



First-Year Student Success Initiative: Student Success Hub Working Group

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Run Time : 00:00:54

https://youtu.be/norj__4tf6E

Katie Taylor, Assistant Director of The First year and Transfer Center discusses the goals of the student success hub working group that is part of the First-Year Student Success Initiative at UMaine.

[background music]

Katie Taylor: The work of our group is to create a space for students, like a one-stop shop, a place where, if a student has nowhere else to go or has no idea where else to go, they can come here and get whatever answer they need. If they have a question about academics, financial aid, how to study, a resource, or anything like that, they could come here.

We'll refer them to where they need to go, call people, and make appointments for them, just a place to go. There's nothing worse than getting bounced around, especially when you're a new student, a first-year student, and you still have no idea which way is up. We stop the bouncing around.

I think it'll help improve tension. They won't feel as lost or as intimidated to go find a faculty member or go find an office. They'll just come here, see a friendly face, and we can be like, "Yes, we can help you with whatever you need."

The University of Maine in Orono is the flagship campus of the University of Maine System, where efforts toward racial equity are ongoing, as is the commitment to facing a complicated and not always just institutional history. The University recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot nation, where issues of water and its territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations — the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac — through kinship, alliances, and diplomacy. The university also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.