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Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board

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Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board

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How Science and Technology Can Drive Economic Growth and Benefit All Maine People



Welcome

The Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board (MIEAB) coordinates R&D activities and foster collaboration among public, private, and nonprofit research institutions and the business community. The Board, all appointed by the Governor, the president of the Maine Technology Institute, and the director of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, prepare a plan every four years to set a path towards economic prosperity through the advancement of science and technology. Additionally, the board serves at the state's Joint Steering Committee and oversees EPSCoR programming in Maine.

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Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board

About MIEAB

In 2007, the state of Maine established the Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board (MIEAB) to coordinate R&D activities and foster collaboration among public, private, and nonprofit research institutions and the business community. The board, all appointed by the Governor, as well as the president of the Maine Technology Institute and the director of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. MIEAB also serves as Maine's Joint Steering Committee for the federal Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This program helps strengthen the innovation infrastructure of regions with historically low levels of R&D activity.

[Maine
EPSCoR](#)

[MIEAB
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Board Members

The Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board includes the directors of the Maine Technology Institute and the state's Office of Innovation, plus thirty individuals appointed by the Governor to represent Maine's private, public, and nonprofit research institutions, businesses, higher education, and venture capital. As of March 2023, members are:



Joan Ferrini-Mundy Ph.D. (Chair)

President, University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias,
Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, University of Maine
System



Deborah Bronk Ph.D.

President/Chief Executive Officer, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean
Sciences



Denise Bruesewitz Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Colby College



Patricia Hand Ph.D.

Senior Advisor to the President, MDI Biological Laboratory



Emily Christy

Consultant/Advisor, Tiny Barrel Ventures



Karen Houseknecht Ph.D.

Associate Provost for Research and Professor of Pharmacology,
University of New England



Barry Antonio Costa-Pierce Ph.D.

President/CEO, Ecological Aquaculture Foundation and Professor of Biosciences & Aquaculture, Nord University, Norway



Amber Lambke

Co-founder/CEO, Maine Grains



Patrick Cunningham

President/Chief Executive Officer, Blue Marble Geographics



Emily B. Lane

President, Blue Lobster Consulting LLC



Christopher Davis Ph.D.

Executive Director, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center



Joe Powers

Managing Director, Maine Venture Fund



Kate Dickerson

Executive Director, Maine Discovery Museum



Kris Sahonchik

Director, University of Southern Maine Research and Catherine Cutler Institute



Habib Dagher Ph.D.



Topaz Smith

Executive Director, University of Maine
Advanced Structures and Composites Center



Michael A. Duguay

Founder, EN-NOBLE



Dianne Tilton

Executive Director, Harold Alfond Institute for Business Innovation,
Thomas College

Executive Director, Downeast Institute



John Ferland

President, Ocean Renewable Power Company



Stephen Von Vogt

Chief Executive Office, Maine Marine Composites



Brian Whitney

President,
Maine Technology Institute



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Educational Resources

Public science events in Maine

Events	Organization / Company	Location	Date / Time	Participants	Audience	Additional Information
Maine Sustainability & Water Conference	Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions	Augusta	March	professionals, researchers, consultants, citizens, students, regulators, and planners	professionals, researchers, consultants, citizens, students, regulators, and planners	https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/news/maine-water-co
Maine Science Podcast	Maine Discovery Museum	anywhere	n/a	scientists, researchers, science practitioners in Maine	adults	https://www.mainediscoverymuseum.org/msp
Maine Science Festival (70+ events & activities)	Maine Discovery Museum	Bangor	3rd week of March	adults	all ages (audience)	www.mainesciencefestival.org MSF – Science Trivia (Wed). Kick off event. Adults MSF – Science on Tap (Thu). Talk in Bar. Adults MSF – Field Trip Day (Fri). 7th & 8th graders; signups by school MSF – Exploration Station (Sat). Largest number of events/activities – hands-on, workshops, forums, panels, games MSF – 5 Minute Genius™ (Sat). Headliner. (https://www.mainesciencefestival.org/5-minute-genius)

