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President's Report 2016

Susan J. Hunter
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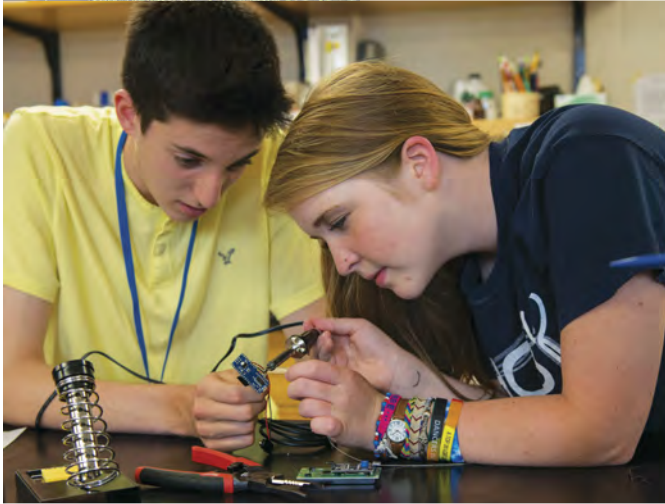
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President's **Report** | *2016*





President's **Report** | 2016



President Susan J. Hunter

With its statewide mission, the University of Maine has a responsibility to communities and citizens to accomplish what matters to Maine.

Maine's economic vitality and growth — from preparing the state's workforce to innovating to turn knowledge into solutions — are inextricably linked to the state's only public research university. UMaine also has a leading role in the state's cultural identity and its civic integrity, providing opportunities for lifelong learning that contribute to quality of life.

The best work of Maine's flagship university occurs in collaboration with its public and private partners, all of whom share our long-standing dedication to moving Maine forward.

I am an ardent believer in the power of education to markedly change and improve lives. That is the value of higher education and a special duty of public institutions that have the potential to affect citizens of all ages, across their lifespans.

In this *President's Report* are highlights of those achievements — strengths that serve as springboards for the future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan J. Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background.

Points of Pride

Maine's public research university is student-centered, with a focus on undergraduate and graduate research throughout Maine and around the world. UMaine's teaching, research, scholarship, innovation and public service are recognized for excellence statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally.

UMaine has:

- Partnerships in innovation and economic development statewide, helping turn knowledge into solutions to benefit Maine.
- 107,000 alumni worldwide.
- Students from every county in Maine, 49 U.S. states and territories, and 65 countries.
- An enrollment of 11,219.
- Nearly 100 undergraduate majors and academic programs.
- 80 master's degrees and 30 doctoral degrees.
- Maine's only NCAA Division I athletics program.
- Lowest in-state tuition rate of New England flagship universities.
- Student research spanning the breadth and depth of undergraduate and graduate studies.
- Statewide presence with 16 UMaine Cooperative Extension offices, five research field stations, a marine sciences research facility in Walpole and an incubation facility in Franklin.
- One of the nation's oldest honors programs.
- 15 Signature and Emerging Areas of Excellence.
- The most comprehensive academic offerings in the state.
- World-class faculty committed to mentoring and actively engaging students in research and scholarship.
- Community engagement opportunities — from the Maine Hello tradition to volunteerism, internships, travel-study courses and study abroad — igniting passion in students, and helping address issues locally and globally.
- 2015 Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation.
- More than 200 student clubs and organizations.
- The state's largest library.
- 15 miles of running, biking and cross-country skiing trails on campus.



Experience a distinctive array of student research, scholarship and creative achievement opportunities

Serving Maine

The University of Maine is the state's only public research university. As a land grant and sea grant university, UMaine's mission is to provide teaching, research and economic development, and engagement that serve the state.



