year enrollment will begin to grow again." Eighty percent of UMaine students are Maine residents. Forty-eight states and 73 countries are represented in the UMaine student population. *Note: Historical 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.*

UMaine Cooperative Extension to Offer "Make Your Own Baby Food" Classes

31 Aug 2009

Contact: Kate Yerxa at 581-3109 (media only), or Nannette Marcinkowski at 581-3445. When most people think of green baby food, pureed peas or string beans come to mind. But Kate Yerxa, the statewide educator for nutrition and physical activity at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, has a different perspective. The green she sees isn't beans. It's dollar bills. "We went through computed unit prices per pound for premade food, and wanted to compare that with how much it would cost for people to make their own baby food with fresh, fresh organic or canned ingredients," Yerxa explains. "Over six months, you can save \$60 if you just make your own green beans, but the greatest cost saving came from meat and baby food." To help Maine parents save money and offer safe, healthy alternatives to store-bought baby food, Yerxa will lead a series of "Make Your Own Baby Food" classes starting Sept. 8 in Bangor. A grant from Bangor Region Public Health & Wellness allowed Yerxa to purchase food mills for students in the class, but families don't need special equipment to prepare baby food — a fork or blender will do the trick. Yerxa's classes and UMaine Extension's "Making Your Own Baby Food" publication provide nutritious recipes, discuss storage techniques and review when it's appropriate to introduce new foods to babies and infants, including pureed versions of the same meals their parents are eating. Yerxa, a mother of two, understands the importance of promoting a cost-effective, nutritious alternative to store-bought baby foods. "Parents want the best for their children," she says, "and by making homemade baby food parents can easily control the quality and ingredients of the food that they provide to their children." For information or to register for the classes, which will take place from Sept. 8 to Nov. 18 at 103 Texas Ave. in Bangor, call Nannette Marcinkowski at 581-3445. Class size is limited to 10 participants. The "Making Your Own Baby Food" publication is available for download.

Darwin Lecture Series Continues on Wednesday

31 Aug 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Wednesday, Sept. 2 with a talk by UMaine psychology professor Larry Smith, "Darwin: the Reluctant Revolutionary?" Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Jazz Festival on Campus Saturday

01 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine Office of Multicultural Programs will present its first annual Harambé Jazz Festival in the Dunn Hall parking lot, across from Wells Conference Center, on Saturday Sept. 5. The event is scheduled for 12 noon-4 p.m. Using music as a cultural bridge, the festival will showcase Maine performers including UMaine's own Lidral Duo, featuring UMaine Prof. Karel Lidral. The Paavo Carey Quartet from Skowhegan and Maine jazz pianist Tom Snow will also perform. The event is free, and local vendors will provide food and beverages for purchase. The Division of Student Affairs and Student Government are co-sponsors.

UMaine Fraternity Holding 5th Annual Campout to Benefit YouthAIDS Education and Prevention Program

02 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 Travis Blackmer (travis.blackmer@umit.maine.edu) ORONO – They just moved in and they're already camping out. The University of Maine chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon (Sig p) fraternity is hosting its annual Camp Out for YouthAIDS on the corner of the mall, near Fobler Library and Memorial Union at UMaine. Sig Ep members will be on the mall collecting donations for YouthAIDS through Friday Sept. 4. 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 and its impact on people from the ages of 15-24. The SigEp brothers 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 in excess of \$10,000. YouthAIDS, an education and prevention program of Population Services International, 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.

UMaine Extension Offers Sessions to Turn Favorite Recipes Into Business Realities

02 Sep 2009

Contacts: Beth Calder (207) 581-2791; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 MACHIAS – Your friends and family rave about your homemade chowder, blueberry jam, fudge, or other special food product. They say you should sell it and make a fortune. Are they right? Where do you start? To answer these questions and more, University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering a workshop series at the University of Maine Machias. From Recipe to Market: Ca\$hing in on Value-Added Opportunities will provide an overview of what is involved in taking a specialty food product to market. Participants will learn about licensing, how to prepare and package their food product safely, to access potential profits, and discover some of the resources available to support them in business development. Participants must have a specific food product or recipe in mind and are expected to attend all sessions. This program is for individuals currently operating a value-added business or those seriously considering one. Applications must be returned to the Washington County Cooperative Extension office by Thursday, Oct. 15 to reserve a space. This program is available free of charge thanks to the generous support of Maine Coast Heritage Trust. Key Presenters: Dr. Louis V. Bassano, Extension Educator & Professor, UMaine Extension Dr. Beth Calder, Extension Food Science Specialist, Assistant Prof., Dept. of Food Science & Human Nutrition, University of Maine Dr. James C. McConnon, Extension Business and Economics Specialist, Professor, School of Economics, UMaine Workshop titles and times are as follows:

- **Thursday, Oct. 29, 6-8 p.m.** Are You an Entrepreneur and What is Involved? Calder and Bassano will explore issues involved in being a food entrepreneur.
- **Thursday, Nov. 5, 6-9 p.m.** Developing Your Product and Process Calder will review regulatory agencies, grading, packaging and labeling.
- **Thursday, Nov. 12, 6-9 p.m.** Business Realities McConnon and Bassano will give an overview of market research, business structure, insurance, pricing, promotion and sales options.
- **Thursday, Nov. 19, 6-9 p.m.** Resource Panel A panel discussion featuring an insurance agency, banker, attorney and food business entrepreneur will give advice and answer questions.
- **Thursday, Dec. 3** Individual Business Counseling Participants can make an appointment with presenters to get input on their written business plan, ask questions and seek advice about next steps.
- Pilot Plant Tours will be arranged and are optional. Participants will meet Pilot Plant Director Connie Young Johnson at the University of Maine Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition. They will see the equipment and resources available to assist with food product development research.

UMaine Professor Researching Way to Make Cancer Detection Easier

03 Sep 2009

Contacts: Michael Mason (207) 581-2344; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – A recent discovery by a University of Maine engineering professor and his collaborators is expected to make it easier for doctors to find cancerous tumors and start treatment in the early stages of the disease when it can be most effective. Associate Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering Michael Mason and his collaborator, Dr. Peter Allen at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York have been awarded nearly \$78,292 from the Maine Cancer Foundation for their

project, "Improved Cancer Detection through the Use of Engineered Bioconjugates." They are developing a new class of cancer identifying agents to detect cancerous tumors in the pancreas and liver. The agents are based on chemically modified noble metal nanoparticles labeled with bio-active molecules. Bio-active molecules are antibodies against cancer markers found on the surface of cancer cells. These particles are non-toxic and can specifically seek out and attach to cancer cells which are difficult to distinguish from healthy tissue by imaging studies, such as MRI or CT scans. Though only a few billionths of a meter across, they generate very strong x-ray signals effectively making the cancer cells visible to doctors. The project has the potential to vastly improve early detection of many types of cancer. In addition to improved images, these particles could replace current Iodine based contrasting agents to which many patients respond negatively, says Mason. Although the technology is still a few years away from being used by medical professionals, researchers have successfully tested the detection process in mice.

Darwin Lecture Series Continues Wednesday 9/9

04 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Wednesday, Sept. 9 with a talk by UMaine chemistry professor on Darwin's historical and cultural impact. There is no Monday lecture next week because of Labor Day. Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Bowdoin College History Professor Rael at UMaine Sept. 17

04 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will observe Constitution Day with a Thursday, Sept. 17 lecture by Prof. Patrick Rael from the Bowdoin College history faculty. Rael, a specialist in African-American history, will discuss "What the Fathers Founded: The Constitution, Slavery, and Resistance before the Civil War." The lecture, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall. Congress established Constitution Day in 2004. It is celebrated on Sept. 17 each year, commemorating the 1787 signing of the U.S. Constitution. The lecture is sponsored by UMaine's Undergraduate History Club and the Division of Student Affairs Program Fund.

Page Farm and Home Museum Receives Grant to Preserve Collections

04 Sep 2009

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100 ORONO -- UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum has received a \$1,822.03 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to relocate, preserve and provide better access to its historical records collections. The grant comes from through the Historical Records Collections Grant Program, administered by the Maine Historical Records Advisory Board, and coordinated by the State Archives. "Grants such as this support community efforts to protect the stories of our birth, property rights, government, and how we live our lives," says state archivist Dave Cheever. "People need to document their birth or naturalization to obtain a passport or to get medical care; others research their property boundaries; some seek long-lost relatives or to understand the history of the old saw mill down the road. Without these precious records, most questions like this would remain unanswered." Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap says a recent report to the Maine Legislature indicates that many of Maine's historical collections, which include some 200 million photographs, paintings, natural history collections and letters, are in danger of being lost to fire, theft, mold or misuse. Surveys show that local governments, historical societies and libraries are seeking help to preserve the state's heritage, says Dunlap, whose office oversees the Maine State Archives. According to Patricia Henner, Page Farm and Home Museum director, the grant will enable the museum to relocate its records collections into sound archive-quality storage facilities and to make the collection more accessible to researchers. Information about Page Farm and Home Museum programs is available at its [website](#).

UMaine Climate Change Director Receives Highest Honor in His Field

04 Sep 2009



Contact: Paul Mayewski, (207) 581-3019; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO – University of Maine Climate Change Institute Director Paul Mayewski has been lauded worldwide for his work in Antarctica, the Arctic and other remote portions of the planet, and now he has been selected to receive the highest award in his field. Mayewski will be presented The International Glaciological Society’s Seligman Crystal at a meeting next year. The award is given from time to time to a person who has made an outstanding scientific contribution to glaciology so that the subject is now enriched. “It is a great honor for me to be recognized within such a select group of scientists and even more stimulation to continue forward with the research that I have been fortunate enough to share with my colleagues and students,” says Mayewski. Mayewski has explored more of the Antarctic than anyone else in the world and has led more than 50 research expeditions in the polar and high mountain regions of the world. Known worldwide for his global scale collection and analysis of ice core samples, he has demonstrated the existence of abrupt changes in climates of the past and the impact of humans on the climate, and has made important predictions about the future. In addition to the Antarctic, Paul has led scientific expeditions to many remote places including the Arctic and the Himalayas. Through his groundbreaking research, he has observed the historic impact of humans on climate, reconstructed past atmospheric conditions, and demonstrated associations between climate and disruptions to civilization. He has received numerous awards and citations for his seminal contributions to the understanding of climate change. Author of “The Ice Chronicles,” which was published in 2002 and documents 100,000 years of climate history, Paul speaks to hundreds around the world each year and has appeared on CBS 60 Minutes, Good Morning America, Fox News and NOVA and been interviewed by more than 350 media venues including the Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, and the Christian Science Monitor, as well as by National Public Radio. As director of UMaine’s Climate Change Institute, he coordinates more than 50 faculty/staff members and researchers plus nearly 30 graduate students who are experts in the fields of climatology, archaeology, glaciology, geochemistry, ecology, history and marine geology. He founded and currently leads a 21-nation program called the International Trans Antarctic Scientific Expedition (ITASE), whose goal is to understand climate change of the last 200-1000 years in the Antarctic and the Southern Ocean.

Camden International Film Festival Schedule; UMaine Offers Associated Three-Credit Course

08 Sep 2009

Contact Debra Tenenbaum (debra@gbritt.com) Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) The University of Maine is one of the festival's co-sponsors. Its Division of Lifelong Learning offers a three-credit course in conjunction with the festival. This is a Camden International Film Festival news release. CAMDEN -- The Camden International Film Festival (CIFF) announced its full slate of films for the Festival taking place October 1 – 4 throughout Camden, Rockport and Rockland, Maine. The 2009 CIFF will present 55 films, both features and shorts, from all across the globe. Films were selected from over 250 submissions and the festival will proudly host 3 World Premieres, 2 US Premieres, 3 East Coast Premieres and 7 New England Premieres. Now in its fifth year, CIFF presents a snapshot of the cultural landscape through the year’s best non-fiction storytelling, connecting filmmakers and industry representatives with audiences to

discuss documentary film as an art form, a catalyst for change and as an outlet for the independent voice. “This year's Camden International Film Festival is a celebration of non-fiction storytelling told from some of the most recognized artists working in the medium, as well as some emerging voices that are making their mark in this ever growing world of documentary film. CIFF is honored to share this dynamic and unique program with our audiences in such an intimate environment,” says Benjamin Fowlie, the festival's founder and director. Virtually every film will be accompanied by a post screening Q&A by the film's director or producer. The festival will also host the inaugural POINTS NORTH Documentary Film Forum, an event for filmmakers to connect with industry leaders and major funders in the documentary community. In total, nearly forty industry representatives and filmmakers will be in attendance over the course of the four day event.

CIFF 2009 FEATURES ANIMAS PERDIDAS (LOSTSOULS) Monika Navarro, USA, 2008, 57 mins East Coast Premiere A young Latina filmmaker chronicles the emotional journey of her uncle, a military vet deported to Mexico, and uncovers the secrets of her family's past. A CHEMICAL REACTION Brett Plymale, USA, 2009, 80 mins US Premiere Canada has spoken and toxic lawn and garden pesticides are now banned in most of the nation. A Chemical Reaction examines how Hudson, Quebec, became the first town in North America to ban these products and inspired hundreds of others to follow suit. BEAUTY OF THE FIGHT John Urbano, USA / Panama, 2009, 69 mins A powerful and beautifully photographed film that explores the effects of historic realities on two Panama barrios (neighborhoods), Barraza and El Chorrillo who suffered heavy losses when US forces invaded in 1989. BECAUSE WE WERE BORN (Puisque Nous Sommes Nés) Jean Pierre Duret, France / Brazil, 2008, 90 mins US Premiere Follows two young teenage boys who hang out at a service station in Pernambouc in the poor northeast of Brazil, watching trucks and travelers and hearing stories about a wider world they can only dream of. CONVENTION (Opening Night Film) AJ Schnack, USA, 2009, 93 mins New England Premiere AJ Schnack assembles an all-star crew of documentary filmmakers to tell the story behind the mounting of one of the biggest events of the decade: the 2008 Democratic National Convention. CRUDE Joel Berlinger, USA, 104 mins Three years in the making, this cinéma-vérité feature from acclaimed filmmaker Joe Berlinger is the epic story of one of the largest and most controversial environmental lawsuits on the planet. The inside story of the infamous “Amazon Chernobyl” case, Crude is a real-life high stakes legal drama, set against a backdrop of the environmental movement, global politics, celebrity activism, human rights advocacy, the media, multinational corporate power, and rapidly-disappearing indigenous cultures. CRUDE INDEPENDENCE Noah Hutton, USA, 71 mins A compelling new documentary about the booming town of Stanley North Dakota, sitting atop the largest oil discovery in North American history. EARTH DAYS (Closing Night Film) Robert Stone, USA, 101 mins Looks back to the dawn and development of the modern environmental movement — from its post-war rustlings in the 1950s and the 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's incendiary bestseller Silent Spring, to the first wildly successful 1970 Earth Day celebration and the subsequent firestorm of political action. THE END OF THE LINE Ruppert Murray, UK, 2009, 90 mins Imagine an ocean without fish. Imagine your meals without seafood. Imagine the global consequences. This is the future if we do not stop, think and act. The End of the Line is the first major feature documentary film revealing the impact of overfishing on our oceans. THE FISH BELONG TO THE PEOPLE Will Hyler, USA, 2009, 79 mins World Premiere In Port Clyde, Maine one of the last remaining fleet of family ground fishermen struggles as they develop a sustainable stewardship with the fishery in order to save their generations long way of life against counter productive government regulations and unfair markets that threaten to push them out of business forever. GARBAGE DREAMS Mai Iksander, USA, 90 mins Follows three teenage boys born into the trash trade and growing up in the world's largest garbage village, on the outskirts of Cairo. It is the home to 60,000 Zaballeen, Arabic for “garbage people,” who survive by recycling 80 percent of the garbage they collect. When their community is suddenly faced with the globalization of its trade, each of the teenage boys is forced to make choices that will impact his future and the survival of his community. INVISIBLE GIRLFRIEND David Redmon / Ashley Sabin, USA, 2009, 70 mins Charles, a diagnosed bipolar paranoid schizophrenic, goes on a Quixotic journey through Louisiana on a big red bicycle, with by his invisible girlfriend Joan of Arc, to deliver a candle to a woman he admires. THE LANGUAGE OF AMERICA Ben Levine, USA, 2009, 81 mins Three Native American families from different New England tribes journey back into nature and into a dream of a time when words had meanings so big they could not be translated into English. As they unravel the secret of the survival of their 9,000 year old culture, they confront the power of a lie that Americans have yet to question. MINE Geralyn Pezanoski, USA, 2009, 83 mins A powerful story about the essential bond between humans and animals told against the backdrop of one of the worst disasters in modern US History. OCTOBER COUNTRY Donal Mosher and Michael Palmieri, USA, 2009, 80 mins New England Premiere A beautifully rendered portrait of an American family struggling for stability while haunted by the ghosts of war, teen pregnancy, foster care and child abuse. This vibrant and intimate documentary examines the forces that unsettle the working poor and the violence that lurks beneath the surface of American life. THE PHILOSOPHER KINGS Patrick Shen, USA, 2009, 70 mins THE PHILOSOPHER KINGS is a documentary film about the kind of wisdom that gets you

through the day – the wisdom that comes from surviving hard times, lost loves, shattered dreams, and bad choices. The film goes deep into the most well-respected and prestigious universities to seek wisdom from the people who see it all and have been through it all – the janitors. P-STAR RISING Gabriel Noble, USA, 2009, 80mins New England Premiere

A documentary film about a single-father who is determined that his 9-year old daughter become a rap star and thus redeem his deferred dream. We follow the father-daughter duo for four intimate years through the grit and glamour of the music industry, the struggles of being a single dad with no means, and the sacrifices a child makes in order to make her daddy proud. PULLING JOHN Vassiliki Khonsari, Sevan Matossian, Navid Khonsari, USA, 2009, 72mins New England Premiere