Climate on Tap	Climate Change Institute & Maine Discovery Museum	Bangor	last Thursday of month, during academic year	adults	adults	Talks by researchers/members of the Climate Change Ins
Maine State Aquarium	Department of Marine Resources	Boothbay Harbor	Summer, late June to Labor Day	general public, all ages	general public, all ages	https://www.bangordailynews.com/2024/05/09/midcoast-business/maine-state-aquarium-reopening-new-exhibits-four-years-xoasq1i29i/ https://www.boothbayregister.com/article/it-s-o-fish-al-a-opening-year/185679
Green ME Up!	Girl Scouts of Maine	LL Bean, Freeport	April	all ages, open to Girl Scouts and their families and the general public	all ages, open to Girl Scouts and their families and the general public	Hands on STEM fair with many organizational partners ce Earth Day themes, https://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/en/discover/activities-me-up.html
Maine Wildlife Park	Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	Gray	May-October	general public, all ages	general public, all ages	https://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife-park/index.html
Meet a Scientist	Hirundo Wildlife Refuge	Old Town	April/ May	general public, all ages	general public, all ages	https://www.hirundomaine.org/
Northern Maine Children's Water Festival	Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions	UMaine, Orono	October	middle school students (grades 4, 5, and 6)	middle school students (grades 4, 5, and 6)	https://umaine.edu/mitchellcenter/childrens-water-festiv
Windstorm Challenge	Advanced Structures & Composites Center	UMaine, Orono	May	middle and high school students	middle and high school students	https://composites.umaine.edu/windstorm-challenge/
Versant Power Astronomy Center	University of Maine	UMaine, Orono	Year-round	general public, all ages	general public, all ages	https://astro.umaine.edu/
STEM Fest	Owls Head Transportation Museum	Owls Head	26-Apr-2024	students, families	students, families	https://owlshead.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=18243
LabVenture	Gulf of Maine Research Institute	Portland	By appointment	K-12	K-12	https://gmri.org/projects/labventure/
Educator Professional Development Workshops	Gulf of Maine Research Institute	Portland	Summer	K-12 educators	K-12 educators	https://gmri.org/projects/teacher-professional-developm
Southern Maine	Maine Dept. of			middle school	middle school	

Children's Water Festival	Environmental Protection	Portland	May	students (grades 5 and 6)	students (grades 5 and 6)	https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/education/cwf/index.html Contact: Beth Chase (207) 592-6157
Women in Bioscience	Bioscience Association of Maine	Portland	May	adults	adults	
Southworth Planetarium	University of Southern Maine	Portland	Year round	general public, all ages	general public, all ages	https://usm.maine.edu/southworth-planetarium/
Experiential Science Programs for School Groups	Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership	Rockland	August-October, April-June	K-12	K-12	https://www.hurricaneisland.net/school-programs
Adult STEM programming	Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership	Rockland	Summer	adults	adults	https://www.hurricaneisland.net/adult-programs
Maine State Science Fair	The Jackson Laboratory & Maine Math & Science Alliance	rotating	March	high school students	high school students	
BioME Student Showcase	Bioscience Association of Maine	rotating	April	high school, undergraduate and graduate students	high school, undergraduate and graduate students	https://biomaine.org/biome-student-showcase/
Maine Invention Convention	Maine Discovery Museum	statewide	school year; finals at MSF	K-12	K-12	www.maineinvents.org
Ecosystem Investigation Network	Gulf of Maine Research Institute	statewide	Year round	K-12	K-12	https://investigate.gmri.org/project/for-groups
4-H STEM Toolkits	UMaine Cooperative Extension: 4-H	statewide	Year round	K-12 with kits in 4 grade level categories	K-12 with kits in 4 grade level categories	Free kits available for groups to check out: https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/stem-toolkits/
4-H Virtual Summer Learning Series	UMaine Cooperative Extension: 4-H	statewide	Summer	K-12, individual sessions include target ages	K-12, individual sessions include target ages	Some sessions focused on STEM: https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/summer-learning/
ME Bioscience Day	Bioscience Association of Maine	statewide	November	middle school students	middle school students	https://biomaine.org/me-bioscience-day/

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§949. Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board

