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CURRENTS

University of Southern Maine

Volume 16, Number 6

April, 1998

Field House Opens

The USM community is invited to the official opening of the new field house on the Gorham campus, located in front of the Hill Gym. On Tuesday, May 5, on the anniversary of the groundbreaking for the field house and ice arena, students, faculty and staff will celebrate the opening of the second and larger of the two new structures, completing building construction for the Costello Sports Complex. The Ice Arena opened with a ribbon cutting and hockey game on Saturday, December 13.

The event includes a ribbon-cutting at 5 p.m. at the main entrance of the building, followed by a tour of the building. A barbecue that is free and open to the university community and by invitation to off-campus supporters, will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in front of the athletic complex. In case of rain, the barbecue will be held indoors.

"The arena and field house are part of our effort to direct resources so that we enhance our educational programs, improve the campus environment for students and support the quality of life we've come to appreci-

ate in Gorham," President Richard L. Pattenaude said when construction on the complex began.

Last fall, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees approved naming the athletic buildings—the field house, ice arena and Hill Gym—the Richard A. and Melissa H. Costello Sports Complex. Dick Costello served USM as athletic director for 37 years and was responsible for greatly expanding sports programs at USM. Melissa Costello was a professor of education at USM from 1953 to 1990. Both are emeriti professors. The Costello Sports Complex will be dedicated in a ceremony at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, June 20 during the USM 1998 Alumni Weekend.

Major features of the \$5.5 million field house include four tennis courts, a six-lane, 200-meter track, basketball courts, seating for 750, study areas and baseball/softball practice areas. Though open for community use, the 200' x 300' field house will be used primarily for student activities and as the headquarters for the sports medicine program, which offers the state's first major in athletic training; a health fitness major; and an exercise specialist major.

Commencement Notice

William Ryan, chairman, president and CEO of Peoples Heritage Financial Group, will be the speaker at USM's 1998 Commencement exercises, to be held beginning at 9 a.m., Saturday, May 16 in the Cumberland Civic Center. More information on the ceremony, awards recipients and emeriti faculty will be announced in the next issue of *Currents*, due out in early May.

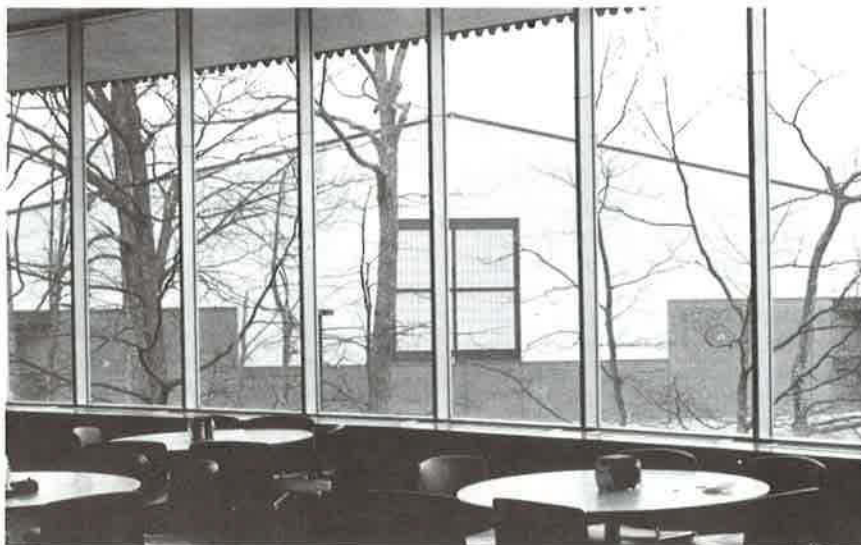
The Law School Convocation will be held at 2 p.m., the same day, Saturday, May 16.

The Ice Arena, which features the only Olympic-sized rink in Maine, was the first new building in 27 years to open on the Gorham campus. The Brooks Student Center and the Dickey-Wood Towers opened in 1970. Since opening in December, the ice arena, located directly behind the Warren G. Hill Gymnasium, has enjoyed steady use by university and community hockey teams and by members of the community during open-skating hours. The \$3.9 million arena, which was funded entirely through student fees, community user fees and private fund raising, includes a 200' x 100' ice surface for student and community use, seating for 950 and a large function room.

The athletic complex grew out of a 1994 external visiting committee which reported that USM's "rapidly growing programs" were in need of additional support "...to ensure the quality of current activities...and to alleviate the current pressure on overextended and inadequate facilities."

