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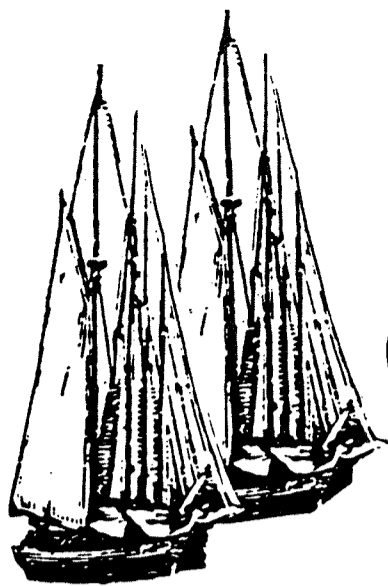


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University of Southern Maine CURRENTS

Volume 6, Number 1

September 14, 1987

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New President Opens New School Year

EDITOR'S NOTE: Having spent the last six weeks reading and listening "and then, listening and reading some more," President Patricia R. Plante is prepared to direct us through our next phase of growth. She sounded the theme for her administration in a well-received speech before 426 faculty and professional staff (see accompanying story). Currents caught up with our new president shortly after the faculty/staff breakfast to talk with her further about the university's mission, our community role, her role as president, her work habits, and the Boston Red Sox.

Currents: According to Allan Bloom in his book, "The Closing of the American Mind," universities are failing in their essential mission, which is to imbue students with an understanding of what a civilized human being is. How does one reconcile that mission with the desire of many students (and their families) to prepare for a career?

Plante: We must guard against establishing false dichotomies. In many instances, both parents and students have been made to think, unfortunately, that they must choose between the broad, civilizing education praised by Bloom and a narrow preparation for a very specific career. Such is not the case. The best preparation for any career is the mastery of language, the honing of analytical abilities, and the development of an imaginative understanding of the long struggle to answer the perennial philosophical questions asked in varied ways by people of all cultures. It's upon that firm foundation that one then structures the specific skills needed for success as an engineer, a business manager, a nurse.

Currents: In pursuing this mission here at USM, do you expect the support of the Greater Portland community?

Plante: The Greater Portland community is a sophisticated one that is fully aware of the globalization of the economy and needs little persuasion that an educated person is Bloom's civilized one.

They know that the University's greatest contribution to the growth and to the prosperity of the region will be graduates who are not only highly skilled, but highly knowledgeable. Communities such as ours look to universities to produce not only engineers who will build bridges that will stand, but who will engage in debating the public policy issues surrounding the

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President Plante being interviewed by Jennifer Johnson of WGME, Channel 13. (Swain photo)

New Directions

The day before the new school year officially began on September 1, an unusually large crowd attended the breakfast hosted by President Plante for all faculty and professional staff. The president used the occasion to sound the theme she has chosen for her administration. "I believe that our University is ready to direct its energies in a concentrated manner...toward the increased quality of its academic offerings, so that we equate growth not so much with size as with depth, and toward the professional establishment of a sophisticated infrastructure that will allow serious work in all phases of...development," she said.

Plante explained that if we are serious about quality at USM, we must meet two major challenges. First, we must closely examine our course offerings and admission and graduation standards, and second, we must carefully weigh the University's involvement in activities which serve the larger community. When considering a project, the question to ask, she maintained, is not whether the project is worth doing, but "Should we be the ones to do it?"

Plante received the most applause in response to her insistence that expanding library resources is a top priority.

The only immediate change announced in her speech pertained to restructuring the administration. The president will propose to the Board of Trustees at their next meeting in late September an administrative model that parallels other universities, she said. If approved, the president's staff will consist of the provost, a vice president for administration, a vice president for development and a vice president for student affairs. These changes will not, she stressed, add administrators. The president will continue to meet monthly with an advisory council which will include the executive staff, chair and vice chair of the Faculty Senate, the executive director of Human Resources, executive director of University Relations and chair of the Student Senate.

President Plante concluded by saying that she planned to study the university until she knew it "by heart—that wonderfully old fashioned phrase that suggests commitment—a commitment which I have made and which I pledge to honor."

Doar Opens Convocation

John M. Doar, who received a presidential award for his role in the civil rights movement of the 1960s, will open the 1987-1988 Convocation on "The Constitution: Roots, Rights and Responsibilities."