A feature length verite documentary shot over four years, witnesses the mythical world of arm wrestling where 2 titans battle in pursuit of a living god. RACING DREAMS Marshall Curry, USA, 2009, 97 mins

A vérité documentary film following the lives of three young racers as they compete in the World Karting Association's National Pavement Series. Clocking speeds up to 70 mph, Brandon Warren (13), Josh Hobson (12) and Annabeth Barnes (11) chase the National Champion title--and take one step closer toward their dream of someday racing in NASCAR. RISE UP Luciano Blotta, Jamaica/USA, 2009, 88mins New England Premiere

Journey into the heart of Jamaica, the island that gave birth to the worldwide cultural phenomenon of Reggae. In a society where talent abounds and opportunity is scarce, three distinct and courageous artists fight to rise up from obscurity and write themselves into the pages of history. THE RIVALS Kirk Wolfinger, USA, 2009, 91 mins

High School football in small towns all across America can bring a community together, and in some cases, pit one community against another. The Rivals is the story of two towns in Maine, a stagnant mill town to the north and an affluent suburb along the southern coast... a story about the pride of place, the passion of tradition and the careful balance... between success and respect. SHOOTING BEAUTY George Kachadorian, USA, 2009, 62mins

Aspiring fashion photographer named Courtney Bent's career takes an unexpected turn when she discovers true beauty in a truly unexpected place-- at a center for people living with significant cerebral palsy and other disabilities. When she begins inventing cameras her new friends can use, the photographs expose an unforgettable story that will make you rethink what it means to live with a disability-- and without one. SNOWBLIND Vikram Jayanti, UK, 2008, 87 mins

East Coast Premiere Rachael Scdoris is 23, and has been legally blind since birth. She's racing in her third Iditarod, the grueling 1,100 mile dogsled race in Alaska – the toughest race in the world. This film follows her for the year leading up to the race, as she trains herself and her team of dogs for the epic ordeal of Iditarod 2008, fifteen days of ice and exhaustion and danger – and exhilaration. SONS OF A GUN Rivkah Beth Medow, Greg O'Toole, USA, 2009, 74 mins

East Coast Premiere Lance, Craig, and Ubaldo live with schizophrenia. They also live with Larry their alcoholic caregiver / "dad". And even though none of them is related by blood, they've lived together as a family for 20 years. The documentary follows this unique family as they get evicted, move into a cramped motel room, joke around, and scramble to find a new home before self-destructing. WHAT'S ORGANIC ABOUT ORGANIC? Shelley Rogers, USA, 2009, Work in Progress

WHAT'S ORGANIC ABOUT "ORGANIC?" delves into the debates that arise when a grassroots agricultural movement evolves into a booming international market. As the film moves from farm fields to government meetings to industry trade shows, we see the hidden costs of conventional agriculture. POINTS NORTH Documentary Film Forum

Crafted for the New England filmmaking community, this forum is free and open to the public. POINTS NORTH will take place on Friday, October 2nd and will consist of two sections: A NEW WORLD: NON-FICTION FILM FUNDING, TRENDS AND PLAYERS with a roundtable of industry veterans and funders presenting the current funding process, trends and players. This will be followed by THE SURVIVOR'S GUIDE- a panel of filmmakers discussing "sustainable" filmmaking, DIY distribution and offering tips on how to make a living as a filmmaker in this unique economic climate. Panelists will include top doc filmmakers drawn from this year's festival as well as some CIFF alums. Sponsored in part by the LEF Foundation, POINTS NORTH provides attendees an opportunity to connect with industry leaders in an environment conducive to discussion. For more details on speakers and timing visit www.camdenfilmfest.org. ABOUT CIFF

Committed to supporting and generating interest in independent documentary films, the annual festival presents a snapshot of the cultural landscape through the year's best non-fiction storytelling. The weekend also consists of a number of panels, photographic exhibits, musical performances and parties. The 5th Annual Camden International Film Festival will take place October 1-4, 2009, screening nearly fifty films, both features and shorts in venues throughout Midcoast Maine. Premiere and Major sponsors include Maine Arts Commission, Down East Magazine, Movie Maker Magazine, Camden National Bank, the University of Maine, Unity College, MPBN and Paolina's Way. For more information on the festival, the full schedule, or information on passes visit www.camdenfilmfest.org.

Neurogenetics Scientists to Meet in Biddeford Next Month

09 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) BIDDEFORD -- The Maine Neurogenetics Consortium, a statewide group of neuroscientists from Maine's biomedical institutions, will hold a day-long retreat on Saturday, Oct. 3 in the University of New England's Bush Center Conference Room. This event will be preceded by a Friday, Oct. 2 dinner celebrating UNE's new Neuroscience Center. UNE Professor of Pharmacology Ed Bilsky will host the Friday event. The all day consortium event on Saturday will feature a series of 20-minute presentations by Maine neuroscientists who are recipients of funds from the consortium's 2008 Seed Grant Competition, funded by the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health. The retreat begins at 9 a.m. and will include a poster session featuring the work of Maine graduate and undergraduate neuroscientists working in all of the state's biomedical institutions, colleges and universities. Students will have the opportunity to meet and discuss neuroscience with many of Maine's leaders in the field. University of Maine professor Marie Hayes, who is also affiliated with the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, is one of the retreat's lead organizers, along with Rob Burgess of The Jackson Laboratory, Nancy Kleckner of Bates College, Joe Verdi of the Maine Medical Center Research Institute and Bilsky. Hayes' UMaine faculty colleagues Harold Dowse, Jeffery Hall, Alan Rosenwasser and others from the UMaine neuroscience program are among the scheduled presenters. The institutions that comprise the Maine Neurogenetics Consortium are the Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, The Jackson Laboratory, the University of New England, Bates College and the University of Maine.

Economists Find Microbusinesses Growing in Economic Importance in Maine

09 Sep 2009

Contacts: Jim McConnon, 581-3165 or Todd Gabe, 581-3307 ORONO -- New research by University of Maine economists shows that the smallest of small businesses -- micro-enterprises with up to four employees -- have a significant economic impact on state and even national economies. And those very small businesses in Maine are leading New England in growth. Between 2003 and 2007, the number of micro-businesses, which includes sole proprietors, in Maine grew 9.3 percent, while businesses with five or more workers grew by 4.6 percent. The number of microbusinesses in New England grew by 6.3 percent. The researchers also found that, during this period, micro-enterprise employment in Maine increased by 8 percent, while employment in businesses with five or more workers grew about 3 percent. There are 142,984 micro-enterprises in Maine employing 183,138 people. The researchers found that 22.3 percent of Maine workers were employed by micro-enterprises in 2007, up from 21.3 percent in 2003, compared with the New England leader, Vermont, where 23.1 percent of the workforce was employed in a micro-enterprise. Nationally, micro-enterprises represented 18.6 percent of the employment base, the researchers found. The number of micro-enterprises per capita in Maine was 10.9 percent during the period studied by UMaine Extension specialist and professor of economics James McConnon, graduate research assistant Sarah Larochelle and UMaine School of Economics professor Todd Gabe. Vermont's micro-enterprises, meanwhile, represented 12 percent per capita. The nationwide number was 8.6 percent, and regionally, it was 9.1 percent in the New England states. According to McConnon and Gabe, there are more than 26 million micro-enterprises, operating in the United States. They represent 18.6 percent of all private employment and about 87 percent of all businesses in the country. Information on the number of micro-businesses and micro-business employment by county in Maine and for the New England States is [available online](#).

Severin Beliveau to Present UMaine Distinguished Presidential Lecture Sept. 15

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) ORONO — Severin Beliveau, a Portland attorney and an influential leader in Maine's Franco-American community, will present a University of Maine Distinguished Presidential Lecture on Tuesday, Sept. 15. The talk, "Maine's French Reality," is scheduled for 4 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall. "We welcome the opportunity to hear Severin Beliveau share his insights on contemporary issues related to Maine's Franco-American communities and culture," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "In addition to his immense contributions in Maine's legal and political realm, Severin has devoted his energies for decades working to preserve and promote the culture of this vital segment of our state's population. His perspectives are truly unique." 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. Retired Georgia-Pacific president and CEO A.D. "Pete" Correll delivered the series' inaugural talk in 2008. Beliveau is a founding partner of the Portland-based law firm Preti Flaherty. He has also gained significant recognition for his work in enhancing and preserving the state's Franco-American culture, with honors including the French Legion of Honor Award, the highest distinction France awards civilians. He has also served as Honorary Consul of France in Maine, president of the American Association of the Forum Francophone des Affaires, French Consular Agent for the State of Maine and Distinguished Professor of Franco American Studies at UMaine. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Division of Student Affairs Collecting Non-Perishable Food in Remembrance of Terrorist Attacks

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) ORONO -- The University of Maine Division of Student Affairs and Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism will collect non-perishable food donations on Friday, Sept. 11 at Memorial Union. "Instead of focusing on the tragedy that occurred in 2001, we want to celebrate the way our community joined forces and supported each other," says Angel Loredo, UMaine associate dean of students. From 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Friday, staff members will accept donations of non-perishable foods and personal care items, to be given to the Black Bear Exchange, a University of Maine-sponsored community initiative that operates a food pantry and thrift shop to serve UMaine and the surrounding towns. Located at the former farm store, has hours of operation Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 581-1786 or email Michelle Martin at michelle.martin@umit.maine.edu.

Collins Center for the Arts Schedules Film Series

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) ORONO -- One of the new features at the University of Maine's renovated Collins Center for the Arts is a state-of-the-art digital film projector, enabling the presentations of features and documentaries that would otherwise not be available to film enthusiasts in this region. A series of six Thursday night films is scheduled for September and October, with plans underway to continue the series thereafter. The Collins Center for the Arts has selected independent and foreign movies that have met with good reviews at film festivals and in their limited theatrical release. "There really is a huge segment of the cinema world that doesn't get any exposure in our area," says Brett Zeigler of the Collins Center for the Arts staff, who is organizing the film series. "We are looking to fill a niche and provide the local audience with high-quality entertainment in an easily accessible setting." The films will begin at 7 p.m. with a ticket price of \$6. Patrons can purchase tickets at the door. The current schedule: Thursday, Sept. 17: Anvil: The Story of Anvil Thursday, Sept. 24: In The Loop Thursday, Oct. 1: Il Divo Thursday, Oct. 8: Food, Inc. Thursday, Oct. 22: Unmistaken Child Thursday, Oct. 29: Moon

Gov. Baldacci to Visit UMaine Friday for Biomedical Science Event

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Gov. John Baldacci will be at the University of Maine on Friday, Sept. 11 to attend the annual meeting of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS), a collaborative graduate education program involving higher education and biomedical research institutions statewide. The governor is due to arrive at Stodder Hall at 1 p.m., to address the students, faculty members, administrators and researchers attending the meeting. He will speak to the group, and he will spend some time reviewing the posters each of the students has created to describe biomedical research projects. From approximately 1:50-2 p.m., he will join UMaine Prof. Carol Kim for a tour of UMaine's zebrafish research facility in Hitchner Hall. GSBS member institutions are the University of Maine, the Jackson Laboratory, Maine Medical Center Research Institution, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Maine Institute for Human Genetics and Health, and the University of Southern Maine. Baldacci was instrumental in establishing GSBS in 2006, with support from the Maine Legislature. The program provides doctoral-level education in biomedical sciences, including genomics, biophysics,

bioengineering and nanotechnology, molecular and cell biology, neuroscience, toxicology, and the molecular mechanisms of disease. GSBS students are UMaine graduate students who will receive UMaine Ph.D.s upon completion of their programs.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Expert Offers Tips to Save What is Left of the Harvest

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Richard Brzozowski, 780-4205 or rbrz@umext.maine.edu The growing season of 2009 has not been a typical one. Weeks of cool temperatures, too much rain, disease and other problems have put a damper on many Mainer's hopes for a "bumper crop" of produce. Richard Brzozowski of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers the following list of actions people can take to eke out what's left of the gardening season:

- Think like your grandparents. Be resourceful. Don't give up.
- Some of the plants in your garden can still produce delicious fresh foods. Continue to carefully tend your garden by weeding, thinning, watering and managing pests. Harvest what you can. Finish the season well. Be aware of possible frosts and protect the tender plants that remain.
- Consider planting a fall garden of greens. You may need to construct a cold frame or temporary hoop house to "buy" some extra weeks of growing to allow your newly seeded crops a chance to produce. There are several crops that can produce edibles within 30-45 days. Consider radishes, beets, spinach, mesclun, lettuce, etc. For information on extending the growing season, visit <http://www.umext.maine.edu/> and download UMaine Extension's fact sheet "Extending the Gardening Season" or watch the video "Extending the Growing Season."
- Build the soil for next year's garden. Use the coming weeks to till new areas; amend areas with compost or farm manures; and have a soil test done to determine soil pH and the need for lime.
- Consider expanding your garden for next year. This is a great time to build some new raised beds; build or gather containers for next year's use; clear brush; level land; create paths; remove rocks; stockpile manure and compost. For information on raised bed and container gardening, download "Garden Equipment and Items to Make for the Maine Garden," part of UMaine Extension's container and raised bed garden fact sheet series or watch the video "Raised Bed Gardens" at <http://www.umext.maine.edu/>.
- If your garden was a complete failure, consider purchasing easy-to-store vegetables and fruits from local Maine farmers such as potatoes, rutabagas, turnips, beets, carrots, winter squash, apples, etc. To find farmers near you, visit the Get Real Get Maine website. You can search the site by county or product.
- Consider buying local produce to preserve by canning or freezing. If you need information about food preservation, contact your local UMaine Extension office or take one of our hands-on food preservation workshops or visit our Preserving the Summer Harvest website. A newly published and handy, 375-page book on food preservation from the University of Georgia titled "So Easy to Preserve" is available from UMaine Extension publication catalog, or check out the free "Let's Preserve" fact sheet series, all at <http://www.umext.maine.edu/>.
- Learn from the situation. Make a list of things you could have done to minimize the impact of a cold and wet summer. Start making written plans for the next growing season.

Darwin Lecture Series Continues Monday

10 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Monday, Sept. 14 with a talk by UMaine history professor Howard Segal, "Darwinism, Religion and Social Darwinism in the 19th Century." Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Watershed Stewards Program Offered for Beech Hill Pond

14 Sep 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson, (207) 581-2971, lwilson@umext.maine.edu Otis, ME— University of Maine Cooperative Extension will host the Watershed Stewards Program at Beech Hill School in Otis this fall, focusing on the water quality of Beech Hill Pond. Maine lakes are at risk from development, landscapes, and invasive species. The Watershed Stewards Program trains volunteers to recognize and reduce those risks. Residents of other lakes and ponds can also gain valuable knowledge from this program, and are encouraged to attend. This seven-week workshop series begins on Thursday, Sept. 17, with meetings Thursday evenings at the school from 6:30 – 9 p.m. There is no cost for this program, but participants are asked to volunteer 20 hours in service to their lake within one year. Project partners include the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Beech Hill Pond Association. Topics will include Lakes 101, Septic System Maintenance, Shoreland Zoning, and many more. To register for this program, or for more information, call Laura Wilson at 581-2971, or e-mail lwilson@umext.maine.edu.

Faculty Recital Sept. 18 Honors Composer Goldberg

15 Sep 2009

Contact: Adam Kuykendall, 581-4721 ORONO -- Then UMaine School of Performing Arts is presenting soloist Nancy Ellen Ogle, accompanied by several UMaine music faculty musicians, in a recital featuring the works of composer William Goldberg, on Friday, Sept. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. The special concert -- "World Enough: In memory of William Goldberg (1917-2008)" -- also will include works by John Lessard, Arnold Berleant, Greg Hall and new songs by Scott Brickman based on poems from English Department faculty member Kathleen Ellis's forthcoming book "Dear Darwin." Accompanying Ogle, a UMaine music professor who teaches voice, will be Ginger Yang Hwalek, Laura Artesani and Anatole Wieck, with narration by Kathleen Ellis and visiting poets George Van DeVenter and Ted Bookey. Admission is \$7 or free with a UMaine student ID. Retiring to Maine after an illustrious musical career, Goldberg became a part of the Maine Composers' Forum. The UMaine performance is a tribute to his contributions to the arts. Professor Ogle's career has included concerts and television appearances in Canada, the United States, Europe and Japan. A Maine Touring Artist, she also directs the Opera Workshop. For further information, call the School of Performing Arts main office at 207-581-4703.