Additional improvements to athletics include updating the fitness facility and sports locker rooms in the older Hill Gym, enlarging playing

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The new field house, as seen from inside the Brooks Student Center dining room. Barrett photo



Assunta Kent, assistant professor of theatre, directs student actors, above with puppets, in "The Danube," which opens at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24. Barrett photo

Bold Eco-Drama

The Department of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine will celebrate Earth Day with a contemporary eco-fable. "The Danube," written by avant garde playwright Maria Irene Fornes, will be directed by Assunta Kent, assistant professor of theatre. The opening performance will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24. Post-show discussions will be held on Sunday, April 26 and Thursday, April 30. There will a joint reception for the Danube and for the concurrent art exhibit, "Below the Surface," from 3 to 5 p.m., on Sunday, April 26, with a choreographed dance piece by M.J. Emerson.

Kent selected "The Danube," in which the hero must choose between romance and career and decide whether to be an expatriate in Eastern Europe on the eve of World War II, because of its subtle interweave of social, political, and ecological themes and for its innovative staging techniques. Many scenes are begun by a language instruction tape, which seems to guide the characters' dialogue subconsciously. Near the end of the drama, actors replay a scene by manipulating puppet replicas of themselves. Fornes' approach highlights the extent to which we control, or are controlled by, our technologies and social conventions. In her 1996 book on Fornes, Kent notes that the playwright raises questions, points out paradoxes, and presents indelible images for the audience to ponder.

Tom Vail's intimate set suspends the sphere of human activity above the Danube river and changes the audience's perspective from the moment they enter the reversed

theatre space. Viewers will sit on-stage, while the action of the play takes place over the traditional theatre seats. This staging also allows for rear-projected scenic "postcards" designed by Sally Brett-Kelly of Kennebunkport. Period and character are enhanced by costumes and puppets designed by Susan Picinich, with lights by Joe Futral.

In conjunction with the play, "Below the Surface," an exhibition of nature-related paintings, photographs, and sculpture by graduating art students Gertrude Havu and Sandy Nault, will be on view in the Russell Theatre lobby. Both the play and the art ask the viewer "to examine their values and the many problems our culture and our planet face" and to look for solutions below the surface.

The production and exhibiton run through Sunday, May 3. Call the Theatre Box Office for reservations at 780-5151.

Field House

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fields, and increasing the number of intramural sports. Some renovations were also carried out in Sullivan Gym on the Portland campus.

USM now offers 21 varsity programs, almost evenly divided between men and women's teams, with women's ice hockey moving from a club sport to varsity. Over 300 students participate on the varsity level, and there are a full range of intramural and club sports.

Center Aids Rural Small Businesses

USM's Center for Entrepreneurship and Small Business in the School of Business has received funding to deliver a business development program to potential entrepreneurs and owners of small businesses in rural, economically depressed areas of Maine.

Through a \$100,000 grant to the Center for Entrepreneurship and Small Business and the Heart of Maine Resource Conservation and Development Area from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Program, the nationally recognized business development course, FastTrac, will be offered to business people in five rural areas of Maine. The project is receiving additional support from a grant for \$20,000 from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

FastTrac is an educational program that provides business training and networking capability through two courses that can be taken independently.

The project targets five areas of Maine where the population is 5000 or less, the unemployment rate exceeds the state rate by 25 percent or more, and median household income is below the poverty level. The five areas are Norway/Paris, served by a training site in Lewiston; Skowhegan and Waldo County, with a site in Fairfield; Penobscot, Somerset and Piscataquis Counties, with a site in Bangor; Presque Isle, Caribou and Fort Kent, with sites in Limestone and Presque Isle; and Rumford. Successful local entrepreneurs will be recruited as instructors.

The grant also aims to interest Native Americans and workers displaced by mill shutdowns in the training program. The program is expected to be offered first in the Norway/Paris area this spring. This educational program is part of the overall mission of USM's Center for Entrepreneurship and Small Business, which develops courses, workshops and research projects that respond to the needs of small businesses statewide. The center's co-directors are Valarie Lamont, director of USM's Institute for Real Estate Research and Education and co-director of the MBA graduate program, and James Westfall, an associate professor of associate business administration.

Econ Ph.D. Pilots

The study of economics at the graduate level can no longer ignore the impact of gender on economic activities that affect every American,



Susan Feiner, associate professor of economics and women studies, says. Women often are excluded from economic policy formation, Feiner contends. As a result, "our traditional

economic models ignore the realities of an increasingly diverse society."

Feiner wants to change economics training through a Ph.D. course that would expose graduate students to feminist economics and train faculty in this discipline.