Doar will speak at 2 p.m., Thursday, September 17, in the USM Portland Gymnasium. The topic of Doar's talk will be "The Constitution: A Charter for Effective Self-Government." A public reception in the Campus Center will immediately follow his speech.

Now a partner in a New York law firm, Doar is a former assistant attorney general in the Justice Department and chief of its Civil Rights Division.

In the aftermath of attacks on protestors, President Lyndon B. Johnson sent Doar to Selma, Ala. in the spring of 1965 to help ensure that voting rights were extended to blacks. Doar also was part of a federal team that coordinated federal government activities during the 1965 civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.

Earlier, Johnson had presented Doar with the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service. In a White House ceremony, Johnson said Doar had made "a basic contribution to our democracy as a vigorous champion of equal voting rights..." The president praised Doar "especially for the high standards that he has set in its (Voting Rights Act) enforcement."

Doar also is known for his role in the impeachment hearings against President Richard M. Nixon. In 1973, he joined the House Judiciary Committee as special majority counsel. After Doar's presentation of evidence, the committee voted to try Nixon on three impeachment charges.

"John Doar's experience in civil rights enforcement and the presidential impeachment proceedings have given him a special opportunity to observe and reflect upon the Constitution at work," said USM Convocation Scholar Merle W. Loper, a University of Maine School of Law professor.

Faculty and staff who want a more complete perspective on Doar's role in the civil rights movement are invited to showings of the PBS series "Eyes on the Prize." The documentary will be

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Moving In Day may be hardest on the parents.

(Kramer photo)

New Year, New Challenges

When the academic year opened on September 1, the number of students starting the term was higher than in previous years—an indication that when total enrollment is appraised in a few weeks, it will at least match last year's record totals. Not only has student size apparently increased, but there is a record number of new faculty on campus this fall.

In an unprecedented move, USM has hired 75 faculty, 37 of whom are filling newly created, tenure-track positions. Some 28 of those new positions are in the College of Arts and Sciences alone. The hirings are the result of the special \$15 million legislative appropriation in 1986 to the University of Maine System. Just over \$4 million of these funds came to USM. In addition to the new faces on campus, a number of faculty members who previously held fixed-length contracts have now received tenure-track appointments. Searches are still going on in several departments.

An estimated 1100 members of the Class of 1991 joined the new professors for the start of classes. Last year's freshman class numbered 1083 and total enrollment for last year reached 9424. Registrar Steven G. Rand expects similar numbers this year once the figures are all in.

Five hundred new students moved into dormitories on the Gorham campus. Another 40 freshmen moved into rooms that the university has temporarily rented at the Hampton Inn near the Maine Mall to handle an

overflow of students who want university-sponsored housing. It's expected that those students should be able to move onto campus later in the fall.

A master's program in immunology, under the direction of Dr. Neal Rote, began this fall with an enrollment of 14 graduate students. The undergraduate Honors Program, now offering for the first time the second two courses of a four-course sequence designed through grant support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, has nearly doubled the number of students enrolled. Out of 39 applications, 26 students have been accepted into the program. Martin Rogoff, director of the program, which is now in its second year, believes ideal enrollment would total 30 students.

Work continues on a \$3.5 million classroom building in Portland. That building, funded by the 1984 bond issue, is expected to be completed in the fall of 1988 and will house the School of Nursing and a 24-hour computer center. New facilities have been acquired for the off-campus centers in Saco-Biddeford and Bath-Brunswick. The new quarters will provide a greater sense of college community for students with lounge and study rooms and better office space for faculty and staff. The Saco-Biddeford Center is now located in the Saco Island development while the Bath-Brunswick operation has moved to renovated quarters on the Old Bath Road in Brunswick.

Changing Indicators

Maine Business Indicators, an economic newsletter published since 1956 and sent to 2000 businesses, government agencies and other organizations, is now published by the School of Business, Economics and Management.

"Maine Business Indicators... provides us with a vehicle for faculty and guest authors to communicate directly with the decision-makers in the state, to interpret results of research and to express opinions about our state's economy and its future," wrote SBEM Dean Richard J. Clarey in a re-

cent issue. "This is in keeping with the School's objective to work more closely with public and private organizations and individuals to maintain a vigorous economy which enhances Maine's dominant feature, the quality of the life of its citizens."