Honors College Awards First INBRE Fellowships

16 Sep 2009

ORONO, Maine – Six University of Maine Honors College students recently were awarded the first round of Maine IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) fellowships to support their thesis research. The students, all members of the class of 2010, will receive fellowships of \$2,500, and their thesis advisors will receive \$1,000 to support the students' research. All students who graduate from the Honors College write a thesis, and this support will enable these students to direct more of their energy toward this endeavor. The goal of INBRE is to strengthen Maine's capacity to conduct National Institutes of Health (NIH)-competitive biomedical research. Maine's INBRE provides research support and core facilities to junior faculty, creates research and training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, and serves as a pipeline for students to pursue health research careers and enhance the scientific and technical knowledge of Maine's workforce. A faculty committee chaired by Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Keith Hutchison and including Assistant Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering Michael Mason, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Mary Rumpho-Kennedy, and Assistant Professor of Microbiology Robert Wheeler made the awards. "The committee considered the strength of the students' proposals and their fundamental relationship to the area of functional genomics" writes Hutchison. "That we were able to fill all six slots in this inaugural year is a testament to both the wide spread interest in genomics and the quality of students within the Honors College. "We have high hopes that this initiative will flourish during the five year term of the grant," says Charlie Slavin, dean of UMaine's Honors College. The recipients are: **Erin Brunk, Carmel, Indiana** Zoology Advised by Sharon Ashworth The Role of Cfl11 in Zebrafish Embryonic Development and Kidney Function **Ankita Chowdhury, Haryana, India** Molecular & Cellular Biology Advised by Rob Wheeler Engineering Ovalbumin-

expressing *Candida albicans* **Christopher Demers, South Berwick, Maine** Biological Engineering Advised by Rosemary Smith Combinatorial Cell Microenvironment Generator **Rebecca Dyer, Yarmouth, Maine** Biology Advised by Harold "Dusty" Dowse Identification of the Melatonin Receptor in *Drosophila melanogaster* **Katherine Nadeau, Glenburn, Maine** Biology Advised by Clarissa Henry Matrix Metalloproteinase Expression and Localization in the Model Organism *Danio rerio* **Ryan Whipkey, Milford, Maine** Chemistry, Molecular & Cellular Biology, and Biochemistry Advised by Touradj Solouki Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Discovery: Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometry Based Metabolomics/Proteomics Investigations of Exhaled Breath Condensate and Biofluids Maine INBRE is an National Center for Research Resources/National Institutes of Health supported network of 13 Maine institutions including Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (lead institution), The Jackson Laboratory and The University of Maine (research institutions), Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Southern Maine Community College, The University of Maine Honors College, The University of Maine at Farmington and The University of Maine at Machias. Maine INBRE outreach institutions include The University of Maine at Fort Kent and The University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Kinnison Next Week

16 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Monday Sept. 21 and Wednesday, Sept. 23 with talks by UMaine biological science professor Michael Kinnison. He will discuss "Natural Selection" on Monday and "Unnatural Selection" on Wednesday. Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Sen. Rosen at UMaine 10/1

16 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Maine State Sen. Richard Rosen will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday, Oct. 1 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Rosen will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members. A Bucksport resident, he represents District 31, encompassing 22 communities in Penobscot and Hancock Counties. 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.

UMaine's New Seismometer Up and Running

17 Sep 2009



Contacts: Alice Kelley (207) 581-2056; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 The University of Maine is reporting all kinds of shakes, rattles, and rolls, but it's not just from the students returning to campus for the fall semester – it's movements and vibrations of the Earth occurring worldwide that are being picked up by UMaine's new seismometer. Last year, Dan Phillips and Austin Johnson (pictured), both senior Department of Earth Sciences majors at the time, played a major role in the installation of a seismometer on campus. With some assistance from experts at Boston College – home of the Weston Observatory – and UMaine Earth Sciences Instructor Alice Kelley, they were successful and the seismometer now is connected to the World-Wide Standardized Seismic Network. The director of the Weston Observatory, Dr. John Ebel, is scheduled to speak at UMaine at noon, Friday, Sept. 18, in room 100 of the Bryand Global Sciences Center. He'll be discussing "Earthquakes in the Northeastern U.S. and Implications for the Seismic Hazard in Maine." The event is open to the public, and Kelley and Phillips also will be available to answer questions about UMaine's seismometer. UMaine's device is located in the basement of Somerset Hall, a dormitory in the Hilltop area of campus, and just weeks after being installed had picked up two sizeable earthquakes. The first was in the South Sandwich Islands, and the other in a cluste of islands off Russia's coast. Although placed in a usually quiet spot on campus, move-in day at the dorm resulted in extra vibrations...a source of consternation until the cause was recognized. "Every time something happens, I go on the U.S.G.S. website to correlate," says Phillips. He has graduated, but continues to work on the project. "It's a really good teaching tool."

Tufts Philosopher Dennett to Present Darwin Lecture Oct. 15

17 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu), (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Daniel Dennett, Austin B. Fletcher Professor of Philosophy, University Professor, and co-director of the Center for Cognitive Studies at Tufts University, will present a University of Maine lecture, "Darwin's 'Strange Inversion of Reasoning'" on Thursday Oct. 15 at 4 p.m in Hauck Auditorium. Dennett's talk, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by UMaine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dennett's lecture is the keynote address in UMaine's semester-long Celebration of Darwin, a class and lecture series associated with the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin's "The Origin of Species." Dennett is a prominent philosopher whose work in areas related to the philosophy of science has gained widespread acclaim. He is the author of several books, including "Darwin's Dangerous Idea: Evolution and the Meanings of Life," published in 1996. The Celebration of Darwin course lectures are also open to the public. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Angus King to Speak at UMaine on Thursday, Sept. 24

18 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Angus King, Maine's two-term governor first elected in 1994, will be the keynote speaker at a Thursday Sept. 24 event kicking off Mane's Sustainability Solutions Initiative (SSI). The talk, "Data-Driven Policy: the Role of Universities in Creating a Sustainable Maine," is scheduled for 1 p.m. in Wells Conference Center. The SSI was established in July through a \$20 million National Science Foundation EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) grant. UMaine's Sen. George Mitchell Center is heading up the research portion of this five-year initiative and its is hosting King's UMaine talk. "We are pleased that Gov. King has

accepted our invitation to share his thoughts on our state's future and the role higher education will play in shaping that future," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Given his unique perspectives related to government, business, the environment and education, he is the perfect person to set the tone at this event." The SSI is an extensive, state-wide effort with both a research component and related initiatives that will enhance statewide education, at all levels, in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Highly collaborative in nature, the SSI will include partnerships among many of Maine's colleges and universities, working on research and education efforts designed to advanced economic and community development while protecting the environment. The Sept. 24 event is free and open to the public, with a reception to follow. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Kim Raymond at (207) 581-3244 or kim.raymond@umit.maine.edu. More information is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/sustainabilitysolutions>.

Portland Artist Installing Glass Tile Mosaic in Collins Center for the Arts

18 Sep 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen at 581-3742 or kristen.andresen@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Portland artist Joe Kievitt is creating a large-scale installation in the Collins Center for the Arts as part of Maine's Percent for Art program. The program sets aside one percent of the construction costs in public buildings to purchase works of art. Kievitt's installation, a geometric mosaic featuring multicolored glass tile, reflects themes in his recent drawings. It is inspired in part by the effects the materials create and in part by the site. "Because this space is shared by the Hudson Museum and the performing arts center, I wanted to try and find something that referenced both," Kievitt said Friday. "It hints at the beadwork and textile work in the museum and the idea of light and movement references the performing arts center." Kievitt is available for interviews on Monday and Tuesday mornings, but Monday would provide better visuals of Kievitt and his crew installing the piece. Please contact Kristen Andresen at 581-3742 or kristen.andresen@umit.maine.edu to set up an interview time.

UMaine to Celebrate the Maine Landscape Designs

21 Sep 2009

Contact: Kathleen McIntyre, 581-1541 ORONO -- Many of us have likely driven past a number of Maine's private estates, parks, gardens, cemeteries, golf courses and campuses without really understanding the story behind them, or the extensive efforts on the part of a landscape designer and the vision of one of the state's renowned benefactors that made them possible. On Oct. 22, the Office of the Vice President for Administration and Finance, Raymond H. Fogler Library, and the University Bookstore will host "Designing the Maine Landscape," an event that will bring together authors and speakers who can share the stories of historic architecture and landscape design projects within the state of Maine. This event will be held in the Wells Conference Center from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Event organizers were inspired by the recently published book, "Designing the Maine Landscape," a collaborative effort between the Maine Olmsted Alliance and Down East Books, co-written by Theresa Mattor and Lucie Teegarden. "This is an incredible book," notes Gretchen Gfeller, public relations specialist for Fogler Library, "and the more we thought about it, the more we realized that there was potential for inviting the authors and also discussing 'landscape' in the broadest sense, to include buildings and structures that also contribute to our environment. We will be looking at how we see, value, and preserve our landscape." Mattor and Teegarden, who will present during a session beginning at 3 p.m., in their book draw from a 10-year survey of Maine's historic landscapes while celebrating the history and legacy of projects throughout the state, including locations from Saco to Caribou, Rumford to Bar Harbor. Among the many featured are the grounds of the University of Maine in Orono, the Mount Hope Cemetery in Bangor, and the Asticou Terraces, Asticou Azalea Garden and Thuya Garden in Northeast Harbor. The authors will share the day with a focus on the University of Maine, whose Campus Planning Committee members have been working diligently on strategic landscape planning for the University. With the help of the Getty Foundation's Campus Heritage Grant award, the university's Historic Preservation Master Plan was written in 2007 largely by Malcolm Collins. Collins, now an associate at WBRC Architects Engineers, is working with the Campus Planning Committee to preserve the historic buildings on the university's campus in context with the potential expansion of its National Register Historic District. Joining Collins in a discussion of historic architecture and the importance of the National Register Historic District at 1 p.m. will be Earle Shettleworth, Jr., state historian and director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. Shettleworth is known nationally for his

extensive expertise in the field. Also presenting during the day's events will be Greg Havens, a principal at Sasaki Associates, who worked collaboratively with the Campus Planning Committee in creating the university's campus master plan. The campus master plan, under Haven's direction, recently received the Merit Award for Excellence in Planning for an Established Campus by the Society for College and University Planning. Havens will present a discussion of the sustainability aspects in designing a master plan for the UMaine landscape at 10:30 a.m. following the opening session by UMaine administrators. An event registration fee of \$10 will cover lunch featuring Maine ingredients. For more information and to register for the event, please contact Kathleen McIntyre at mcintyre@maine.edu or 207-581-1541.

Funding Renewed for 'Project Opportunity,' an English Language Teacher Initiative

21 Sep 2009

Contacts: Laura Lindenfeld, 581-1843; Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, 581-2081; George Manlove, 591-3756 ORONO – The University of Maine's "Project Opportunity," a five-year government funded initiative to improve and update English language teacher training for current and future school teachers in Maine, has received \$300,000 in third-year funding for 2009-2010. The project, in partnership with the Maine State Education Agency and 15 local education agencies and funded by a U.S. Department of Education Title III grant, helps Maine teachers work with a growing number of students just learning or still perfecting their English language skills. It includes several educational disciplines, from math and science to history and English. It also incorporates applying the latest research in teaching English and English as a second language (ELS). Maine schools have more than 3,000 children and young adults who speak Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Serb-Croatian, Somali, Sudanese, Russian, Penobscot, Passamaquoddy or American Sign languages, according to the Maine Department of Education. To accommodate the growing number of multicultural students, the population of ELS-trained teachers in Maine also must grow, says Gisela Hoecherl-Alden, professor of German and a co-director of the program, with four UMaine colleagues. While the classroom focus for multicultural students typically has been on learning English, Hoecherl-Alden and Laura Lindenfeld, professor of mass communication and the university's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, say students should be encouraged to retain their native languages, since cultural identity is reflected in language. Enabling multicultural students to maintain their traditional languages and also master English better prepares them for a global job market in the future. The program provides coursework leading to state ESL certification for teachers already in the field and some preparing now for teaching careers. In addition to Hoecherl-Alden and Lindenfeld, other UMaine faculty members on the Project Opportunity research team include Francois Amar, professor of chemistry, John Bear Mitchell, associate director of the Wabanaki Center, and Mitchell Bruce, professor of chemistry.

UMaine Extension to Sponsor Acadia National Park Trip

21 Sep 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205, awitt@umext.maine.edu BAR HARBOR, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tree identification tour of Acadia National Park on Friday, Oct. 2 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Extension Educator Marjorie Peronto will lead the tour of the Wonderland Trail, paying particular attention to the native trees and shrubs that thrive in this coastal setting. The 1.4 mile (roundtrip) Wonderland Trail is filled with fantasy type settings unique to the area. Participants are invited to bring their lunch, to be enjoyed on-site. The Wonderland Trail is located between Southwest Harbor and Bass Harbor on Route 102A. Participants are asked to meet in the parking area on Route 102A, where a University of Maine Cooperative Extension event sign will be displayed. 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, September 28. 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.

UMaine to Celebrate National Hazing Prevention Week

22 Sep 2009

Contact: Kevin Taschereau (kevin.taschereau@umit.maine.edu) or (207) 581-4183 ORONO, Me. - The University of Maine will celebrate National Hazing Prevention Week on Thursday, Sept. 24 at noon on the Fogler Library steps with the signing of Hazing Prevention Statement. Presidents, members, and advisors of UMaine's student organizations, fraternities, sororities and athletic teams will take part in this annual event. A showing of the movie "Haze" will complete the day's schedule at 7 p.m. in Room 100 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building. This showing is open to the public. "By signing the Hazing Prevention Statement and the showing the movie 'Haze' we seek to better equip our student population and campus organizations to stand up against the dangers that hazing presents," says Kevin Taschereau from UMaine's Division of Student Affairs. This year's activities coincide with UMaine's Safety Week, a week long awareness campaign aimed at educating students in a variety of health, wellness and personal safety-related topics. UMaine has celebrated National Hazing Prevention Week for the last five years. The celebration of this week highlights the Division of Student Affairs' commitment to the education and awareness of hazing and seeks to promote a hazing-free environment for all of its students.

Sunday Walk to Raise Awareness, Funds for Suicide Prevention

22 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A group of 200 University of Maine community members and others will walk to raise money and awareness for suicide prevention on Sunday, Sept. 27. The 3.5 mile walk will begin at UMaine's Fogler Library, at 1 p.m. The UMaine event is part of the Out of the Darkness Community Walk, taking place in more than 200 communities across the U.S. this fall. Proceeds will benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. That organization funds programs in research, education and awareness, while also providing support to those affected by suicide. More information, including methods for making a donation to support the UMaine event, [are online here](#).

Magazine Calls UMaine Professor a Composites Industry Leader

22 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- "Composites Manufacturing" magazine has recognized Habib Dagher, director of the University of Maine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center as one of the industry's leaders. Dagher is one of 16 people out of a pool of 50 nominees who were selected to receive the B.E.S.T. Award, which stands for bright, energetic, skilled trailblazers. In the current issue, which highlights the award recipients, Dagher is described as advancing the use of composites in a variety of industries, particularly military and infrastructure applications. They cite the recently developed and implemented Bridge in a Backpack that aims to streamline the process of bridge building by using lightweight rigidified composite arches that are easily transported in place of heavy steel beams. They also note his efforts to build ships made with composite materials for the Navy, and assist in rebuilding efforts for hurricane victims using composite building materials. Dagher's other achievements include his work with the wind energy industry, testifying before the U.S. Senate and meeting with U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu to propose an offshore wind energy testing facility in Maine. When notified of the award, Dagher was quick to share the credit for this achievement. "This award goes to all 150 faculty, staff, and students who work at the composites center at UMaine," Dagher says. "It is humbling that Maine is recognized for this first-time award."

UMaine Museum of Art Announces Fall Exhibitions

23 Sep 2009

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli, (207) 561-3350 October 2 - December 31, 2009 High resolution digital images available upon request Roadside Ghosts: Photographs by Dave Anderson Arkansas-based Dave Anderson exhibits a series of photographs captured on his travels throughout 30 US states. The photographer's journeys on America's back roads result in images that are familiar yet mysterious. Some works stir up feelings of nostalgia, while others convey an eerie, atmospheric quality. Through the use of natural light and unconventional camera angles, Anderson emphasizes the

beauty of locations off the beaten path and the often abstract nature of mundane objects. Above all, the artist offers a prolonged contemplation of his chosen subjects—a stretch of farmland, a ramshackle Ferris wheel, or a plastic grasshopper. What many may only catch in a fleeting moment or glimpse in their peripheral vision, Anderson records with great patience and reverence. Evergreen: Installation by Wendy Wischer Installation artist Wendy Wischer transforms the Zillman Gallery into a captivating environment that reflects her fascination with the disparity between natural and man-made materials. Vivid green leaves, hand sculpted by the artist and covered with thousands of Swarovski crystals, sprout from the walls. Clusters of succulent-like plants creep around the gallery while light interacts with the faceted glass. The installation is inspired by the tenacious plants that grow on urban bridges and concrete overpasses with little soil or water, and speaks to the perseverance of nature despite harsh conditions. Abstract New England: Six Perspectives Jennifer Amadeo-Holl • Meg Brown Payson • Jon Petro • Louis Risoli • Terry Rose • Dudley Zopp Abstract New England: Six Perspectives features works by six painters who reside in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and reveals diverse approaches to materials and abstraction. Compositions range from dynamic, shaped-canvas to works arranged in a large-scale, rhythmic grid. Some paintings incorporate expanses of fluid colors and subtle bleeds that evoke the meditative, while others pulse with energetic brush strokes and complex layering of forms that draw associations to graffiti art. UMaine Museum of Art fall exhibitions are generously supported by Wells Fargo Advisors. Admission to the Museum is FREE in 2009 thanks to Machias Savings Bank. Media Sponsor: Bangor Daily News

Careers in Student Affairs Event at UMaine Oct. 19

24 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development and its Division of Student Affairs will sponsor a Monday Oct. 19 event for those interested in learning more about careers in higher education student affairs. A Student Affairs Fair, scheduled for 10 a.m.-12 noon on the third floor of Memorial Union, will provide networking opportunities for students in UMaine's Master's in Student Development in Higher Education program, while also giving undergraduate students an opportunity to learn more about that graduate program and potential careers. Student affairs professionals work on college campuses and have opportunities to work with students in several capacities, including advising, counseling, training and supervision. Current UMaine student affairs professionals will also participate, describing their work and their experiences.