Enrollment

Innovative Campaign

- UMaine is one year into a major, ongoing campaign to increase new student enrollment — an effort that resulted in the first-ever university-wide waitlist and the largest incoming class in the institution's history.
- Flagship Match, launched this past academic year, attracted 38 percent more out-of-state students for the fall 2016 semester.
- The Maine Matters Scholarship Program was created and launched to allow Maine students the opportunity to receive some form of academic scholarship up to and including full tuition and fees.
- A new study by Professor of Economics Todd Gabe shows that out-of-state undergraduate students annually generate about \$160 million in economic activity in Maine. Surveys of recent UMaine graduates found that about 20 percent of students from out of state with bachelor's degrees choose to stay in the state to live and work.



Where students define tomorrow

Think 30

Cost Savings — Retention and Graduation

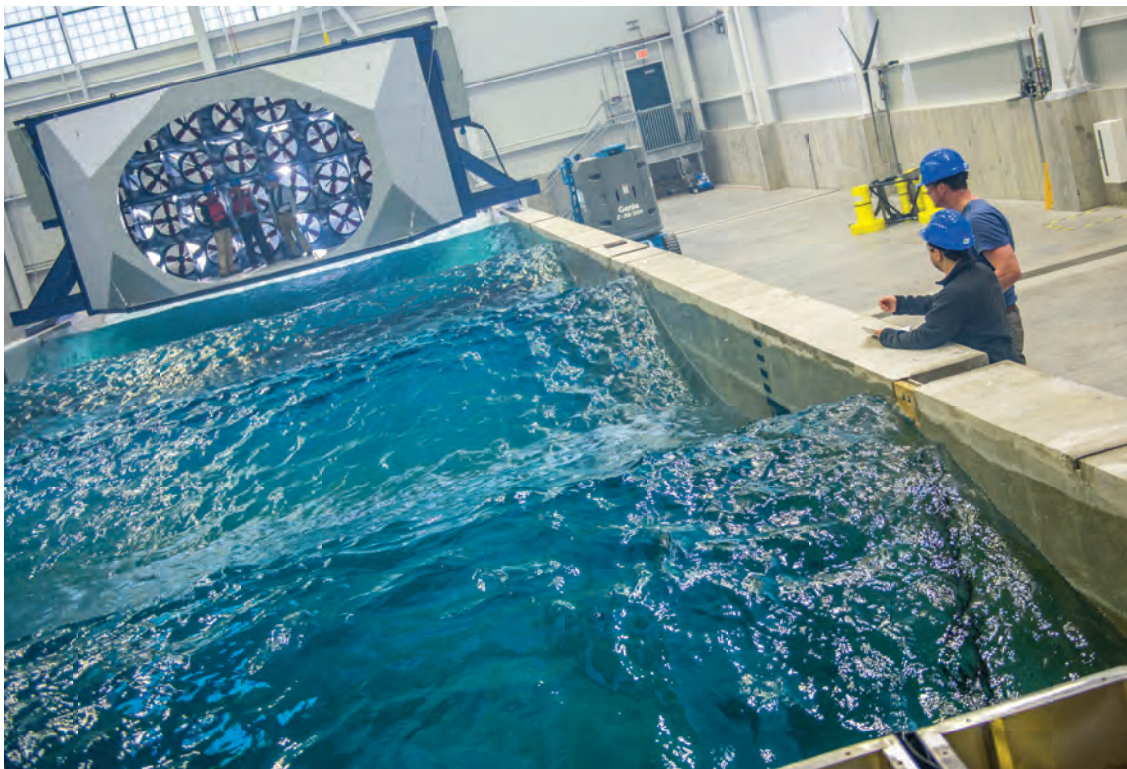
- UMaine is focused on student success, which involves ensuring affordability, engagement, retention and graduation. One of the biggest UMaine student success initiatives, Think 30, launched in summer 2015. UMaine is committed to providing high-quality education at a cost that is within reach of families with college-bound students. It also is concerned about what it costs students to earn a college degree. Think 30 encourages full-time undergraduates to complete 30 credits per year — and makes it easier for them to do that — so they can graduate in four years while saving money and reducing their debt. Students are encouraged to take advantage of Winter Session, Summer University and year-round online courses.
- A key part of the Think 30 initiative was the reintroduction of Winter Session. Nearly 700 students took advantage of the opportunity to complete one of the 21 fully online courses available.
- The average student debt for typical UMaine graduates increases by 38 percent when they finish in five years instead of four. For those who graduate in six years, it's 52 percent higher.
- An estimated 67 percent of UMaine students who completed 30 or more credit hours before their second year of study graduated in four years. By contrast, only 4 percent of students who completed 20 or fewer credit hours in their first year went on to graduate in four years.
- Preliminary analysis indicates a significant jump in the number of first-year students who completed 30 credit hours in 2015–16, putting them on the right track to graduate in four years.
- UMaine's Think 30 initiative has drawn national attention and was featured as a best practice by the education consulting group EAB.



