Maine Memo — Congratulations, Class of 2024

Joan Ferrini-Mundy
Dear University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias communities,

Congratulations to our graduating class of 2024! 🎓

The weather is warm, trees and flowers are blooming, folks are out on the mall, and our 2024 spring semester is concluding. Since elementary school, I have loved this time of year, when we complete certain chapters and begin new ones with events and ceremonies that honor traditions and celebrate achievement and accomplishment.

Speaking of achievements, we have a very big honor to recognize here at UMaine. Dr. Daniel H. Sandweiss, professor of anthropology and quaternary and climate studies, has recently been elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). NAS is the most prestigious scientific organization in the world, and this recognition is extraordinarily well deserved. President Abraham Lincoln founded the NAS in 1863, and since its inception, there has only been one other UMaine member, George Denton, who was elected in 2002. Thanks, Dr. Sandweiss, for what you do for the University of Maine!

As final exams conclude, spend time with friends, family, mentors, partners, and your peers in celebration of your time at the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias. To the over 2,200 graduates, no matter what is next for you, stay connected to...
what you experienced here at UMaine and the people who came to mean a lot to you. We will miss you.

Your journey here has not only been about learning from us but also about teaching us. We are a better and changed institution because of you. Our commitments to inclusion, kindness, and compassion define our universities and support our engagement in open, respectful dialogue on challenging and complex issues. Thanks to all of you who have furthered those commitments at UMaine. I hope you will carry them with you into whatever is next.

Stay in contact as you move forward, and let us know how you are doing. We will be here for you to visit us. As a student, a future faculty member or an alum, you can count on being welcomed back to campus with a Hearty Maine Hello.

Congratulations to the graduates. See you at commencement!

Sincerely,

Joan Ferrini-Mundy
President

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