Feiner has received a Ford Foundation grant to pilot a doctoral course this spring at the University of Minnesota's Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Funding also has been secured to deliver the course at other major universities. Feiner and three other feminist economists are directing the program in conjunction with other experts, among them Diana Strassman of Rice University and Lourdes Beneria of Cornell. The pilot course, which has attracted 22 students, is structured around such issues as feminist perspectives on economics of the family and the global economy.

Feiner notes that there are significant barriers to the integration of feminist concerns into the economics curriculum. Data from the American Economics Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession shows there are 1,332 male associate or full professors in the nation's 125 Ph.D. economics programs, but only 100 female professors at these ranks. "A vast majority of people who earn Ph.D.s (in economics) aren't exposed to feminist economics," says Feiner.

In the past, Feiner—with support from the National Science Foundation—also has produced a racially and culturally balanced undergraduate economics curriculum, and has trained some 160 faculty throughout the country to incorporate this new curriculum into their classes. She is editor of the book, "Race and Gender in the American Economy: Views from Across the Spectrum."



Governor Angus King talks with members of the USM women's basketball team during ceremonies in the State House Tuesday, April 7 to honor the team. The Lady Huskies came in second in the nation in the NCAA Final Four tournament, March 20 and 21. *Caswell photo*

LAC & CMTC Prepare Computer Workers

With businesses in Maine and elsewhere facing severe shortages of computer-trained professionals, Central Maine Technical College in Auburn and USM's Lewiston-Auburn College have joined forces to prepare students for careers in information technology.

Officials of the two schools announced an agreement to share resources, expanding on an earlier agreement that the two institutions signed last April to explore opportunities for collaborative programs that benefit students.

Now, CMTC students who complete the new two-year program in computer technology at their campus can have all their credits applied to a four-year, LAC program in leadership/organizational studies that features a new concentration in information systems. And LAC students in the four-year program can take up to 21 of their required computer course credits at CMTC.

Through sharing their resources, the two colleges will avoid duplicating expensive computer classroom and lab facilities. Faculty members and advisors at both institutions will monitor the programs jointly and provide student support.

"This latest joint effort is an obvious win for everyone," said LAC Dean Betty Robinson.

Congratulations!

The following USM faculty have been tenured and/or promoted by President Richard L. Pattenaué, on the recommendations of their peer committees, their deans and the provost, and approved at the March meeting of the Board of Trustees. This action is effective September 1.

Granted tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor:

Matthew Bampton, Geography and Anthropology, CAS
E. Scott Harris, Music, CAS
Deborah Johnson, Psychology, CAS
Ann Keith, Nursing, CON

Granted tenure at current rank of associate professor:

Matthew Edney, Cartography and Geography, CAS
Marijane Fall, Human Resource Development, CEHD

Promoted to the rank of professor:

Scott W. Brown, Psychology, CAS
Wayne Cowart, Linguistics, CAS
Muhammad A. El-Taha, Mathematics, CAS
Jack D. Kartez, Environmental Science and Policy, CAS
Alfred L. Padula, History, CAS
Scott D. Reeves, Music, CAS
Bill Thornton, Psychology, CAS

What We're Doing

ROY A. GALLANT, director of the Southworth Planetarium, has just had an article accepted for publication in *Sky & Telescope* magazine about his 1997 expedition to the Pallas Meteorite site in a remote mountain region of South-central Siberia.

SAT GUPTA, professor of mathematics and director, Graduate Program in Statistics, organized and chaired a special symposium on "Recent Advances in Time Series Modeling and Related Areas," at the international conference on Statistical Inference, Combinatorics and Related Areas held at Banaras Hindu University, December 18-21. At the conference he presented an invited paper titled "Estimating Fractionally Differenced ARIMA Models."

MICHAEL S. HAMILTON, associate professor of political science and environmental science and policy, had his article, "Lost Profits, Lost Royalties: Formulating Policy to Recover the Value of Lost Coal Fines from Indonesian Mining Operations," accepted for publication in the policy section of *Indonesian Mining Journal*.

JANE KUENZ, assistant professor of English, had her book, "Inside the Mouse," favorably reviewed in the summer 1996 volume of *Women's Studies in Communication and in Media Culture & Society* (Vol. 19).

DESI LARSON, assistant professor of adult education, had her paper, "Participatory Evaluation: Programmatic Implications of Incorporating Local Voice," appear in *Mosaic: Research Notes on Literacy* (Vol. 7, No. 1, Institute of the Study of Adult Literacy, The Pennsylvania State University). Her paper, "Literacy Education Promotes Community Involvement: A Rural Case Study," appeared in *Literacy Practitioner* (Vol. 4, No. 2, Literacy Volunteers of America - New York State). She also spoke on "Evaluation in Family Literacy" at Maine's Department of Education Family Literacy Meeting in Waterville last October.