Classes offered year-round as part of Think 30



Nearly 100 undergraduate majors and programs, as well as master's and doctoral degree programs



The only public research university in the state

Financial Responsibility

- UMaine had a balanced FY16 and FY17 unrestricted (Educational & General, Auxiliary and Designated) base budget.
- UMaine Facilities Management oversaw numerous capital improvement, maintenance and energy projects campuswide. Energy procurement contracts saved approximately \$1.7 million and, since 2006, UMaine's campus carbon footprint has decreased 28 percent.
- UMaine plays an essential role in advancing the University of Maine System's vision, one goal of which is to create a sustainable public university system that will serve the state well into the future. Every college in the University of Maine is participating in this UMS One University initiative.

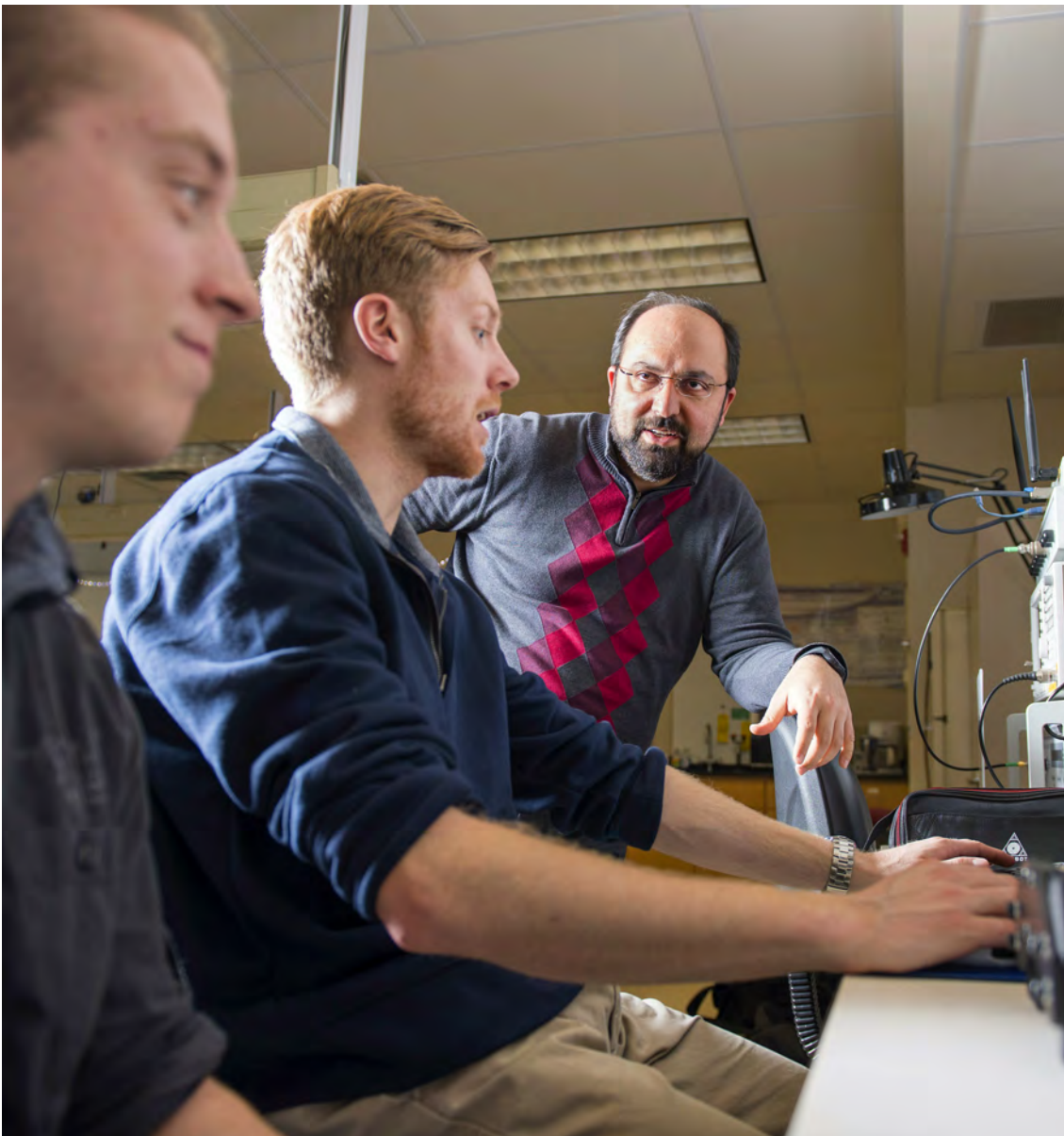
Workforce Development

UMaine continues to succeed in preparing new graduates for the workforce.

- UMaine grants more master's degrees and doctoral degrees than any other institution in the state.
- Seventy-five percent of recent UMaine graduates are employed full-time. Of those, 90 percent of Maine Business School students and 86 percent of College of Engineering students are employed full-time.
- UMaine students in multiple disciplines continue to pass and score exceptionally well on national certification and licensure exams. For example, 100 percent of UMaine's communication sciences and disorders students earned passing scores on the national Praxis Test in Speech-Language Pathology.
- College of Education and Human Development teacher certification programs graduate more elementary and secondary teachers than all other such programs in Maine combined.
- The School of Nursing is ensuring access to health care for rural Maine through its MSN-Family Nurse Practitioner program.
- Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is the only program preparing speech-language pathologists in Maine, and within six months of graduation, 100 percent of CSD graduates found employment in the field.