A gift from Maine National Bank, the previous publisher, made it possible for the school to assume publishing responsibilities. Carl A. Veazie, senior economist with our New Enterprise Institute, will remain as editor, an assignment he has held since 1969.

USM Tackles Growth Management

As the state faces its greatest challenge — how to manage growth without spoiling Maine's natural beauty — USM has undertaken two initiatives to help communities assess growth issues in the region.

Stephen T. Honey, director of USM's Public Policy and Management Program, and Richard J. Clarey, dean of the School of Business, Economics and Management, have been named co-directors of the Growth Management Project, which will encompass education, training and research related to managing the rapid growth in the region. This project will join forces with USM's other new resource, the Institute for Real Estate Research and Education, to tackle the issue of affordable housing.

Valarie C. Lamont, former coordinator of special projects and research officer for the Maine State Housing Authority, has been named director of the new USM institute. The institute — part of the School of Business, Economics and Management — includes the new Center for Housing and Land Use and the 10-year-old Center for Real Estate Education.

President Patricia R. Plante outlined the initiatives and introduced the directors at a reception held Thursday afternoon, August 27 on our Portland campus. She told community leaders that only a university has the resources needed to help manage growth.

The university is committing \$25,000 to the project, supported by a challenge grant of \$25,000 from Maine Savings Bank. The private real estate development community also has contributed a \$25,000 matching grant. Thus a total initial budget of \$75,000 has been provided.

The Center for Housing and Land Use has been funded by \$40,000 from the Center for Real Estate Education and has received a \$10,000 planning grant from the Homer Hoyt Institute. The institute is an independent, non-profit research and education foundation based in Washington D.C. that develops and distributes information on real estate and land economics.

The research agenda for the Growth Management Project focuses on three specific areas: waterfront development; affordable housing, in cooperation with the Center for Housing and Land Use; and public finance (including infrastructure financing and state aid formulas) in cooperation with USM's Center for Research and Advanced Study.

Each research project will produce information useful to the larger community. Working with the Greater Portland Council of Governments and the Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission, the project will strengthen technical assistance and training activities for local planning boards, now struggling with the complexities of rapid growth and economic change.



Growth Management Project

• New President (cont. from p.1)

building of the bridge in the first place. They look to universities not only to graduate nurses who know medicine, but nurses who know ethics; not only teachers who have mastered pedagogy, but teachers who are prepared for and enthusiastic about a lifetime of formal learning.

This is not to say that I will not remind the community at every opportunity of what it already knows.

Currents: A president of a major university is expected to be center stage in many roles. How do you visualize your roles as president of USM and how do you balance the demands of those roles?

Plante: It is true that a university president is a generalist. To be a full-time president is to be a part-time academic, part-time politician, part-time financier, part-time public speaker—and more. But that condition is precisely what constitutes both the fun and the challenge. The important thing is never to take your eye off the central mission of the university: sharing what we already know and trying to discover what we don't yet know. Even on my most frenzied days (and I have already experienced a number of them), I must never forget what we're about. My primary role is twofold: to help establish the best possible conditions for learning and teaching and to inform the community that we are going about our very crucial business effectively, and, consequently, merit its enthusiastic support.

Currents: What are your work habits, and what are some of the hobbies and diversions which help you cope with the demands on your time?

Plante: I work 14 to 18 days straight and then take a three-day weekend. When I work, I work hard: 14 or 15 hours a day. But I also play hard. On my weekend off, I simply don't think "education." I go to concerts and plays and films and museums, and I will pursue these here, in Boston, New York or Washington. Jimmy Sullivan would be proud of me: I watch my diet and I ride my stationary bike four mornings a week. And I plan to take up cross country skiing this winter so as to enjoy that season as well as the others. I never think "of coping;" I love my work and I love my life.

Currents: We've read that you've long been an avid Red Sox fan. With only rare exceptions, the question at this point in every season is, "What went wrong?" Will you offer an analysis of this year?

Plante: I've remained enthusiastic about the Boston Red Sox by adamantly refusing to analyze their decisions. One should enjoy love whole; it's wiser not to dissect it.

Currents: Early this spring, during the interview process, you spent a day meeting with faculty and staff. At the end of that day, what attractions did this institution hold for you?