RICHARD LETHEM, assistant professor of art, has received a grant from the Ludwig Voglestein Foundation to further his painting and printmaking projects. His recent work on paper is being shown at Atelier A/E in New York City from January 30 until May 24.

JULIEN S. MURPHY, professor of philosophy, authored a chapter titled "Should Lesbians Count as Infertile Couples? Anti-Lesbian Discrimination in Assisted Reproduc-

tion," in the forthcoming book, "Feminist Approaches to Bioethics." Her reviews of the books, "Ethics in Reproductive and Perinatal Medicine: A New Framework," "The Perfect Baby: A Pragmatic Approach to Genetics," and "New Ways of Making Babies: The Case of Egg Donation," appeared in the *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* (Vol. 7, No. 2). Her review of the book, "To Relieve the Human Condition: Bioethics, Technology, and the Body," will appear in a forthcoming edition of *Ethics: International Journal of Social Political and Legal Philosophy*. She served as a dissertation committee member in the fall of 1997 at the University of New South Wales, School of Philosophy. She presented "Teaching about Racism in Feminist Classes," as part of a panel, "White Women Teaching African and African-American Thinkers," at the Inclusive & Interdisciplinary Conference: Building the New Curriculum sponsored by the National Science Foundation in Portland last September. At the same conference she presented "Assessing Resources for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Programs," as part of a roundtable, and she was chair of the session "Transforming Science, Revisioning Nursing." At the 12th annual Maine Women's Studies Conference, Making Connections, at Bates College in November, Murphy presented "Assessing Resources for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies Programs," and "Teaching about Racism."

RUTH O. RALPH, research associate, Muskie School of Public Service, recently participated in an invited workshop on "Enhancing the Quality of Research through Community Participation" conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga. to prepare a report for the president.

JOHN SANDERS, associate professor of associate business administration, and PHILIP JAGOLINZER, professor of accounting, co-authored a journal article titled, "Three Methods for Refunding the 1997 Maine Tax Surplus," in the fall 1997 issue of *Maine Business Indicators*.

ELLEN SCHIFERL, associate professor of art, demonstrated her software "Thinking Egyptian" for the Getty Internet Forum, and the Getty Art Museum has asked to include this software on their web site links for "high-quality art-related software." She organized and chaired a session titled "The Magic Classroom: Pioneering the Digital Future" for the national conference meeting of the College Art Association (CAA). In addition, she serves as the spokesperson for

the CAA Committee for Electronic Information. She was also invited to participate in a Mellon Grant focus group to assess barriers to the adoption of digital technologies in art history. She is the content and design consultant for the Seton Hall University art history web project, and her software has been acquired by the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She delivered a presentation on her software titled "Thinking Egyptian: Why Does the Art Look that Way?" at the Hudson Museum of the University of Maine, Orono. Her software was also included in a Maine Sunday Telegram article and featured in her talk for the Art Directors Club meeting held in conjunction with the Danforth Gallery exhibition, "Digital EMedia: The Next Big Thing."

LEONARD J. SHEDLETSKY, professor of communication, had his essay on teacher use of the Internet, "A Lot of Teachers Who Can, Don't" published in *The Speech Communication Teacher*, (Fall, 1997, Vol. 12, No. 1).

BRIAN TOY, associate professor and director of Sports Medicine, is acting as consultant for Saginaw Valley State University (Saginaw, Mich.) in developing an athletic training program. Toy served the Joint Review Committee—Athletic Training as an on-campus site visitor for the purpose of evaluating Colby Sawyer College's Athletic Training Program for accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs last November.

H. FRED WALKER, assistant professor of technology, recently participated in a national competition for professional certification as a Certified Quality Auditor. In early January, he was notified he earned the CQA designation. He also successfully completed the Certified Quality Engineer professional certification in 1995. Both professional certifications are administered by the American Society for Quality.

RICHARD WEST, associate professor of communication, presented the following at the National Communication Association's annual convention in Chicago: "Finding Empowerment in Crisis: A Qualitative Investigation of the Effects of Rape," and "That's Affirmative! Using Debate as a Teaching Tool in Senior Seminars." He was also part of a roundtable discussion on "Gay and Lesbian Students At-Risk: Collating Strategies for Change." West will assume chair of the Instructional Development Division of the Association in January and was elected to a three-year term on the Educational Policies Board.

 University of Southern Maine

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