- UMaineOnline is growing enrollments in its online professional graduate programs, including a successful first year of the online Master of Social Work and a soft launch of a new online Master of Business Administration in spring 2016.
- One hundred percent of College of Education and Human Development students passed the Praxis II examination, the primary exam used across UMaine's teacher certification programs. For more than half of the students tested, reading scores exceeded the passing score by 20 points.

Internships and Hands-on Educational Opportunities

- Innovate for Maine Fellows, a program managed by UMaine's Foster Center for Student Innovation, selects the best and brightest college students with ties to Maine who are interested in innovation.
- The Maine Business School's new internship office has collaborations with nearly 90 employers.
- The College of Education and Human Development has statewide reach through its connections with nearly every preK–20 school and educational organizations in Maine. Examples include the Maine Autism Institute for Education and Research and Maine Department of Education Teacher Education State Accreditation Review Teams. Each semester, UMaine student-teachers are in more than 500 classrooms throughout Maine.



World-class faculty — leading researchers and scholars in their fields — mentor students

Research and Economic Development

- The more than \$1.8 million increase in UMaine's MEIF budget due to the support of the Governor and Legislature in FY16 supported and expanded research and development.
- UMaine is consistently ranked among the top 125 public universities for research in the National Science Foundation's Higher Education Research and Development Survey, and the university's Carnegie Classification remains in the High Research Activity category.
- During FY15 and FY16, extramural awards totaled nearly \$50 million each year. These grants fund research that benefits Maine — from Gulf of Maine ocean monitoring to rural middle school curriculum development.