Plante: The day I spent with the faculty and staff during the search process was an exhilarating one for me. Before that day, had I been unceremoniously dropped from the pool of candidates, only my ego would have suffered a bump, and it recovers fairly quickly. I was not, after all, a

cont. on next page

Bound to Be Teachers

Edging along a wire 20 feet off the ground, some participants in our Teachers for Secondary Schools Program may have wondered how they'd arrived at this point in their lives. But anyone watching could only be impressed by their demonstrated commitment to a career change and teacher training program that demanded so much so soon.

It was Friday afternoon of a weekend orientation session modeled on the Outward Bound program. The weekend of physical challenges and problem solving games creates group cohesiveness and builds individual confidence, according to program director India Broyles, and prepares participants for the rigorous year-long training program.

A lawyer, filmmaker and former navigator are among the 16 students in the program who have chosen to put aside their careers and become public school teachers. Teachers for Secondary Schools Program, now beginning its fourth year, includes course work and classroom teaching experience and prepares graduates for positions in Maine public high schools.

The class spent Friday morning, August 28, getting to know each other while jumping from bleachers into a trampoline and engaging in other activities which readied them for the afternoon obstacle course that would take them up into the trees.

Watching each future teacher maneuver from tree to tree on cables high off the ground, one was struck by how important it was to every man and woman to have the support of the others. This collection of strangers, representing a variety of life and job experiences, went through the course as a team, each intensely empathetic to the fears and weaknesses, strengths and successes of the team member above. It was only the encouragement of the others which carried some participants through the entire course. As a result, Broyles said, "they come to recognize the variety of skills and needs represented by the group. It's the fastest way to break down barriers between people who have very different backgrounds and build the confidence those who have been out of school for many years will need to carry them through the demanding course work

• New President (cont. from p.2)

refugee from unemployment. But after that day, I really wanted to be invited to join this faculty and staff as a colleague. I sensed that this was an institution that met every condition for significant growth. Of course, I already knew that it was in the right location and that it had community support and that it had made many right moves in the past few years. However, on the day of the campus visit, I also became convinced that it had the right people to promote further growth. My first six weeks here have confirmed that opinion. I am very impressed by the administrators with whom I have been working and very impressed by the faculty whom I have met.



Future French teacher, Kristina Dahlen makes her way up into the trees via a rope ladder. Asked why she's here, she said, "I want to be a teacher. I wanted more of a challenge." (Swain photo)

ahead and the tough job of leading a high school class."

After completing the ground-to-tree-top obstacle course on the Gorham campus, the group went on to Bethel for rock climbing and rappelling, then white water canoeing in Errol, New Hampshire on Sunday. On Tuesday, like other USM students, they were ready to start class.

TSSP has been so successful that a similar program preparing students for careers teaching in elementary schools was initiated this year. It used the same Outward Bound style orientation, again under the direction of associate professor of physical education Joey Bouchard. "Students from both groups will encounter many struggles as they go through the programs—personal, academic and interactive struggles," Joey said. "Three days of pushing themselves is a good beginning for facing those struggles. The object is not the activity—that's just the method. This process stretches them. They get a lot of positive reinforcement and acceptance of their capacities, and they learn to trust each other. Confidence and trust rose with each activity."

• Convocation (cont. from p.1)

shown from 3 to 5 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, September 14-16 in the School of Law, Portland, and again from 7 to 9 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, September 21-23 in Room 205, Bailey Hall, Gorham. "Eyes on the Prize" has been called the most comprehensive television documentary ever produced on the civil rights movement.

Robing for faculty and staff who will be marching in the September 17 Convocation ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. in the basement of the Portland Gym. Classes in Gorham will be cancelled from 12:30 to 4. Portland classes will be cancelled from 1 to 4.

For more information, please call Convocation Administrative Chair Alyce O'Brien at 780-4440 or Convocation Scholar Merle Loper at 780-4364.



Ret. Lt. Col. Frederick Taylor and Leonard Sherwood III admire Maureen Byrne's technique in transferring from tire to tire. (Swain photo)

Understanding the Constitution

School of Law professor Merle Loper, this year's convocation scholar, will take a broad look at the impact of the Constitution on every day life in a free course, "The Constitution: How It Affects Our Lives," offered by Community Programs on Tuesday, September 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Moot Court Room of the Law School.

