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Cooperative Extension and DLL Strategic Partnership

John C. Volin

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

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Cooperative Extension and DLL Strategic Partnership

1 message

UMaine Provost <umprovost@maine.edu>
Reply-To: UMaine Provost <umprovost@maine.edu>
To: UM-EMPLOYEES@lists.maine.edu

Fri, Apr 29, 2022 at 12:18 PM

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to let you know about some exciting changes coming this summer. The Division of Lifelong Learning (DLL) completed a sustained and generative process of self-study and external review last year. This process, in conjunction with the departure of Associate Provost Monique LaRocque, has created an opportunity for a strategic realignment of DLL to better serve our students, faculty, staff and the people of the state of Maine. This reorganization will accelerate more flexible, high-quality digital learning options and transformative learning experiences to better serve our students at the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias, in addition to audiences and stakeholders across this state.

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Hannah Carter, currently Dean of Cooperative Extension, will be taking on a second role, Associate Provost for Online and Continuing Education, beginning July 1. Many of you already know Hannah, who joined the University of Maine community in 2019, as a gifted, strategic, and caring leader. A Caribou native, she received her Ph.D. and master's degree in agricultural education and communication from the University of Florida, specializing in agricultural leadership and Extension education. To support the day-to-day operations of Cooperative Extension, a new position, Associate Dean of Cooperative Extension, has been created and a national search will begin soon.

As part of this reorganization, the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning is moving under the leadership of Dr. Jessica Miller, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development. The Bureau of Labor Education and the Hutchinson Center will sit within Cooperative Extension. And with the forthcoming retirement of the current Director of Online Student Services, Dagmar Moravec, a search for an Executive Director of Academic Program Support will be launched to lead UMaineOnline, Winter Session and Summer University, Travel Study, Early College, and the Bachelor of University Studies. Earlier this year, Student Success and TRIO programming that were formerly in DLL transitioned to the Associate Provost for Student Success and Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Brian Olsen.

The newly reimagined DLL, in synergistic partnership with Cooperative Extension, is poised to lead the development, implementation and assessment of innovative and impactful digital strategies. We will develop a holistic and inclusive digital learning strategy and steward the expansion of online offerings and credentials to respond to changing workforce needs and learner preferences, prioritizing accessibility, flexibility, and lifelong learning. With this reorganization and the appointment of Dean Carter as Associate Provost for Online and Continuing Education, the University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias are closer to realizing our full potential of providing an innovative hybrid learning experience that meets a broad range of students where they are.

Best regards,

John

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