Maine's partner in economic development, turning knowledge into solutions

- The National Science Foundation awarded UMaine a major EPSCoR award to establish a sustainable ecological aquaculture network for Maine. This statewide partnership, called SEANET, involves 10 other institutions, including the University of Maine at Machias and University of Southern Maine, to support Maine's aquaculture economic sector.
- Economic development initiatives are a focus of UMaine's 15 research centers and institutes. That includes research that leads to technology transfer, prototyping and spin-off companies.
- UMaine researchers produced economic impact estimates of the forest products industry and continued assessing the impacts of wildlife policy on forest management. Other economic impact studies focused on aquaculture, dairy farms, Colorado potato beetles, wild blueberries and local food.
- UMaine Extension engages in private food safety consulting and process authority food product reviews for new and existing companies statewide, and trained over 10,000 people in Maine in the past year. Its food process authority lab reviewed over 500 products, leading to added income and jobs in Maine and New Hampshire.
- Fogler Library, the state's largest library, offered consultation for small business owners. It assisted with 54 patent and trademark consultations.
- The Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research in Franklin, Maine has four companies using incubator facilities, with over 15 employees.
- Faculty in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture serve as cooperating scientists for the Maine Cooperative Forestry Research Unit, which represents commercial forest landowners holding approximately 8.5 million acres of forestland in Maine.

Service and Outreach

- School of Social Work students provided approximately 56,600 hours of service to more than 80 health and human service agencies in Maine and beyond.
- Climate Change Institute researchers are collaborating with the Maine CDC to develop regional-scale climate models for studying climate change impacts on airborne disease.
- University of Maine Humanities Center programs included Maine National History Day; Bangor Humanities Day; and the fourth annual statewide Humanities Summit, focused on veterans and the humanities.
- Volunteers with UMaine Extension contributed more than 5,000 hours in 2015 to grow a record-breaking donation of over 318,000 pounds of high-quality produce (value of \$537,000) to mitigate hunger, improve nutrition and health, and help recipients develop lifelong positive nutritional habits statewide.
- The Honors College connects its students to businesses, public service organizations and other social change agents.
- For 24 years, the College of Education and Human Development has been home to the University Training Center for Reading Recovery — an early intervention literacy program for first grade students. In addition, Maine Partnerships in Comprehensive Literacy provides professional development and training to teachers. These programs are now in more than 60 school systems statewide.



Conducts research in every county in Maine, on all continents and in the oceans of the world

Culture of Excellence

The University of Maine focuses on excellence in fulfilling its mission, and in its national and international contributions.

- UMaine continues to be ranked among the nation's top universities by U.S. News and World Report, and Princeton Review. The latter also cites UMaine as one of the nation's top green colleges.
- A benchmark of quality in graduate programs is the number of nationally competitive fellowships awarded to students. This academic year, the UMaine graduate student body includes five NSF graduate research fellows, two Switzer Environmental Fellows, and six Fulbright and USAID Prestasi Fellows.
- Nicholas Fried of Millerstown, Pennsylvania is the 2016 UMaine valedictorian and Connor Smart of Lincoln, Maine is the salutatorian. Fried majored in animal and veterinary sciences, with a minor in chemistry, and is pursuing an M.D./Ph.D. at Louisiana State University. Smart double majored in accounting and finance, and was the Outstanding Graduating Student in the Maine Business School. He was the 2012 valedictorian of Mattanawcook Academy. Smart is pursuing a career as a certified public accountant in Portland.
- More than half of UMaine student-athletes were honored this year for academic success. A record 218 were named UMaine Scholar-Athletes for achieving or maintaining a 3.0 GPA in calendar year 2015, and 79 new students were named Rising Stars for achieving 3.0 in their first semester.
- UMaine was selected as one of 37 institutions nationwide to host emerging public management leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa for an academic and leadership institute through the Mandela Washington Fellowship. This high-profile project is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and represents the flagship program of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative.
- In partnership with the other campuses in the University of Maine System, UMaine faculty have played lead roles in exploring ways to increase accessibility to, and enhance the quality of, UMS academic programs through collaboration. An example launching this fall is UMaine's Master of Education in Instruction Technology program, which will be delivered by UMaine, University of Southern Maine and University of Maine at Farmington.