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Kornfield, Hutchison This Week

25 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Monday Sept. 28 and Wednesday, Sept. 30. UMaine Prof. Irv Kornfield will give a Monday talk, "Sexual Selection," and Prof. Keith Hutchison will speak on Wednesday about "The Laws of Variation and the Geonome." Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead course lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

UMaine to Host National Hazing Symposium

27 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu ORONO -- The University of Maine will further establish itself as a national hub of hazing-related research when it hosts the 6th annual National Hazing Symposium on Thursday Oct. 1 and Friday Oct. 2 at Memorial Union. The program, expected to draw 50 hazing researchers and experts to Orono, will feature examination of research, theories and practical implications for addressing issues related to hazing. Thursday's program begins with a 6 p.m. dinner and a 6:30 p.m. keynote talk by UMaine professors Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden. National experts in this field, Allan and Madden have managed the largest survey that's ever been conducted to measure the prevalence of hazing and related attitudes. The data from that survey have provided new insights that experts are using to create research-based prevention strategies. Friday's program, which runs from 8:30

a.m.-2:30 p.m., will include a number of small group discussions and other interactions among the participants. The symposium will also provide an opportunity to showcase a new UMaine venture called "The National Collaborative for Hazing Research and Prevention," a joint effort of UMaine's College of Education and Human Development and its Division of Student Affairs. The collaborative derives from the survey conducted by Allan and Madden and it will provide a focal point for continued efforts to study hazing and develop effective prevention strategies. The symposium was organized in conjunction with HazingPrevention.org and sponsors are the Association of Fraternity and Sorority Advisors; the Gordie Foundation; Sigma Kappa sorority; and Response Ability, an educational program about bystander behavior and intervention.

UMaine Involved in New Partnership to Study North Atlantic Marine Ecosystem

28 Sep 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine is one of several prestigious marine research institutions joining forces to study North Atlantic marine ecosystems as part of the Cooperative Institute for the North Atlantic Region (CINAR). In addition to UMaine, the collaborative involves Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Rutgers University, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) created the alliance, which may eventually involve more than 200 ocean scientists, including faculty members from UMaine's School of Marine Sciences. CINAR engages both NOAA and academic scientists in cutting-edge research important for making informed decisions about sustainable and beneficial management of the northwestern Atlantic shelf ecosystem. More details are in a Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution news release [here](#).

ENCorps Partnership Seeks Volunteers

29 Sep 2009

Contact: Jennifer Crittenden, 262-7923 ORONO -- The University of Maine Center on Aging, in partnership with the Maine Community Foundation, is seeking older volunteers for a new program, Encore Leadership Corps (ENCorps), to provide leaders for a variety of "smart growth" projects in Maine. To get the program started, between 150 and 200 ENCorps volunteers will be selected for the 2010 cohort and trained for two days in April to serve a variety of volunteer efforts geared toward making the best use of Maine's natural resources and improving Maine communities to make them livable for people of all ages. There is no cost to participate. To qualify for ENCorps, prospective volunteers must be age 50 or older and be committed to learning about smart growth and improving their communities. They should be willing to volunteer to serve on a local planning board or community organization or participate in other programs that fit with the goals of the Corps. Candidates also should have a strong interest in lifelong learning. Additional information and applications are available [online](#), by e-mail at info@encoreleaders.org, or by calling (207) 262-7931. Applications should be mailed to ENCorps, UMaine Center on Aging, Camden Hall, 25 Texas Ave., Bangor, 04401.

Researchers Explore Diabetes, Gene and Cognitive Performance Relationship

01 Oct 2009

Contacts: Merrill F. Elias, (207) 244-9674; Greg Dore, (207) 581- 2022 ORONO -- University of Maine researchers studying cardiovascular risk factors that influence cognitive performance have discovered that diabetics who carry a particular genotype -- one or more of the ApoE-e4 alleles -- are at greater risk for diminished cognitive capacity than individuals without the gene. ApoE, or Apolipoprotein E, has, among other functions, a role in repair of damaged neurons. The ApoE-e4 allele is a variant of the genotype and some people carry one or two of these alleles. The results of the new research appear in an article published in August edition of the diabetes medical journal "Diabetologia," titled "Presence of the APOE-e4 allele modifies the relationship between type 2 diabetes and cognitive performance: the Maine-Syracuse Study." Researchers Merrill F. "Pete" Elias, Michael Robbins and Penelope Elias, all professors of psychology at UMaine, with Zsuzsanna Nagy of the School of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Birmingham, England, and UMaine psychology graduate student Gregory A. Dore as lead investigator, replicated a well-known finding that diabetes is a risk factor for lower cognitive performance. They also reported an important new

finding: The relationship between diabetes and cognition is stronger in diabetic individuals who carry either one or two ApoE-e4 alleles. Previous research has established that diabetes is associated with cognitive deficit and declining cognitive function over time and also with a greater risk of developing dementia. The UMaine researchers took their analysis a step further by examining the interaction of objectively defined diabetes and the ApoE-e4 allele as it relates to complex cognitive abilities -- using multiple cognitive tests in non-demented and stroke-free participants of the Maine Syracuse Longitudinal Study. Levels of cognitive performance by individuals aged 50-98 years -- with and without diabetes and those with and without the ApoE-e4 allele -- were determined through one of the most extensive batteries of cognitive tests employed in longitudinal studies. The study is one of many investigations that are part of the ongoing "Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study," involving more than 2,700 people since begun by Merrill Elias and professor of medicine David H. P. Streeten in Syracuse, N.Y. in 1974. In these investigations, examining cardiovascular risk factors and cognitive performance, there has been a general trend for the presence of ApoE-e4 alleles to exacerbate the effects of other risk factors for lowered levels of cognition, including high levels of the amino acid homocysteine. The researchers say that since nothing can be done currently to change or alter the ApoE-e4 allele, and identification of the ApoE gene is not a routine medical procedure, the most effective way to protect against cognitive deficit in diabetic individuals, especially those with other risk factors, is for them to get regular physical exercise and lead a healthier lifestyle with a healthy, balanced diet, and to be treated. "Preventing cognitive deficit is another reason why early diagnosis and treatment of diabetes is very important," Merrill Elias says. The researchers suggest further study should be conducted, specifically longitudinal studies, to help determine the specific biological mechanisms by which the ApoE-e4 alleles change cognitive performance over time. The full text of the research may be found [here](#). This study was supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the National Institute on Aging and the University of Maine. Opinions expressed and conclusions reached in this paper are those solely of the authors.

UMaine Activities Planned for 'National Make a Difference Day' Oct. 23-24

01 Oct 2009

Contact: Ryan Bouchard, 581-1796 ORONO -- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism is holding its Fifth Annual "UMaine Cares" service event in celebration of National Make a Difference Day, Oct. 24. UMaine Cares began in 2005 as an effort to raise funds for hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast area. Student groups and individuals volunteered time to clean up various areas of campus. For each volunteer participant, one dollar was donated. They also sold UMaine Cares bracelets to raise funds. The program has now expanded, more than doubling in size from last year, and is focused on serving the needs of the surrounding community. More than 150 students, representing almost 20 student groups, have signed up to volunteer, with many still signing up to volunteer. On Oct. 23-24, students will volunteer for half days and full days with local organizations, with university staff and faculty serving as team leaders. Many of these community organizations have developed a strong relationship with the Bodwell Center and UMaine students. Crossroads Resource Center in Old Town, 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. Student volunteers will be holding a food drive for Crossroads, as well as preparing a meal for the patrons of the Ronald McDonald House in Bangor. Other organizations welcoming student volunteers include: Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, Bangor Humane society, the Eastern Area Agency on Aging, the Orono Bog Walk, Salvation Army and Leonard Mills Logging Museum. Any community organization interested in hosting student volunteers or anyone who would like to be involved with UMaine Cares, Oct. 23-24 is encouraged to contact Ryan C. Bouchard at the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism by e-mail at ryan.c.bouchard@umit.maine.edu or phone at 581-1796.

Hutchinson Center Expansion Dedication Event Monday Oct. 5

01 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) at 581-3571 BELFAST -- The University of Maine will celebrate the construction of a new wing at its Belfast Hutchinson Center on Monday, Oct. 5 at 11 a.m. UMaine President Robert Kennedy and others will participate in a brief program and a ribbon-cutting for the addition, which adds classroom and laboratory space, creating opportunities for more academic programming serving the needs of mid-coast Maine. The new addition nearly doubles the center's size. More than 220 guests are expected to attend the event, which will also

celebrate the ninth anniversary of the Hutchinson Center's opening on Oct. 5, 2000.

Potatoes, Apples and Cider: Maine Foods for October

02 Oct 2009

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205 ORONO, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension recommends its bulletins on in-season fruits and vegetables for consumers looking for information about using, preserving and storing agricultural products such as apples and potatoes. Popular October bulletins such as "Let's Preserve Apples" and "Vegetables and Fruits for Health: Potatoes and Safe Home Cider Making" are available online at extension.umaine.edu. Extension Educator Kathy Savoie cautions that consumers should get up-to-date information before canning food. With the season's first frost rapidly approaching, it is important for home canners to know that the USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning (2006 ed.) recommends that canners select only disease-free and frost-free, preferably vine-ripened, produce for canning. Over the years there have been changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment, so there is new information on the best methods, canners, jars, and seals to use to ensure a safe result. Updated recommendations are as close as one's local UMaine Extension office. Visit extension.umaine.edu or call 800-287-0274 to find a local office and food preservation workshops. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

\$1.8 Million Grant Funds Initiative to Help Struggling Businesses

02 Oct 2009

Contacts: George Criner, (207) 581- 3151; Hugh Stevens, (207) 581-3111 ORONO -- The University of Maine is receiving more than \$1.8 million for a new initiative to help Maine employers respond to 2008 natural disasters and economic distress. A \$1.82 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) enables a unique and innovative new initiative being called the "Knowledge Transfer Alliance" to create a statewide network among researchers, faculty and students at UMaine and at other University of Maine System campuses, plus private, public and semi-public enterprises to work with stressed businesses. The effort organizes a broad coalition of experts with a wide range of business, manufacturing and innovation skills to coordinate efforts to assist struggling businesses, specifically those that have suffered in the last year from natural disasters ranging from flooding to fire, and compounded by the economic impact of being temporarily out of business. The UMaine project team leaders are Hugh Stevens, director of School of Economics Office of Special Projects, George Criner, director of the School of Economics and John Mahon, dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health. Key areas to benefit from the collaborative will be Eastern, Western and Northern Maine, areas particularly stressed by events beyond their control in the last year. In addition to the School of Economics and College of Business, Public Policy and Health, other principal units participating at UMaine include the College of Engineering and Cooperative Extension, which are pledging expertise to help businesses. Assistance will be offered in an array of formats, including programs at economic and business-development conferences and workshops, online programming and on-site firm visits. The UMaine team is beginning a phase to network with existing development groups and efforts to maximize coordination and combined impact, Stevens and Criner say. Maine's U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud, whose home town of Millinocket generated the idea for the program by approaching the School of Economics through Michaud's office, says the innovative and collaborative approach "will strengthen employers throughout the region and help retain and create jobs." "The recession and recent natural disasters have caused tremendous economic hardship for families and businesses in our state," Michaud says in a prepared statement. "Federal disaster assistance is a critical tool that helps our communities rebuild. But many of the existing programs lack the technical assistance that is really what many of these communities and businesses need. The Knowledge Transfer Alliance will help Maine businesses respond when disasters strike and help build a system of support during economic downturns." Maine's U.S. Sens. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins add in a joint statement that businesses selected to participate in the alliance "will benefit significantly from this EDA funding as they work to improve their business models, helping to improve the overall economy." Stevens notes that stressed businesses often do not have the time or resources to step back and view the bigger picture and plan strategically because they may be operating at or near crisis stage. Criner says bringing university and affiliated expertise to Maine businesses and manufacturers makes sense. Team leaders also like the "give back" feature of the program, in which participating businesses will be given the opportunity to assist other businesses at some point

in the future, Criner says. "We hope to build a cohort of program graduates so we can all work together to help turn Maine's economy around," he says.

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Hutchison, Kornfield This Week

05 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Monday Oct. 5 and Wednesday, Oct. 7. UMaine Prof. Keith Hutchison will give a Monday talk, "The Genome: Changing Slow, Changing Fast," and Prof. Irv Kornfield will speak on Wednesday about "Speciation and Gladogenesis." Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead course lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

UMaine Extension Schedules Sheep and Goat Nutrition Seminar

06 Oct 2009

Contact: Richard Brzozowski at (207) 780-4205 Fairfield, ME -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension will present a day-long sheep and goat nutrition seminar on Saturday, October 24. The session is scheduled for 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Kennebec Valley Community College's Carter Hall Auditorium in Fairfield. Sheep and goat numbers are increasing as small farms spring up all over Maine. Sheep or goat producers can learn how proper nutrition affects animals' performance and value. Participants will gain knowledge and skills in livestock feeds and feeding. The seminar instructors will be UMaine Extension faculty members Donna Coffin, Dee Potter, Richard Kersbergen, Richard Brzozowski, David Marcinkowski, Gary Anderson and Anne Lichtenwalner, DVM. State veterinarian Beth McEvoy will also participate. The deadline to register for the seminar is October 16. The cost will \$25 per person/business, then \$15.00 for additional people. Active members of sponsoring sheep and goat associations will receive a \$5 discount per farm. The fee covers a reference notebook on small ruminant nutrition, a ration balancer program, refreshments and a lunch featuring Maine goat meat. The seminar is designed for adults but would be appropriate for people at least 12 years of age. For more information, contact UMaine Extension at 207-780-4205, 1-800-287-1471 (toll-free in Maine only) or www.extension.umaine.edu.

Applications Sought for Wind Turbine Site Survey

07 Oct 2009

Contacts: Paul L. Villeneuve (207) 581-2271; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO – In collaboration with the University of Maine, the Maine Public Utilities Commission's Efficiency Maine Program is seeking applications for a Wind Turbine Site Survey within the state. UMaine is responsible for tower erection, data collection and review, and tower decommissioning, and students will develop detailed reports discussing data validation and project viability. The survey provides qualified applicants with a preliminary assessment of the potential for wind generation at a specific site. In the end, successful applicants will have a sense of whether wind power at their site is viable. Eligible participants include Maine-based schools, communities, non-profit organizations and businesses. Residential applications are not eligible. Applicants must pass the minimum requirements of the survey in order to qualify to go forward to other elements, which will be rated in the decision-making process. They also must show that they have the intention and the means to establish a working wind turbine at the location if the study proves the site to be of sufficient wind capacity. The application deadline is Friday, Oct. 30. Detailed copies of the RFP are available by contacting UMaine Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology Paul L. Villeneuve, 5708 Barrows Hall, Room 9, Orono, ME 04469-5708, (207) 581-2271, or e-mail paul.villeneuve@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Speakers to Explore Climate Change and Civilization

08 Oct 2009

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904 ORONO -- The Climate Change Institute and Hudson Museum at the University

of Maine are hosting two fall lectures that explore the impact of climate change on civilizations and the impact of humans on climate change -- one of the foremost issues of our times. On Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m., Thomas McGovern of Hunter College, CUNY, will talk on "Two Views of Norse Greenland: Successful, Well Adapted, but Still Extinct" at Hutchins Hall in the Collins Center for the Arts. The lecture is predicated on recent works in Norse Greenland and related parts of the North Atlantic that have significantly altered our understanding of the long term human ecodynamics of extinct settlements. Norse Greenland remains a fascinating and troubling worst case outcome of human interaction with climate, and our new understanding of the dilemma faced by their society serves to increase the relevance of this case to modern times. On Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., Dan Sandweiss, dean and associate provost for graduate studies and professor of anthropology and Quaternary and Climate Studies, will discuss "The Prehistory of El Niño in Ancient Peru." This lecture explores the climatic phenomenon known as El Niño, which changes weather throughout the world every few years. Sometimes the changes are positive, such as in the case of a reduction in hurricanes. El Niño, however, often is devastating, and nowhere more than in its heartland on the east coast of Peru. Professor Sandweiss explores the prehistory of El Niño over the 13,000 years that people have lived in coastal Peru, and will explain the methods used to track ancient El Niños and discuss how the phenomenon may have altered the course of cultural development in the region. Both lectures are open to the public and free general admission tickets are available by calling 581-2190 or emailing climatechange@maine.edu. The program is hosted by the Climate Change Institute and the Hudson Museum and is supported by the Collins Center for the Arts, the Anthropology Department, the Peruvian Archaeological Research Fund and the Distinguished Lecture Series and Cultural Affairs Committee.

UMaine Extension Watershed Survey Training Set

08 Oct 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson at (207) 581-2971 MILO, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will provide Watershed Survey training on Monday Oct. 19 at the Milo town office. The training will run from 6-8 p.m. and registration is free. Participants will learn to identify and document erosion in the Schoodic Lake watershed. This watershed survey will take place within two weeks of the training. This survey will not be used for enforcement, but to gather information needed to plan long-term protection strategies for Schoodic Lake. Schoodic Lake area landowners who do not want trained volunteers looking for erosion problems on their property should contact Laura Wilson prior to the event. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals. For more information or registration, contact Laura Wilson at (207) 581-2971, e-mail lwilson@umext.maine.edu. Those who are interested may also visit the events calendar at extension.umaine.edu.

