



Office of the President

President's Message to the Community: Feb. 6

February 6, 2018 [President's Messages](#)

Welcome back for the second half of our academic year. We have a particularly important semester ahead with numerous opportunities for engagement as members of a university community. I hope you'll take advantage of as many as possible.

This semester, we look forward to the assessment of our five-year strategic plan. As mentioned last fall, feedback on our institutional road map these past five years from members of the UMaine community serves as the springboard for UMaine's next strategic plan. The assessment being compiled also will inform the next leadership team for the state's flagship university.

We all have an important role to play in these initiatives for the good of our campus.

One of my top priorities this semester is to do all I can to ensure a successful campus transition to the next president, and I hope you'll join me in that effort.

Finalists in the presidential search will be on campus this month. Please find time to attend open forums and submit feedback to the search committee. It's critically important that the perspectives of faculty, staff, students and all stakeholders are represented.

Engaging and informing our campus community has been an important part of the fabric of the University of Maine in recent years. We've ensured that transparency and engagement are part of UMaine's yearlong budget planning process, with open forums and feedback forms.

And as you heard last week in a message from Human Resources, thanks to your feedback we now have UMS Academy, providing online and on-demand resources for professional and personal development, as well as easy-to-access bundled UMS mandatory training. If you missed the introductory email, you'll find more information [online](#).

As usual in our spring semesters, there are countless opportunities to be active and engaged in our community — from the annual Career Fair and the Engineering Expo (on campus this year) to our Black History Month observance and numerous athletic events.

So please, get out and get involved — stay active, be engaged and enjoy this spring semester. I know I will.