Loper brings to the course a background as a lawyer, teacher and scholar in the field of constitutional law. As an attorney with the Civil

Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department, he played a role in litigation to enforce compliance with "Brown v. Board of Education," the Supreme Court decision mandating school desegregation. A former teaching fellow at Harvard Law School, he joined the UM School of Law in 1971. He has taught constitutional law each year and is presently working on a study of the current debate over constitutional methodology.

As a result of the Immigration Reform Control Act, all faculty and staff hired after November 5, 1986, whether full time, part time or temporary, must complete the I-9 form to verify employment eligibility. Forms may be obtained in 108 Corthell Hall. Direct questions to Judith Bean, Division of Human Resources, 780-5260.

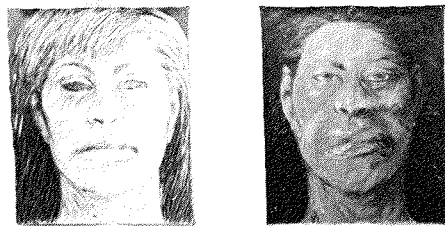
Paintings and Photographs at USM

The AREA Gallery at USM's Campus Center will feature paintings by Boston artist Linda Elwood and photography by Gayle Petty of Portland through Saturday, October 3.

Elwood's critically acclaimed "She Asked For It — Part II" series consists of large oil on canvas portraits focusing on women's faces. The randomly chosen women are presented to express that individual women of all ages, races and characteristics are targets of male violence.

Petty, a student at the Portland School of Art, has been working with 35 millimeter large-scale color photography to create powerfully slick imagery of daily existence.

The exhibit will be open free of



(Kramer photo)

charge from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays.

For more information, please contact Lisa Petrucci of USM Student Activities, the sponsoring group, at 780-4090.



1987 Faculty Concert Series Announced

A wide variety of performers and music styles will be offered this season during the 1987-88 Faculty Concert Series at the University of Southern Maine. Presented by the Music Department, all concerts will be held at 8 p.m. Fridays in the 182-seat, acoustically superb Corthell Concert Hall on the Gorham campus.

The renowned Portland String Quartet comprised of Stephen Kecskemethy, Ronald Lantz, Paul Ross and Julia Adams began the series on September 11 with some of the gems of quartet literature.

The second concert on Oct. 23 will be the premiere performance of the Southern Maine Winds conducted by Peter Martin. Ten outstanding wind players from across New England will perform works by Mozart, Krommer, Gounod and Francaix. Performers include Susan Thomas, Alison Hale, Neil Boyer, Mark Weiger, Thomas Parchman, Patti Shands, John Boden, Llewellyn Humphreys, Ardith Freeman and Jane Atherton.

Jon Klibonoff, pianist, the newest member of USM's music faculty, will debut Nov. 6 in a solo concert featuring works by Bach, Schumann, Schoenberg, Faure and Debussy. A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and the Julliard School, Klibonoff was the silver medalist in the 1984 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition.

On Jan. 22 the Portland Brass Quintet will perform a varied program of works ranging from baroque to jazz. Featured will be Rounds and Dances, an exemplary brass work by the American contemporary composer,

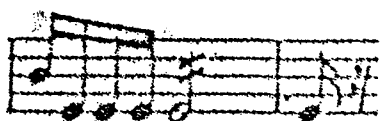
Jan Bach. Quintet members are John Schnell, Betty Barber, John Boden, Mark Manduca and Donald Rankin.

John Boden, French horn, will be the featured artist in the Feb. 26 faculty concert. Boden, principal horn with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, will be joined by the Portland String Quartet in presenting Beethoven's Sextet for Two Horns and String Quartet. Also on the program is Alec Wilder's Trio for Tuba, French Horn and Piano.

On March 18 John Schnell, trumpet, will present a program of trumpet music including solo literature and works featuring two trumpets and piano. Schnell, principal trumpet with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, also performs with the Boston Symphony and other major orchestras.

The final offering of the series will be given on April 22 by the Portland Wind Trio — Alison Hale, Thomas Parchman and Ardith Freeman. The three will present a program of chamber music from humorous to serious, old to new, by such composers as St. Saens, Tansman and Muczynski. The concert will feature the premiere of a forgotten woodwind trio by Eler, a composer of the classical era.