Attorney General Eric Holder to Present UMaine Cohen Lecture

08 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- United States Attorney General Eric Holder will visit the University of Maine on Friday Oct. 23 to deliver a William S. Cohen Lecture. The talk is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. Cohen, the Bangor native who represented Maine in Congress for 24 years and served as Secretary of Defense in the Clinton administration, will also participate in the event, making introductory remarks before Holder's lecture. Holder is a New York City native who earned both a bachelor's degree and a law degree from Columbia University. He became an associate judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1988. In 1993, President Clinton nominated him to serve as U.S. attorney for Washington, D.C., a post he held for four years until becoming deputy attorney general. He moved to the private sector in 2001, taking a position with the law firm Covington and Burling, LLC. Holder joined President Obama's cabinet at the beginning of the president's term earlier this year. The lecture series is a function of UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce, established in 1997. Cohen, who is a former UMaine business faculty member, donated his collection of papers chronicling his Congressional career to UMaine's Fogler Library when the center was established. In January of 2001, Cohen gave the papers from his tenure as Secretary of Defense to the university. Cohen delivered the first lecture in the series in March of 1998; Madeleine Albright, then Secretary of State, followed in October of 1999; retired U.S. Senator and former astronaut John Glenn delivered the Cohen Lecture in May of 2001, followed two years later by former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Former CBS News correspondent gave a Cohen lecture presentation in 2005; Washington Post journalist and author Bob Woodward gave the most recent talk in the series, in 2007. The Cohen Lecture was

established to bring to UMaine a distinguished speaker with informed perspectives on matters related to international policy and commerce. Free tickets to the event are available, on a first-come, first-served basis. Those interested in attending should contact the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or 1-800-MCA-TIXX. Box office hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

"Sacred Gardens: Spirituality, Ecology & Peace" Conference Set Oct. 23 in Belfast

09 Oct 2009

(Editors' note: The name gkisedtanamoogk, fourth paragraph, begins with a lower case "g.") **Contact:** Ellen Woodhead, 581-1167 BELFAST -- The International EcoPeace Community ESTIA, affiliated with Peace & Reconciliation Studies at the University of Maine, will hold its 6th annual conference at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast Friday, Oct. 23, 12 noon-6 p.m., on "Sacred Gardens." Featured speakers include Kyriacos Markides, noted author and University of Maine professor of sociology, who will speak about the sacred landscapes of Mt. Athos, Mt. Sinai and other sacred sites. In addition, Hugh Curran, vice president of ESTIA and Peace Studies faculty member at UMaine will speak on "Celtic Sacred Landscapes." The afternoon will include round-table discussions on indigenous sovereignty with gkisedtanamoogk of the Wampanoag tribe and faculty member in Peace Studies & Native American Studies; "Sacred Gardens" with Deb Soule of Avena Botanicals; "Cultivating Food & Medicine" with Mark Fulford of Teltane Farm; "Poetry & the Garden" with Sandra Hutchison, poet and faculty member; "The Sacred Grove" with Andrea Read, founder of NewForest Institute; "Homesteading" with Robert Schmick, director of the Curran Homestead; and "Permaculture Design" by the ESTIA Epicenter, PAX 398 class, UMaine. The cost is \$25 (\$15 for students) and \$20 (\$10 for students) with a ticket purchased in advance. Tickets are available at "The Store at Ampersand" in Orono. For registration call 581-2609 or e-mail ellen.woodhead@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine TABOR forum Oct. 21

09 Oct 2009

Contact: Bill Murphy, 581-4126 ORONO -- The University of Maine Bureau of Labor Education, in conjunction with co-sponsors from around the state, will host a public educational forum on TABOR II, one of the referendum questions facing Maine voters on Nov. 3. "TABOR II: Impact on Maine and its People" will be held 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 21, in Room 100 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building on the Orono campus. The forum is free and open to the public, and also will be broadcast live over the Internet by the Maine Campus student newspaper. For those who cannot attend the forum, it can be viewed live at <http://mainecampus.com/live/>. The featured keynote speaker will be Christopher St. John, executive director of the Maine Center for Economic Policy. Also included will be a short video outlining Colorado's experience with TABOR legislation. This will be followed by a panel discussion with Geoff Gratwick, Bangor city councilor; John Hanson, executive director, Maine State Building and Construction Trades Council; Michelle Beale, town manager, Ellsworth; Sandy Butler, UMaine professor of social work; and Marie Frizzell, vice president of the UMaine chapter of the Student Education Association of Maine. More details on the forum, including a listing of co-sponsors can be obtained at: <http://dll.umaine.edu/ble> or emailing labored@maine.edu.

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Rumpho-Kennedy, Dennett Keynote

13 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Wednesday Oct. 14 and Thursday Oct. 15. UMaine Prof. Mary Rumpho Kennedy will give a talk, "Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Evolution," on Wednesday from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. That lecture is part of the regular semester-long series of class meetings, also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Daniel Dennett, Austin B. Fletcher Professor of Philosophy, University Professor, and co-director of the Center for Cognitive Studies at Tufts University, will present a University of Maine lecture, "Darwin's 'Strange Inversion of Reasoning'" on Thursday Oct. 15 at 4 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium. Dennett's talk, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by UMaine's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. A news release with more about Dennett and his lecture is [online here](#). Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Indigenous Scholar to Speak at UMaine

14 Oct 2009

Contact: Sara Willett, 581-1414 ORONO -- The UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning and the Wabanaki Center will present Oren Lyons, professor emeritus of American studies at State University of New York at Buffalo, author, environmental and human rights activist and a member of the Onondaga Nation, as plenary speaker during a week-long visit to campus, Nov. 2-10. Lyons, a UMaine Visiting Libra Diversity Professor funded through the Office of the Provost and made possible by a gift from Elizabeth B. Noyce, will speak about global warming, the doctrine of discovery, contemporary Native American issues and indigenous language on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Donald P. Corbett Business Building, Room 100. The plenary address is free and open to the public. Lyons is the inaugural Division of Lifelong Learning Visiting Diversity Libra Professor, and will spend the week visiting classes in Orono and at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. He also will visit with members of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy communities. A life-long lacrosse player inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1993, Lyons also will give a Lacrosse presentation with his son Rex on Friday, Nov. 6 at 1:30 p.m. at the Student Recreation and Fitness Center. Additional sponsors of the Visiting Libra Diversity Professorship include Maine EPSCoR and the Prisk Fund.

Political Scientist Palmer is Maine Heritage Lecturer Nov. 5

14 Oct 2009

Contact: Kathryn Allan, (207) 581-1954 ORONO -- In the second annual Maine Heritage Lecture, UMaine professor emeritus of political science Kenneth Palmer will speak on "Maine's Paradoxical Politics," Thursday, Nov. 5. The lecture, at 4:30 p.m. in the university's Wells Conference Center, is free and open to the public. Palmer is a political scientist who began teaching at the University of Maine in 1969. He has written many articles and books on Maine politics and federalism, including a study of the effects of term limits on the operations of the Maine state legislature. Upon his transition to professor emeritus, Palmer was cited by the Maine legislature and governor for his contributions to the state. A long-time coordinator of UMaine's Congressional internship program in Washington, D.C., Palmer also established a similar program in Augusta, which has been named in his honor. Reservations for the lecture are requested and can be made by calling Kathryn Allan in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at 581-1954. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres will follow the lecture. Maine Heritage Lectures are sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

24th Annual Maryann Hartman Award Recipients Named

15 Oct 2009

Contact: Mazie Hough, 581-1225 ORONO -- Women who have dedicated time and energy helping to support homeless children, environmental causes, men and women in healthy relationships and women in a Lewiston refugee community are among the five 2009 -2010 Maryann Hartman Award winners selected to be honored Oct. 28 by the University of Maine's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program. Award ceremonies are scheduled from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House on College Avenue. The event is free and open to the public. Recipients are: Layne Gregory of Falmouth, founder of the Boys to Men organization, which helps boys and men find their own voices through healthy, respectful relationships; Fatuma Hussein, founder and executive director of United Somali Women of Maine in Lewiston, dedicated to improving the quality of life for all refugees in the Lewiston-Auburn area; And Judy Kellogg Markowsky of Hampden, founding director of the Fields Pond Audubon Center in Holden, a leader and activist in local environmental issues and organizations. Her writing on nature appears often in the Bangor Daily News and other Maine newspapers. Also, for the ninth year, the Young Women's Social Justice Award will be made to Katelyn Jacques and Amy Yeung, two Lewiston High School students being recognized for creating equal opportunities for the homeless students in their school. They created the program Hearts for Adolescents.

Tickets Still Available for Cohen Lecture at UMaine Friday, Oct. 23

19 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- United States Attorney General Eric Holder will visit the University of Maine on Friday Oct. 23 to deliver a William S. Cohen Lecture. The talk is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. Free tickets to the event are still available, on a first-come, first-served basis. Those interested in attending should contact the Maine Center for the Arts Box Office at 581-1755 or 1-800-MCA-TIXX. Box office hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cohen, the Bangor native who represented Maine in Congress for 24 years and served as Secretary of Defense in the Clinton administration, will also participate in the event, making introductory remarks before Holder's lecture. Cohen delivered the first lecture in the series in March of 1998; Madeleine Albright, then Secretary of State, followed in October of 1999; retired U.S. Senator and former astronaut John Glenn delivered the Cohen Lecture in May of 2001, followed two years later by former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Former CBS News correspondent gave a Cohen lecture presentation in 2005; Washington Post journalist and author Bob Woodward gave the most recent talk in the series, in 2007. A news release with more is online [here](#).

Ireland-U.S. Partnership Funds UMaine Algal Toxin Research

19 Oct 2009

Contacts: Laurie Connell, (207) 581-2470; Rosemary Smith, (207) 581-3361; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 The University of Maine is one of the first to receive an international research partnership award, designed to link U.S. scientists and engineers with counterparts in Ireland. The first four tri-partite U.S.-Ireland R&D partnerships, valued at more than \$10 million were announced at a recent event hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland in Dublin. The BEACONS (Biosafety for Environmental Contaminants using Novel Sensors) project aims to develop strategies for isolating and detecting algal toxins that are causing major health issues for humans in some coastal areas. The project has received more than \$1 million in joint funding from the Science Foundation Ireland (\$382,883), Invest Northern Ireland Department for Employment and Learning (\$352,166), and the National Science Foundation (\$370,490). UMaine will receive about one-third of this funding for its portion of the project. Research partners in the project include UMaine Associate Research Professor Laurie Connell of the School of Marine Sciences and engineering Professor Rosemary Smith, along with Richard O'Kennedy of Dublin City University, Ireland, Gregory Doucette of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, South Carolina, and Christopher Elliott of Queens University Belfast, N. Ireland. "I'm thrilled to be a member of this international team, tackling an environmental problem of mutual concern," says Smith. The BEACONS project aims to develop novel strategies for the isolation and detection of algae from both seawater (*Alexandrium*) and freshwater (*Microcystis*) and their associated toxins, that are of significant concern as environmental and food contaminants. In Maine, the alga *Alexandrium* is commonly called red tide and is responsible for extensive closures of shellfish harvests. Paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) caused by consumption of shellfish that have fed on the toxic alga *Alexandrium* remains a major health concern throughout North American coastal areas. As , and increasing numbers of people live in immediate proximity to the ocean, the risk of exposure to this natural hazard also grows. *Microcystis* contains toxins that are increasingly found reservoirs and lakes used for drinking water The consortium of partners, assembled as a result of the U.S.-Ireland Partnership initiative, has complementary expertise in sample handling, marine and fresh water environmental research, assay development - using antibodies, peptide nucleic acids and receptors/channels, microfluidics, sensor assay generation and associated applications. The project is specifically designed to strategically exploit this combined expertise to tackle major algal toxin problems that are common to the U.S. and Ireland. A highly innovative sample collection/concentration system and a sensor-based prototype system, with industrial input from Precision Photonics Corporation, a U.S. company, will be developed. Regular meetings and exchanges of staff and students between the partner institutions are planned that will foster training, education and outreach.

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Kim, Rosenwasser

20 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Wednesday Oct. 21 and Monday Oct. 26. Prof. Carol Kim will give a Wednesday talk, "Evolution of Human Response to Disease, Vaccines," and Prof. Alan Rosenwasser will speak on Monday about "The Evolution of Biological Clocks." Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead course lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in

130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Chancellor, Board Members Set for Oct. 28 UMaine Open Forum

20 Oct 2009

Contact Joe Carr (joecarr@maine.edu) ORONO -- Chancellor Pattenau and members of the University of Maine System Board of Trustees will visit UMaine on Wednesday Oct. 28 for an open forum to discuss UMaine, the University of Maine System and the future of higher education in Maine. The session is scheduled for 10:30 a.m.- noon in the Collins Center for the Arts. Members of the UMaine community are invited to provide input to the chancellor and board members, especially in the context of the chancellor's September report and implementation plan relative to System's New Challenges, New Directions initiative. That report is online at <http://www.maine.edu/UMSNEND>. Also available is a statement from Chancellor Pattenau and the three initial reports that formed the basis of the final report: reports from the Chief Financial Officers, the Chief Academic Officers and the Task Force. Visit <http://www.maine.edu/chancellor/NCND.php?section=13> Those who cannot attend are invited to review the report online and submit comments by October 30, 2009: E-mail to NCND@maine.edu Regular mail: NCND, c/o Board of Trustees Office, University of Maine System, 16 Central Street, Bangor, ME 04401 Following this public comment period (which ends on October 30), the Board of Trustees will review the comments and create a final report and implementation plan to be voted on for approval at the November 16, 2009 board meeting.

UMaine Bodwell Center Plans 'Halloween for Needs' Oct. 30.

23 Oct 2009

Contact: Ryan Bouchard, 581-1796 ORONO -- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism, the UMaine Touchstone Project and the Peer Education Program will host a novel "Halloween for Needs" event Oct. 30, beginning at 3 p.m. at the Orchard Trail Community Center, just off campus. Volunteers will inform students about the services of the University of Maine Counseling Center, as well as collect food for the Black Bear Exchange. Student and staff volunteers from the UMaine will go door-to-door at off-campus housing complexes, where large numbers of university students live. Volunteers will hand out bags of goodies and inform students that the Counseling Center offers free and confidential services for enrolled students. In addition, students will collect non-perishable food for the Black Bear Exchange, a food cupboard on campus serving university students and members of the larger community. The Counseling Center offers free and confidential counseling to students, providing individual, group and couples counseling, and psychiatric services. Peer Educators are students who work to promote acceptance of diversity, safe sex practices, stress-free lifestyles, good communication skills, healthy body images, and happy, safe and fun college experiences for all. The Touchstone Project is a new program on campus that promotes belonging and connection through social justice. Touchstone also works with the Counseling Center to promote emotional wellbeing through healthy relationships. The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism aims to create civic-mindedness by building an engaged campus through the promotion of service learning and volunteerism to students, faculty and staff, in order to strengthen local, national and international communities. The Black Bear Exchange opened as part of the Bodwell Center last spring. The off-campus housing complexes include Orchard Trails, Dryden Terrace, Washburn Place, Founder's Place, Park Place, Timberview and College Park apartment complexes. For more information, contact Ryan C. Bouchard at The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism by email at ryan.c.bouchard@umit.maine.edu or phone at 581-1796.

UMaine Senior Named Outstanding Continuing Education Student from New England

23 Oct 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 *photo available upon request* ORONO -- The University Continuing Education Association New England has selected UMaine senior Lauren Sterling of Waterville as the Outstanding Continuing Education Student from New England. She will be honored at the UCEANE annual conference in Hyannis, Mass. on Oct. 28. An extraordinary student and public servant, Sterling personifies the "quintessential continuing education student," says Bob White, dean of Lifelong Learning. A childhood survivor of Rhabdomyosarcoma, she has engaged

life with the joy of having had a second chance, he says. A senior in the Bachelor of University Studies program at UMaine, Sterling has pursued her education part-time since 1981, working full time and making extraordinary community contributions through volunteer public service along the way. Over the past 15 years, she has provided leadership in prevention programming for children and youth through direct service and through her involvement with numerous committees and collaborative efforts, according to the Division of Lifelong Learning. She also has played a large leadership role as primary staff to the Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet and its various initiatives. A Waterville resident, Sterling has volunteered as co-chair for the Greater Waterville's Communities for Children and Youth Coalition since its inception in 1996. Under her leadership, the coalition has received more than \$5 million in grants for youth development. White calls Sterling "truly an outstanding continuing education student" because of her persistence and dedication.

UMaine Extension Offers Master Gardener Volunteer Training in Lisbon Falls

23 Oct 2009

Contact: Dana Rickman, 207-353-5550 LISBON FALLS, Me. – University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Lisbon Falls-based staff will offer an eight-week Master Gardener volunteers course starting March 23, 2010. The deadline to request an application is Nov. 13, 2009 and completed applications are due by Jan. 8, 2010. UMaine Extension Educator Tori Jackson will collaborate with experts from around the state to present basic horticulture and volunteer training. The course fee is based on a sliding scale from \$110-\$330, with a limited number of scholarships available. For more information or to request an application contact Dana Rickman at (207) 353-5550. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

AG Janet Mills at UMaine Thursday

26 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Maine Attorney General Janet Mills will visit the University of Maine on Thursday Oct. 29 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Mills will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members. A Farmington resident, Mills is a former Assistant Attorney General, District Attorney and attorney in private practice. She was elected four times to the Maine House of Representatives before becoming Maine's attorney general in December 2008. 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.

School of Performing Arts Reader's Theatre to Present "Trumpery"

26 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Arts will offer a reader's theatre presentation of Peter Parnell's "Trumpery: the Evolution of Charles Darwin's Theory," on Wednesday Oct. 28 at 7: 30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall. Admission is free. Charles Isherwood described the play in a December 2007 New York Times review. "Mr. Parnell's plot hinges on a joke of academic history," Isherwood wrote. "The writing of 'The Origin of Species,' the play argues, derived from a sudden surge of competitive instinct on the part of its author. Distracted by worry and illness, Darwin had been unable to finish the book until he felt his life's work and livelihood were in danger of being trumped, as it were, by the discoveries of another fellow. (Mr. Parnell drew on various histories of the era for the basic facts of the play but has done some fictionalizing and telescoping in the pursuit of both cogency and dramatic potency.)" The performance is part of UMaine's semester-long Celebration of Darwin program. A news release with details about the Celebration of Darwin program is [here](#).