1. Establishment. The Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board, referred to in this chapter as "the advisory board" and established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 6-G, is established to coordinate the State's research and development activities and to foster collaboration among its higher education and nonprofit research institutions and members of the business community.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

2. Appointment and composition. The advisory board consists of the following members:

A. Two ex officio members:

(1) The Director of the Maine Technology Institute, as established in Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 33-D, or the director's designee; and

(2) The Director of the Office of Innovation, as established in Title 5, section 13105, or the director's designee; and [PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

B. Thirty members appointed by the Governor:

(1) Seven representatives from the for-profit business community within the 7 targeted technologies as defined in Title 5, section 15301;

(2) Seven representatives involved with nonprofit research institutions within the 7 targeted technologies as defined in Title 5, section 15301;

(3) Four representatives from bioscience research laboratories;

(4) Two representatives from nonprofit research laboratories with main offices or headquarters in this State and demonstrated expertise and credentials in marine research;

(5) One representative of the University of Maine and one representative of the University of Southern Maine;

(6) Four representatives of private universities and colleges within the State;

(7) One representative of the University of Maine Center for Law and Innovation;

(8) One representative of the Small Enterprise Growth Program as established in section 381; and

(9) Two representatives with demonstrated expertise in venture capital. [PL 2021, c. 36, §12 (AMD).]

[PL 2021, c. 36, §12 (AMD).]

3. Terms; vacancies; limits. The term of office for members of the advisory board is 3 years. When a vacancy occurs, it must be filled by the same appointing authority, and the new member shall serve for the remainder of the term. Members who serve on the advisory board by virtue of their offices serve terms coincident with their terms in office. Members may continue to serve until their replacements are designated. A vacancy in a position held by an ex officio member that occurs other than by the expiration of a term must be filled by a designee appointed by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development for the unexpired term. A vacancy may not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the advisory board.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

4. Chair; election of officers. The members of the advisory board shall annually elect one of the advisory board's members as chair and one of its members as vice-chair to set the agenda and schedule meetings. The advisory board may elect other officers and designate their duties.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

5. Voting rights. Each member of the advisory board has a vote.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

6. Meetings. The advisory board shall hold quarterly meetings each year. Additional meetings may be held as necessary to conduct the business of the advisory board.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

7. Compensation. Members of the advisory board are not entitled to compensation.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

8. Adoption of bylaws. The advisory board shall adopt bylaws consistent with this section for the governance of its affairs and to address the resolution of conflicts of interest that may arise.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

9. Quorum. A majority of the members of the advisory board constitutes a quorum.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

10. Staff support. The Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Innovation shall provide staff support to the advisory board to carry out the purposes of this section.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

11. Powers and duties. The powers and duties of the advisory board are as set out in this subsection.

A. Every 5 years starting in 2010, the advisory board shall develop an innovation economy action plan for the application of science and technology to improve the State's position in the global economy. The plan must identify specific steps that public and private research institutions must implement to improve the State's science and technology infrastructure, goals for encouraging collaborative initiatives among public and private research institutions, steps that can be implemented immediately without new state funding and resources and steps that will require new state appropriations or major reallocation of state appropriations and resources. The plan must include numerical objectives, costs and an evaluation protocol, as well as a provision for assigning and ensuring accountability for those who receive state research and development funds. [PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

B. The advisory board shall assist state and federal policy makers in advancing research and development capacity initiatives in the State and in developing corresponding funding strategies; provide input on economic planning and the commercial application of the State's research and development efforts; facilitate research opportunities that create sustained, interinstitutional, collaborative, multidisciplinary, centers-based research projects; advocate for the State's research and development sector and interests; disseminate information about its work throughout the State; and serve as the EPSCoR steering committee, as referred to in Title 5, section 13110, for the State and evaluate proposals made to the Maine EPSCoR Program and related programs. [PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

12. Report. The advisory board shall submit a report on the innovation economy action plan developed under subsection 11 to the Maine Economic Growth Council by the first Wednesday in March every 5 years, beginning in 2010. The advisory board shall submit a progress report on the innovation economy action plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development matters and to the Governor by the first Wednesday in March of each year, beginning in 2008.

[PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2007, c. 420, §7 (NEW). PL 2021, c. 36, §12 (AMD).

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