Student Engagement

UMaine is a student-centered university and student success is at the core of its mission. Students are supported throughout their tenure at UMaine so that they graduate in a timely fashion and are prepared to succeed.

- Bodwell Center for Volunteerism and Service brokered some 30,000 hours of community service, provided mentors to local schools and supported numerous charitable agencies. Through its initiative “From a Day of Service to a Lifetime of Engagement,” the center involved 1,800 first-year students in a program of service beyond self.
- Veterans Education and Transition Services assisted and supported student veterans and their families with transition from soldier to scholar with certification, Veterans Week and the Student Veterans Association. UMaine is recognized as a Veteran Friendly University by the Military Friendly Schools Guide.
- Graduate Student Government and the Center for Undergraduate Research held the first combined graduate and undergraduate student research symposium at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor, attended by more than 1,000 individuals, including state and city government leaders, and Maine-based employers. The combined symposium proved highly successful.
- The Office of Multicultural Student Life was reorganized to reflect UMaine’s increasingly diverse campus. The office contributes to creating a campus climate that supports many identities, and encourages all students’ retention and success.
- Residence Life houses nearly 4,000 students in Living Learning Communities, and produces hundreds of academic and social programs annually to support student learning and personal development.



Home to one of the nation’s oldest and most prestigious honors programs

Looking Ahead

The University of Maine is in the fifth year of its strategic plan, which has been a road map for successfully meeting benchmarks in serving Maine, achieving a culture of excellence, and ensuring student engagement and success.

In continuing to chart our course for the future, we will be ever-mindful of the responsibility to be responsive to Maine's needs today and in the future.

The University of Maine will always be working for the state of Maine.

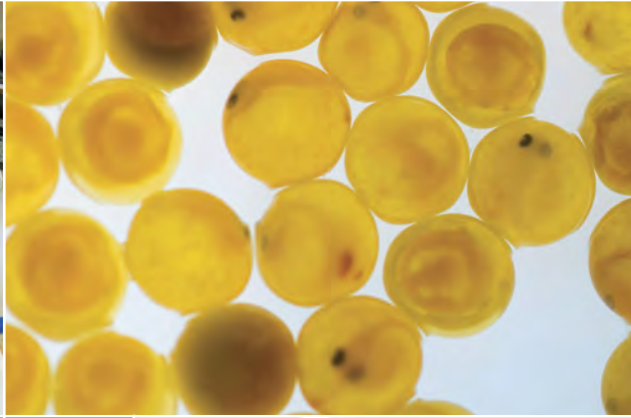
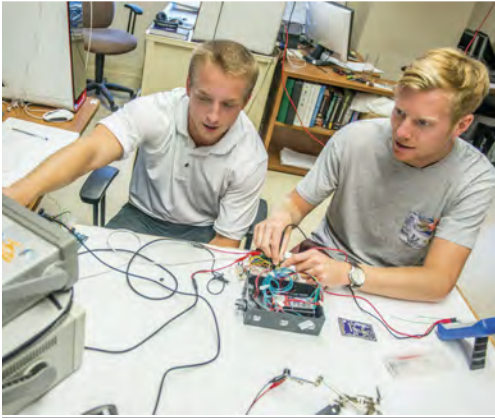
Public higher education has a particularly critical role to play in attracting and educating first-generation students who will be the workforce and engaged citizens of the future.

The University of Maine has a responsibility to increase the state's educational attainment in order to meet Maine's needs. UMaine also must build upon its partnerships with businesses and communities statewide, and uphold its significant national and international contributions that are crucial to its reputation as a research university.

And in the evolution of public higher education in Maine, we also have a leadership role to play, acting in a way that best serves the people of Maine. That is a long-standing commitment — and a promise — that the University of Maine makes to students, faculty, staff and the people of Maine.



Home to Maine's only NCAA Division I athletics program



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