UMaine Plans Tulip Planting Wednesday for Cancer Research

27 Oct 2009

Contact: Vicky Blanchette, 581-2204/944-2695; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- For the fourth year in a row, University of Maine volunteers will plant a pink tulip garden on the UMaine campus in front of Fogler Library Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 2 p.m., to raise funds for cancer research through the Maine Cancer Foundation. In total, 30,000 pink tulips have been planted in more than 80 gardens around Maine to raise funds, create awareness and support those affected by breast cancer. Each garden plants seeds of hope, beautifies the community and gives hope to those with cancer. The Pink Tulip Project is a fundraising project that benefits the Women's Cancer Fund at the Maine Cancer Foundation. Founded in 2006 by breast cancer survivor Robin Whitten, the Pink Tulip Project raises money and awareness through the planting gardens of pale pink tulips across the state. The project has raised more than \$120,000 over the years, 100 percent of which has been donated to the Women's Cancer Fund. Donations can be made through the UMaine garden initiative here, or by check made out to the Maine Cancer Foundation through one of the following volunteer organizers: UMaine's Senior Skull Society, the All Maine Women, Women's Symposium, the Landscape Horticulture Club, or Victoria Blanchette, Department of Engineering media contact, or Mary Rumpho-Kennedy, a faculty member in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology. Additional volunteers are welcome. The Pink Tulip Project started as one garden in Portland. By last year's planting season, the project had grown to nearly 70 gardens. Thousands of pink tulips bloomed in the spring as a result. Last year, the event raised \$50,000, which helped with research, education and patient support programs.

3rd Annual A Cappella Concert to Benefit UMaine Alternative Spring Break

27 Oct 2009

Contact: Rebecca Workman, (207) 664-8999 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Alternative Spring Break will host its third annual benefit concert Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. in Room 100 of the Donald P. Corbett Business Building. The event will feature five of UMaine's student a cappella groups, including the premier all-female group Renaissance and the all-male Maine Steiners. The event is open to the public with a \$5 admittance fee at the door. Alternative Spring Break (ASB) is in its twelfth year of operation at the University of Maine. The organization is a non-profit, substance-free service organization that has helped hundreds of UMaine students become involved in local, national and international community service. A student-run organization, ASB works each year to send student volunteers and their faculty advisors across the country for service-learning volunteering trips. In previous years, ASB has worked with organizations such as Boys and Girls Club of America, Habitat for Humanity, and area-based Hurricane Katrina relief initiatives. In the greater Bangor area, ASB members have volunteered their time with the Ronald McDonald House, Crossroad Ministries and Hands of Hope. This year, ASB will be sending out eight domestic service trips to focus on issues ranging from intercity poverty in Atlanta, HIV/AIDS awareness in New Orleans and children with terminal illnesses in Florida. For more information, contact Rebecca Workman, student coordinator, at (207) 664-8999, or email: Rebecca.workman@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Chamber Jazz Ensemble Concert Nov. 3

27 Oct 2009

Contact: Karel Lidral, 581-1256 ORONO -- The University of Maine Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present its formal concert in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m. The organization includes several soloists or small ensembles with piano accompaniment. This semester's group consists of 11 musicians, representing a variety of instruments and academic majors. The program will include great jazz standards and originals by such composers as Oscar Pettiford, Jerome Richardson, Fats Waller, Nat Adderley, Herbie Hancock, Cedar Walton, Charlie Parker, Cedar Walton, Stanley Turrentine and Jim Rotondi. Tickets are \$7 for the public. UMaine students with a MaineCard are admitted free. Information and tickets are available by calling the Collins Center for the Arts at 581-1755. The Chamber Jazz Ensemble will present a free concert from 1-2 p.m. on Dec. 2 in the Memorial Union.

Ocean Classroom Foundation, University of Maine Pair Up for Semester at Sea

28 Oct 2009

CONTACT: Susan L. Hodder, Ocean Classroom Foundation (207) 633-2750 ext. 102 Joe Carr, University of Maine (207) 581-3571 **Note to editors:** Representatives from UMaine and the Ocean Classroom Foundation will be available on Friday Oct. 30 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in Rockland harbor to discuss this program and give tours of the schooner Harvey Gamage, one of the vessels the Ocean Classroom Foundation uses for its programming at sea. Capt. J.B. Smith will be present on Friday, along with representatives of the foundation and the University of Maine. Directions to the location in Rockland are at the bottom of this release. **BOOTHBAY HARBOR AND ORONO, Me. --** Ocean Classroom Foundation (OCF) and the University of Maine will collaborate to offer a Spring 2010 semester at sea experience for students aboard a 19th century-style schooner. Known as SEAmester, the program is managed by the Ocean Classroom Foundation, a leader in experiential education at sea. UMaine has approved the curriculum through its Division of Lifelong Learning and will grant credits to students who successfully complete the courses. SEAmester will feature a four-course, 12-credit science and humanities curriculum integrated with the journey and ports of call throughout the Eastern Seaboard, Caribbean Islands and Central America. Students will also stand watches and assume increasing responsibilities in sailing the traditionally rigged schooner, acquiring skills and confidence along the way. UMaine's School of Marine Sciences (SMS), one of the top programs of its kind in the U.S., is involved in developing the program. Marine science studies on the SEAmester voyage will include lab work in oceanography and marine biology, species surveys, environmental impact studies and marine weather observations. Other coursework will feature maritime history, literature, geocultural studies and creative writing. Students will also benefit from leadership training, cultural immersion and a service project in the Dominican Republic. "We are excited by the synergy between the SMS and SEAmester curricula. Students within the University of Maine system, and from other colleges around the country, will have an opportunity to expand their knowledge beyond the classroom", says William Ellis, associate director of UMaine's School of Marine Science. "Any student who is interested in exploring the natural world, who is excited by physical or mental challenges, or who is looking to take their education to the next level, should look seriously at the SEAmester program." According to Peter Neill, executive director of Ocean Classroom Foundation, the sea demands decisiveness, independence, cooperation, and communication. "At sea, leadership is developed through working side by side with a knowledgeable captain and crew, learning through observation and emulation, and then being accountable for their successful application," Neill says. "Lessons are unforgettable when taught from within in a self-reliant community, in a dynamic natural environment." SEAmester was first offered by Ocean Classroom in 1997, originally accredited by Long Island University and later by the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. An alternative to the traditional college academic semester abroad it is next available to qualified college students in spring 2010. SEAmester may be of particular interest to students majoring in any aspect of marine science, environmental or ecological studies, oceanography, geocultural studies, history, or literature. The Ocean Classroom Foundation is a non-profit educational organization with a mission to build the next generation of ocean stewards through education under sail. Accredited and non-traditional programs vary from days, to weeks, to semester long voyages for high school and college students; custom programs for middle and high schools, youth and community organizations; and continuing education for humanities and science teachers. Programs are offered aboard three USCG certified schooners: Harvey Gamage, Westward, and Spirit of Massachusetts; sailing along the Atlantic seaboard from the Canadian Maritimes to the Caribbean. Ocean Classroom Foundation is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization whose programs are offered without regard to race, gender, religion, or national origin. **DIRECTIONS TO THE LOCATION WHERE THE HARVEY GAMAGE WILL BE DOCKED ON FRIDAY:** The ship will be at Larriman's Cove in Rockland, which is behind the Rockland Water Treatment plant, and across from Hamilton marine. (from Maine Street in Rockland, go right on Tilson Ave., then left after the Water Treatment plant.)

Trick-or-Trot at UMaine Horse Barn Saturday Evening

28 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The second annual trick-or-trot for area youngsters will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6-8 p.m. at the horse barn at the University of Maine's J. F. Witter Research and Teaching Farm on College Avenue in Old Town. Local children are encouraged to dress in costume and come and visit the herd of UMaine horses, known as UMares, to meet the horses and get some Halloween treats. This event is being hosted by the students in the Equine Management Cooperative with help from the fall semester equine Interns. Doors will not open before 6 p.m. but there will be plenty of time for youngsters to visit the barn and the horses and take pictures and enjoy the fun. For more information, contact: Nonni Daly at 827-8386.

Anthropology Dept. and Climate Change Institute to Host Smithsonian Experts

28 Oct 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Two renowned archaeobiology experts from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History will visit the University of Maine next week, for lectures presented by UMaine's Dept. of Anthropology and Climate Change Institute. Bruce Smith, Smithsonian curator of North American archaeology, will discuss "Everything You Need to Know About the Origins of Agriculture" on Monday Nov. 2 at 4 p.m. in Room 100 of the Bryand Global Sciences Center. Melinda Zeder, the Smithsonian archaeobiology program director, will give a Wednesday Nov. 4 talk, "Pathways to Animal Domestication," at 2 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bangor Room. The archaeobiology program is part of the Smithsonian's anthropology program. It hosts more than 4,000 cubic feet of archaeobiological collections, conducts research in zooarchaeology and archaeobotany, and operates a significant outreach program. Its role within the Smithsonian is to explore "the history of human interactions with plants and animals." The public is invited to these UMaine lectures, which are free.

Culturefest to Showcase International Students' Homeland Traditions

28 Oct 2009

Contacts: Sarah Joughin, 581-3423 ORONO – The University of Maine will hold its 22nd Culturefest Saturday, Nov. 7, a festival of cultural exhibits, traditional singing, dancing, clothing and cuisine from around the world. Held annually in the UMaine Field House from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 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 provides UMaine's international students a showcase for their talents and traditions from as many as 70 countries and cultures from around the world. Culturefest is free and open to the public. Members of the UMaine International Student Association will serve traditional homeland cuisine in the food court area from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. for a small donation. Students also will perform a talent show, a fashion show, and have information tables with maps, flags and cultural items. The event will offer activities for children. The festival is a unique opportunity to meet with hundreds of international students anxious to discuss cultures and customs from their home communities in Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. It is the largest event of its kind in the state. For more information about the 22nd annual Culturefest, contact the UMaine Office of International Programs at (207) 581-2905 or visit the Culturefest Web page [here](#). Supporters of the event include the Office of International Programs, International Students Association, Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, Student Government, Division of Student Affairs and Residents on Campus.

UMaine Hosting Fulbright Program and Concert Oct. 31

29 Oct 2009

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The Maine Chapter of the Fulbright Association is sponsoring a public concert featuring the University of Maine Symphony Orchestra with visiting musicians from Guatemala and guest conductor James Ball on Saturday, Oct. 31, at 7:30 p.m. at UMaine's Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. The University Symphony Orchestra, Anatole Wieck, music director and conductor, and guests from Guatemala with whom he worked during his Fulbright in Guatemala in 2006 will perform "The Old World and the New World." The concert will feature the musicians from Guatemala and Maine performing 19th and 20th century music by Antonin Dvorak ("The New World Symphony"), Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov ("Capriccio Espagnol") and Aaron Copland ("Hoedown" from his ballet suite "Rodeo." Ball, of Albion College in Michigan, will appear as guest conductor. Admission for the public is \$7, and free for students with a MaineCard. All past and present Fulbright students, teachers, lecturers and scholars -- and friends -- are encouraged to attend. For further information about the Fulbright Association in Maine, contact Erika J. Waters at ewaters@usm.maine.edu.

New Parenting Class for Expectant Parents in Machias

29 Oct 2009

Contact: Deb Eckart (207) 255-3345 MACHIAS -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Downeast Health Services, Family First: Parents Are Teachers Too, and other local programs have will collaboratively provide a two-part parenting class in November. The classes are scheduled for Nov. 10 and 17 from 6-8 p.m. at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension office in Machias. With a generous grant from the Maine Community Foundation, the Washington County Prenatal Education Project (WCPEP) is a free program open to all expectant parents in Downeast Maine. The WCPEP will offer many resources like quality publications from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. These publications include "The Growing Years" parenting series, which offers information, ideas, tips, and tools on subjects like feeding, shopping smart, and planning for baby's future on a budget. The classes are free, and include refreshments. Registration is required. Please contact UMaine Cooperative Extension at (800) 287-1542 for more information and to register. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine Travel-Study Business Class Heading to Russia

30 Oct 2009

Contacts: John Mahon, 581-1968; Andrei Strukov, 581-1925; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO – Special travel-study courses offered through the University of Maine previously have focused on Canada, Europe, China and other regions, as international interest keys on areas of rising global significance. A springtime travel-study course being offered through the Maine Business School and Division of Lifelong Learning now takes up international entrepreneurship in Russia. The course, which involves several class sessions prior to a May 11 departure for Moscow, includes discussions with business men and women who have started successful businesses in Russia. The two-week trip will include visiting famous historic sites in two of Russia's largest cities -- Moscow and St. Petersburg -- and a smaller community, Syktyvkar, where the group will meet with Syktyvkar State University students and faculty. The three-credit course is open to UMaine upper class students and members of the community who can enroll as non-degree students, says Robert White, associate provost and dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning. A cost of \$3,390 includes all fees associated with travel to, from and inside Russia, some meals, accommodations, museum entrance fees and guided tours during the trip. In addition, students pay the regular tuition or fee rates for the course. "International Entrepreneurship" is being co-taught by John Mahon, business professor and dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Health, and Andrei Strukov, who grew up in Russia, teaches Russian language classes at UMaine and who works as an instructional technology development specialist in the Department of Information Technologies on campus. Informational sessions about the class are scheduled for Nov. 12 and Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. in Room 218 of the D.P. Corbett Business Building at UMaine. "The objective is, even though Russia is a capitalist country, they have a lot more government involvement in everyday life," says Strukov. "Students will see how those factions interplay." Mahon says the Russia travel-study class will help participants understand more about the politics, economy, culture and policies of Russia at a critically important time as traditional boundaries of world trade shift. "New business ventures are how jobs are created and new innovations developed and brought to market," says Mahon, who also is director of the college's Maine Business School. "We will have the rare opportunity to talk with entrepreneurs from around the world who are and have developed businesses in the rapidly growing economy of Russia." Last year, UMaine students visiting Russia met with business and government leaders overseeing the country's vast oil and natural gas reserves and forest products, to explore Russian management practices. Additional details, including class credit information and an itinerary, are available on the business school website. Enrollment registration closes at the end of December.

American Marketing Association Annual Collegiate Business Conference at UMaine Saturday

02 Nov 2009

Contact: George Manlove at (207) 581-3756 Omar Khan at (207) 581-1949 ORONO -- The University of Maine will host the fourth annual Inter-Collegiate Business Conference on Saturday, Nov. 7 at Donald P. Corbett Business Building. The conference will bring together business leaders, government officials and business students to interact and gain deeper insights into current business environments. The conference is primarily intended to benefit college business students from across Maine. The conference will run from 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. "Our goal is to excite and motivate students to continue their education in business by promoting the numerous opportunities available for graduates," says Prof. Omar Khan from the Maine Business School at UMaine. This year's theme is "Business Outside

the Box: Strategic Planning for a Recessionary Environment." The program will address the major issues related to surviving in this economy, a constant worry for college students who are juggling the cost of school with the stress of finding a job upon graduation. Speakers will address subjects including: What changes our society needs to take in order to restore the economy; motivating students to step up and take initiative; encouraging students to explore business opportunities outside traditional professions and corporate tracks; and corporate strategies and tactics businesses have adopted in order to adjust to this economy. This annual event has attracted leading business leaders and government officials. This year's list of speakers includes John Richardson (Maine State Commissioner for Economic Development), Bill Michauds (Head of Global Sales for Segami Corporation), Zeynep Turk (Maine International Trade Center), Julie Salvato (Liberty Mutual) and Bangor Daily News staff members. The conference will cover a range of topics related to advancing one's career and business during an economic recession. Cost for students is \$10; \$20 for the general public.

UMaine Standardbred Drill Team to Host Fundraising Trail Ride

02 Nov 2009

Contact Rebecca Powers (rebecca.powers@umit.maine.edu or 522-0677) ORONO -- On Sunday, Nov. 8, the members of the University of Maine Standardbred Drill Team will host a 5.5-mile Trail Ride at UMaine's J. F. Witter Research and Teaching Farm on College Avenue in Old Town. The team will use the proceeds to help the Spirit of Hope Horse Refuge in Winterport with their winter needs of hay and grain for the horses they have taken in rescue. Registration for the event begins at 10:30 a.m., with the riding groups going on the trails at 11:00. The cost is \$20 per rider and riders are encouraged to get pledges or donations from family and friends to help with the fundraising. All riders must bring proof that their horses are up-to-date on shots and Coggins test with all shots, especially EEE, Rhino-flu and Rabies being given between April 1 and Oct. 20 of this year. Coggins tests must be good within three years, unless the horse has been shipped out of state and back, when the test must be within one year. No horse without adequate records will be allowed on this beautiful UMaine Forest wooded trail. For more information, contact Rebecca Powers, the Drill Team President at 522-0677 or Rebecca.Powers@umit.maine.edu

Darwin Lecture Series to Feature Kim, Rosenwasser

02 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Celebration of Darwin class and lecture series continues on Monday Nov. 2 and Wednesday Nov. 4. Prof. Marie Hayes will give a Monday talk, "Struggle for Existence, Brain Stem Structure, Human/Fetal Interaction" and Prof. Alan Rosenwasser will speak on Wednesday about "The Evolution of Nervous Systems." Each class meeting in the semester-long series is also open to members of the UMaine community and the public. Fourteen UMaine professors will lead course lectures, all of which are scheduled from 8:35-9:50 a.m. in 130 Little Hall. Those who are interested can also join the UMaine Darwin Program fan page on Facebook.

Forest Future Described in New UMaine Report

03 Nov 2009

Contact: Bruce Wiersma, Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at (207) 581-3798 ORONO AND AUGUSTA-- Maine people, New England's governors, and officials in the Obama Administration have all expressed interest in landscape scale conservation, creating an unprecedented opportunity to conserve Maine forests and maintain the values they provide for Maine's residents and visitors. This is the central theme emerging from 18 month effort resulting in a report that will be presented to Gov. John Baldacci in the State House Cabinet Room Thursday Nov. 5 at 2:30 p.m. A variety of key groups and individuals created the report by evaluating the economic and environmental condition of the famed North Woods as well as forests in the towns and cities of Maine, covering 17 million acres in all, or 90% of the state. Former University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture Dean Bruce Wiersma led the effort, aimed at developing recommendations for how to maintain the value of Maine's forests into the future. The group recognized the importance of timber production, wildlife habitat, recreation ranging from snowmobiling to backcountry

canoeing, and environmental values. Participants included landowners and managers, representatives of forest products companies, sawmill operators and loggers, and several conservation groups, including the Natural Resource Council of Maine, the Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club. Also involved were state and federal officials from several forest agencies. The study was coordinated by the University of Maine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, which Wiersma directs. Panelists heard from numerous experts about conservation easements, climate science, forest economics, new fiber-based products, land use planning and Maine woods history. Among the recommendations of the group is pursuit of a new, more robust public/private partnership to conserve large unfragmented and undeveloped tracts of forest land for a variety of uses, including timber production, recreation, wildlife habitat and resource protection. Consultant Douglas Rooks wrote the report, which also outlines steps to maintain the sustainably managed forest, enhance recent conservation efforts, and promote a broad variety of economic and recreational uses. Gov. Baldacci will share his thoughts on the project and the topic addressed by the group that created the report. "Maine's forests are one of natural features that define Maine, are essential to the quality of life for Maine's citizens," Wiersma says. "This report identifies exciting opportunities that can help shape Maine's future, and we look forward to sharing the details with the governor and others with interest in Maine's forests and related policy issues."