Admission to the concerts is \$5 for the general public; \$3 for students and seniors. For tickets and information call the USM Music Department at 780-5256 or 780-5265.



Counseling Available

The services of a licensed clinical social worker are available to all University of Southern Maine employees and their families through the Employee Consultation and Outreach Program (ECOS).

Recently appointed clinician Bruce K. McDuffie provides confidential, voluntary counseling for university faculty, staff and their families; assistance with personal and/or work related problems; in-service training for employees; and clinical consultation for USM's Child Care Services.

A resident of Portland, McDuffie is licensed to practice social work in Maine and Massachusetts and holds a master of science degree in social service administration from Case-Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

"It is a distinct pleasure to have McDuffie on our staff as he gives further leadership in this critically important human resource program" said Beth I. Warren, executive director for Human Resources.

Advice for Advisors

Faculty and staff who would like advice on advising students about their academic options can consult the Advisory Council for Academic Advising. Chaired by Carolyn Davis of the College of Education, this university resource reviews standards and procedures, recommends improvements and sponsors workshops and talks by national figures in academic advising on subjects such as computer assisted advising and prompting students to take greater responsibility for choosing their academic programs.

Members of the Council are John Broida (x4255) and Pat O'Mahoney-Damon (x4263) of Arts and Sciences; Carol Lynn Davis (x5316), Education; Art Berry (x5441), Applied Sciences; Edna Ellis (x4130), Nursing; John Sanders (x4310) and Bill Phillips (x4313), Business, Economics and Management; Kathy Kane (324-6012), Basic Studies (Sanford Center); and two student peer advisors, Brenda Stoddard and John Grant, both of whom can be reached at x4040. Dick Sturgeon, director of the Advising and Academic Information Department, is an ex-officio member.

What We're Doing

DAVID A. BRIGGS, assistant professor, computer science, received Relational Technology Institute's Star Award for excellence in data base management system research, which supports his attendance of the 1987 Conference on Very Large Data Bases in Brighton, England.

THOMAS R. CARPER, associate professor, English, has had a new poem, "Have I Not Played Well, Robert?" accepted by The American Scholar.

LOUIS F. GAINEY, JR., associate professor, biology, recently published a paper, "The Effect of Osmotic Hysteresis on Volume Regulation in *Mytilus edulis*," in *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology*. The research was supported by a grant from the Faculty Senate.

BARBARA GAUDITZ, assistant dean, School of Law, a 1987 graduate of the School of Law, was given her appointment when Pandora Shaw resigned to devote her full attention to Victoria Shaw, born July 28, 1987.

NANCY P. GREENLEAF, School of Nursing, was one of the presenters at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Health Council, held last May in Boston.


MARC A. LEVESQUE, program specialist, community programs, made two presentations at the recent conference in Calif. called "The Human Experience in Antarctica: Applications to Life in Space," that was sponsored by NASA and the National Science Foundation.

ANDREW J. POTTS, professor, accounting, was a panel discussant on the topic "Integrating Preparation for the CPA Examination in the Accounting Curriculum" at the annual American Institute of Certified Public Accountants week-long Faculty Summer Seminar held in New Orleans, La. last May.

NEIL S. ROTE, copresented "Subclasses of IgG Antiphospholipid Antibodies (APA) in Patients with Lupus Anticoagulant (LAC);" "Antibody Titers Against Cardiolipin (ACA) and Phosphatidylserine (APS) in Patients Undergoing Aspirin and Prednisone Therapy for Recurrent Spontaneous Abortion;" and "Incidence of Antiphospholipid Antibodies in Pregnancy;" at the Society for Gynecologic Investigation in Atlanta, Ga.

ROBERT M. SCHAIBLE, instructor, English, and GALE W. RHODES, associate professor, chemistry, had their paper "Fact, Law, and Theory: Ways of Thinking in Science and Literature," accepted for publication in the *Journal of College Science Teaching*. The article, first presented at the Russell Symposium last spring, grew out of their collaboration in COR 113, Metaphor and Myth in Science and Literature.

WILLIAM H. SLAVICK, professor, English, was the subject of a feature article in the August 13 issue of *Church World: Maine's Catholic Weekly*. The same issue included articles by Slavick.



University of Southern Maine
CURRENTS

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