Sandy Ives Memorial Service Saturday

03 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A memorial celebration in remembrance of Edward "Sandy" Ives, the longtime University of Maine professor who died in August at the age of 83, is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7. It will begin at 2 p.m. at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. Ives, a UMaine faculty member for 44 years, founded UMaine's Northeast Archives of Folklore and Oral History, now known as the Maine Folklife Center, in 1971.

New Resource for Information About Maine's Climate

03 Nov 2009

Contact Catherine Schmitt (catherine_schmitt@umit.maine.edu) ORONO - Recognizing the need for a centralized, neutral source of climate information specific to Maine, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant today announced the launch of Maine Climate News at <http://extension.umaine.edu/maineclimatenews>. Produced in partnership with Maine State Climatologist George Jacobson, the site is intended to be a portal to local climate change science and research at the University of Maine and beyond, as well as a resource for news and climate-related activities throughout the state. "Climate change is a complex and dynamic issue, and it can be overwhelming. While much of our focus is on coastal climate change impacts, the information on the new site is also intended to provide useful information from our state climatologist to a broad audience," said project leader Esperanza Stancioff, a climate change educator with UMaine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant. The site provides visitors with access to climate scientists, including Jacobson of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, who is also the designated State Climatologist for Maine. State climatologists bring their scientific expertise and climate resources to serve the citizens of their states with specific and first-hand support. Jacobson's role is to interpret and analyze data from NOAA and the Northeast Regional Climate Center. In addition, Shaleen Jain, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Maine, is providing scientific content and oversight to the news outlet. The site will be updated quarterly with new features and articles. "We hope that people who live, work, and vacation in Maine will use this resource and provide feedback and suggestions for stories they'd like us to publish," said Stancioff. Visit Maine Climate News at <http://extension.umaine.edu/maineclimatenews>

Extension Advice on Maine Food for November

04 Nov 2009

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205 ORONO, Me. -- With fall comes the arrival of local cranberries and many Mainers believe that no fall or winter holiday table would be complete without at least one cranberry item. Cranberries can be added to countless dishes, from quick breads, yeast breads, salads, relishes, salsas and chutneys to soups, grain-based entrees and desserts. As cranberries become available, it's a good idea to buy extras and freeze them for use later

on. University of Maine Cooperative Extension publishes information to help consumers find, grow, use, preserve and store in-season fruits and vegetables in Maine. Visit <http://www.extension.umaine.edu> to order or download bulletins to fit the season, including November favorites such as Canning and Freezing Quick Guides, Let's Preserve Apples, and Vegetables and Fruits for Health: Cranberries, Winter Squash and Pumpkins as well as Safe Home Cider Making. Extension Educator Kathy Savoie from the UMaine Extension Cumberland County office cautions that consumers should get up-to-date information before canning food. Over the years there have been changes in scientific expertise as well as canning equipment, so there is new information on the best methods, canners, jars, and seals to use to ensure a safe result. Updated recommendations are as close as one's local UMaine Extension office: [visit http://www.extension.umaine.edu](http://www.extension.umaine.edu) or call 800-287-0274 to find an local offices and food preservation workshops. For more information specifically on cranberries visit [here](#). UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

Celebration of Darwin Continues with Film and Discussion Nov. 11

04 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- David Lebrun's 2004 animated documentary "Proteus" will provide the framework for a Wednesday Nov. 11 event that is part of the University of Maine's semester-long Celebration of Darwin. "Darwin After Dark: A Night of Film and Discussion" is scheduled for 7 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall. The film documents the life and work of Ernst Haeckel, a 19th century biologist who merged his interests in science and art, in the context of philosophies he shared with Darwin and other contemporaries. UMaine professors Gisela Hoehlerl-Alden, Francois Amar and Michael Lang will lead a post-film discussion.

Organic Lawn Care Advocate to Present Documentary

05 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Paul Tukey, a 1984 journalism graduate of UMaine, creator of the magazine "People, Places and Plants" and former Home and Garden TV host, will be back on campus Thursday, Nov. 12, to introduce his new documentary film "A Chemical Reaction" at 7 p.m. in 100 Donald P. Corbett Business Building. The film recently debuted at the World Film Festival in Montreal to a sell-out crowd. A Maine resident and former Portland newspaper reporter, Tukey founded Safelawns.org, an international coalition of for-profit and non-profit organizations promoting environmentally friendly lawn care and resource conservation. Tukey continues writing and speaking around the country about organic lawn care practices and products. The event is free, although donations collected at the door will benefit the UMaine student Horticultural Club and Horticultural Team.

UMaine Athletic Director Blake James Signs Contract Extension

06 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571; Laura Reed at (207) 581-3646 ORONO -- University of Maine athletic director Blake James has signed a two-year contract extension, which takes effect when his current contract ends on June 30 of next year. James was named UMaine's AD in May 2006, following a national search. He has been at UMaine since 2003, serving first as senior associate athletic director and then as interim athletic director for ten months beginning in July 2005. He has previous athletic administrative experience at the University of Miami, the University of Nebraska and Providence College. "During his time at UMaine, Blake has demonstrated outstanding leadership, notable integrity and a true appreciation for the proper role of an athletic department in an academic institution," says UMaine President Robert Kenneds. "Blake has done a commendable job under difficult budget circumstances and I appreciate his commitment to UMaine, our athletic department and particularly our student-athletes." Kennedy noted improved academic performance by student-athletes under James' leadership. Black Bear student-athletes now have an overall grade point average above 3.0 and UMaine won the 2007 America East Academic Cup Award, given annually to the institution with the highest overall grade point average among students participating in conference sports. In addition, UMaine student-athletes have earned conference student-athlete of the year honors six times during his tenure. The athletic department has experienced significant growth during James' tenure including the development of a statewide

television and radio network, a department-wide equipment deal with Adidas and numerous facility enhancements including the Mahaney Dome, the addition of an Alford Arena video scoreboard, a new field hockey complex and new surfaces on Morse Field and Mahaney Diamond. The department has also expanded community outreach programming, including activities that bring student-athletes into local schools and foster volunteerism that benefits community service agencies. "I appreciate President Kennedy's support and look forward to continuing to work with our coaches, staff and student-athletes to achieve success athletically, academically and in the community," James says. "This extension is a reflection of all the outstanding people that work within our department and university. I am honored to be able to continue to serve our great university and look forward to confronting the challenges ahead."

Slanket Inventor, UMaine Alum at Innovation Center Nov. 10

06 Nov 2009

Contact: Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 or Jesse Moriarity, Innovation Center coordinator, (207)581-1427. Who: Gary Clegg, University of Maine alumni and inventor of the Slanket – the original blanket with sleeves. What: He's coming to UMaine for an Innovation Center Snack & Yack. Clegg invented the Slanket while a student at UMaine living in Kennebec Hall. Since then, he's turned his invention into a million dollar business that's available in more than 30 countries, including stores, catalogues and online stores. In the United States, it can be found on home shopping network QVC, 15 catalogs, numerous stores and at www.theslanket.com. The event is open to students, faculty staff and community members. There is no charge for the sessions, although pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. To pre-register call (207) 581-1454 or e-mail student.innovation.center@umit.maine.edu. They'll also have Slankets to give away. When: Tuesday, Nov. 10 from 4-6 p.m. Where: University of Maine's Bion & Dorain Foster Student Innovation Center.

Speaker Pingree at UMaine Tuesday

09 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Speaker of the House Hannah Pingree will visit the University of Maine on Tuesday Nov. 10, as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Pingree, the 99th Speaker of the Maine House, has served in the Maine Legislature since 2002. She represents 11 coastal communities, including her hometown of North Haven. She will be at UMaine from 9:15 a.m. Friday until 5:30 p.m., visiting with students, faculty members and staff members. A legislator with particular interest in healthcare issues, Pingree will spend time in the afternoon visiting UMaine research labs where faculty members and students are working on projects related to human health. Those tours begin at 2 p.m. and continue through 3:45. She will visit an American government class and a public finance class in the morning. A full schedule is available upon request. 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.

Professor Emeritus David Smith 1929-2009

10 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Professor Emeritus David C. Smith, a Maine native and University of Maine graduate who served on the UMaine history faculty for nearly 25 years before his 1994 retirement, has died at the age of 80. Smith, who was born in Lewiston to a mother whose Maine roots dated to 1628 and a father who migrated from maritime Canada to the U.S. as a child, was also active in the community and in politics, serving as a delegate to the 1974 and 1976 Democratic National Conventions. By his own account, Smith focused his scholarly activities in four "distinct areas of historical thought," including the history of agriculture and forestry; historical climatology; the history of women; and the life and times of H.G. Wells. He also wrote "The First Century: A History of the University of Maine, 1865-1965" and "A History of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station 1885-1978." "David Smith was

among the University of Maine's most distinguished and influential faculty members," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "His prolific scholarship matched his wide range of interests, including agricultural history, the life and influence of H.G. Wells, and even the history of UMaine itself. David exemplified the land-grant university philosophy in many ways, by applying his life's work to studying and teaching in areas critical to understanding our state in historical context. From his days as a UMaine graduate student through decades on our faculty, David Smith was truly a UMaine institution and he will be missed." There will be a private family gathering in the spring. A Tuesday Bangor Daily News obituary is online [here](#).

Comedian Bob Saget to Perform at UMaine Dec. 1

11 Nov 2009

Contact: [Abtin Mehdizadegan](#) ORONO -- Comedian Bob Saget will perform at the University of Maine's Collins Center for the Arts on Tuesday Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. The former star of the ABC Television program "Full House," Saget also hosted "America's Funniest Home Videos" on ABC and "1 vs. 100" on NBC. He is also known for his work on Broadway and in movies, as well as stand-up comedy. Saget's UMaine performance is intended for mature audiences. Tickets are available at the Collins Center for the Arts box office, by calling (207) 581-1755 or online at <http://www.collinscenterforthearts.com>. The cost is \$18 for UMaine students and \$25 for the public.

UMaine Selected for Membership in Research Organization

16 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Recognizing the University of Maine Climate Change Institute's international prominence in climate science, the prestigious University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) has selected UMaine for membership. The organization's member institutions unanimously approved UMaine's application at its recent annual meeting. UCAR and its associated National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) work to foster greater understanding of the Earth's atmosphere and the systems that affect it. UCAR is a nonprofit association of research universities. "UCAR's invitation provides yet another example of the widespread appreciation for the work and impact of the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute," says President Robert Kennedy. "The Climate Change Institute exemplifies UMaine's excellence in research on an international scale and the collaborations that will evolve from UCAR membership will enhance our opportunities to contribute in important ways to these critical fields of study." UCAR's members include many of the nation's leading research universities, including MIT, Columbia University and Georgia Tech.

\$2 Million Correll Gift to Boost UMaine Efforts in Energy Research, Graduate Education and Literacy

16 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Alston D. "Pete" Correll and Ada Lee Correll of Atlanta, Georgia, have provided a \$2 million gift to the University of Maine. The gift will be directed to four key areas at UMaine, where Pete Correll received two master's degrees in engineering, one in 1966 and one in 1967. The Corrells are highly respected community leaders and philanthropists in their home state of Georgia, where they were recognized last week as "Philanthropists of the Year" by the Atlanta chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals. That award recognized their work to enhance Atlanta's healthcare, cultural and educational resources. The Correll gift will support four priority areas at the University of Maine: • a new Presidential Chair in Energy which will enable UMaine to recruit a leading national expert in offshore wind and tidal energy development. Together with the university's recent \$8 million federal grant supporting the development of this new technology, this gift will fortify UMaine's position as an international leader in the field; • new graduate fellowships (scholarships) for each of UMaine's five colleges and scholarship funds in the Dept. of Ecology and Environmental Science; • a new Professorship in Early Childhood Literacy in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development; • an unrestricted "excellence" fund allowing UMaine President Robert Kennedy to address immediate priorities and enhance programs not covered by state funding, tuition or endowments. "It's so much more fun to give money away than it is to earn it," Pete Correll says. "It makes us feel really good if we can have an impact on a certain number of people and give them a chance they wouldn't have had

otherwise. That's as good a feeling as you can have in life." "This extraordinary gift will have a significant positive impact on the University of Maine, and we are most thankful to Pete and Ada Lee for their generosity," Kennedy says. "It will help us to enhance our teaching and research activities in areas of critical importance to our state and its future. This gift represents a landmark moment for UMaine and we look forward to using it to reinforce the institution's unique and vital role as the state's research and graduate education university." Pete Correll, chair of Atlanta Equities, a new company he founded, retired recently from a 40-year-career as a highly respected and visionary international leader in the forest products industry. During his tenure at Georgia-Pacific, he transformed that company into a global consumer product powerhouse. Under his leadership, G-P garnered the best safety records in its industry sector, became a better environmental steward, and greatly expanded opportunities for women and minorities. Ada Lee Correll began her career as a school teacher in Old Town, where she started a lifelong commitment to children and young people. In addition to raising the Corrells' two children, she has devoted her life as an effective community leader, working to enhance the quality of life for all Georgians. She currently chairs the Emory University School of Medicine's \$500 million fundraising campaign. "We are passionate about education and children. That's why the educational component was included in the gift," says Ada Lee Correll, who also noted that their time living in Maine had a transformative impact on their lives. "We left Maine a whole lot more prepared to deal with the world than when we moved there, and we remember our time at the university and in the community fondly," she says. Several UMaine officials also applauded the gift and praised the Corrells' generosity and foresight in helping to advance the university as the state's premier research and teaching institution. "Hiring a Correll Presidential Chair in Energy is critical to the University of Maine's research efforts and the future economy of Maine," says College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey. "It will help us move forward in the effort to develop offshore wind and tidal energy and develop a cost effective source of power to further the state's economy," he says. The gift will go a long way in attracting more high quality graduate students, says Daniel Sandweiss, dean of the Graduate School. Because the graduate fellowships are funded for five years rather than the typical three and because they come with a higher than average stipend, "we will be able to recruit really excellent students – most of whom will be doctoral students – who will contribute to the research and education mission of UMaine," he says. The Correll Professorship in Early Literacy will be the first named professorship in the College of Education and Human Development. "This is a significant development, which will enhance UMaine's leadership role in research and scholarship in this important field of study," says College of Education and Human Development Dean Anne Pooler. "We have faculty members with international stature in literacy studies, the Correll Professorship will provide important new opportunities." The University of Maine System Board of Trustees formally accepted this gift at its meeting today in Bangor.

UMaine Annual Commemorative Ornament Program Benefits Student Organizations

18 Nov 2009

Contact: Richard Young (207) 581-4184 ORONO -- Every year, the University Bookstore—the University of Maine's official bookstore—commissions the design of a UMaine ornament. Each edition is carefully crafted of the finest materials and depicts a university landmark or symbol. However, the real beauty of the ornament is how it benefits others. Through its annual commemorative ornament program, the bookstore provides the proceeds from ornament sales to a UMaine student organization that works to help others. This year's selected beneficiary is the UMaine Engineers Without Borders student group. While the organization is based on campus, its impact is far-reaching. "Over two thousand miles southwest of us lies Dulce Vivir, a remote village established only four years ago on the outskirts of Dulce Nombre, Honduras," explains Sean Higgins, a civil engineering major who's the organization's co-president. "Though residents' homes were built strong, high ground water causes their latrines to overflow and, as a result, many of the residents get sick every year. We have designed a solution to their problem, and thanks to the contributions by the University Bookstore, we are one step closer to implementing this solution and improving the quality of life for the people of this well-deserving community." Richard Young, UMaine's director of Auxiliary Services, noted that stories like these that get to the heart of the ornament program, which began in 2003. "The students in these organizations dedicate their energy and talent to making a difference," Young said. "We at the University Bookstore are honored to recognize their important work through the ornament program. We are a student-focused organization, and this initiative is a special way that we can give back." The 2009 ornament, as well as the complete collection, is available at the University Bookstore, located on the lower level of Memorial Union on the University of Maine campus. Ornaments are also available through the University Bookstore website at www.bookstore.umaine.edu. Previous beneficiary organizations have included Alternative Spring Break, Gamma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Phi Omega, Rotaract, Colleges

Against Cancer and the Central American Service Association. High-resolution images are available upon request. Please contact Tom Diaz, Auxiliary Services marketing coordinator, at (207) 581-4350.

New Holiday Light Options Can Cut Electric Bills

20 Nov 2009

Contact: Donna Coffin, Extension educator, 207-564-3301, dcoffin@extension.umaine.edu DOVER-FOXCROFT -- The holiday season is here and many homeowners and renters celebrate the spirit of the season with indoor and outdoor holiday lights. Elaborate lighting displays, however, can result in elevated electric bills. Donna Coffin, UMaine Cooperative Extension educator in the Piscataquis County office, advises that holiday celebrants now have an opportunity to reduce their electric bills and still show their holiday spirit -- with the new light-emitting diode (LED) lights. LED holiday lights are very energy-efficient and will save money during the holiday season, making them ideal decorations, Coffin says. LED lights are virtually indestructible, last longer than standard holiday lights, reduce the risk of fire and stay lit if a single light goes out. With no filament or glass bulb in LED lights, they convert electricity directly to light without the heat. The average cost of using a 500-foot string of the old C7 type holiday lights for six hours a day for 40 days (240 hours) is \$134, according to Coffin. C7 lights are the old large light strings that get hot. Many people already have switched to mini-lights or twinkle lights, which cost about \$35 a season to use. New LED holiday lights cost even less to run: less than \$3 for the whole season, or 2 percent of the cost of the old C7 lights. Many families may find they can pay back the cost of new LED lights in one season, says Coffin. LED flickering lights, which imitate flickering candles without the fire hazard, smoke or dripping wax, also are available, she adds. Other cost-saving options for holiday lighting include fiber optic lighting that allows the illumination of multiple light points from one light source. Also, candelabra compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) are great for candlesticks, use about 80 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and last 10 times longer. "Rope lights" also are suitable for indoor or outdoor use, and are ideal for decorating trees or for outlining doors and windows, Coffin says. For more ideas on home energy conservation, visit the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Energy website at <http://umaine.edu/ext-energy/>.

Lobster Institute to Host Holiday Lobster and Wine Feast to Honor Maine Lobster Chefs of the Year

23 Nov 2009

Contact: Cathy Billings at (207) 581-1443 ORONO -- The Lobster Institute at the University of Maine is planning a Holiday Lobster and Wine Feast on Thursday, Dec. 3 in Orono to celebrate a mother and son who are the last two winners of the Maine Lobster Promotion Council's Lobster Chef of the Year Award. Margaret McLellan took that honor in 2008; her son, MacKenzie Arrington, won the award this year. Their award-winning dishes will be served at the Dec. 3, event, which will also feature McLellan and Arrington discussing their creations. The event will also include Big Claw wine, just released this summer after having been created specifically to pair with lobster. A panel of wine and food professionals guided the design of Big Claw, created by Steve Melchiskey of USA Wine West (with offices in California and Maine) and Tim Wissemann of Portland's Mariner Beverages. Sales of Big Claw benefit the Lobster Institute. As an additional treat, UMaine's female student a capella group, Renaissance, will provide entertainment. The event is a fundraiser that will support the Lobster Institute's efforts to help sustain a healthy lobster resource and vital lobster fishing communities. It is scheduled at Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine in Orono, starting with a 6:30 p.m. reception, followed by dinner and entertainment. Cost is \$150 per couple or a table of eight for \$500. Those interested in attending can contact the Lobster Institute at (207) 581-1443 or check the Lobster Institute's website at www.lobsterinstitute.org.

UMaine Extension Water Education Training Dec. 8

24 Nov 2009

Contact: Laura Wilson (207) 581-2971 lwilson@umext.maine.edu ORONO, Me. —University of Maine Cooperative Extension Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) training is scheduled for Dec. 8 at the Hampden Town Office on Western Ave. The training will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. Registration is \$30 and includes the Project WET activity guide. For more information or registration, contact Laura Wilson at (207) 581-2971 or e-mail

lwilson@umext.maine.edu. You can also visit the events calendar at extension.umaine.edu. Formal and information educators such as Girl Scout, Boy Scout, 4-H leaders, or home schooler parents, will all benefit from the Project WET training. Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide lessons incorporate a variety of formats, such as large and small group learning, whole-body activities, laboratory investigations, discussion of local and global topics, and community service projects. The guide also features cross-reference and planning charts, a glossary, and background material on activity development and field-testing. The Project WET training will be geared toward the age and grade level taught by the participants, so the demonstration activities will be relevant. For more information or registration, contact Laura Wilson at (207) 581-2971 or e-mail lwilson@umext.maine.edu. Those who are interested may also visit the events calendar at extension.umaine.edu. Registration is limited to 20 participants. Portland Water District, whose water education programs reach more than 2,000 students each year, is the primary sponsor of Project WET in Maine. Other sponsors include the University of Maine's Mitchell Center and Poland Spring Bottling Company. For more information about Project WET, visit the national Project WET site, <http://www.projectwet.org/>. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

University of Maine Museum of Art Press Conference, 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 30

24 Nov 2009

Contact: Joe Carr, 581-3571; Kathryn Jovanelli, 561-3350 The University of Maine Museum of Art will hold a news conference to announce an important gift to the community in 2010 from Machias Savings Bank. The announcement will take place at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 30. The museum is located at 40 Harlow St. in Bangor.

Two UMaine Students Gain Early Admission to Tufts Medical School

24 Nov 2009

Contact: Kristen Andresen at (207) 581-3742 kristen.andresen@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Applying to medical school can be a full-time job. But for two University of Maine juniors, the job has become a lot easier. Microbiology major Jonathan Pelletier of Falmouth, Maine, and biochemistry major Aaron Perreault of Northfield, N.H., recently learned that they had received early acceptance to Tufts University School of Medicine through the Maine Track Early Assurance program. Born of a partnership between Tufts and Maine Medical Center, this new program reserves a limited number of slots per year for students from UMaine System institutions, Bowdoin, Bates and Colby. That two this year's slots went to UMaine students underscores the quality of UMaine's pre-med offerings. "It does speak to the fact that we are preparing students well for medical school," says Robert Gundersen, chair of UMaine's Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology. "This lets (Jonathan and Aaron) approach the next two years focusing on what they need to learn, instead of all the other things they need to focus on in order to get into medical school." Though they will still need to complete their course requirements, Pelletier and Perreault can skip the MCATs and the rigorous application process. "Academically, it is an honor and I'm thrilled to have it," says Pelletier, an Honors student and Microbiology major from Falmouth, Maine. "In terms of academic mobility, it has freed me up to do some really cool things this year." At UMaine, Pelletier researches arsenic in relation to mast cells in Professor Julie Gosse's lab. He is passionate about philanthropic medicine and plans to spend the summer of 2010 volunteering in an orphanage in Peru. Last summer, he received a Rezendes Global Services Scholarship from UMaine's Honors College that allowed him to volunteer in a clinic in Pommern, Tanzania. Pelletier also will use the extra time afforded by the Maine Track program to pursue his passion for music. Perreault, a Biochemistry major and Honors student from Northfield, N.H., works in Professor Carol Kim's lab as part of her research to develop a zebrafish model for studying cystic fibrosis. Perreault always had an interest in medicine, but a presentation by UMaine alumnus and Nobel laureate Dr. Bernard Lown cemented his decision to become a doctor. "When he came here, he really inspired me and showed me that this profession can be really rewarding and you can go a long way with it, as he's done," Perreault said. About Tufts Maine Track: Tufts Maine Track is a partnership between Maine Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine that offers clinical training experiences in Maine and exposes medical students to aspects of rural practice and training in a major tertiary medical center.

UMaine Museum of Art Announces Free Admission in 2010

30 Nov 2009

Nov. 30, 2009 Contact: George Kinghorn, 561-3354 BANGOR -- As the holiday season commences, the University of Maine Museum of Art announces a wonderful gift to the community and region -- another year of free admission. Through the generosity of Machias Savings Bank the Museum of Art will continue to open its doors for all individuals and groups to enjoy the Museum in 2010 without charge. This is an extension of the bank's gift of free admission in 2008, in memory of the late UMMA benefactor Edward "Ted" Leonard III. "Machias Savings Bank lost a good friend three years ago, Attorney Edward "Ted" Leonard," says Ed Hennessey, president of Machias Savings Bank. "We wanted to do something special in his memory. Knowing Ted was a big supporter of the University of Maine Museum of Art, we felt it was extremely worthwhile to make a contribution in his memory. We worked with the Museum so that our donation could be used to provide free admission for visitors as Ted wanted many people to visit the Museum. We are pleased that we are able to make our third donation in his name and continue to offer free admission to the public." As a result of the Machias Savings Bank's sponsorship, the museum has seen a 56 percent increase in attendance. In addition, many are first-time visitors. "We are so appreciative of Machias Savings Bank's ongoing support," says UMMA Director George Kinghorn. "Through this gift we are able to provide the community and region access to the permanent collection, changing exhibitions and an exciting array of educational programs. We would certainly not have seen such positive attendance numbers and so many new faces coming through our doors, without the support of Machias Savings Bank."

Maple Grading School this Week in Skowhegan

01 Dec 2009

Contact: Kathy Hopkins at 474-9622 SKOWHEGAN -- The sixth annual Maple Grading School is scheduled for Thursday Dec. 3 and Friday Dec. 4 at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Somerset County office, 7 County Drive in Skowhegan. Maine will host this event for the first time. It brings together maple producers, bulk syrup buyers, state inspectors and others who might need to accurately grade maple syrup or judge maple products in a context setting. The school will provide participants with a scientific base along with hands-on exercises. Maple syrup production is on the rise in northeastern North America, and proper grading plays an important role in helping determine the purity and natural content of products, which affect pricing. Consistent understanding of grading among U.S. and Canadian producers can yield significant benefits for consumers. UMaine Extension Educator Kathy Hopkins will be available at the event on Thursday and Friday. She works with maple syrup producers statewide, and she has conducted research on important issues facing the maple industry including studies related to food safety and consumer acceptance of maple products.

Greater Bangor Area NAACP and UMaine to Host 2010 MLK Breakfast Celebration Jan. 18

02 Dec 2009

Contact: Diane Khiel (dkhiel@adelphia.net) ORONO -- The Greater Bangor Area NAACP and the University of Maine will present the 2010 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Celebration on Monday, Jan. 18, 2010 at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. The event is scheduled for 8:30-10:30 a.m., with doors opening at 8 a.m. The Destiny Worship Praise Team, a diverse group of gospel singers from the nondenominational Destiny Worship Center of Brewer, Maine, is scheduled to perform from 8:00-8:30 a.m., and the UMaine female student singing group Renaissance will close the program. Rev. Dr. Phil Ertha, a nationally-known and highly regarded preacher, soloist, and writer, will be this year's keynote speaker. Rev. Ertha, a Vietnam veteran who has roots in the Bangor area, will examine the status of Dr. King's dream in 2010. In commenting about Rev. Ertha, civil rights legend Andrew Young once remarked, "[Rev. Ertha] is one of the most dynamic preachers I have ever heard. He captures audiences young and old, black and white." Tickets for the 2010 Breakfast are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65 and over, \$10 for high school and college students with ID, and \$10 for children 12 and younger. A sell-out crowd is expected, so those interested in attending are encouraged to purchase tickets early by calling (207) 581-1428.

Maine Tree Club Planning 2010 Outings

04 Dec 2009

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205 PORTLAND, ME— Maine residents 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 collaborate to manage the club and plan activities. 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 and there is no deadline for registration. Those interested may request a free informational brochure by calling University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 800-287-1471. The Maine Tree Club is planning at least three outings around the state in 2010 to get people into the woods for hands-on learning and enjoyment. These outings, guided by experts, are planned for the mountains and coastal regions as well as other parts of Maine. Through these outings and twice-monthly fact sheets featuring different Maine tree species, club members will learn to recognize 50 different types of trees over a period of two years and gain skills that can be applied in their own yards and communities. Participants receive additional materials including a 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. UMaine Extension programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with program goals.

UMaine Graduate Student Collaborates with Cheese Maker on Omega-3 Fortified Cheese

09 Dec 2009

Contact: Brianna Hughes, 207-837-2872 ORONO – What do goats and fish have in common? Not much until UMaine graduate student Brianna Hughes and Seal Cove Farm proprietor Barbara Brooks got together to talk about fortifying goat cheese with highly purified omega-3-rich fish oil. The project, funded by Maine Technology Institute, blends the mission of the University of Maine and the focus of its Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition to deliver a new line of heart-healthy artisan cheese for Seal Cove Farm. Seal Cove Farm, established in 1976, is situated in Lamoine, Maine and produces approximately 700 pounds of cheese per week in season. The farm continually offers new varieties of cheese and is expanding to anticipate consumer demands. As one of the fastest growing trends in the food industry, omega-3 fish oil research is one of the focuses in associate professor of food science and human nutrition Denise Skonberg's lab in Hitchner Hall. Her graduate student Brianna Hughes has been working on omega-3 fortification of cheese as part of her master's thesis project, and when the opportunity to work with Brooks was presented by Beth Calder, food science specialist with UMaine's Cooperative Extension, it was a perfect fit for everyone, according to Skonberg. The cheese is made with fresh milk from Seal Cove Farm, using the farm's proprietary recipe for a creamy goat cheese more commonly called chevre. It is a three-day process from the time the milk is pasteurized, cultured, set and separated; it is this lengthy process that produces the celebrated Seal Cove Farm chevre. The combination of a healthy, calcium-rich cheese, plus the addition of omega-3-rich oil is now ready for consumer feedback. On Wednesday, Dec. 9, between 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4 p.m.-6 p.m., a public tasting of four of the omega-3 fortified cheeses was scheduled at the Consumer Testing Center, Room 158, Hitchner Hall. The sensory test gauges consumer interest in the fortified cheese, as well as to see how consumers like the addition of the omega-3 oil.

UMaine Roundtable Takes Up Green Jobs for Women Dec. 11

10 Dec 2009

News advisory - Dec. 10, 2009 Contact: Sharon Barker, 581-1508 ORONO -- What is a "green" job and how do you get one? This question and others will be up for exploration Friday, Dec. 11, from 1-4 p.m. at the UMaine Wells Conference Center, as the Women's Resource Center sponsors a public roundtable discussion on well-paying, career-track green jobs for women. Maine Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman will be present to offer perspectives, along with representatives from business, labor, academia, state government, advocacy groups and worker factions. Discussions will cover: - What are green jobs and what skill sets or degrees are needed for green employment? - How can government, education and the private sector utilize green policies and -practices to strengthen Maine's economy? - Do women experience barriers or challenges when they attempt to pursue green employment? - And why does supporting

an environmental policy make good business sense? The public is invited to attend and participate in the discussions. The event will provide a chance for people from various sectors and perspectives to become more aware of the opportunities and challenges of increasing participation of women in a critical, growing segment of the economy. The program is offered at no cost thanks to financial support from the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor, and in collaboration with the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education and the Maine Department of Labor. For more information, call (207) 581-1508.

UMaine Professor Named IEEE Fellow

22 Dec 2009

Contact: Professor John Vetelino, (207) 581-2264; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – University of Maine electrical and computer engineering Professor John Vetelino has been conferred as a 2010 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Fellow. Vetelino received the honor for his contributions to acoustic wave properties of piezoelectric crystals and their application in sensors. The IEEE Grade of Fellow is conferred by the Board of Directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in any of the IEEE fields of interest. The total number selected in any one year does not exceed one-tenth of one percent of the total voting membership of the institute, making it a very prestigious honor. “His IEEE award is the first for any electrical and computer engineering faculty in the state of Maine and possibly any engineer in Maine,” according to UMaine Electrical and Computer Engineering Department Chair Mohamad Musavi, who nominated Vetelino for the award. To become an IEEE Fellow, the nominee must have accomplishments that have contributed importantly to the advancement or application of engineering, science and technology, bringing the realization of significant value to society. “He is a devoted scientist, educator, and public servant who has made significant contributions to the area of bulk and surface acoustic waves and their applications in sensor science and technology,” Musavi wrote of Vetelino in his nomination. At UMaine, Vetelino is one of the founding members of the Laboratory for Advanced Surface Science and Technology (LASST), an interdisciplinary research facility focusing on research of advanced materials in areas related to microelectronics, sensors, composites, paper, and biotechnology. He received the UMaine Distinguished Maine Professor Award in 2008, and the UMaine Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 1980. In addition to advising more than 50 masters and doctoral candidates, Vetelino has received more than 100 science and education research contracts totaling more than \$25 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Defense (DOD), government laboratories, and industrial laboratories. He also received 25 NSF science education grants for involving highly qualified undergraduates in state-of-the-art research. The numerous research breakthroughs by Vetelino and his research groups have resulted in the incubation of several small sensor companies from Dr Vetelino's group, namely, Mainely Sensors, Sensor Research and Development Corporation, BIODE Corporation and Microconversion Technology. He also consults with government laboratories and many industries and serves as a reviewer for several scientific journals and government funding agencies. When asked what the award meant to him, Vetelino said he has received other recognition for his work, but that being named an IEEE is significant. “It’s probably the highest award that an electrical engineer can ever receive,” he says. “It’s an award that requires a tremendous amount of scrutiny in terms of the nomination process, and then in how the actual award winner is chosen.” He noted that the competition in the northeast region is particularly tough because he was up against researchers from institutions such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard, Yale and Columbia universities. Vetelino formally will be recognized in October 2010 as an IEEE Fellow at the IEEE Ultrasonics Symposium in San Diego, California.

UMaine Professor Elected Vice-President/President of Phycological Society of America

30 Dec 2009

Contacts: Susan Brawley, (207) 581-2973; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777

University of Maine marine sciences Professor Susan Brawley has been elected as the vice-president/president elect of the Phycological Society of America for 2010. She will serve as President of the Society in 2011.

“I am pleased and honored to serve my research field in this position because of the strength of the Society and its potential to contribute even more to important scientific discoveries and policy in the future,” says Brawley.

The Phycological Society of America was founded in 1946 to promote research and teaching in all fields of the biology of algae. The society publishes the Journal of

Phycology, which Brawley served as editor from 1996-2001, and the Phycological Newsletter.

The Journal is the highest-impact scholarly publication in the field of phycology and one of the top impact journals in all of marine and freshwater biology.

Brawley's research interests include reproductive biology and ecology, algal genomics, and invasive marine species. During her term as vice president, Brawley says she will begin to plan and implement the major objectives she has for when she becomes president for the society, which include bringing the best algal science and scientists to the table in federal policy related to climate change, biofuels, prevention of biological invasions, aquaculture, and pharmaceutical discovery.

She also hopes to engage members of the society in stronger public education about the algae, ranging from their importance as oxygen producers for the planet to their intrinsic beauty and interest.